

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

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

All ethnic people need to unitedly live in the country with the same will and same rights: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses the SAC meeting 15/2021 in Nay Pyi Taw on 24 September 2021.

POLITICIANS whose ideologies are diverse for the peace need to cooperate with each other through correct attitude over the multiparty democratic system, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting 15/2021 of the State Administration Council at the Office of SAC Chairman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

In his opening address, the

Senior General noted that more than 231 million of the global population were infected by COVID-19 and over 4.7 million people were dead till 23 September. Myanmar stands the sixth position of infected countries in ASEAN and the fourth of the death rate. Since infection, a total of 453,407 people has been infected and 17,343 died until 23 September. Indonesia is a country with more than 4 million infected people and over

140,000 dead persons. Effective prevention, control and treatment activities pull down the infection rate in Myanmar to eight or nine per cent.

As the infection rate reaches less than five per cent, it will be a good situation. So, the schools will be closed till 24 October. As the Sinovac vaccine can be vaccinated to children under 12, 2 million vaccines donated by China will

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar Announcement of Central Committee on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Prevention, Control and Treatment

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24 September 2021

It is hereby announced that as it is necessary to control the continuous decline in the infection rate of the COVID-19 because the infection rate of the COVID-19 is decreasing at present, further closure of basic education schools (including private schools and monastic education schools) will temporarily be set from 27-9-2021 to 24-10-2021 including the school holidays of Thidingyut.

1,667 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 24 September, total figure rises to 455,074

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 455,074 after 1,667 new cases were reported on 24 September 2021 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 408,292 have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll reached 17,413 after 70 died.

Myanmar returns seized Polaris One leisure fishing boat to Thailand

MYANMAR, which always appreciates bilateral relations with Thailand, handed over a Polaris One leisure fishing boat of Thailand, which was captured for entering Myanmar waters, to Thailand authorities via the Myoma Bridge of Kawthoung Township on 21 September.

The vessel carrying 24 people—22 Thais and 2 Myanmar nationals—was seized by the Myanmar Navy in Myanmar waters at about 14 nautical miles of Roe Bank Island on 7 November 2020. They were transferred to a coordination unit on 13 Novem-



A handover event in progress.

ber and they were also fined under Immigration Law and put at quarantine centres and deported.

The group led by Lt-Col Zaw Min Htet, chairman of Thai-Myanmar Township Border Committee systematically handed over

the Polaris One vessel and other materials to Thai officials led by Colonel Nop Phadon, Vice-Chair of Ranong Township Border Committee on 21 September.

“We returned the vessel and 80 fishing rigs. They were amazed that we saved things well. We respect the bilateral relation and so we discuss not to capture the boats in Ranong and to coordinate with two border committees if the boats are seized in Parchan river. We do not take action against the Thai vessel according to the Myanmar Marine Fisheries Law to show

the appreciation on bilateral relations,” said U Thant Zin, Head of Kawthoung District Fisheries Department.

Myanmar captured 1 Thai fishing boat in 2017 and two Indonesian fishing boats in 2018-19 in Myanmar waters of Kawthoung District and took legal actions. The country handed over the Thai vessel to show the solid bilateral relations. Moreover, Kawthoung and Ranong townships are supposed to be a border trade region for marine products.—Nyein Thu (MNA)/GNLM

Media professionals receive COVID-19 vaccines in Yangon

THE Government has accelerated the COVID-19 vaccinations across the country since the third wave of COVID-19 in Myanmar. Yesterday, a total of 57 media professionals received their first dose of the Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccines at No (6) Basic Education High School in Botahtaung Township, Yangon.

After administering the vaccines to people over the age of 65, now the priority is given to those over the age of 55, people with disabilities, chronic and non-com-

municable diseases.

More and more people are willing to be vaccinated since they have known that the vaccines could save lives, and prevention is the key factor, according to Dr Hay Mar Zaw, Head of the Public Health Department in Botahtaung Township.

“As more people want to be vaccinated, immunization is done in four groups of 700 to 1,000 people a day,” she said. As young people who are not included in the priority lists for now also want

to be vaccinated, the Ministry of Health is providing vaccinations based on the availability of the vaccine.

“We are so grateful to the Union Minister for Information and respective officials that we are now vaccinated,” said U Maung Maung Myint, editor-in-chief of a magazine. “During the meeting with the Union Minister, he asked us what he could help. I asked for the vaccination as we, media professionals and staff from the printing houses, are working despite the closure of the workplaces during the COVID-19 period. Today, we are vaccinated. I am so thankful for the vaccination and I urge everyone to be vaccinated,” he said.

A total of 1,970 people and more than 5,000 workers were vaccinated in Botahtaung Township in August. More than 1,900 people have been vaccinated in September, and of 7,900 staff from the city development committee, more than 2,500 staff have been vaccinated. It is also reported that the rest of the media persons will continue to be vaccinated.—Nyein Thu (MNA)/GNLM



Health staff injects the first Covid vaccine shot to a media person.

Myanmar welcomes back returnees at various border crossings



Returnees queue up for reception process at the Myanmar-Thailand Border Friendship Bridge, Myawady.

MYANMAR nationals from abroad are being welcomed back through various land borders, officials said.

On 23 September, a total of 19 returnees: 13 males and six females came back home from Nampahaw Bridge, near the Myanmar-China border checkpoint, Chinshwehaw, northern Shan State. Similarly, three females also returned to Myanmar via Yanlone Kyai Bridge and 152 male and 139 female returnees came back home from the Myanmar-Thailand Border Friendship Bridge, Myawady, Kayin State, respectively.

Healthcare officials from relevant public hospitals and

members of the Tatmadaw Medical Corps conducted COVID-19 tests and provided quarantine entry documents for the returnees.

Next, officials explained instructions of the Ministry of Health to the returnees and departmental officials provided necessary assistance.

Then, the returnees were transported to their respective places by passenger vehicles provided by the township administration bodies. The COVID-19 positive patients are being kept in separate areas and the necessary medical and administrative matters are being coordinated, officials said.—MNA

COVID-19 vaccine

THE Senior General noted that more than 2.1 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been injected for the first time and over 2.6 million for the second time. A total of 10 million units of anti-COVID-19 vaccines will arrive in Myanmar in the coming October and four more million in November. Arrangements are being made to purchase more vaccines.

(Excerpt from the speech to the meeting 2/2021 of the Provisional Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar made by Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 7-9-2021)

All ethnic people need to unitedly live in the country with same will and same rights: Senior General

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be given to students in the school opening period. So far, a total of 3,585,906 people has received vaccine twice and 2,574,735 people once until 24 September morning. 10 million units of vaccine will arrive in the coming October, so the vaccination programme will continue.

The outbreak of COVID-19 causes high prices of commodities, transport charges and manufacturing costs. As an agro-based country, Myanmar does not have a shortage of food. Rainwater should be arranged for cultivation. The Senior General stressed the need to cultivate staple cotton to be the main crop of the nation. He also stressed the cultivation of edible oil crops for ensuring oil sufficiency for the nation to reduce import of oil and consumption of cooking oil.

If the country fully utilizes renewable energy for generating electricity, it will meet the electricity demand of the country and surplus can be exported. As such, an electricity policy was adopted that generating electricity with the use of renewable energy such as natural gas and coal is being reduced while hydropower and solar power are being utilized to generate electricity.

Efforts are being made for ensuring the prosperity of the State. To enjoy the prosperity of the nation, arrangements are being made to realize the disciplined democracy and have a good income, jobs, free from disease, seasonal festivities and fantastic measures. If Myanmar tries hard for everything, it will reach the middle class among ASEAN countries within five years and the top-level within ten years.

If so, all need to try hard with above and underground resources and adequate human resources. Myanmar citizens have the family spirit to give a helping hand to each other. Hence, the first priority must be given to all citizens to have a proper living standard with individual income in conformity with the current prices.

With regard to internal peace, the country has not tasted the peace cent per cent from the post-independence era to date. It is necessary to restore peace for ensuring a prosperous country. To be able to restore peace, people need to understand democratic and the actual situation of the State. Democracy means the leadership of those elected by the majority under the law. But they need to emphasize the wish of the minority.

As of 2011, the country has been on the path of multiparty democracy with the formation of many political parties. As it is a multiparty democratic system, there is impossible to cause political disunity. All can do the politics under the law without any prohibitions. It is necessary to correctly apply the political system. Students need to emphasize learning in their student life.

If all the people cooperate with the government in the transitional period, everything can be done with stability. Efforts are being made to do the best for the State. It will be beneficial for all as all the people carry out their tasks with independent critical thinking for the State to talk about appropriate speeches and do the suitable works.

The multiparty democracy is being realized in the country. All ethnic people need to unit-

edly live in the country with the same will and same rights. Politicians whose ideologies are diverse for peace need to cooperate with each other through correct attitude over the multiparty democratic system. It is necessary to peacefully shape the democracy of Myanmar in the international community. The Tatmadaw does not directly concern with the State administration and assigns the relevant civilian

cultivation of elephant foot yam tuber in Chin State for local food sufficiency, supervision of projects not to cause waste of State fund, the extension of researches in education, agriculture and livestock breeding, complete construction of Ye-Phayathonzu-Thanyuzayat road, allotment of land plot for construction of Mon State cultural museum, supervision for offending the directives, rules and regulations of COVID-19,

and telephone at ministries, levying of tax and development tasks in regions and states, withdrawal of cases for those under Section 505, land plot for Mon State cultural museum, upgrade of Ye-Phayathonzu-Thanyuzayat road and opening of departmental offices in Palaung Self-Administered Zone.

