

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.

State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives delegation from Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives delegation led by Vice-President Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov of the Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association in Nay Pyi Taw on 27 October 2021.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received a delegation from the Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association at the Tatmadaw guesthouse in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

They exchanged views on the enhancement of friendly relations between the two countries, technological and investment cooperation in the sufficient production of fuel, natural gas, cement and steel as well as fertilizer at home, sufficiency of electricity, cooperation in public transport

with the use of electricity, running of direct flights for smooth transport between the two countries, and cooperation not only in economy but in tourism, health, education and culture sectors between the two countries as well.

After the meeting, the Senior General and Vice-Presi-

dent of the Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov exchanged gifts and posed for documentary photos together with the attendees.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein, Union Minister for In-

ternational Cooperation U Ko Ko Hlaing and President of the Myanmar-Russia Friendship Association Commodore Aung Thaw (Retd). The Vice-President of the Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association was accompanied by delegation members. —MNA

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Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Ministry of Health

Order No 465/2021

7th Waning of Thadingyut 1383 ME
27 October 2021

THE Ministry of Health hereby announced the order by exercising the authority stipulated in Sub-Section (b) of Section 21 of the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Law.

1. The Ministry of Health has taken preventive measures against Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in real-time. Therefore, the orders were issued for the people from some townships of Nay Pyi Taw, regions and states to stay at home in order to more effectively control the infection of the pandemic.
2. However, as the people from these townships exactly abide by the disciplines of preventing the COVID-19, further finding of confirmed patients within 14 days, declining of group-wise infection among the patients, emphasis of the relevant governments, organizations and people on raising the health awareness during the stay-at-home period, further finding of confirmed patients and contact persons in laboratory tests within 14 days, and active participation of township administrative bodies, health staff, those from related departments and organizations and volunteers as well as the people in the prevention and control of the pandemic were seen.
3. Hence, the people residing in the townships of the following regions and states were removed from the Stay-at-Home programme as of 4 am on 28-10-2021.
 - (a) Chin State

- (1) Tonzang Township
- (b) Sagaing Region
 - (1) Homalin Township
- (c) Bago Region
 - (1) Toungoo Township
 - (2) Kyauktaga Township
 - (3) Nyaunglebin Township
 - (4) Waw Township
 - (5) Minhla Township
 - (6) Letpadan Township
 - (7) Thayawady Township
 - (8) Okpo Township
- (d) Magway Region
 - (1) Pwintbyu Township
- (e) Mandalay Region
 - (1) Chanmyathazi Township
 - (2) Chanayethazan Township
 - (3) Pyigyitagun Township
 - (4) Maha Aungmye Township
 - (5) Aungmyaythazan Township
 - (6) Patheingyi Township
 - (7) Amarapura Township
 - (8) Myingyan Township
 - (9) Pyawbwe Township
 - (10) Yamethin Township
- (f) Mon State
 - (1) Thaton Township
- (g) Yangon Region
 - (1) Taikkyi Township

- (2) Mingaladon Township
- (3) Shwepyitha Township
- (4) Hlinethaya Township
- (5) Insein Township
- (6) Tamway Township
- (7) South Okkalapa Township
- (8) Dagon Myothit (North) Township
- (9) Mingala Taungnyunt Township
- (10) North Okkalapa Township
- (11) Yankin Township
- (12) Thakayta Township
- (13) Thingangyun Township
- (14) Kayan Township
- (15) Kamayut Township
- (16) Kyimyindine Township
- (17) Sangyoung Township
- (18) Bahan Township
- (19) Mayangon Township
- (20) Hline Township
- (h) Ayeyawady Region
 - (1) Bogale Township
 - (2) Hinthada Township

4. The people must strictly abide by the disciplines related to the prevention and control of the COVID-19 issued by the Ministry of Health after removing these townships from the list of stay-at-home programmes.

Dr Thet Khine Win
Union Minister

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Russian Navy meets Tatmadaw (Navy)



The delegation led by the Chief of Staff (Navy) meets the Russian delegation led by its Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Navy.

A delegation of the Russian Federation led by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Navy Vice-Admiral Vladimir Kasatonov arrived at Yangon International Airport by air on the afternoon of 24 October.

Senior officers from the Tatmadaw (Navy), Russia's

military attaché to Myanmar and officials welcomed the delegation at the airport.

After that, the Russian goodwill delegation left for Nay Pyi Taw on 25 October.

From 25 to 27 October, the Russian delegation met a delegation of Tatmadaw (Navy) led by the Chief of Staff (Navy).

During the meeting, they discussed issues related to the friendship between the two countries.

They also discussed issues related to naval cooperation, technology transfer issues and cooperation on maritime security issues, respectively. —MNA

500 returnees repatriated through Myawady Friendship Bridge II

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

On 26 October, a total of 500 returnees came back home through the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II in Myawady.

From 26 September, the number of Myanmar returnees has increased from 200 to 500 per day.

Officials 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 townships by car 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.

A total of 500 returnees: 301 males and 199 females came back home on 26 October. — Mahn Than Shwe Myint(IPRD)/GNLM



Without satisfaction of traditional breeding systems

IT is necessary to modernize the livestock breeding tasks in technology without satisfaction of traditional breeding systems. To do so, the government needs to encourage and provide assistance to breeders. If so, agricultural products can be produced at high yield rate to earn foreign exchange for building the prosperous country.

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the State Administration Council meeting 2/2021 on 25 October 2021)

Myanmar, Russia discuss bilateral financial cooperation, trade development, investment

UNION Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein and Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein met the delegation led by Vice-President of the Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov yesterday morning in Nay Pyi Taw and discussed financial cooperation matters.

During the discussion, Union Minister U Win Shein clarified the state of banking operations and state-owned banks, and the Central Bank of Myanmar Governor explained the operations of the local and foreign banks supervised by the Central Bank of Myanmar.

At the meeting, Vice-President Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov proposed to establish a working committee on Russia-Myan-

mar financial cooperation with relevant officials from the two countries in order to facilitate systematic cooperation between Myanmar and Russia in the public and private sectors and facilitate trade and investment between the two countries. He said he hoped that work would be implemented soon, and explained the process for proposing financial cooperation.

Union Minister U Win Shein said he accepts the formation of the working committee, adding detailed discussions shall be carried out for the cooperation, and the two countries should cooperate accordingly to the banking and financial laws and regulations of the respective countries to develop bilateral trade and investment.

Afterwards, Central Bank



The Myanmar and Russian delegations hold talks on financial cooperation, trade development and investment between the two countries.

of Myanmar Governor U Than Nyein discussed the status of the signing of a bilateral agreement on cooperation between the cen-

tral banks of two countries. The meeting was also attended by Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung

Win, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar Daw Than Than Swe and officials from relevant departments. — MNA

Myanmar attends 11th ASEAN law ministers' meeting (ALAWMM)

A delegation led by Union Minister for Legal Affairs and Attorney-General of the Union Dr Thida Oo attended the 11th ASEAN Law Ministers' Meeting (ALAWMM) held through videoconferencing yesterday morning.

