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Dokhtawady River ecotourism sites to be developed

THE Dokhtawady river-based ecotourism destinations will be created in Mandalay Region, and more tourism promotion plans will be implemented, assistant director U San Yu of Mandalay Region Directorate of Hotels and Tourism said.

Mandalay, the former royal capital with cultural monuments, has rich tourism resources. The related ministry and Mandalay Region Administration Council are jointly carrying out the tourism development activities to explore the destinations.

“Of tourism resources in the region, the creation of ecotour-



ism sites based on the Dokhtawady River will also effectuate the development of the tourism-related businesses beyond tourism promotion. The tourism sector relies more on local travellers rather than tourists amid the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. The plan is especially to attract more local residents with innovative eco-friendly tour-

ism models,” he said. Furthermore, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is planning to promote travel packages from Mandalay to adventure tours in PyinOoLwin, train travel in Shan State, Irrawaddy Dolphin tour in Sagaing Region and community-based tourism sites.—Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

161 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 10 June, total figure rises to 144,876

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 144,876 after 161 new cases were reported on 10 June 2021 according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these confirmed cases, 132,690 have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll stands at 3,237 after four died. — MNA

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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.

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.

Tatmadaw aircraft carrying Zaygon Sayadaw, well-wishers crashes while landing at Anisakhan Airport in bad weather

A Tatmadaw aircraft carrying eight members of the Sangha and laypersons, including Zaygon Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kavisara, who will hold the stake-driving ceremony for the construction of Maha Withutayama Zaygon Pariyat-

ti Buddhist Learning Centre in Kyaukphyadoe Village of Thontaung Village-tract in PyinOoLwin Township of Mandalay Region together with eight crew members left Nay Pyi Taw Airport at about 7 am yesterday for Anisakhan Air-

port (PyinOoLwin). At about 8 am, the aircraft, while landing at Anisakhan Airport, was out of connection and crashed at an estimated map reference (KE-334332), about 400 metres southeast of the PyinOoLwin Steel Plant near the airport.

State Ovadacariya Presiding Nayaka of Maha Withutayama Zaygon Pariyatti Buddhist Learning Centre in Pyinmana of Nay Pyi Taw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kavisara Mahathera, aged 95,

vasa 75, passed away in the event at about 8 am on Thursday, 1st Waxing of Nayon, 1383 ME, (10 June 2021). Final rites of the remains will be held on 14 June (Monday). —MNA

State Administration Council's Information Team to hold press conference 6/2021

THE Information Team of the State Administration Council will hold a press conference 6/2021 at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw at 2:00 pm on 12 June. Local and foreign media personnel are invited to the press conference.—MNA

Press conference 6/2021 of Information Team to be broadcast live

THE press conference 6/2021 of the Information Team of the State Administration Council will be broadcast live on MRTV, MITV, MOI Website and MOI YouTube and aired live on Myanmar Radio starting from 2:00 pm on 12 June, at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Information. — MNA

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanmar 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.

The use of electricity can reduce the consumption of domestic fuel and environmental impacts

THE use of electricity can reduce the consumption of domestic fuel and environmental impacts. Electricity is being generated from hydropower and solar power sufficiently. Emphasis must be placed on preventing waste of electricity due to illegal consumption and on the collection of electric bills.

(Excerpt from the speech to the Management Committee meeting made by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 21 May 2021)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No 135/2021
1st Waxing of Nayon 1383 ME
10 June 2021

Appointment and Duty Assignment of Chief Justice of Bago Region High Court

The State Administration Council has appointed and assigned Daw Lwin Lwin Aye Kyaw, Judge of Bago Region High Court, to the duty of the Chief Justice of Bago Region High Court in accordance with Section 419 of the State Constitution.

By Order,
Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No 136/2021
1st Waxing of Nayon 1383 ME
10 June 2021

Appointment and Duty Assignment of Judges of Region High Courts

The State Administration Council has appointed and assigned the following persons as Judges of Region High Courts shown against each of their names in accordance with Section 419 of the State Constitution.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Daw Yin Yin Than | Taninthayi Region High Court |
| 2. U Myint Soe | Bago Region High Court |

By Order,
Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

MoI Union Minister meets National Literary Sarpay Beikman selection committee members, ministry staff



UNION Minister for Information U Chitt Naing met the National Literary and Sarpay Beikman manuscript award Selection Committee members, staff officers, and ministry staff on 9 and 10 June in Yangon Region.

The Union Minister said the literary award should be given only if they (literary) do many things for the sake of the country and people. Giving priority to the country and people is the central policy. He said it should freely consider the literature for awards during the meeting with National Literary and Sarpay Beikman manuscript award Selection Committee members on 9 June.

Then, the Union Minister joined the meeting of MITV. At

the meeting, he appreciated the efforts of MI Channel for its broadcasting services without fail during the COVID-19 pandemic and staff's efforts for serving their duties in the State of Emergency period.

Moreover, the Union Minister met the staff of MRTV (Yangon), Information and Public Relations Department, Printing and Publishing Department and News and Periodicals Enterprise yesterday.

During the meeting, the Union Minister highlighted the goodwill and skills in the relevant operations and the needs to be on standby and departmental cooperation in carrying out the work plans.—MNA

Public request in exposing and arresting terrorists to prevent terror acts in time

THOSE who commit incitement and terrorists in groups brutally kill innocent people without reasons for deteriorating peace and stability of the State and the rule of law, commit bomb attacks at the public areas, including schools and set fire to administrator offices and government departments in order to undermine administrative machinery of the government.

Findings in scrutiny based on events of terror acts, explosions in installing parts of homemade bombs and confessions of arrested exploders showed that terror acts were based on manipulation and participation of the unlawful association's Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH) and the National United Government (NUG), People's Defence Force (PDF) declared as terrorist groups, extremist NLD

members and supporters, and they mobilized the youths with sensitive emotion and gave money to gangsters for committing the terror acts.

Especially, it was found that extremist NLD members, supporters and NLD lobbyists committed incitements on the instigation of CRPH, NUG and PDF terrorist organizations on the social networks again, causing more terror acts such as setting of fire and explosions and brutal killings. Arrangements to brazenly do terror acts and give orders to do so through social networks prove they are terrorists. Some Facebook posts to cause terror acts incited by extremist NLD members, followers and NLD lobbyists were seen on the social network pages as follows:-

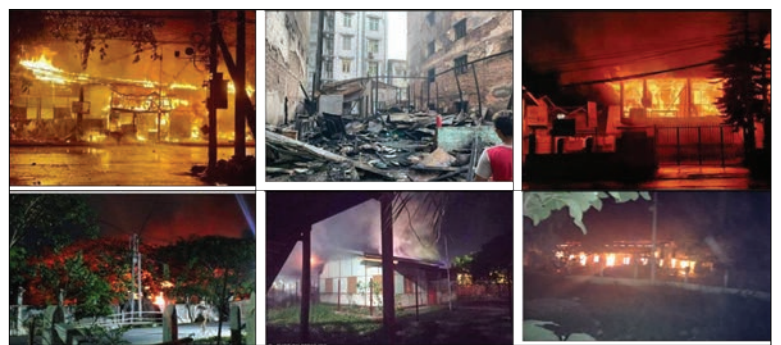
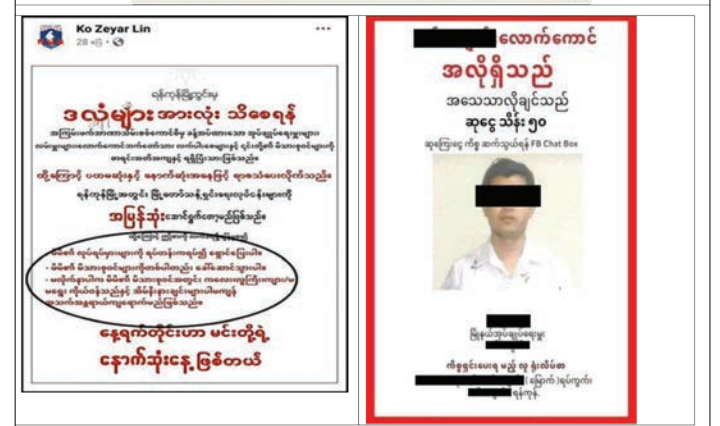
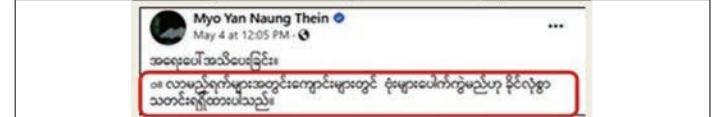
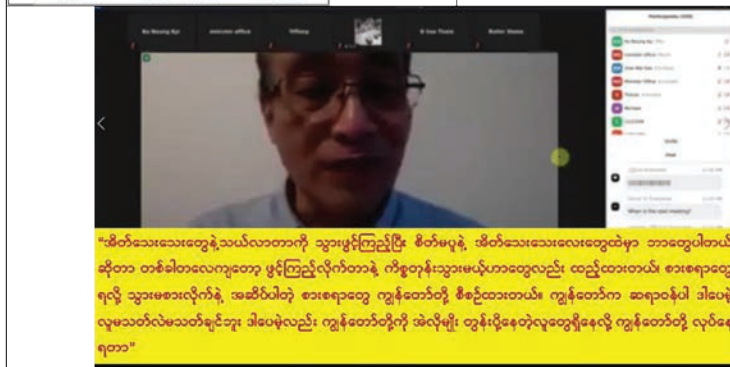
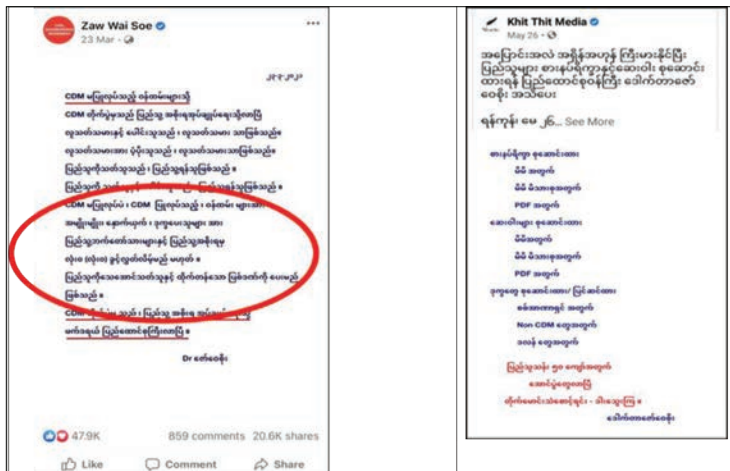
Facebook posts which brazenly incite to cause instability of the State and commit terror acts