In his concluding speech, the Senior General that the country faces a decline of the economy in export and import sectors but an increase in border trade. Border trade posts will be shaped into a normal trade trend. A fish auction market was allowed to be built in Myeik of Taninthayi Region. Special economic zones are being operated in Dawei and Thilawa. An industrial zone was allowed in Patheingyi. Mandalay Region is preparing to improve industries based on domestic products and to produce finished goods. The business based on underground and above ground natural resources faces the limitation. So, efforts must be made for the operation of domestic product-based industries. Only when domestic industries develop will the people have employment and income.

The government has considered the plans for the prevention of COVID-19 for the fourth wave. So, oxygen plants were built and they can produce enough oxygen for the people. Now, the government is striving for the production of vaccines and medicines against COVID-19. Reopening of the schools is important for the State. So, people need to cooperate in the prevention of COVID-19 so as to reopen the schools. —MNA

So, efforts must be made for the operation of domestic product-based industries. Only when domestic industries develop will the people have employment and income.

administrative bodies.

The Senior General expressed his attitude that he does not accept solving the problems through armed struggling. But measures are being taken for the security of life and property of the people. Only when the country enjoys internal peace will the multiparty democratic process the people inspire be implemented. If so, the country will meet development. Hence, the council needs to lead the endeavours.

Council members discussed relevant ministries to systematically observe and compile the data for providing political knowledge to the new generations, assistance for the

and opening of departmental offices in Palaung Self-Administered Zone.

In his response to the discussions, the Senior General pledged to scrutinize the cases filed against some persons under the political trends. He also responded to public donations and vaccinations for students under 12. He stressed to consider the cultivation of Robusta strain of coffee and good prices of Arabica coffee strain in PyinOoLwin, Pinlaung and Yangon.

Next, the Senior General explained the salient points for the national security law, Myanmar sports events, systematic use of fuel, electricity

Union MIFER Minister visits investment projects in Yangon Region, inspects acceptance procedures of Covid-19 loan applications

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Aung Naing Oo visited operation of Shwe Me Thar Logistic Service Co., Ltd under the permission of Myanmar Investment Commission in Yangon Region, Shwepyitha Industrial Zone. The responsible personnel from the industry greeted the team led by Union Minister and explained the operational procedures, transportation processes of containers through Hline River to Thilawa port and other local ports, the current situation on rice export to foreign countries. The Union Minister attended to the needs of the industry for the expansion of the investment.

After that, the Union Minister also visited the Resources Group Logistic Co., Ltd for dry port services under the permission of the Myanmar Investment Commission in Ywathagyi of Yan-



gon Region. At the place of the investment, the executives of the company made a presentation about the situations of operating dry port services by utilizing the Yangon-Mandalay railroad, providing warehouse services, exporting and handling the cargo and operating customs clear-

ance services by using bonded warehouse system. The Union Minister discussed suggestions to promote the investment activities of the company.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister visited the office of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of

Commerce and Industry (UM-FCCI) and initiated a meeting with Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Yangon and members from the UMFCCI. The attendees of the meeting discussed the operational challenges and the need for assistance from relevant departments for the

smooth operation of the investment activities. At the meeting, the Union Minister emphasized the upcoming plans regarding cooperation with relevant departments to facilitate the foreign investors, simplification of the procedures of the ministry, improvement of online services, reducing barriers to investment, improving the cooperation with business associations and discussed and coordinated the submitted issues of the attendees. The Union Minister also encouraged the attendees for closer cooperation with MIFER.

Then, the Union Minister inspected the acceptance of application forms for providing Covid loans for businesses in the fishery sector from the Covid-19 fund. The investors may apply for the loan in person at UMFCCI head office or online till 30 September 2021. —MNA

Malaysia hosts 11th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth, 10th ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth online



THE 11th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth and 10th ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth were hosted by Malaysia via videoconferencing on 23 and 24 September.

During the opening ceremony of SOMY, Deputy Director-General U Aung Kyaw Moe of Social Welfare Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Leader of Myanmar Delegation and Co-Chair of the event made a greeting speech.

Then, Deputy Secretary-General Ms Ramona Mohd Razali of Ministry of Youth and Sports of the host country, Malaysia and Director-General U Aung Kyaw Moe of the Social Welfare Department presided over the event.

The meeting discussed the accomplishments of the 10th SOMY, ASEAN Work Plan on Youth (2016-2020) and ASEAN Youth Development Index Phase II.

The ASEAN youth affairs organization presented their cur-

rent work plans and discussed the ASEAN youth fund, preparations for 12th SOMY and amended the reports of 10th SOMY.

The 10th ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth was convened on 24 September.

During the meeting, the leaders discussed the achievements of the ASEAN+3 Youth Work Plan (2016-2020), future work programmes of the ASEAN+3 Youth Work Plan (2021-2025) and cooperation work in youth affairs. — MNA

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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

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

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

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

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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gnlmnews@gmail.com
www.gnlm.com.mm
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China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week 2021 launched

HOSTED by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education for China and its provincial government, the 2021 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week was opened yesterday in Gui'an New Area, southwest China's Guizhou Province.

Deputy General Secretary of the Guizhou Province Administrative Committee of the Communist Party of China, and Minister of Education of the People's Republic of China delivered opening speeches during the opening ceremony. After that, Education Ministers from ASEAN countries, Deputy Ministers and Ambassadors and ASEAN Secretary-General delivered speeches via video messages.

Next, Guizhou Provincial Administrative Committee Sec-

retary launched the China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week 2021.

Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Myint, and Myanmar Ambassador to the People's Republic of China U Myo Thant Pe delivered video messages on the occasion of China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week 2021. Directors-General and rectors also joined the videoconference.

A series of activities covering higher education, and vocational education including medical science, agricultural science and business management, and engineering were focused on the event. Discussions of basic education school heads are also being held online from 24 to 26 September. —MNA



The China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week 2021 commences online.

Daily imports of anti-COVID-19 equipment, medical products continue



Anti-Covid medical aids are imported daily through land borders.

THE Ministry of Commerce is making efforts to ensure people have access to the essential medical supplies that are critical to the COVID-19 prevention, control and treatment activities, including liquid oxygen and oxygen cylinders, by arranging continuous importation through trading posts, international airport and seaports with standard operating procedures.

On 24 September (yesterday), anti-COVID-19 equipment, medical products including oxygen plants and

concentrators were imported by four companies and transported by 18 vehicles.

A total of 7,185 empty oxygen cylinders, two oxygen plants, 103 oxygen concentrators for home use, 200 PPE suits and 77 tonnes of masks were imported via Muse, and Chinshwehaw trading posts, and seaports.

One each oxygen plant was transported to Penwagon and Nyaungshwe, respectively.

Officials from the relevant departments are cooperating to facilitate and expedite the

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for better importation.

It is reported that the Ministry of Commerce is coordinating with relevant departments, facilitating the importation of essential medical supplies required in prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19, as well as contact persons for inquiries can be reached through the Ministry's Website — www.commerce.gov.mm. — MNA

Residents, travellers in Sittway undergo COVID-19 tests

PEOPLE living in IDP camps, villages, fishermen working on fishing boats, and boat owners in Sittway Township, Rakhine State, were being tested for the COVID-19 virus at Darpai Police Station in Bu May village-tract yesterday morning.

Officials from the general administration department, public health department, Tatmadaw medical corps, development committee, and fire brigade worked together for the test. The virus was tested by RDT test kits free of charge. A total of 125 people has tested for the COVID-19 virus, and all of them were diagnosed with negative results.

Similarly, those who entered Sittway by speedboats had to test for the COVID-19 virus at Shwepyitan Expressway Port. Passengers on the Sittway-Thandwe-Yangon route, Sittway-Yangon route, and Yangon-Sittway route, had also to

undergo COVID-19 tests.

The test was free of charge and those diagnosed with COVID-19 have been sent to respective township hospitals for medical treatment, under the COVID-19 rules and regulations. —Tin Htun (IPRD)/GNLM



Covid tests are undertaken for locals and travellers in Sittway.

Over 45-year-olds receive COVID-19 vaccines in Maungtaw Township

THE first dose of Sinopharm vaccines produced by the People's Republic of China was given to people of aged 45 and above in Thayat Oat and Nga Khura (Bengali) villages of Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State at 9 am on 24 September in line with the guidelines of the Ministry of Health. During the vaccination, healthcare officials and departmental staff measured the body temperature, blood pressure and monitoring oxygen level and made records for the vaccinated people.

Vaccines were given systematically, and



Inoculation is underway in Maungtaw Township.

only those with normal health conditions are vaccinated, officials said.

