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Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

1. The Union Election Commission will be reconstituted and its mandated tasks, including the scrutiny of voter lists, shall be implemented in accordance with the law.
2. Effective measures will be taken with added momentum to prevent and manage the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Actions will be taken to ensure the speedy recovery of businesses from the impact of COVID-19.
4. Emphasis will be placed on achieving enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement.
5. Upon accomplishing the provisions of the state of emergency, free and fair multiparty democratic elections will be held in line with the 2008 Constitution, and further work will be undertaken to hand over State duties to the winning party in accordance with democratic standards.

If the people prefer inland water transport, the nationwide travel and flows of trade can be improved, stresses Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing hears the report on the history of the Inland Water Transport and the Dala Shipyard in Yangon Region yesterday.

THE Inland Water Transport-IWT should stand as a leading organization for the water transport sector of the country, said State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing while inspecting the Dala Shipyard in Yangon yesterday. He was accompanied by the Yangon Region chief minister, the commander of the Yangon Command, the mayor and relevant officials.

First, Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San

reported on the history of the Inland Water Transport, the vessels of relevant divisions and maintenance of the vessels, work plans of the shipyard, the construction of ships in each financial year, income received from maintenance services of private vessels and vessel operations of relevant divisions across the nation.

Managing Director of the Inland Water Transport U Htay Aung then explained the historic activities and records of the Dala Shipyard, ship maintenance at docks, construction of new ves-

sels and future work plans in the coming financial year.

In his response to the presentation, the Senior General said that water transport is the most cost-effective and faster way to transport a large number of goods in the transport sector. The country boasts of various rivers and creeks and although water transport is the best way, there is no proper development for it fails to conduct systematically. Therefore, the government should carry out the development of the waterway transport system and

encourage the private sector. There should be fine waterways, jetties, ships, a resting area on the jetty for passengers, locations for freight transport and places to keep the products. It should make efforts to lure the trust of people in the water transport sector; if the low-cost water transport system is implemented, it benefits the country and the awareness programmes should be conducted as the unessential goods can be transported via sea route.

The Senior General added

that the local transport sector received proper achievements in the past but due to the financial difficulties and smuggling, the State-owned transport was affected seriously. Due to the weaknesses in repairing the aged machinery and ships, it affects the State-owned transport sector and so it needs to conduct repair works on them based on their terms or years correctly. Providing the welfare of staff can improve the abilities of staff in their workplaces.

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It is concerned with the whole country

It is necessary to understand the Burma Defence Army is concerned not only with Tatmadaw members but also the entire Bamar nationals and the whole country. Actually, there is no comprehensive independence camp because no encouragement is given to soldiers of the Burma Defence Army. It is important for defending the country in the establishment of a new era. All should not work for just Myanmar but take lessons from other countries and nearby countries.

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by War Minister Colonel Aung San at the special meeting of the Burma Defence Army held in Yangon on 2 December 1942)



Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Notification 117/2022 5th Waxing of Waso 1384 ME 2 July 2022

THERE is a public holiday of Eid-ul-Adha (Qurbani Eid) on the 13th Waxing of Waso (10 July 2022). It is here announced that on Eid-ul-Adha (Qurbani Eid) under Section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.

By order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

Public holiday announcement on Eid-ul- Adha (Qurbani Eid) day

ACCORDING to the State Administration Council Notification No 117/2022 on 2 July, Eid-ul-Adha (Qurbani Eid) day on the 13th Waxing Day of Waso 1384 ME (10 July 2022), Sunday is a public holiday under Section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. — MNA

Delegation led by China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister Mr Wang Yi arrives in Myanmar to attend 7th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting



THE Chinese delegation led by the State Councilor and Foreign Minister of the Peoples' Republic of China Mr Wang Yi arrived at NyaungU Airport in Bagan in the afternoon of 2 July 2022 to attend the 7th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting. They were welcomed at the NyaungU Airport by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Myo Htut, Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation of the Mandalay Region U Myo Aung,

Director-General U Wunna Han of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials concerned.

Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Councilor and Foreign Minister of the Peoples' Republic of China Mr Wang Yi will co-chair the 7th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting.— MNA

The MoFA Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myo Htut greets Mr Wang Yi on his arrival at NaungU Airport on 2 July 2022.

14 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 2 July, total figure rises to 613,642

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **613,642** after **14** new cases were reported on 2 July 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **592,574** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll still stands at **19,434** without more casualties.—MNA

Further invitation to remaining groups to hold talks

DEMOCRACY as well as federalism requires equal rights. Talks will continue with the ethnic armed organizations to restore peace.

Good results came out from the talks with EAOs. Efforts will continue to restore peace by holding better talks.

Some EAOs cannot participate in the talks for various reasons. In line with the firm implementation of two political visions, the government further invites remaining groups to hold talks.

(The excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in meeting with ministers of Yangon Region government on 9 June 2022.)

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits MPE's main fuel terminal Danidaw



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing hears the report on the main fuel terminal Danidaw in Yangon Region on 2 July 2022.

STATE Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspected the main fuel terminal Danidaw of the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise in Botahtaung Township of Yan-

gon Region together with relevant officials yesterday.

First, Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San, Union Minister for Electric Power and for Energy

U Thaug Han and officials explained the history of the main fuel terminal Danidaw, the storage condition, repairs on the Danidaw jetty destroyed by bad weather, the renting of tanks and jetty from Myanmar

Railways, diesel procurement of MR and the construction of staff housing for Myanmar Port Authority at the meeting hall.

Then, the Senior General instructed responsible personnel to ensure systematic

activities in the port area.

The Senior General and party also viewed the oil tanks and jetty and instructed the necessary things.—MNA

If the people prefer inland water transport, the nationwide travel and flows of trade can be improved, stresses Senior General

FROM PAGE-1

The Inland Water Transport should stand as a leading organization for the water transport sector of the country. On the other hand, it should encourage private water transport activities. It needs to produce human resources. It also should adopt the coastal transport system and use the delta, Ayeyawady, Chindwin and Thanlwin rivers effectively in the inland water transport sector.

The Dala Shipyard has its own history and it should provide the needed engineers for it. It should build modern ships and study at the partner shipyards. It also conducts modern constructions to promote the ship-

yard. As it is an about 150 years old shipyard, it should lead the ship construction operations of the country. If the people prefer inland water transport, the nationwide travel and flows of trade can be improved and there will be an economic system that can be launched across the nation, he continued.

Then, the Senior General and party viewed the Dala Shipyard and instructed the necessary things. He also provided gifts and cash prizes to the IWT staff.—MNA

The Senior General views round the Dala Shipyard in Yangon Region on 2 July 2022.



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects upgrading of Aung San Stadium

CHAIRMAN of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by SAC Member Admiral Tin Aung San, Joint Secretary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo, Union Ministers U Thaung Han, U Min Thein San, U Shwe Lay and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, senior officers from the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Office, the Yangon Command Commander, the mayor and relevant officials inspected the upgrading of the Aung San Stadium in Mingala Taungnyunt Township of Yangon Region yesterday morning.

First, the Union Ministers, the Yangon Region chief minister, Director Maj-Gen Myo Thant of



of Myanmar's sports was initiated. Consideration must be given to holding the Olympic games after meeting the international standards. It must arrange to hold international competitions for eight sports at the stadium. It should take into account the need to create a car parking and public area. There should be proper cooperation works between the departments concerned, the regional government and the Directorate of Military Engineering.

Then, the Senior General viewed the model of the stadium and instructed the necessary things.

The Senior General and party inspected the Aung San Stadium



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks into the miniature version of Aung San Stadium (top) and inspects the stadium (above and below) in Yangon on 2 July 2022.



the Directorate of Military Engineering and officials explained the data and history of the stadium, completed works based on the instructions made by the Senior General in 2021, and the formation of the committee on upgrading the stadium, the construction of the underpass and overpass, and estimated plans to construct an indoor stadium with an audience capacity of 3,000 through PowerPoint presentations and video clips.