Although protests are staged against the government in democratic countries under the democratic practice, protesters do not destroy public property, economic buildings and schools with terror acts. If there are diversities in the essence of democracy, everybody needs to follow the agreements of the majority and emphasize the attitudes of the minority. But, the acts of bullying in groups with cruel killings based on the concept that those who are in diverse attitudes are enemies is the moves against the standards of democracy.

Moreover, bomb attacks on and setting fire to administrator offices and schools, violent attacks on public service personnel including administrators and members of other political parties and brutal killing with crowds are terrorist acts derailed from the democracy.

Especially, intimidation of extremist NLD members, followers and NLD lobbyists not to attend schools intentionally give troubles to the people without desire to turn out the educated persons in the country. Setting fire to schools, forcibly imposing coercion on teachers to join CDM activities, attacking and killing non-CDM teachers and intimidating students are bad acts destroying the future of the State. These terror acts cannot totally be accepted not only in Myanmar but also in the international community.

As such, the government declared Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH) and



the National United Government (NUG), People's Defence Force (PDF) which incite and arrange commitment of terrorist and destructionist acts against the democracy as unlawful associations in accord with Sub-Section (2) of Section 15 and Section 16 of the Unlawful Association Act for their bomb attacks on towns and villages and the terror at-

tacks with the use of homemade mines and bombs and attempts to do so and declared them as terrorist groups on 8 May by exercising the authority mentioned in Sub-Section (e) of Section 6 and Sub-Section (b) of Section 72 of the Counter-Terrorism Law.

Currently, a total of 49 suspects for setting fire and terror acts, 61 suspects of murder, 256

suspects of illegally holding arms and ammunition and 272 suspects of terror and destructive acts were arrested with 50 small arms, 2,502 rounds of assorted ammunition, 914 homemade guns, 5,947 homemade mines and homemade bombs and related equipment according to the information given by dutiful people who wish to live in peace. And, terror acts such

as planting time bombs and attacking with homemade mines and homemade bombs on public property, business buildings and schools could be barred in time. Hence, the people are requested not to contact terror groups, provide any aid to them and timely inform security troops about the moves of terror organizations so as to stop worse terror acts in

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Anti-Terrorism Central Committee Declaration of Terrorist Groups Notification No 2/2021

12th Waning of Tagu 1383 ME
8 May 2021

The Anti-Terrorism Central Committee has issued this order with the approval of the State Administration Council in exercising sub-section (e) of Section 6 and sub-section (b) of Section 72 of the Counter-Terrorism Law.

1. Unlawful Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw-CRPH and National Unity Government-NUG formed by CRPH constantly incited Civil Disobedience Movement-CDM participants to commit violent acts. Many riots occurred in many places of the country due to their incitements. They perpetrated bombing, arson, manslaughter, and intimidation to disrupt the state administrative machinery due to the influence of the leaders of CRPH and NUG. Moreover, NUG established People Defence Force-PDF. Violent acts occurred in the name of regional defence forces instigated by NUG and PDF. It is found that their acts to join CDM, threatening non-CDMs, inciting students and teachers not to go to schools, supporting terrorist acts and perpetrating such terrorist acts violate Section 3 (b) and Sub-section 13 of the Counter-Terrorism Law – acts with the intent to cause fear in public, to force Government or any internal and external organization to do an illegitimate act or to refrain from doing a lawful act, and other acts, stipulated by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No 23 on 4 June 2014.
2. Therefore, unlawful associations – Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw-CRPH, National Unity Government-NUG, People Defence Force-PDF and all their subordinates have been declared as terrorist groups.

Chairman
Anti-Terrorism Central Committee



Human Rights Commission inspects Toungoo prison including prison cells of police stations

A team of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission led by its member U Kyaw Myint inspected the Toungoo prison, 4-mile camp and Myanmar Police Force, and the prison cells of No (1), (2) and (3) Toungoo's police stations, Kyun Kone and Myo Thit police stations on 8 and 9 June.

During the inspection,

the officials met the prisoners and detainees in line with the stipulations of commission in groups. They asked them regarding fundamental rights for prisoners, like their difficulties in prison visits, access to necessities, healthcare services, and any human rights violations in the camp. They also took records by meeting

the inmates individually.

The team also inspected the prison cells, warehouse, buildings, medical ward, canteen, water tanks, visiting rooms and preparations for COVID-19.

The findings will be sent to the relevant departments for further actions.—MNA

Two bombers arrested with arms in Ayadaw, Sagaing Region

TWO bombers were arrested together with one homemade gun and equipment used in terrorist acts, and explosives were confiscated from the house of the former village administrator in Ayadaw township, Sagaing Region.

The bombers were detained by the villagers after they had attacked the house of Daw Htay with a homemade bomb in Sabartwin village, Thalebar village tract, Ayadaw Township, Shwebo District on 9 June. According to the report, security forces went to the village to investigate and arrested the two suspects together with their arms.

The bomb didn't affect any person or building and the two suspects were transferred to the township hospital as they were wounded.

Security forces searched for the house of the former village chief, according to the report, and confiscated two M-67 grenades,



four detonators and one homemade air gun. The village chief and his family escaped by the time the security forces arrived at their house.

On the way back from the village, security forces found 18 homemade mines planted on the road between the Thalebar station hospital and Sintale village,



and had to deactivate them. At the scene, twenty-five fire bottles, pieces of wire and 30 NLD masks were confiscated.

The arrested two suspects

will be taken effective action under the law and those who were involved in the acts of violence will be identified and prosecuted.—MNA

Mobile atmospheric meters to be used in Yangon



WHILE the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) is working to clean the air, soil and water in the city, it is now planning to measure the atmospheric conditions by using mobile atmospheric meters in order to measure more accessibility.

With four atmospheric meters set up in front of the City Hall, Hledan and Mingaladon townships, including the mobile one, gas which can cause respiratory illness for the public, are measured and published annually.

To reduce air pollution in cremation, the committee is installing advanced stoves and air purifiers, according to the Director for the Department of Environmental Conservation and Sanitation under the YCDC.

“Since environmental con-

servation plays a vital role in cities, it is necessary to clean the air, soil and water to maintain a good ecosystem and sustain the environment,” the director said.

As for water treatment, a central treatment plant is planned to collect wastewater from industrial zones that cause water pollution. For sewage, the Thanlyatsun Sewage Treatment Plant is implemented in Botahtaung Township. Wastewater from households is co-produced along a downstream line, and arrangements are made to manage landfills that cause pollution.

According to the YCDC, garbage is sorted and incinerated and buried depending on waste collected from households, hospitals or clinics and industrial zones. — Pwint Thitsar/GNLM

Dancing Girl Ginger plantation earns extra income for farmers

FARMERS living near Mone Creek in Pwintbyu Township of Magway Region use the water from Mone Creek and underground water in growing the Dancing Girl Ginger (Pandain Ngo Pan) on a manageable scale. A cluster of flower fetches K300, and the villagers can make their extra incomes, according to the farmers from Dedaye Village of Pwintbyu Township.

The plants are primarily grown in the subtropical region, and now they are planted in tropical areas as a trial. The plant enjoys moist and cannot grow well in wet areas. They can be grown on red-brown savanna soil, loamy sand and silt. There are also three types of Dancing Girl Ginger. They are also grown

with three or four methods. The distance between each plant is 3 feet and about 5 feet on the sidewalk. The flowers bloom within one year and can be sold in the market.