A total of 240 people in Thayat Oat (Bengali) village in Maungtaw Township and 120 people of aged 45 and over

in Nga Khura (Bengali) village in Maungtaw Township have been vaccinated, according to an official from the township Public Health Department. —Wai La (Maungtaw)/GNLM

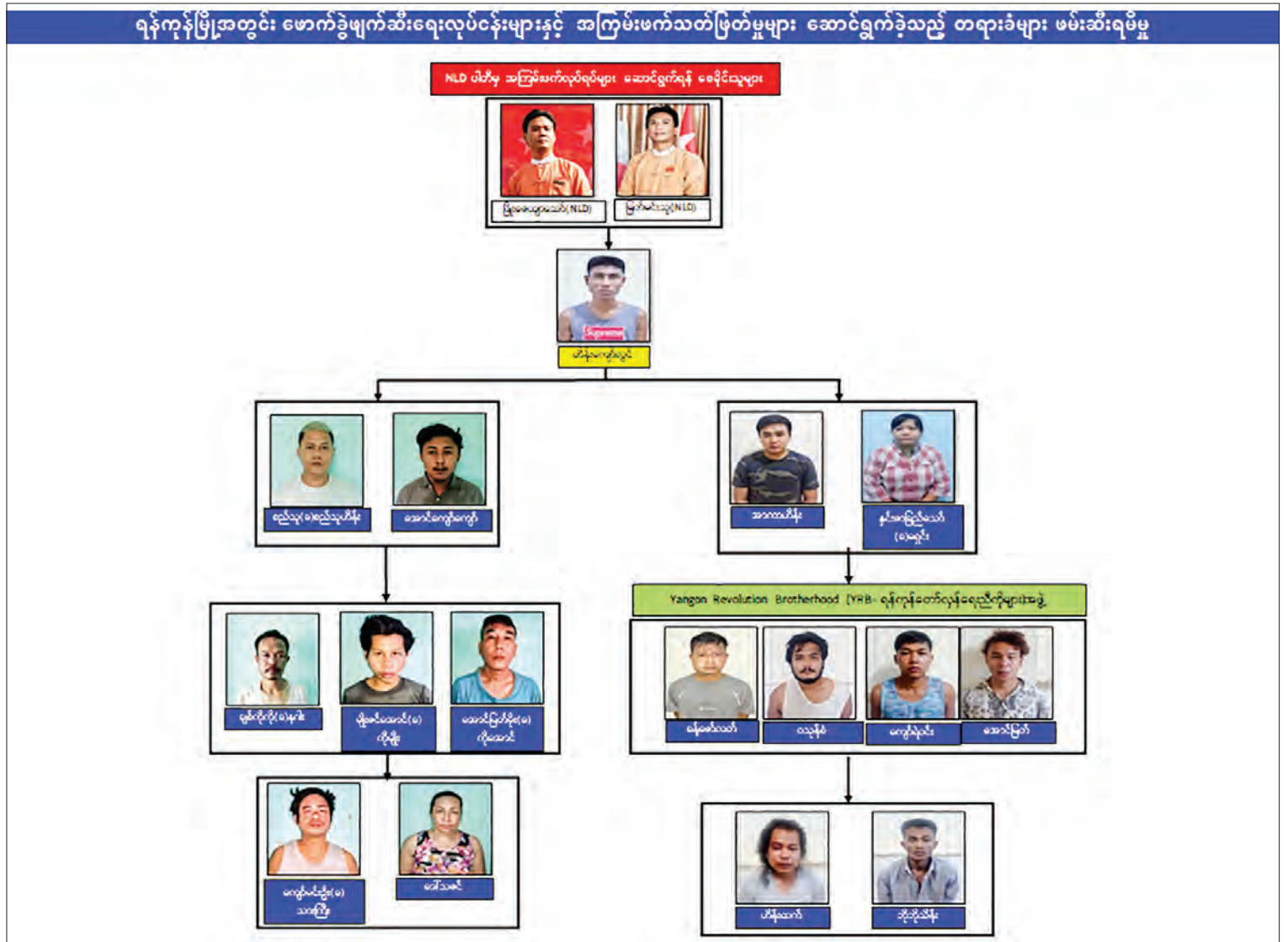
Police arrest suspects who committed mine attacks at Thunandar traffic light, under flyover in North Okkalapa Township together with drugs, firearms

IT has already been announced that 9 suspects, including Hein Kyaw Lwin -- 8 males and 1 female, who participated in mine attacks and violence in Dagon Myothit (South) Township together with 1 pistol, 58 assorted bullets, 50 (tical) of C4 gun power and other explosives, were arrested on 28 August.

According to the confession of Hein Kyaw Lwin, the police arrested Sithu (aka) Sithu Hein near Zero milepost of Yangon - Mandalay Expressway on 31 August, and in accord with his words, the police also arrested Aung Kyaw Kyaw at YGN KTV on Pyidaungsu road in No (37) Ward of Dagon Myothit (North).

Aung Kyaw Kyaw admitted that 1 pistol, 1 revolver, 129 bullets and other materials were kept at "Phoe Si Gas" in No (12) Ward of Thakayta Township.

According to the confession of Aung Kyaw Kyaw, the security forces arrested Chit Ko Ko (aka) Nagar, Myo Zin Aung (aka) Ko Myo and Aung Myat Moe (aka) Ko Aung in Ayeyawun street of No (60) Ward of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township on 9 Sep-



Confiscated weapons and ammunition in Mayangon Township.



Seized firearms and related materials in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) and Dagon Myothit (South).

tember together with 2 homemade guns, 23 9MM bullets and 1 homemade mine.

According to the words of Chit Ko Ko, the police arrested Kyaw Min Oo (aka) Thar Gyi at No (178), Inya Road, Industrial Zone (2) of No (64) Ward in Dagon Myothit (South) together with 3 homemade guns, 8 homemade short barrel guns, 20 homemade mines and other materials. Based on his words, the police raided No (316/B) in Aung Thukha Street of No (28) Ward in Dagon Myothit (North) and arrested his wife Thazin together with 1 homemade long barrel guns, 3

homemade short barrel guns, 82 bullets, 1 grenades, 2 homemade mines, 125 grams of Ice and 7,500 WY tablets.

According to the confessions of the suspects, the security forces also arrested Arkar Hein (aka) Ko Saw and Hnin Zarchi Thaw (aka) Ma Shin at D-Day teashop in Okkar Ward of North Okkalapa Township together with 1 remote-controlled mine on 11 September.

According to the words of Arkar Hein (aka) Ko Saw, the police raided No (B/580) of Muditar (1) in Mayangon Township on 12 September and arrested

Khant Zaw Latt together with 8 Lugar bullets and 1 magazine.

The police also raided No (B/722) of Muditar (1) in Mayangon Township according to the confession of Khant Zaw Latt, and seized 4 airsoft guns, 1 homemade gun, 6 bullets, 13 homemade mines, 1 crossbow, 4 keypad phones attached to mine, 12 electric fuses and other equipment.

Moreover, Wathone San was also arrested at No (2) Ward in Bawga Theikdi street of Mayangon Township together with 1 Italian made SIG Sauer pistol and 10 9mm bullets.

According to the confession of Wathone San, another suspects Aung Myat (aka) Naw Rein, Kyaw Ye Win and Hein Htet at No 22, 5/A in Zeya Thukha Street of Mayangon township.

According to the words of Hein Htet, the police arrested Bo Bo Thein, who transported the firearms, in Taw Win Street of Mayangon township together with 149 9mm bullets on 20 September.

In this case, the police arrested a total of 16 suspects - 14 males and 2 females and seized 1 9mm pistol, 1 revolver, 4 air-

soft guns, 14 homemade short barrel guns, 4 homemade long barrel guns, 1 crossbow, 12 electric fuse, 278 bullets, 1 grenade, 36 homemade mines, 4 keypad phones attached to mine, 125 grams of Ice, 7,500 WY tablets and other explosives.

Among these suspects, Wathone San, Khant Zaw Latt, Kyaw Ye Win, Ko Pee (aka) Nye-in Chan (still at large), Ko Tay and Sai Chit Pha joined the explosive training conducted by RCSS Brigade (707) in the forest located in the north-west of Panglong from 23 April to 22 May.

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Suspects involved in vandalism of Air KBZ aircraft arrested

SUSPECTS, who put leaves in the pitot tubes of the Air KBZ aircraft to harm the innocent passengers, were arrested after an investigation.

On 12 August 2021, staff from Air KBZ conducted a pre-departure inspection of ATR-72-600 (flight number XY-AMP) before its journey to Heho from Yangon. As leaves were found in both of the pitot tubes of the aircraft, the flight was replaced with flight number (XY-AMO).

The XY-AMO had to return to Yangon International Airport seven minutes after take-off from the airport at an altitude of 4,100 feet due to a malfunction of its Auto Pilot System. During the necessary inspection of the aircraft, leaves were found in the left pitot tube, and hence, it was replaced with ATR-72-600 flight number XY-AMN. Again, leaves were found in the left pitot tube of the replaced aircraft while the pre-departure inspection.



Pitot tubes or pitot probes (circled in left photo).



An act of vandalism with leaves.

put leaves in the pitot tubes of flight number XY-AMN and XY-AMP.

Thein Lin Htike also revealed that he put leaves in the left pitot tube of the flight number XY-AMO and XY-AMP on 8 August. It was also revealed that the bolts in the aircraft wheel and nuts in the engine power lever were planned to reduce.

As inserting the leaves into the aircraft's pitot tubes could cause the aircraft to crash into the air at a minimum speed and cause serious damage to the innocent passengers and crew, arrested suspects will be taken effective action under the law and the related suspects will soon be identified and arrested.—MNA

After an investigation, Thein Lin Htike, line maintenance manager, was arrested. According to his confession, he was instructed by Naing Lin Aung, who attended the

terrorist training in UNRA after participating in the CDM campaign, to put leaves in the tubes to disrupt the flights. He, then, told Nay Myo Shine and Yazar Win Naing about the

leaves and pretend not to know. On 5 August, Thein Lin Htike met with Nan Swin Khai (a) Khai Pee (B1 mechanic-3 officer) and instructed him to insert leaves in the tubes to

discredit the airlines. He accepted the idea and he was instructed to insert leaves in the right pitot tube of the flight number XY-AMP. Naing Htet Aung was instructed to

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According to the confessions of the suspects, Arkar Hein and Wai Moe Naing (still at large) exploded three homemade bombs at Thunandar traffic light in North Okkalapa Township on 6 September while Khant Zaw Latt, Wathone San, Aung Myat, Hein Htet and Ko Pee (aka) Nyein Chan (still at large) exploded 1 homemade mine under

the flyover in North Okkalapa township on 7 September. In order to conduct attacks in Yangon, the Yangon Revolution Brotherhood (YRB) was organized with Khant Zaw Latt, Ko Pee (aka) Nyein Chan (still at large), Wathone San, Kyaw Ye Win, Aung Myat, Htet Thura (still at large) and Saw Min Shein in the second week of June. The YRB conducted ex-

plosive training about 10 Mingaladon PDF members at No (722), Apartment B of Muditar Housing in Mayangone Township in the first week of July. Phyto Zeya Thaw (former Pyithu Hluttaw MP of Zabethiri Township, 2015) of the NLD party and Myat Min Thu (former MP of No (2) Region Hluttaw of Hlinethaya (west) Constituency, 2015) of NLD made arrangements for the

suspects to commit bomb attacks. They received the cash contribution from local/foreign terrorist organizations for violence and used the money to buy explosives and drugs. They let the people use the drugs to commit the attacks. The arrested suspects will face legal actions under the law. Security forces will also investigate to arrest the absconders. Moreover,

announcements are also released that the entire people can participate in fight terrorism and arresting perpetrators as quickly as possible, secretly report to the officials about their hiding places and activities, and the whistle-blowers and those who help arrest the suspects will be covertly rewarded. —MNA

Uplift good morals with curbing malpractices

THE relation to each other between the people is of great importance in the society. Those people convey various kinds of minds to do things which can primarily be identified as good deeds and evil acts. To be able to avoid the evil mood, everybody needs to embrace good morals.