At the meeting, Union Minister and Attorney-General of the Union Dr Thida Oo said Myanmar, as a member of ASEAN, adheres to the ASEAN Charter and respects its responsibilities in the Charter. Myanmar is also working together with other member states of ASEAN to build the ASEAN Community and achieve regional cooperation, in addition to active participation in ALAWMM activities. Myanmar has successfully held the rotating chairmanship of the 19th ASEAN Senior Legal Officers Meeting (ASLOM), she added.

The Union Minister ex-



The 11th ASEAN law ministers' meeting in progress online.

plained the legal developments in Myanmar. Office of the Union Attorney General was reorganized into the Ministry of Legal Affairs under Section 419 of the State Constitution on 30 August 2021. The Ministry is responsible for scrutinizing drafted laws, regulations, rules, orders, and directives submitted by Union-level organizations and rel-

evant ministries and providing legal advice. After receiving the recommendation of the Ministry of Legal Affairs, the relevant ministry or organization shall submit the draft to the Security, Stability and Peace, and Rule of Law Committee for approval at Cabinet meeting, she explained.

After obtaining such ap-

proval, the State Administration Council promulgates it as a law. The Ministry is implementing the action plan "Providing Legal Service for Justice (2020-2024) with five objectives, as well as conducting capacity-building training courses for law officers and staff, the Union Minister added.

She also said Myanmar Law Information System (MLIS) website has been established to provide easy access to legal information, and the ASEAN Legal Officer Association (Myanmar) has been reorganized in 2021 in which the Union Minister for Legal Affairs the Attorney-General of the Union acts as the Chairman and judicial officers, law officers and lawyers and professors from university law departments included.

The meeting discussed the implementation status of

the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, the establishment of a ToR (Term of Reference) and the formation of a working group on the progress of the ASEAN Senior Legal Officers (ASLOM) on the development of the extradition treaty, and recognized the inclusion of the Mutual Legal Aid Agreement on Criminal Matters in Appendix 1 of the ASEAN Charter.

The meeting also reviewed the 11th ALAWMM implementations, approved the report of the 19th ASLOM and the Joint Communique of the 11th ALAWMM, and discussions were held on the proposal to hold ASLOM once a year and ALAWMM once every two years.

It is reported that the 22nd ASEAN Senior Law Officer Meeting (ASLOM) and 12th ASEAN Law Ministers Meeting (ALAWMM) will be chaired by Myanmar in 2023. — MNA

Union Minister for International Cooperation receives delegation headed by 1st Vice-President of Russia-Myanmar Association of Friendship and Cooperation

U Ko Ko Hlaing, Union Minister for International Cooperation received the delegation headed by Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov, 1st Vice-President of the Russia-Myanmar Association of Friendship and Cooperation at the Union Minister's Office at the Office No. (9) in Nay Pyi Taw on 27 October 2021 at 2:00 pm.

During the meeting, the Union Minister firstly mentioned the progress of the bilateral relations between Russia and Myanmar since the 1990s through the exchange of high-level visits, signing the numbers of bilateral agreements as well as multi-sectoral

cooperation programmes. Afterwards, they exchanged views on the extension of activities with the Russia-Myanmar Association of Friendship and Cooperation with the aim to enhance friendship, cooperation and people-to-people contact between the two countries and further enhancement of cooperation, including the forth-coming meeting of the Bilateral Trade and Commerce Commission.

Also present at the meeting were the Permanent Secretary and senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—MNA



Union Minister for International Cooperation U Ko Ko Hlaing receives Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov, 1st Vice-President of the Russia-Myanmar Association of Friendship and Cooperation in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

UEC continues inspections on political parties

THE Union Election Commission looked into the political parties whether they conducted systematically for the memberships of the parties, party funds and property,



New Democracy Party (Kachin) (NDP-Kachin)



Arakan Front Party (AFP)

savings, maintaining, usage, audition and liquidation and parties' procedures according to the Union Election Law Section 10 (1) "supervising, causing to supervise and guiding the political parties to carry out in accord with the law".

The inspection team led by UEC member U Bran Shaung, including members of the Union Auditor-General Office, Internal Revenue Department and Bureau of Special Investigation inspected the Kachin State-based Lisu National Development Party (LNPD) and New Democracy Party (Kachin) (NDP-Kachin) from 11 to 15 October; another inspection team led by UEC member U Myint Thein inspected the Rakhine State-based Arakan Front Party (AFP) from 9 to 12 October, and the team led by UEC member U Myint Oo checked the Rakhine State-based Arakan National Party from 9 to 13 October.—MNA

Myanmar migrant workers from Thailand quarantined for COVID-19

A total of 188 Myanmar migrant workers: 164 males and 24 females, who were stranded in Thailand for various reasons arrived in Kawthoung, on the afternoon of 27 October via Ranong, Thailand.

It is reported that they were handed over to the responsible organizations. The Myanmar migrant workers were stuck in Thailand for various reasons during the COVID-19 outbreak and were being prosecuted.

Kawthoung District and Township Administration Officials, Public Health Departments and departmental staff and NGOs are examining whether there are any suspected cases of COVID-19

infection.

Non-Myanmar nationals were also screened for the virus and provided with food, health and necessary assistance.

The returnees will be immediately evacuated to their respective places by vehicles in Dawei and Myeik districts as per the COVID-19 prevention measures to control the spread of disease.

Residents of Kawthoung District will be kept in three Community-Based Facility Quarantine Centres in Kawthoung Township for 10 days, and will be repatriated to their respective homes only if no COVID-19 virus is detected, officials said.—Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)/GNLM



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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
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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Myanmar delegation led by MoALI Union Minister joins 43rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry, 21st ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry online

UNION Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Tin Htut Oo attended the 43rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) and 21st ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry online yesterday.

During the meeting, the Union Minister discussed the major challenges of farmers due to the high price and cost of chemical fertilizers during the outbreak of COVID-19 and pledged that Myanmar will actively participate in the processes of cooperation between ASEAN and the three countries to facilitate the trade routes.

The pre-coordination meetings of superior officials for the 43rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) and 21st ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry were held on 26 and 27 October online and presided by Indonesia. Myanmar delegation led by Director-General U

Kyaw Swe Linn of the Planning Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation attended the meetings.

During the 43rd AMAF, the ministers focused on the implementation of ASEAN multilateral framework, techniques and experiences for economic recovery, cooperation work in food, implementation of policy frameworks regarding the cooperation in agriculture and forestry sectors among ASEAN, instructions drafted for agriculture, livestock, marine and forestry sectors in 2021, approval of ministers for nine points and 27 directives for agriculture, livestock, marine and forestry sectors to be implemented in 2022, and other cooperation efforts in respective projects with ASEAN dialogue partners and partner countries.

