

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## Myanmar must continuously implement democracy and federalism: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Union-level personnel, Union ministers, the chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, chairpersons of Region and State Administration Councils and chairpersons of Self-Administered Zones and Division Administration Bodies at Thabin Hall of the State Administration Council Chairman's Office in Nay Pyi Taw Yesterday.

**C**HAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday morning met with Union-level personnel, Union ministers, the chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, chairpersons of Region and State Administration Councils and chairpersons of Self-Administered Zones and Division Administration Bodies at Thabin Hall of the State Administration Council Chairman's Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

Also present at the meeting were Vice-Chairman of the Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Council members General Mya Tun Oo, Admiral Tin Aung San, General Maung Maung Kyaw, Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun, Lt-Gen Soe Htut, Mahn Nyein Maung, U Thein Nyunt, U Khin Maung Swe, Daw Aye Nu Sein, Jeng Phang Naw Taung, U Mounng Har, U Sai Lone Saing, Saw Daniel, Dr Banyar Aung Moe and U Shwe Kyein, Secretary Lt-Gen Aung Lin Dwe and Joint Secretary Lt-

Gen Ye Win Oo, Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo, Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Than Kyaw, Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Thein Soe, Union ministers, the Attorney-General of the Union, the Auditor-General of the Union, the chairman of the Union Civil Service Board, the Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission, the chairman of Myanmar Human Rights Commission, the chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, chairpersons of region and state administration councils, advisory members to the Chairman of the State Administration Council, chairpersons of self-administered zones and division administration bodies, deputy ministers and officials.

At the meeting, the Senior General said he would like to explain matters related to the State Administration Council in declaring the State of Emergency for the country and taking over the State duty, current undertakings and future plans. Regarding the assumption of the State duty, the Senior General said the Council

took the State responsibilities due to the event of voting frauds in the 2020 general election.

The Senior General continued to say that the general elections were held in 2010, 2015 and 2020 in Myanmar. The Union

opposition parties. At that time, NLD stood as an opposition party but did not participate in the election by staging the boycott. The winning party in 2010 formed the government. It amended Section 6 (c) of the Political Parties

was assigned by the Hluttaw as the chair of a committee.

At that time, President U Thein Sein performed political, economic, administrative and international relations sectors as much as he can. However, he faced many heavy problems. With regard to security measures, the Rakhine State issue, Laukkai issue of Shan State (North) and Laiza issue of Kachin State happened. In the 2015 general election, NLD won the election with the slogan — time to change. Although the people inspired the NLD, Buddhist people, more than 80 per cent in the country, did not satisfy with Buddhism affairs based on religious and management misconducts. However, the Tatmadaw cooperate with the government formed by the election result. After the election, the Senior General met with NLD leaders, including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, to transfer power. At the meeting, the Senior General urged them to perform the tasks in accord with the Constitution.

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Solidarity and Development Party won the election in 2010. Such election was the first experience of Myanmar. The Union Solidarity and Development Party won the election due to lack of main

Registration Law and revoked Section 10(e) for enabling all parties in the democracy. NLD participated in the by-election in 2012 and won in it. So, Chair of the party Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

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Muse border trade nearly comes to suspension due to COVID-19

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## Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine Objectives

### 1. Political affairs

- (a) Building of a Union based on democracy and federalism in practising genuine disciplined multiparty democracy in a full fairness manner
- (B) Emphasizing of restoration of eternal peace for the entire nation in line with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA)
- (c) Continuous practising of the “principle” of peaceful co-existence among countries by holding up the independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy

### 2. Economic affairs

- (a) Further development of production based on agriculture and livestock breeding through modern techniques and all-round development of other

sectors of the economy as well

- (b) Stability of market economy and inviting international investments to develop the economy of entire ethnic people
- (c) Encouragement of local businesses to create employment opportunities to be able to produce many products of the State

### 3. Social affairs

- (a) For ensuring of dynamism of Union spirit which is genuine patriotic spirit
- (b) Following customs and traditions of all ethnic nationalities and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national characters
- (c) Enhancement of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

## Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Order No 110/2021

10<sup>th</sup> Waning of Tabaung 1382 ME  
6 April 2021

### Appointment and Duty Assignment of members of Anti-Corruption Commission

The following persons are appointed and assigned by the State Administration Council, in accordance with Section 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the duties of members of the Anti-Corruption Commission.

1. U Win Te
2. U Kyaw Soe Lin
3. U Tun Tun Oo

By order

Sd/ Aung Lin Dwe  
Lieutenant-General  
Secretary  
State Administration Council

## Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Order No 111/2021

10<sup>th</sup> Waning of Tabaung 1382 ME  
6 April 2021

### Appointment and Duty Assignment of member of Union Civil Service Board

U Soe Tint is appointed and assigned by the State Administration Council, in accordance with Section 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, to the duty of member of the Union Civil Service Board.

By order

Sd/ Aung Lin Dwe  
Lieutenant-General  
Secretary  
State Administration Council

## State Administration Council Press Release

### Re-invitation to Myanmar citizens who arrive in various regions for many reasons

1. Some student youths, State service personnel and citizens, evaded to areas of EAOs and foreign countries with worries because of incitement and intimidation of NLD members, the extremists who support that party, CRPH unlawful association, incitement of CDM and persons and organizations at home and abroad not wishing to restore peace and stability of the State since after 1 February 2021 when the Tatmadaw assumed the State responsibility.
2. They are further worried about the dictatorship statement and speeches of CRPH unlawful association and some relevant persons. As they face no security guarantee and difficulties in socio-economic life in their areas, they wish to return to their native lands.
3. As those who evaded from their native areas are also citizens, the State Administration Council will arrange their returns from evaded areas to various regions of Myanmar.
4. Information was released that if those who evaded to various areas except the persons who committed any kinds of crime wish to return to their native lands in Myanmar of their own accord, the citizens abroad are to contact nearby ward, village, township and district administration bodies and relevant embassies, military attaché offices and consulates without facing action taken in accord with the law.

*Information Team  
State Administration Council*

## Announcement

THE Ministry of Information does not officially approve an FM radio line with spreading news to be broadcast on test in Yangon Region. If anyone joins the operation of such broadcasting and gives assistance without permission, action will be taken against them under the existing law.

*Ministry of Information*



# Myanmar Police Forces is being improved

STATE defence duty is the primary duty of the State, especially defending external danger. So, the capacity of members of the Myanmar Police Forces is being improved as they are mainly responsible for the security of the country.

*(Excerpt from the speech to officers, other ranks and their families in Myeik, Kyunsu and Cocogyun stations made by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 21 March 2021)*

## Myanmar must continuously implement democracy and federalism: Senior General

### FROM PAGE-1

However, the Hluttaw was convened, the State Counsellor Law was enacted based on the provision of Section 217 of the Constitution. The State's protocol list mentioned State Counsellor between the president and vice-president beyond the designation of qualification for the president and vice-president mentioned in the Constitution. Two to three years later, the people did not satisfy with the NLD. Peace is essential in a democracy. President U Thein Sein, in his tenure, signed NCA with ethnic armed organizations within four years.

NLD government tried to restore peace. Each ethnic armed organization has different endeavours, history and concept. It is necessary to perform restoration of peace in a patient manner. In its time, the NLD government signed with some part of the Union Accord. However, it did not achieve the success it expected because ethnic armed organizations were disappointed in the peacemaking process.

The Senior General said he urged all to emphasize the economy as if the economy develops, the peacemaking process will be quick. People staged the 'No Vote' campaign in 2018. For example, 14 per cent of eligible voters cast votes for the Yangon City Development Committee election in 2019. The election is important in a democracy. So, the Senior General urged military families to cast ballots and the people not to stage the 'No Vote' campaign.

The Senior General said he urged all to perform genuine and honest politics and fair politics at the third special annual meeting of NCA in 2018. At more meetings and conferences, the Senior General emphasized holding a free and fair election, performing honest politics, and avoiding

He urged all to perform genuine and honest politics and fair politics at the third special annual meeting of NCA in 2018. At more meetings and conferences, the Senior General emphasized holding a free and fair election, performing honest politics, and avoiding political revenge.

political revenge. Covid-19 broke out in 2020. Rules and regulations for canvassing were issued for the outbreak of Covid-19. But, the ruling party broke its rules and regulations, but other political parties were restricted. At that time, the UDP party, which will compete in the election with 1,129 candidates, was revoked as it was not in conformity with the law. It was found that NLD committed voting frauds for winning the election. More than 10 million votes, believed to be fraudulent, were found in 315 townships. Adding a voting list was very bad, similar to the way of taking the examination with malpractice for securing the highest marks despite having a situation to pass the examination with simple acts.

The Union Election Commission did not address such problems. After forming the new Union Election Commission, voter lists were scrutinized in 98 townships of 10 regions and states. Such scrutiny showed about four million voter lists between the list of township election sub-commissions and the immigration department. More than one million persons without citizenship scrutiny cards cast votes. More than 9 million of over 14 million ballot papers were used, and more than 5 million ballot papers were lost. Although the Tatmadaw sent a letter to

solve the problems by holding the State Defence and Security Council, the reason was showed not to do so under the law. They did not accept the postponement of the Hluttaw and the assignment of a third party to inspect the voting frauds. Hence, the Tatmadaw took over the State duty due to the assignment of the Pro Tem President. It was not Coup D'état. The State Administration Council's government was formed with the majority of civilians, and the councils of regions and states were also formed as well. A government has responsibility for improving and giving guarantee to the State.

Protests were staged as of 3 February. The Council solved it in a democratic way. In the events of the riots, 16 police members fell, and more than 260 were injured. Moreover, files of dead

cases were opened for the death of 248 rioters in the events.

