

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IX, No. 82, 10th Waxing of Waso 1384 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Thursday, 7 July 2022

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.

Only when the scrutiny has been completed over the ground survey for the whole nation will correct statistics reach the national database set up by the State Administration Council: Vice-Senior General



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win presides over the work coordination meeting of compiling the voter lists for the election, in Nay Pyi Taw on 6 July 2022.

RELEVANT departments can verify the data in a rapid manner by applying the facts and figures from the national database main server, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior Gen-

eral Soe Win at the work coordination meeting of compiling the voter lists for the election at the office of SAC Chairman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Speaking at the meeting, the Vice-Senior General said that as of 21 April, data on already issued

citizenship scrutiny cards were compiled and these were put into the data. The process was implemented by those from relevant departments from regions and states, election commission staff, personnel from the Ministry of Immigration and Population,

members of the Tatmadaw and the Myanmar Police Force and volunteers, totalling over 3,600 with the use of more than 3,000 computers. They could put more than 51 million already-issued citizenship scrutiny cards to computer data till 21 June within

two months.

In the second phase, data from Form 66/6 will be checked with statistics from Form (4). Only when the second phase process is complete will field trips be made to the grassroots level

SEE PAGE-3

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL
Lahu Democratic Union-LDU peace delegation arrives in Nay Pyi Taw
PAGE-2

NATIONAL
Union Information Minister inspects The Global New Light of Myanmar
PAGE-3

NATIONAL
Nationwide top-scoring students for 2022 matric exam visit Thailand
PAGE-4



CURRENT AFFAIRS
Private investment called to develop six new hydropower projects
PAGE-5

Broader outlook and farsightedness

Everyone who knows the world's history can consider that the nation-building task is too difficult to avoid encountering various kinds of ups and downs in this mundane world. Therefore, with a broader outlook and farsightedness, we shall seize whatever opportunity we have. That's the way we love Myanmar. We can build our Myanmar.

(Excerpt from the broadcasting speech made by Bogyoke Aung San to the national peoples in November 1944)



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

Lahu Democratic Union-LDU peace delegation arrives in Nay Pyi Taw



The Lahu Democratic Union-LDU peace delegation is seen being welcomed on their arrival at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

AS Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 22 April called for peace talks with ethnic armed organizations-EAOs to restore perpetual peace in the country and make an end to the armed conflicts, a peace delegation led by General Secretary Kyar Solomon of the Lahu Democratic Union-LDU arrived in Nay Pyi

Taw from Tachilek yesterday.

The delegation was seen off at Tachilek airport by officials of Tachilek Station of Triangle Region Command, departments concerned, political parties and residents.

On arrival at the airport in Nay Pyi Taw, the delegation was welcomed by members of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee

and ethnic people from the Department of Fine Arts holding miniature State flags and placards bearing, "Perpetual peace is the real aspiration of the people", "Achieving peace is the true desire of all citizens", "Let's hold talks for peace in the Union", "Only the ethnic nationalities are in unity, stability, peace and tranquillity will be achieved". — MNA

Earthquakes hit inside and outside Myanmar two times within day

EARTHQUAKES jolted inside and outside Myanmar two times in one day, according to the reports of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

A slight earthquake of magnitude 3.7 Richter Scale with its epicentre inside Myanmar hit the area, about 5 miles north of Namsang, latitude 20.97°N, longitude 97.72°E, depth eight kilometres, about six miles north-northwest of Namsang seismological observatory at 16 hours 01 minute 40

seconds MST yesterday.

On the same day, an earthquake of magnitude 4.7 Richter Scale with its epicentre outside Myanmar (Andaman Islands, India Region), latitude 10.75°N, longitude 94.20°E, depth of 31 kilometres, struck the area, about 440 miles south-southwest of the Kaba Aye seismological observatory at 14 hours 31 minutes 13 seconds MST, stated the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology. — DMH/GNLM



Tatmadaw will implement harmoniously with the people for national politics

WE, soldiers, always have to safeguard our three main national causes: Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of the National Solidarity, Perpetuation of Sovereignty as a national duty for the Union in which over 100 ethnic people live. National affairs mean safeguarding national interests, and religion, traditional culture and customs. Let the nation be led by any political system or any government, as our national policy, Tatmadaw has to maintain the Three Main National Causes concerning all nationalities. I would like to urge that Tatmadaw will implement harmoniously with the people for national politics.

(Excerpt from the message sent by Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Maha Thray Sithu Min Aung Hlaing on the occasion of 74th Anniversary Union Day which fell on 12 February 2021)

Only when the scrutiny has been completed over the ground survey for the whole nation will correct statistics reach ...

FROM PAGE-1

to do cross-checks among regions and states. Only when the scrutiny has been completed over the ground survey for the whole nation will correct statistics reach the national database set up by the State

Administration Council. Relevant departments can verify the data in a rapid manner by applying the facts and figures from the national database main server. Hence, it is necessary to systematically carry out the work programmes in Phase II and III in a timely

manner. If so, the election will be free and fair, correct and accurate. That is why they have to continuously cooperate with the ministry in the collection of immigration data to benefit the citizens and departments.

Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Thein

Soe reported on counterchecking the process for ensuring correct voter lists, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Soe Htut on the collection of the population in regions and states and Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi on cooperation for

compiling the correct voter lists.

The chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, chief ministers of regions and states and officials discussed the collection of immigration data. The meeting ended with remarks by the Vice-Senior General. — MNA

Union Information Minister inspects The Global New Light of Myanmar

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn inspected The Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper publishing house located on Nga Htet Gyi Pagoda Road in Bahan Township, Yangon, yesterday morning.

During the meeting with the employees of the newspaper, the general manager, the chief editor and members of the editorial department explained the circumstances of the newspaper's transformation in form and essence.

The Union minister discussed the future position of The Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper, adding the need to make it better; to make the news interesting as the Ministry of Information is working to disseminate the true information to the people in various ways. He said that as a State-owned media, it

is necessary to assess the real situation of the people and get the true information to make the country and the people more involved. Afterwards, the Union minister inspected the editorial department and the printing room.

In the afternoon, the Union minister met officials from the Centre for Myanmar Affairs Studies at the Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) on Pansodan Road. He also inspected the major renovation work of the Yangon Region IPRD office.

In the evening, the Union minister cordially met Myanmar Pyi Thein Tan and artistes who were filming the "Song Diary" programme to present the Friday Night Show at the Myanma Radio and Television and watched the filming of their performance.

The "Song Diary" pro-



MoI Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn meets the employees of The Global New Light of Myanmar English newspaper yesterday.

gramme will be broadcast by MRTV HD on Friday night at around 9 pm on 8 July 2022. The

programme will include Myanmar Pyi Thein Tan, Saw Daniel, Cho Mie Mie Zaw and Ei Ei

Hlaing as performers, and actors Nay Dwe and Thinzar Myint Mo as presenters. — MNA

11 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 6 July, total figure rises to 613,683

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **613,683** after **11** new cases were reported on 6 July 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **592,606** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll still stands at **19,434** without more casualties.

COVID-19 vaccine is being injected to those of priority groups in regions and states for prevention and control of the disease. Up to 5-7-2022, a total of **29,937,340** people above 18 have been vaccinated. A total of **5,595,894** people under 18 have been vaccinated. —MNA

MoC Union Minister calls for ways to tackle challenges of changing trade patterns



UNION Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint San called for discussions on ways to overcome the challenges in each sector due to changes in trade patterns, including changes in product quality standards, new forms of purchase, and export patterns.

The Union minister remarked at the virtual coordination meeting on the continuous development of the rice export process held yesterday morning. At the meeting, he also said the need to work together for those who are involved in the process from cultivation to export, and the need to export the surplus by adjusting to the domestic consumption and the domestic livestock food demands.