In his response, the Senior General said the Aung San Stadium is a historic ground for its name, tradition and terms and also a place where the success

um by car and indoor stadium.

Aung San Stadium was established in 1906 and its original name was Burma Athletic Association Ground (BAA). In addition to popular domestic and international sports events, a special commemorative exhibition, the Holiday on Ice, was held in the stadium. On 17 October 1953, the original name was changed to Aung San Stadium. The upgrading of the historic stadium aims to hold national-level and international sports events. When completed, it can accommodate over 30,000 audiences and the indoor stadium will have an audience capacity of 3,000 people. —MNA

Announcement for opening reception centres to receive CDM staff, students and youths

THE State Administration Council has been striving for the all-round development of the country including economic, social, education and health sectors. In addition, security forces are performing their duties day and night so that the entire mass of national people in various regions across the Union should be able to lead their lives and earn their living in the peace of mind. The State Administration Council gives priority to achieving genuine and perpetual peace, building up the united strength of the national brethren.

In order to prevent the unnecessary loss of human resources, the State Administration Council has publicly invited the basic education staff who are absent from duty to resume their duties and those who take part in armed resistance under various names of groups, including PDFs, to return to the legal fold if they wish to, and is systematically receiving the returnees.

It is found that, due to the persuasion, instigation and coercion of CRPH and NUG terrorist groups, some CDM staff, students and youths went to the strongholds of some ethnic armed organizations and received training in arms, ammunition and explosives.

It is known that some of those who have completed the training no longer want to be involved in terrorist attacks and so they fled to the regions within and without the country and are working there for their living. When they see terrorist attacks with their own eyes, they cannot accept such terrible acts at all. On the other hand, they have come to believe in the government's five-point roadmap and its endeavour for durable peace. Moreover, they want to live peacefully in their hometowns again with their parents and relatives. Nevertheless, they cannot do so because of the coercion and intimidation by CRPH and NUG terrorist groups and their subordinates, it is learnt.

Therefore, the government is taking measures to be able to open reception centres in border areas for those who would like to return homes to their respective regions. Moreover, those wishing to return home can contact Tatmadaw units and police stations. It is guaranteed that they will be able to lead their daily lives peacefully.

*Information Team
State Administration Council*

MoUGO performs monsoon tree-planting ceremony

THE monsoon tree-planting ceremony 2022 of the Ministry of Office of the Union Government was held at the Revenue Appellate Tribunal in Nay Pyi Taw, as a symbol of the greening activities yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae of the Ministry of the Union Government Office (1), Union Minister of the Ministry of the Union Government Office (2) U Chitt Naing, Secretary of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee Lt-Gen Min Naung, Committee

Members: Lt-Gen Min Naing, Lt-Gen Win Bo Shein, Lt-Gen Aye Win, Chairman U Myint Oo of the Revenue Appellate Tribunal and members, officials and departmental staff of the MoUGO.

During the event, the attendees planted a total of 240 perennials, shade trees, ornamental plants and saplings. Then, Union ministers and officials viewed the cultivation of relevant members.

Afterwards, indoor plants are handed out to participants as commemorative gifts, it is learnt. — MNA



The monsoon tree-growing event 2022 of the Ministry of the Union Government Office (1) and (2) is in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

High-tech demonstration farms to be established in Nay Pyi Taw council area



The MoALI Union Minister inspects the high-tech demonstration farms in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 2 July 2022.

UNION Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Tin Htut Oo inspected the establish-

ment of high-tech demonstration farms in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday morning.

First, the Union Minister and departmental officials visited 100 acres of monsoon paddy and crop

fields in Lewe Township in Thittat Village, Zeyathiri Township.

Officials explained the situation in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area which can be improved by seasonal crop production and water supply using various methods.

Upon the reports, the Union minister said that the agricultural and livestock-based production was further developed with modern methods and the productivity of each acre of agricultural land was continuously improved.

The Union minister said that in order to increase the yield and quality of crops, it is necessary to educate people on how to save water and use inputs in line with agricultural production techniques to be able to cultivate all three agricultural lands that provide water and soil conditions

for one year.

More than 170,000 acres of monsoon paddy in the Nay Pyi Taw Council area and about 28,000 acres of summer paddy and over 320,000 acres of various crops were cultivated in 2021-2022.

The soil is fertile and the climate is temperate, so there is a lot of potential for annual cultivation, he said.

Due to the presence of research institutes and the availability of professional resources, high-tech demonstration farms have been set up to engage local farmers and farmers in various regions and states. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation is making efforts for farmers to study Agriculture, the Union Minister added. —MNA

MoCRD celebrates 100th International Day of Cooperatives

THE Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development celebrated the 100th International Day of Cooperatives in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the ceremony, Union Minister U Hla Moe said the International Co-operative Alliance-ICA was organized on 19 August 1895 in London and celebrated the ceremonies starting in 1923 and now it reaches 100 years. The Myanmar Central Co-operative Association joined the ICA on 7 September 1993. In 1995, the United Nations designated the first Saturday of July as International Cooperative Day to promote awareness of cooperative activities, international unity, short-term economic profit, equality and prosperity of the world.

The cooperative associations have created job opportunities for over 12 per cent of the



The Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development marks the 100th International Day of Cooperatives in Nay Pyi Taw on 2 July 2022.

world population accounting for more than 280 million people.

He also highlighted the significant activities of cooperative associations in business, natu-

ral environment conservation, job opportunities, food safety and security, financial assistance and other matters.

The Cooperative Depart-

ment has set effective objectives, aims, policies, procedures and eight action plans and organized 39,399 associations so far. There should be proper in-

terdepartmental cooperation to develop the cooperatives by following the principles, ethics and essences of the cooperatives.

The Union minister mentioned the theme for this year's International Day of Cooperatives "Cooperatives Build a Better World" and called on the officials to promote the image of Myanmar's cooperatives while the international cooperatives are following the principles based on shared moral ethics and values.

Then, Myanmar Central Co-operative Association Chairman U Aung Phyu briefed the activities of the association.

After that, the message sent by ICA was read out and the ceremony played a video clip honouring the International Day of Cooperatives. — MNA/GNLM

CRIME NEWS

Illegal timbers, foodstuffs, consumer goods, machinery and vehicles seized

SUPERVISED by the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, effective action is being taken to prevent illegal trade under the law.

Under the instructions of the Chairman of the Anti-Illicit Trade Task Force, an on-duty team conducted inspections at the Yangon International Airport Warehouse on 30 June.

Officials captured consumer goods worth K2.62 million that showed no permit licence. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Similarly, a combined team made inspections and confiscated a total of 0.4974 tonne of illegal teak worth K328,284 from a Toyota Probox car (approximately K13 million) under the supervision of the Yangon Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

In addition, at the container terminal of the Asia World Port officials captured K53.34 million worth of Caterpillar motor grader machinery that exceed the instructions of rules and reg-

ulations. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

On 1 July, an on-duty team confiscated 16,750 kilogrammes of sugar worth K10.05 million which were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from a 22-wheel truck (approximately K120 million) heading from Myawady to Mandalay at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) Combined Checkpoint. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

In addition, a team led by the Police Force conducted inspections under the Sagaing Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force. They confiscated a Canda 125 motorbike and two Shayan 125 motorbikes worth K600,000 in Homalin township on 2 July. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

Similarly, on 1 July, a total of 4.914 tonnes of teak at an estimated value of K1,662,160 in the Kabaung forest reserve in Toungoo, and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

Therefore, 10 arrests (approximately K201,600,444) were made on three consecutive days from 30 June to 2 July, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee.— MNA



An official checks illegal machinery at the container terminal of Asia World Port.

Black gram fetches good prices in Mandalay on high Indian demand



Currently, the Mandalay bean market receives the black grams from Shwebo, YeU, Taze, Kanbalu and Yesagyo townships.

THE new black grams of 2022 fetch good prices in the Mandalay market on high India demand, according to Mandalay bean dealers.

The black grams entered the market in the last week of June and there was a high production rate of quality black grams. Moreover, the market price was only K100,000 per three-basket bag in the same period of the previous year, and it is now K150,000 per three-basket bag, said U Soe Win Myint, an owner of the Soe Win Myint wholesale centre in Mandalay.