CDM is an activity to destroy the country. The Senior General said he would like to identify CDM activity as a country-destroying movement. Although protests are staged in neighbouring countries and the international community, they do not destroy businesses. However, CDM in Myanmar attempted to halt the running of hospitals, schools, roads, offices and factories. Tatmadaw hospitals provide healthcare services to more than 110,000 outpatients and over 35,000 inpatients. At present, more than 4,000 patients are being provided treatments, and over 6,900 pregnant women were given birth.

The Ministry of Education is striving for reopening schools as quickly as possible. NGOs and INGOs shaped service personnel in undisciplined democracy. Rioters hang pictures of Buddhist monks assaulting Buddhism. People are in troubles for the closure of hospitals. The Tatmadaw gives a helping hand to them. The Tatmadaw sent 44 medical doctors to the Naga area in 2015.

It is necessary to create an entitlement for teachers in line with their qualification so as to enhance the role of staff from education, health and State service personnel. A similar plan must be implemented for med-

ical doctors. And appropriate entitlement must be created for service personnel.

The Senior General said the current government needs to take lessons from the past events of two democratic governments. The Senior General stressed the need for cabinet members and officials to avoid indulgence and urged them to do all tasks according to the law. They need to carry out the tasks with satisfaction.

The Senior General stressed the need to narrow the gap between the rich and the poor in developing the socio-economy of the entire nation, undertaking equal development of regions and states and reducing the gap between urban and rural areas. As 70 per cent of people reside in rural areas, engaging in agriculture and livestock breeding, it is necessary to encourage their businesses.

It is necessary to arrange improvement of the agriculture and livestock breeding sector. As there is one Agricultural University and the University of Veterinary Science, colleges and institutes must be established.

Only when the Council serve the interests of the people will the people have trust over the government. So, efforts will be made for serving the interests of the people and giving guarantees to them.

Myanmar must continuously implement democracy and federalism. As such, officials must broaden the scopes of people with knowledge of democracy and federalism. But, any acts should not harm Our Three Main National Causes. The Senior General called for officials from regions and states sharing borders with neighbouring countries to focus on friendly relations with both countries. — MNA

The need to narrow the gap between the rich and the poor in developing the socio-economy of the entire nation, undertaking equal development of regions and states and reducing the gap between urban and rural areas.



# Only when the State economy develops will the country have firm currency: Senior General

**C**HAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met the chairpersons of region and state administration councils and chairpersons of self-administered zones and division administration bodies at the meeting hall of the State Administration Council Chairman's Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon. He discussed regional development of regions and states.

Present at the meeting were Vice-Chairman of the Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Council member Lt-Gen Soe Htut, Secretary Lt-Gen Aung Lin Dwe, Joint Sec-



Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met the chairpersons of region and state administration councils and chairpersons of self-administered zones and division administration bodies at the meeting hall of the State Administration Council Chairman's Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Despite the declining infection and death rate, Myanmar should do necessary things not to be careless for the pandemic. As those injected with the COVID-19 vaccine can be infected, all need to abide by COVID-19 guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports.

retary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Dr Maung Maung Naing, Chairman of Kachin State Administration Council U Khet Htein Nan, Chairman of Kayah State Administration Council U Khin Maung Oo, Chairman of Kayin State Administration Council U Saw Myint Oo, Chairman of Chin State Administration Council U Ngun Hsan Aung, Chairman of Sagaing Region Administration Council U Maung Maung Lin, Chairman of Taninthayi Region Administration Council U Tin Aung, Chairman of Bago Region Administration Council U Myo Swe Win, Chairman of Magway Region Administration Council U Tint Lwin, Chairman of Mandalay Region Administration Council U Maung Ko, Chairman of Mon State Administration Council U Zaw Lin Tun, Chairman of Rakhine State Administration Council Dr Aung Kyaw Min, Chairman of Yangon Region Administration Council U Hla Soe, Chairman of Shan State Administration Council Dr Kyaw Tun, Chairman of Ayeyawady Region Administration Council U Ye Myint, Chairman of Naga Self-Administered Zone Administration Body U Tun Tun Win, Chairman of Danu Self-Administered Zone

Administration Body U Arkar Lin, Chairman of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Administration Body U Khun Ye Htwe, Chairman of Palaung Self-Administered Zone Administration Body Tah Thein Zaw, Chairman of Kokang Self-Administered Zone Administration Body U Myint Swe, Chairman of Wa Self-Administered Division Administration Body U Nyi Nap and officials.

In his speech, the Senior General stressed the need to vaccinate the COVID-19 vaccine arriving at regions, states and self-administered zones to people as quickly as possible. Medical officers and nurses from local military units need to inject the COVID-19 vaccine to the people in the area where health staff are required due to CDM activity. The death rate of COVID-19 does not decline across the world. Despite the declining infection and death rate, Myanmar should do necessary things not to be careless for the pandemic. As those injected with the COVID-19 vaccine can be infected, all need to abide by COVID-19 guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports. A plan is underway to inject 500,000 units of vaccine into the people before the New Year period.

Only when the people have

good businesses will they live peacefully. As factories and industries need to be operated for people to earn income, fulfilment must be given in regions and states. It is necessary to avoid loss of businesses at a time outbreak of COVID-19 brought loss to businesses. Arrangements must be made for the people to have jobs to earn increased income. Only when the people's economy booms will the country be peaceful and tranquil.

Regarding learning, the data collected in the country in 2019 showed 3.7 million people had not attended the schools. The majority of those people is from states. The Senior General urged them to turn out educated people in their regions, states and self-administered zones. Learning is a social matter, and it is necessary to arrange reading tables for the people's literacy. Last five year, members of the Sangha faced dissatisfaction with religious affairs. As such, all need to perform fulfilment for the Sangha members to have the satisfaction to serve the religious affairs. The number of people with faith in Buddhism is 87 per cent in Myanmar. As such, Myanmar is a Theravada Buddhist country. It

is necessary to assist those with faith in other religions to do their respective religious affairs satisfactorily. At present, the majority of youths in Myanmar are lack of culture, abandoning parents and rudely assaulting members of the Sangha and teachers. So, it is necessary to straighten the morale and culture of the youths. The Young Men's Buddhist Association (YMBA) conducts cultural courses and vocational courses for the youths. Officials need to improve the cultural knowledge of the people in accord with the religion.

Only when the State economy develops will the country have firm currency. Trade deficit causes currency value in Myanmar. Efforts must be made for increasing production to be exported. Regions and States produce suitable products for the development of trade. It is necessary to boost the economy by exporting agricultural and livestock breeding products rather than natural resources extraction. Likewise, cooperative tasks must be done. Other countries are carrying out cooperative businesses successfully. Myanmar needs to utilize good soil, water and human resources. Jobs must be created

for people from basic strata so as to develop the economy. The government will adopt the policies, and officials from regions and states need to continue the implementation of projects.

Then, those attendees reported on the occurrence of riots and decline of riots in their areas, healthcare services of medical officers and nurses from local military hospitals for solving difficulties of the people who face CDM activities of some health staff, the reopening of closed hospitals, health, administrative and religious measures for the people, reopening of banks, prevention of COVID-19, improvement of the economy, border trade, good transport, issuance of ID to people, running of factories except some factories, assistance for displaced persons and arrangements for their return to home. The Senior General attended to the needs.

Then, the Senior General said as now is the period of COVID-19, Thingyan pavilions will not be allowed. But, all will be allowed to enjoy the water throwing festival in accord with the disciplines. Regions and States must hold outdoor sports competitions to enhance health, fitness and morale. Concerning the economy, regions and states need to produce quality value-added products in line with the motto of one village - one product. If so, the tourism industry and exportation will develop. Economic development zones and industrial zones must be established in respective regions, and these zones must be supervised for effective process. — MNA

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## Announcement of Union Election Commission 4 April 2021

- Regarding the Multiparty General Election held on 8 November 2020, the Union Election Commission has inspected the voter lists and the casting of votes of Chipwe and Tanai townships of Kachin State.
- Findings in respective townships were as follows:

### Findings on voter lists in each township

Sr	Township and numbers of polling stations	Township sub-commission	List from Immigration department	Those involved in voting list without citizenship scrutiny cards	Those involved in voter list more than three times holding one CSC	Those involved in voter list more than two times holding one CS
1	47 polling stations in Chipwe Township of Kachin State	12,963	9,291	1,044	46	996
2	23 polling stations in Tanai Township of Kachin State	34,349	15,792	4,387	129	2,104

- The Union Election Commission has inspected the withdrawal/receipt/use/remaining of ballot papers used for Pyithu Hluttaw Election of Chipwe and Tanai township of Kachin State together with the respective township election sub-commission, head of police force, Immigration and Population and administrator according to the Hluttaw Election Law Section 53.
- According to the inspection, a total of 70 polling stations in these two townships took out 54,122 ballots and used 33,023 ballots. It left 21,111 ballots instead of 21,099 ballots. The difference was 38 and it found 50 extra ballots. The extra/shortage ballots and illegal extra ballots were found at respective poll stations. Findings were as follows:

### Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in each township

Sr	Township	Total polling station	Withdrawal	Used	Exact remaining	Remaining on the Ground	Difference	
							Missing	Extra
1	Chipwe	47	15,339	10,200	5,139	5,133	25	19
2	Tanai	23	38,783	22,823	15,960	15,978	13	31
	Total	70	54,122	33,023	21,099	21,111	38	50

### Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Chipwe Township

- According to the inspection, a total of 47 polling stations in 33 village-tracts in 7 Wards of Chipwe Township in Kachin State took out 14,250 ballots and used 9,964 ballots. It left 1,305 ballots instead of 4,286 ballots with 19 extra ballots. Findings were as follows:
- Chipwe Township election sub-commission took out 1,089 ballots and used 236 ballots and they left only 828 ballots instead of 853 ballots. The numbers are lesser than 25 ballots and it did not have full 50 ballot papers, the required numbers of ballot book.
- The shortage/extra ballots found in respective ward/village-tract of Chipwe Township were as follows:

Sr	Subject	Withdrawal	Used	Exact remaining	Remaining on the Ground	Difference	
						Missing	Extra
1	Ward/village-tract ballots	14,250	9,964	4,286	4,305		19
2	Township remaining ballots	1,089	236	853	828	25	
	Total	15,339	10200	5,139	5,133	25	19

- Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw in respective ward/village-tract for Chipwe Township in Myitkyina District of Kachin State were as follows:

Sr	Ward/Village-Tract	Total polling station	Withdrawal	Used	Exact remaining	Remaining on the Ground	Difference	
							Missing	Extra
1	Yitlawkhaung Ward	1	1,100	860	240	254		14
2	Oakket Ward	1	450	388	62	62		
3	Barlaedam Ward	1	250	212	38	38		
4	Kanpaingyan Ward	1	100	83	17	17		
5	Linemaryan Village-tract	1	100	59	41	41		
6	Narmawzut Village-tract	1	150	113	37	37		
7	Tamu Village-tract	1	100	63	37	37		
8	Shankyaw Village-tract	1	100	79	21	21		
9	Bantli Village-tract	1	200	136	64	64		
10	Magaung Village-tract	2	450	260	190	190		
11	Mansi Village-tract	1	100	40	60	65		5
12	Lawkhaung Village-tract	1	150	125	25	25		
13	Youtchaung Village-tract	1	50	25	25	25		
14	Gitline Village-tract	1	250	191	59	59		
15	Yitgyaw Village-tract	1	50	39	11	11		
16	Maunggon Village-tract	1	200	145	55	55		
17	Kyinton Village-tract	1	100	72	28	28		
18	Lanngyaw Village-tract	1	250	160	90	90		
19	Lupi Village-tract	2	1,300	864	436	436		
20	No 1 Ward, Panwa Town	1	300	194	106	106		
21	No 2 Ward, Panwa Town	1	600	421	179	179		
22	No 2 Ward, Panwa Town	1	450	299	151	151		
23	Lanyan Village-tract	3	450	278	172	172		
24	Htawgaw Village-tract	1	100	73	27	27		
25	Veelat Village-tract	1	250	173	77	77		
26	Lagway Village-tract	1	550	423	127	127		
27	Bawmmyan Village-tract	1	150	127	23	23		
28	Gankhun Village-tract	1	600	346	254	254		
29	Htwanshane Village-tract	1	300	244	56	56		
30	Sheekyan Village-tract	1	550	424	126	126		
31	Nuzonebaung Village-tract	1	150	125	25	25		
32	Gowtyuan Village-tract	1	300	236	64	64		



## Five future programmes of State Administration Council

1. The Union Election Commission will be reconstituted to carry out tasks that should be done, including inspection of voting lists in accordance with the law.
2. Effective measures will be taken for the prevention of current infectious COVID-19 with added momentum.
3. Efforts will be made to recover businesses that faced loss caused by COVID-19 in various ways as quickly as possible.
4. Emphasis will be placed on restoring eternal peace in the entire nation in line with agreements from the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) as much as possible.
5. When missions will be accomplished in accord with provisions of the state of emergency, a free and fair multiparty democracy election will be held in accordance with the Constitution (2008), and further tasks will be undertaken to hand over State duty to the winning party meeting the standards of democracy.

## Announcement of Union Election Commission

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33	Chitgawt Village-tract	3	650	335	315	315		
34	Pheemaw Village-tract	1	650	507	143	143		
35	Loutnatgyan Village-tract	2	550	324	226	226		
36	Htandone Village-tract	1	450	279	171	171		
37	Langawkhaw Village-tract	1	350	230	120	120		
38	Kannphan Village-tract	1	800	569	231	231		

39	Sardulaw Village-tract	1	350	273	77	77		
40	Ngwarphakhar Village-tract	1	250	170	80	80		
	Ward/village-tract total	47	14,250	9,964	4,286	4,305		19
	Township Remaining ballots		1,089	236	853	828	25	
	Township Total	47	15,339	10,200	5,139	5,133	25	19

### Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Tanai Township

9. According to the inspection, a total of 23 polling stations in 8 village-tracts in 11 Wards of Tanai Township in Kachin State took out 34,900 ballots and used 21,915 ballots. It left 13,003 ballots instead of 12,985 ballots. The shortage/extra ballots were found at respective polling stations. Findings were as follows:

Sr	Subject	Withdrawal	Used	Exact remaining	Remaining on the Ground	Difference	
						Missing	Extra
1	Ward/Village-tract ballots	34,900	21,915	12,985	13,003	13	31
2	Township Remaining ballots	3,883	908	2,975	2,975		
Total		38,783	22,823	15,960	15,978	13	31

10. It found 13 missing ballots and 31 extra ballots at 23 polling stations in 8 village-tracts in 11 wards of Tanai Township. The township remaining ballot was 2,975 and it found just 2,975 ballots in inspection, and so the remaining and findings are in conformity.

11. Findings were as follows:

Sr	Ward/village-tract	Total Polling station	Withdrawal	Used	Exact Remaining	Remaining on the ground	Difference	
							Missing	Extra
1	Monedaneakaung Ward	1	1,650	1,008	642	642		
2	Swutngaing Ward	1	3,400	1,898	1,502	1,502		
3	Huukaung Ward	1	2,200	1,410	790	792		2
4	Kinsar Ward	2	3,800	2,183	1,617	1,621		4
5	Dukaung Ward	1	2,950	1,862	1,088	1,092		4
6	Naunglonkaungra Village-tract	1	1,050	630	420	424		4
7	Nanphyatyan Village-tract	1	900	453	447	447		
8	Teinkaut Village-tract	1	850	571	279	279		
9	Minekhun Village-tract	1	2,250	1,499	751	751		
10	Hsinsartkaung Ward	1	2,450	1,440	1,010	1,016		6
11	Ponekhonkaung Ward	1	2,550	1,713	837	835	2	

12	No 1 Ward, Shinbwayyan Town	1	400	287	113	109	4	
13	No 2 Ward, Shinbwayyan Town	1	800	571	229	229		
14	No 3 Ward, Shinbwayyan Town	1	1,400	907	493	496		3
15	No 4 Ward, Shinbwayyan Town	1	300	228	72	72		
16	Macaw Village-tract	2	3,400	2,264	1,136	1,144		8
17	Shinlonegar Village-tract	1	250	133	117	117		
18	Khalone Village-tract	1	1,300	937	363	363		
19	Tayone Village-tract	3	3,000	1,921	1,079	1,072	7	
	Ward/village-tract total	23	34,900	21,915	12,985	13,003	13	31
	Township Remaining ballots		3,883	908	2,975	2,975		
	Township Total	23	38,783	22,823	15,960	15,978	13	31

Union Election Commission

## Request to Public

1. Democracy practices have granted the public freedom of speech, practices and living. Such freedoms should not harm others. Diverse views of others should be understood, but should not be disturbed or harassed. However, with the reason for human rights, some persons are now under pressured, harassed and threatened in breaching the laws. Undisciplined acts could lead to tarnish the image of democracy.
2. For preventing destructive actions against stability of the state, safety of the public and the rule of law, it is also required to proper actions in line with the law.
3. All the people who favour justice, freedom, equality and safety are requested to oppose breaching the laws and prevent such actions for the benefit of the country and people.



# People pray at religious buildings; market and public services resume operations

PILGRIMS are paying homage at the pagodas and temples across the countries, including at the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon, Maha Muni Pagoda in Mandalay and Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw.

It is also reported that people come and pray at their respective religious buildings peacefully.

Religious temples, buildings, and monuments belonging to the respective religions,

including Buddhist temples and pagodas, were reopened according to the COVID-19 health guidelines since 8 February.

Moreover, markets in cities including Yangon and Mandalay are filled with shoppers and sellers. Banks, hospitals, flights, trains, cruise and buses have resumed operation, and buses in Yangon Region, are running every day for the convenience of the public. — MNA



Maha Patthana sermons chanting ceremony is in progress at the historic Shwemokhtaw Pagoda.

# Tatmadaw provides COVID-19 vaccine to venerable monks



COVID-19 vaccination was carried out to the venerable monks, civil services personnel and local residents in Taunggyi, Kalaw, Hopong, Hsihseng townships in Shan State; Loikaw Township in Kayah State; Nyaungdon, Kyangin, Pantanaw, Kyaiklat, Myaungmya townships in Ayeyawady Region; Aungmyaythazan Township in Mandalay Region;

and Toungoo Township in Bago Region yesterday.

Tatmadaw medical specialists, doctors and nurses, along with civilian doctors and medical staff, have been providing the COVID-19 vaccination to people over 65, civil service personnel and ethnic nationalities including venerable monks in respective military commands. — MNA

A senior monk is receiving COVID-19 vaccine jab at the military command.

# 28<sup>th</sup> Myanmar military medical conference held for second day

The second day of the 28<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Military Medical Conference was held at the No (2) Military Orthopedic Hospital (500 bedded) in Mingalardon and No (2) Military Hospital (1,000 bedded) in Nay Pyi Taw through video conferencing yesterday.