Then, the leaders approved the joint statement of the 43rd AMAF.

During the 21st ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting



ing on Agriculture and Forestry, the ministers exchanged views on the economic recovery plans, resolution of the preliminary coordination meetings such as implementations, ongoing activities and future work plans of ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy on Food, Agriculture and Forest-

ry (APTCS) 2016-2025, results of a research project on the use of digital technologies to develop food value chains and refrigeration chains in ASEAN countries after the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic which was implemented by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia.

Then, the leaders announced the joint statement of the 21st ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry.

Laos will host the 44th AMAF and 22nd ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry in 2022. —MNA

MoC oversees daily import processes for anti-COVID-19 equipment



Lorries are transporting the imported anti-Covid equipment to state/regions.

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 airports and seaports with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

On 27 October anti-COVID-19 equipment, medical prod-

ucts, including oxygen plants and concentrators, were imported by one company using two vehicles.

A total of 1,850 empty oxygen cylinders, one oxygen generator, 11 oxygen concentrators for home use, 40,600 PPE suits and 20 tonnes of gloves were imported via Chinshwehaw trading post and Yangon International Seaports.

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

Prices list of medicines commonly used against COVID-19 till 27-10-2021

No	Product Name	Pack Size	Price in Kyats (Retail)	Company Name
Antibiotics				
1	PO.Cefixime	Box of 3x10's	3,600	Aorta
2	PO Amoxicillin+ Clavulanic Acid	Box of 1x6's	1,800	Aorta
3	Injection - Levofloxacin 500 mg	1x1	3,000	Yadanar
4	Injection - Ceftriazone 1G	1's	700	KCL
5	Injection - Cefoperazone and Sulbactam 1G	Vial	4,900	Ready Medicine

6	Injection - Cefoperazone and Sulbactam 2G	Vial	9,300	Ready Medicine
7	Injection - Meropenam	1g/Vial	10,000	AA Medical
Anti-inflammatory				
8	PO Dexamethasone	Box of 10x10's	1,450	JDS
9	PO Prednisolone	Box of 10x10	2,000	Aorta
10	Injection- Dexamethasone	Vial	160	Aorta

PLEASE visit the Website (www.mccpmd.org) and Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/323302521392189/posts/1720802588308835/?d=n> to know the prices of other medicines.

Local people receive COVID-19 vaccines in Naungtaya

LOCAL people aged 18 and above received the second dose of COVID-19 vaccines at the Basic Education High School (Naungtaya), Pinlaung Township, Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, southern Shan State, yesterday morning.

People who have been vaccinated for the first time on 24, 28 and 29 September got the COVID jabs for the second time on 27 October (yesterday) at the Basic Education High

School (Naungtaya), Naungtara Town.

People from Nawpi Village-tract, Poya Village-tract, Nan Palin Village-tract, Popin Village-tract, Myaukhtibwa Village-tract, No. (1) Ward, No. (2) Ward, and No. (3) Ward in Naungtaya who have been vaccinated for the first time are ready to take the vaccines for the second time as the full course of vaccination is required, officials said.

On 27 October, nine more cases of COVID-19 were reported in Naungtaya, and 31 patients are still receiving treatment, with one patient being transferred to the hospital. — Khun Aung (Naungtaya)/GNLM

Inoculation drive is underway in southern Shan State.



8,255 people vaccinated against 2nd dose of COVID jabs in Manaung



A health staff administers COVID vaccine to an above 55-year-old female in Manaung.

55-year-olds, religious persons, including monks and nuns, people with disabilities, people with chronic diseases, civil servants and family members, volunteers, private factory workers and shopkeepers received the second dose of Covid vaccines at eight designated sites in the township.

With the supervision of the COVID-19 Prevention and Emergency Response Committee, Township Public Health Department staff, Township General Administration Department staff, Fire Brigade members, members of the Myanmar Police Force and ward and village administrators assisted the vaccinations. —Thein Pe (IPRD)/GNLM

A total of 8,255 people has been vaccinated against the second dose of COVID-19 jabs in

Manaung Township, health officials said. From 23 to 26 October, over

Students aged over 12 receive vaccines in Sumprabum Township

Health officials conducted vaccination programmes for above 12-year-old students at the B.E.H.S Sumprabum in No (3) Ward of Sumprabum Township in Putao District of Kachin State on 26 October.

The students had to follow the COVID-19 health rules and a total of 96 students was vaccinated against COVID-19.

Moreover, 16 health workers of Kachin State and volunteers, two health workers and six members of the Health Poverty Action (HPA) of Sumprabum township led by deputy head Daw Hlaing Hlaing

Htay of Kachin State Public Health Department vaccinated 40 villagers of Laing War Yang, Bok Khar, Karanyang and Drewkha villages, 14 people from Su Yan Village of Za Nan Kha village-tract and 1 each from Dayu Kha village and Kabayan Khu ward.

The township administration body chairman U Khin Maung Myint, police, departmental staff, health workers, education staff, fire brigade members and ward administrators participated in the vaccination processes for the students. — Henry Miko Sa (Sumprabum)/GNLM



Immunization programme for above 12-year-old students in Sumprabum.

Schoolchildren get 1st dose of COVID jabs in Pakokku Township

COVID-19 vaccines are being given to students aged 12 and above at primary schools in Pakokku Township, Magway Region, in line with the motto “Let’s get vaccinated against COVID-19 for a healthy and happy life of education”.

Healthcare officials gave the vaccines to the above 12-year-old students at Maha Bodhi Aungmyay Monastic Education Post-Primary School in Nyaung Kytpin Village, Pakokku Township yesterday.

Health officials measured the body temperatures, blood pressure and monitored oxygen levels before the vaccination.

On the same day, 48 school students: 12 schoolboys and 26 schoolgirls from middle and high schools in Kamma Station, Pakokku Township received the first

dose of COVID vaccines.

Hand-washing basins were also set up at the vaccination sites to prevent COVID-19 disease.

Officials also distributed masks and face shields before the vaccination.

Next, health officials measured the body temperatures, blood pressure and monitored oxygen levels before the vacci-

nation.

From 17 to 27 October, a total of 3,232 primary and middle school children has been vaccinated against the COVID-19 in the townships and village-tracts of the Pakokku Township.

The remaining 12-year-old students will be vaccinated, officials said. —Salai Ko Kee (IPRD)/GNLM



COVID jabs for schoolchildren are underway in Pakokku.

1,003 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 27 October, total figure rises to 496,901

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **496,901** after **1,003** new cases were reported on 27 October 2021 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **461,883** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll reached **18,603** after **21** died.