"In the Mandalay market, the black grams planted in irrigated areas in the waning of Taboung now get good prices. It is an irrigated crop. The farmers get achievements in planting this year. The Indian

government purchase them at proper prices recently and so we get good prices. The cultivation and production rates are low in India. Therefore, the demand for black grams is higher than the previous years. The farmers reap healthy profits this year," he added.

Currently, the Mandalay bean market receives the black grams from Shwebo, YeU, Taze, Kanbalu and Yesagyo townships. The black gram is grown not only in upper Myanmar but also in lower Myanmar such as Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago regions. The upper parts grow them as subsidiary crops. The black gram is the highest among the bean exports of Myanmar. — Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)/GNLM

LOCAL BUSINESS

Domestic fuel price heading back amid global oil price dip

THE prices of fuel oil have fallen back slightly in the domestic market following the dip in global oil prices.

On 22 June, the prices stood at K2,275 for Octane 92, K2,375 for Octane 95, K2,690 for diesel and K2,720 for premium diesel, whereas the prices declined to K2,135 for Octane 92, K2,225 for Octane 95, K2,410 for diesel and K2,435 for premium diesel on 1 July. There is a gap of K140-285 per litre within ten days, according to the local fuel oil market.

A supervisory committee on oil import, storage and distribution of fuel oil is governing the fuel oil storage and distribution sector effectively and ensures price stability for energy consumers.

Additionally, the department, under the guidance of the committee, is issuing the daily reference rate for oil to offer a reasonable price to energy consumers. The reference rate in Yangon Region is set on the MOPS' price assessment, shipping cost, premium insurance, tax, other general cost and health profit per cent.

The rates for regions and



People can file any complaints about services at petrol stations through contact numbers (067-409881, 067-411129, 09-699611116, 09-440433533).

states other than Yangon are evaluated after adding the transportation cost and the reference rates daily covered on the state-run newspapers and are posted on the media and official website and Facebook page of the department on a daily basis starting from 4 May.

As per the statement, 90 per cent of fuel oil in Myanmar is imported, while the remaining 10 per cent is produced locally. The

domestic fuel price is highly correlated with international prices. The State is steering the market to mitigate the loss between the importers, sellers and energy consumers. Consequently, the government is trying to distribute the oil at a reasonable price compared to those of regional countries.

Some countries levied higher tax rates and hiked oil prices compared to Myanmar.

However, Malaysia's oil sector receives government subsidies and the prices are about 60 per cent cheaper than that of Myanmar. Every country lays down different patterns of policy to fix the oil prices. Myanmar also poses only a lower tax rate on fuel oil and strives for energy consumers to buy the oil at a cheaper rate.

Moreover, the government set the official exchange rate at

K1,850 to stabilize the FX market, keep the balance between exports and imports and mitigate foreign currency risk. For the oil sector, the committee is implementing to import the oil promptly depending on the actual requirement in the domestic market.

The committee is also carrying out to generate revenue for the State, scrutinize import licences, submit a request to purchase foreign currency, monitor the oil storage and distribution activities, control quality and make traceability records for price manipulation, overcharging and identifying abnormal conditions in handling oil to take actions against those unscrupulous traders.

People can file any complaints about services at petrol stations through contact numbers (067-409881, 067-411129, 09-699611116, 09-440433533). Upon the complaints, a surprise check, assessment, discussion and taking actions are conducted. The PPRD is also tackling the matters requested by the oil-importing companies, according to the statement. — NN/GNLM

Myanmar peanut prices see uptick trends

THE prices of peanuts have bounced back on a robust demand by China and local millers, peanut traders said.

On 1 June, the peanut price moved in the range of K3,800 and K4,200 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilograms), according to price data issued by the Mandalay Brokers, Traders and Millers Association.

The price rose to K4,000-4,350 per viss on 1 June. The figures reflected an increase of K150-250 per viss.

High peanut prices pushed up the peanut oil price accordingly. The price of peanut oil increased from K8,000 to K9,000

per viss on 1 June.

At the end of April, top oil-producing Indonesia temporarily banned palm oil and raw materials imports to the external market in order to reduce the shortfall of palm oil and control market prices. Consequently, the Trade Department under the Ministry of Commerce also temporarily suspended exports of peanut and sesame seeds on 9 May to ensure self-sufficiency in Myanmar.

Starting from 1 August, an export licence is mandatory for the exports of oil crops and edible oil, the department notified. — NN/GNLM

Fresh tea leaf from Homalin area abundantly flowing into markets

FRESH tea leaf (Arthan variety) from the Homalin area in Kani District, Sagaing Region is increasingly placed in the market, with the growing production year over year.

"Tea leaf harvest commenced in April. The yield rate increases year over year. As we cannot sundry them in the rainy season, the fresh tea leaf is delivered to the market. We have supplied them since the summer. They are commonly conveyed to Mandalay and Monywa cities. Preserved sour tea leaves mixed with star fruit are sent to market with good packaging," said Daw Su Su Htway, an official of the Homalin Township Agriculture Department.

"The wholesale prices of fresh tea leaf are estimated at K1,000-1,200 per viss, while the price declines to K800 per viss when tea leaf quality is low in the rainy season. Pruning technique is commonly

found in tea leaf plantations. "The growers increase plantations. The Agriculture Department demonstrated tea pruning and skiffing to ramp up production. The department raised awareness of pruning mature tea bushes and immature plants to renovate the branch system

systematically. Earlier, the growers removed crossing branches and weeds with their hands. Now, some of them are using weed killers. The department encourages them not to use chemicals but to use machines to control them," said Daw Su Su Htway. — Lu Lay/GNLM



The wholesale prices of fresh tea leaf are estimated at K1,000-1,200 per viss, while the price declines to K800 per viss when tea leaf quality is low in the rainy season.

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OPINION

ARTICLE BOOK RACK

Let's wake up to shape the future of women

THE global population showed a larger number of females than males. Likewise, more than half of the total population in Myanmar is women. The census enumerated in 2014 mentioned the population and household registration numbers. Accordingly, the estimated population was some 55.1 million on 1 April 2021 — about 26.4 million males and 28.7 million females. Hence, the population of females accounted for 52.13 per cent.

As such, it is necessary to take out the strength of Myanmar women in nation-building tasks. Authorities should emphasize the improvement of massive women if necessary. And, it is necessary to enhance the empowerment of the women to raise their roles.

All in all, the development of women must be implemented with the powerful participation of women under the leadership of women with high capacity in order to uplift their capacity, develop the nation and raise the socio-economic life of the people through the capability of women. Let's wake up all massive women to shape their future!

Currently, a survey was conducted on individual literacy rates and educational qualifications in the nation. In this regard, 20 per cent of families comprising the illiterates can be seen in the entire Union. As the number of households comprising illiterate women above 15 years old accounts for 10.3 per cent in the urban area and 21.0 per cent in the rural area, it showed the literacy rate of women was lower than that of men.

As a result, a survey showed that a conclusion can be made that the literacy rate of women residing in rural areas was lower than those from urban areas.

As literacy rate and educational qualification is bilaterally related to job opportunities, efforts must be made for raising the literacy rate of women as well as the greater enhancement of the women's literacy rate and completion of learning school education.

An emphasis is being placed on raising the role of Myanmar women to enjoy an equal term of rights. As such, the government is implementing the national strategic plan for the development of the women's sector (2013-2022 financial year) to meet the international pledges such as the Beijing Declaration comprising 12 sessions for women's development and the Beijing Action Plan adopted at the Fourth Conference on Women, the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women 1979 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2015.

All in all, the development of women must be implemented with the powerful participation of women under the leadership of women with high capacity in order to uplift their capacity, develop the nation and raise the socio-economic life of the people through the capability of women. Let's wake up all massive women to shape their future!

