President U Thein Sein grows Maha Bo tree at monsoon tree growing ceremony 2012 in precinct of Thatta Thattaaha Pagoda

President U Thein Sein plants Maha Bo tree in the precinct of Thatta Thattaaha Pagoda built on Udayaramsi Hill in Pobbathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Also present at the ceremony were Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, General Hla Htay Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Union ministers, chairmen and secretaries of Hluttaw Committees, senior military officers of the Commander-in-Chief (Army)’s Office, deputy ministers, members of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, departmental heads, departmental personnel and members of social organizations.

Thatta Thattaaha Pagoda project is being implemented on Udayaramsi Hill.

The day meals offering to members of the Sangha in commemoration of the concluding of Maha Pathana recitation and ground breaking ceremony were held on the hillock on 17-8-2011.

After that, stake driven ceremony and ceremony to feed Dragon, Maha Bo tree growing ceremony and first time cash donation were held on 19-8-2011.

The cornerstone laying ceremony was held on 22-9-2011 and the ceremony to enshrine religious objects into the Mula and central reliquaries of the pagoda was held on 5-5-2012.

At the ceremonies, President U Thein Sein drove stakes at the designated place and grew Maha Bo tree.

President U Thein Sein, Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann planted Kyee plant (Borringtonia acutangula) and sprinkled scented water on it.

President U Thein Sein and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing took the designated places near Musalieinda Lake.

Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann planted Kyee plant (Borringtonia acutangula) and sprinkled scented water on it.

President U Thein Sein and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing watered the plant and sprinkled scented water on it.

After that, they took positions at the entrance to Musalieinda Lake.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing grew a Gangaw plant (Mesua ferrea) and sprinkled scented water on it.

The President and the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw watered and sprinkled scented water on the plant.

(See page 8)
Come invest in Myanmar

Undoubtedly, Myanmar is a country blessed with rich natural resources and sits on a very strategic position sandwiched between the world’s two largest economies: China and India. Facilitated by sweeping reforms being initiated by the reformist government in office, it has held wide chances of becoming the Asia’s latest economic frontier.

Following lifting of most economic sanctions against Myanmar, foreign investors are packing their suitcases to visit the Southeast Asian country in pursuit of business prospects. An amendment bill to decades-old foreign investment law, drafted by legal professionals and economists, is poised to be discussed and passed in the next Hluttaw session which starts on 4 July. Once the legislation is approved, the international businessmen will flood into the country and set footholds in the country.

What should the law stand for? The interest of its own people or the investors from abroad? It is no doubt that MPs who will discuss the law have prioritized the profit of the people than everything else since they sworn into the parliaments. But they are also in the position that they have to ensure that the law they are going to prescribe could stimulate the interest of the multinational corporations to invest in Myanmar and create a favourable investment climate.

New Myanmar Investment Summit that was held in Yangon a few days ago attracted hundreds of global investors, signalling a surge of excitement to set up their businesses in Myanmar.

The foreign direct investments could generate a large number of employment opportunities to the country’s young workforce whose previous option for decent jobs is other Asian countries. Myanmar also has the experienced workforce who are employed in the neighbouring economies. For the corporations, they could profit from the young and experienced labour and rich resources. For the country, the people will get employed and enjoy increased income. The country will get necessary infrastructures from the foreign investments as well. It is a win-win situation. In this way, foreign investments could help the country rise above the poverty.

Really want to help Myanmar! Come and invest here!

MFCC holds its 23rd annual meeting

YANGON, 24 June—The 23rd Annual Meeting of Foreign Correspondents Club of Myanmar was held at Sedona Hotel here this morning.

FCMC Secretary U Han Htwe Aung reported on financial statement for approval.

As new executive committee members for 2011-2012 were elected, U Hla Htaw (Nikkei Shim bun) was elected patron, U Tin Maung Aye (Asahi Shimbun) as vice-president, Mr Zhang Yunfei (Xinhua) as vice-president (1), and U Aung Hla Tun (Reuters) as vice-president (2), U Han Htwe Aung (TV Asahi) as secretary, U Tharerein Hla Htwe (Nikkei Shim bun) as joint-secretary, Daw Sint Sint Aung (Nippon TV) as treasurer (1), Daw Shwe Than Win (Nikkei Shim bun) as treasurer (2), Dr Zaw Than (Sankei Shim bun) as auditor (1), U Nei yen Chan Naing (EPA) as auditor (2), Daw Ei Ei Tin (Fuji TV) as auditor (3) and U Mya Thura (Kyodo News) as international relations officer.—MNA

Union Construction Minister inspects road/bridge construction in Bago Region

NAV PHT NW, 24 June—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint inspected chosen site for construction of Bago bypass Nos 1 & 2 and met engineers and staff at Bago Region Superintending Engineer’s Office, calling for systematic usage of allotted machinery, spending in line with rules and regulations and observance of rules and laws.

The Union Minister at the briefing of 11-mile-long Bago bypass construction site, urged Max Myanmar Co and Shwe Than Win Co which are building the bypass in partnership with the Construction Ministry with B.O.T system to finish the construction works as soon as possible.

The Union Minister, while visiting the toll gate, which Max Myanmar Co is cooperating through B.O.T system on Yanggo-Bago road section, stressed the need to make sure trucks are not overloaded in order that road will be less damaged and commodity will flow.

Informal education activity launched in Myitkyina

NAV PHT NW, 24 June—A signboard to hail Myanmar Women’s Day that falls on 3 July was erected near Myothit Clock Tower in Myitkyina on 22 June morning.

At the event, wife of Kachin State Hluttaw Speaker Patron of Kachin State Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Bi Nin Shin cut the ribbon to launch the signboard, and wife of Kachin State Chief Minister of Kachin State U La John Ngan Sai and wife, Speaker of Kachin State Hluttaw U Aung Khin and Daw Than Than donate K 300,000 for fund through CEC member of Hninzigon Region Superintending Engineer’s Office, calling for systematic usage of allotted machinery, spending in line with rules and regulations and observance of rules and laws.

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Union FM felicitates Croatian Minister of Foreign and European Affairs

NAV PHT NW, 25 June—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Dr Vesna Pusic, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Croatia, which falls on 25 June, 2012.

Myanmar Women’s Day signboard erected in Myitkyina

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Outstanding students honoured in Kawhmu Tsp

NAV PHT NW, 24 June—A ceremony to award students who matriculated with flying colours and honour teachers who led students through matriculation exam was held at Basic Education High School of Kawhmu Township in Yangon Region yesterday, with an address by Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint.

The deputy minister awarded schools that achieved highest pass rate, five- and four-distinction winners and teachers. Next, personnel presented prizes to distinction winners and 20 fans for the schools. On behalf of the distinction winners, five-distinction winner Maung Yan Lin Htet (BEHS-Kawhmu) spoke words of thanks.

The deputy minister then inspected the progress in construction of extended classroom of the school.—MNA
Cambodian, Vietnamese PMs inaugurate border pillar to mark 45th diplomatic birthday

KAMPOT, (Cambodia), 24 June — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Tan Dung unveiled the border post during its inauguration ceremony at the terminus of the land boundary between Cambodia’s KAMPOT Province and Vietnam’s Kien Giang Province, on 24 June, 2012.—REUTERS

China, Uruguay pledge to deepen trade ties, legislative exchanges

MONTEVITO, 24 June— China and Uruguay pledged on Saturday to foster their trade ties and to step up bilateral exchanges between the two nations’ legislative bodies. Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao arrived in Montevideo, Uruguay, on Friday for an official visit after attending the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and a visit to the meeting’s host Brazil.

While meeting with Uruguayan Vice President Danilo Astori, who is also president of the Senate, Wen said Uruguay has enjoyed political stability and sustainable economic and social advancement, and played a unique role in international and regional affairs over the recent years.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (R) meets with Uruguayan Vice President and President of the Congress Danilo Astori in Montevideo, Uruguay, on 23 June, 2012.—Xinhua

Bilateral ties, based on solid political foundation, has seen a rapid growth over the past 4 years since the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two sides, said Wen.

China has become the second largest trade partner of Uruguay, Wen added, saying that bilateral trade and economic cooperation has already extended from the traditional commodity to automobile manufacturing, communications, financial and agriculture. China, Wen said, is ready to maintain the balanced and sustainable trade links with Uruguay, adding that China hopes to engage with the South American nation’s deepwater port construction, expand investment in the country and step up research and development cooperation, as well as people-to-people and cultural exchanges.

Xinhua

Obama urges Congress to extend student loan subsidies as deadline looms

WASHINGTON, 24 June— US President Barack Obama on Saturday urged lawmakers to stop playing politics and pass legislation to extend student loan subsidies due to expire at the end of June. “We are eight days away from nearly seven and a half million students seeing their loan rates double because Congress hasn’t acted to stop it,” Obama said in his weekly address.