Chairman of the Tatmadaw Medical Research and Development Committee, Director of Medical Services Brig-Gen Ko Ko Lwin, Senior Military Officials, medical specialists, international medical experts, invitees and interested persons attended the conference. A total of 453 military workers from other Tatmadaw hospitals and medical corps also joined the conference via the internet from 140 places.

At the conference yesterday, "COVID-19 Pandemic-Lessons learnt", "Clinical Session"

as the conference's major symposium. "CKD: Nutritional Management", "Gastrointestinal Bleeding Update", "Role of Progesterone in Women's Life", "Beyond Competence: Providing Excellence in Anaesthesia", "Changing Concept in Management of Fragility Hip Fracture", "Sepsis in Children: Dealing with Challenges", "Laparoscopic Urology", "Building Shared Vision in Myanmar Military Practice", 3 Special Talks were discussed in 4 Auditoriums.

Also, a total of 46 research papers on Pathology, Child Health Education, Nursing, Physical Medicine, Orthopaedics, Pharmacology, Legal Medicine, Microbiology, Medicine, Dentistry, Anatomy, Biology and Surgery were discussed.

The conference will be continued on 7 April. — MNA

# Pearl and gems emporium continues sixth day in Nay Pyi Taw

THE sixth day of sales of pearl and gems in Myanmar Kyats continued yesterday morning at Mani Yadanar Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw following the COVID-19 health guidelines.

In the morning, it was announced that 326 lots of jade from 1 to 450 lots were sold for K392,269,7311 on the fifth day of the emporium.

At the emporium yesterday, from Jade lots number (451) to the number (900) were auctioned by an open tender system. The gem merchants placed their proposed prices in the tender boxes by 11 am after inspecting the jade lots displayed in the Jade Hall.

The responsible persons will check the bidding prices, and the jade lots that are sold will



An auction is in progress at the pearl and gems emporium on 6 April 2021.

be announced at 8 am on 7 April.

It is reported that the jade lots number (901) to (2148) will be sold by an open tender system which will be closed at 11 am,

and the sold jade lots numbers will be announced at 8 am on the next day.

The auction will continue till 10 April. — MNA



# Create smooth transport of passengers and commodities

**E**LECTRIFICATION and smooth transport are crucial for the improvement of social life for the people. Being a developing country, Myanmar enjoys smooth transportation thanks to governments in successive eras despite trying to electrify the whole country.

As every government emphasized fulfilment of transport facilities to the people, they repaired disconnection of transport caused by natural disasters and wars, without delay. Myanmar faced disconnection of transportation for a long time due to the outbreak of Covid-19 and disturbances of humans.

Hence, it is necessary to deeply recognize the efforts of Myanmar Railways' officials and staff to ensure secure and smooth transport for the people and swift flow of commodity.

Transport is not mainly beneficial to the government but to the people. Those people embrace transport difficulties for one year because of Covid-19 and encounter similar problems for one more month. Whatever it may be, the government operates main sectors focusing on public interests. Except for road transport, aviation transport was affected by Covid-19 while some waterway transport services were suspended due to destructionists. Rail transportation came into suspension for a long time because of CDM activities. Currently, all of the transport sectors have resumed their services, especially rail transportation which basically gives transport services to the people.

Only when secure and smooth transport can be operated will the people conveniently do daily socio-economic matters, contributing to the development of the State. Despite gaining lesser benefit, rail transportation serves for convenience of the people.

Although six passenger trains were operated to run 12 times a day along with the Yangon circular and suburban railways during the Covid-19 period, the State Administration Council managed the running of 243 trains till 7 February. But an unknown crowd imposed threats and coercion on staff on duty at the central tower of Yangon railway station on 8 February to join the CDM movement. So, all functions of work sections were suspended and running of trains halted.

As of 13 February, rioters, CDM staff, staff families, outsiders and organizations disturbed the running of trains. But, trains can be operated as usual thanks to security measures taken by the Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Force.

Hence, it is necessary to deeply recognize the efforts of Myanmar Railways' officials and staff to ensure secure and smooth transport for the people and swift flow of commodity.

# COVID-19 lays bare social inequality says UN chief, as COVAX doses top 36 million

COVAX, a World Health Organization-led initiative aimed at ensuring equal access to COVID-19 vaccines by various countries, has so far shipped more than 36 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to 86 countries: UN

**T**HE COVID crisis "has revealed how unequal our societies are" said the UN chief in his message for World Health Day released on Monday.

Highlighting the inequalities and injustices that have been apparent throughout the pandemic, Secretary-General António Guterres said in his message for the day to be marked on Wednesday, that the vast majority of vaccine doses administered so far, have been confined to "a few wealthy countries" or those producing the shots cleared for distribution.

"Within countries, illness and death from COVID-19 has been higher among people and communities that contend with poverty, unfavourable living and working conditions, discrimination and social exclusion", said Mr. Guterres. **Countries forced to 'watch and wait'**

Thanks to the COVAX initiative, the UN backed international effort to provide equitable

vaccines across the world, more countries are receiving doses, "but most people in low and middle income countries still must watch and wait", the UN chief added.

"Such inequities are immoral, and they are dangerous for our health, our economies and our societies."

### 86 countries reached

To date, COVAX has shipped more than 36 million doses to 86 countries, the UN Spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric told correspondents at UN Headquarters on Monday.

Algeria received more than 36,000 doses over the weekend from COVAX, he said, helping to accelerate the vaccination campaign already underway there.

"The UN Resident Coordinator, Eric Overvest, said the new doses will help ensure that no one is left behind", Mr Dujarric added. "Our teams on the ground have helped to train healthcare work-



Workers transfer boxes of COVID-19 vaccines from the vaccine-sharing COVAX initiative at Abidjan International Airport in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, Feb. 26, 2021. PHOTO: YVAN SONH/XINHUA

ers, sensitize people on vaccines, and supported the cold chain.

And in Laos, the country has

vaccinated more than 4,000, including frontline healthcare workers, with doses received from CO-

VAX, Mr. Dujarric told reporters.

The UN team, led by the Resident Coordinator Sara Sek-

kenes Tollefsen, is supporting the country's vaccination campaign, which began on Friday.

### More than 130 million cases

As of 5 April, the World Health Organization (WHO) is reporting that there have been nearly 131,021,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including more than 2,850,520 deaths.

Up to the end of 31 March, there had been 547,727,346 vaccine doses administered worldwide.

### Vaccines for all

"As we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, we must implement policies and allocate resources so all can enjoy the same health outcomes", said Mr. Guterres.

That will involve reaching the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, he added, "and it means delivering universal health coverage so everyone, everywhere, can thrive."

SOURCE: UN News

# Rise of the 'robo-plants', as scientists fuse nature with tech

**A** team of scientists led by Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) has developed a device that can deliver electrical signals to and from plants, opening the door to new technologies that make use of plants. Scientists have known for decades that plants emit electrical signals to sense and respond to their environment. The NTU research team believe that developing the ability to measure the electrical signals of plants could create opportunities for a range of useful applications, such as plant-based robots that can help to pick up fragile objects, or to help enhance food security by detecting diseases in crops early.

Remote-controlled Venus flytrap "robo-plants" and crops that tell farmers when they are hit by disease could become reality

after scientists developed a high-tech system for communicating with vegetation.

Researchers in Singapore linked up plants to electrodes capable of monitoring the weak

electrical pulses naturally emitted by the greenery.

The scientists used the technology to trigger a Venus flytrap to snap its jaws shut at the push of a button on a smartphone app.



Researchers in Singapore linked up plants to electrodes, using the technology to trigger a Venus flytrap to snap its jaws shut at the push of a button on a smartphone app. PHOTO: AFP

They then attached one of its jaws to a robotic arm and got the contraption to pick up a piece of wire half a millimetre thick, and catch a small falling object.

The technology is in its early stages, but researchers believe it could eventually be used to build advanced "plant-based robots" that can pick up a host of fragile objects which are too delicate for rigid, robotic arms.

"These kinds of nature robots can be interfaced with other artificial robots (to make) hybrid systems," Chen Xiaodong, the lead author of a study on the research at Nanyang Technological University (NTU), told AFP.

There are still challenges to be overcome. Scientists can stimulate the flytrap's jaws to slam shut but can't yet reopen them - a process that takes 10 or more hours to happen naturally.

### Crop defence

The system can also pick up signals emitted by plants, raising the possibility that farmers will be able to detect problems with their crops at an early stage.

"By monitoring the plants' electrical signals, we may be able to detect possible distress signals and abnormalities," said Chen. "Farmers may find out when a disease is in progress, even before full-blown symptoms appear on the crops."

Researchers believe such technology could be particularly useful as crops face increasing threats from climate change.

Scientists have long known that plants emit very weak electrical signals but their uneven and waxy surfaces makes it difficult to effectively mount sensors.

The NTU researchers developed film-like, soft electrodes

that fit tightly to the plant's surface and can detect signals more accurately.

They are attached using a "thermogel", which is liquid at low temperatures but turns into a gel at room temperature.

They are the latest to conduct research communicating with plants.

In 2016, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology team turned spinach leaves into sensors that can send an email alert to scientists when they detect explosive materials in groundwater.

The team embedded carbon nanotubes that emit a signal when plant roots detect nitroaromatics - compounds often found in explosives. The signal is then read by an infrared camera that sends out a message to the scientists.

SOURCE: AFP

## Newspapers to be published alternately for Myanmar New Year holidays

THE News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information announced that daily newspapers would be published in turns during the Myanmar New Year holidays.

While the Mirror and the Global New Light of Myanmar newspapers will be published on 13, 14 and 15 April, and the Myanma Alinn will temporarily cease publishing operations during this period.