Nobody can lend a helping hand to everybody for uplifting their good morals. They themselves have to uplift the morals which are standards of behaviour such as principles of right and wrong through the self-reliant basis. Persons with good morals possess higher standards of mind. It is because they are capable to assess the mundane world which mentions gain and loss, fame and dishonour, praise and blame, happiness and suffering. In fact, any kind of mundane world cannot shake hearts of the persons with good morals.

In fact, society should be constituted with persons with good morals. If so, society will be happy and pleasant. Hence, society can easily refrain from evil acts. Consequently, the participants from the society anticipate the best situations to be free from crimes, malpractices and inappropriate moves by sharing a brighter future.

Actually, the persons endowed with morals are sure not to face the situations to embrace regrets for anything because they do not have the records of committing evil acts. The persons with morals dare to abandon their lives but believe in their morals. Hence, those kinds of heroes with morals are of remembrance for all.

In fact, society should be constituted with persons with good morals. If so, society will be happy and pleasant. Hence, society can easily refrain from evil acts. Consequently, the participants from the society anticipate the best situations to be free from crimes, malpractices and inappropriate moves by sharing a brighter future.



Asia: The Largest Continent on Earth

By THAN HTUN (MYANMAR GEOSCIENCES SOCIETY)

ASIA is the largest and most populous continent in the world, sharing borders with Europe and Africa to its West, Oceania to its South, and North America to its East. On the other side of the continent, the islands which separate Asia from Oceania can also be difficult to delineate. Indonesia and parts of the Philippines are sometimes categorized as part of Oceania rather than as Asian.

Countries within West Asia include Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. Just north-east of Turkey lies the Caucasus, a mountainous region wedged between the Black Sea to the West and the Caspian Sea to the East. The Caucasus includes Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and parts of Russia.

Central Asia is located just north of Iran and Afghanistan and south of Russia, consisting of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. East Asia defines the region between Central Asia, Russia, and the Pacific Ocean roughly up to the beginning of the Tropic of Cancer.

The countries of East Asia include China, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, and Mongolia (as well as Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan).

South Asia is also referred to as the Indian Subcontinent, separated from East Asia by the Himalayan Mountains between China and India and defined largely by the Indian Tectonic Plate on which its countries largely rest. South Asian countries include Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. Lastly, the Southeast Asian region defines the tropical and equatorial countries between South and East Asia to the North and Oceania to the South.

The countries of Southeast Asia include Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, East Timor (or Timor-Leste), and Viet Nam.

History

Due to its immense size and diverse populations, it is nearly impossible to offer a unified history of Asia. The continent is the birthplace of nearly all major religions in the world today, as well as a vast number of technological and civilizational advancements.

West Asia is at times called the "Cradle of Civilization," as it was here that Neolithic humans first began their transition from a nomadic to a sedentary lifestyle, inventing the wheel and basic agriculture in order to do so. West Asia was also home to the first known human civilizations, and Macau are included as countries, then Macau (647 thousand people) becomes the third-least populous country in Asia.

an family consists of the Indo-Aryans, Iranian, and Slavic languages, as well as Armenian.

Religion

Asia is the birthplace of all the world's major religions- Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism—and of many minor ones. Of those, only Christianity developed primarily outside

Geologic history

Asia is not only Earth's largest continent but also its youngest and structurally most complicated one. Although Asia's evolution began almost four billion years ago, more than half of the continent remains seismically active,

course of human history.

The paleotectonic evolution of Asia terminated some 40 to 50 million years ago as a result of the collision of the Indian subcontinent with Eurasia. Asia's subsequent neotectonic development has largely disrupted the continent's preexisting fabric. The first-order neotectonic units of Asia are Stable Asia, the Arabian and Indian cratons, the Alpidic plate boundary zone (along which the Arabian and Indian platforms have collided with the Eurasian continental plate), and the island arcs and marginal basins.

Mountain systems

The Himalayas mountain extends for about 1,550 miles, separating the Indian subcontinent from the rest of Asia. The Indian subcontinent, once connected to Africa, collided with the Eurasian continent about 50 million to 55 million years ago, forming the Himalayas. The Indian subcontinent is still crashing northward into Asia, and the Himalayas are growing about 2 inches every year. The Himalayas cover more than 236,000 square miles, passing through the northern states of India and making up most of the terrain of Nepal and Bhutan. The Himalayas are so vast that they are composed of three different mountain belts. The northernmost belt, known as the Great Himalayas, has the highest average elevation at 20,000 feet. The belt contains nine of the highest peaks in the world, which all reach more than 26,000 feet tall. This belt includes the highest mountain summit in the world, Mount Everest, which stands at 29,035 feet.

The Tien Shan mountain system stretches for about 1,500 miles, straddling the border between Kyrgyzstan and China. The name Tien Shan means "Celestial Mountains" in Chinese. The two highest peaks in the Tien Shan are Victory Peak, which stands at 24,406 feet, and Khan Tängiri Peak, which stands at 22,949 feet. Tien Shan also has more than 3,900 square miles of glaciers.

The largest glacier is Engilchek Glacier, which is about 37 miles long.

The Ural Mountains run for approximately 1,550 miles in an

indirect north-south line from Russia to Kazakhstan. The Ural Mountains are some of the world's oldest, at 250 million to 300 million years old. Millions of years of erosion have lowered the mountains significantly, and today their average elevation is between 3,000 to 4,000 feet.

Plains, Steppes and Deserts

The West Siberian Plain, located in central Russia, is considered one of the world's largest areas of continuous flatland. It extends from north to south about 1,500 miles and from west to east about 1,200 miles. With more than 50 per cent of its area at less than 330 feet above sea level, the plain contains some of the world's largest swamps and flood plains.

Central Asia is dominated by a steppe landscape, a large area of flat, unforested grassland. Mongolia can be divided into different steppe zones: the mountain forest-steppe, the arid steppe, and the desert steppe. These zones transition from the country's mountainous region in the north to the Gobi Desert on the southern border with China.

The Rub' al Khali desert, considered the world's largest sand sea, covers an area larger than France across Saudi Arabia, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. It holds roughly half as much sand as Africa's Sahara desert, even though it is 15 times smaller in size. The desert is known as the Empty Quarter because it is virtually inhospitable to humans except for Bedouin tribes that live on its edges.

The islands

A large proportion of the islands of Asia are mountainous. The highlands of Sri Lanka rise to 8,281 feet; Mount Kinabalu in Malaysia reaches 13,455 feet; Mount Fuji on the Japanese island of Honshu has an elevation of 12,388 feet; and numerous volcanoes on Sumatra, Java, and Mindanao reach 10,000 feet. Among the active volcanoes associated with the Ring of Fire are Krakatoa on Rakata Island in Indonesia, Mount Pinatubo on Luzon in the Philippines, and Mount Aso on Kyushu in Japan.

SEE PAGE-10



Map of Continent of Asia. Source: India Today

such as Ancient Sumer and the ancient Assyrian, Babylonian, and Akkadian empires. Meanwhile, the Indus Valley Civilization (or Harappan Civilization) was the first known civilization formed in South Asia, and in East Asia, the Xia Dynasty would be the first recorded account of Ancient China.

Population

With a population of roughly 4.4 billion, or 62% of the global population (about 7.1 billion), Asia is by far the most populated continent on the planet. The most populous countries in Asia are China (1.4 billion people), India (1.3 billion people), Indonesia (259 million people), and Pakistan (193 million people). Asia's least populated countries are Maldives (341 thousand people), Brunei (412 thousand people), Bhutan (771 thousand people), and East Timor (1.2 million people). If Hong Kong

of Asia; it exerts little influence on the continent, though many Asian countries have Christian minorities. Buddhism has had a greater impact outside its birthplace in India and is prevalent in various forms in China, South Korea, Japan, Southeast Asian countries, and Sri Lanka. Islam has spread out of Arabia eastward to South and Southeast Asia. Hinduism has been mostly confined to the Indian subcontinent.