COVID-19 vaccine is being injected to those of priority groups in regions and states for prevention and control of the disease. Up to 26-10-2021, a total of **12,798,322** people have been vaccinated. Of them, **6,429,059** people have been vaccinated two times and **6,369,263** people once.—MNA

Public participation helps arrest suspects in KBZ bank robbery in Botahtaung Tsp within 5 days

AT around 12:30 pm on 22 October the four masked men arrived at the KBZ branch in the middle block of 48th street in No (9) Ward of Botahtaung Township by FF/6532 Fielder (white) and threatened the bank security by guns and took more than K300 million, including five mobile phones, by colluding with a man, who was waiting at the bank in advance.

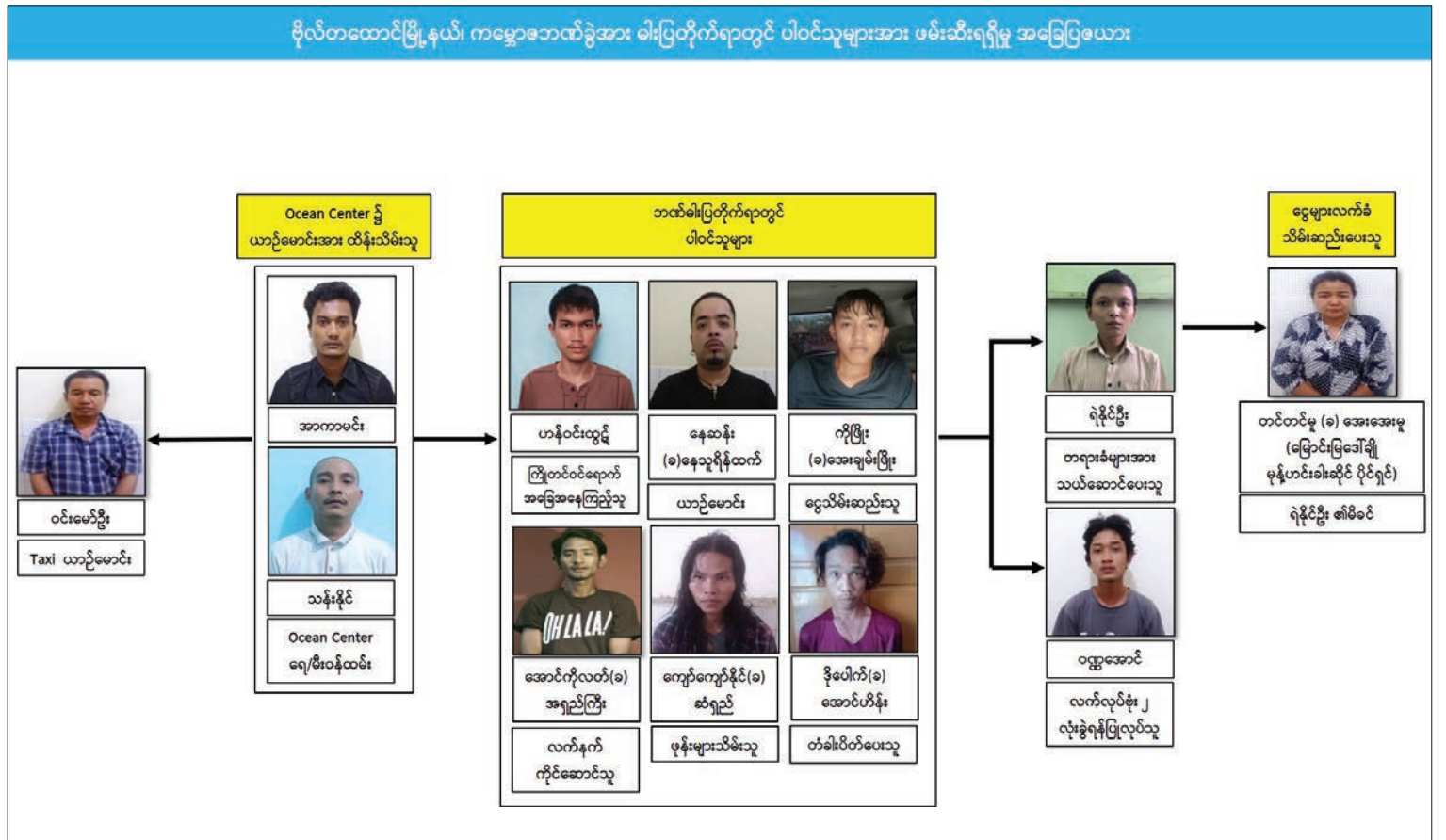
Regarding the bank robbery case, the police arrested Win Maw Oo, aged 43, a driver of the Fielder car at about 3:40 pm on 22 October at 16th street of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township together with K200,000 that he received as the car rental fee.

On 23 October, the police also arrested Ye Naing Oo together with K160.3 million at Ein Gyi street in No (9) Ward of Pazundaung Township and Han Win Htut with K325,000 at Amico Del Myanmar Hotel in No (4) Ward of Lanmadaw Township.

According to the confession of suspect Han Win Htut, security forces seized about K40 million kept in the cover of the elevator of the Ocean Super Market in Tarwadaintha street of Pazundaung Township on 24 October and also arrested Do Pauk (aka) Aung Hein on 6th street of Patheinyunt Ward of Mingala Taungnyunt Township, seized one CZ 75 pistol, one magazine, three bullets and one homemade mine at the house of suspect Han Win Htut on 57th street in No (2) Ward of Pazundaung Township, arrested Than Naing together with K880,000 at Hlaing Htake Tin teashop in Pale Myo Thit of Mingaladon Township, Aung Ko Latt (aka) A Shay Gyi and Kyaw Kyaw Naing (aka) San Shay at Kay Khine Oo guesthouse in Phaungyoe Chaung village in Kyontamar village-tract of Nyaungdon Township together with K1,995,000 and two unlicensed motorcycles.

According to the words of Ye Naing Oo, his mother Tin Tin Mu (aka) Aye Aye Mu on Ein Gyi street of No (9) Ward in Pazundaung Township on 24 October.

According to the admission of Tin Tin Mu (aka) Aye Aye Mu, the police seized K44 million at No (004) in Delta Plaza of Shwegondaing street in Middle Shwegondaing Ward of Bahan Township and K10 million at Myaungmya Daw Cho Monthin-



ga shop at No (118/D) in Old Yay-tashay street of Bahan Township.

Moreover, based on the words of Do Pauk (aka) Aung Hein, the police arrested Wunna Aung on Maha Bandoola street of Botahtaung Township, and according to the confession of Wunna Aung, the police seized two homemade bombs at No (336) in Aungmyitta Kannar street in Yamonna (1) Ward of Dawbon Township on 25 October.