“As we do not need to worry about water in Pwintbyu Township, we can grow various types of flowers like Kantkaw, Sabai, Rose, Gandhama, among others. We plant Dancing Girl Ginger mostly. It earns K300 per cluster and about K1,500 per bundle. We can get daily income from flower plantation. Therefore, I want other farmers to grow Dancing Girl Ginger,” said a farmer from Dedaye Village.

The water is well available in Pwintbyu Township. Farmers operate the farming industry the



whole year round due to the temperate climate. They grow paddy, peanut, sesame, chick-

pea, sunflower, corn, sugarcane, chilli, onion, various vegetables and flowers. Locals can earn

sufficient incomes as the crops are selling well. —Ye Win Naing (NyaungU)/GNLM

50,000 seedlings to be distributed free of charge in Kayan, Kyauktan, Thanlyin townships



A total of 50,000 seedlings have been planted in nurseries in Thanlyin township, Kyauktan township and Kayan township to grow trees in 2020-2021 rainy season in South Yangon District.

A total of 50,000 seedlings have been planted in nurseries in Thanlyin township, Kyauktan township and Kayan township to grow trees in 2020-2021 rainy season in South Yangon District, according to the Department of Forest in Thanlyin Township.

In the Thanlyin township nursery, 6,000 seedlings of teak; 1,000 ironwood seedlings; 3,500 seedlings of Gum-Kino; 4,000 Mahogany; 1,500 Large Timber; 500 Ceylon ironwood; 5,000 Acacia mangium; 1,000 Star Flower tree; 500 Red San-

dalwood and 2,000 Mahua.

There are 4,000 Teak seedlings; 500 Iron Wood; 3,000 Gum-Kino; 3,000 Mahogany; 4,000 Acacia mangium and 500 Large Timber Tree in the nursery in Kyauktan Township and there are 10,000 seedlings of large trees in Kayan nursery.

The seedlings will be planted in offices, schools, battalions, industries and dams in these three townships during this year's rainy season and they will be distributed free of charge to the volunteer growers. -- Thet Khine/GNLM

Turmeric growers in Kyaukse happy with good price of stock

GROWERS of Kyaukse township in Mandalay Region mainly cultivate paddy and grow other crops such as onion, chili, cotton, banana, turmeric, edible oil crops, and legumes farmlands.

Now, the turmeric price has risen up again, and the local growers are making a handsome profit these days.

The turmeric plants are grown with a boundary that is three feet wide, one and a half feet high. There are two types of turmeric species. Each species should be cultivated 5 inches apart from each other. Turmeric is a crop that grows well in the soil.

So, it needs to be well covered with the land and needed to put in irrigation water to

keep the soil moist.

The turmeric plant starts to thrive after 120 days of cultivation. If the turmeric flowers are sold in the market, the growers will earn K 5000 per acre. After eight months of cultivation, the turmeric is to be dug, and each acre of cultivation produced 3,700 or 4,000 visses of fresh turmeric. If the turmeric is dried, it can have around 800 or 1,000 visses.

The fresh turmeric is priced at K 4,500 per basket while the dried one fetches K 2,400 per viss, said U Htay Oo, a turmeric grower from Kyaukse township.

Turmeric roots are widely used to make medicines. Spice is an essential ingredient in treating arthritis, stomach



Turmeric roots are widely used to make medicines. Spice is an essential ingredient in treating arthritis, stomach ache and diarrhoea.

ache and diarrhoea. Turmeric is used as a principal spice

and as a component in religious ceremonies in Southeast

Asia. — Thet Maung (Kyaukse)/GNLM

Black gram, pigeon peas prices likely to remain high

THE prices of black gram (urad) and pigeon peas (red grams) are expected to remain on the upward trend as they are projected for shipping next month, said exporters.

Following the policy change of India's pulses import, the prices of black gram and pigeon peas have risen in the domestic market. The grams are in high demand at the present time, according to the traders from Mandalay commodity depot.

Strong local demand boosted the price of black gram (urad) to K1,099,000-1,234,000 per tonne on 10 June. Black gram fetched only K880,000 per tonne in April-end. Similarly, the high demand pushed up the price of pigeon peas up to K1,085,000 per tonne on 10 June.

India set an import quota on beans, including black gram and pigeon peas, starting from 2017. Myanmar has to export black bean and pigeon peas under the quota system and limit period. This quota battered the local growers.

In May, India's Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare approved not only black gram but also other pulses being imported from Myanmar that have bill of landing up to October-end 2021, with relaxations of conditions regarding clearance consignment.

India experienced some damages to their farms due to erratic weather, resulting in a yield drop. The demand in India has risen amid the impacts of the global pandemic and the low supply. Consequently, India's

ministry gave the green light to the relaxations of conditions for imports of pulses from Myanmar.

Myanmar's agriculture sector is the backbone of the country's economy, and it contributes to over 30 per cent of Gross Domestic Products. The country primarily cultivates paddy, corn, cotton, sugarcane, various pulses and beans. Its second-largest production is pulses and beans, counting for 33 per cent of agro products and covering 20 per cent of growing acres. Among them, black gram, pigeon peas and green grams constitute 72 per cent of bean acreage. Other beans, including peanut, chickpea, soybean, black-eyed beans, butter bean and rice bran, are also grown in the country. — HH/GNLM



Paddy price remains high, hitting around K650,000 per 100 baskets

THE price of paddy remains high, hitting around K650,000 per 100 baskets (one basket is equivalent to 46 pounds), said U Than Oo, the secretary of Bayintnaung Rice Wholesale Centre.

Currently, the paddy is no longer in the hands of the farmers, and it is stockpiled in the warehouses. The paddy traders are calling for a high price to sell the paddy. Consequently, the price of paddy remains high, he added.

"The price of paddy has mounted mostly in the regional market. Earlier, the paddy was sold directly from the farmland. Now, the paddy is being sent to the warehouse to stockpile. So, the warehouse owners will sell the stored paddy at their calling prices," U Than Oo explained.

Besides, the price of milled paddy to export abroad has risen, but the price of rice has not gone up. Thus, the millers who will buy paddy to mill will not be convenient, he added.

There are only a few companies that buy rice to export. The rice trading has also dropped because the rice traders are not buy-

ing the rice with cash down payment.

The traders could not make trading with cash down payment because the bank could not fully operate in money withdrawal-like previously.

Currently, the price of milled paddy exported abroad hits around K600,000 per 100 baskets while the price of rice for domestic consumption moves in the range of K650,000-700,000 per 100 baskets, Bayintnaung Rice Wholesale Centre reported.

On 23 July, the Committee for Farmers Rights, Protection and Interests Promotion fixed the basic price of paddy at K 520,000 per 100 baskets if the paddy meets the prescribed criteria—14-per-cent moisture content and a fixed percentage of impurities such as sand, weed, and small stones.

In accordance with the Farmers Rights, Protection and Interests Promotion Law, the committee has fixed the basic price of paddy for the local farmers to be able to sell at a fair price and search the market for their produce. — NN/GNLM

Seek property and prestige at second age

EVERYBODY passes three portions of the whole lifespan while struggling in life for ensuring the survival of humanity.

The lifespan of a human can be divided into three portions. Generally, the one-third of lifespan is defined as a term of generation. So, every lifespan will have three terms for generations.

The first age is to study education, knowledge, technique and vocation at a young age. The second age is to seek property and prestige for their lives to enjoy wealth. The third and last term of age is to seek the universal truth of the world

dubbed as the unchangeable Dhamma.

Generally, the second age of human can be identified as the term from 31 to 60 years old. In fact, it is a prime time for the life of humans. Meanwhile, humans can utilize their brightest critical thinking, initiatives, diligence, perseverance, rationality, and physical and mental strengths.

During the period, they can earn income from their businesses or jobs with might and main. They invest their physical strength in working for winning incomes and property at risks. They can apply their critical thinking as manoeuvres in operating jobs as well as businesses day and night to overcome challenges.

Hence, everybody in the second age needs to emphasize earning incomes for themselves as well as for their families. But they need to notice that they should never uphold the greed in doing works. All the work process must be based on a fair manner in associating with partners. It is the best way for them not to derail from the route to victory in their lives.

They should avoid malpractice in jobs without drawing the wool over one's eyes. They must walk along the right way leading to the goal by winning the

trust of others and uplifting prestige and integrity. In contrast, they should try hard to secure the income and the prestige as well for polishing their images along with their lives but should not harm others.

That is why all need to apply the second age of lifespan in the best way so as to bring their best images to the third stage of the lifespan.



People should analyze networks with

Everybody knows a quotation of American author Mark Twain saying that 'a lie can travel halfway around the world

ALL the global people are hungry to taste the information which happens across the world in every second not to be lagged behind the lie. Humans are a kind of living beings who are generally eager to taste the information that is obtained from various sources on a daily basis. They come to the sources of information that can be identified as 'gossiping' even if they cannot receive the information on time.