Languages

The languages of Asia are richly diverse. The vast majority of the people of continental Asia speak a language in one of three large language families. The first, Altaic, consists of the Turkic, Mongolian, and Manchu-Tungus (Tungusic) subfamilies. The second, Sino-Tibetan, includes the Chinese and Tibeto-Burman languages. Finally, the Indo-Europe-

UNWTO logo, Myanmar Tourism logo, WORLD TOURISM DAY 2021 logo, TOURISM FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH logo, and Burmese text: "ကမ္ဘာ့နံပုံ့ခြီးတိုးတက်ရေး ခရီးသွားလုပ်ငန်းဖြင့် ဖော်ဆောင်ပေး" and "၂၇ - ၉ - ၂၀၂၁"

15th World Rabies Day 28 September logo, Rabies Facts Not Fear logo, Burmese text: "ခွေးရှူးရောဂါကင်းစင်ရေး၊ ရင်ဆိုင်လက်တွဲ ပူးပေါင်းပေး" and "၂၀၂၁ ခုနှစ်၊ စက်တင်ဘာလ (၂၈) ရက်၊ ဝမ်းမြူးရောဂါနှင့်ကုသရေးဦးစီးဌာန"

Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 24 September 2021). BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (18:30) hrs M.S.T today, the low pressure area over Eastcentral Bay of Bengal has intensified into a depression. It is centered at about (115) Nautical miles Southwest of Sittwe, (195) Nautical miles West-Northwest of Gwa, (235) Nautical miles Northwest of Hainggyigyun (Myanmar) and (290) Nautical miles Southeast of Paradip (India). Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weak elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal. SPECIAL FEATURES: According to the observations at (18:30) hrs MST today, the land tropical Depression over the Laos has moved westwards and now lies over the Thailand still persists. It is forecast to move Westwards. FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 25 September, 2021: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kachin State, scattered in Northern Shan State, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago Regions and (Southern and Eastern) Shan, Chin States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavyfalls in Ayeawady Region and Rakhine States and isolated heavyfalls in Taninthayi Region and Kayin, Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%). STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) m.p.h. Wave height will be about (9-12) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts. OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increased rain in Naypyitaw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon States. FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 25 September, 2021: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%). FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 25 September, 2021: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%). FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 25 September, 2021: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%). WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region and widespread in Yangon Region.

Asia: The Largest Continent on Earth

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Rivers

Asia is a land of great rivers. The followings are eight major rivers in Asia. Yangtze River (3,915 miles) and Yellow River (3,395 miles) in China. Mekong River (3,050 miles) border of Thailand and Laos. Lena River (2,668 miles) in Russia. Irtysh River (2,640 miles) in Russia, China, Kazakhstan). Brahmaputra River (2,391 miles) in India, Bangladesh, Tibet. Ob River (2,268 miles) in Biysk, Barnaul, Novosibirsk, Surat. Indus River (2,243 miles) in China, India and Pakistan.

Lakes

The twelve largest lakes in Asia are the Caspian Sea in Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Russia, Turkmenistan. Lake Balkhal and Lake Taymir in Russia. Lake Balkhash in Kazakhstan. Issyk-Kul Lake in Kyrgyzstan. Lake Urmia in Iran. Qinghai Lake and Poyang Lake in China. Lake Khanka in China, Russia. Sarygamysh Lake in Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan. Van Lake in Turkey. Uvs Lake in Mongolia..

Archaeological sites

The followings are the most prominent, iconic Archaeolog-

ical spots in Asia. Hampi in India, Bagan in Myanmar, Angkor Wat in Cambodia, Sigiriya in Sri Lanka, Polonnaruwa in Sri Lanka, Anuradhapura in Sri Lanka, Great Wall of China, Terracotta Warriors in China and Ayutthaya in Thailand.

Agriculture

Rice is one of Asia's most important agricultural commodities and a major food staple of the entire continent. Asia has the highest rates of rice consumption, averaging more than 79 kilogrammes (175 pounds) per person annually. As a result, the

majority of Asia's rice stays within the region and international trade rates are fairly low. Southeast Asia is also a major producer of tropical fruits, such as mango, papaya, and pineapple. India is the world's largest mango-producing nation. Thailand and the Philippines are the region's major producers of pineapple.

Mining

China, India, Russia, and Indonesia are the continent's most productive mining economies. These countries extract many of the same minerals. China is the world's largest producer of

aluminium, gold, tin, and coal. India is also a major producer of aluminium and iron ore, along with other minerals such as baryte, chromium, and manganese. Russia is a major producer of coal, tungsten, diamonds, iron, and steel. Indonesia is a major producer of coal, gold, copper, and tin.

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Domestic black bean price hits record high of K1.66 mln per tonne

MYANMAR domestic black bean has spiked to K1,660,000 per tonne, according to the Yangon Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Bayintnaung Commodity Depot).

Although the black bean price on 1 September was K1,348,000 per tonne, the price jumped to K1,660,000 per tonne on 24 September, an increase of over K310,000 per tonne in over 20 days, according to the bean market data.

The prices of Myanmar black beans were up owing to the Kyat depreciation in the local foreign market.

Currently, the US dollar exchange rate against the Myan-

mar kyat stood over K2,000 per dollar on 24 September.

Besides, India, the primary buyer of Myanmar pulses, has redefined black bean, green gram and pigeon pea from a restricted commodity to a free import commodity. Since 2017, India has been setting import quota on beans, including black bean and pigeon pea under the Indian government pulse foreign trade policy for 2015-2020.

At present, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of India issued proclamation S.O.1858 (E) on 15 May 2021 that the three pulses have been changed from a restricted commodity to a free import commodity as of 31 Octo-

ber 2021.

The issuance of bill of lading to import pigeon pea, green gram and black bean needs to be completed by 31 October 2021 and the port clearance of imported cargos should be completed by 30 November; the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of India notified.

A memorandum of understanding was signed on 18 June to export a total of 350,000 tonnes of Myanmar pulses including 250,000 tonnes of black bean and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon pea to India in five consecutive years (from the 2021-22FY to the 2025-26FY), according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The black bean plantations are yielding around 400,000 tonnes annually in Myanmar. Besides, Myanmar has also produced about 50,000 tonnes of pigeon peas yearly.

The black bean, which is mainly bought from India, is mainly grown in Myanmar.

Other pulses including green gram and pigeon pea are grown in Africa and Australia in addition to Myanmar, according to Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association. — NN/GNLM



Although the black bean price on 1 September was K1,348,000 per tonne, the price jumped to K1,660,000 per tonne on 24 September, an increase of over K310,000 per tonne in over 20 days, according to the bean market data.

Myanmar border trade hits over \$9.13 bln this FY



Myanmar's major export items are farm, animal, marine, forest, mining, CMP and other products. Myanmar mainly imports capital goods, industrial raw materials, personal goods and CMP raw materials.

MYANMAR'S border trade hit over US\$ 9.13 billion in the financial year 2020-21, down over \$1.32 billion compared with that of the same period of last FY, according to figures released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Border trade with Bangladesh, India, Thailand and China has declined compared to the last FY.

During the period, the country's export via land borders amounted to \$5.9 billion while its import shared \$3.16 billion. This FY' border trade decreased by over \$1.32 billion compared to the same period of last FY when it amounted to \$10.45 billion, the ministry's figures said.

Muse topped the list of border checkpoints with the

most trade value of \$3.6 billion, followed by Myawady with \$1.8 billion.

The country conducts border trade with neighbouring China through Muse, Lweje, Kampaiti Chinshwehaw and Kengtung crossings, with Thailand via Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Meisei checkpoints, with Bangladesh via Sitway and Maungtaw and with India through Tamu and Reed border posts, respectively.

Myanmar's major export items are farm, animal, marine, forest, mining, CMP and other products. Myanmar mainly imports capital goods, industrial raw materials, personal goods and CMP raw materials. — ACM/GNLM

Nearly 17% Myanmar population receives COVID-19 vaccines

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Health, nearly 17 per cent of the Myanmar population has received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine so far.

Currently, the COVID-19 vaccines are being given priority to 36.9 million people over the

age of 18 in Myanmar.

The country targets to cover 20 per cent of the population at the end of September, 50 per cent at the end of 2021 and 70 per cent in mid-2022. So far, about 16.7 per cent of the population has received full doses of the

COVID-19 vaccines, according to the Ministry of Health.

Till 21 September, 3.583 million people have received full doses of vaccine and 2.575 people the first doses of vaccine in Myanmar, totalling 6.159 million people, according to the Ministry.

So far, Myanmar has already received 14.2 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines. Myanmar launched the COVID-19 vaccination programme in January 2021 across the country. The country also administrated 150,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines to the

target groups daily.

Sinopharm and Sinovac vaccines have been approved by the WHO for emergency use. The vaccine has been recommended for over 18 years old, according to the WHO's guidance. — Aye Maung/GNLM

Myanmar aquaculture exports down by \$66 mln this FY

THE value of Myanmar's aquaculture exports as of 10 September 2021 has dropped dramatically to US\$742.7 million since 1 October 2020, falling short of \$66 million to reach the value recorded during the year-ago period, as per the statistics released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar shipped \$808.85 million worth of fishery products to the external market in the corresponding period of the last FY.

Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) is attempting to grow fishery export regardless of the COVID-19 disruption on maritime trade, closure of land borders and fuel oil price instability due to Kyat depreciation.

Despite the open season of offshore fishing, Myanmar's fishery export industry is facing a series of challenges such as the oil price hike, surge in container shipping rate, the closure of border posts, disruption on maritime trade and the COVID-19 negative impacts. Consequently, it will harm the export sector somehow in the long term.

"If the border post resumes the trade activity, the trade will go smoothly. The closure of the border posts is triggered by the COVID-19 threats. The cross-border between Myanmar and Bangladesh is still open for trade. The federation is planning to export fishery products to Bangladesh. Myanma Port Authority is also ensuring smooth freight flow with non-stop operation. The federation is attempting to tackle this fishery export hurdles," said Dr



There are 480,000 acres of fish and prawn breeding farms across the country and more than 120 cold-storage facilities in Myanmar.

Toe Nanda Tin, senior vice-president of MFF.

The price of fish fell by half. The high input cost such as fishing net, oil price posed another burden for the industry, coupled with the devaluation of Kyat in the forex market, Mawlamyine Commodity Centre stated.

The marketable fish products, especially fish, shrimp, eel and crab from Taninthayi and Ayeyawady regions and Rakhine State are primarily exported to foreign markets.

The federation is turning to the Bangladesh market with export potentials. MFF is working together with the stockholders in the supply chain to have sustainable export growth.

The fishery exports through the Sino-Myanmar border has ground to a halt following the consequences and safety measures on the imported seafood amid the COVID-19 pandemic, traders

stressed.