Moreover, the police seized K7.5 million at the house of Aung Ko Latt (aka) A Shay Gyi at No 175/b in Yadana Theingar street of No (4) Pan Chan of No (9) Ward of Shwepyitha Township and another K3.5 million at the house of Kyaw Kyaw Naing at No (272/B) on Maha Myaing street in No (9) Ward of Shwepyitha Township.

According to the words of Kyaw Kyaw Naing (aka) Hsan Shay, the police arrested Arkar Min together with K1.1 million at No 82 on 6th Magway street in No (20) Ward of Shwepyitha Township on 26 October.

According to the confession of Han Win Htut, the police detained Nay San (aka) Nay Thurein Htet aged 32 together with K10 million on No 23 street in Latha Township on 27 October and Ko Pyo (aka) Aye Chan Phyo, aged 19 with K1.6 million at Doh Laltaw restaurant in Kawhmu Township.

The suspect Han Win Htut communicated with his online friend Ye Khe (STF member)

(still at large) and rented one CZ-75 pistol, one magazine and 25 bullets to kill a civilian in Shwepyitha Township on 9 October.

Do Pauk (aka) Aung Hein took the pistol from Thingangyun Township and kept it at his house, and handed it over to Kyaw Kyaw Naing (aka) Hsan Shay on the day of the bank robbery.

For their preparation to rob the bank, on 20 October, they met on the 2nd floor of the seven-storey building in 6th street of Patheinyunt Ward of Mingala Taungnyunt Township and on the 12th floor of Ocean Super Centre in Bandoola street of Dawbon Township on 21 October. The assigned duties – Than Naing has to kidnap the taxi driver and Han Win Htut is to check the situation of the bank in advance; Do Pauk (aka) Aung Hein is to serve at the entrance/exit, while Kyaw Kyaw Naing (aka) Hsan Shay to keep the mobile phones of the bank staff; Aung Ko Latt (aka) A Shay Gyi to threaten with the gun, Nay San (aka) Nay Thurein Htet to drive the taxi, Ye Naing Oo to take them on 38th street and Wunna Aung to commit bomb attacks at two traffic lights near Pazundaung township police station.

The suspects left the Ocean Centre at about 12:25 pm on 22 October and arrived at the 48th street KBZ bank. Han Win Htut entered the bank and contacted Aung Ko Latt (aka) A Shay Gyi

at around 12:35 pm.

Then, Do Pauk (aka) Aung Hein, Kyaw Kyaw Naing (aka) Hsan Shay, Aung Ko Latt (aka) A Shay Gyi and Ko Phyo (aka) Aye Chan Phyo entered the bank and took the money in three backpacks and one canvas bag. They got into FF/6532 Fielder (white) car driven by Nay San (aka) Nay Thurein Htet on the Strand Road of 48th street. Then, they left the car on 38th street and they transferred the money to YGN 1F/4068 Caldina driven by Ye Naing Oo, and went to the Ocean Centre.

The suspects hid K40 million on the ceiling of the elevator of the Ocean Centre, kept K214.3 million to Tin Tin Mu (aka) Aye Aye Mu, mother of Ye Naing Oo, and they divided the money among themselves.

Among the suspects, Han Win Htut and Do Pauk (aka) Aung Hein completed the explosive training of the KNLA Brigade 7 near Myawady Township in April.

The suspects also committed attacks in Pazundaung, Shwepyitha and Hlinethaya townships.

Do Pauk (aka) Aung Hein took K15,000 from Kyaw Kyaw Naing and exploded a homemade bomb in front of the No 7 township administration office on Yay Kyaw street of Pazundaung Township on 12 July.

He also took K20,000 from Kyaw Kyaw Naing and exploded one homemade bomb near the

back alley of cinema in No (8) Ward of Shwepyitha Township on 11 August.

He took another K30,000 from Kyaw Kyaw Naing and exploded two homemade bombs at the No 18 ward administration office of Hlinethaya township and in front of the Meekhwatzay bus stop of Hlinethaya township on 25 August.

Aung Ko Latt also exploded one homemade bomb at the dumpsite near the lake beside rail tracts of Shwepyitha Township on 17 August.

According to the confession of the suspects, about half of the robbed money will go to NUG to buy the explosives and ammunition to support PDFs in Yangon to conduct terrorist acts and the remaining half will be used for their interests.

A total of 12 suspects — 11 males and one female — were arrested with one CZ 75 D pistol, one magazine, three bullets, three homemade bombs, two vehicles, two unlicensed motorcycles and K281.4 million being seized.

Due to public participation, the security members arrested the suspects in a short while.

It is reported that the arrested suspects will be taken action effectively under the law and the people are requested to report secretly the places and movements of the related suspects to the relevant authorities. — MNA

Beware of silent killer diabetes in daily life

EVERYBODY wishes to be healthy in line with a Myanmar saying goes, "Health is Wealth". It is because those who are unhealthy cannot embrace any happiness while packing the burden of diseases.

Currently, most of the persons in each society are facing impacts of diseases such as malaria, TB, HIV, diabetes, hypertension, and other various chronic diseases. Among them, diabetes can bring various subsequent impacts to the hosts although it can seem like an unimportant disease.

Those suffering from diabetes may face hypertension and heart diseases. They are three Saturn brothers for the patients. At a time when diabetes raises its digits, hypertension gradually follows it with higher and higher digits. Later, the first two join hands with the last one heart disease with high heartthrobs.

Actually, if everybody takes physical exercises as a light sport event, they are sure to set aside all the diseases. If they suffer from one of these diseases, unfortunately, they will have high immunity to fight against them in a short time by securing the successes.

As prescribed or directed by the physicians, the patients need to take pills for their terrible diabetes for having foods as regularly. In fact, the disease diabetes is not dangerous but the undisciplined eating of patients makes them lose their lives. Too many high digits of diabetes, hypertension and heart diseases may cause stroke for patients in a short period.

Taking the attentiveness never exceeds in the daily life of the people. So, they need to try hard to avoid the suffering of diabetes as much as possible. As such, they need to prohibit themselves from eating inappropriate meals such as too many sweet foods, saturated fatty ones and foodstuffs with the content of starch. Monounsaturated fat reduces inappropriate cholesterol from the body organs and helps increase appropriate cholesterol. Saturated fat is a fatty acid molecule in which carbon atoms are bonded with hydrogen atoms. Such saturated fat raises both good and bad cholesterol for the human body.

Those who do not suffer from these diseases are lucky persons. Even if they hold up these diseases, they need to avoid inappropriate meals which may trigger these three brother diseases for having a long life span as they wish. To be able to grasp such rewards, all the persons need to take care of their daily consumption system.

Actually, if everybody takes physical exercises as a light sport event, they are sure to set aside all the diseases. If they suffer from one of these diseases, unfortunately, they will have high immunity to fight against them in a short time by securing the successes.