It's shocking that the rank of Japan is 120th out of 156 countries on the Gender Gap Index of the World Economic Forum

By Suzuka YOSHIDA

THE last time, the article was written in the context that marriage was a risk to Japanese women. Its index appears in the 2021 World Economic Forum "Global Gender Gap Report 2021". It ranks 120th out of 156 countries, whose level is not a developed country. Women with the best education and best health have lowered their social status while doing household chores, childcare and supporting men at home after marriage. Nonetheless, neither the Diet members of the Japanese legislature nor the central ministries have come up with concrete measures for improvement. They don't seem to be ashamed of this index.

The lowest level in Asia and almost the same as those in the Middle East

The Global Gender Gap Report

measures women's status every year with the same indicators. The status of Japanese women is declining year by year. The "Global Gender Gap Report 2021" index consists of the following four indicators;

- (1) Education (Literacy rate, Environment in primary education, Environment in secondary education, Environment in tertiary education),
- (2) Health and Survival (Sex ratio at birth, Healthy life expectancy),
- (3) Economic Participation and Opportunity (Labour force participation, Wage equality survey, Estimated earned income, Legislators, senior officials and managers, Professional and technical workers),
- (4) Political Empowerment (Women in Parliament, Women in ministerial positions, Years with female head

of state) Each index is measured and quantified with a perfect score of "1".

Of the four indicators, the capacities of Japanese women are almost perfect in (1) and (2), but (3) Economic Participation and Opportunity Index is 0.604/1, and (4) Political Empowerment is 0.061/1, which is extremely low. This is because the number of seats in the Diet is 166th, which is less than 10%. Even at the prefectural and municipal assemblies, there is only 15 per cent of seats (Table 2).

When the four indices are averaged, they fall below the averages of countries around the world and are ranked 120th in (Table 1). It is the lowest among Asian countries, and the countries below Japan are those that have wars and conflicts in the Middle East. If a Japanese man understands the concept of "pride", he would think: "It's embarrassing, I have to change

it," but things haven't changed. This is because both men and women have a strong belief that "Women should support men".

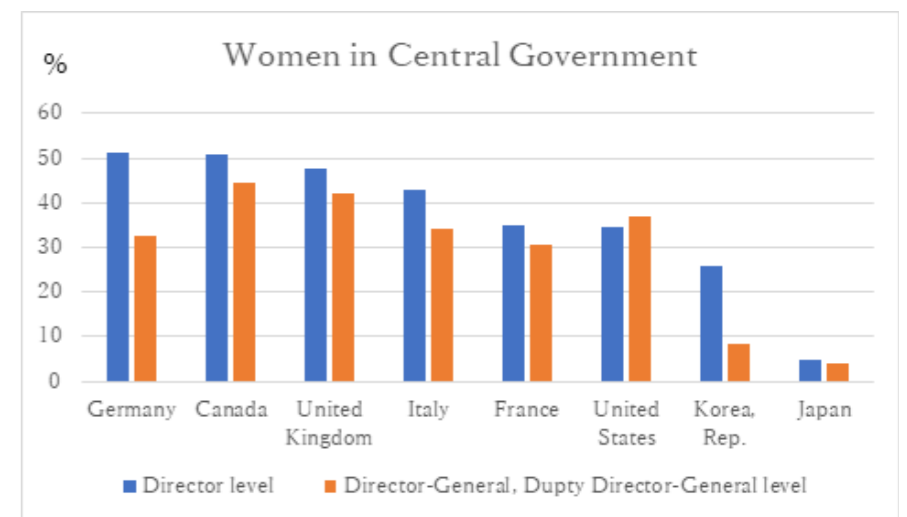
The situation remains the same even after the legislation was kicked off to increase the number of female candidates

The government has not just silently overlooked it. In order to increase the active participation of women in the political field, the "Act on Promotion of Gender Equality in the Political Field" (abbreviated as "Candidate Gender Equality Law") was enacted in May 2018. The government urged all political parties to increase the number of female candidates. However, it was almost the same in the 25th House of Councilors Election held the following year. And in the coming House of Councilors Election, it finally reached 30 per cent of the candidates. Men are playing as deci-

sion-makers at the top of the political parties, and there is no change in the tendency for women candidates from young TV talents who just nod to the claims of their senior members. It is pitying that a democratic country gives an opportunity for young TV talents to be a candidate.

The wife is an important force in elections, but no family supports female candidates

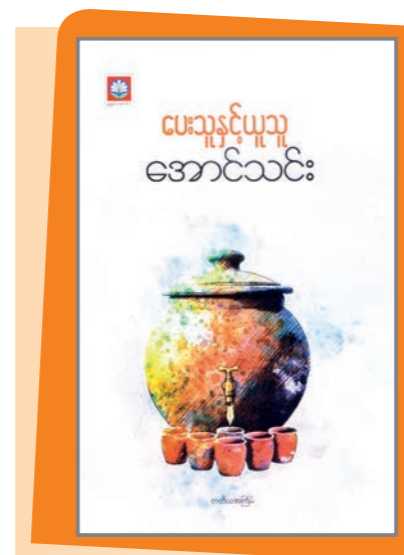
To enter politics, you must firstly win the election. Then, persons whose fathers or grandfathers were members of parliament have an advantage because they have more experience in how to publicize elections, how to raise election funds, and how to make a name for themselves in the community. And as deposit money, four million yen (US\$30,000) is needed just to run for candidacy. Full-time housewives don't have the money. Women always collect



{Graph 1} Percentage of women in the national civil service by position level

donations behind their candidate husbands, manage election staff, and greet the community. In this way, the division of roles between men and women becomes clear in elections.

Female candidates do not have a husband who can play the role that their wives play behind them. On the contrary, voters are very frequently pressing for sexual harassment such as requesting physical relationships and touching the bodies of female candidates. Candidates with a decent sense cannot tolerate this. **SEE PAGE-10 >>**



Book Title - Givers and Takers
Author - Aung Thin
Publishing House - Zunpwint
Publication Date - July 2019 (3rd Edition)
Price - K3,000

Givers and Takers

"THE glossary such as "People" and "Progressive" should not be randomly used for one's own ends by stepping on the faculty of education and provoking young people to ask for applause. Those words and letters turn out to be toxic I consider, as the author stated in the book blurb.

The book is entitled "Givers and Takers". The author is Sayagyi U Aung Thin who continuously motivates young

people to achieve goals and become righteous persons through his literature talks and writings. He passed his life mostly to encourage young people to stay on the right path. There are many youths who pursued their dream successfully through his motivational works.

This book unveiled noteworthy good practices that every young person should foster or adopt with his genuine benevo-

lent attitude.

In the article "Givers and Takers", a writer can be considered as the giver, and a reader is a taker. If the taker doesn't make an effort in it, one will not receive as much as the givers contribute. Will the readers take as much as they're given by Saya U Maung Gyi and Sayagyi P Moe Nin? The author asked questions to the readers.

An article entitled "Youth

and courage" illustrated why you should not look down on those who are dependent on psychological courage out of two types of courage (physical courage and psychological courage), taken from talks of Sir William Slim who is well known as General Slim in the revolutionary era. That courage is more respectful as they are willing to give up on their property and life generously in need. The exam is not an adventure or luck. If you memorize or practice hard, you will achieve success. Unless you work hard, you will fail. It is a simple and blunt action, the author remarked. Mathematics professor Sayagyi U Aung Hla was bad at mathematics in his youth. When a teacher scolded him among his classmates, he was so embarrassed. Then, he practised mathematics so hard that he was keen on mathematics. He became a professor. It is not because of his talent but because of hard work. He explained about Practices made perfect with real-life experiences. The Zunpwint Publishing House published the book a third time. Designer Ant Bwel Zin made a book cover.



Book Title - Different paths to walk on towards a successful life (or) Collected notes on success in life
Author - Hein Latt
Publishing House - Zeya Moe
Publication Date - 2022 (1st Edition)
Price - K2,500

Different paths to walk on towards a successful life (or) Collected notes on success in life

AN inspiring work of literature to a successful life is one of the literary genres. Sayagyi P Moe Nin excelled in this genre of the success literature and he was a well-known writer. The authors passed success literature on from generation to generation. That genre never goes extinct. This book is a new motivational book by Hein Latt for the 15th time.