Today's media sector in Myanmar is on a downtrend due to narrowing the platform of media based on halting the publishing of magazines, journals and newspapers one after another for various reasons. Indeed, the halting of publications is primarily based on the financial crisis.

The narrower the media platform is, the more the readers reach online. They can search for any items of information online. A scholar said the Internet is a great gold pot if one can efficiently use it. It is true.

Nowadays, not only researchers and scholars but the general public, including students, workers, farmers, vendors and so on, are browsing social network pages as well as Facebook pages.

On the other hand, those relying on literature such as writers, poets, journalists, publishers and printers are also facing difficulties of livelihoods because of fading out the opportunities of print media. At the same time, broadcast media, as well as other remaining media, is on a critical way to overcome the challenges for various reasons.

In reviewing the problems, all the media being operated across the world, including Myanmar, primarily need the capital and investment for their production and outcomes. But, most of the online users from Facebook founded by Mark Zuckerberg and his associates do not require the capital in consuming the information from the Facebook pages and posting various statuses of information such as general knowledge, religious affairs, stories, articles, news, literature and others. They

can browse all the individual pages from the Facebook page as they like. Facebook serves them with various information items and stories in a short time. Likewise, users from other social networks such as Facebook, YouTube, Douyin, Twitter, Instagram, Vimeo, Skype, WeChat, TikTok, QQ, Sina Weibo, Snapchat, WhatsApp and VK do similar acts.

In Myanmar, most of the people have easy access to social networks with the use of their mobile phone Internet. Those people, young and old, set their focus on social media day and night, setting aside various issues, except for the most important cases. They are satisfied with tasting the information online, but most of them do not analyze such information whether it is true or not. Mostly, they spend their time online, especially on Facebook pages.

Some of them in groups post a status on Facebook. Soon after, some users give 'like' and share the statuses on their pages to spread the information. So, a story of news that may be right or wrong can spread across the world in a short time. Moreover, these shared statuses of information easily reach the pages of other social media such as Instagram, VK, YouTube, WeChat and Twitter in a moment. Hence, American author and humorist Mark Twain (1835-1910) said that 'a lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes'.

That is why some groups of users intentionally distribute the news created as they like to the world. Similar items of propaganda information are spreading across social media, but some per cent of viewers analyze them, and the majority of users totally believe them. Indeed, it is very dangerous not only for individuals but for the whole country.

Every user of social media in Myanmar does not know that they themselves are gradually swallowed by social media. Hence, those users do not know that they themselves become the victims of



these media.

Those users do not know their situations, that they gradually commit the crime. They unknowingly break the cyber law and other provisions of the criminal procedure by posting and sharing the various statuses of stories.

In fact, the number of stories on the social network pages should be analyzed how many items of stories are free from crime. Generally, new stories can be classified as general knowledge comprising religious, social, economic, political, tourism and various subjects, the stories focusing on media affairs, the stories related to hate speech, the stories on military affairs, the stories concerning daily news posted by print media and broadcast media, the stories expressing rumours, fake news and incitements, the stories consisting of porn and yellow pages, the stories focusing on intentional attacks on State leaders whoever came into the office, the stories on historical events, advertisements, recruitment of employees, and so on.

Nonetheless, online users have the rights to enjoy various statuses of information posted on social network pages. They can choose options as they like. Everybody who just browses the posts on the Facebook pages will not face any problems because they do not commit any guilt. However, a lot of the number of users intentionally shares fake news and rumours on the pages with the

Information on social media with rationality

By Aung Kyaw Thant

Author and humourist Mark Twain (1835-1910), 'The world while the truth is putting on its shoes'.



them what item should be posted or what items should be avoided. However, they all have to consider things what are the best moves to do with attempts to serve each other. Even if they do anything in mistake, they should repair such moves as a corrigendum to polish their prestige.

Indeed, all online users need to abide by media ethics that can promote and defend the values such as a universal respect for life and the rule of law and legality. It is the best division of applied ethics dealing with the specific ethical principles and standards of media. Many scholars defined various kinds of ethics for online media, especially for Facebook. I'd like to emphasize the issues on Facebook because most of the Myanmar people are friendly with Facebook pages. With regard to the ethics of Facebook, online users need to abide by rules based on traditional culture generally. Polite users can do their statuses without rudeness, whereas rude people may post their statuses with rude usages. For Myanmar, online user people generally need to follow only one discipline to avoid using words of hate speech against others with harming their interests. So, all the users can adjust their activities on the social network pages whether they conform with the discipline mentioned above or not.

At present, various items of statuses on the social networks occupy their respective arenas. These may be good or bad. So, users need to choose the best statuses without hate speech and assaulting each other. However, social networks carry about 10 per cent of true information among the various items of statuses.

The remaining statuses are the mixed information comprising some per cent of true news and much fake news, hate speeches, porn statuses, illegal advertisement statuses, fake historical data, personal statuses, extorted political information, rumours and others. Among them, I think hate speech may cause all kinds of unacceptable events. So, users

need to seek the statuses useful for them among the wastes. The social network pages would be gold pots for all if they can choose the best ones. So, everybody needs to analyze their behaviours as well as the activities of others on the social network pages. But, they all need to uphold the significant concept when they choose to taste the information online. It is the advice of the Lord Buddha more than 2,500 years ago.

Once, Lord Buddha Gotama, followed by His disciples who were members of the Sangha, arrived at Kesamutta outskirts village in Kosala State. Gentlemen from Kesamutta outskirts village paid homage to the Lord Buddha and raised questions that some Samana Brahmana showed off their doctrines but encroached on others'. However, some Samana Brahmana introduced their doctrines but did not encroach on others'.

So, the Lord Buddha delivered a sermon on Kalama Sutta. Significantly, the Lord Buddha highlighted some points in the preaching. They were:

- Don't accept just hearing the information from a secondary source as true.
- Don't accept just sayings of successive ancestors as true.
- Don't accept an unsure saying as true.
- Don't accept just conformity with treatizes as true.
- Don't accept just a supposition as true.
- Don't accept just rationality based on ways and proofs as true.
- Don't accept just a consideration over reasons as true.
- Don't accept just conformity with own idea of a venerable person as true.
- Don't accept just a word of an esteemed person as true.
- Don't accept just the advice of venerable monk as true.

May all the people avoid fake news, hate speech and attack statuses on the social network pages on a daily basis.

(The views and opinions are only those of the author)

Myanmar Daily Weather Report
(Issued at 7:00 pm Thursday 10 June, 2021)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 11 June, 2021: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing Region and Kachin, Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavyfalls in Taninthayi Region and Rakhine, Kayin, Mon States and isolated heavyfalls in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions and Chin State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) m.p.h. Wave height will be about (8 - 11) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Strong monsoon.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 June, 2021: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 June, 2021: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 June, 2021: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

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Fishing activities suspended early

THE fishing activities will be suspended one month earlier than usual, according to the Myanmar Fisheries Department.

The no-catch period was set from June to August last year, but now it was fixed from May to July this year. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation held discussion and workshop with the local experts and surveyed with the help of Norway to help fish populations recover. **Fix the fishing season**

“The fish breeding season was changed by conducting research with the help of Norway. According to the findings, we changed the no-catch period depending on the highest breeding rate. The marine resources become rare not because of climate changes, mining or catching fish with illegal nets but because of the catching. Therefore, fishing is banned during the fish breeding season. We set a three-month ban for the fish breeding season this year,” said an official of the Yangon Region Fisheries Department.

Research

The country boasts numer-



The no-catch period was set from June to August last year, but now it was fixed from May to July this year. PHOTO: KANU

ous seas, so there are plenty of marine products with adequate fish for local. The export of fish and prawns can also earn foreign income, and the government receives tax from marine products.

Therefore, the government jointly makes efforts together

with the private entrepreneurs to develop the marine product sectors. To protect the fishery resource, the researches were conducted with the Norwegian experts for three times from Rakhine coastal regions to Kawthoung until 2015.

Good results

The Fisheries Department also set the nets for onshore and offshore fishing like gill net, stow net, trawl, purse seine and also conducted educating programmes for the fishermen to follow the rules and regulations

every year. According to the joint research, the fish farming is the highest from February and April. The research was begun in 1986 and restarted again in 2013 and 2015.

Closing season

There are more than 900 fishing boats in Yangon, and they were separately parked in Pyapon Township of Ayeyawady Region, Kyaukpyu Township of Rakhine State and Taninthayi Region during the non-fishery period. Currently, there are about 570 fishing vessels parked in Yangon this year.

Non-fishing period

Most of the people living in coastal regions mainly depend on the fisheries, and the marine workers also notice that the fisheries resources, including prawns, decline. The relevant fisheries departments also arrange to educate programmes, release orders and take actions against those who catch fish with two layers of net during the fish breeding season. This year, the non-fishery period is set between May and August. — Nyein Thu/GNLM

Myanmar’s foreign trade exceeds US\$ 19.75 billion in 2020-2021 FY

FOR the fiscal year 2020-2021 (up to May), Myanmar’s foreign trade (according to provisional statistics) was worth US\$9.69 billion. The value of imports was US\$ 10.06 billion, and the

trade volume was US\$19.75 billion.