Barring the extension, the interest rates on new federally subsidized student loans will increase from 3.4 percent, a temporary rate reduction that was enacted in 2007, to 6.8 percent from 1 July. Obama said making sure all Americans get the best education possible is one of the most important things for the US economy. “Right now, the unemployment rate for Americans with a college degree or more is about half the national average. Their incomes are twice as high as those who don’t have a high school diploma,” Obama said.—Xinhua

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (R) meets with Uruguayan Vice President and President of the Congress Danilo Astori in Montevideo, Uruguay, on 23 June, 2012.—Xinhua

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Xinhua

Israeli PM calls for strong actions against rocket attacks from Gaza

JERUSALEM, 24 June— Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Saturday instructed security officials to act strongly to protect residents in southern Israel against rocket attacks from Gaza. Netanyahu’s remarks came as the latest round of violence in the region entered the sixth day. Some 20 rockets fired from Gaza hit the area on Saturday, wounding one Israeli. Throughout the week, Gaza militants have fired over 150 rockets into Israel, wounding five people. At least 13 Palestinians were killed in Israeli retaliatory airstrikes or artillery shelling.

A truce between the two sides is expected to go into effect on Saturday night, according to local media. Israeli Defence Forces officials said of the report that “quiet will be answered with quiet and fire will be answered with fire.”

Meanwhile, Xinhua report from Gaza said that a senior Islamic Hamas movement’s official had already announced that a new understanding on restoring calm in the Gaza Strip with Israel had been reached on Saturday night based on the principle of calm for calm.

Xinhua

Merkel to meet France’s Hollande on Wednesday

PARIS, 24 June— German Chancellor Angela Merkel will meet French President Francois Hollande on Wednesday ahead of a key European summit, his office said on Saturday, as the two leaders try to square their differing positions on the euro zone debt crisis. “They will discuss the upcoming EU summit, the international situation and future Franco-German exchanges,” the president’s office said in a statement. A spokesman for the German government told Reuters earlier on Saturday the meeting would take place.

The meeting comes on the eve of a summit that is being seen as a big moment for the embattled 17-nation euro zone which is struggling to formulate a credible response to a debt crisis that has shaken Greece and steeply pushed up borrowing costs for Spain and Italy. The summit is meant to sketch out a roadmap towards economic union and to send a message to the markets that the continent’s leaders are united and determined to do whatever it takes to restore confidence in the euro zone’s single currency. But the pre-summit mood music has not been good. Arriving in Rome on Friday saw Merkel and Hollande openly sparring over what needed to be done, with the French president and his Italian and Spanish counterparts failing to get Merkel to dilute her opposition to common euro zone bonds. At the mini-summit, Merkel also resisted pressure to use Europe’s rescue funds more flexibly, but did agree to a 130-billion-euro ($156 billion) package to revive growth.—Reuters

German Chancellor Angela Merkel (R) gestures next to French President Francois Hollande during a news conference at Villa Madama in Rome, on 22 June, 2012.—REUTERS

China UnionPay to expand bankcard service in Europe

BEIJING, 24 June— China UnionPay Co Ltd (CUP), the country’s largest bank card payment processor, announced on Saturday that it has inked cooperation agreement with NETS, a leading payment service provider in North Europe, to expand CUP’s service in Europe.

The CUP and NETS will work together to expand CUP’s card acceptance in more European regions, provide CUP card processing and transaction services to more European institutions and increase service quality, according to the agreement. CUP’s rapid expansion of overseas card acceptance aims to better support Chinese consumers travelling overseas as well as other CUP card holders in different countries and regions, said Xu Luode, China UnionPay president. NETS is a comprehensive service provider in North Europe, which is a result of a merger between Norwegian Nordlot AS and the holding company of the Danish company PBS in 2010.—Xinhua

The photo released by Pakistan’s Press Information Department (PID) on 23 June, 2012 shows newly elected Pakistan’s Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf (C) inspecting a guard of honour during a welcoming ceremony at the Prime Minister House in Islamabad, capital of Pakistan.—Xinhua

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Xinhua
Magnetic molecules could clean oil spills

The University of Bristol told BBC News, calling it “a practical the kind of oils that would be spilled, and we’re seeing that we scientists said.

But because the new molecule responds to magnetic fields, it could be put to use in cleaning up oil spills, the scientists said.

“We’re making emissions from essentially seawater and the kind of oils that would be spilled, and we’re seeing that we can branded by other firms,” Julian Eastoe of the University of Bristol told BBC News, calling it “a practical application without a shadow of a doubt.”

Sony, Panasonic to announce OLED tie-up next week

Japanese firms that dominated the global TV market in the 1980s and 1990s have been battered by their aggressive Korean rivals, along with weak demand for the TVs. By combining their research and development resources the firms are hoping to regain ground from their foreign rivals.

While Sony is developing technology to fabricate screens using spray, Panasonic is using inkjet printer technology to make prototype OLED screens, and has invested 30 billion yen to set up a test production line at a plant in Japan, the Nikkei business daily reported earlier.

Lenovo says no new guidance on growth forecasts

Lenovo, the world’s second-largest PC maker, said on Friday it has offered no new guidance on its growth predictions, a day after a Taiwan newspaper reported that it had halved its growth forecasts sent its share price tumbling.

Lenovo’s shares closed down 9.4 percent on Thursday following the report that it had halved its projection for growth in personal computer shipments. The stock was trading down 0.9 percent by 0406 GMT on Friday and was thinly traded.

“Lenovo has issued no new guidance to suppliers or manufacturing partners regarding its growth estimates and we continue to be confident that we will outgrow the market worldwide,” the company said in an emailed statement.

“Lenovo has a hybrid manufacturing strategy (ODM and in-house) that is a significant competitive advantage. Accordingly business done with ODMs does not fully reflect the performance of our underlying business. ODMs, or original design manufacturers, design and make products that are licensed to other companies.”

Barclays said in a report that Lenovo had reiterated its guidance for shipment growth of 15-20 percent for fiscal year ending next March, contrary to reports that it had cut its growth forecast.

The company did not immediately respond to a request to comment on the 15-20 percent guidance figure given by Barclays. — Reuters

Distant planets locked in cosmic dance

Barclays.—

Acer slates Microsoft’s hardware push

Acer, an Olympics sponsor, will also be in the spotlight next month as the PC provider to the London games.

“It will demonstrate that we have the commercial ability to deliver this type of project.”

Ahrens said his company needed to do higher end products to lift the status of the whole brand.
India to unveil measures to check rupee’s slide

KOLKATA, 24 June—India will unveil measures on Monday to arrest the slide of its currency, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee said on Saturday, a day after the rupee hit a new record low against the dollar.

The partially convertible Indian currency on Friday hit a record low of 57.32 against the dollar, before the Reserve Bank of India’s suspected intervention propped it up.

The rupee had hit its last record low at 56.53 on Thursday. “These are no doubts signs of weakness in the Indian economy,” said Mukherjee, who is expected to resign from his post soon to contest the presidential election. “We will be able to take certain measures which will be announced on Monday, which will improve the market condition.”

Traders said the central bank likely sold $250-300 million dollars on Friday to rescue the Indian currency. Mukherjee said the government had discussed the situation with the central bank governor on Friday. The rupee dropped a little over 3 percent against the Dollar this week, its worst weekly decline in nine months, weighed down by mounting concerns over the global as well as India’s economy.

Analysts say the rupee could continue to fall further in the near-term, dragged down by the momentum from the worsening global risk environment.—Reuters

Fizzy drinks ‘as bad for health as tobacco’

LONDON, 24 June—Sugar-packed fizzy drinks are just as dangerous to health as cigarettes, health experts have warned.

“Experts want hard-hitting public awareness campaigns to attack what they say are “manufacturers’ misleading promotions that distort from the health risks”.

“Emerging science on the addictive properties of sugar, especially combined with the known addictive properties of caffeine in many sugary beverages, should heighten awareness of the health threat similar to the understanding about the addictive properties of tobacco products,” the Daily Express quoted public health expert Dr Lori Dorfman as saying.

Dorfman, from the University of California, and colleagues want soft drinks companies to stop “explicitly targeting young people” in an “aim to increase sales”.

“Drinking just two cans of fizzy pop a day has been shown to cause severe long-term damage, a nation normally the result of chronic alcohol abuse. It can lead to victims needing a transplant because the liver cannot process the huge amount of sugar,” the report said.

Too many soft drinks can potentially cause diabetes and heart damage as well as being a major contributor to obesity. Diet drinks in particular have been shown to pile on the pounds because, even though they have fewer calories than regular fizzy pop, they can trigger the appetite to eat more. Those who binge on diet soft drinks every day have been shown to have 70 percent bigger waistlines after a decade.

“This is in comparison to being drawn between tobacco and soft drinks,” a spokesman for the British Soft Drinks Association said. Tobacco is harmful in any quantity and any reduction in consumption is a positive step for health. “In the case of food and drink, it is the imbalance between calorie intake and calorie expenditure that is the cause of obesity and not the intake of calories as such, still less intake of calories of any particular food or drink. These two situations are entirely different,” the spokesman added.