While the Myanma Alinn newspapers will resume operations on 16, 17, 18 and 19 April, the Mirror and the Global New Light of Myanmar will temporarily cease operations on those days.

Similarly, the Shwe Pyi Rakhine Ponyeik sector from Sub-Printing House (Sittway) will temporarily cease printing on 14 April, the extra pages in Shan ethnic language from the Sub-Printing House (Taunggyi) will temporarily cease printing operations on 15 April, the extra pages in ethnic languages from the Sub-Printing House (Mawlamyine) will temporarily cease printing operations on 18 April. They will resume normal production after the Myanmar New Year holidays.

Advertisements will be received at the newspaper offices, which will remain open during these holidays. All newspapers will resume normal production starting 20 April. — News and Periodicals Enterprise

**Myanmar Daily Weather Report**  
(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 6 April 2021)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Weather is partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and a few cloud elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 7 April 2021:** Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region and Shan(South and East), Kayah, Kayin, Mon States and scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (5-8) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of continuation of scattered rain or thundershowers in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin, Mon States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 April 2021:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 April 2021:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 April 2021:** Partly cloudy to cloudy.

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## Myanmar export value exceeds \$1,600 mln in Jan this FY

MYANMAR average export value for January in the 2020-2021 financial year reached US\$824.38 million, and border export value reached \$811.15 million, with total export value coming at \$1,635.53 million as a result.

Meanwhile, standard import value for the same period reached \$1,581.94 million, and border import reached \$399.68 million, reaching a total of \$1,981.62 million.

As a result, Myanmar total trade value for Janu-

ary 2020-2021FY reached \$3,617.15 million, creating a trade deficit of \$346.09 million. From October to January of the current 2020-2021FY, Myanmar normal export value generated \$2,978.58 million, and border export reached \$2,681.65 million,

totalling \$5,660.23 million.

The average import value for the same period reached \$4,721.97 million, and border import reached \$1,167.60 million, totally bringing \$5,889.57 million.

Consequently, the total

trade value of Myanmar for October to January of 2020-2021FY reached \$11,549.80 million, generating a trade deficit of \$229.34 million, according to the monthly trade report by the Central Statistical Organization. — MNA/GNLM

## Military tribunal takes legal action against arsonists at Winco Bag factory, Hlinethaya



Winco Bag factory under arson fire.



Zaw Lwin was arrested for arson.

As Zaw Lwin was on the run, an arrest warrant was issued for him under Section 87 and 88 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The Martial Law was declared on 14 and 15 March in Hlinethaya Township, Shwepyitha Township, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township and North Okkalapa Township in Yangon Region due to several arson attacks to the factories, schools and ward administration offices as well as terrorist acts.

It is reported that 23 types of crimes to be tried by the military tribunals in the townships where the Martial Law was declared, and legal actions will be taken effectively and rapidly if one commits these crimes. — MNA

A military tribunal was set up to investigate the arson attack at the Winco Bag factory at around

2 pm on 16 March. Two suspects were sentenced to 20 years in prison with labour under Section

436 of the Penal Code on 5 April. The suspects named Zaw Lwin and Zaw Lin were detained

during the riot that happened in Hlinethaya (East) Township, Yangon Region.

## State-owned buildings burnt down in Pinlebu, Sagaing region

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Police Force statement, rioters attacked and burnt four state-owned buildings in Pinlebu town, Sagaing Region.

A group of 70 rioters attacked the township police station with guns, slingshots and fire bottles at about 1 pm on April 5. The crowd was dispersed at around 3 pm by the security forces.

Similarly, 200 rioters attacked the township court in the

evening at around 5:30 with hand-made guns and fire bottles.

While the security forces were dispersing the crowd, the township administration office was attacked by fire which was also spread to the township court and former township commission office at around 7 pm.

Security forces and members of the fire brigade extinguished the fire at about 8:45 pm. The township development

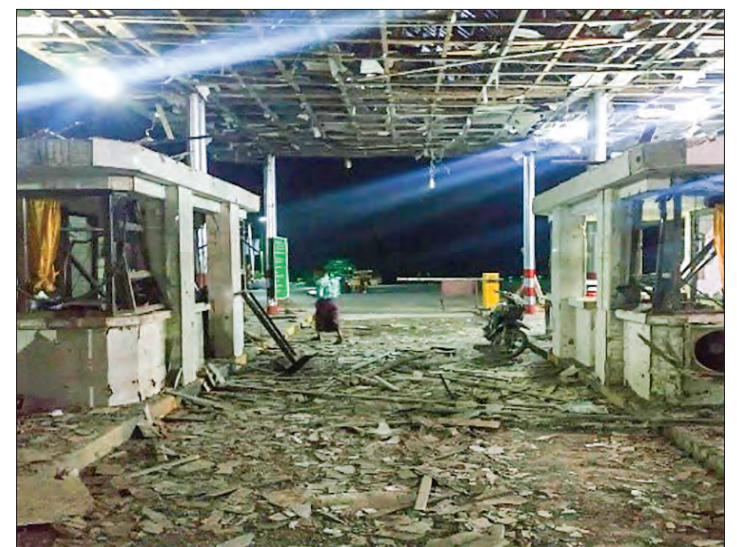
office inside the township administration office was also destroyed by fire through the remains of the buildings ravaged by fire yesterday morning at around 4 am.

It is reported that security forces are investigating to take effective actions under the law against those who committed the arson attack to the state-owned buildings, and more security forces will be deployed to prevent similar incidents. — MNA



Pieces of used weapons.

## Kyaukme toll gate mined, 3 men injured



A toll gate in Kyaukme was ravaged after a mine attack by two terrorists.

THE Asia World toll gate in Kyaukme township, Shan State was mined by two terrorists, which reportedly left three men injured and one motorbike destroyed.

According to the statement of the Myanmar Police Force, two men riding a motorbike arrived at the toll gate near Panpaung village on Mandalay-Lashio road and threw

a mine. Due to the mine explosion, three men who were on duty at the toll gate were injured and one motorbike and the toll gate building were affected.

It is reported that security forces are investigating the case to take legal action effectively against those who threatened the lives of the people. — MNA







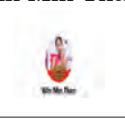











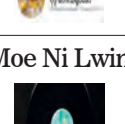

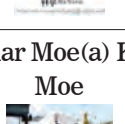





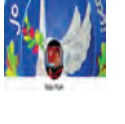






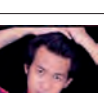


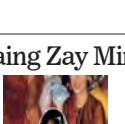





# Those spreading news to affect State stability charged under Section 505-A

The following celebrities and people have been charged under Section 505-A of the Penal Code for intentionally committing incitements to the government employees to join CDM to affect government mechanism and for spreading information showing

their support for unlawful CRPH including fake news and other information to unrest riots and threaten the public on the social media.—MNA

The list of people charged under Section 505-A of the Penal Code

Sr	Account name	Profile	Address	Section of Penal Code	Photo
1	Athen Cho Swe <a href="https://www.facebook.com/At henChoSwe93">https://www.facebook.com/At henChoSwe93</a>	Athen Cho Swe 	Pabedan Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
2	Mya Hnin Yee Lwin (Einge) <a href="https://www.facebook.com/myahnin.lwin">https://www.facebook.com/myahnin.lwin</a>	Mya Hnin Yee Lwin 	Kungyangone Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
3	Chit Thu Wai <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ChitThuWai.Trezilian">https://www.facebook.com/ChitThuWai.Trezilian</a>	Chit Thu Wai 	Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
4	Win Min Than <a href="https://www.facebook.com/wimminthan">https://www.facebook.com/wimminthan</a>	Win Min Than 	South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
5	Acid10Gaming <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Phyoaung007">https://www.facebook.com/Phyoaung007</a>	Phyo Aung 	Sangyoung Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
6	Ser Mal <a href="https://www.facebook.com/sermalmm">https://www.facebook.com/sermalmm</a>	San Lin 	Hline Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
7	My Khayee <a href="https://www.facebook.com/mykhayee">https://www.facebook.com/mykhayee</a>	Khin Myat Myat Naing 	Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
8	Ei Thinzar Maung <a href="https://www.facebook.com/etzm.dpns/">https://www.facebook.com/etzm.dpns/</a>	Ei Thinzar Maung 	Pabedan Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
9	Po Po <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pofunnypopo/">https://www.facebook.com/pofunnypopo/</a>	Hein Min 	Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
10	Moe Ni Lwin <a href="https://www.facebook.com/moenilwin">https://www.facebook.com/moenilwin</a>	Moe Ni Lwin 	Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
11	Melvin Moe <a href="https://www.facebook.com/melvin.moe.52">https://www.facebook.com/melvin.moe.52</a>	Thar Moe(a) Ko Moe 	Singapore	505-a	

Sr	Account name	Profile	Address	Section of Penal Code	Photo
12	Phoo Kyaw Zin <a href="https://www.facebook.com/phookyawzin.fw">https://www.facebook.com/phookyawzin.fw</a>	Phoo Kyaw Zin 	No. 32, Room 4 (B), South Horse Race Court Street, Tamway Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
13	Nilar Htaik <a href="https://www.facebook.com/nilar.htaik.7">https://www.facebook.com/nilar.htaik.7</a>	Nilar Htaik 	29 Ward, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
14	Nandar Chaw <a href="https://www.facebook.com/nandar.chaw.10">https://www.facebook.com/nandar.chaw.10</a>	Nandar Chaw 	Shwebimahn Store, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
15	Aung Kyaw San <a href="https://www.facebook.com/aungkyawsan72">https://www.facebook.com/aungkyawsan72</a>	Aung Kyaw San 	No. 275, Third Floor, Kanbawza Towel, Sangyoung Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
16	Anawar Hein <a href="https://www.facebook.com/kohein447">https://www.facebook.com/kohein447</a>	Zwe Yint Htoo 	Bayintnaung Road, Kankaw 1 Street, Insein Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
17	Thant Htike <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ko.htike.31">https://www.facebook.com/ko.htike.31</a>	Thant Zin Htike 	No. 344, Banyardala Street, Kyaukmyaung Township, Yangon Region	505-a	
18	Naing Zay Min <a href="https://www.facebook.com/naing.zay.52">https://www.facebook.com/naing.zay.52</a>	Naing Zay Min 	Pobba Thiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area	505-a	
19	Kyaw Ko <a href="https://www.facebook.com/kyaw.ko.39545464">https://www.facebook.com/kyaw.ko.39545464</a>	Dr Kyaw Ko Ko Hein 	Meza Township, Sagaing Region	505-a	
20	Zarmani Pagan <a href="https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100011972448488">https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100011972448488</a>	Nay Thu Win 	Oattara Thiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area	505-a	

Action will be taken against those who will admit the offenders, and list of remaining offenders will be released.