The author often talks about steps to a successful life for young people. The book contains a collection of talks at the

universities, vocational schools, companies and office departments, excerpts from the literary works and his experiences and monographs.

Everyone has a dream, desire and goal. Dreams and desire are only imaginations. To strengthen your desire, you have to be committed to 5Ds: Direction, Dedication, Determination, Discipline and Deadline. The author elaborated on those 5Ds in detail in the book.

Additionally, keys and notes to suc-

ceed also focus on 4Rs: Relax, Refresh, Restore and Renew. Things one must eliminate are pleasing habits, fear of change, living in the past, low self-esteem and overthinking.

A detailed explanation of the fear that hinders success and essential elements of success 5Cs, coupled with speeches and famous quotes of world-famous figures are included in the book.

ARTICLE/ENVIRON WORLD

It's shocking that the rank of Japan is 120th out of 156 countries on the Gender Gap ...

>> FROM PAGE - 9

{Table 1} Gender Gap Index (GGI)2021

Rank	Country	Score			
1	Iceland	0.892	63	Italy	0.721
2	Finland	0.861	79	Thailand	0.71
3	Norway	0.849	81	Russian Federation	0.708
4	New Zealand	0.84	87	Viet Nam	0.701
5	Sweden	0.823	101	Indonesia	0.688
11	Germany	0.796	102	Korea, Rep.	0.687
16	France	0.784	107	China	0.682
23	United Kingdom	0.775	109	Myanmar	0.681
24	Canada	0.772	119	Angola	0.657
30	United States	0.763	120	Japan	0.656
			121	Sierra Leone	0.655

Myanmar women rank higher than Japanese women. Japan is far below Asian countries and is followed by countries facing war/conflict in the Middle East and Africa.

If her father/grandfather was a parliament member, she wouldn't have been sexually harassed as voters should pay attention to her father/grandfather. There are also local supporters who monitor voters and candidates both. Therefore, only the second and third generations will inevitably run for candidacy. Even if women's parliamentarians brought their original strengths, that they have the capacity to grasp the opinions of residents and they tend to spend more time in discussions, to the attention of voters, they still are called "an aggressive woman with a strong assertiveness". From the perspective of male lawmakers and male bureaucrats, admitting a woman's strengths makes

them lose their chairs although every decision-maker has to be equipped with these capacities.

Since politicians have the obstacle to elections, it is no wonder why there are fewer applicants.

{Table 2} Women in Politics

	Percentage of Female members	Number of Female members /Number of all members
House of Representatives	9.9%	46/465
House of Councilors	23.0%	56/243
Total	14.4%	102/708
Prefectural assemblies	11.8%	306/2,598
Municipal assemblies	15.4%	4,520/29,425
Total	15.1%	4,826/32,023

Then, as shown in the index of women's success in the central government in {Graph 1}, among the eight countries including the seven developed countries and South Korea, less than five per cent of Japanese women are director level. In both the legislature and the government, the probability that a woman will be a decision-maker is quite low.

Other than allocating a certain percentage of seats to women in a quota system, it is unlikely that the number of female mem-

bers will increase any further.

Source:

World Economic Forum "Global Gender Gap Report 2021"

https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2021.pdf

Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan

https://www.gender.go.jp/english_contents/pr_act/pub/status_challenges/pdf/202205.pdf

■

UN Ocean Conference closes with adoption of Lisbon Declaration

MORE than 150 countries reached an agreement and proclaimed the "Lisbon Declaration" aiming to scale up science-based and innovative actions to address the ocean emergency at the end of the UN

Ocean Conference on Friday.

Countries agreed on actions ranging from strengthening data collection, and recognizing the role of indigenous people in sharing innovation and practices to reducing greenhouse gas emis-

sions from international maritime transportation, especially shipping. They also agreed to promote innovative financing solutions to achieve sustainable ocean-based economies and encourage women and minorities' meaningful participation in the ocean-based economy.

"Going forward, it will be important that we renew our focus on ocean action. We need to do this by focusing on improving the scientific basis for our decisions, by improving the science-policy interface, and by engaging in scientific partnerships that build capacity through mutual learning," said UN Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs and Secretary-General of the conference, Liu Zhenmin.—Xinhua



Men rest on a beach on the shore of the Caspian Sea in front of oil rigs following the easing of strict quarantine measures against the spread of the coronavirus disease in Baku on 5 August 2020. PHOTO: TOFIK BABAYEV / AFP/FILE

China's Wuhan to expand ICV testing roads

THE central Chinese city of Wuhan will expand its testing roads for its intelligent connected vehicles (ICV) and smart transportation to 500 km in three to five years.

The city mapped it out at an implementation scheme on transportation reinforcement

covering autonomous driving segments, said the municipal government.

According to the plan, the city aims to complete the intelligent reconstruction of at least 100 km of open testing roads in one to two years. It will also facilitate the application of smart

buses, autonomous driving taxis, and driverless terminal delivery.

Several standards and specifications for intelligent connected road construction will be formulated in three to five years, and the ICV application scenarios will become a reality.—Xinhua

India's largest floating solar power project commissioned in Telangana

INDIA'S largest floating solar power project was commissioned by the state-run National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) on Friday in the southern state of Telangana.

"India's largest floating Solar Power Project is now fully operational," the Indian Ministry of Power said in a statement.

According to the ministry, with the operation of 100-MW solar photo-voltaic (PV) project at Ramagundam, the total commercial operation of floating solar capacity in the southern region rose to 217 MW.

"The 100-MW floating so-

lar project at Ramagundam is endowed with advanced technology as well as environment-friendly features," the ministry said.

The project spreading over 200 hectares of its reservoir is divided into 40 blocks. Each block consists of one floating platform and an array of 11,200 solar modules.

The floating platform consists of one inverter, transformer, and a high tension (HT) breaker. The solar modules are placed on floaters manufactured with high density polyethylene (HDPE) material.—Xinhua



The floating solar PV project in India of 25MW power on the reservoir of its Simhadri thermal station in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. PHOTO: CURRENTAFFAIRS.ADDA247/XINHUA /FILE

K56.424 bln tax exemption granted for 6 sectors during Jan-Mar

THE Ministry of Planning and Finance issued a statement announcing that commercial and income tax equivalent to a total of K56.424 billion were exempted from January to March 2022.

As the tax exemption for the companies permitted by the Ministry of Commerce, a total of K10.905 billion for the goods worth K125.314 billion was exempted. As the exemption for the Union Ministries and state/region governments, a total of K1.834 billion was also exempted for the goods worth K210.098 billion.

For NGOs and INGOs, a

total of K0.515 billion exemption was granted.

The amount of tax exemption for the Union Ministries was K27.468 billion, and a total of K15.702 billion of tax exemption was granted for the goods worth K136.517 billion from the Thilawa Special Economic Zone.

The State Administration Council sets three economic goals for the economic development of the country, and, on the other hand, for the benefit of the State and the people, tax exemptions and tax breaks are allowed under the existing laws. — TWA/GNLM

The list of customs duty, commercial tax, income tax exempted from January to March 2022

Sr	Subject	Quantity	Value of Exemption Tax (Billion kyat)	Amount of Tax Exemption (Billion kyat)			A total of Tax Exemption (Billion kyat)
				Custom Duty	Commercial Tax	Income Tax	
1	Value of tax exemption to companies with MIC approval	250	125.414	4.409	6.496	-	10.905
2	Value of exemption for Union ministries	45	209.141	1.372	0.427	-	1.799
3	Value of exemption for state/region governments	3	0.957	0.029	0.006	-	0.035
4	Value of exemption for donations to NGOs, and INGOs	16	13.584	0.478	0.037	-	0.515
5	Value of issuance for securities to Union ministries	143	1,251.281	-	-	27.468	27.468
6	Value of exemption to Myanmar Special Economic Zone (Thilawa)	981	136.517	6.824	8.878	-	15.702
Total		1,438	1,736.894	13.112	15.844	27.468	56.424

Govt repays about \$700mln of local and foreign debt every year



May-General Zaw Min Tun is seen answering questions raised by one correspondent at the 17th press conference.