Chairman of the Myanmar Rice Federation U Ye Min Aung discussed the status of the priority procedures for the continuous development of rice export, domestic production, exports adjusted to the needs of the local livestock industry, exports of rice products and high-grade rice, and issues related to state's assistance on the export licence application.

Afterwards, officials from relevant organizations who attended the meeting discussed the needs of each sector throughout the process from agricultural production to export for the development of the rice sector, and the Union minister coordinated the meeting. — MNA

Nationwide top-scoring students for 2022 matric exam visit Thailand

UNDER the guidance of the Chairman of the State Administration Council, the 33 top students who excelled in the Matriculation Exam 2022 with the highest marks in the whole of Myanmar, accompanied by teachers and officials, made an excursion to Thailand on 4 and 5 July.

Upon arrival at the Suvarnabhumi Airport on 4 July, they were received by officials from the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand. During the two-day excursion in Thailand, they visited the Emerald Buddha, Siam Ocean World, Madame Tussauds Museum, Assumption University, Baiyoke Tower for

sunset, Pattaya Beach, Pattaya floating market and mountain pagodas. They also visited Asiatique and took a Chao Phraya River Cruise along the river.

The students were also treated to lunch at the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok and spent the night at Holiday Inn Hotel.

In honour of the outstanding students who excelled in the 2022 Matriculation Examination in various subjects, the Ministry of Education, following the guidance of the Chairman of the State Administration Council, arranged the trip to enable the students to have international experience and cultivate patriotism. — MNA



Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanma Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mal, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.

News and Periodicals Enterprise

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.gnlm.com.mm
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com



CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 454237515

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

gnlmnews@gmail.com
www.gnlm.com.mm

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Private investment called to develop six new hydropower projects

THE Department of Hydropower Implementation of the Ministry of Electric Power have invited open tenders to develop six new hydropower projects with private investment.

The ministry invited hydropower companies interested in the project to be implemented in Phone In Kha, Kasan Ye, Namhmeseng, Nam Kan, Nam Tabat (Kayah) and upper Hsedawgyi.

The statement added that interested companies need to conduct feasibility reports. Tender forms will be on sale until 8 August and bids must be submitted by 18 November. Details of the tender an-

nouncement form are available at moe.gov.mm.

In Myanmar, there are 27 hydropower plants with a capacity of 10 MW and 35 plants under 10 MW. These plants produce more than 3,000 MW.

It is learned that project developers can take at least three years to study the ground conditions of the project area, geological conditions, rainfall, water flow rate, water storage potential, and amount of electricity to be produced. — TWA/GNLM

The photo shows an aerial view of the upper Yeywa Hydropower Project site.



Instructions made to use US dollars for border trade

THE Foreign Exchange Supervisory Committee released a statement saying to use only US dollars to trade rice, bean, corn and edible crops at Myanmar's border trading points on 2 July.

Previously, the authorities allowed Myanmar kyats instead of yuan and baht at China and Thai border trade camps and now they instructed traders to use only US dollars starting this month.

The action aims to harmonize the fixed export prices and trade via the sea route, the statement said.

"We have to trade as per the reference exchange rates of the Central Bank of Myanmar. When we export to Asian countries, we have to deposit the export earn-

ings within 45 days, and within 90 days if we export to other countries," said U San from the Bayintnaung Wholesale Centre.

Moreover, four offices of the Myanmar Economic Bank and private banks were opened at Kokang Self-Administered Zone and Chinshwehaw border with the help of CBM due to the proposals of Chinshwehaw border trade points and chambers of commerce, according to Kunlong-Hopan-Chinshwehaw-Laukai border trade chambers of commerce.

The offices of the Myanmar Economic Bank, Myanmar Apex Bank, AYA Bank, KBZ Bank, and United Amara Bank will be established at the Wamgli hotel

hall on the Chinshwehaw border and the banking entrepreneurs can make enquiries. The yuan account opening and payment for imports/exports using yuan can be made at these offices on 4 July.

The exporting earnings received from border trade must be deposited at CBM's reference rate of K1,850 and those who fail to do so will be blacklisted and licences will be revoked.

The dollar was used in border trading previously and the current system is only for the sea route trade payment system.

If the CBM grants the needed dollars in full, the business persons can operate their businesses properly, said U San from the wholesale centre. — TWA/GNLM

CBM releases lists exempted from exchange regulations



Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon Branch).

THE Central Bank of Myanmar released a list exempted from exchange regulations.

The Foreign Exchange Supervisory Committee held a meeting regarding Notification 12/2022 of the CBM issued in April.

The list included the Woori Bank Representative Office and foreign accounts at the Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank, Panjab National Bank, Yangon Representative Office, China National Oil Corporation (Myanmar Branch), Thilawa and Dawei SEZs management committee companies, Kyaukpyu SEZ Development Committee and Kyaukpyu SEZ Deep Seaport Company.

The companies with ten per cent and above foreign investment, foreign direct investment and businesses in SEZs are also exempted from the exchange regulations.

— TWA/GNLM

Lorries are pictured transporting freight on one land border.



Entrepreneur planning to embark on waste to energy business



An invented mini-plant is pictured processing plastic to energy.

AN entrepreneur called U Thant Zin Tun is planning to execute plastic waste to energy start-up.

“I am trying to start on plastic to fuel recycling. I plan to produce 10 to 20 barrels of oil per day. This start-up is expected to commence in July. The project is located in Myittha, Mandalay Region. I will convert waste plastic into fuel oil on a commercial one,” said U Thant Zin Tun.

Waste plastic oil with pyrolysis process will be upgraded to meet the quality of gasoline and diesel. There are three to five workers in this small business. In order to collect plastic de-

bris and municipal waste, I will connect to the municipal offices. The objective behind this start-up is to offer oil at a cheaper rate than the current fuel prices for the low-income family and small businesses,” U Thant Zin Tun elaborated.

He carried out a pilot project with a small plant which has a daily capacity of 20 gallons of diesel out of waste plastic in Butalin Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Region in 2015. He demonstrated his successful effort by driving tractors and agricultural machines with diesel-generated from waste plastic.

Waste plastic is compressed into two square feet blocks and then, they are put into a pyrolysis reactor. Industrial fuel like furnace oil is produced after they are refined and blended with the chemical. The oil is put into Catalytic Cracking Unit and proceeds to the depolymerization process. He managed to manufacture catalysts himself as the imported ones are expensive. As a result of this, it is cost-effective. The oil from the Catalytic Cracking Unit is blended so it has to pass the refinery unit to produce standard gasoline and diesel with chemical treatment. — Lu Lay/GNLM

CRIME NEWS

Illegal timbers, household electronics, consumer goods and vehicles seized



Seized electronics at Yangon International Airport.

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 made inspections at the Yangon International Airport on 4 July, according to information.

Officials confiscated 100 Yoma watches and 64 le Planteur watches worth K8.2 million and a pair of Drone, GPS-Smart Drone worth K150,000 without official documents which were hidden with languages. The action was prosecuted under the Customs Procedures.

Similarly, a patrol combined team made inspections at the Yepu Permanent Checkpoint in Shan State under the Customs Department. They captured 250 pairs of shoe worth K375,000 and mobile phone accessories worth K2,880,000 without any

official documents on 4 July.

In addition, the Ma-yanchaung Permanent Checkpoint confiscated K1,805,208 worth of household electronics that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) from a vehicle heading from Myawady to Yangon on 5 July. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Afterwards, a total of 0.7214 tonne of illegal timbers worth K50,498 were confiscated in the East Yoma forest reserve of Sinbaungwe township of Thayet district on 4 July. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

In addition, on 5 July, the combined inspection team conducted the inspections under the Taninthayi Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force.