In the same period of the fiscal year 2019-2020, the export value was US\$ 11.86 billion. The value of imports was the US

\$ 13.40 billion. As Myanmar’s foreign trade was 25.26 billion in the last FY, export decreased by 18%, and import decreased by 25% and trade volume decreased by US \$ 22%.—MNA

Myanmar exports drop 18% in nearly 8 months amid global pandemic

THE COVID-19 pandemic affected the country’s exports in the nearly eight months (1 Oct-28 May) of the current financial year 2020-2021 with a drop of 18 per cent as against last FY.

Myanmar’s exports in the past eight months touched a low of US\$9.69 billion, reflecting a tremendous drop of over \$2.169 billion compared with a year-ago period of the previous FY, according to data from the Ministry of Commerce.

During the corresponding period in the previous FY, exports stood at \$11.86 billion, according to data released by the ministry.

The pandemic deals a severe blow to the manufacturing, livestock, fishery, forest, mineral and other service sectors as it disrupted the supply chain and logistics sector and shut down the events. Additionally, most people demand only staple food. As a result of this, the export sees the growth in agriculture sector only this year. The drop in natural gas exports, gems and jewellery, and CMP garments contribute to the slump in ex-

ports, the ministry stated.

Both sea trade and border trade dropped amid the coronavirus impacts. The neighbouring countries tightened the border security and limited the trading hours to contain the spread of the virus. Pandemic-induced container shortage pushed up the freight rates in Myanmar, causing delays for exporters. Of the seven export groups, agricultural exports increased \$834.29 million against a year-ago period. In contrast, exports of livestock, forest products, minerals, fishery products and finished industrial goods drastically declined.

Between 1 October and 25 May of the current FY, export values have registered at \$3.6 billion for agro products, \$16.6 million for livestock, \$536.57 million for fishery products, \$620.5 million for minerals, \$85.88 million for forest products, \$4.5 billion for manufactured goods, and \$282.37 million for other goods.

This year, Myanmar’s top export countries are listed China, Thailand, Japan, India, USA, Spain, Germany, UK, ROK and the Netherlands. — KK/GNLM

500,000 fingerlings released into Toe river in Maubin



A total of 500,000 fingerlings were added to the river yesterday.

THE Department of Fisheries held a fish planting ceremony at the Shwe Marlar port on the bank of Toe river in Maubin, Ayeyawady Region, for preventing

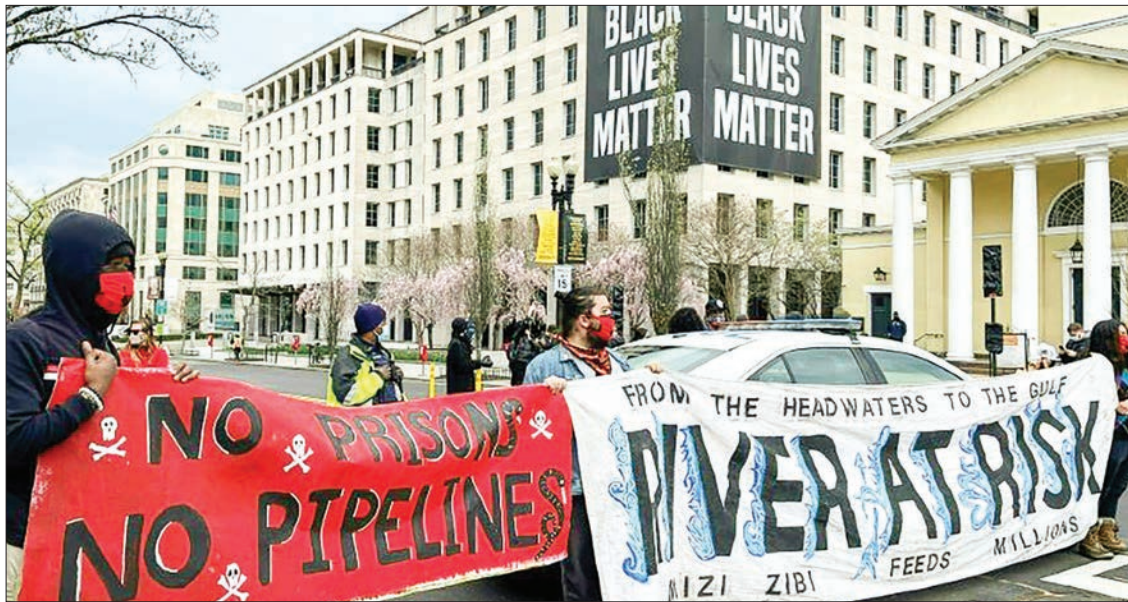
the extinction of fish species yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by the Chairman and officials of the District and Township

Administration Bodies and departmental staff.

A total of 500,000 fingerlings were added to the river yesterday. — Aung Khine/GNLM

Blocked by Biden, Canadian company drops Keystone pipeline



Activists in April 2021 display banners referring to the shutting down of existing oil pipelines in the northern United States at Black Lives Matter Plaza in Washington. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

BLOCKED by US President Joe Biden, Canada's TC Energy said Wednesday it had officially terminated the Keystone XL Pipeline

project, throwing in the towel on a controversial initiative opposed by environmental activists. TC Energy will coordinate

with regulators, indigenous groups and other stakeholders "to meet its environmental and regulatory commitments and

ensure a safe termination of and exit from the project," the company said in a press release, confirming that it had notified the government of the province of Alberta.

Biden formally rescinded a permit for the pipeline, first proposed in 2008, by executive order on his first day in office in January 2021.

He had vowed during the presidential campaign to end the project over environmental concerns, a reversal of the stance taken by predecessor Donald Trump.

While the project has long been backed by Canada, Keystone XL had been opposed by environmentalists and indigenous groups, who have organized rallies against the pipeline in Washington, Ottawa and in

the affected areas throughout the last decade.

The 1,210-mile (1,950-kilometre) pipeline, starting in 2023, was to transport up to 830,000 barrels of oil per day from the Alberta oil sands to Nebraska and then through an existing system to refineries in coastal Texas.

TC Energy argued that bringing so much oil from friendly, neighbouring Canada would reduce US dependence on the Middle East and Venezuela by up to 40 percent.

The State Department estimated the plan would have created 42,000 temporary jobs over the two-year construction period, but opponents noted that just 35 permanent jobs would be created for pipeline maintenance.— AFP ■

Peugeot to be prosecuted in France over 'dieselgate'

FRENCH car maker Peugeot is facing prosecution in France over the "dieselgate" emissions cheating scandal, its parent company Stellantis said Wednesday, after similar charges were announced against Renault and Volkswagen.

"Two other subsidiaries of Stellantis, Automobiles Citroen S.A. and FCA Italy S.p.A, have been summoned to appear before the Judicial Court of Paris, on June 10 and in July, respectively, as part of the same investigation," Stellantis said in a statement.

The US-European auto giant said Peugeot was under investigation "on allegations of consumer fraud in connection with the sale of Euro 5 diesel vehicles in France between 2009 and 2015".

Stellantis said Peugeot will have to guarantee 30 million euros (\$37 million) "for the potential compensation for losses", as well as pay bail of 10 million euros (\$12.2 million), comprising 8 million euros (\$9.7 million) for potential damages and 2 million euros (\$2.2 million) for court representation.

"The companies firmly believe that their emission control systems met all applicable requirements at the relevant times and continue to do so and look forward to the opportunity to demonstrate that," Stellantis added.

The announcement came a day after German automaker Volkswagen said it was facing charges over the scandal, and two days after Renault said the same. — AFP ■



French car maker Peugeot is facing prosecution in France over the "dieselgate" emissions cheating scandal, its parent company Stellantis said Wednesday. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Two Viking relatives reunited in Denmark after 1,000 years

SEPARATED for 1,000 years, two Viking warriors from the same family were reunited on Wednesday at Denmark's National Museum, as DNA analysis helps shed light on the Vikings' movements across Europe. One of the Vikings died in England in his 20s in the 11th century, from injuries to the head. He was buried in a mass grave in Oxford. The other died in Denmark in his 50s, his skeleton bearing traces of blows that suggest he took part in battles.

DNA mapping of skeletons from the Viking era -- from the eighth to the 12th century -- enabled archaeologists to determine by chance that the two were related.

"This is a big discovery because now you can trace move-



The two related Viking skeletons in Denmark's National Museum. **PHOTO: RITZAU SCANPIX/AFP**

ments across space and time through a family," museum archaeologist Jeanette Varberg told AFP.

Two of her colleagues spent

more than two hours on Wednesday piecing together the skeleton of the man in his 20s, from the remains freshly arrived from Oxford. — AFP ■

Facebook working on smartwatch connected to augmented reality glasses

FACEBOOK has confirmed it is working on a smartwatch that might one day connect with augmented reality (AR) glasses being developed by the leading social network.