THE country repays about \$700million of local and foreign loans every year, said Deputy Minister for Information Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun during the 17th press conference held yesterday.

“The local and foreign debts are increasing year on year. It should analyze the debt resistance for the long run. The government has to repay about \$700million including capital and interest every year,” he said.

Myanmar had a local debt

of over K16,000 billion and foreign debt of over K5,000 billion between the 2011-2012FY and the 2018-2019FY, he added.

“From the 2016-2017FY and the 2020-2021FY, the outstanding local debt was increasing year by year. It showed a deficit in Union budget yearly and the revenue, expenditure, deficit and surplus of each year were the deficit and so it was the highest in the 2019-2020FY,” he continued.

The government sold treas-

ury bills and bonds and borrowed money from the Central Bank of Myanmar to meet its needs. The GDP growth was seen only between 2016 and 2018, after that, it dropped by half in the 2019-2020FY.

“It is because of the wrong policy that emphasized only the imports without encouraging the locally produced products and the local economy in the previous governments’ terms,” he said. — TWA/GNLM

Plans underway to read, collect meter bills by mobile app

PLANS are underway to do meter readings and collect meter bills by using a mobile phone application, according to an official from the Ministry of Electric Power at the 17th press conference of the

State Administration Council on 1 July.

At present, the Ministry is using a remote-control system for meter reading and bill collecting. Currently, the AMI-technology meter reading system

is installed and used in 29 townships in Yangon Region, three townships in Mandalay and all the townships in Nay Pyi Taw. — TWA/GNLM

Govt announces 40th Aung Bar Lay lottery winning prizes

THE government announced a K2222.850 million cash prize for the 40th K1,000 Aung Bar Lay winner and also gave prizes using confiscated finance.

A total of 317,550 lottery tickets from Ka to Nya Myanmar alphabets with 10 digits were sold out in the 40th Aung Bar Lay lottery.

It earned K3175.500 million from selling lottery tickets and 70 per cent of that amount was cash prizes, totalling K222.850 million.

The prizes included one prize at K500 million, one prize at K100 million, six prizes at K20 million, 11 prizes

at K5 million, 13 prizes at K2 million, 17 prizes at K1 million, four prizes at K300,000 Wai Wai Sar Sar Padaythar with same first five digits, two prizes at K200,000 Wai Wai Sar Sar Padaythar with the same alphabet and first four digits and 12 prizes at K100,000 Wai Wai Sar Sar Padaythar with the same alphabet and first three digits.

Moreover, the government gave five prizes at K1 million, 50 prizes at K300,000 and 400 prizes at K200,000 using K100.900 million in confiscated finance. — TWA/GNLM



The 40th Aung Bar Lay lottery results are announced on 1 July 2022

MoH sets places for mask mandate

AS the rate of COVID-19 cases decreases in Myanmar, the Ministry of Health issued a statement on 30 June, announcing places where people are required to wear masks.

According to the statement, it is mandatory for people to wear masks in crowded rooms and during travel using public transport, hospitals and health departments, offices, schools, shopping centres, homes for the aged and public places. In addition, when feeling unwell and experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, wearing a mask is a must.

This is the first time the Ministry of Health eases the mask mandate since the first COVID-19 outbreak in Myanmar. — TWA/GNLM

ECONOMY WORLD

Supply crunch, inflation deflate Japan Inc confidence



Confidence among Japan's largest manufacturers sagged for a second quarter on rising costs and supply constraints, though the service sector was boosted by economic reopening. **PHOTO: ASIAN-LINKS.COM/ AFP**

CONFIDENCE among Japan's largest manufacturers sagged for a second quarter on rising costs and supply constraints, though the service sector was boosted by economic reopening, a key survey showed Friday.

The Bank of Japan's closely watched Tankan survey showed confidence among large manufacturers at plus nine, below expectations of 12 and sharply lower than the 14 in the March survey. A positive figure means more manufacturers see business conditions as favourable than those that consider them unfavourable.

The survey reaches about 10,000 firms and is considered to be the broadest indicator of how Japan Inc. is faring.

Corporate Japan has faced several problems as the Ukraine war pushes up oil prices amid general inflation that has boosted raw material prices.

A global supply chain crunch as well as China's stringent anti-Covid measures have also hampered manufacturing activity.

The yen has depreciated quickly in recent months, meaning imported food and energy products are growing more expensive in addition to general

price increases.

Japan's large non-manufacturers, however, are more confident as pandemic-related restrictions are lifted, encouraging domestic travel and gradually opening its borders for foreign tourists.

The survey found their confidence at a reading of 13, compared with the March survey's nine.

The survey also showed that more businesses expect to raise their prices to reflect increasing costs, with large manufacturers seeing consumer prices rising 2.0 per cent a year from now.—AFP

Iraq exports 101 mln barrels of crude oil in June

IRAQ exported 101.19 million barrels of crude oil in June, bringing in revenues worth 11.5 billion US dollars, said the Iraqi Oil Ministry on Friday.

The average price for crude oil in June was 113.7 dollars per barrel, according to a ministry statement, citing statistics from the State Organization for Marketing of Oil.

A total of 97.98 million barrels were exported from oil fields in central and southern Iraq via the Port of Basra, while about 2.91 million barrels from the northern province of Kirkuk via the Turkish port of Ceyhan on the Mediterranean, it said.

The average crude oil exports in June reached 3.37 million barrels per day, it added.



Oil tankers are anchored at Basra harbour, 550 kms (340 miles) south of Baghdad. **PHOTO: AFP /ESSAM AL-SUDANI/FILE**

Oil prices have risen in global markets since the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine crisis, benefiting Iraq and other oil export countries.

Iraq's economy heavily relies on crude oil exports, which account for more than 90 per cent of the country's revenues.—Xinhua

NEWS IN Brief

EU chief urges Ukraine to speed anti-corruption reform

THE president of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen told Ukraine's parliament on Friday that EU membership was "within reach" but urged them to press forward with anti-corruption reforms.

"You have created an impressive anti-corruption machine," she told the lawmakers by video link. "But now these institutions need teeth, and the right people in senior posts."

Von der Leyen's warm address heaped praise on Ukraine's parliament and President Volodymyr Zelensky's government for their swift and successful push to become candidates for EU membership.—AFP

Ecuador government, Indigenous leaders sign deal to end protests

THOUSANDS of Indigenous protesters left the Ecuadorian capital of Quito Thursday evening after their leaders and the government signed a deal that would cut fuel prices and end their cost-of-living demonstrations that largely paralyzed the country for 18 straight days.—AFP

Bankrupt Sri Lanka's inflation jumps beyond 50%

SRI Lanka's inflation hit a ninth consecutive record in June, official data showed Friday, rising to 54.6 per cent a day after the IMF asked the bankrupt nation to rein in galloping prices and corruption.

It was the first time the increase in the Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI) crossed the psychologically important 50 per cent mark, according to the department of census and statistics.

The figures came hours after the International Monetary

Fund urged Sri Lanka to contain spiralling inflation and address corruption as part of efforts to salvage the troubled economy, which has been ravaged by a foreign exchange crisis.

The IMF ended 10 days of in-person discussions with Sri Lankan authorities in Colombo on Thursday following the country's request for a possible bailout.

The CCPI has been setting new monthly highs since October, when year-on-year inflation stood at just 7.6 per cent. In May

it reached 39.1 per cent.

The rupee has lost more than half its value against the US dollar this year.

Private economists say consumer prices are rising even faster than shown in official statistics.

According to an economist at Johns Hopkins university, Steve Hanke, who tracks price increases in the world's troublespots, Sri Lanka's current inflation is 128 per cent, second only to Zimbabwe's 365 per cent.—AFP



Sri Lanka's headline inflation quickened more than expected in May amid continuing food and fuel shortages. The fisheries sector plays a key role in Sri Lanka's social and economic life. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Airbus confirms big orders with 4 Chinese airlines

AIRBUS confirmed the signature of orders with Air China, China Eastern Airlines, China Southern Airlines and Shenzhen Airlines for 292 A320 Family aircraft, the European multinational aerospace corporation said on Friday.