A vendor sells cold drinks on the roadside in New Delhi as temperatures in Capital soared above 43 degree Celsius.—Internet

Expert want hard-hitting campaigns to attack what they say are “manufacturers’ misleading promotions that distort from the health risks”.

A woman walks past the Hewlett Packard logo at its French headquarters in Issy le Moulineaux, western Paris, in this on 23 Sept, 2005 file photograph.

HP may cut up to 1,000 jobs in Germany

BERLIN, 24 June— US group Hewlett Packard, the world’s largest personal computer maker, may cut as many as 1,000 jobs in Germany as part of planned European-wide redundancies, WirtschaftsWoche reported, citing an unnamed staff representative.

HP is planning to cut about 8,000 positions in Europe by the end of 2014, the German magazine said, citing unnamed officials close to the company.

“As many as 1,000 (in Germany) are acutely endangered,” WirtschaftsWoche quoted the labour representative as saying. HP, which employs more than 300,000 workers globally, said in May the layoff of 27,000 workers, or 8 percent of its workforce, would be made mainly through early retirement and generate annual savings of $3.0-3.5 billion as it exits its 2013/14 year. HP, which posted a second-quarter profit above market estimates, aims to use cost savings from planned job cuts to drive organic growth.

HP in Germany was not available to comment.—Reuters

World first! tumour operation in womb saves foetus

LONDON, 24 June—Surgeons were able to successfully remove a tumour from the mouth of a foetus, in what has been described as a “world first” procedure.

After a scan at 17 weeks, mother Tammy Gonzalez said that she “could see a bubble” coming out of her baby’s mouth. Doctors said it was a very rare tumour called an oral teratoma and there was little chance her daughter would survive. After the pioneering operation, baby Leyna was born five months later.

Doctors at the Jackson Memorial Hospital in Florida, revealed that this type of tumour was so rare that it had been seen only once in 20 years at the hospital. In the procedure, Gonzalez was put under a local anaesthetic as a needle was pushed through the protective amniotic sac around the foetus.

A laser was then used to cut the tumour from Leyna’s mouth. The operation took just over an hour. “When they finally severed the whole thing off and I could see it floating down, it was like this huge weight had been lifted off me and I could finally see her face,” the BBC quoted her as saying at a press conference in Miami. She described the surgeons as “saviours.” “To our knowledge, this is the first successful treatment of a foetal oral teratoma in utero,” the doctors said.

Leyna Mykaella Gonzalez, who was born in October 2010 weighing 8lb 1oz, is now a healthy 20-month-old child. The only sign of her life-saving surgery is a tiny scar on her mouth. The details have only just emerged after the operation was reported in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology.—Internet

Health Tip: Reduce your risk of adverse drug reactions

Even over-the-counter medications can interact with food, beverages and other drugs, so it’s important to take the these medicines carefully.

The American Academy of Family Physicians suggests how to reduce the risk of adverse effects from OTC drugs:

* Read the drug label carefully and only take the medication as recommended by your doctor or as instructed on the label.
* Never take a medication with alcohol.
* Never mix the medication with food or drink, unless your doctor says it’s ok.
* Ask your doctor or pharmacist any questions.
* Be mindful of any drug reactions you’ve had before, and read the label on the medicine to look for any ingredients you’re sensitive.
* Never take any OTC medication along with vitamins.

Apple found to carry most pesticides among ‘dirty dozen’ foods

NEW YORK, 24 June — An environmental group has singled out Apples, as being the biggest carrier of insecticides. For the second year in a row, apples topped the Environmental Working Group’s ‘Dirty Dozen’ list, which identified the most pesticide-laden fruits and vegetables in the US.

Last year, apples knocked celery off the top spot, which this year ranks as the biggest offender. Sweets bell peppers were listed third in the line, according to the New York Daily News. In the 8th edition of the Shopper’s Guide to Pesticides in Produce, researchers added kale and collard greens, which were also found to carry a highly toxic organophosphate insecticide, a toxin for the nervous system.

To come up with the rankings, the group analyzed residue testing data from the US Department of Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration. Nectarines, blueberries, plums and cantaloupe were from both domestic and imported sources. Meanwhile, report from the European Food Safety Authority published last year identified grapes, bell peppers, strawberries, peas and tomatoes as carrying the most pesticides across Europe.

The top pesticide-laden fruits and vegetables include:

1. Apples
2. Celery
3. Sweet bell peppers
4. Peaches
5. Strawberries
6. Nectarines-imported
7. Grapes
8. Spinach
9. Lettuce
10. Cucumbers
11. Blueberries
12. Potatoes.—Internet

People walk past a roadside currency exchange vendor in the old quarters of Delhi on 22 May , 2012.—Reuters

Image for representative purposes. An environmental group has singled out Apples as being the biggest carrier of insecticides. —Internet

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR** Monday, 25 June, 2012 5
President Hu to visit Hong Kong for 15th anniversary celebrations

BEIJING, 24 June — Chinese President Hu Jintao will visit Hong Kong from 29 June to 1 July to attend the ceremony marking the 15th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to the motherland, said a statement here on Sunday. Hu, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, will also be present at the inauguration of the fourth Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government, to be held at the anniversary ceremony, the statement said.

Russian oil output to reach 41 million tons in 2012

NAZAROV, 24 June — Russia’s oil output in 2012 may reach 41 million tons, according to the Energy Ministry, and is expected to grow to 56 million tons in 2013. The ministry said the increase in oil output is due to increase in production at some oil fields. Oil output in 2011 was 40.5 million tons.

Russian police foil possible terrorist attack

MOSCOW, 24 June — Police have foiled a possible terrorist attack in the city center, according to the Interior Ministry. The ministry said that police have prevented the attack from taking place.

Suspect in Russian prison riot pleads guilty

ST PETERSBURG, 24 June — A prison officer has been sentenced to 10 years in prison for his role in the riot at the podium in St Petersburg on Friday. The officer was accused of providing the rioters with weapons and ammunition.

Belarus stops immigrant oil supply

MINSK, 24 June — Belarus has suspended the supply of Venezuelan oil due to a disagreement over prices. The country has been buying Venezuelan oil for the past year, but the price has risen significantly. The country is also considering other sources of oil.

Belarus to import Venezuelan oil

MINSK, 24 June — Belarus has signed a contract to import Venezuelan oil from 2013. The country has been buying Venezuelan oil for the past year, but the price has risen significantly. The contract is worth around $1 billion.

Belarus orders 50,000 tonnes of oil

ST PETERSBURG, 24 June — Belarus has ordered 50,000 tonnes of oil from Russia for delivery in June. The country has been buying Russian oil for the past year, but the price has risen significantly. The order is expected to be delivered in June.

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Afghan police say 20 militants killed in 24 hours

KABUL, 24 June — Afghan police said they have killed 20 militants in a 24-hour period. The police said they have been fighting in the south of the country.

Afghan police say 20 militants killed in 24 hours

TWIN, 23 June — Two suicide bombers killed in an attack in Afghanistan's southern Helmand province, according to police. The attack took place in the district of Sperwan Ghar and left at least five people dead.

Afghan police say 20 militants killed in 24 hours

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T.S. (NLM)

**Nature and its secret phenomena**

The natural environment around us has plunged into a catastrophic state. But we have never noticed that the natural environment inside our body, which includes our peace of mind, is also entering the same situation, due to our boundless greed and over consumption. As the world’s temperature steadily soars, the temperature inside our mind is also heating up rapidly.

Consequently, global and mental warming situations are not so different, since both phenomena are equal crucial. And they need to be cured simultaneously as internal heat can affect the external environment. We all should bear in mind that we can survive only if nature survives.

According to a prominent Buddhist monk, the major cause of global warming and other environmental problems stems from human’s detrimental attitudes towards nature. “Humans fail to realize that they are part of nature. They can survive and maintain their race throughout the passage of time, simply because of nature’s mercy and hospitality. Humans should be grateful to nature,” suggested the monk. “Humans think that they are the master. What we commonly see in this technology-driven era is humans trying to control nature and irresponsibly exploit it,” he said. And he used to say that incessant exploitation of nature happens because humans think that real happiness comes from the ability to possess a large number of material things but they are still not gratified.

Humans think that they are the master. What we commonly see in this technology-driven era is humans trying to control nature and irresponsibly exploit it,” he said. And he used to say that incessant exploitation of nature happens because humans think that real happiness comes from the ability to possess a large number of material things but they are still not gratified.

They think that the more they have, the happier they are. Their success in life can be measured from the number and kind of cars they own and the price of the house, land, and other possessions they have, including money in their bank account.