## 11 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 6 April, total figure rises to 142,541

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **142,541** after **11 new cases** were reported on 6 April 2021 according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these confirmed cases, **131,829** have been discharged from hospitals.—MNA



## Rubber growers rejoicing as price rises despite lower production

THE rubber farm owners and tappers from Kawkareik township in Kayin State are delighted with rubber's hiking price despite lower production caused by poor weather condition this year.

Last year, the sun-dried raw rubber market price was K550 per pound, while the sun-dried rubber was sold for K400 per pound. However, the prevailing price of sun-dried natural rubber hit K830 per pound while the sun-dried rubber fetched K600 per pound. The rest of the rubber cups are priced at K350 per pound as last year, said a rubber farm owner from Ta Dan Ku village, Kawkareik.

Three weeks ago, at least 10 acres of rubber farmland produced about 40 pounds of rubber latex. At present, the workers are tapping the rubber for three days and get one day off because of heavy rain these days. Therefore, it can produce only 25 pounds



Rubber is primarily produced in Mon and Kayin states and Taninthayi, Bago, and Yangon regions in Myanmar.

of rubber latex. The raw rubber latex sheets are dried for nearly one month. But, there is some difficulty in drying the rubber sheet under the sun because of the heavy rains these days, said

a rubber tapper from Ta Dan Ku village of Kawkareik.

Last year, the rubber growers from the villages near Kawkareik town came and sold about 20,000 pounds of rubber daily. But,

they could sell only 10,000 pounds of rubber because of rubber latex's lower production in those villages this year. Those rubbers are sent to the Mandalay region through Kawkareik town, said an

official from Kawkareik Rubber Depot explained.

Rubber is primarily produced in Mon and Kayin states and Taninthayi, Bago, and Yangon regions in Myanmar. According to the 2018-2019 rubber season's data, Myanmar planted over 1.628 million acres of rubber, with Mon State accounting for 497,153 acres, followed by Taninthayi Region 348,344 acres and Kayin State with 270,760 acres.

About 300,000 tonnes of rubber is produced annually across the country. Seventy per cent of rubber made in Myanmar goes to China. It is also shipped to Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Viet Nam, the Republic of Korea, India, Japan, and other countries, according to the MRPPA.

Myanmar has exported about 200,000 tonnes of rubber worth around US\$240 million in the last FY2019-2020. — Saw Aung Myo Lwin (IPRD)/GNLM

## Muse border trade nearly comes to suspension due to COVID-19

MUSE border trade comes to the verge of standstill following the detection of the coronavirus case in the border market, said U Min Thein, vice-chair of Muse Rice Wholesale Centre.

On 29 March, one Myanmar citizen tested positive for COVID-19 was found in Kyalgaung precious stone market, prompting China to restrict border access at the Man Wein checkpoint, which is a major border crossing between Muse and Kyalgaung areas.

"Man Wein post has been closed down since 12:30 pm of 30 March. Man Wein is the important cross-border point between Myanmar and Ruili, China. Following the detection of coronavirus case in Kyalgaung border, the Ruili-Kyalgaung river

crossing is also closed. The coronavirus tests and vaccination are now offered in Kyalgaung", U Min Thein elaborated.

Furthermore, China imposed the lockdowns on Kyalgaung and Ruili cities between 1 and 7 April, Muse Rice Wholesale Centre stated.

Consequently, there is no trade flowing in and out of the country via the Muse border, and the Muse border nearly comes to a halt. However, Kyinsankyawt and Wan Ding posts give the green light to over 400 watermelon trucks.

"Around 400 trucks of watermelon and muskmelon daily enter China via Kyinsankyawt and Wan Ding posts. They do not need to pass the Man Wein checkpoint for Ruili. The water-

melon trucks are the exception. To summarize, rice, broken rice, sugar, corn, fishery products, and other consumer goods cannot be traded for now," U Min Thein stressed. Since early March, Muse border trade has returned to normal, with a thousand trucks daily plying to and from Muse border.

Myanmar is daily shipping rice, broken rice, green grams, peanuts, various pulses and beans, onion, chilli, fishery products, consumer goods, watermelon and muskmelon to China with over 700 trucks through the land border. Meanwhile, building materials, electric appliances, medical devices, consumer goods, and fertilizer are imported daily with 200 trucks. — NN/GNLM



Myanmar is daily shipping rice, broken rice, green grams, peanuts, various pulses and beans, onion, chilli, fishery products, consumer goods, watermelon and muskmelon to China with over 700 trucks through the land border.

## Lima bean price drops due to immense supply into Pakokku market



Last year, the lima bean was priced at K15,000 per basket. One basket of lima bean contains 19 visses. According to the lima bean growers, the lima bean price dropped by K1,000 per basket this year compared to that of last year.

THE lima bean price is declining as about 40,000 visses from Yesagyo Township are entering the Pakokku market in the Magway region daily, said U Bo Gyi Naing, the Nilar brokerage owner.

"The lima bean plants are grown in the villages at the confluence of Ayeyawady River and Chindwin River and the villages beside the riverbank in Yesagyo township. The lima beans need to be cultivated in time. The soil near the river could be successful for the cultivation of any kind of bean species," said U Pho Kyaw, a bean grower from Balaba village in Yesagyo township.

The lima beans are grown chiefly in many villages such as

Balaba, Kwat Daung, Zayama, Kyaw Htin Gone and Kyu villages. The harvested lima beans are sold at Pakokku brokerage for K14,000 per basket. But, the price of the lima bean has dropped this year compared to that of last year. The lima bean is less consumed in the country and is mainly exported to India, China and European countries.

Last year, the lima bean was priced at K15,000 per basket. One basket of lima bean contains 19 visses. According to the lima bean growers, the lima bean price dropped by K1,000 per basket this year compared to that of last year. — Ko Htein (KPD)/GNLM



## US services activity surges in March as prices rise: survey

ACTIVITY in the US services sector hit an all-time high in March, but the sudden surge in business stretched supply chains and lifted prices, a report said Monday.

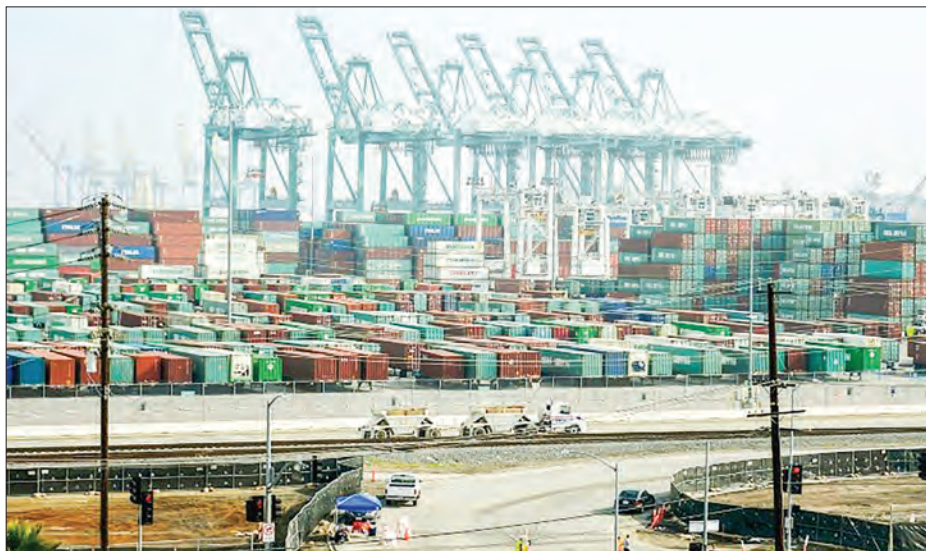
The Institute for Supply Management's purchasing managers index hit 63.7, up from 55.3 the prior month, according to a statement. That reading tops the prior record in October 2018.

Both the business activity and new orders benchmarks hit records in March, while employment activity rose for the third straight month.

The report comes on the heels of last week's blowout US jobs report for March, as well as an ISM survey in the manufacturing industry that also showed higher prices as activity rebounded.

"Optimism in higher education that Fall 2021 will be near normal with vaccinated students, employees and staff returning to their roles on campus," an official in educational services told ISM.

"Business is picking up as mandated restrictions seem to be easing and spring is right around the corner," said an official



Services industry activity hit an all-time high in March, but logistical problems at US ports and elsewhere in the supply chain pose risks to the recovery, a report said. PHOTO: AFP

in the real estate, rental & leasing industry.