Facebook Reality Labs is investing in ways to make AR glasses more useful, unit head Andrew "Boz" Bosworth said in a tweet responding to a Verge report that the social network is aiming to unveil a smartwatch next year.

Smartwatch features will include cameras, and it will integrate with Facebook apps such as image-centric social network Instagram, according to the Verge.

"We've said we want AR glasses to be truly useful -- we're investing in technologies across the board that will make that interaction feel more natural and intuitive," Bosworth tweeted.

He cautioned that research doesn't always result in a finished product. "We'll share more when we're ready," Bosworth said. "And just like with our glasses work, we will consult third party experts to help us get these right."

Facebook went public a while ago with plans for a launch this year of smart glasses which connect to smartphones as part of an alliance with eyewear titan EssilorLuxottica. — AFP ■

China, U.S. hold 3rd economic talks in 2 weeks over phone



Chinese workers walk past imported soybeans at a port in Nantong. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

CHINA and the United States held talks on economic issues for a third time in two weeks Thursday, with Beijing saying their commerce ministers held “candid” discussions by phone. Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao and his U.S. counterpart Gina Raimondo

confirmed the world’s two major powers will seek to “appropriately resolve” their disputes and promote working-level cooperation on trade and investment.

Wang and Raimondo also agreed Beijing and Washington would continue communicating, according to the Chinese Commerce Ministry.

On May 27, Vice-Premier Liu He, China’s chief trade negotiator with the United States, and his U.S. counterpart Katherine Tai spoke by phone in their first talks since the launch of the administration of U.S. President Joe Biden in January.

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative said in a statement that Tai raised “issues of concern” during the phone conversation, although it did not elaborate. Liu also held a video-conference with U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen on June 2. — Kyodo News ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nikkei ends higher as Suga’s vaccination vow spurs recovery hopes

The Nikkei stock index ended higher Thursday after Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga’s remarks about the government’s coronavirus vaccine rollout plans bolstered hopes for progress in reopening the economy, lifting blue-chip stocks across the board. The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average ended up 97.76 points, or 0.34 per cent, from Wednesday at 28,958.56. The broader Topix index of all First Section issues on the Tokyo Stock Exchange finished 0.41 points, or 0.02 per cent, lower at 1,956.73. Gainers were led by marine transportation, and pulp and paper issues, while farm and fishery, and mining issues led decliners. — Kyodo News ■

China’s factory prices soar in May, but consumers avoid cost surge

CHINA’S factory gate inflation rose at the highest rate in over a decade last month, official data showed on Wednesday, as the world’s second-largest economy worked to contain a surge in commodity prices.

Factories so far seem to be absorbing costs rather than passing them on to consumers as domestic demand recovers from the strict coronavirus lockdowns imposed last year.

The producer price index (PPI), which measures the cost of goods at the factory gate, exceeded expectations to spike 9.0 per cent on-year in May, said the National Bureau of Statistics.

This marks its highest jump since September 2008. In particular, prices in the oil and natural

gas extraction industry rose 99.1 per cent from a year ago, said NBS senior statistician Dong Lijuan.

“PPI is definitely a concern,” said UOB economist Ho Woei Chen. Metal prices started to rise earlier this year with a recovery in construction as well as steel demand for the car industry, she said, adding that recent operation curbs in major steel-producing city Tangshan drove also steel prices higher.

“Probably, producers are absorbing some of these costs but it won’t be sustainable for them to keep doing that,” said Ho.

For now, PPI inflation has “already triggered Beijing’s response, including vowing to add supply and cracking down on bitcoin mining,” Nomura chief



Workers work at the factory of Omron (Dalian) Co., Ltd. in Dalian, northeast China’s Liaoning Province, March 21, 2019. **PHOTO: XINHUA/YANG QING**

China economist Lu Ting told AFP. He cautioned that it would be unrealistic to expect a sharp drop in raw material prices in the near future, with “policy inertia” and a need to minimise incidents

ahead of the 100th anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party on July 1 meaning an output surge is unlikely. But consumer prices were “generally stable” last month, Dong said. — Xinhua ■

El Salvador’s adoption of bitcoin delights cryptocurrency fans



The move by El Salvador to recognise bitcoin as legal tender -- the first nation to do so -- is a highly symbolic step towards greater acceptance of the cryptocurrency. **PHOTO: AFP**

EL SALVADOR’S approval of bitcoin as legal tender, making it the first country in the world to do so, has delighted cryptocurrency fans but left markets unconvinced.

The Central American nation’s Congress passed a bill late on Tuesday paving the way for bitcoin to be used in a variety of daily financial transactions from buying property to paying taxes.

It is the first time the highly volatile and decentralised cryptocurrency has been recognized by a national government and comes as regulators in Europe, China and North America are moving to contain the market,

which has grown tenfold in recent months.

“Some larger, more powerful countries are trying to quash or slow the inevitable shift to borderless, global, digital currencies,” Nigel Green, chief executive of the financial consultancy deVere Group said.

“But this small Central American nation has embraced the biggest one of them all — bitcoin.” — AFP ■

ECB in hot seat over easy money as economy strengthens

Markets will be looking for clues Thursday on when the European Central Bank might start winding down monetary stimulus, as the economic rebound from the pandemic accelerates and eurozone inflation surges past the bank’s target.

The ECB’s 25-member governing council is widely expected to hold interest rates at historic lows and leave its massive bond purchasing schemes in place at its six-weekly meeting.

But with vaccination progress and post-lockdown spending brightening the outlook, ECB president Christine Lagarde can expect a grilling from reporters on how policymakers plan to wean the region’s economy off crisis support. A similar debate is raging in the United States, where concerns are growing that inflation will skyrocket, forcing the Federal Reserve to reduce its bond-buying scheme or even lift interest rates to prevent the economy from overheating. — AFP ■

Australian firm eyes seaweed as global warming game changer

COULD a species of seaweed that flourishes around Japan's Pacific coast and regions of Oceania prove a game changer in the fight against global warming?

That is the hope of those involved in an innovative project under way in Australia, who say a genus of edible red algae called *Asparagopsis* drastically reduces emissions of methane, one of the major greenhouse gases, from ruminant livestock when used as a supplement in feed.

"Inquiries have been pouring in from livestock farmers all over the world," says Sam Elsom, CEO of Sea Forest, an environmental biotechnology company in Tasmania that is cultivating the seaweed.

Methane, released in the belching and flatulence of livestock animals such as cows and sheep, accounts for more than 20 percent of the world's heat-trapping gas emissions and has 28 times the greenhouse effect of carbon dioxide, according to the Commonwealth Scientific

and Industrial Research Organization, an Australian government agency.

In Australia, with its huge livestock industry, methane accounts for nearly 10 percent of greenhouse gas emissions.

The CSIRO found that methane emissions can be reduced by more than 80 percent when a small amount of *Asparagopsis* is added to feed for livestock because a chemical compound in the seaweed blocks the generation of methane by curbing the work of an enzyme in the

digestive system.

The seaweed also contains salt and mineral content indispensable to the growth of livestock.

Masayuki Tatsumi, a 35-year-old Japanese working as a researcher at Sea Forest, says he wants his compatriots back home to stop thinking of seaweed just as a source of food.

"Japanese people are very familiar with seaweed, but I want them to understand that it can also contribute to environmental protection," he said. — Kyodo News ■



Photo taken on April 21, 2021 shows Sam Elsom (R), CEO of environmental biotechnology company Sea Forest, and Sea Forest researcher Masayuki Tatsumi sitting on the edge of farm tanks used to cultivate *Asparagopsis*, a genus of edible red algae, in Tasmania. PHOTO: KYODO

Meatpacking giant JBS pays \$11 million to ransomware hackers

JBS, one of the world's biggest meat processors, has paid bitcoin worth \$11 million in ransom to hackers to prevent any further disruption after a paralyzing cyberattack believed to have originated in Russia.

Hackers targeted the computer systems of Brazil-based JBS last week, impacting production and operations in the United States, Australia and Canada, and issued a ransom demand to the global meatpacking giant.

The company's US subsidiary said Wednesday it had paid the equivalent of \$11 million to the attackers. "This was a very difficult decision to make for our company and for me personally," said Andre Nogueira, CEO of JBS USA.

"However, we felt this



JBS, one of the world's biggest meat processors, says it has paid the equivalent of \$11 million in ransom after a cyberattack. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

decision had to be made to prevent any potential risk for our customers."

The company said it made the payment "to mitigate any unforeseen issues related to the attack and ensure no data was exfiltrated."

Nogueira told the Wall Street Journal that the ransom was paid in

bitcoin.

The JBS hack was the second major ransomware attack on a major US entity in recent weeks.

A cyberattack in May forced the temporary shutdown of the huge Colonial fuel pipeline network in the eastern United States, and sparked panic buying in some states. — AFP ■

Battery maker Northvolt raises funds for new 'gigafactory'

SWEDISH electric car battery maker Northvolt said on Wednesday it has raised billions of dollars in fresh funding to expand a giant new factory under construction in the north of the country in order to meet massive demand from key customers and partners such as German carmaker Volkswagen.