Officials captured a total of 0.5888 tonne of illegal timbers worth K70,656 in Bokpyin township, a total of 22.77 cubic tonnes of mangrove firewood

(Madama) worth K68,310 in Myeik township and a motor boat and accessories worth K19,052,760 in Kyunsu township. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

Afterwards, an unregistered Honda Odyssey car worth K2 million was confiscated on the Pyapon-Kyonekadun Road in Pyapon township, and the action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

At the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) Combined Checkpoint seized 21 car tyres of a Chinese brand worth K2,940,000 that showed no declaration in the Import Declaration (ID) from a truck under the supervision of Kayin State Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force on 6 July.

In addition, a total of 12.1070 tonnes of illegal teak, hardwood and other timbers (approximately K5,921,286) in the Bago and Toungoo districts. — MNA

Traffickers sentenced to jail for human trafficking

THE Patheingyi District Court sentenced two men to imprisonment with labour for their role in trafficking victims to fishing industries on 30 June.

The victims U ..., aged 50, Ko..., aged 38 and Mg..., aged 19, from Kangyidaunt township of Ayeyawady Region were convinced that they would earn K150,000 in the fishing industry of Hainggyi island by Win Naing Oo from Kangyidaunt township of Ayeyawady Region.

The suspect was prosecuted at the Kangyidaunt Myoma police station under Sections 25/32 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law. Similarly, Patheingyi District Court sentenced him to seven years imprisonment with labour under Section 25 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law.

The victims U ..., aged 44, U..., aged 55 and Mg..., aged 24, from Thaboung township of Ayeyawady Region, were sent to a fishing raft in Westmee village of Pyapon township by Win Naing Oo from Kangyidaunt township and Hla San from Ngaputaw township of Ayeyawady Region, and the victims' earnings were exploited by them.

The suspects were prosecuted at the Thaboung Myoma police station under Sections 25/32 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law. Similarly, the Patheingyi District Court sentenced them to seven years imprisonment with labour each under Section 25 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law. — MNA

သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစောင်များကို နိုင်ငံတကာခံချိန်ဖိ ပုံနှိပ်လိပ်ပြာ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်

01 860 4530

LOCAL BUSINESS

India likely to import 50,000-75,000 tonnes of black grams

INDIA is possible to import 50,000-75,000 tonnes of black gram (urad in India) and they will purchase black gram from Myanmar to keep them in reserve, according to a report cited by the Agri World Mumbai.

India's government has 110,000 tonnes of green gram (Moong), 20,000 tonnes of black gram (urad), 9,000 tonnes of pigeon peas (tur) and 7,000 tonnes of red lentils (Masoor) as buffer stock.

India has a growing demand for pulses and the prices of pulses in India remain on an upward trend.

Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization (Aya Trade Centre) notified the traders of the policy changes in India to control price fluctuation and prevent inflated pulses prices.

Myanmar's black gram prices stood over K1.7 million per tonne owing to the robust demand by India and low inventory in the market.

On 1 June, the black gram was worth K1,456,500 per tonne, whereas the price surged to K1.7 million per tonne on 30 June, re-

flecting an increase of K240,000 per tonne.

India is facing a crop yield drop under drought conditions and declining sowing acres this monsoon season. Their growers are increasingly cultivating cotton and soybean. The sowing acres of rice and various pulses dropped. The areas of urad fell from 194,000 hectares to 93,000 hectares in 2022. Moreover, Pakistan, which is also a pulses supplier to India, has also black gram yield drop this year.

India, the main buyer of Myanmar's black grams, has a high consumption of black grams. Furthermore, it reexports them to the external market after processing the grams. The annual consumption of black grams in India is estimated at 2.7-2.8 million tonnes.

India extended relaxations of conditions regarding clearance consignment for black gram and pigeon peas until 31 March 2023.

Myanmar conveyed US\$346.881 million worth of over 459,219 tonnes of various beans and pulses to foreign trade



Merchants are seen evaluating beans and pulses in the Mandalay market.

partners between 1 April and 24 June 2022 in the current financial year 2022-2023. The country shipped \$273.897 million worth of over 349,530 tonnes of pulses and beans to foreign markets through the sea route, and over 109,688.76 tonnes worth \$72.984 million were sent to the neighbouring countries through the land border.

Myanmar exported \$1.57 bil-

lion worth of over two million tonnes of various pulses to foreign trade partners last financial year 2020-2021. The country shipped \$966.4 million-value in 1.24 million tonnes of pulses and beans to foreign markets through the sea route, and \$604.3 million-value in 786,920 tonnes were sent to the neighbouring countries through the land border.

Myanmar yearly produces approximately 400,000 tonnes of black gram and about 50,000 tonnes of pigeon peas. Myanmar is the top producer of the black gram which is primarily demanded by India, while pigeon peas, green grams and chickpeas are cultivated in Australia and African countries besides Myanmar. — NN/GNLM

Yangon Stock Exchange records K200 mln trading value in June

THE stock trading value of seven listed companies on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) amounted to K200.63 million with 40,062 shares in June, the Yangon Stock Exchange's monthly price data indicated.

Trading of 61,435 shares valued at K282 million was recorded on the exchange in January 2022 and the trading volume rose to 80,291 shares in February, with an estimated value of K414.9 million. A total of 52,408 shares with an estimated value of K233.634 million were traded on the exchange in March. The trading value slightly rose to K276 million with 53,059 shares traded on the exchange in April. The equity market saw K314 million worth 55,024 shares traded in May, according to the monthly report of the YSX.

At present, shares of seven listed companies — First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens



Share traders look on the index panel at the Yangon Bourse.

Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), TMH Telecom Public Co. Ltd (TMH), the Ever Flow River Group Public Co., Ltd (EFR) and Amata Holding Public Co., Ltd. (AMATA) were traded in the equity market. The share prices per unit were closed at K7,400 for FMI, K2,650 for MTSH, K7,100 for MCB, K17,500 for FPB, and

K2,500 for TMH, K2,600 for EFR and K4,800 for AMATA respectively in June.

Regardless of the collapse of the stock markets worldwide, the local equities market has been able to continue operating without stopping trading.

Additionally, YSX launched a pre-listing board (PLB) on 28

September 2020 in order to provide unlisted public companies with fund-raising opportunities and build a bridge toward listing on YSX.

Next, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar (SECM) has allowed foreigners to invest in the local equity market since 20 March 2020.

Only K4.63 billion valued in 887,969 shares by seven listed companies were traded on the exchange in 2021, showing a significant drop of 63 per cent as against 2020, according to the annual report released by the exchange.

In 2020, K12.6 billion worth of 1.87 million shares by six listed companies were traded on YSX, whereas over 2.4 million shares from five listed companies, valued at K13.39 billion, were traded on the exchange in 2019.

The YSX was launched four years ago to improve the private business sector. It disseminates rules and regulations regarding the stock exchange and knowledge of share trading through stock investment webinars and training courses.

Those enthusiastic can also join the YSX Telegram channel to get easy access to daily stock market updates, event info, market research and investor learning tips. — KK/GNLM

OPINION

Modernize social security measures to benefit insured workers

THE harmonious tripartite collaboration among the government, the employers and the employees aims to emerge peaceful and tranquil workplaces in accord with the existing labour laws with planning to develop the nation.

The Ministry of Labour is joining hands with regional and international organizations in managing labour affairs while creating the chances for employees to have entitlement mentioned in the labour law, ensure worksite safety, seek proper jobs, arrange safe migration, giving training to workers to have skills, provide social protection as well as healthcare services to the employees.

The social security project covers 1.13 million insured workers from 116 countries with healthcare services and issuance of

compensation and cash assistance. To be able to provide healthcare services, the SSB established three workers' hospitals, 78 branches of the board, 96 township clinics, one traditional medicine clinic and 57 departmental clinics.

Moreover, the SSB cooperates with private clinics and signed agreements with them to implement the free-for-service payment-PPS system by observing the systems of social security boards abroad. In this regard, the free-for-payment system is being implemented to run 12 social security clinics and 24 SSB clinics through capitation payment. To be able to give services to workers, the SSB should be modernized with better essence.