Myanmar's fishery export was experiencing a downturn due to the import restrictions triggered by the detection of the COVID-19 on fish imports in China. Chinese market constitutes about 65 per cent of Myanmar's fishery exports.

China accounted for US\$254 million out of overall fishery export value of \$850 million in the past financial year 2019-2020.

At present, China shut down the border areas in wake of the COVID surge in Myanmar.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) issued guidelines to ensure food safety during the COVID-19 pandemic in April 2020.

The permitted companies are advised to carry out food safety plans, follow the guidelines of WHO and FAO, formulate the safety management system and

suspend the exports if any suspicious foodborne virus or virus infection risk are found in the products. The export is likely to resume once the products meet food safety criteria set by the General Administration of Customs of the People Republic of China (GACC).

Myanmar Fisheries Federation stated that only the G2G pact can tackle problems which faced in the export of farm-raised fish and prawns and ensure smooth freight movement between countries to bolster exports.

During the last FY2019-2020, MFF expected to earn more than \$800 million from fishery exports and it reached a target.

Myanmar exports fisheries products, such as fish, prawns, and crabs, to markets in 40 countries, including China, Saudi Arabia, the US, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, and countries in the European Union.

The MFF is making concerted efforts to increase fishery export earnings by developing fish farms that meet international standards and adopting advanced fishing techniques.

To ensure food safety, the foreign market requires suppliers to obtain Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) and Good Aquaculture Practices (GAQP) certificates.

To meet international market standards, fishery products must be sourced only from hatcheries that are compliant with GAQP. The MFF is working with fish farmers, processors, and the Fisheries Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation to develop the GAQP system.

Processors can screen fishery products for food safety at ISO-accredited laboratories under the Fisheries Department.

There are 480,000 acres of fish and prawn breeding farms across the country and more than 120 cold-storage facilities in Myanmar.

Myanmar exported 340,000 tonnes of fishery products worth \$530 million in the 2013-2014FY, 330,000 tonnes worth \$480 million in the 2014-2015FY, 360,000 tonnes worth \$500 million in the 2015-2016FY, 430,000 tonnes worth \$600 million in the 2016-2017FY, 560,000 tonnes worth \$700 million in the 2017-2018FY and 580,000 tonnes worth over \$730 million in the 2018-2019FY respectively, according to the Commerce Ministry. —KK/GNLM

Rubber export exceeds \$401 mln this FY

MYANMAR'S rubber export generated more than US\$401 million revenue in the past ten months (October-July) of the current financial year 2020-2021, the Ministry of Commerce's data showed.

The price of domestic natural rubber depends on the model of supply and demand when the harvest season ends. The rubber production usually declines during the off-season and it was priced at above K1,000 per pound on 24 September 2021, according to Mawlamyine commodity wholesale centre.

Myanmar's natural rubber price is also tracking the global rates, Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association (MRPPA) stated.

The growing demand for rubber gloves during the early outbreak coronavirus pandemic,

shortage of natural rubber, the depreciation of Kyat were the reasons for price rise last year, rubber exporters pointed out.

Myanmar's rubber is priced at lower than the international rate owing to raw material variability. Rubber price stood at US\$2,600 per tonne in 2020-end in the global market, whereas Myanmar rubber fetched only \$2,100 per pound.

Rubber is primarily produced in Mon and Kayin states and Taninthayi, Bago, and Yangon regions in Myanmar. As per 2018-2019 rubber season's data, there are over 1.628 million acres of rubber plantations in Myanmar, with Mon State accounting for 497,153 acres, followed by Taninthayi Region with 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 produced 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.

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

At present, Myanmar is exporting only rubber sheets owing to a lack of machinery and technology. Export rubber varieties include synthetic rubber, ribbed smoked sheet RSS 1,3,5, Myanmar Standard Rubber MSR-20, Technically Specified Rubber



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

TSR-20, and Crepe Rubber.

About 150,000 tons of rubber was exported in the 2017-2018 financial year. Myanmar shipped over 190,000 tonnes of rubber, with an estimated value of \$250 million, to external markets in the 2018-2019 budget year, an increase of 41,000 tonnes which

helped boost earnings by \$60 million compared to the year-ago period, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar exported over 200,000 tonnes of natural rubber to foreign countries last FY2019-2020, generating an income of over \$200 million. —KK/GNLM

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In respect of "Bicycles; E-bikes; golf carts; dollies [hand trucks]; Prams; rickshaws; sleighs; land vehicles and conveyances; strollers; stroller hoods; stroller covers; bags adapted for strollers; handmuffs for strollers" included in **International Class 12**; "Leather and imitations of leather, and goods made of these materials (included in class 18), in particular small leather goods; trunks and travelling bags; bags; umbrellas and parasols; Luggage, bags, wallets and other carriers" included in **International Class 18**; "Household or kitchen utensils and containers; cocktail shakers; brushes; glassware; porcelain; reusable bottles, thermo bottles; hair brushes; boot brushes; shaving brushes; washing brushes; bottle brushes; golf brushes; tooth brush cases; holder for brushes; combs; cases for combs" included in **International Class 21**; "Clothing for men, women and children; stockings; headgear; underwear; nightwear; swimwear; bathrobes; belts; shawls; accessories, in particular headscarves, neck scarves, shawls, dress handkerchiefs; ties; gloves; shoes; belts of leather" included in **International Class 25** and "Business management, sales consultancy; Wholesale and retail services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Marketing services; Market research and market analysis; Advertising; Sales promotion; Rental of advertising space; Distribution of goods and advertising material for advertising purposes, including via electronic media and via the Internet; presentation of goods, in particular shop and shop window dressing; Organization of Exhibitions for commercial or advertising purposes; Promotion of business relationships by providing of commercial and business contacts; advice and advisory services for consumers; Business consultancy and administration; Business organization consulting; Professional business consulting; Fashion consultancy; organization of fashion shows for commercial, industrial and advertising purposes; Management of retail stores in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Online wholesale and retail services and online ordering services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Mail ordering services and computerized online-ordering services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles" included in **International Class 35**.

The above mark has been filed as European Union Trademark Application No. 018441076, on March 29, 2021.



In respect of "Spectacles and parts therefor; spectacle cases; cell phone cases; laptop cases; Smartwatches and Software; mobile Apps; wearable activity trackers; Electronic pens; ear phones; ear plugs; alarm bells; Films, Downloadable image files; Electronic magazines; Downloadable music files; Podcasts; USB web keys; Communications headsets; Microphones for communication devices; Mobile data receivers; Digital optical transmission apparatus; CD storage wallets; Digital notepads; Electronic memories; Labels with integrated RFID chips; Labels carrying magnetically recorded or encoded information; Labels with machine-readable codes; Cases for music storage devices; Memory sticks; Headsets for virtual reality games; Electronic book reader covers; Smart speakers; MP4 players; Headphones; Wireless headphones; In-ear headphones; Headphones for smart phones; Cases for headphones; Noise cancelling headphones; Wireless headsets for smartphones; Telephone headsets; Headphone-microphone combinations; Loudspeakers; Cabinets for loudspeakers; Wireless speakers; Portable speaker docks" included in **International Class 9**; "Precious metals and their alloys and goods of precious metals or coated therewith (included in class 14); jewellery; clocks and watches; jewellery boxes and watch boxes; alarm clocks; cuff links" included in **International Class 14**; "Paper, cardboard and goods made from these materials (included in class 16); hangtags; printed matter, bookbinding material; photographs [printed]; office requisites, except furniture; pencil sharpeners, electric or non-electric; drawing rulers, punches [office requisites], rubber erasers, stamp pads, pads [stationery]; bags [envelopes, pouches] of paper or plastics, for packaging; packing [cushioning, stuffing] materials of paper or cardboard; packing paper; containers of plastic, paper or cardboard for packaging; money clips; stickers" included in **International Class 16**; "Leather and imitations of leather, and goods made of these materials (included in class 18), in particular small leather goods; trunks and travelling bags; bags; umbrellas and parasols; Luggage, bags, wallets and other carriers" included in **International Class 18**; "Woven fabrics and textile goods, included in class 24, in particular handkerchiefs and hand towels; bed and table linen, wall hangings of textile, bed blankets and curtains of textile materials" included in **International Class 24**; "Clothing for men, women and children; stockings; headgear; underwear; nightwear; swimwear; bathrobes; belts; shawls; accessories, in particular headscarves, neck scarves, shawls, dress handkerchiefs; ties; gloves; shoes; belts of leather" included in **International Class 25** and "Business management, sales consultancy; Wholesale and retail services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Marketing services; Market research and market analysis; Advertising; Sales promotion; Rental of advertising space; Distribution of goods and advertising material for advertising purposes, including via electronic media and via the Internet; presentation of goods, in particular shop and shop window dressing; Organization of Exhibitions for commercial or advertising purposes; Promotion of business relationships by providing of commercial and business contacts; advice and advisory services for consumers; Business consultancy and administration; Business organization consulting; Professional business consulting; Fashion consultancy; organization of fashion shows for commercial, industrial and advertising purposes; Management of retail stores in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Online wholesale and retail services and online ordering services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Mail ordering services and computerized online-ordering services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles" included in **International Class 35**.

The above mark has been filed as European Union Trademark Application No. 018440541, on March 26, 2021.