Northvolt said in a statement it raised \$2.75 billion (€2.3bn) from existing shareholders, including Volkswa-

gen, Goldman Sachs and a group of Swedish pension funds.

The battery maker said the cash will be used to expand its first "gigafactory", Northvolt Ett, "from the earlier plan of 40 GWh to 60 GWh of annual production capacity in order to meet the increased demand from key customers, including a \$14-billion order from Volkswagen announced earlier this year." — AFP ■

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (34/2020-2021)

- Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.
- | Sr.No. | Tender No. | Description | Remarks |
|--------|------------------|---|---------|
| (a) | DMP/L-218(20-21) | 100% Coverall Cotton, Safety Shoes & Rain Coat (3) Groups | Ks |
- The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from **10 June 2021** at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
 - The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation 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 10 July 2021**.
 - Tender Closing Date & Time **9-7-2021, 12:00 pm**

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CTP MAKASSAR VOY.NO. (226)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CTP MAKASSAR VOY.NO. (226)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-6-2021** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V FORTUNE WING

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V FORTUNE WING VOY.NO. (01)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-6-2021** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V GOLDEN CENTURY

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V GOLDEN CENTURY VOY.NO. (01)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-6-2021** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **WILMAR** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S WILHELMSSEN SHIPS SERVICE(S) PTE LTD

Argentine president forced to apologize for 'jungle' comment



Argentina's President Alberto Fernandez was forced to apologize for a racially insensitive gaffe. **PHOTO: AFP**

ARGENTINA'S president apologized Wednesday after going viral for stating that modern-day Mexicans originate from indigenous peoples, Brazilians "from the jungle" and his own coun-

try's inhabitants come from Europe.

"I am a Europeanist. I am someone who believes in Europe," Alberto Fernandez said as he and visiting Spanish leader Pedro Sanchez met with business leaders in Buenos Aires.

Mexican poet Octavio Paz, he claimed, once wrote that "Mexicans came from the Indians, Brazilians from the jungle, but we Argentines came from boats, and they were boats that came from there, from Europe. And that is how we built our society."

Hours later, he apologized on Twitter.

"In the first half of the 20th century we received more than five million immigrants who lived with our native peoples," he said, adding: "We are proud of our diversity."

Fernandez said he "did not mean to offend anyone" but to anyone who was, "my apologies."

A video of his original statement went viral, drawing numerous reactions in Brazil.

Reading Fernandez's statement, "I began to understand better why after World War II the Nazi war criminals hid in Argentina," Brazilian Senator Ciro Nogueira said on Twitter.

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro tweeted a picture of himself wearing a feather headband and surrounded by a group of indigenous people under the headline "JUNGLE!" but with no comment -- a picture that led to a series of memes.

Former Mexican president Felipe Calderon wanted to know if the quote really was from Mexican author Paz, a Nobel laureate.

"That could have been said by (Mexican comedian) Cantinflas, or (Argentine comedians) Les Luthiers, but Octavio Paz? I hope he cites the source," Calderon tweeted. — AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

11 dead in Mumbai building collapse

AT least 11 people, including eight children, were killed when heavy monsoon rains caused a residential building to collapse in a Mumbai slum, Indian authorities said Thursday.

Mumbai city authorities confirmed that seven other residents were injured in the incident late Wednesday even as search and rescue operations continued for several others feared missing.

Residents have been evacuated from nearby structures considered to be in a dangerous condition.

Of the injured, six were in stable condition, with one 30-year-old woman admitted to hospital in critical condition.

"Three persons are still suspected to be trapped and the search operation is on to find them," Prabhat Rahangdale from the Mumbai city authority told the Indian Express daily.

Collapses of poorly constructed buildings are common during the monsoon, which officially hit India's financial capital on Wednesday bringing widespread flooding and traffic chaos.— AFP ■

American ex-priest faces East Timor child sex-abuse trial

A defrocked American priest accused of molesting girls for years at an East Timor shelter has gone on trial in a case that split the overwhelmingly Catholic country.

Richard Daschbach, 84, faces sexual abuse, child pornography and domestic violence charges and could be jailed for up to 20 years if convicted of crimes linked to an orphanage he founded in the early 1990s.

The case has sharply divided the Southeast Asian nation, where Daschbach was once revered for providing food, clothing and housing for hundreds of orphans and impoverished children.

The hearing, which started Wednesday and is expected to last until Friday, was closed to media. Daschbach was taking part via videolink from Dili.

At least 15 women expected to testify have come forward so far to report they were abused as children, with fears that many more were molested at Daschbach's Topu Honis Shelter in the enclave of Oecusse.

The church is a powerful and respected institution in East Timor, where around 97 per cent of its people are Catholic.

It was the only source of protection during a brutal occupation by neighbouring Indonesia from 1975 to 1999, in which nearly a third of the population was wiped out. — AFP ■

Jabs for votes: Lebanon's oligarchs turn to Covid bribery

LEBANON'S cash-strapped leaders are bribing their base with free Covid-19 jabs ahead of next year's elections, in what observers say is the latest variant on an old corruption trick.

The "vaccine for vote" system builds on decades-old patronage practices that have seen leaders buy their way into office by offering voters money or public sector employment.

But with state resources stretched to their limit by a severe economic crisis and international aid dwindling due to a failure to deliver promised reforms, politicians are turning to Covid jabs to stock up on political capital.

"Political forces are trying to



Lebanon's Health Minister Hamad Hassan administers a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to a member of the staff at the Rafik Hariri Hospital in Beirut. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

directly or indirectly make themselves a part of the equation with regards to the vaccine campaign, primarily because it is a profita-

ble investment," said a member of the state-run National Vaccination Committee who spoke on condition of anonymity. — AFP ■

South Korea building collapse kills nine



South Korean rescue workers search for survivors in the debris of a collapsed building in Gwangju. **PHOTO: YONHAP/AFP**

AT least nine people were killed when a five-storey building being demolished in South Korea suddenly collapsed, crushing a bus, officials said.

Dramatic television foot-

age showed the bus being buried in debris and smothered by a huge cloud of dust as the structure gave way.

The bus, which had stopped in front of the site, was

carrying 17 people when the accident occurred Wednesday in the city of Gwangju, southwest of Seoul.

Nine of the passengers were killed and the remaining eight were all seriously injured, according to the National Fire Agency. All the workers on the demolition site had been evacuated before the collapse, they added. The cause of the accident was not immediately clear. Police have launched a probe into the case, authorities said.

The largest peacetime disaster in South Korea involved the collapse of a department store in 1995, when more than 500 people were killed. — AFP ■

Former PM nicknamed 'Fist' wins Mongolia presidential election

MONGOLIA'S new president Khurelsukh Ukhnaa is a macho character who has been photographed topless on horseback Putin-style, and became known as "Fist" after punching a parliamentarian.

The former prime minister won nearly 70 per cent of the vote in the presidential election, preliminary results showed Thursday, with historically low voter turnout for the third election in two years.

The country went to the polls Wednesday to replace populist businessman Battulga Khaltmaa -- a former world champion on the martial art of sambo who cannot run for a second presidential term under constitutional rules.

In the early hours of

Thursday, Khurelsukh declared a decisive victory after getting nearly 70 per cent of votes cast. "From the bottom of my heart, I thank my fellow Mongolians," he said.

Enkhbat Dangaasuren, his main rival, gathered only around a fifth of the votes and conceded defeat. An official announcement of the results is expected Thursday afternoon, according to Mongolia's state news agency.

Khurelsukh has cultivated a macho persona, complete with photos of him posing shirtless with a hunting gun -- similar to the famous images of Russian leader Vladimir Putin.

He also got the nickname "Fist" after a video of him punching a member of parliament went viral in 2012. — AFP ■

Biden and Johnson hold first meeting, but N. Ireland casts shadow

JOE BIDEN and Boris Johnson will hold their first face-to-face meeting Thursday, during which they will lay the foundations for a new pact, despite Brexit and its consequences in Northern Ireland casting a shadow on the old "special relationship".

Biden -- on his first overseas tour as US president -- and the British Prime Minister are set to agree a modern version of the 1941 "Atlantic Charter" signed by Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt, that set out post-war goals for democracy, trade and opportunity.

But while keen to affirm the strength of the long-celebrated partnership, Biden has reportedly ordered US diplomats to scold Johnson over his handling of Brexit and its effects on the Northern Ireland peace process.

The Times daily reported America's most senior diplomat in Britain, Yael Lempert, told Brexit Minister Lord Frost that



President Joe Biden speaks to American service members at RAF Mildenhall in Suffolk, England, June 9, 2021, after arriving in Europe for meetings with U.S. allies and Russian President Vladimir Putin. PHOTO: AFP

the UK government was "inflammatory" tensions in Ireland and Europe with its opposition to checks at ports in the province".

Port checks on deliveries heading into Northern Ireland from mainland Great Britain were agreed as part of the Brexit deal but caused consternation

among unionist communities, who say it changes their place within the wider UK.