The entitlements of insured workers attract all employees at various levels. But, the SSB should arrange a smooth process for the issuance of cash assistance to insured pregnant female workers when they gave birth under the rules of the SSB. It is necessary to issue cash assistance which is one of the

entitlements for insured workers without delay. Moreover, the board should remove the red tape process in the issuance of cash assistance and other entitlements to the insured workers. Achieving success for an organization needs a smooth process to give services to the people as well as those from specific societies. All work processes should be eased, and responsible officials need to analyze the status of the organizations to catch up the modernity. If so, such organizations will sustain their positions with success.

Actually, Myanmar's SSB is a real service organization for insured workers as well as all entire workers. In its chronicle, the SSB has been sustaining good records and successes in improving the socio-economic life of the workers including insured employees. Hence, the organization should give priority to serving the interests of the workers forever.

Achieving success for an organization needs a smooth process to give services to the people as well as those from specific societies. All work processes should be eased, and responsible officials need to analyze the status of the organizations to catch up the modernity. If so, such organizations will sustain their positions with success.

No breeding, no bleeding

By Chit Ko Pe

WHEN nightfall sets in, there is a buzzing whine here and there. The tone is soft, but it is annoying and terrifying. How pesky it is!

Given the clues of protective measures taken around the house, one can tell that it is none other than the mosquito. Mosquito-proof screen shields at windows and doors, mosquito nets in bed, mosquito sprays and mosquito repellent coils are to name a few. They stand essential to keep mosquitos at bay.

A mosquito bite is a tiny red spot on the skin but belies a viral infection in the body through the bloodstream. A few days after being bitten by an infected mosquito, the person experiences some symptoms of fever, nausea, vomit, rash, headache, eye pain, joint and muscle pain before developing into a dengue disease. Though most cases are regarded as mild, some severe cases are found serious and lethal among

children with initial symptoms of bleeding from the nose, mouth and gums. Some bruises on the skin signify internal bleeding. The disease is named dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF). The patient's worse conditions can develop into dengue shock syndrome (DSS).

In this monsoon season in Myanmar, the period from July to August is notoriously noted for peak transmission of dengue. Yes, dengue disease is an a-year-round risk for people living here. Other parts of the world are not spared, too. The report posted by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 10 January 2022 reads: "The global incidence of dengue has grown dramatically with about half of the world's population now at risk. Although an estimated 100-400 million infections occur each year, over 80 per cent are generally mild and asymptomatic."

As long as health is con-

cerned, people are used to saying: "Prevention is better than cure". I observe that the said phrase misses out a chronological word between the ones -"prevention" and "cure". It is "protection". "Cure" is the last attempt in a health management system. In a safety context, "prevention" is used to describe a precautionary measure against the hazard, and "protection" against risk respectively. And so is the "cure" for disease. Prevention precedes protection. Protection precedes cure. Why not, let's set our minds on prevention first to deter any chance of trouble at its very inception. So, it is the hazard of mosquito breeding that our consideration is drawn first, followed by the risk of human flesh bleeding.

Breeding

The life cycle of a mosquito has four stages namely egg, larva, pupa and adult. From egg to

adult, it takes about 7 days. To lay eggs, female adult mosquitos prefer stagnant and still, water that is usually found in storm-water drains, flower-plant pots, vases, buckets, discarded containers, blocked gutters, used tyres, etc. Generally, mosquitos prefer to dwell in cool, dark and humid places like desolate corners at home and shady foliage in a garden.

Prevention against breeding

- Dispose of solid waste properly
- Remove stagnant water from the ground depression
- Get domestic water storage containers covered, emptied and cleaned daily
- Change fresh water in the vases daily
- Apply insecticides on the depressed ground, storm water drains and bushes

Bleeding

Only female mosquitos suck blood that produces a protein to mature their eggs. When an infected female mosquito bites for its blood meal, the bitten person gets the virus through its saliva left on his or her flesh. It is learnt that a female mosquito is attracted for its blood meal by body odour, carbon dioxide, and heat emitted. As mentioned above, severe dengue fever can cause bleeding internally and/or externally.

Protection against bleeding

- Install window screens
- Spray mosquito repellent liquid on the body
- Burn mosquito repellent

- Engage a pest control service provider to destroy mosquito habitats if found
- coils or heat up mosquito repellent vaporizers
- Keep personal hygiene
- Stay in an illuminated and ventilated area
- Wear full clothing that minimizes skin exposure to mosquitos
- Set up a mosquito net in the bed

Cure

It is in the hands of medical doctors. To date, there is neither a curable vaccine nor specific treatment available for dengue fever. Supportive care serves as a sole option with the intake of fever reducers and pain killers to control the symptoms of muscle aches and pains, and fever. So, it boils down to the root cause of mosquito breeding that needs to be prevented to get us protected from bleeding.

ARTICLE Weather Report

Myanmar Daily Weather Report
(Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 6 July 2022)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 7 July 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway Regions and Kachin State, fairly widespread in Sagaing Region and widespread in the remaining regions and states with isolated heavyfalls in Bago, Taninthayi Regions and Rakhine, Kayin, Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squall with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30-35) mph. Wave height will be about (7-9) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and south Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 July 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 July 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 July 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

New US study helps de-mystify Covid brain fog

This discovery could explain why some people have lingering effects from infection including headache, fatigue, loss of taste and smell, and inability to sleep as well as "brain fog" – and may also help devise new treatments for long Covid.

A SMALL new study published Tuesday by scientists at the US National Institutes of Health suggests that the immune response triggered by coronavirus infections damages the brain's blood vessels and could be responsible for long Covid symptoms.

The paper, published in the journal Brain, was based on brain autopsies from nine people who died suddenly after contracting the virus.

Rather than detecting evidence of Covid in the brain, the team found it was the people's own antibodies that attacked

the cells lining the brain's blood vessels, causing inflammation and damage.

This discovery could explain why some people have lingering effects from infection including headache, fatigue, loss of taste and smell, and inability to sleep as well as "brain fog" – and may also help devise new treatments for long Covid.

NIH scientist Avindra Nath, the paper's senior author, said in a statement: "Patients often develop neurological complications with COVID-19, but the underlying pathophysiological process is not well understood."

"We had previously shown blood vessel damage and inflammation in patients' brains at autopsy, but we didn't understand the cause of the damage. I think in this paper we've gained important insight into the cascade

of events."

The nine individuals, aged 24 to 73, were selected from the team's prior study because they showed evidence of blood vessel damage in their brains based on scans.

Their brains were compared to those from 10 controls, with the team examining neuroinflammation and immune responses using a technique called immunohistochemistry.

The scientists discovered that antibodies produced against Covid-19 mistakenly targeted cells that form the "blood-brain barrier" – a structure designed to keep harmful invaders out of the brain while allowing necessary substances to pass.

Damage to these cells can cause leakage of proteins, bleeding and clots, which elevates the risk of stroke.



Normal cellular processes in the areas targeted by the attack were severely disrupted, which had implications for things such as their ability to de-toxify and to regulate metabolism. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/GETTY/AFP

The leaks also trigger immune cells called macrophages

to rush to the site to repair damage, causing inflammation.

The team found that normal cellular processes in the are-

as targeted by the attack were severely disrupted, which had implications for things such as their ability to de-toxify and to regulate metabolism.

The findings offer clues about the biology at play in patients with long-term neurological symptoms, and can inform new treatments – for example, a drug that targets the build-up of antibodies on the blood-brain barrier.

"It is quite possible that this same immune response persists in Long COVID patients resulting in neuronal injury," said Nath.

This would mean that a drug that dials down that immune response could help those patients, he added. "So these findings have very important therapeutic implications."