“These new orders demonstrate the strong confidence in Airbus from our customers,” Christian Scherer, Airbus Chief Commercial Officer and Head of International, said in a press release. They also showed the positive recovery momentum and prosperous outlook for the Chinese aviation market, said Airbus.

The orders will enter the backlog after the



Photo taken on 27 September 2018 shows staff members working at Airbus' Tianjin final assembly line for the A320-family of jets in north China's Tianjin **PHOTO: XINHUA/LIRAN/FILE**

relevant criteria are met, noted the press release.

According to Airbus, the A320neo Family air-

craft delivers at least 20 per cent fuel and CO2 savings with a 50-per cent noise reduction. By the end

of May, the in-service Airbus fleet with Chinese operators totalled over 2,070 aircraft, it said.—Xinhua

Automakers reports lower Q2 US sales as supply chain woes persist

GENERAL Motors, Toyota and other automakers suffered a hit to US sales in the latest quarter as supply chain woes continued to crimp inventories, according to results released Friday.

GM sold 582,401 autos in the three months ending 30 June, a drop of 15 per cent from the same period a year ago.

The Detroit giant said it is holding 95,000 partially-built vehicles in need of components that it expects to deliver by the end of 2022.

Such manoeuvres have become the norm over the last year as manufacturers try to make

headway on as many high-margin vehicles as possible amid limited supply of semiconductors and other key items.

On the positive side, GM said it scored strong sales for its pickup trucks, the Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra, despite low inventories. And “pent-up demand” drove sales growth in other vehicles, including the Chevrolet Camaro and Chevrolet Colorado.

GM reaffirmed its full-year profit outlook, but its second-quarter net income range of between \$1.6 billion and \$1.9 billion lagged consensus estimates.—AFP

Volkswagen boss ‘concerned’ about Berlin’s China policy

VOLKSWAGEN CEO Herbert Diess said Thursday he was “concerned” about the China policy being pursued by the German government as Berlin seeks to take a harder line on human rights issues.

The response came a month after Berlin denied investment guarantees to VW’s operations in Xinjiang, where the Chinese government is accused of leading a crackdown against the Muslim minority.

“I’m more concerned about the basic attitude of the German government towards China,” Diess told Der Spiegel magazine

when questioned about the guarantee.

“More dialogue” was needed with China, Diess said, calling attention to the possible “economic impacts” of a rupture with Beijing.

Germany would have



The factory in Urumqi produces about 20,000 cars a year, a fraction of that from other VW plants in China. **PHOTO: VOLSWAGENGROUPTHINA/XINHUA**

“less growth, well-being and employment”, Diess warned. Inflation would also “explode” without trade with China, the CEO said, as Western countries ride a wave of consumer price rises driven by the coronavirus pandemic and

the war in Ukraine.

Volkswagen “should stay” in Xinjiang, where the carmaker operates a factory in the capital Urumqi together with its Chinese partner SAIC, Diess said.

The auto group was thinking about the plant “all the time”, he said, but assured there was “no forced labour”, a practice Beijing is accused of supporting in the western region. China vehemently denies the abuse allegations, calling them the “lie of the century”. But pressure has mounted on VW in Germany to respond to the human rights concerns.—AFP

Chongqing, Chengdu record 20,000 China-Europe freight train trips

TWO cargo trains loaded with goods departed on Thursday from southwest China’s Chongqing Municipality and Chengdu, capital of the neighbouring Sichuan Province, for

Germany’s Duisburg and Poland’s Lodz.

It marked that the number of China-Europe freight trains handled by the two cities has topped 20,000 since Chongqing

and Chengdu launched the service in March 2011 and April 2013, respectively, according to local authorities.

More than 1,000 kinds of goods, includ-

ing electronics, machinery, automobiles, auto parts, as well as medicines and medical instruments, have been transported via the service.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AEGEAN EXPRESS VOY.NO. (237N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AEGEAN EXPRESS VOY.NO. (237N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-7-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

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RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (L) meets with Russian President Vladimir Putin at Hyderabad House in New Delhi, India, on 6 December 2021. **PHOTO: PIB/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA/FILE**

Modi, Putin speak over phone, discuss Ukraine, bilateral trade

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday reviewed the time-tested ties between the two nations. The issue of the Ukraine war also figured in the talks. Modi favoured dialogue and diplomacy to end the ongoing Ukraine conflict. This was the fourth time the two leaders talked on the phone since the Ukraine conflict started in February.

The two leaders reviewed

the implementation of the decisions taken during Putin's visit to India in December 2021.

Incidentally, the talks took place three days after Modi attended the G-7 summit in Germany where the leaders of some countries discussed ways to increase pressure on Russia to end the military action in Ukraine.

India, so far, has abstained from voting against Russia in the United Nations (UN) and the

United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Giving details of the talks between Putin and Modi, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the two leaders exchanged ideas on how bilateral trade in agricultural goods, fertilizers and pharma products could be encouraged further. The leaders also discussed global issues, including the state of the international energy and food markets.—Xinhua

Ukraine asks Türkiye to detain Russian cargo ship

UKRAINE on Friday asked Türkiye to detain a Russian-flagged cargo ship that Kyiv alleged had set off from a Kremlin-occupied port.

Marine traffic websites showed the Zhibek Zholy anchored about a kilometre (half a mile) off Türkiye's Black Sea port of Karasu.

They also showed the ship only switching on its transponders about 12 hours before approaching Türkiye.

Kyiv's ambassador to Ankara said the ship had set sail from Ukraine's Kremlin-occupied port of Berdyansk.

"Based on instruction from the Ukrainian general prosecutor, we asked the Turkish side to

take corresponding measures," Ambassador Vasyl Bodnar said on Twitter.

"I am convinced that (Turkish) measures will prevent attempts to violate Ukraine's sovereignty."

The Marinetrade.com website said the 140-metre (460-foot) general cargo vessel was sailing under the Russian flag.

Bodnar last month accused Türkiye of purchasing grain seized by Russia from Ukraine during its invasion. Türkiye's Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said last week that Ankara was investigating reports of Russian-seized Ukrainian grain reaching its Black Sea shores.—AFP

Ukraine begins electricity exports to EU: Zelensky



The Ukrainian electricity grid was connected to the European network in mid-March, helping to keep supplies flowing despite the war. **PHOTO: SWP-BERLIN.ORG/AFP**

UKRAINE has started exporting electricity to the European Union, via Romania, President Volodymyr Zelensky said, as Russia reduces gas supplies to

the bloc which is supporting Kyiv in resisting Moscow's invasion.

Several European countries, including Italy and Germany, are highly reliant upon Russian

gas for their energy needs but have been forced to look for alternatives as Moscow slashes deliveries.

Speaking Thursday, Zelensky said Ukraine had "launched a significant export of electricity to the territory of the EU, via Romania.

"This is only the first stage. We are preparing to increase supply."

He said that "a significant part of the Russian gas consumed by Europeans can be replaced.

"It is not just a question of export revenue for us, it is a question of security for the whole of Europe." —AFP

World News Roundup

Poland ends ban on entering Poland-Belarus border area

A ban imposed by the Polish government on staying in the country's border zone with Belarus came to an end on Friday.

The ban was introduced on 2 September 2021, in response to a border crisis that saw thousands of migrants attempting to cross into Poland from Belarus. A total of 183 towns in the Lublin and Podlasie provinces were affected by the ban.

However, from 1 July till 15 September, admission will only be prohibited in the 200-metre-wide strip along the Podlasie section of the border, where Poland says it will install electric cameras and motion sensors.

Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki on Thursday visited an area near the border to mark the completion of a wall designed to keep out migrants.