London suspended checks earlier this year because of threats to port staff, and the protocol has been blamed for the worst violence in years in the British-run province. — AFP ■

Castillo assumes 'victory' in Peru election, rival Fujimori wants votes annulled



Supporters of right-wing candidate Keiko Fujimori rally in downtown Lima, as rival leftist Pedro Castillo is narrowly ahead in the official vote count. PHOTO: AFP

LEFTIST Pedro Castillo has cast himself as the winner of Peru's presidential vote, even though election authorities on Wednesday have yet to declare a winner in his race against right-wing populist rival Keiko Fujimori, who claims half a million votes are still in play.

With 99 per cent of votes cast in Sunday's presidential poll counted, rural school teacher and union leader Castillo retained a tiny lead of 50.2 per cent over Fujimori's 49.7 percent.

Late Wednesday Fujimori asked the National Electoral

Tribunal (JNE) to annul the results of 802 polling stations, the equivalent of 200,000 votes.

She also asked for another 300,000 votes to be reviewed, so "half a million votes are in play," she said at a press conference.

Fujimori, the daughter of jailed former president Alberto Fujimori, led in early counting, but Castillo slowly gained ground.

As he overtook her, Fujimori alleged "irregularities" and "signs of fraud," telling reporters she had evidence of "a clear intention to boycott the

popular will."

Both candidates had previously agreed to respect the outcome.

Peruvian authorities dismissed any possibility of counting fraud, as did the Organization of American States which said the count had "conformed to official procedures."

As Fujimori spoke, Castillo thanked backers rallying in his support. "Let's not be provoked by those who want to see this country in chaos. Therefore, we make a call for peace and tranquility," he tweeted. — AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

France ponders meaning of Macron assault

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron has vowed to continue greeting crowds during his travels despite being slapped in the face, sparking debate Wednesday about whether such walkabouts are wise in a fraught political climate and what the assault symbolized for the country. Macron shrugged off being struck across the face on Tuesday in the village of Tain l'Hermitage, calling it an "isolated event", and he defiantly fist-bumped onlookers later the same day in the nearby town of Valence.

On Wednesday, he returned to work in the safety of the Elysee Palace in central Paris as politicians and experts sought to interpret an incident that has been condemned across the political spectrum. Economy Minister Bruno Le Maire saw the slap as a symptom of "the long deterioration of public debate" while other commentators flagged the danger of new violent protests emerging. — AFP ■

US asks Mexico to investigate second case of union busting

FOR the second time in a month, the United States on Wednesday demanded Mexico look into a case of a company in the auto industry blocking worker efforts to unionize. US President Joe Biden ran for office as a champion of American workers, and pledged to take action to ensure they are protected from unfair competition from cheap labor in other countries.

The US Labour Department and the US Trade Representative formally called on the Mexican government to review whether workers at the Tridonex auto parts facility in Matamoros were denied rights of collective bargaining guaranteed under the continental free trade pact. Last month, Washington filed its first formal complaint under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) over allegations of "serious violations" of worker rights during a recent union vote at a GM plant in Silao, in the state of Guanajuato. — AFP ■

Djokovic ready to face 'biggest rival' Nadal for 58th time

NOVAK Djokovic said facing Rafael Nadal for the 58th time on Friday, with a place in the French Open final on the line, will be "a great battle" against his "biggest ever rival".

Djokovic secured the eagerly-awaited clash when he reached his 40th Grand Slam semi-final with a 6-3, 6-2, 6-7 (5/7), 7-5 win over Italy's Matteo Berrettini. It will be his 11th appearance in the last-four in Paris where he was champion in 2016. Nadal, the 13-time winner, beat Argentina's Diego Schwartzman 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 6-0 to make the semi-finals for the 14th time. He will be playing in his 35th Slam semi. "I'll probably pick Rafa as the biggest rival I've ever had in my career," said world number one Djokovic.

"The anticipation for the match against him, any match, any surface, any occasion, is always different from any other. 'Let's have a great battle.'" Although Djokovic has the edge at 29-28 in their overall rivalry stretching back 15 years, Nadal enjoys a 7-1 record in their French Open meetings and is 19-7 overall on clay. Djokovic's last win over the Spanish star on a clay court was in Rome five years ago. Nadal's record in Paris now stands at 105 wins against just two losses. One of those defeats, however, was at the hands of Djokovic in 2015.

'Release of emotions'

With Djokovic's quarter-final extending beyond the national 11pm curfew, play was halted for around 20 minutes at 3-2 in the fourth set so that 5,000 fans could be funnelled out of Court Philippe Chatrier. — AFP ■



Easy evening for Novak Djokovic. PHOTO: AFP

AFC president sends condolences on passing of Myanmar team kit manager



The black and white photo shows the image of the Myanmar national football team kit manager U Pyae Sone Naing, who passed away suddenly after suffering a cardiac arrest in Japan on 9 June. PHOTO: MFF

ASIAN Football Confederation (AFC) President Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa has expressed his deepest condolences to the Myanmar Football Federation as Myanmar national team kit manager U Pyae Sone Naing passed away suddenly suffering a cardiac arrest at the age of 29 in Japan on 9 June.

The Myanmar team kit manager is, along with his team, ahead of the decisive world cup qualifiers.

"Football is built on contributions of everyone, from officials, backroom staff and volunteers, all of whom work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the best possible envi-

ronment for our players. We will always remember Pyae Sone Naing's passion and cherish his service to the game," the AFC president said.

"Thoughts and prayers of the AFC and rest of the Asian football family are with loved ones and friends of Pyae, MFF and Myanmar football community in this challenging time," the AFC official commented.

The AFC will observe a minute's silence during the Asian Qualifiers Group F match between Myanmar and Kyrgyzstan today at the Yanmar Stadium in Osaka, Japan, to honour and tribute to the Myanmar team kit manager.

Myanmar team match will start at 1:30 PM of Myanmar Standard Time, and the game will be a decisive one for the team to go through the next step. —GNLM

Pellegrini joins Italy's Euro 2020 injury list

LORENZO Pellegrini on Thursday joined Italy's injury list on the eve of their Euro 2020 opener against Turkey, the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) confirmed.

Italy have submitted a request to UEFA to bring in Fiorentina's Gaetano Castrovilli in their 26-man squad after Roma midfielder Pellegrini pulled up with a muscular problem in training midweek. "Subject to diagnostic tests this morning, (Pellegrini) will still remain in the national team that will move to Rome this morning," the FIGC said.

"As a precaution and awaiting feedback from UEFA, midfielder Gaetano Castrovilli will join the

group in Rome."

Roberto Mancini's side kick-off the Euro with a Group A match against Turkey at the Stadio Olimpico on Friday. Italy's midfield also looks set to be without Marco Verratti, with Stefano Sensi also a doubt for Friday's opener.

Verratti has returned to training after suffering knee ligament damage last month with his club Paris Saint-Germain, but is not expected to line up for Italy before their second match against Switzerland on June 16 or Wales four days later.

Sensi suffered a thigh muscle problem on the final day of the season playing for Serie A champions Inter Milan. — AFP ■

'Football's Coming Home': England aim to emulate spirit of Euro 96

TWENTY-FIVE years after England's dramatic Euro 96 campaign revived the nation's love affair with football, Gareth Southgate's side aim to emulate the golden summer when football came home.

England manager Southgate leads his team into their opening match of the European Championship against Croatia at Wembley on Sunday.

It should be a memorable occasion as England play on home turf at a major tournament for the first time since Euro 96.

For Southgate, England's role as one of several hosts of the delayed Euro 2020 offers a chance for redemption after his penal-



Twenty-five years after England's dramatic Euro 96 campaign revived the nation's love affair with football, Gareth Southgate's side aim to emulate the golden summer when football came home. PHOTO: AFP

ty miss condemned the country to Euro 96 semi-final heartache against Germany. If England can

create the same wave of national enthusiasm that Terry Venables' team surfed 25 years ago, South-

gate will have a chance of winning a first major title for the country since the 1966 World Cup.

English football was undergoing a long-awaited rebirth by the time Euro 96 arrived, recovering from a dark period in which its image was badly damaged by hooligan gangs who clashed in decaying stadiums. The Premier League had been established four years earlier, with Britpop bands Blur and Oasis and even future prime minister Tony Blair jumping on the bandwagon to broaden the game's appeal.

Capturing the optimistic "Cool Britannia" mood, comedians David Baddiel and Frank Skinner teamed up with The

Lightning Seeds to write England's Euro 96 anthem "Three Lions". With its "Football's Coming Home" chorus, the song became the soundtrack to England's summer. Yet, while there were unforgettable days ahead, England started Euro 96 in disarray.

Celebrating Paul Gascoigne's birthday during a pre-tournament trip to Hong Kong, England players found themselves on the front pages after a drunken evening at the China Jump bar. The debauchery peaked in the "dentist's chair"—a drinking game in which the footballers sat with their mouths open as tequila and vodka were poured in.— AFP ■