SOURCE: AFP

HEALTH/ENVIRON WORLD

Aussie researchers' findings identify drug target for lung disease

RESEARCHERS at Australia's Centenary Institute and the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) have identified a new drug target for the treatment and prevention of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

In a research published in the *European Respiratory Journal*, researchers said the drug target is an enzyme known as mast cell chymase-1 (CMA1), as inhibiting the equivalent enzyme in mice was shown to provide protection in experimental models of COPD.

In the study, researchers discovered elevated CMA1 levels in the lung tissues of patients with severe COPD, the CMA1 levels were approximately double of that found in the lung tissue of mild-COPD patients and healthy individuals.

Subsequent investigation also confirmed that mMCP5 in mice, an enzyme equivalent of CMA1, plays a pivotal role in COPD. Mice with deficient mMCP5 levels were protected against cigarette smoke-induced inflammation, macrophage accumulation, airway remodelling, emphysema



Researchers at Australia's Centenary Institute and the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) have identified a new drug target for the treatment and prevention of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. UTS Tower is prominent landmark on Broadway at the southern gateway to Sydney's central business district. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ GETTY/XINHUA**

and impaired lung function in experimental COPD.

"CMA1 induces macrophages (a type of white blood cell) to release pro-inflammatory cytokines in the lung. It's this increased inflammation

that can drive the development of COPD and poor outcomes for patients," said Gang Liu, the study's lead author and researcher at the Centenary UTS Centre for Inflammation.—Xinhua

Monsoon rains kill 77 in Pakistan

AT least 77 people have died in monsoon rains lashing Pakistan, the country's climate change minister said Wednesday, warning more heavier-than-usual downpours lay ahead. "For me, it's a national tragedy," Sherry Rehman told a news conference in the capital, adding the toll was taken from

14 June, when the monsoon started.

"When people die like that, it's not a small thing... It is just the beginning. We have to prepare for it."

Most of the deaths were in the southwestern province of Balochistan, where 39 people drowned or were electrocuted

by downed power lines.

The monsoon, which usually lasts from June to September, is essential for irrigating crops and replenishing lakes and dams across the Indian subcontinent, but each year also brings a wave of destruction.

Poorly built homes across Pakistan — particularly in rural areas — are prone to collapse in floods, which also destroy huge tracts of prime farmland.

The worst floods of recent times were in 2010 — covering almost a fifth of the country's landmass — killing nearly 2,000 people and displacing 20 million.

Pakistan is the eighth most vulnerable country to extreme weather caused by climate change, according to the Global Climate Risk Index compiled by environmental NGO Germanwatch.—AFP



Commuters ride motorbikes along a street during a monsoon rains in Karachi. **PHOTO: AFP**

Italy declares drought emergency in 5 northern regions

ITALY declared a state of emergency in five northern regions and announced emergency funds on Monday over a worsening drought that has plagued the Po Valley in recent weeks.

The cabinet approved a state of emergency in five regions — Friuli-Romagna, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Lombardy, Piedmont and Veneto — until 31 December, the government said in a statement that also announced a 36.5 million-euro (\$39.5 million) fund to help those affected. Italy is facing an unusually early heatwave and a lack of rainfall, particularly in the northern agricultural Po Valley, which has been hit by its worst drought in 70 years.

The state of emergency provides "extraordinary means and powers" to help guarantee public safety, compensation for losses while seeking to guarantee normal living conditions for those in the area.

According to the country's largest agricultural union, Coldiretti, the drought threatens more than 30 per cent of national agricultural production, and half of the farms in the Po Valley, where Parma ham is produced.

Lakes Maggiore and Garda were also hit by lower than normal water levels for this time of year, while further south the Tiber River, which runs through Rome, also dropped.—AFP



Italy has declared a state of emergency in five northern regions amid the worst drought in 70 years. Two women waded into Lake Bracciano, 32 km northwest of Rome. **PHOTO: AFP/ ANDREAS SOLARO/FILE**

Freeze-dried mice: how a new technique could help conservation

JAPANESE scientists have successfully produced cloned mice using freeze-dried cells in a technique they believe could one day help conserve species and overcome challenges with current biobanking methods.

The United Nations has warned that extinctions are accelerating worldwide and at least a million species could disappear because of human-induced impacts like climate change.

Facilities have sprung up globally to preserve samples from endangered species with the goal of preventing their extinction by future cloning. These samples are generally cryopreserved using liquid nitrogen or kept at extremely low temperatures, which can be costly and vulnerable to power outages.

They also usually involve sperm and egg cells, which can be difficult or impossible to harvest from old or infertile animals.

Scientists at Japan's University of Yamanashi wanted to see whether they could solve those problems by freeze-drying somatic cells — any cell that isn't a sperm or egg cell — and attempting to produce clones. They experimented with two types of mice cells, and found that, while freeze-drying killed them and caused significant DNA damage, they could still produce cloned blastocysts — a ball of cells that develops into an embryo.—AFP

Fresh Covid outbreaks put millions under lockdown in China

TENS of millions of people were under lockdown in China on Wednesday as businesses in a major tourist city were forced to shut their doors and fresh clusters sparked fears of a return to blanket restrictions.

Health authorities reported over 300 infections Wednesday, with clusters found in the historic northern city of Xi'an — home to the Terracotta Army — as well as the country's biggest city Shanghai.

The fresh cases and the official response to them have deepened fears that China may be set to return to the kinds of strict restrictions seen earlier this year, when Beijing's hard-line zero-Covid policy saw tens of millions locked down for weeks on end. In Shanghai, some residents on social media Tuesday reported receiving government food rations — a throwback to the month's long confinement in the spring.

"Let me tell you a scary



A deliveryman carries daily necessities at a residential area under closed-off management in Xi'an, northwest China's Shaanxi Province, 31 December 2021. Xi'an imposed closed-off management for communities and villages on 23 December in an effort to curb the spread of the latest COVID-19 resurgence. PHOTO: XINHUA/TAO MING/FILE

story, Putuo district is sending out vegetables again," read one resident's viral WeChat post.

"I'm so nervous, the epidemic has destroyed my youth. I'm about to go crazy," posted another Shanghai-based Weibo user.

Officials launched a new round of mass testing in over half of the city's districts after a rebound in cases since the

weekend, closing all karaoke bars Wednesday after some infections were linked to six such venues.

And Xi'an — a historic city of 13 million that endured a month-long lockdown at the end of last year — was placed back under "temporary control measures" after 29 infections were found, mostly among waste recycling workers, since Saturday.—AFP

Philippine schools to fully reopen in November

THE Philippines will fully reopen all schools in November for the first time in more than two years, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr said Tuesday, as experts warn of a growing education crisis sparked by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The country is one of the

last to resume full-time in-person classes since the pandemic began, with schools shuttered in March 2020 in tandem with lengthy lockdowns.

The UN children's agency has warned that school closures have caused enormous losses in education around the world,

with some governments slow to reopen classrooms even as vaccination rates increased.

"We have a plan for full face-to-face (schooling) by November of this year," Marcos told his first news conference after being sworn in as the country's leader.

"Let's get this done quickly. Of course we're careful but we're always in a hurry because we have to get much done in very little time," he said.

Marcos said school reopenings will start from September and ramp up rapidly over the next two months, accompanied by a vaccination campaign.

About 64 per cent of the country's population of 110 million are fully vaccinated.

Former president Rodrigo Duterte allowed children to return to classrooms in just 100 schools out of more than 61,000 in November last year, but ruled out a full resumption before his term ended last month, citing health concerns.—AFP



A student wearing a face mask gestures after undergoing a voluntary COVID-19 test before attending a face-to-face class at an elementary school in Quezon City, the Philippines, 6 December 2021. Selected schools in the Philippines started the pilot run of limited face-to-face classes as the country continues to record declining COVID-19 cases. PHOTO: XINHUA/ROUELLE UMALI/FILE

CureVac sues BioNTech over COVID-19 vaccine patents

CUREVAC filed a lawsuit in Germany against COVID-19 vaccine developer BioNTech SE and two of its subsidiaries for alleged patent infringement, the biopharmaceutical company said on Tuesday.