But the report was not without some warn-

ing signs.

Some companies told

the ISM they were experiencing increased logistical problems and labor shortfalls that could crimp the recovery.

The report also said prices "increased in March and at a faster rate." All 18 sectors surveyed experienced higher prices.

A construction sector official said the industry was faced with building material shortages, shipping delays at West Coast ports and a lack of supplies due to the Texas electricity crisis that curtailed petrochemical plant output. —AFP ■

## Asian markets mixed after recent rally but outlook rosy



Asian investors struggled to extend the rally in global markets on Tuesday (April 6). PHOTO: AFP

ASIAN investors struggled to extend the rally in global markets Tuesday, with a second straight day of records on Wall Street unable to inspire further gains, though analysts re-

main confident of further advances this year as the world economy reopens.

The S&P 500 and Dow scaled new heights, while the Nasdaq also saw big gains, after data Friday

showed far more US jobs than expected were created last month, reinforcing the view of a strong recovery.

And the good news kept coming on Monday with figures showing activity in the crucial services sector hit an all-time high in March as orders surged thanks to a jolt of pent-up demand. That came after a gauge of manufacturing came in at a 37-year high last week.

Markets strategist Louis Navellier said the next few weeks could see more gains for equities.

"The primary reason

that April is a seasonally strong month is due to new pension funding," he said in a note. "The other reason is that the better weather in April lifts investor sentiment, and this year buoyant sentiment is likely to be boosted by a strong earnings season against a weaker quarter a year ago.

"Second-quarter earnings growth is likely to be more pronounced, offering the prospect of a longer rally in stocks."

However, Asia was unable to keep the momentum from New York, with a mixed picture in early trade. —AFP ■

## Air France gets EU green light for €4 billion aid

THE EU approved a plan Tuesday by the French government to inject up to four billion euros into Air France, hit by a collapse in passenger traffic during the pandemic.

The agreement, worth \$4.7 billion, follows weeks of negotiations with the EU commission, which must ensure that state aid does not give companies an unfair advantage.

In return for the green light, the commission, which is the EU's anti-trust regulator, said Air France would relinquish

about 18 slots per day at Orly, Paris' second-largest airport after Charles de Gaulle.

"This gives competing carriers the chance to expand their activities at this airport, ensuring fair prices and increased choice for European consumers," EU competition commissioner Margrethe Vestager said.

French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire said the EU had also allowed the French state to raise its stake in the national carrier to 30%, up from the current 14.9%. —AFP ■



The EU approved a plan Tuesday by the French government to inject up to four billion euros into Air France, hit by a collapse in passenger traffic during the pandemic. PHOTO: AFP

## US pushing G20 for global minimum corporate tax: Yellen

THE United States is pushing in the G20 to adopt a global minimum corporate tax to stem the erosion of government revenues, US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said Monday.

Just days after President Joe Biden announced plans to raise corporate taxes to finance a massive \$2 trillion infrastructure and jobs programme, Yellen said a collective international effort would end

the "race to the bottom" on taxation.

Biden expressed outrage at multinationals – like Amazon – that have moved to tax havens or used loopholes and pay little to no tax, far less than some individuals, and said he would put a stop to the practice.

His plan would raise the US corporate tax rate to 28 per cent and the minimum for multinationals to 21 per cent.

He dismissed concerns the higher rate would drive companies overseas, telling reporters on Monday that "there's no evidence of that".

"We're talking about a 28 per cent tax that everybody thought was fair enough for everybody," he said.

"I'm going to push as hard as I can (to) change the circumstances so we can compete with the rest of the world."

Yellen said the practice of seeking tax havens erodes government revenues and undermines an economy's competitiveness.

"Together we can use a global minimum tax to make sure the global economy thrives based on a more level playing field in the taxation of multinational corporations," she said in a speech to The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. —AFP ■

### MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

As the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2021 to 19<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2021 Thingyan Water Festival (New Year Public Holiday), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.



## EU chiefs in rare Turkey visit to revamp relations

THE European Union's top two officials will pay a rare visit on Tuesday to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan aimed at testing his avowed commitment to improve uneasy ties.

Years of disagreements over a growing list of issues threatened to boil over last summer when Turkey sent navy ships to support an energy exploration mission in waters claimed by EU members Cyprus and Greece.

Tensions cooled somewhat when Turkey withdrew the vessels and this year engaged in its first maritime talks with Greece since 2016.

The bloc pulled back from its threat to sanction Turkey as



The election of President Joe Biden saw Erdogan lose a personal friend in Donald Trump. **PHOTO: AFP**

a result.

European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen and European Council president Charles

Michel will now see how Erdogan intends to follow through on his repeatedly stated desire to "turn a new page" in relations.

### Setting of terms

The Turks say they want to move forward from "positive" talks held in a series of calls to "concrete action" -- especially on migration.

But EU officials warn that any improvement depends on how Erdogan -- who was leader when Turkey formally opened talks to join the bloc in 2005 -- acts and whether he remains a constructive partner.

The possible thaw coincides with a toughening on Turkey from the White House, where the election of President Joe Biden saw Erdogan lose a personal friend in Donald Trump. —AFP ■

## UK has 'significant concerns' over Russian activity on Ukraine border

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday said the UK has "significant concerns" over Russian activity in the Crimea and on the Ukrainian border.

In a phone call to Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky, Johnson "reaffirmed his unwavering support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity," his office said in a statement.

He expressed his solidarity with President Zelensky's government "in the face of this destabilizing activity and commended Ukraine's approach to the situation," it added, saying the UK would work to "ensure there is no further escalation."

In a tweet after the call Zelensky thanked Johnson for his support and said the Ukraine was "not alone" and was "supported by the G7 nations," referring to the elite club of advanced economies.

The call between the British and Ukrainian leaders follows messages of solidarity from the US and the European Union after Kiev last week accused Moscow of massing thousands of military personnel on its northern and eastern borders, as well as on the Crimean peninsula annexed by Moscow in 2014.

European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell on Sunday



Ukrainian servicemen earlier this year on the frontline with Russian-backed separatists in Donetsk. **PHOTO: AFP**

pledged the bloc's "unwavering" support for Kiev. US President Joe Biden in his first call with Zelensky affirmed Washington's

support for "Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity in the face of Russia's ongoing aggression".—AFP ■

## US joins talks aimed at salvaging Iran nuclear deal



Iran confirmed in January it was enriching uranium to beyond the threshold set by the 2015 nuclear deal at its Fordow plant. **PHOTO:AFP**

THE United States will on Tuesday join talks in Austria's capital Vienna aimed at salvaging an international agreement on Iran's nuclear programme,

which Washington withdrew from in 2018.

US President Joe Biden has said he is ready to reverse the decision of his predecessor

Donald Trump and return to the 2015 agreement, which was supposed to ensure that Iran never developed a military nuclear programme.

But Iran is demanding an end to crippling sanctions imposed by Trump and has refused to meet US negotiators at the latest talks, meaning European players will act as intermediaries.

Iran confirmed in January it was enriching uranium to 20 per cent purity, well beyond the threshold set by the 2015 deal.

Nevertheless, Ali Vaez of the International Crisis Group, which monitors conflicts, tweeted that the talks represent "an important mark-

er that both U.S. & Iran are serious about breaking the inertia".

Since neither side appears willing to make the first step, experts such as Vaez have suggested the negotiators could make a "gesture-for-gesture" deal to break the deadlock.

### 'Much-needed momentum'

The European Union will preside over talks between current members of the 2015 pact -- Iran, China, France, Germany, Russia and Britain -- set to begin on Tuesday.

The US delegation will meet in a different place with EU negotiators acting as go-betweens.—AFP ■

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Beirut's blast-hit silos must be demolished, experts warn

A section of the grain silos that absorbed much of last year's Beirut port blast must be demolished to avoid collapse, experts warned in a report published Monday.

Swiss company Amann Engineering, which has offered laser scanning assistance to Lebanon since the cataclysmic August 4 explosion, called the most damaged of the disem-boweled silos an "unstable, moving structure."

"Our recommendation is to proceed with the deconstruction of this block," the company said in a report. "As it becomes more obvious the concrete piles have been heavily damaged... new silos will have to be built at a different location," it warned.

Economy minister Raoul Nehme had said in November that Lebanon will demolish its largest grain store over public safety concerns, but authorities have yet to take action.

—AFP ■

### Bangladesh protest turns violent, 3 shot: Police

A protest over police enforcement of coronavirus restrictions in rural Bangladesh turned violent late Monday when a mob of demonstrators attacked a police station, with at least three people shot, police and a doctor said.

The incident took place in the central town of Saltha in Faridpur district, where police said rumours had spread that a man was injured in a police sweep at a market aimed at enforcing health measures to curb the spread of Covid-19, as cases spike nationwide.

Thousands of villagers took to the streets in anger. A group of them hurled bricks at a police station and vandalized government offices in the town, torching an officer's home and two cars belonging to government officials, police said.—AFP ■



## N. Korea says will not go to Olympics over Covid fears

NORTH Korea will not attend this year's Tokyo Olympics because of the coronavirus pandemic, Pyongyang's sports ministry said, blowing the final whistle on Seoul's hopes of using the Games to restart talks with its nuclear-armed neighbour.

The isolated North's participation in the last Winter Games, hosted by the South in Pyeongchang, was a key catalyst in the diplomatic rapprochement of 2018.

Leader Kim Jong Un's sister Kim Yo Jong attended as his envoy in a blaze of publicity, and the South's President Moon Jae-in seized the opportunity to broker talks between Pyongyang and Washington that led to a series of high-profile meetings between Kim and then US president Donald Trump.