With this attitude, people highly compete to consume and possess more, with consumerism as the stimulator and the capitalism as the supporter, he said. And he used to say that incessant exploitation of nature happens because humans think that real happiness comes from the ability to possess a large number of material things but they are still not gratified.

Humans greed has never been fulfilled because people still want more and more, resulting in the ceaseless destruction of nature in order to pamper their luxurious and wasteful life. Yet, their happiness has never increased in line with their material wealth, which can be seen in the high rate of suicides and patients with mental disorders and neurosis.

“Such attitudes and consequently behaviours make people ignore and strange themselves from nature. They are even estranged from themselves. They immerse themselves in many unnecessary activities like talking on the phone almost all the time, shopping, and surfing the net. Everything they do contributes to the ruin of nature,” he said. It’s no exaggeration to say that our natural environment is in crisis because our interior nature is out of balance. Deep down inside people feel alone, depressed and hopeless. That is why they are trying to indulge themselves with material things.

No matter how they succeed in transforming nature into a wide variety of consumer goods, assets and money, humans can’t be full and their soul is still empty, stressed the monk.

He pointed out that the natural environment can’t be restored to its healthy state as long as humans’ internal nature is still unstable. Nature teaches humans to enjoy a simple life and encourages them to embrace happiness, which derives from peace of mind, making merit, helping others and being at one with nature.

In this era of consumerism, humans greedily hunt for material happiness and along the way they fail to expose themselves to a more noble happiness. When people start controlling and reducing their desires, material happiness becomes less attractive. Happiness occurs easily when humans feel enough. And when that happens it’s no longer necessary to exploit nature, he noted.

Nature is the greatest while we are just a tiny life of form. Nature teaches us to be humble and understand our real status. We are just a small part of it. When we feel humble, we will be so arrogant and we will get closer to nature. Nature conservation work is somewhat time-consuming and it is an uphill battle as long as there are selfish people who show no respect for nature.

Nature has been giving for so long, while humans have been taking. It is now time to take care of our generous provider. Given nature and its secret phenomena, we can conclude that chance may be the only explanation for what happens in life. And this is about luck and happenstance.

Wundwin holds tree growing ceremony

**WUNDWIN, 24 June—**The rainy season tree growing ceremony was held at the junction of Thedaw-Yonsu rural road and the inter-district road in Wundwin Township of Meiktila District in Mandalay Region on 9 June morning.

Assistant Director U Bo Bo Win of Meiktila District Forest Department handed over 100 copies of magazines and journals to local people of Thervik Village-tract on 19 June as part of Moe Pwint-3 Plan. They are supervised by Region Hlutaw representatives U Thaung Aye and U Win Myint and Head of Myingyan Township INRD U Myint Shwe.—MYANNA ALIN

Health care services for the aged provided

**YANGON, 24 June—**The anniversary celebration of Health Care Services for the Aged was held in Wanetchaung Station in Hmaubay Township of Yangon Region on 20 June. Region Hlutaw representative U Hla Oo, Township Administrator U Thein Myint and Head of Township Health Department Dr Kyaw Nyein made speeches. Members of the village health committee and social organization members gave health care services to 224 older persons.—Health

**THABAUNG, 24 June—**As part of efforts for poverty alleviation, the fourth loans disbursement was held for vendors of Thiri Shweta Market in Thabaung Township of Ayeyawady Region on 18 June. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Tin Aung and Executive Officer U Htay Naing of Township Development Affairs Committee disbursed K 30000 each to 100 vendors at the office of Township Development Affairs Committee.—MYANNA ALIN

Thabaung DAC disburses loans to 100 vendors

**CASH DONATED:** Education family of Basic Education High School No 1 in Twantay donated K 100,000 towards the medical fund of Mihagon Home for the Aged in Twantay recently.—MYANNA ALIN

Books donated to rural library in Htantabin

**HANTABIN, 24 June—**A ceremony to donate books to Nay Win Thit Library was held in Payat Village of Htantabin Township of Yangon Region on 21 June. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Mya Win made a speech. After that, the township administrator presented K 1 million donated by State to the library committee chairman. The head of Township Information and Public Relations Department handed over 100 copies of magazines and journals donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation to librarians U Tin Than. The library was opened by Township Administrator U Mya Win, Head of Township IPRD Daw Khin Nyein and Village administrator U Win Naing.—Township IPRD

CASH DONATED: Dr U Khin Maung Win-Dr Dew Wai Wai of Diamond Showroom family donated K 2.5 million for purchase of Pulseoximeter and Defibrillator for the ambulance transport foundation of Myanmar Medical Association on 19 June. Chairman of MMA Prof U Kyaw Myint Naing and committee members accept the donation.—MNA

CSC ISSUED: The head of Kyaukpadaung Township Immigration and National Registration Department and staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards to local people of Seiktein Village-tract on 19 June as part of Moe Pwint-3 Plan. They are supervised by Region Hlutaw representatives U Thaung Aye and U Win Myint and Head of Myingyan Township INRD U Myint Shwe.—MYANNA ALIN

DISTRICT NEWS

**NATURE AND ITS SECRET PHENOMENA**

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR** Monday, 25 June, 2012

7
President U Thein Sein grows Maha Bo tree...

(From page 1)

Aftershocks, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, General Hla Htu Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Union ministers, chairmen and secretaries of Hlutaw Committees, senior military officers of the Commander-in-Chief (Army’s) Office and deputies grew Gangaw plants.

Next, departmental personnel and members of social organizations cultivated Gangaw and star-flower plants.

The President, the Speaker of Pyithu Hlutaw and the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services viewed round participation of the attendees in growing saplings.

After that, the President viewed documentary photos of Thatta Thattha Pagoda at the project briefing hall.

Aftershocks 216 saplings were grown at today’s ceremony to grow trees in rainy season including Maha Bo tree and Kyoe plant (Borringtonia acutangula).—MNA

Mr. Crusher & Ms. Quench Contest held to hail Olympic Day

YANGON, 24 June—

M.G.S Beverages Co organized Mr. Crusher & Ms. Quench Contest in commemoration of the Olympic Day at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhama Road in Mayangon Township here this morning.

Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Aye Myint Kyu, General Secretary of Myanmar National Sports Committee Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu, General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Deputy General Manager of M.G.S Beverages Co Managing Director Daw Nu Yin Pwint of Nu Yin Pwint Fashion Design presented prizes to winners from the above-forty senior class of the body building contest and five victors from the Model Physique contest were chosen.

At the ceremony, the representative of Pyithu Hlutaw, Chairman U Lun Thi of Resources and Environmental Conservation Committee, delivered an address.

YANGON, 23 June—

Union Minister for Transport U Aung Hla Aung met the managing director and personnel of Yangon Inland Water Transport at Ahlon Dockyard here yesterday morning.

The Union Minister clarified the future plans for the IWT as the ministry would make reforms to four enterprises under its management, calling for organizational reform along with change in management and financial control system. He called on the managing director and the management to present the organizational structure what was appropriate for them. He called for making profits from the services while guaranteeing social protection for staff and ensuring the convenience of passengers. The Union Minister in conclusion demanded them to turn the department into thriving enterprises.

Distinction winning students honoured in Kungyangon Tsp

YANGON, 23 June—

Pyithu Hlutaw Representative of Kungyangon Township U Lun Thi awarded distinction winning students in matriculation examination in 2011-2012 academic year.

Representative of Amyotha Hlutaw Dr Khin Shwe presented the champion shield to Yangon Region/State Champion in 70-kilo class, and officials, those in 80-kilo class of the body building contest, and five victors from the Model Physique contest were chosen.

At the prize-presenting ceremony of the tournament, the deputy minister awarded first, second and third winners in 90-kilo class, DG U Thaung Htai, those in 80-kilo class, Myanmar Body Building Federation President Pyithu Hlutaw Chairman U Soe Moe Aung (Yangon Region) and champion shield to Yangon Region Team. After Mr. Crusher & Ms. Quench Contest had been staged, the first, second and third from the above-forty senior class of the body building contest and five victors from the Model Physique contest were chosen.

M.G.S Beverages Co Managing Director U Oo Tun awarded winners of the body building contest, and wife of M.G.S Beverages Co Managing Director Daw Nu Yin Pwint of Nu Yin Pwint Fashion Design presented prizes to winners from the Fitness Physique.

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MNA

Sagawamyay Foundation awards outstanding students

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June—

Patron of Sagawamyay Foundation Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun addressed a meeting between farming, manufacturing and odd-job workers credit association and local people at Linyaungchi Library in Pyidaawta village in Letpanbin village-tract in Kyaukpadaw Township yesterday.

Secretary U Aung Hla Hn Win of the association explained plans to disburse loans to rural people and to help them generate more income.

The Union minister called for concerted efforts of responsible persons and local people to alleviate poverty.

He also attended the foundation’s prize presentation ceremony to outstanding students at Basic Education High School No (1) in Kyaukpadaw Township.