The 186-kilometre-long, 5.5-metre-high steel barrier took five months to build, and cost 1.6 billion zloty (354 million US dollars).—Xinhua

Libyan protesters storm, set fire to parliament in Tobruk

PROTESTERS stormed Libya's parliament in the eastern city of Tobruk on Friday and set parts of it ablaze, venting their anger at deteriorating living conditions and months of political deadlock.

Black smoke billowed as men burned tyres and torched cars after one protester had smashed through the compound's gate with a bulldozer and others attacked the walls with construction tools, local media reported.—AFP



Libyans on Friday gathered in Tripoli to protest against the political situation and dire living conditions. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEWS IN
BRIEF

EU's Takuba anti-terror force quits junta-controlled Mali

THE French-led Takuba task force of EU special forces has officially ceased operating in Mali, France announced Friday, ending a year-long anti-jihadist effort that soured after two military coups overthrew the civilian government.

Takuba, operating with France's Barkhane mission, was set up after President Emmanuel Macron sought more help from European allies for the anti-terror campaign in the Sahel.

French army spokesman General Pascal Ianni told journalists that Barkhane and Takuba had showed what "Europeans can accomplish together in complicated security environments," with on-the-ground experience that would be critical for future joint operations.—AFP

Disinformation a major factor in Brazil election debate

THREE months out from the Brazilian presidential election, disinformation about the two main candidates, President Jair Bolsonaro and ex-leader Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, is having a major impact.

The sheer volume of fake news, creation of new social media platforms and ever more complex content has made it even more difficult to verify information. The amount of content fact checked by AFP increased by more than fourfold between January and June. Those producing election fake news first cut their teeth on a very different subject: the coronavirus.—AFP

US renews commitment to nuclear nonproliferation treaty



The NPT requires the five permanent members of the UN Security Council — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — to commit to nuclear disarmament. **PHOTO: PAXFORPEACE.NL/KYODO**

THE United States reaffirmed its commitment to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as a UN review conference on the pact is one month away, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Friday.

Noting that the treaty opened for signatures on this day 54 years ago, Blinken said in a statement, "The NPT has pro-

vided the essential foundation for international efforts to stem the looming threat — then and now — that nuclear weapons would proliferate across the globe."

"The NPT has served the interests of all its parties and limited the potential risk of a devastating nuclear war," he added.

The upcoming review conference of the NPT is scheduled

to be held in August in New York.

"When the 10th review conference of the NPT opens one month from today, the United States will highlight the treaty's enduring role in reducing global dangers — whether by facilitating arms control, safeguarding peaceful nuclear activities, or deterring violations — as we work toward our ultimate goal of a world without nuclear weapons," the statement said.

Joined by about 190 countries, including both nuclear and non-nuclear states, the treaty is the world's most widely ratified nuclear arms control agreement. Its review conferences had been held every five years from 1975 to 2015. The meeting originally set for 2020 has been pushed back repeatedly due to the coronavirus pandemic. The NPT requires the five permanent members of the UN Security Council — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — to commit to nuclear disarmament.—Kyodo

UNESCO inscribes Ukrainian borsch soup as endangered heritage



Unesco said the war in Ukraine had "threatened" the cooking of borsch. **PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK/AFP**

THE UN's cultural agency on Friday inscribed the culture of cooking borsch soup in Ukraine on its list of endangered cultural heritage, in a move urged by Kyiv but vehemently opposed by Moscow.

Ukraine considers borsch — a thick nourishing soup usually made with beetroot — as a national dish although it is also widely consumed in Russia, other ex-Soviet countries

and Poland.

The culture of Ukrainian borsch cooking "was today inscribed on UNESCO's list of intangible cultural heritage in need of urgent safeguarding" by a UNESCO committee. The decision was approved after a fast-track process prompted by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the "negative impact on this tradition" caused by the war, UNESCO said.—AFP

Türkiye cuts access to US, German public broadcasters

TÜRKIYE has cut access to public broadcasters from Germany and the United States, threatening to stoke new diplomatic tensions during Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

An Ankara court banned access to Deutsche Welle and Voice of America on Thursday night, after both failed to apply for local broadcasting licences required by regulations introduced this year.

The two argued that a local licence issued by Türkiye's RTUK media regulator would infringe on their independence and allow Ankara to censor their content.

Rights advocates said Türkiye's decision underscores erosion to freedom of expression in the run up to next year's general election, the toughest of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's two-decade rule.

It also threatens to spark new tensions in Türkiye's relations with two of its most impor-

tant Western allies and trading partners.

The broadcasters went dark hours after a NATO summit at which Erdogan won praise from US President Joe Biden for lifting his objections to Sweden and Finland joining the Western defence alliance.

The US State Department criticised the new rules when

they first went into force in February, stressing that a "free media is essential to a robust democracy".

The new media regulation applies to foreign providers of Turkish audio and video content.

On Friday, both news portals were inaccessible in Türkiye without the use of VPN technology that hides users' location.—AFP



A picture shows the logo of German international broadcaster Deutsche Welle (DW) on a wall at their head office in Bonn, western Germany, on 8 February 2022. **PHOTO: INA FASSBENDER/AFP**

Modi, Putin speak over phone, discuss Ukraine, bilateral trade

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SPORT

England win 2022 U19 EURO



England's goalkeeper Mathew Cox (L) jumps up to make a save during the UEFA Under-19 European Championship final football match Israel v England in Trnava, Slovakia on Friday. **PHOTO: VLADIMIR SIMICEK /AFP**

ISRAEL'S national soccer team lost to England on Friday 3-1 at the UEFA Under-19 European Championship final.

The match marked the first time Israel reached the final round of the championship since it joined the UEFA league in 1996.

Israel took the lead forty

minutes into the final match, before England caught up with a successful corner kick pass and goal ten minutes later.

Israel passed the first round when it finished second in its initial bracket, with a draw against Serbia, a win over Austria and a loss to England. In the semi-fi-

nals, Israel stunned France, which is considered Europe's best team in the under-19 age group, defeating them 2-1 and advancing to the finals. England, for their part, came into the game after beating Italy 2-1 in the semi-finals.— haaretz.co/ AFP

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs

- (a) To build a Union based on democracy and federalism, through a disciplined and genuine multiparty democratic system that is fair and just.
- (b) To emphasize the achievement of enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA).
- (c) To continue implementing the principle of peaceful co-existence among countries through an independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy.

2. Economic affairs

- (a) To enhance production based on agriculture and livestock through modern techniques and strengthen all-round development in other sectors of the economy.
- (b) To develop a stable market economy and promote international investment in order to enhance the economic development of the entire National people.
- (c) To promote and support local businesses to create employment opportunities and increase domestic production.

3. Social affairs

- (a) To ensure a strong and dynamic Union spirit, the genuine spirit of patriotism.
- (b) To respect and promote the customs and traditions of all National peoples and preserve and safeguard their cultural heritage and national characteristics.
- (c) To enhance the health, fitness and education quality of the entire nation.

Myanmar trounces Brunei 7-0 in AFF U-19 Championship

MYANMAR U-19 boy team made a 7-0 win over Brunei U-19 team in their AFF U-19 Boys Championship which is being held at Madya Senayan Stadium in Jakarta, Indonesia yesterday.



Myanmar U-19 men's football team celebrate the victory after beating the Brunei team 7-0 in AFF U-19 Boys Championship at Madya Senayan Stadium in Jakarta, Indonesia on 2 July. **PHOTO: MFF**

The Myanmar team put pressure on Brunei from the beginning and scored four goals in the second half.

Winning goals for team Myanmar were scored by Moe Swe at 27 minutes, Zaw Win Thein at 29 minutes, La Min Htwe at 38 minutes, Chit Aye at 68 minutes, Taryar Win Htet at 74 minutes, Ar Kar Kyaw at 78 minutes and Thein Zaw Thiha at 85 minutes.

“Congratulations to the players for this victory. Because it was the first international match for boys. I’m glad they did

their best. “Even if we win this match, we will have to keep trying because we have to play against big teams,” said team head coach U Soe Myat Min.

Myanmar will play next against Thailand on 4 July, the Philippines on 6 July, Viet Nam on 8 July, and Indonesia team on 10 July respectively. — GNLM