CureVac was seeking "fair compensation" for the infringement of intellectual property rights used in the manufacture and sale of the Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine by BioNTech and its US partner Pfizer, the German company said in a

statement.

"CureVac does not seek an injunction nor intend to take legal action that impedes the production, sale or distribution of Comirnaty by BioNTech and its partner Pfizer," it noted.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, CureVac was one of the promising candidates in Germany for the rapid production of a vaccine. In the clinical trial, however, the vaccine showed too little efficacy.—Xinhua



CureVac N.V. (Nasdaq: CVAC), a biopharmaceutical company developing a new class of transformative medicines based on messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA), and Rentschler Biopharma SE, a leading global contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO) for biopharmaceuticals, announced on 1 February 2021 that the companies have initiated the set-up of manufacturing capabilities for CureVac's COVID-19 vaccine, CVnCoV. PHOTO: RENTSCHLER/XINHUA/FILE

NEWS IN BRIEF

World half marathon cancelled due to Covid fall-out

THE World Athletics Half Marathon Championships due to take place in Yangzhou in China this November have been cancelled "as a consequence of the (Covid-19) pandemic" the sport's governing body said on Tuesday. The World Athletics Council has, though, "resolved to grant the World Athletics Road Running Championships to Yangzhou in March 2027".

World Athletics took the decision following discussions with the local organizing committee and the Chinese Athletics Association. The world half marathon will now be incorporated along with a new world 5km championships into the World Athletics Road Running Championships, which will make their debut in Riga, Latvia, on 30 September to 1 October 2023. —AFP

Algeria to re-open land border with Tunisia: president

ALGERIA said Tuesday it would reopen its land border with Tunisia later this month, more than two years after it was shut at the height of the coronavirus pandemic.

"We have taken the joint decision to reopen the land border from 15 July," said President Abdelmadjid Tebboune.

He was speaking at Algiers airport alongside his Tunisian counterpart President Kais Saied, who was leaving the country after attending a huge parade marking 60 years since Algeria's independence from France.—AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

US, China discuss 'severe' economic challenges, supply chains

TOP officials from the United States and China held a "candid" video call on Tuesday to discuss global economic challenges, especially regarding supply chains.

The exchange between Chinese Vice-Premier Liu He and US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen came as President Joe Biden considers lifting some tariffs on imports from China to try and ease soaring inflation.

The world's two biggest economies are also grappling with Covid-snarled supply chains and rising global energy prices.

"The two sides agree that as the world economy is facing severe challenges, it is of great significance to strengthen macro-policy communication and coordination between China

and the United States," China's official Xinhua news agency reported.

"And jointly maintaining the stability of the global industrial and supply chains is in the interests of both countries and the whole world."

The Xinhua report said the video call took place at the request of the United States, and described the conversation as "constructive".

Yellen and Liu "discussed macroeconomic and financial developments in the United States and China, the global economic outlook amid rising commodity prices and food security challenges", the US Treasury Department said in a readout.—AFP



US President Joe Biden signed an executive order on 24 February 2021 to review the global supply chains of four key products including semiconductors, in a bid to shake off dependence on overseas suppliers, especially Chinese ones. **PHOTO: VCG/XINHUA**

Strike threatens to cut Norway gas exports by nearly 60%

A Norwegian oil and gas industry group said Tuesday that a strike by oil and gas workers, which has already closed three fields, could cut Norway's gas exports by more than half by Saturday.

"Almost 60% of gas exports from the Norwegian continental shelf (NCS) will be affected when the strike action is stepped up further from Saturday," the Norwegian Oil and Gas Association said in a statement.

The strike comes at a time when energy prices have already soared as a result of the impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and associated sanctions.

"Norwegian deliveries account for a quarter of European energy supplies, and Europe is



Norway's pipeline gas export could hit all-time highs this year. Picture taken on 9 May 2022 shows equipment operated by GCA (Gas Connect Austria) and TAG (Trans Austria Gas pipelines) at one of the largest interconnection gas hubs in Europe at Baumgarten an der March, Lower Austria. **PHOTO: JOE KLAMAR / AFP**

entirely dependent on Norway delivering as a nation at a time when Russian supply cuts have created a very tight market for natural gas," the association said.

"A strike on this scale poses huge problems for countries which are wholly dependent on filling up their gas stores ahead of the autumn and winter," it added.—AFP

Sri Lankans return to cooking with firewood as economy burns

AS once relatively wealthy Sri Lanka suffers a dire economic crisis with shortages of everything from medicines to gas, people are returning to cooking with firewood.

The switch began at the beginning of the year when more than 1,000 kitchens exploded

across the country, killing at least seven people and injuring hundreds more.

The reason was suppliers looking to cut costs and increasing the proportion of propane, which raised the pressure to dangerous levels.

But now, along with much

else in the country of 22 million people, gas is either unavailable or too expensive for most.

Some tried to shift to kerosene oil cookers, but the government did not have dollars to import it along with petrol and diesel, which are also in short supply.—AFP

Tunisia struggles to grow more wheat as Ukraine war bites

TUNISIAN farmer Mondher Mathali surveys a sea of swaying golden wheat and revs his combine harvester, a rumbling beast

Since the Ukraine war sent global cereal prices soaring, import-dependent Tunisia has announced a push to grow all its own durum wheat, the basis for local staples like couscous and pasta. The small North African country, like its neighbours, is desperate to prevent food shortages and social unrest — but for farmers on the sun-baked plains north of Tunis, even the basics are problematic.

"I'd love to buy a new combine harvester, but I could only do it with help from the government," said Mathali, 65.

He reckons his outdated machine wastes almost a third of

the crop. With spare parts hard to find, he fears a breakdown could cost him his entire harvest.

But even a second-hand replacement would cost him an unimaginable sum: \$150,000.

"Our production and even the quality would go up by maybe 50 per cent, even 90 per cent" with government help, he said.

"But our situation is getting worse and the state isn't helping us."

'No continuity

Tunisia's wheat production has suffered from years of drought and a decade of political instability, with 10 governments since the country's 2011 revolution.

That has exacerbated its reliance on imports. Last year, it bought almost two-thirds of its cereal from overseas, much of it from the Black Sea region.—AFP



A farmer drives a harvester through a wheat field in the Cebalet Ben Ammar region, north of the capital Tunis. **PHOTO: AFP**

China's commercial banks' profits to rise 8% in Q3

CHINA'S commercial banks are expected to see profits rise eight per cent year on year in the

third quarter of 2022, according to a report issued Tuesday by the Bank of China Research Institute.

From April to June, banks increased support to the real economy and ushered in more business opportunities, the report said.

Non-interest incomes will become a driver of commercial banks' profits in the third quarter, and lenders will develop intermediary businesses including investment banking and

wealth management, said the report.

Banks will also leverage financial technology to keep costs down and improve profitability.

From July to September, commercial banks' non-performing loan ratio is likely to keep falling, while their outstanding non-performing loans may rise moderately, the report said, while calling for continuous attention on risks in key industries and small and medium-sized banks.—Xinhua



Founded in 1987, China Merchants Bank is the first share-holding commercial bank wholly owned by corporate legal entities in China. Pedestrians pass a China Merchants Bank outlet in Shanghai in October.

PHOTO: FAN JIANLEI FOR CHINA DAILY/XINHUA

Brussels Airlines cancels nearly 700 summer flights

BRUSSELS Airlines, the Belgian subsidiary of Lufthansa, said Tuesday it is cancelling nearly 700 flights over July and August to lighten the workload for staff, who recently staged a strike. The airline said a total 675 flights were being ditched in the peak summer period — 372 this month and 303 next month.