Top economists call for 'radical redirection' focusing on healthcare

The World Health Organization (WHO) body advancing public health for all is asking for ambitious investments in healthcare spending, reframing it as a long-term investment and not a short-term cost.

RELEASED on 26 October, the WHO Economic Council's new brief, Financing Health for All, points to three main actions: create fiscal space, direct investments, and the administration of public and private finance.

On public spending, the experts say that easing constraints imposed by outdated economic assumptions and reversing reforms that lead to big healthcare cuts, would allow spending to increase significantly.

According to the brief, investments to ensure equal access to healthcare for everyone, should become the central purpose of economic activity. Public leadership should work to create positive regulatory, taxation, and industrial policies, and boost investment in the field.

Finally, public and private finance should be governed by greater regulation of private health markets through measures that improve outcomes globally and on an equitable basis.

Inequality

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted large and growing inequities across the globe in access to healthcare.



For every 100 people in high-income countries, 133 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered, while in low-income countries, that figure is only 4 doses per 100. A mass COVID-19 vaccination site at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore on 20 March 2021.

PHOTO: ERIC BARADAT/AFP

For every 100 people in high-income countries, 133 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered, while in low-income countries, that figure is only 4 doses per 100.

Yet, according to the WHO experts, the world "continues to follow the same economic paradigm that doesn't change

the underlying finance structure and applies outdated thinking on economic development."

From 29 to 31 October, in Rome, national leaders together with health and finance ministers, will come together for the G20 Summit of leading industrialized countries. For the WHO economists, the

meeting is a window of opportunity for a "radical redirection".

The Council believes that a new paradigm is needed to avoid macroeconomic policies that move the world away from the vision of Health For All.

Introducing the new brief, the Director-General of WHO, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said the COVID-19 pandemic "has demonstrated that the financing of health systems needs to change radically to protect and promote the health of all people."

For him, the document "makes a clear and compelling argument for the need for sustained financing to be directed to achieving health for all people, and for investments to be understood as long-term gains for national and global development."

Beyond financing

Professor Mariana Mazzucato, Chair of the Council, noted that health systems overall are under-resourced, but warned that "more finance is not the only solution."

"The work of the Council stresses the need to reform and redirect fi-

nance in radical ways so that the objective Health For All, is designed into the financial structures, the conditionalities and the partnerships between business and the state," she explained.

Ambitious objective

The WHO Council on the Economics of Health For All, was established last November, to rethink how value in health and wellbeing is measured, produced, and distributed across economies.

Made up of ten of the world's most eminent economists and health experts, the Council works in four areas. Briefs in each of these areas, and a final report to be produced in 2023, will be used to build momentum towards changing the structure of economic activity, in favour of realizing the ambitious goal.

The members of the Council are Professor Mariana Mazzucato (Chair), Professor Senait Fisseha, Professor Jayati Ghosh, Vanessa Huang, Professor Stephanie Kelton, Professor Ilona Kickbusch, Zelia Maria Profeta da Luz, Kate Raworth, Dr Vera Songwe and Dame Marilyn Waring.

SOURCE: UN

Which Asia-Pacific countries are reopening to foreign visitors?

THAILAND'S reopening to vaccinated foreign tourists marks a major easing of border controls for Asia, where governments have been far slower to roll back coronavirus travel curbs than in much of the West.

Here is a look at which countries are opening up across the Asia-Pacific region and those staying sealed off from the world.

Southeast Asia

Thailand will allow vaccinated travellers from 46 countries and territories to enter the kingdom without quarantining from Monday, as it seeks to revive its vital tourism industry.

Other parts of the region — which largely escaped the pandemic's initial wave, only to be hit hard this year — are following its lead, albeit at a slower pace.

Business hub Singapore has started quarantine-free travel for fully vaccinated travellers from 10 countries, including the United States and several European countries, and will add more soon.

Indonesia reopened the resort island of Bali this month to tourists from select countries although, with travellers still required to do a five-day quarantine on arrival, the scheme has had a slow start.

Vietnam plans to allow foreign visitors entry to the holiday island of Phu Quoc from next month and Malaysia has a similar plan for Langkawi island, while Cambodia will reopen beach spots Sihanoukville, Koh Rong and Dara Sakor from 30 November.

Some countries, including the Philippines and Myanmar, remain closed to foreign tourists.

East Asia

Mainland China, where Covid-19 first emerged last year, remains closed to overseas tourists, as is Japan.

South Korea has started accepting visitors from 49 countries. A negative coronavirus test is required for all arrivals, with a limited exemption from a 14-day quarantine for those vaccinated in South Korea. Some of the world's toughest

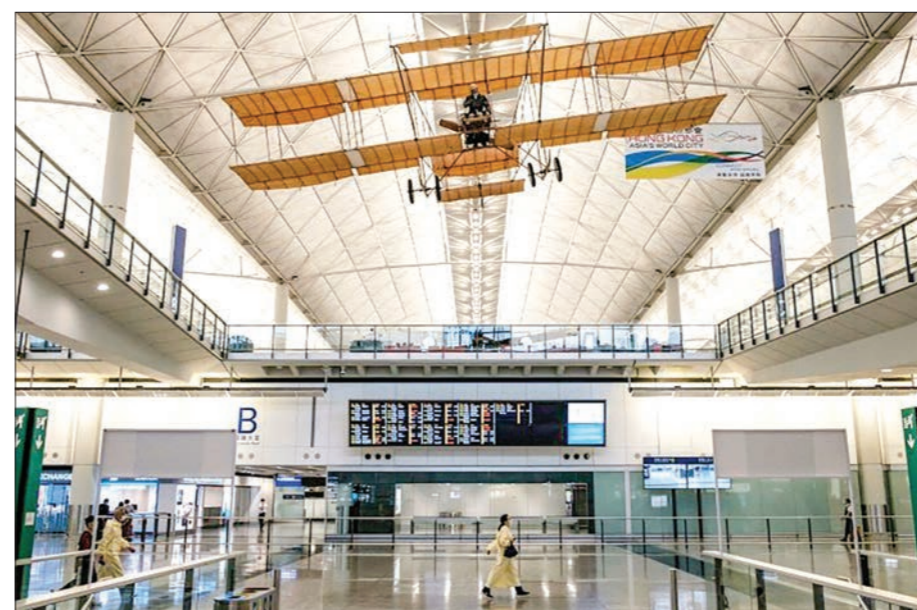
measures have been implemented in Hong Kong — with a maximum 21-day quarantine for incoming travellers — which has kept virus cases low but crippled the travel industry.

South Asia

Recovering from a devastating surge earlier this year, India reopened for foreign tourists on charter flights this month and will allow in visitors on all flights from mid-November.