The Union minister and wife Daw Khin Than Win, and officials presented prizes to outstanding students and teachers. Tun Foundation Bank Chairman U Thein Tun and town elders of Kyaukpadaw donated cash through Chairman of the foundation working committee U Aung Kyi.

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At the ceremony, the representative of Pyithu Hlutaw, Chairman U Lun Thi of Resources and Environmental Conservation Committee, delivered an address.

Latter, U Lun Thi, Dr Khin Shwe and Speaker of Yangon Region/State Chairman U Sein Win and departmental officials awarded distinction winning students.

Next, U Lun Thi and U Sein Win donated cash for National Composer Sayagyi Min Thuwin bronze statue and construction committee.

Dr Khin Shwe presented 3520 dozens of exercise books worth K 5.28 million to 7038 students through the Township Education Officer and donated 10 items of goods worth K 7.1 million to 142 monasteries through Chairman of Township Sasana Nuggaha Association U Sein Shwe.

On behalf of the outstanding students, four destination winner Ma May Thin Yin, Township Education Officer U Soe Liwn and Secretary U San Shwe of National Composer Sayagyi Min Thuwin bronze statue and construction committee spoke words of thanks.

Aftershocks, U Lun Thi, Dr Khin Shwe gave uniform to teachers. U Lun Thi, Dr Khin Shwe and departmental officials posed a documentary photo together with distinction winning students.

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MNA
Clarification made on successful emergence of Myanmar monastery in Paris

YANGON, 24 June—A ceremony to clarify successful completion of Myanmar monastery in Paris of France was held in conjunction with the merit-sharing ceremony at Babathiri Beikman on Tadalaay in Mayangon Township, here, at 1 pm today.

At first, missionary Sayadaw Sasanadhaja Dhammaçañyana Maha Kammathanacariya Kyunnatha Ashin Nandasiri administered the Five Precepts. The Sayadaw explained successful emergence of a Myanmar monastery in Paris of France.

Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung spoke on the occasion and the congregation shared merits gained.—MNA

Indigenous traditional foods sales held to hail Myanmar Women’s Day

NAV PI TAW, 24 June—Taninthayi Region Women’s Affairs Organization, hailing Myanmar Women’s Day 2012 organized national race traditional foods sale at Dawei Town Hall yesterday noon. Daw Ekari Khin, wife of the region chief minister and patron of region WAO formally opened the sales.

 Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko and wife then looked round the indigenous traditional food sale. MNA

Pathem University, NITE of Japan to cooperate in biotechnological researches

YANGON, 24 June—Director-General of Japan National Institute of Technology and Evaluation Professor Dr Ando and party called on Deputy Education Minister U Ba Shwe at Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) here this morning.

They discussed matters related to cooperation between the Japan Institute and Pathem University of the Education Ministry in biotechnological researches, potentials for cooperation in higher education promotion works and education sectors of the two countries.

Present at the call were Director-General of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar), deputy directors-general, Professor In-charge of Pathein University Dr Nyunt Pe and personnel.—MNA

Winners in MPF Chief’s Cup Chess Tourney awarded

YANGON, 24 June—Awards were presented to winners in Myanmar Police Force Chief’s Cup Chess Tournament at the office of the Commander of Yangon Region Police Force yesterday.

Director-General of Japan National Institute of Technology and Evaluation Professor Dr Ando and party called on Deputy Education Minister U Ba Shwe.—MNA

Kayin State Chief Minister holds talks with state ministers, departmental officials, reps of IOM

NAV PI TAW, 24 June—Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min held talks with state ministers, state-level departmental officials, representatives from IOM Group at the state government office on 22 June.

The state chief minister then received Professor Motoyoshi Satake of Nippon Foundation and party at the same venue.

As the commemorative signboard of Myanmar Women’s Day was erected at No.4 Ward in Hpa-an yesterday, Daw Nyunt Nyunt Wai, wife of the state chief minister unveiled the signboard.

The state chief minister participated in tree-planting activity near Hpa-an Industrial Zone on Hpa-an-Hninebwe road. On 21 June morning, First Aid (Basic) Course No. 1/2012 jointly conducted by Hpa-an University Red Cross and Kayin State Red Cross Supervisory Committee was concluded at Hpa-an University convolution hall, attended by State Hluttaw Speaker U Saw Aung Kyaw Min, State Chief Judge U Saw San Lin, state ministers, the rectors and professors, departmental personnel and trainers.

State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Aung Lwin on behalf of the government presented K 300,000 million for Hpa-an University Red Cross Society.—MNA

Rainy season tree planting ceremony held in Thaton Township

NAV PI TAW, 24 June—The monsoon tree growing ceremony to mark the World Environment Day was held at University of Computer Studies in Gav Village of Thaton Township this morning.

Mon State Minister for Transport U Tun Htaing, State Minister for Forestry and Mines U Win Maw Oo, Pa-O National Race Minister U Khan Pe Mya, State Hluttaw representative U Thein Zaw, Director U Chit Paw of State Ministry of Forestry, Township Administrator U Aye Naing, Staff Officer of Township Forest Department U Htay Lwin, Principal of University of Computer Studies Dr Win Hlay, township level departmental personnel, chairpersons of District and Township Women’s Affairs Organization and party, members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association and social organization members, totalling 450 grew saplings.

At the ceremony, they planted 580 trees.—MNA

Medical battalion giving medical treatment to victims at relief camps in Rakhine State

NAV PI TAW, 24 June—Servicemen of the Directorate of Medical Services of the Commander-in-Chief(Army)’s Office and Servicemen of Sittway Township medical battalion have been providing medical treatment to victims at the relief camps in Rakhine State.

Today, the medical men gave medical treatment to the victims at the relief camps in U Ye Kyaw Thu Monastery and Sint Ku Monastery in Sittway, where they applied mosquito repellents near and around the camps.

Besides, the TVs are provided to the camps for recreation of victims.—MNA

Chindwin likely to reach above its danger level in Hkamti

NAV PI TAW, 24 June—According to the (12:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Hkamti is (1203) cm. It may reach its danger level (1360) cm during the next (48) hours coming noon today. MNA

Saplings planted in Haka hailing Myanmar Women’s Day

NAV PI TAW, 24 June—A tree-planting activity was organized near Basic Education Post Primary School in Haka hailing Myanmar Women’s Day yesterday morning.

Chin State ministers, state-township level departmental personnel, Patron of Chin State Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Kyein Ngelt Wun and members and staff members took part in the activity, planting 900 saplings.

The state women’s affairs federation patron then opened the commemorative signboard of Myanmar Women’s Day which falls on 3rd July, outside Wumma Thumaung Sports Garden. The commemorative essay and poem contests were organized near Basic Education Post Primary School in Haka Garden. The commemorative essay and poem contests were organized near Basic Education Post Primary School in Haka.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.
**Trees grown in Hline Yoma forest**

**Taikkyi, 24 June—** Yangon Region Forest Products Joint Venture Corporation Ltd (Head Office) held the tree growing ceremony in Block 15 of Hline Yoma forest reserve in Taikkyi Township recently. Executive Director U Aung Min Kyaw Thu, General Manager U Thein Win and over 80 staff grew 750 saplings. The corporation reforested 50 acres of land in rainy season in 2012-2013.

**Citizenship cards issued in**

**Kawkareik, 24 June—** In implementing MoPwint-3 Plan, staff of Kawkareik Township Immigration and National Registration Department issued citizenship scrutiny cards to the local people at the Dhammayon Aung Theikdi Monastery in Naba region of the township on 15 June. Head of Township U Nyo Nyo Than and staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards to 495 local people.

**MCDC to serve people through one stop service**

**Mandalay, 24 June—** Mandalay City Development Committee manages its tasks for convenience of customers at township administrative offices as of 12 June 2012.

**Stationery, cash donated to fund of monastic education**

**Yangon, 24 June—** A ceremony to donate stationery and cash to the funds of monastic education school was held in Ward E/A of Thingangyin Township of Yangon Region on 20 June. The donation is aimed at helping those wishing to undertake development tasks of the committee may contact the administrative office of Aungmyinthaung Township DAC on 22 Street between 87th and 88th streets, Tel: 02-36137, Chanayethazan Township DAC on the second floor of Mingala Market between 36th and 37th streets and 47th and 48th streets, Tel: 02-36138, Mahaungmye Township DAC Office Maha Nwesin Sports Ground between 35th and 36th streets and 72nd and 73rd streets, Tel: 02-77903, Chaungmyathazi Township DAC Office, Theikpan Street, Water Supply Warehouse, Tel: 02-36151.

**District News**

**SCHOOL UNIFORMS PRESENTED:** A ceremony to provide school uniforms to offspring of vendors from Zami Yadana Market was held in Kyau-in-seikkyi on 15 June. Executive Director U Khin Maung Cho of Township Development Affairs Committee presents school uniforms to students.—MYANMA ALIN

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**Firewood-saving stoves in high demand**

**Yedashe, 24 June—** As daily use of firewood is increasing in rural areas, firewood-saving stoves are in high demand. The stove that can use one firewood stick is made of cement, sand and lime through proper ventilation technique. The stove is being used in thanbyuzayat of Mon State and then in rural areas of Yedashe Township. Such stoves will help prevent deforestation of the long run.