These "optimizations" were aimed at bringing "a better balance in the work/life of our crews," Brussels Airlines said on its website.

The decision came after the airline and unions held talks on Monday about work conditions following

a 23-24-25 June strike that saw around 300 flights — around 60 per cent of the scheduled movements — cancelled.

Brussels Airlines said it was "clearly meeting the demands of the unions and hope to thus definitively rule out further actions and reassure our passengers".

It noted that airlines and airports in many countries were facing "a turbulent summer" as passenger demand roared back after two years of Covid confinement, far outstripping capacity that had been stripped back during the pandemic.—AFP

Gorgosaurus tipped to fetch \$8 mn at New York auction

A skeleton of a Gorgosaurus dinosaur is going up for auction for the first time and is expected to fetch between \$5 million and \$8 million, Sotheby's said Tuesday.

The auction house will put the specimen, which is 10 feet tall (three metres) and 22 feet long, under the hammer in New York on 28 July.

Sotheby's described the skeleton as "one of the most valuable dinosaurs to ever appear on the market." The Gorgosaurus roamed the earth approximately 77 million years ago. A typical adult weighed about two tonnes, slightly smaller than its more famous relative, the Tyrannosaurus rex.

Paleontologists say it was fiercer and faster than the T-Rex, with a stronger bite of around 42,000 newtons compared to 35,000.

The skeleton was discovered in the Judith River Formation near Havre, in the US state of Montana in 2018.—AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MAERSK NARVIK VOY.NO. (224W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MAERSK NARVIK VOY.NO. (224W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-7-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V VENUS C VOY.NO. (2218S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V VENUS C VOY.NO. (2218S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-7-2022** 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**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ENERGY

**MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(16/2022-2023)**

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(1)	DMP/L-031(22-23) (Retender)	Mud Chemical (4) Items	Ks
(2)	DMP/L-069(22-23) (Retender)	Assorted Sizes of Pipe Fittings (11) Items	Ks
(3)	DMP/L-175(22-23)	Spares for JC-70 B Drawwork Ex ZJ 70L Drilling Rig (21) Items	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from **6 July 2022** at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications and Commercial Quotation with Original Bid Bond in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **12:00 pm on 20, July 2022**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time – **20-7-2022, 12:00 pm**

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph No. + 95 67 – 411206

In the matter of the Financial Institution Law, 2016 In the matter of uab bank Limited [Under Paragraph 34 of the Directive on External Auditors of Banks of the Central Bank of Myanmar (10/2019)] **Public Notice regarding Publication and Exhibition of Financial Statements**

Pursuant to Paragraph 34 of the CBM Directive (10/2019), notice is hereby given that the Audited Financial Statement of the uab bank Limited for the Financial Period ended 31st March 2022 and the External Auditors' Report had been published on the website of the bank at

https://www.uab.com.mm/Financial_Statements_FY_2022.pdf

on the date of 6th July, 2022

Sd/- Nyein Sanda Kyaw
Head, Legal & Secretariat
uab bank Limited

Transferring Registered Pesticides

Registered pesticides distributing by Myanmar Byter Agro Tech Co., Ltd in the territory of Myanmar for the product as following are transferring from Crop-China Internationals Limited, former producer to Anhui Byter Agriculture Technology Co.,Ltd as per mutual consent from both parties. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Reg: No
1	Crop-Harvest 41 SL	Glyphosate 41% SL	F2021-3284
2	Crop-Growing 80WP	Mancozeb 80% WP	F2021-3283

Myanmar Byter Agro Tech Co.,Ltd
No.125-127, Kha 11st, Myoe Thit (A+B) Quarter, Inn Sein Township, Yangon.

Advertise with us Call 09 251 022 355
09 974 424 848

GLOBAL AFFAIRS



Japan party leaders repeat favoured campaign lines as vote nears

AS the House of Councillors election looms Sunday with a solid poll lead for Japan's ruling coalition, the heads of major political parties are making extensive use of a few choice phrases to present their cases to voters across the country. With squeezed finances amid rising prices a focal issue, ruling Liberal Democratic Party

chief and Prime Minister Fumio Kishida is telling crowds his government has the competence to handle the problem, while the main opposition Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan is urging voters to show their anger over the government's response.

Kishida has been touting his government's actions to address rising prices and COVID-19, often concluding his speeches by saying the ruling coalition of the LDP and junior partner Komeito can surmount the challenges and "lead the way to the future".

This year, 125 of the upper

house's 248 seats — half of the chamber plus a vacant seat in the other half — are up for election. A Kyodo News poll released this week tipped the LDP and Komeito to win more than half the contested seats, with the former set for more than 60 and the latter to retain 14. During campaigning, CDPJ leader Kenta Izumi has repeatedly mentioned a "livelihoods perspective" in a bid to show empathy with voters, criticizing the ruling parties' response to price rises and imploring people to "be angry together, and make your voices heard." —Kyodo

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida makes a speech in Aomori, northeastern Japan, on 6 July 2022, for the House of Councillors election on 10 July. **PHOTO: KYODO**

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Russia metal giants eye merger to soften blow of sanctions

THE head of Russian mining giant Nornickel, Vladimir Potanin, has said he is ready to discuss a merger with aluminium group Rusal to create a juggernaut capable of resisting the effects of Western sanctions, according to an interview published Tuesday.

"I sent a letter (Monday) in which I indicated our agreement to start the discussion process for a merger with the Rusal group," he told Russian business paper RBK.

According to Potanin, it would be possible to create a "national champion" in metals capable of facing ecological challenges in a very polluting industry, as well as broadening the shareholder base and "acquiring the capacity to resist sanctions".

The proposal comes as a deal between major Nornickel shareholders expires in January 2023.

Potanin had always opposed a merger of the world leader in nickel and palladium with the aluminium giant in a context of a conflict with Rusal, which already owns 25.25 per cent of Nornickel.

But both companies are affected by Western sanctions targeting Russia over its military campaign in Ukraine.

Potanin has also been hit by UK sanctions.

A large number of key Russian companies are facing serious problems in the supply of equipment and spare parts, the sale of which to Russia has been banned. —AFP

FSB official takes over Moscow-occupied Kherson region

AN official from Russia's powerful FSB security services took over the government of the Moscow-occupied Kherson region in southern Ukraine, Kremlin-installed authorities said Tuesday.

Sergei Yeliseyev, until now the deputy head of government in the Russian exclave of Kaliningrad, "became head of the government in the Kherson region", said Vladimir Saldo, who heads the Russian occupational administration.

His government takes office on Tuesday, he added.

A graduate of the FSB Academy, 51-year-old Yeliseyev served in the security services in unspecified functions, according to the Kaliningrad region website.

Alexei Kovalev, a former Ukrainian lawmaker who has switched to Russia's side in the

conflict and survived an assassination attempt in June, was appointed as Yeliseyev's deputy.

"Ukraine is forever in the past for the Kherson region. Russia is here forever," the Moscow-installed authorities said on Telegram.

Kherson city, which lies close to Moscow-annexed

Crimea, was the first major city to fall to Russian forces since the Kremlin sent troops to Ukraine in February.

Moscow has since launched a campaign of so-called Russification, trying to introduce the ruble, giving out Russian passports and opening a first Russian bank at the end of June. —AFP



A young couple walks past a Russian soldier guarding an area in Kherson on 20 May 2022. **PHOTO: TASS/AFP**

Ukraine, allies lay foundations for reconstruction

ALLIES of Ukraine meeting in Switzerland were due Tuesday to adopt a declaration spelling out the principles and priorities of rebuilding the war-shattered country, estimated to cost at least US\$750 billion.

Leaders from dozens of

countries, international organizations and businesses have been meeting in the southern Swiss city of Lugano under tight security since Monday, discussing the best path forward for reconstruction, even as Russia's war continues to rage in Ukraine.