Fully vaccinated travellers no longer have to undergo home quarantine, provided they are arriving from countries with which India has reciprocal arrangements for acceptance of WHO-approved vaccines. Last month, Nepal started issuing visas on arrival for vaccinated tourists and dropped quarantine requirements as it seeks to lure back foreign trekkers to its mountains.

More than a million tourists visited the Himalayan country in 2019 — but numbers dropped by 80 per cent last year. Among the first countries to reopen



Asia-Pacific nations have been slower to relax pandemic travel curbs compared with the West. PHOTO: AFP

borders was the popular holiday destination of the Maldives, which started allowing in foreign tourists in July last year.

The number of tourists visiting the Indian Ocean atoll nation recovered to

500,000 last year following the reopening, and authorities expect 1.5 million holiday-makers this year — just shy of the figure in 2019.

SOURCE: AFP



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 27 October 2021)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (18:30) hrs M.S.T today, the low pressure area over the South Bay of Bengal still persists. It is forecast continuous to move westwards. Weather is cloudy over the North Bay and Southwest Bay of Bengal and partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 28 October 2021: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Upper sagaing , Chin , fairly widespread in (South and North) Shan State, scattered in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, North Shan, Rakhine , Kayin , Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4- 6) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 October 2021: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 October 2021: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 October 2021: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Low Pressure Area Condition

Issued at (19:00) hours M.S.T on 27-10-2021

ACCORDING to the observations at (18:30) hrs M.S.T today, the lowpressure area over the South Bay of Bengal still persists. It is forecast continuous to move westwards.

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The Global New Light of Myanmar



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40 hotels, guesthouses opened in Sagaing Region



About 50,790 domestic travellers visited Bodhi Tahtaung Pagoda and other famous pagodas in Monywa, Sagaing Region during the Thadingyut Festival, as per data of the department.

SAGAING Region Tourism Committee has greenlighted 58 hotels, motels and guesthouses and 40 of them are open for the guests in strict compliance to the health protocols, according

to the regional tourism committee.

“The committee has granted licences to 58 hotels, motels and guesthouses. At present, 40 are open for the guests in

Sagaing, Monywa, Shwebo, Kalay, Katha, Homalin and Hkamti cities,” said U Aung Thu Oo, head of Sagaing Region Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

Of 58 hotels and guesthouses,

51 are permitted to reopen after an inspection team led by the Ministry of Health and hotel organizations inspected the hotels whether they are keeping in line with the guidelines for COVID-19 or not.

“The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism issue a regional-level certificate for the hotels and guesthouses as they are found to be in line with health proto-

cols,” said U Aung Thu Oo.

About 50,790 domestic travellers visited Bodhi Tahtaung Pagoda and other famous pagodas in Monywa, Sagaing Region during the Thadingyut Festival, as per data of the department.

Between January and September 2021, a total of 31,896 visitors entered the region for various purposes. — Lu Lay/GNLM



Chrysanthemum farming helps increase grower family income in Kyaunggon

THE chrysanthemum farming will help increase local farmers' family income in Kyaunggon township, Ayeyawady region.

“I am a flower grower from Moepya East village, Kyaunggon Township. Currently, I have cultivated around 7,000 lucky species of chrysanthemum flower. The chrysanthemum flowers are started growing in August. The flowers are now three months old. The flowers started to blossom after four months in November,” said Ko Soe Htet Kyaw, a chrysanthemum flower grower.

It is difficult to grow flowers during this monsoon season. Thus, we have covered the waterproof plastic in plantation areas costing about K300,000. The cultivation area is 70 feet in length and 30 feet wide. It is expected to be profitable about K1 million in the harvesting season, said the flower grower.

Chrysanthemums are a member of the Compositae family and are available in a wide range of brilliant colours, shapes and sizes. — Win Kyaing (IPRD)/GNLM

Over 140,000 people in NyaungU district vaccinated against COVID-19

A total of 145,202 people in NyaungU District, Mandalay Region, has been vaccinated against COVID-19, as of 27 October, according to the District Administration Body.

People received the COVID-19 vaccines at 12 different designated immunization sites in Kyaukpadaung Township and NyaungU Township, respectively. The COVID-19 immunization has been undertaken in both townships, vaccinating a total of 67,976 people in NyaungU Township and 77,226 people in Kyaukpadaung Township.

It is also reported that mobile COVID-19 vaccina-



Vaccination reaches 145,202 people in NyaungU.

tion teams are also going to remote villages to vaccinate the people living in those areas, and the inoculation against

COVID-19 will continue to implement depending on the availability of the vaccine. — Ko Htein/GNLM

Myanmar receives over 12.38 mln jabs of COVID-19 vaccine till 23 Oct

A total of over 12.38 million jabs of the COVID-19 vaccine has been administered in Myanmar till 23 October, according to the Ministry of Health.

As of 23 October, there were 5.7 million people who had received two doses of the vaccine and 6.68 million people who had received one dose, over 12.38 million in total, according to the Ministry.

Fifty per cent of the total population is expected to get vaccinated at the end of this year. The country has already received 18 million doses of vaccines till 23 October, including two million doses of the Covishield vaccine, 14 million doses of Sinopharm vaccine and two million doses of Sinovac vaccine. Myanmar has also accepted over six million doses of COVID-19 vaccines

from China, India and Russia, according to the Ministry.

Further, Myanmar has already purchased 24 million Sinopharm vaccines from China under the contract system. As soon as the vaccine arrives, Myanmar will offer vaccines to 12 million people aged between 40 and 64.

The country has been administering vaccinations since January 2021, using the China-made

Sinopharm and Sinovac vaccines, across the country. World Health Organization already allows China-made Sinopharm and Sinovac COVID-19 vaccines for use in emergency cases. The WHO also recommended that above aged 18 people can get two kinds of Sinopharm and Sinovac COVID-19 vaccines.

Besides, efforts are being made to increase the number of

vaccines available and coordinate the purchase of vaccines.

Since 14 September, the target groups are being vaccinated for the first time with the COVID-19 vaccine. The number of COVID-19 cases and deaths globally slightly decreased by 10 per cent each in last week, according to the WHO's weekly report on COVID-19 released on 28 September. — Aye Maung/GNLM

Palm oil price plunges to K4,400 per viss

THE price of palm oil plummeted to K4,400 per viss (a viss is equal to 1.6 kg) at present, following the Kyat revaluation on the US dollar in the local forex market, according to the domestic market.

The price hit a record high of K5,000 per viss in late September, whereas it fell to K4,450 per viss. It shows a decrease of K500 per viss within a month.

The drop in palm oil price is related to the Kyat appreciation against the US dollar. A dollar was valued at around K1,800 at present, whereas it hit an all-time high of over K3,000 per dollar in late September.