**Python handed over to Yadanaabon Zoological Gardens**

**Yamethin, 24 June—** Senior Forester U Saw Aung Dwe hands over a python and Ranger U Wai Yan Win Htut of Yamethin Township Forest Department of Mandalay Region donated a python handed over by local people to Yadanaabon Zoological Gardens in Mandalay on 18 June.

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**Talks on danger of drugs given in Kendtung**

**Kengtung, 24 June—** Shan State (East) Committee for Drug Abuse Control supervised the ceremony to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking at Basic Education High School No 4 in Kengtung on 11 June. Assistant Director U Sai Sam Tit of Additional Department of Information and Public Relations, IP Win Htwe of Kengtung Special Anti-Drug Squad, Psychiatrist Dr Nyo Nyo Aung and Staff Officer Daw Myint Myint Khing of District Law Office gave educative talks.

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**Experiences of Hluttaw recounted in Shwebo**

**Shwebo, 24 June—** Sagaing Region Hluttaw representative Dr Aung Than and officials recounted experiences of Hluttaw at Ward 2 administrative office in Shwebo on 20 June. It was attended by townswelders, enthusiasts and officials of NGOs.

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Iranian parliament speaker urges higher defence power

TEHRAN, 24 June—Iran’s Majlis (parliament) Speaker Ali Larijani called for the necessity of improving the country’s defence capabilities, the Press TV reported on Saturday. “We should pay attention to defence preparedness so that our defence capabilities will meet the highest (level) as far as possible,” Larijani said on Saturday in Tehran during a ceremony marking the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Day. “Our defensive efforts must conform to our country’s terrain diversity as well as the enemies’ (military) capacities,” he was quoted as saying. “Insisting that the country’s confrontation with enemies in the international scene is multifaceted, Larijani said that “in some cases our enemies engage in rogue political measures against us and in other instances they resort to other sorts of pressure to undermine our nation,” according to the report. The present conditions as well as the country’s national interests call for high deterrence preparedness of the armed forces, he added.

China’s manned deep-sea submersible Jiaolong prepares to be put into water to make a fourth dive into the sea at the Mariana Trench on 24 June, 2012. China’s manned submersible, Jiaolong, made its fourth dive in the Mariana Trench on Sunday morning to attempt the world’s first 7,000-metre dive below the surface of the Pacific Ocean. —Xinhua

Chinese submersible refreshes national dive record by surpassing 7,000 metres

Aboard JIAOLONG EXPLORING 09, 24 June—Chinese oceanauts refreshed the country’s dive record in a manned submersible by going deeper than 7,000 metres beneath the sea after a successful test dive in the Pacific Ocean on Sunday morning. The Jiaolong, China’s manned submersible named after a mythical sea dragon, succeeded in diving 7,015 metres below sea level at around 11 am local time during its fourth dive into the Mariana Trench. The dive started at 7 am local time on Sunday in heavy rain. The three oceanauts, namely Ye Cong, Liu Kaizhong and Yang Bo, sent greetings from the bottom of the blue sea to the three astronauts who are expected to conduct a manual docking of the Shenzhou-9 spacecraft with the orbiting Tiangong-1 lab module. “We wish for a great success of the manned docking and brilliant achievements in China’s manned space and manned deep-sea dive causes,” said the oceanauts. The oceanauts had succeeded in reaching the depths of 6,671, 6,965 and 6,963 metres in their previous three dives from 15 to 22 June, well surpassing the record of 5,188 metres last July. “It has been proved during the four times of dive that the submersible is stable in function and the capabilities of the team performing the test dives are rising gradually,” said on-scene commander Liu Feng. Xinhua

Police: two dead at Beverly Hilton in murder-suicide

BEVERLY HILLS, 24 June—Two people have been found dead in what investigators believe was a murder-suicide at the Beverly Hilton, just hours before the Daytime Emmy Awards are being held at the posh hotel.—INTERNET

This 17 Feb, 2012 photo shows a general view of The Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif. Police say two people have been found dead in what investigators believe was a murder-suicide in a room shooting at the Beverly Hilton, just hours before the Daytime Emmy Awards are being held at the posh hotel.—INTERNET

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Tropical Storm Debby threatens Louisiana, Texas

MIAMI, 24 June—Tropical Storm Debby formed in the central Gulf of Mexico on Saturday and was expected to strengthen into a hurricane as it skirted the Louisiana coast and took aim at Texas, the US National Hurricane Center said. Debby covered much of the eastern Gulf and was centered about 215 miles south-southeast of the mouth of the Mississippi River. The storm had top winds of 50 miles per hour (81 km per hour) and was expected to strengthen into a hurricane by Tuesday night. The storm was nearly stationary but was forecast to start drifting north by Monday and then turn west, grazing the Louisiana coast through Tuesday and slamming into Texas late in the week. Oil and gas producers evacuated workers from oil and gas platforms and shut in production on Saturday as the weather worsened in the Gulf of Mexico, which is home to 20 percent of US oil production and 6 percent of natural gas output. The US Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, which oversees oil and gas activity in the Gulf, said earlier on Saturday that 7.8 percent of daily oil output and 8.16 percent of daily natural gas output were shut down. The agency’s next update will be released at midday on Sunday. A tropical storm warning was issued for the Louisiana coast from the Pearl River west to Morgan City, excluding the city of New Orleans and Lake Pontchartrain. Residents were warned to expect storm conditions within 36 hours.

Fourteen mutilated bodies found outside Mexican supermarket

MEXICO CITY, 24 June—Fourteen mutilated corpses and a threatening message aimed at a drug cartel were found inside a truck in the parking lot of a supermarket in a northern Mexico City, local media reported on Saturday. Mexico’s attorney general’s office could not immediately confirm the reports of the grisly discovery in Mante and police officials in the crime-ridden city were not immediately available for comment. Mexican media said the body parts belonged to men and women and the message was directed at the Gulf cartel. In a separate incident on 7 June, 14 dismembered bodies were discovered inside a truck in Mante, located in the south of Tamaulipas state, which borders Texas and is one of the bloodiest battlegrounds in Mexico’s drug war. More than 55,000 people have been killed in the conflict since President Felipe Calderon sent in the army to fight drug gangs shortly after he took office in December 2006.—Reuters

This NOAA satellite image taken on 23 June, 2012, shows shower and thunderstorm activity developing around an developing around an area of low pressure spinning in the Gulf of Mexico. Tropical Storm Debby has formed in the Gulf of Mexico and forecasters say it will bring rain to the Gulf coast from southern Louisiana to the Florida Panhandle.—INTERNET

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4.5-magnitude quake hits near east coast of Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia

WASHINGTON, 24 June—A strong earthquake jolted near the eastern coast of the Kamchatka Peninsula in eastern Russia on Sunday morning local time, the US Geological Survey (USGS) said. The epicenter of the 6.1-magnitude tremor, which occurred at 0315 GMT, is located 268 km southwest of Ill’pyrskiy at a depth of 17.4 km, according to the USGS. An earlier alert from the agency placed the magnitude at 6.5 and the depth of the epicenter at 51 km. No immediate tsunami alert has been issued.—Xinhua

2.6-magnitude quake hits near east coast of Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia

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Mexico admits mistake in high-profile drug case

Mexico City, 24 June — Mexico on Friday admitted it had mistakenly claimed to have captured a son of Mexico’s most wanted drug lord, Joaquin “Shorty” Guzman, which the ruling party had hailed as a major victory in its war on cartels.

Mexican marines seized the man on Thursday outside Guadalajara and flew him to Mexico City, where they paraded him in front of the media and identified him as Jesus Alfredo Guzman, alias “El Gerdo” or “The Fat One.”

The man’s lawyer, VeronicaGuerrero, told a news conference earlier on Friday that her client’s real name was Felix Beltran and that he was an innocent car dealer. The federal attorney general’s office said late on Friday the man arrested was indeed Beltran, without giving any further details.

The mix-up is a major embarrassment for the government, which has been heavily criticized for failing to contain the violence and flow of drugs since President Felipe Calderon sent in the military to fight the cartels shortly after taking office in December 2006.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said at the closing ceremony, “I welcome the adoption of the outcome document.”

The text of the 53-page document followed protracted and intense negotiations that the UN chief once called “painfully slow,” and was agreed by the member states just one day before the summit opened on Wednesday.