Speaking on the first day of the Ukraine Recovery Conference, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and a long line of government ministers described the massive destruction caused by Russia's 24 February invasion. —AFP



RUSAL is a leading company in the global aluminium industry, producing metal with a low carbon footprint. **PHOTO: ISTOCK/AFP**



Demonstrators hold placards picturing British Prime Minister Boris Johnson in front of Parliament in London on 6 June 2022. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

UK PM Johnson faces parliamentary inquisition after top ministers quit

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson faces two high-stakes encounters in parliament on Wednesday after his government was rocked by the shock departures of two senior ministers.

Rishi Sunak resigned as finance minister, and Sajid Javid as health secretary on Tuesday night. Both said they could no longer tolerate the culture of scandal that has stalked Johnson for months.

They will now sit on the Con-

servative back benches at the weekly session of Prime Minister's Questions in the House of Commons at 1100 GMT — which promises to be even more combustible than usual. Johnson then faces an hours-long grilling from the chairs of the Commons' most powerful committees, who include some of his most virulent critics in the Tory ranks.

The exits of Sunak and Javid were announced minutes after the prime minister apologized

for appointing a senior Conservative, who quit last week after he was accused of drunkenly groping two men. Former education secretary Nadhim Zahawi has been elevated to the finance brief. Days of shifting explanations had followed the resignation of deputy chief whip Chris Pincher. Downing Street at first denied Johnson knew of prior allegations against Pincher when appointing him in February.—AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Blinken to hold rare talks with China FM on Bali trip: US

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken will hold a rare meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on the sidelines of a regional conference in Bali this week, the State Department said Tuesday.

Wang and Blinken, who last met in October, will meet on the sidelines of a Group of 20 ministerial meeting on the Indonesian resort island, the State Department said, amid high tensions on a range of issues including Taiwan.

The meeting comes as US President Joe Biden voices hope for a new conversation in the coming weeks with Chinese President Xi Jinping, who has not travelled internationally since the Covid-19 pandemic.— AFP

NATO says no plans for bases in Sweden or Finland

NATO has no current plans to send troops to Sweden and Finland once they complete the membership process launched this week, the defensive alliance's deputy chief told AFP Tuesday.

"We don't plan to have an additional presence in either country, they have formidable national forces. They're capable of defending themselves," Deputy Secretary-General Mircea Geoana said in a telephone interview. Russian President Vladimir Putin warned last week that "if military contingents and military infrastructure were deployed there, we would be obliged to respond symmetrically and raise the same threats for those territories where threats have arisen for us".— AFP

French PM to face baptism of fire in divided parliament

FRENCH Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne will on Wednesday lay out the government's policy priorities in her first speech in front of what promises to be a stormy parliament.

The 61-year-old will make the customary "general political declaration" to kick off the legislative session, which is being scrutinized closely given Borne's weak position at the head of a minority government.

Centrist President Emmanuel Macron suffered a setback in parliamentary elections last month that saw his allies fall short of a majority by 39 seats.

He and Borne have since failed to tempt opposition parties into a coalition.

"The prime minister is working round the clock," a cabinet minister told AFP this week. "She's meeting everyone, she's calling everyone. She's really committed to listening, so we'll manage."

Without formal allies in the 577-seat national assembly,

Borne has decided not to call a confidence vote on her policy speech — something almost all past prime ministers have done after their first appearances in the lower house.

Holding a vote was "too risky" for Borne, who would have been forced to step down if she lost, explained Bruno Cautres, a researcher at the Cevipof political studies unit at Sciences Po

university in Paris.

"She made the right decision, but she didn't really have a choice."

But the hard-left France Unbowed (LFI) party, one of the big gainers in June's parliamentary polls, announced that it would immediately call for a censure motion on Tuesday which would also bring Borne down if she lost.— AFP



Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne will not call the customary confidence vote in parliament. PHOTO: AFP



Colombian president-elect proposes 'ceasefire', talks with ELN

COLOMBIA'S left-wing president-elect Gustavo Petro on Tuesday proposed a "bilateral ceasefire" with the violence-hit

country's last active guerrilla group, the ELN, to resume peace negotiations.

Talks with the ELN, which,

unlike the FARC, did not surrender under the Colombian peace agreement of 2016, collapsed under outgoing President Ivan Duque. "The message I sent, not only to the ELN but to all existing armed groups, is that the time for peace has come," Petro said.—AFP

The National Liberation Army is a Marxist-Leninist guerrilla group involved in the continuing Colombian conflict, which has existed in Colombia since 1964. Security forces outside the police academy in Bogotá where a car bomb exploded on 18 January 2019, killing 20 police cadets. PHOTO: AFP/FILE



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 beat the Philippines 3-1 in AFF U-19 Championship



A Myanmar youth player (red) attempts to clear the ball from the opponent during the AFF U-19 Championship third match against the Philippines on 6 July 2022. **PHOTO: MFF**

MYANMAR U-19 men's national football team beat the Philippines team 3-1 in the 2022 AFF U-19 Championship held in Indonesia on 6 July.

The Myanmar team won this match and the hopes of reaching the semi-finals were revived.

Team Myanmar has made some changes to the starting line-up.

Goalkeeper Hein Htet Soe, Kyaw Wunna, Lan San Aung, Zaw Win Thein, La Min Htwe, Hein Zaw Naing, Tar Yar Win Htet, Phyo Thant Ko Ko, Swan Htet, Thein Zaw Thiha, and Khant Zin Hein were on the line-up list.

The Myanmar team lost to Thailand in the second match and needed to win this match.

The team was attacking from the start and scored two goals in the first six minutes to control the match.

The deadlock was broken at the three-minute mark as the first goal for Myanmar was scored by youth star Swan Htet.

Again, the second goal for Myanmar was found at the sixth-minute mark and scored by Thein Zaw Thiha.

The 2-0 result made some more confident for team Myanmar.

Rosquio scored the equalizer for the Philippines in the 29th minute, but in the 41st minute, Zaw Win Thein scored the third or winning goal for the Myanmar team.

In the second half, the Myanmar team tried to score further goals but could not take advantage of the opportunity and ended as the first half result.

Myanmar has won two matches and lost one match with six points collected after playing three games. Myanmar will play their fourth match against Viet Nam on 8 July. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

Malacia becomes Ten Hag's first signing at Man Utd

MANCHESTER United completed their swoop for Feyenoord defender Tyrell Malacia on Tuesday as Erik ten Hag made his first signing since taking charge at Old Trafford. United landed Malacia in a reported £12.95 million (\$15.4 million) deal after making a late move to sign the Netherlands full-back, who had been close to joining French club Lyon. The 22-year-old has agreed a four-year contract with the option of a further 12 months.

It is a landmark deal for Ten Hag, who had been linked with a host of potential signings before finally making Malacia the first acquisition of his United reign. Ten Hag arrived at United in May after finishing his successful spell at Ajax, where he had plenty of opportunities to see Malacia's quality with Dutch rivals Feyenoord. —AFP



Manchester United completed their swoop for Feyenoord defender Tyrell Malacia on Tuesday as Erik ten Hag made his first signing since taking charge at Old Trafford. **PHOTO: AFP**

Hegerberg's return for Norway sprinkles stardust on Euro 2022

EURO 2022 will be lit up by one of the brightest stars in women's football thanks to Ada Hegerberg's decision to end a self-imposed exile from international

duty with Norway.

The all-time top goalscorer in the women's Champions League stepped away from the international scene in 2017, cit-

ing concerns over the inequality of treatment given to men's and women's teams by the Norwegian federation.

Five years on, she made

her comeback in March and in typical fashion scored a hat-trick in a 5-1 thrashing of Kosovo. "It was important for me for it to be authentic, that it was natural for

everyone involved," Hegerberg told AFP of her decision to return.

"It was a great thing. Personally and also collectively, I think." —AFP