But Pyongyang's announcement puts an end to Seoul's hopes



Members of the Nadeshiko Japan soccer team that won the 2011 Women's World Cup start the torch relay from the J-Village sports complex in Fukushima Prefecture on March 25, 2021. PHOTO: KYODO

of using the postponed Tokyo Games, due to begin in July, to kick off a reset in the now deadlocked talks process.

North Korea's Olympic Committee "decided not to participate

in the 32nd Olympic Games in order to protect players from the world public health crisis caused by Covid-19", said the Sports in the DPR Korea website, run by the sports ministry in Pyongyang.

But analysts said other factors may have been at play. The announcement – dated Monday – reported a meeting of the national Olympic committee on March 25. —AFP ■

## Honduran civil groups call for president's resignation over drug trafficking charges



Dozens of civil society organizations in Honduras have demanded that President Juan Orlando Hernandez resign, accusing him of turning the country into a 'narco-state'. PHOTO: AFP

DOZENS of Honduran civil society organizations on Monday demanded the "immediate" resignation of President Juan Orlando Hernandez and main government officials for having turned the country into a "narco-state."

Hernandez's brother was sentenced to life in prison by a New York judge at the end of March for large-scale drug trafficking. During the trial, US prosecutors said the president had been a "co-conspirator" in Tony Hernandez's crimes.

The organization leaders

said they were "filled with indignation" in a statement released to "unconditionally demand... the immediate departure of Juan Orlando Hernandez from the government (and) the replacement of the high military command" that supports him.

They also called for the resignation of the "attorney-general, the president of Congress, the head of the Supreme Court of Justice and the attorney general of the republic," and called to convene a transitional government to carry out the general elections on November 28. —AFP ■

## Minneapolis police chief testifies in George Floyd murder trial

THE head of the Minneapolis Police Department discussed training and de-escalation techniques on the witness stand on Monday at the trial of the former police officer accused of killing George Floyd.

Police chief Medaria Arradondo, 54, fired Derek Chauvin and the three other officers involved in the May 25, 2020 arrest that led to Floyd's death, within days of the incident.

Chauvin, who is white, was seen in a video taken by a bystander kneeling on the neck of



Protesters attend a 'Justice for George Floyd' march in Saint Paul, Minnesota. PHOTO: AFP

a handcuffed Floyd, a 46-year-old black man, for nearly nine minutes.

The video touched off protests against racial injustice and police brutality in the US and

around the world.

Chauvin, 45, has pleaded not guilty to charges of murder and manslaughter.

The first five days of his trial featured emotional testimony from bystanders who witnessed Floyd's arrest and repeatedly urged Chauvin to remove his knee from Floyd's neck. Arradondo was questioned extensively on Monday by prosecutor Steve Schleicher about the training his officers receive in de-escalation techniques designed to prevent the use of force.—AFP ■

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Jordan's Hamzah vows to remain 'loyal' to king: palace

JORDAN'S Prince Hamzah pledged his loyalty to the king Monday, the palace said, as a rift within the royal family that saw the prince placed under house arrest appeared to ease.

"I will remain... faithful to the legacy of my ancestors, walking on their path, loyal to their path and their message and to His Majesty," King Abdullah II, he said in a signed letter, quoted by the palace.

"I will always be ready to help and support His Majesty the King and his Crown Prince," he is quoted as writing.

Abdullah turns to family mediation

Earlier, Abdullah II agreed to enter mediation to heal a rift within the royal family, the palace said, after his half-brother Prince Hamzah was accused of a "wicked" plot and placed under house arrest. —AFP ■

### Arkansas governor vetoes bill banning gender treatment for youths

ARKANSAS governor Asa Hutchinson vetoed controversial legislation Monday that would have banned gender-confirming treatments for transgender youth and has made the state a front in what he called "the cultural war in America."

Hutchinson, a conservative Republican, said the bill represented overreach by the state into the private affairs of transgender children, their parents and doctors.

"If House Bill 1570 becomes law, then we are creating new standards of legislative interference with physicians and parents as they deal with some of the most complex and sensitive matters involving young people," he said.

"They deserve the guiding hand of their parents and the healthcare professionals that their family has chosen." —AFP ■



## Men's FIFA ranking: Myanmar team stands fourth in ASEAN

THE Myanmar men's national football team is currently standing fourth in the ASEAN region and ranked 137<sup>th</sup> in the world with 1,081 points, according to the FIFA rankings released in October 2020.

Thailand moved a point up

while others remain unchanged in the previously released FIFA Rankings.

Team Viet Nam is still standing first in ASEAN with a world ranking of 93<sup>rd</sup> and 1,258 points earned. Meanwhile, Thailand's national football team is placed

second in ASEAN with a FIFA ranking of 110 and 1,178 points. The Philippines squad is third with a world ranking of 124<sup>th</sup> and 1,136 points. Next, Malaysia's national team is fifth in ASEAN and 153<sup>rd</sup> globally, ranking with 1,040 points earned. In the mean-

time, Singapore is next with a FIFA world ranking of 158<sup>th</sup> and 1,020 points.

Indonesia and Cambodia are tied in seventh place in ASEAN with FIFA ranking of 173<sup>rd</sup> and 964 points. Laos is next in eighth with a FIFA world ranking

of 188<sup>th</sup>. Brunei and Timor Leste are in ninth and tenth place, with FIFA ranking of 191<sup>st</sup> and 197.

According to FIFA, Myanmar had the highest FIFA records as 97<sup>th</sup> in April 1996 and lowest as 182<sup>nd</sup> in August 2012. —GNLM ■

## Man City blame coronavirus for £126 million loss

PREMIER League leaders Manchester City blamed a £126 million (\$175 million) net loss last season on a series of factors caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

City's revenue for the year to the end of June 2020 fell 11 percent to £478.4 million, with the Premier League and Champions League finishing after the accounting period.

Delayed income from the postponed fixtures, including broadcast earnings, and player sales will show up in next year's

figures.

"Clearly, the 2019/20 accounts in isolation are not the best representation of the reality of the season with delayed player trading and numerous games being played after 30th June 2020, the revenues from which will be accounted in the 2020/21 period," said City CEO Ferran Soriano. "A better financial picture of the Covid years will be provided at the end of the 2020/21 season, when the two seasons are combined and normalized." —AFP ■



Manchester City's French defender Benjamin Mendy (C) celebrates scoring the opening goal during the English Premier League football match between Leicester City and Manchester City at King Power Stadium in Leicester, central England on 3 April 2021. PHOTO:AFP

## German FA says Loew to remain Germany boss at Euro 2020

JOACHIM Loew will remain Germany coach at Euro 2020 despite last week's latest humiliating defeat, the president of the German FA (DFB) said in an interview on Tuesday.

Loew is under pressure after Germany crashed to a 2-1 home loss to North Macedonia in a World Cup qualifier, four months after a 6-0 drubbing by Spain in the Nations League. The latest defeat was Germany's first loss in World Cup qualifying for 20 years.

Germany have struggled for consistent form since finishing bottom of their group at the 2018 World Cup under Loew, when they were defending champions. The 61-year-old is set to step down after 15 years in charge following the delayed European Championship from June 11-July 11. "The disappointing game (against North Macedonia) has not changed anything with regards to our plans," DFB president Fritz Keller told daily Bild.

"Jogi' Loew and his team will analyze everything and draw the right conclusions to be successful at the European



There have been calls to replace Joachim Loew as head coach of Germany since last week's shock home defeat to North Macedonia. PHOTO:AFP

championships." The defeat left Germany third in their World Cup qualifying group, trailing leaders Armenia by three points and behind North Macedonia on goal difference and led to calls for Loew to be replaced before the Euros.

"It is clear that we need a change -- and not just at some point, but now, in the short term," Felix Magath, who coached Wolfsburg to the 2009 Bundesliga title, said last week. But the DFB insist there is no rush to name Loew's

successor.

"My plan is to propose a successor to the DFB presidium around the time of the European Championship," said Germany team director Oliver Bierhoff, who is in charge of finding the new coach.

Former RB Leipzig sporting director Ralf Rangnick is among the favourites for the job and Bierhoff says he will hold further talks concerning Loew's replacement "in the coming weeks". —AFP ■

## Time for Tuchel to take tough decisions at Chelsea

THOMAS Tuchel's serene start as Chelsea manager came to a crashing halt as lowly West Bromwich Albion became the first visiting side to score five goals at Stamford Bridge in 10 years on Saturday.

Thiago Silva's early red card played a large part in a shocking 5-2 defeat that ended Tuchel's 14-match unbeaten run since replacing the sacked Frank Lampard in January.

The German coach now has to show he can deal with his first taste of adversity with the west London club.

"It's a wake-up call. We will get the right response," said Tuchel.

"It's important we digest it. I did not see it coming, now we have to take our responsibilities - me included - and shake it off.

"We can't, after 15 or 14 matches, lose our head. We can't take away the trust that we have in these players."

His call for calm fell on deaf ears among some of his squad with reports of a training ground clash on Sunday between Antonio Rudiger and

Kepa Arrizabalaga.

A swift response is needed in Wednesday's Champions League quarter-final first leg against Porto in the first of two clashes between the sides in Seville due to coronavirus restrictions on travel between Portugal and England.

Despite the Portuguese giants' heroics in dumping out Juventus in the last 16, anything other than progression to Chelsea's first Champions League semi-final since 2014 will be seen as a huge disappointment. —AFP ■



Thomas Tuchel's 14-match unbeaten start as Chelsea manager came to a stunning end with a 5-2 defeat to West Brom on Saturday. PHOTO:AFP