World leaders pledge new measures to lead the world toward a more sustainable future on Friday here, as they ended a three-day development summit after adopting an outcome document. In the landmark document, entitled The New Way of Life of Myanmar, the leaders committed to: advance social equity and ensure a sustainable future for Planet Earth. Closing the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), the leaders renewed their commitments to global sustainable development and vowed that the world will have to change its growth model based on unsustainable consumption and production. “It has been a successful conference,” UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said at the closing ceremony. “I welcome the adoption of the outcome document.”

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Utah wildfire evacues allowed to return to homes

Salt Lake City, 24 June — About 2,300 Utah wildfire evacuees were allowed to return to their homes on Saturday evening after officials determined the blaze no longer posed a threat to them. The decision came after the fire had burned Friday with a quarter-mile of some homes in Saratoga Springs and Eagle Mountain, about 40 miles south of Salt Lake City, Bureau of Land Management spokeswoman Teresa Rigby said. No homes have burned, she said, and fire officials were comfortable with the decision to lift the evacuation order after seeing how the 9-square-mile blaze behaved Saturday afternoon during high winds and high temperatures. “The fire itself is still active but it no longer is a direct threat to homes,” Rigby told The Associated Press. “Most of the fire is up on the mountain at this time and not near the subdivisions.”

The evacuation order, imposed on Friday, affected nearly 2,600 homes and roughly 2,300 residents, according to an updated count released on Saturday by fire officials.

Winds pushed some of the fire back on itself on Saturday afternoon, Rigby said, and crews managed to put out “hot spots” closest to homes.

The fire that officials believe was started on Thursday by target shooters was 30 percent contained on Saturday evening, with full containment expected on Tuesday. Crews also were battling a 16,500-acre brush fire on high desert near the town of Delta in central Utah. Human-caused fire was 60 percent contained Saturday evening, BLM spokesman Don Carpenter said, and had burned no homes after breaking out Friday. —Internet

Sichuan Airlines launches inaugural flight to Vancouver, enters N American market

Vancouver, 24 June — Sichuan Airlines flew into the Vancouver market, on its inaugural flight on Friday, becoming the first carrier to link western China with Canada.

For the Chengdu-based carrier, the Vancouver line designed to be three times a week, which includes a stopover in Shenyang, is its eighth international route and first foray into the North American market.

The carrier’s entry into the Canadian market comes at an opportune time as China is already served by Air China, China Eastern and China Southern, in addition to Hong Kong carrier Cathay Pacific and Air Canada, the availability of more flights would only foster greater tourism and business travel, said Canadian International Airports (CIAL) president Ed Fast. For trade in general, it’s really important that we allow business between Canada and China to take place in a more expedited manner,” said Fast, who is also the Asia-Pacific Gateway minister.

490 out of world top 500 companies invest in China

Beijing, 24 June — A senior commerce official said Friday that so far, 490 out of the world top 500 companies have invested in China and established more than 1,600 R&D centres and regional headquarters.

Transnational corporations have kept investing more in China since the country adopted the policy of opening up to the outside world in the late 1970s.

The companies have been playing an increasingly important role in boosting the nation’s economic development, Gao Hucheng, a vice commerce minister, said at a meeting.

Foreign-invested firms have reaped great benefits from this huge market. Sales of these companies exceeded 33 trillion yuan (2.34 trillion US dollars) in China in 2010, Gao said, adding that the nation has become a safe haven and a main source of income for many foreign-invested firms during the international financial crisis.

Meanwhile, China has stepped up its investment in other parts of the world. By the end of 2011, China’s outbound direct investment topped 380 billion US dollars.

There were more than 18,000 Chinese-funded companies operating in 178 countries and regions at the end of last year, with total assets reaching approximately 1.6 trillion US dollars, Gao said. —Xinhua

Suicide second leading cause of death among young Indians

New Delhi, 24 June — Suicide has become the second leading cause of death among the young in India, a British research has revealed. The research on suicide mortality in India, published in Britain’s prestigious The Lancet journal on Friday, has pointed out that more than half the total suicide deaths in India are committed by 20 percent of suicidal young men in this country occur between the ages of 15 and 29. “Suicide kills nearly as many Indian men aged 15-29 as transportation accidents and nearly as many young women as complications from pregnancy and childbirth,” lead author Vikram Patel of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine said.

He added “Suicide is the cause of about twice as many deaths as HIV-Aids and about the same number as maternal causes of death in young women.” Interestingly, four of India’s most prosperous states in the south — Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala — recorded 42 percent of suicide deaths in men and 40 percent of self-inflicted fatalities in women in 2010.

Nearly four southern Indian states constitute nearly 22 percent of the country’s population. Strange it may sound, but farmer suicides, highlighted much in the Indian media, account much less deaths as compared to individuals in other professions, according to the research. “Suicide deaths in unemployed individuals and individuals in professions other than agricultural work were, collectively, about three times greater than they were in agricultural workers,” the authors said. —MAA/Xinhua

烟雾笼罩在背景中：一名摩托车司机在拉里米县高速公路74号线上行驶。© The Lancet

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编辑：李达

说明：本文为本报讯，不构成新闻发布。
Boy carries ‘homeless’ sign as punishment

A Maryland man said he made his 12-year-old son carry a sign proclaiming him to be “homeless” because he failed to call home as instructed.

Kevin Burks of Waldorf said he made his son, Kenny, carry a sign up and down his street on 18 June reading, “Homeless, Won’t Listen to Parents,” because he failed to call home as instructed when spending the night at a friend’s house, WRC-TV, Washington, reported.

“All he has to do is check in at 8:30,” Burks said. “He was supposed to be at his friend’s house at 8 pm. Kenny did not call until 9 pm.”

“I pay for his clothes, his shoes, the roof over his head, his safety and everything he has,” Burks said. “My thing is Kenny just keeps coming. It never comes to comedy. Failure is the exact same as success when it comes to comedy. I just kept coming back.”

Kevin Burks supervised his son during the punishment, which lasted from 9:15 am until 5 pm, and gave him meals and breaks every 2 hours.

A police officer responded when neighbours complained, and Burks said the officer complimented him on his creative discipline.

News Album

Sarah Hudson joins cast of ‘Smash’

Jennifer Hudson performs at the Revlon Concert for the Rainforest Fund at Carpool Karaoke at New York City on 3 April, 2012.

INTERNET

Universal City, 24 June—Actress-singer Jennifer Hudson is to appear in a multi-episode arc on Season 2 of the Broadway-themed drama series for her work in the movie musical “Dreamgirls.”

The 35-year-old actor, who won an Oscar for “Dreamgirls,” now “Smash,” for his work in the movie musical “Dreamgirls.”

Executive producer Steven Spielberg said: “First Dreamgirls, now “Smash.” I have no doubt Jennifer will have no doubt Jennifer will

Charlie Sheen in ‘Machete Kills’

Los Angeles, 24 June—Actor Charlie Sheen has been cast as the US president in director Robert Rodriguez’s “Machete Kills.”

“I think I felt really out of control of my surroundings,” she said.

“I am not dating anyone,” she confirmed.

“I am not dating anyone,” she confirmed.

Demi Moore, says “True Blood” actor Joe Manganiello zero truth to that… I met her once at a premiere and maybe talked to her for three minutes, ” the Daily Express quoted him as telling DJ Ryan Seacrest.

“She’s a lovely woman. She was in Striptease and I was like, Hey, you played a stripper, I play a stripper and we had a three-minute conversation about exchanging stripping notes.

“Gee, they will print anything and once it’s on the Internet there’s no fact checking, everyone just prints off of everybody else’s articles. It’s amazing,” he added.

Taylor-Wood and Johnson marry in UK

Los Angeles, 24 June—Director Sam Taylor-Wood and actor Aaron Johnson announced on Friday they have married in Somerset, England.

Taylor-Wood, 45, and Johnson, 22, have been dating since 2009 and have two children together. They met when Taylor-Wood cast the actor in her directorial debut “Nowhere Boy.”

The couple told E! News they were wed on Thursday and will now both use the name Taylor-Johnson. Taylor-Wood also has two children from her previous marriage to art dealer and gallery owner Jay Jopling.

Brad Pitt buys graffiti art

London, 24 June—Actor Brad Pitt has bought three pieces from new graffiti artist Bambi — a canvas of Prince William and his wife Duchess Catherine, one of Queen Elizabeth and another picture of Amy Winehouse.

“There is a lot of buzz about Bambi at the moment. As Brad’s here with the family for up to two years, it makes sense to fill the house with art by British artists,” a source told thsource.co.uk.

The artist’s work is similar to Banksy.

“Already has a Banksy, which he bought

Man charged for defrauding drug test

An Illinois man was charged with defrauding a drug screening test after allegedly handing over toilet water instead of urine, authorities said.

Brian Uchwat, 29, of Schaumburg, showed up at the McHenry County Sheriff’s Office to take a drug screening test on 20 June as ordered by his probation officer, the Daily Herald, Arlington Heights, Illinois, reported.

Authorities said when it came time for Uchwat to take a urine test, though, he provided a sample of water he collected from a toilet.