HUGO BOSS

In respect of "Paper, cardboard and goods made from these materials (included in class 16); hangtags; printed matter, bookbinding material; photographs [printed]; stationery, ball-point pens, fountain pens and pencils; office requisites, except furniture; pencil sharpeners, electric or non-electric; drawing rulers, punches [office requisites], rubber erasers, stamp pads, pads [stationery]; bags [envelopes, pouches] of paper or plastics, for packaging; packing [cushioning, stuffing] materials of paper or cardboard; packing paper; containers of plastic, paper or cardboard for packaging; money clips; stickers" included in **International Class 16** and "Business management, sales consultancy; Wholesale and retail services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Marketing services; Market research and market analysis; Advertising; Sales promotion; Rental of advertising space; Distribution of goods and advertising material for advertising purposes, including via electronic media and via the Internet; presentation of goods, in particular shop and shop window dressing; Organization of Exhibitions for commercial or advertising purposes; Promotion of business relationships by providing of commercial and business contacts; advice and advisory services for consumers; Business consultancy and administration; Business organization consulting; Professional business consulting; Fashion consultancy; organization of fashion shows for commercial, industrial and advertising purposes; Management of retail stores in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles,

stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Online wholesale and retail services and online ordering services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Mail ordering services and computerized online-ordering services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles" included in **International Class 35**.

The above mark has been filed as European Union Trademark Application No. 018441080, on March 29, 2021.



In respect of "Paper, cardboard and goods made from these materials (included in class 16); hangtags; printed matter, bookbinding material; photographs [printed]; office requisites, except furniture; pencil sharpeners, electric or non-electric; drawing rulers, punches [office requisites], rubber erasers, stamp pads, pads [stationery]; bags [envelopes, pouches] of paper or plastics, for packaging; packing [cushioning, stuffing] materials of paper or cardboard; packing paper; containers of plastic, paper or cardboard for packaging; money clips; stickers" included in **International Class 16**; "Leather and imitations of leather, and goods made of these materials (included in class 18), in particular small leather goods; trunks and travelling bags; bags; umbrellas and parasols; Luggage, bags, wallets and other carriers" included in **International Class 18**; "Clothing for men, women and children; stockings; headgear; underwear; nightwear; swimwear; bathrobes; belts; shawls; accessories, in particular headscarves, neck scarves, shawls, dress handkerchiefs; ties; gloves; shoes; belts of leather" included in **International Class 25** and "Business management, sales consultancy; Wholesale and retail services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Marketing services; Market research and market analysis; Advertising; Sales promotion; Rental of advertising space; Distribution of goods and advertising material for advertising purposes, including via electronic media and via the Internet; presentation of goods, in particular shop and shop window dressing; Organization of Exhibitions for commercial or advertising purposes; Promotion of business relationships by providing of commercial and business contacts; advice and advisory services for consumers; Business consultancy and administration; Business organization consulting; Professional business consulting; Fashion consultancy; organization of fashion shows for commercial, industrial and advertising purposes; Management of retail stores in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Online wholesale and retail services and online ordering services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles; Mail ordering services and computerized online-ordering services in relation to clothing, footwear, headgear and clocks and watches, spectacles, fashion accessories, cosmetics and perfumery, goods of leather, bags, bed linen, home textiles, household articles, stationery, luggage, sporting articles and smoking articles" included in **International Class 35**.

The above mark has been filed as European Union Trademark Application No. 018439831, on March 26, 2021.

Notice is hereby given that the trademark owner claims the colors "white on beige" in respect of and as represented in the abovementioned trademark.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw Htoo Htoo, H.G.P
For HUGO BOSS Trade Mark Management GmbH & Co. KG,
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botataung Township, Yangon.
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
hh@kcyangon.com

Dated 25th September 2021

<p>CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V B TRADER VOY.NO. (136S)</p> <p>Consignees of cargo carried on M.V B TRADER VOY.NO. (136S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-9-2021 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT/MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Phone No: 2301185</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shipping Agency Department Myanma Port Authority</p> <p>Agent For: M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD</p>	<p>CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V MCL 17 V.01</p> <p>Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCL 17 VOY. NO. (01) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-9-2021 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AIPT-1 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Phone No: 2301928</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shipping Agency Department Myanma Port Authority</p> <p>Agent For: M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD</p>	<p>The Global New Light of Myanmar www.gnlm.com.mm</p> <p>သတင်းစာ မှာယူလိုပါက ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ် 09 454 237 515</p> <p>သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစောင်များကို နှိုင်းတကာခံချိန်မီ ပုံနှိပ်လိုပါက ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ် 01 860 4530</p> <p>ကြော်ငြာခွင့်များနှင့် ကြော်ငြာအခွင့်အလမ်းများ ကြော်ငြာ ထည့်သွင်းလိုပါက ထိုက်ရိုက်ဆက်သွယ် ဆွေးနွေးနိုင်ပါတယ် 09 974 424 848</p>
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Japan needs resilient economy to overcome new challenges: white paper

JAPAN needs a "resilient" economy to overcome new challenges by looking for ways to curb the corona-virus spread and promote economic activities concurrently, and implementing reform measures to improve the business environment, a government report said Friday.

With the nation still struggling to contain the pandemic and unable to focus on reviving the economy, it is vital to build an economy capable of flexibly responding to emergencies such as supply chain disruption and climate change, according to the white paper on the economy and finances for fiscal 2021.

At a time when the domestic economy remains "on a recovery phase but its pace is moderate," the annual report said the country needs to address three pressing issues -- balancing COVID-19 measures with economic revitalization, strengthening supply chains, and promoting business restructuring and labour market liquidity.

The white paper calls for practical ways including use of a vaccination certificate to revive consumption and help support corporate activities.

The government said last week that more than half of Japan's population has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, with the inoculation rate finally catching up with the United States, Britain and other major economies after the slow rollout.—Kyodo

At UN, West frustrated by slow pace with Iran

THE United States and European Union voiced frustration at the UN this week over the slow pace with Iran, saying its new government showed no indication it was ready to revive a nuclear accord.

Iran's new ultraconservative president, Ebrahim Raisi, strongly denounced the United States in a video address to the General Assembly Tuesday and indicated he backed a return to indirect talks with the United States in Vienna, although he did not give a timeline.

"We don't have yet an agreement by Iran to return to the talks in Vienna," Secretary of State Antony Blinken told reporters Thursday before leaving the annual UN summit.

"We're pretty much prepared to return to Vienna to continue the talks. And the question is whether—and if so when—Iran is prepared to do that," Blinken



A handout picture provided by the Iranian presidency on 21 September 2021 shows Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi addressing the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly from Tehran. **PHOTO: IRANIAN PRESIDENCY/AFP**

said.

"We await an answer on that."

The talks, brokered by the Europeans, seek the return of the United States to the agreement trashed by former presi-

dent Donald Trump -- as well as Iran's return to full compliance.

European nations said they heard nothing concrete as they met with Iran's new foreign minister, Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, who came to New York.—AFP

EU to impose universal phone charger, in blow to Apple

THE European Union on Thursday said it will impose a universal charger for smartphones, setting up a clash with Apple and

its widely used iPhone connector cable.

The European Commission believes a standard cable for all

devices will cut back on electronic waste, but Apple says a one-size fits all charger will stop innovation and create more pollution.

The EU is a massive market of 450 million people, and the imposition of the USB-C as a cable standard could have a decisive effect on the global smartphone market.

"European consumers have been frustrated long enough about incompatible chargers piling up in their drawers," said EU executive vice president Margrethe Vestager in a statement.

"We gave industry plenty of time to come up with their own solutions, now time is ripe for legislative action for a common charger," she said.—AFP



The EU is a massive market of 450 million people, and the imposition of the USB-C as a cable standard could have a decisive effect on the global smartphone market. **PHOTO: AFP**

'Silent killing': Starvation stalks Ethiopia's Tigray

MOTHERS in Ethiopia's war-scarred Tigray region describe feeding leaves to their children in a desperate bid to keep them alive.

As they move from place to place, dodging fighting and searching for aid, they watch for telltale signs of malnutrition: sluggishness, rashes, loss of appetite.

Those signs are increasingly

frequent these days, and in some cases portend the worst possible outcome, according to internal documents and photographs from one aid agency—seen this week by AFP—that detail starvation deaths in two locations, with more suspected elsewhere.

"Before the war, my daughter was in good physical and mental health... now look at her," said the mother of a 20-month-

old in the northern city of Adigrat, according to one testimony provided by the agency.

"It's been weeks since she lost her appetite. Presently she cannot walk, she lost her smiley face."

It has been nearly three months since the UN warned that 400,000 people across Tigray had "crossed the threshold into famine". —AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mexico president tells US 'time to act' on migrant crisis

MEXICAN President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador appealed to the United States on Wednesday to take urgent action to tackle the migrant crisis reverberating across the Americas.

Tens of thousands of migrants, many of them Haitians previously living in South America, have arrived in recent weeks in Mexico hoping to enter the United States.

Instead they have found themselves stranded in a crowded city in southern Mexico or at the border with the United States, their hopes of being given asylum quickly fading.

"Enough talking, it's time to act," Lopez Obrador told reporters.

Mexico and Central American countries were still waiting for several billion dollars pledged by Washington for economic development to reduce the need for migrants to flee poverty, he said.

"There was a commitment that they were going to invest four billion—two billion for Central America and two billion for Mexico. Nothing has come—nothing," Lopez Obrador said.

At the same time he added that US President Joe Biden "is interested" in solving the problem and said he was hopeful there would be a regional agreement on economic development.

"I think there will be results," he said.

The Mexican leader has repeatedly proposed expanding one of his domestic welfare programmes into Central America with the aim of generating 1.2 million jobs in the region.—AFP

Families of Italy cable car crash survivor face off in Israel court

AN Israeli family court held an initial hearing Thursday in the case of a boy who was the sole survivor of an Italian cable car crash and whose relatives are locked in a bitter custody battle.

Fourteen people, including Eitan Biran's Israeli parents and younger brother, were killed in the accident in Italy's northwestern Piedmont region in May.

Eitan's maternal grandfather, Shmulik Peleg, has become the subject of a kidnapping probe by Italian prosecutors after he allegedly took the six-year-old to Israel earlier this month on a private jet.