The McHenry County Sheriff’s Office Criminal Investigation Division was notified of Uchwat’s test. He was then arrested and transported to the McHenry County Jail.

Court Services Director Phil Dauling said any attempt by a person on probation to tamper with a court-ordered urine test is considered a serious matter.

Authorities did not say when Uchwat is scheduled to appear in court or why he was ordered to have a drug screening in the first place.
**Alonso scores twice to win Spain 2-0 win over France**

It was a 100th international cap and he was named the Man of the Match. Spain had never beaten France in the World Cup and Euro Championship history. The two teams broke the jinx tonight and extended their unbeaten run in the competitive games to 18 apiece after they lost 1-0 to Switzerland in the 2010 World Cup Final, and Spain's former striker, Xabi Alonso has been one of the key players.

On his part, the Real Madrid midfielder was named the Man of the Match for the second time in as many tournaments and progressed to the Round of 16 at both the Australian Open and the French Open. Things have studied for her both on and off the court as she looks to begin her Wimbledon campaign against Ksenia Pervak. She’s looking to improve on her best-round second round exit last year to eventual semifinalist Sabine Lisicki. That was a match that could have gone either way (Lisicki won 6-3 in the third) but Li insists she no longer dwells on that disappointment.

“Unlike this year last year I got a lot of confidence to come to Wimbledon but I didn’t do well, so this year I can do good,” she said.

“You really couldn’t always think about what you doing the last year, because right now you one year already. Time change everything.”

The one thing time doesn’t change is the unpredictable weather. When asked for her first memories of Wimbledon, Li couldn’t help but laugh. “I mean, the weather, of course every year is the same. Some days when rain are coming we have to wait, and sometimes we have to come to the court straightaway,” she said. “And strawberries and cream,” she said. “I have to eat, otherwise I miss something.”

**Casey Wittenberg’s 63 has him two clear of the field in Wichita**

His world record, he did it on the 100th anniversary of the first Olympic decathlon and has made the American greats who have made history in the event were on hand to watch him compete. “I think there were some real courage,” Johnson said. “He hung in there and figured out how to win. He was brilliant in everything he did.”

He won seven of the 10 events and did most of it in terrible weather — drizzle, rain, cold and then, finally, sunshine as he got ready for the final 1,500-metre push. “It’s like the 11th event,” runner-up Trey Hardee, the defending world champion, said about the final event.

**Decathlete Ashton gets ready for start of decathlon at the US athletic trials in Eugene**, to start through 25 June 2012 — Reuters
**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
(25-6-12 09:30 am – 26-6-12 09:30 am) MST
* News
  - The Great Shwedagon Pagoda (Arts & Craft)
  - Myanmar Traditional Instruments “Myanma Dran”
* News
  - National Races from Shan State “Gon Shan and Li Shan”
* News
  - Journey To Unimaginable Spots (Episode-9)
* News
  - Housing Living & Automobile Exhibition 2012
* News
  - Mesmerising Scenes or Images of Japan (Part-1)
* News
  - Myanmar Movie “Load Speaker”

Super-charged Hamilton ready for European Grand Prix

well aware of how tight things are and how much of a threat second-placed Fernando Alonso of Ferrari and Red Bull drivers, Sebastian Vettel and Mark Webber, pose to his title hopes.

However, although the surging Englishman will be hoping to become the first driver to win two races this season, he remained level-headed and believes consistent driving, rather than wins, will be key to winning the world championship. "While it's always pleasing to be leading the championship, I'm only two points ahead of Fernando which is nothing, particularly when there is a handful of really strong drivers all separated by a couple of points, so there's still everything to play for," said Hamilton.

KABUL, 24 June—NATO says four Afghan service members have died in southern Afghanistan in the past two days.

Four NATO service members killed in Afghanistan

**Concerticut, 24 June—** Brian Davis and Roland Thatcher, who are both chasing their first victories on the USPGA Tour, were tied for the third-round lead at the $6 million Travellers Championship. Englishman Davis fired a six-under 64 to reach 12-under 198 after 54 holes. He’s level with Thatcher who shot a five-under 65. "It was one of those things where you had the rhythm, you were playing and you just kept going," Davis said of his front nine. "We hit the back nine and the wind’s picked up, and all of a sudden it was two groups on every tee coming it. Sort of lost just a momentum a little bit."

Davis rolled in six birdies with a 29 on the front nine. Thatcher had a one-shot lead on the back nine but missed a seven-foot par putt on the 17th hole that set him back. He had three consecutive birdies during one productive stretch of his round. "It’s been a really good three rounds, obviously one more to go, and it’s a really packed leaderboard right there," Thatcher said. The tournament was hit by stormy weather on Friday which resulted in half the field not finishing the second round. The players returned early on Saturday and the event is now back on schedule after some players had to play 36 holes in one day. Nine players shot 65 or better as the players took advantage of soft conditions.

“IT played longer, softer, but we didn’t have any mud balls, so that was nice," said Will Claxton, who shot a 69. John Rollins, James Driscoll and Stuart Appleby were two strokes adrift of the leaders.

Defending champion Fredrik Jacobson shot even par to remain at nine under. He managed a round of even-par 70 on Saturday and is tied for sixth place with five others. Jacobson led the event after 36 holes. Three-time major winner Padraig Harrington (65), Matt Kuchar (66), Tim Clark (66), Charley Hoffman (67) and Claxton are also at nine under. Four of the last six winners of the Travellers Championship have been first-time winners on the USPGA Tour.

Davis, Thatcher tied for lead at Travellers golf

**Sydney, 24 June—** According to new research published in a leading scientific journal, Mount Kilimanjaro, the world’s highest mountain, is shrinking. The study, published in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters,* found that the mountain’s glaciers have lost an average of 1% of their mass per year over the past 10 years.

This handout photograph obtained on 22 June, from Free the Children shows double amputee Spencer West after ascending Mount Kilimanjaro on 19 June, in Tanzania. West, 31, of Canada, lost both legs at the age of five. **Internet**

"Physically, it was challenging because I climbed the majority of the mountain on my hands, which put a lot of stress on my shoulders and arms," he said, estimating he hoisted himself up 80 percent of the way. **Internet**

Internet

**Member of the National Olympic Committee of Myanmar**

**Member of the World Special Olympics**

**Member of the World Special Olympics**

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President U Thein Sein felicitates
Croatian President

YANGON, 24 June—A Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint arrived back here by air at 5.50 pm today after paying goodwill visits to Lao People’s Democratic Republic at the invitation of President of the National Assembly Madame Pany Yathotous and to Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the invitation of Chairman of National Assembly of the SRV Mr Nguyen Sinh Hung.

Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and party were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Mya Nyine, Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, chairmen, secretaries and members of Amyotha Hluttaw Committees, Deputy Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Tin Aung, Lao PDR Ambassador Mr Nilaith Shyarath, Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Chu Cong Phung and departmental officials.

Amyotha Hluttaw representatives Chairman of National Race Committee U Hsi Hpaung Nap, member of Public Accounts Committee U Baran Shuang, members of Hluttaw Rights Committee U Hsan Yel and U Saw Taw Pale, member of Monetary and Revenue Committee U Hlae Shin Bwe, member of Economic and Commerce Committee U Hlay Win, member of Education, Health and Cultural Committee U Hla Thein and officials of the Hluttaw who accompanied the Speaker also arrived back on the same flight.—MNA

President sends message of felicitations to Croatian PM

NAY PYI TAW, 25 June—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Ivo Josipovic, Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Croatia, which falls on 25 June, 2012.—MNA

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President
Dr Sai Mauk Kham, attends tree growing ceremony to mark Myanmar Women’s Day 2012

Myanmar Women’s Day billboards opened

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June—Hailing Myanmar Women’s Day, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation unveiled Myanmar Women’s Day billboards at various sites here this morning.

The ceremonies were attended by patrons of MWAF, President Dr Thei Thet Zin, CEC members and members.

The patrons formally opened the billboards near Thayeygon roundabout in Nay Pyi Taw Zabuthiri Township and Gangaw flower roundabout in Dekkhinathiri Township and the chairperson unveiled the boards.—MNA

Sharapova comes back down to earth at Wimbledon

LONDON, 24 June—After the stellar delight of winning the French Open to complete a career grand slam, Maria Sharapova has come back down to earth at Wimbledon, scene of one of her greatest disappointments a year ago.

“I was walking around for three days with the biggest smile,” Sharapova told a Wimbledon news conference on Saturday, recalling her Roland Garros triumph a fortnight ago. “Then I got here and I better get back to reality.”

Reality meant getting used to grass again, and learning the experience of losing to Czech Petra Kvitova in last year’s Wimbledon final, said Sharapova, world number one since her Paris victory.

INTERNET

“As tough as it is to lose grand slam finals, probably one of the toughest things for a tennis player, it’s really about getting yourself back out there and improving and hoping for another chance,” the Russian said.—Internet

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