He was supposed to have returned Eitan to the boy's paternal aunt and guardian, Aya Biran, who lives in Pavia in northern Italy. Aya Biran was in the Israeli court on Thursday.

The case has dominated headlines in Italy and Israeli media surrounded the Tel Aviv courtroom for Thursday's hearing, which was focused on interim visitation arrangements between the feuding families.

Aya Biran's lawyer, Shmuel Moran, told reporters after the hearing that the sides had agreed on "temporary agreements" that will remain in place until the next hearing on 8 October. He did not give details.

"We also agreed that there will not be any communication about the child's situation," Moran said.—AFP



A de facto blockade is preventing most aid from reaching Tigray. **PHOTO: AFP**

N.Korea leader's sister demands South drop 'hostile policies': KCNA

THE influential sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on Friday said it was "admirable" of the South to propose a formal end to the Korean War but demanded Seoul first drop its "hostile policies" towards Pyongyang.

Kim Yo Jong's remarks, carried by Pyongyang's official KCNA news agency, were in response to South Korean President Moon Jae-in's recent calls for declaring an official end to the 1950-53 conflict that ended in a truce, not a peace treaty, leaving the two sides technically at war for more than half a century.

In a speech at the UN General Assembly earlier this week, Moon proposed the declaration of an end to the conflict that



Kim Yo Jong (R) is a key policy adviser to her brother Kim Jong Un. PHOTO: KOREA SUMMIT PRESS POOL/AFP

broke out 71 years ago, stressing such an act would "make irreversible progress in denuclearization and usher in an era of complete peace".

Kim, a key policy adviser to her brother Kim Jong Un, said it was an "admirable idea" to propose a formal end to the war but insisted the South should

remove its hostile attitude first.

Making such a declaration with "double-dealing standards, prejudice and hostile policies" still in place "does not make any sense," she said. "For the termination of the war to be declared, respect for each other should be maintained and prejudiced viewpoint, inveterate hostile policy and unequal double standards must be removed first," she said.

She added making such a declaration would "hold no water and would change nothing" under current conditions.

But the North would be willing to have talks on improving ties with Seoul if the South withdrew hostility "after breaking with the past when it often provoked us".—AFP ■

US House approves \$1 billion for Israel's Iron Dome



Iron Dome defence missile systems, designed to intercept and destroy incoming short-range rockets and artillery shells, are pictured in the city of Sderot, Israel, 24 April 2021. PHOTO: AFP

US lawmakers green-lit \$1 billion Thursday to resupply Israel's Iron Dome missile defence system after funding was controver-

sially stripped from a separate bill following a revolt from the Democrats' left flank.

The money had originally

been included in legislation addressing a looming government shutdown and a potential October debt crisis.

But a group of progressives in the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives said they would tank that unless Iron Dome funding was yanked from the wording.

The cash transfer ultimately advanced from the House on a comfortable 420-9 vote.

"Passage of this bill reflects the great unity in Congress... for Israel's security," Nancy Pelosi, the leader of the House Democrats, said in a speech on the chamber floor.

"Assistance to Israel is vital, because Israel's security is an im-

perative for America's security."

Iron Dome has destroyed thousands of short-range rockets and shells launched by Hamas militants from Gaza before they were able to hit populated areas, Israeli officials say.

It has been backed by the United States since it was launched a decade ago to the tune of \$1.6 billion, according to the Congressional Research Service.

The progressive group's move had angered members of both parties, with House Republican leader Kevin McCarthy denouncing what he called a Democratic capitulation to "the anti-Semitic influence of their radical members."—AFP ■

Catalan separatist leader Puigdemont due in court after Italy arrest

EXILED former Catalan president Carles Puigdemont was due to appear at an Italian court Friday following his arrest four years after fleeing Spain in the aftermath of an independence referendum that Madrid ruled illegal. The European MEP—who has been based in Belgium since the 2017 referendum—was detained in the Sardinian town of Alghero on Thursday, his chief of staff Josep Lluís Alay wrote on Twitter. On Friday "he'll appear before the judges of the court of appeal of Sassari, who will decide whether to let him go or extradite him" to Spain, where he faces

charges of sedition, he said.

Puigdemont's lawyer, Gonzalo Boye, tweeted that he was arrested as he arrived in Italy for a cultural festival he was attending in his capacity as an MEP. The town of Alghero has strong Catalan links.

Boye said the arrest was made on the basis of a warrant issued in October 2019 that had since been suspended.

Puigdemont, 58, is wanted in Spain on allegations of sedition over his attempts to have Catalonia break away from Madrid through the 2017 referendum.—AFP ■



Former Catalan president Carles Puigdemont is wanted in Spain on allegations of sedition following an attempt to gain independence through a referendum. PHOTO: AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

CIA removes Vienna station chief over handling of Havana syndrome cases: report

The CIA removed its Vienna, Austria station chief recently amid criticism the person did not take seriously a surge in mysterious "Havana syndrome" cases, the Washington Post reported Thursday.

Dozens of cases affecting embassy staff and Central Intelligence Agency officers and family members have been reported in Vienna recently, but the unnamed station chief expressed skepticism and showed insensitivity, the Post said, citing intelligence sources.

A CIA spokesperson declined to confirm or deny the report, but said the agency takes seriously scores of possible incidents of the mysterious ailment in US diplomatic missions around the world.

The cause and source remains enigmatic, CIA Deputy Director David Cohen said last week.—AFP ■

Paris court confirms life sentence for Carlos the Jackal

CARLOS the Jackal, the Venezuelan militant behind some of the biggest attacks of the 1970s and 1980s, failed on Thursday to have one of his three life sentences in France reduced.

Following hearings that began on Wednesday, a special criminal court in Paris confirmed the life sentence for a 1974 grenade attack on the Publicis Drugstore, an up-market shopping centre in the French capital.

Carlos, who carried out several attacks in support of the Palestinian cause, was convicted of murder in 2017 and sentenced to life in prison, a verdict that was upheld on appeal.

But in 2019, France's highest court sent the case back to court to reconsider his sentence, saying he should not have been convicted of both carrying and using a grenade because it amounted to being convicted twice of the same offence.—AFP ■

AFC to re-confirm host country for Suzuki Cup



Morodok Techo Stadium in Cambodia, built for the 2023 SEA Games. PHOTO: CAMBODIAN SEA GAMES 2023

THE ASEAN Football Confederation (AFC) will reaffirm its host country for the ASEAN Suzuki Cup, which will run from 5 December 2021 to 1 January 2022.

The ASEAN Football Federation has yet to ratify the host country in a group vote on 21 September, but a further clear decision will be made in upcoming months, officials said.

Thailand, Singapore and Cambodia have already applied to host the tournament and one of them will be selected, officials added. Cambodia has applied to host the 2023 SEA Games at the Morodok Techo Stadium.

Thailand and Singapore are also frequent hosts, but they are applying for more chances.

The ASEAN Football Federation is likely to select host countries based on their ability to control the COVID-19 epidemic.

Myanmar is placed in Group A together with ASEAN powerhouse Thailand, the Philippines, Singapore and one qualifier team (Timor Lese or Brunei).

Defending Champion Vietnam is placed in Group B with Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia and Laos. The ASEAN Football Federation (AFC) has repeatedly changed the format of the ASE-

AN Suzuki Cup, which began in 1996.

From 1996 to 2002, all matches were held in one or two host countries.

From 2002 to 2016, the two hosts were selected, with the semi-finals and finals being played at home and away system. In 2018, the format was changed and the host country was no longer selected. The semi-finals and finals were played at home and abroad as before.

Due to the epidemic situation, the 2018 tourney format could not be used for this year. —Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

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

1. Political affairs

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

2. Economic affairs

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

3. Social affairs

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

Chelsea face Man City test as Liverpool, Man Utd bid to keep pace

CHELSEA host Premier League champions Manchester City in a stiff test of the leaders' title credentials on Saturday as Liverpool and Manchester United bid to keep pace with Thomas Tuchel's side.

The Blues look well-equipped to end the season as English champions for the first time since 2017 after signing Romelu Lukaku to add a cutting edge to their attack.

But Liverpool, the 2020 title winners, and Manchester United are matching them, with all three teams locked on 13 points after five games.

AFP Sport takes a look at some of the talking points ahead of the weekend action.

No fears for Tuchel's Blues

Even though the season

is still young, former England captain turned TV pundit Alan Shearer predicts Chelsea are going to be difficult to stop.

Tuchel's team beat Manchester City three times last season—including in the Champions League final.

Since then they have signed Lukaku from Inter Milan and have also been miserly at the back—conceding just one goal in the league.

“Lukaku is not the only reason they are so formidable,” Shearer wrote in his BBC Sport column.

“They won the Champions League in May without him. But his arrival means they don't have a weak link in their team, and they have such strength in depth too.”—AFP ■

European clubs call for talks with FIFA amid plans for biennial World Cup



The ECA has nearly 250 members from across Europe with Paris Saint-Germain's Nasser al-Khelaifi its chairman. PHOTO: ECA/AFP

THE European Club Association has said it is willing to “engage” with FIFA over potential changes to the international calendar but has hit out at world football's governing body for its attempts to

introduce a biennial World Cup.

The ECA, which has nearly 250 members from across Europe with Paris Saint-Germain's Nasser al-Khelaifi its chairman, complained in a statement released

on Friday that there had been “a lack of genuine (or indeed any) consultation” from FIFA about its proposals for a more regular World Cup. It said it believes changes are needed to the calendar to make it “modernised and simpler”, with fewer windows in which players have to be released by clubs for international duty, “better player protection and health and a balanced approach to club and international football”. It said it was available “to engage with FIFA to agree what those changes should be”. However it is not in favour of a World Cup every two years. “There is no room” in the current calendar said Michael Gerlinger, a vice-chairman of the ECA and on its legal advisory panel, earlier this month.—AFP ■