To tackle price high in the palm oil sector tracking the dollar gains, the total volume of

palm oil that was sold at the subsidized price (K3,700 per viss) is equivalent to the amount that the oil importers directly purchased the foreign currency from the Central Bank of Myanmar.

Those retailers and wholesalers who can resell the palm oil to the consumers with a gross profit of less than two per cent can come and buy them at the association's office located at No 104/108 on Strand Road, Ahlon Township through the contact numbers (09444437295, and 09401527049 of the association and 01250270 and 0943666668 of the Yangon Region Consumer Affairs Department).

Under the plan of the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association, palm oil is sold at K3,800



The price hit a record high of K5,000 per viss in late September, whereas it fell to K4,450 per viss. It shows a decrease of K500 per viss within a month.

with the mobile market trucks at present.

Additionally, the association notified the consumers not to worry over the supply of the edible oil on 15 July.

The association is also making concerted efforts with the organizations concerned and the related departments to secure the edible oil sufficiency and offer a reasonable price to the con-

sumers, as per the statement.

The association is trying not to occur unnecessary issues regarding edible oil amid the global pandemic impacts.

Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association is attempting to maintain price stability, prevent market manipulation, import palm oil from foreign countries sustainably for self-sufficiency and distribute the edible oil at fairer prices to the consumers.

The domestic consumption of edible oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local cooking oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. To meet the self-sufficiency in the domestic market, about 700,000 tonnes of cooking oil are yearly imported. — NN/GNLM

Potato price edges up in retail market



On 1 July, the potato was priced at K820 per viss in the wholesale market, whereas it dramatically rose to K1,270 per viss at the end of July. The price keeps rising in the retail market.

THE price of potatoes remains in the bull market and touched a high of K1,400-2,700 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes) in the domestic market, as per the price data of the retail market.

Normally, the price of potatoes rises in the monsoon season. This year, potato prices remain in the upward trend.

On 1 July, the potato was priced at K820 per viss in the wholesale market, whereas it dramatically rose to K1,270 per viss at the end of July. The price keeps rising in the retail market, said a trader.

Additionally, tracking the

strict restriction measures to contain the COVID-19, the prices of commodities fluctuate in the domestic market.

Last year, flooding the market with a bulk supply resulted in a price drop. Nevertheless, this staple food potato is highly demanded this year amid the COVID-19 consequences, causing the price to rise significantly.

There are over 90,000 acres of potato plantations across the country. About 600,000 tonnes are produced yearly. Local potato consumption is estimated at 350,000 tonnes.— KK/GNLM

Black sesame price rises by K50,000 per three-basket bag

THE price of black sesame has been rising in the Mandalay commodity depot since early October, with the price of a three-basket bag rising to about K50,000, according to the Mandalay wholesale market.

Last September, the rising of foreign exchange rates caused the exported variety pulses prices to remain on an upward trend. The price of black bean stood at K200,000 per three-basket bag, while the pigeon pea fetched at K150,000 per bag and the green gram was priced at K140,000 per bag. Now, the value of the Kyat against the US dollar dropped. Due to the closure of the Chinese border checkpoints, the price of domestic pulses will not fall. Due to an export ban by China last August, Myanmar shipped

its products to China through Laos according to the Mandalay wholesale market.

Normally, Myanmar exports about 80 per cent of sesame production to foreign markets. China is the main buyer of Myanmar sesame, which was also shipped to markets in Japan, South Korea, China (Taipei), the UK, Germany, the Netherlands, Greece, and Poland among the EU countries.

Sesame is selling well in the market these days. The black sesame fetched K150,000-K250,000 per bag depending on the quality. The price has been rising for about a week. It sharply rose to K50,000 per bag in early October. The price of black sesame stood at K170,000 per basket in the early harvest season, according to the

Mandalay wholesale market.

Sesame is cultivated in the country throughout the year. Magway Region is the main producer of sesame seeds. The seeds are also grown in Mandalay and Sagaing regions.

The volume of sesame exports has registered over 96,000 metric tons, worth \$130 million, in the financial year 2015-2016; \$100,000 tonnes, worth \$145 million, in the 2016-2017FY; 120,000 tonnes, worth \$147 million, in the 2017-2018FY; 33,900 tonnes valued \$43.8 million in the 2018 mini-budget period, 125,800 tonnes, worth \$212.5 million in the 2018-2019FY and over 150,000 tonnes of sesame, worth \$240 million in the previous 2019-2020FY, the trade data of the Central Statistical Organization indicated. — Aye Maung/GNLM



Normally, Myanmar exports about 80 per cent of sesame production to foreign markets. China is the main buyer of Myanmar sesame, which was also shipped to markets in Japan, South Korea, China (Taipei), the UK, Germany, the Netherlands, Greece, and Poland among the EU countries.

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

NEWS
IN BRIEFWTO wades in on
Australia-China
wine spat

AUSTRALIA on Tuesday secured the establishment of a dispute panel at the World Trade Organization to probe China's imposition of anti-dumping and countervailing duties on imported Australian wine.

Canberra's first request to have the case examined was blocked by Beijing in September. According to WTO rules, second requests are automatically granted.

Australia wants to lift the customs barriers which have almost closed the most important export market for its wines.

"Australia noted that while it remains ready to engage in bilateral discussion with China, Australia is disappointed that it is not seeing any concrete steps by China to respond to its concerns," the WTO said.

"As a result, Australia is again requesting the establishment of a panel to examine the matter.—AFP ■

US regulator
revokes
authorization of
China Telecom's
US unit

THE Federal Communications Commission said Tuesday it has decided to revoke the authorization for China Telecom Corp.'s US subsidiary to operate in the United States, citing the need to safeguard the nation's telecommunications infrastructure from "potential security threats".

The order directs China Telecom (Americas) Corp., which has been operating for about 20 years in the United States, to discontinue any domestic or international telecommunication services within 60 days. The US telecom regulator warned that the company's ownership and control by the Chinese government raises "significant" security risks by providing opportunities "to access, store, disrupt, and/or misroute US communications, which in turn allow them to engage in espionage and other harmful activities against the United States."—Kyodo News ■

Kishida urges gov't panel to craft proposals
for "new capitalism" soon

JAPANESE Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said Tuesday he instructed a government economic policy panel to compile "urgent proposals" by early November to flesh out his signature "new capitalism" vision.

The proposals will include promoting the development of advanced technologies for digitalization and decarbonization and economic security issues, including securing semiconductor supplies as "top priorities", Kishida told the panel's first meeting. "We shared the view of aiming to improve productivity through growth strategies and increase the levels of people's income through redistribution of the fruits" of that growth, Kishida said, repeating his mantra of creating "the virtuous cycle of growth and distribution".



The proposals will include promoting the development of advanced technologies for digitalization and decarbonization and economic security issues. Komatsu Ltd.'s remote control system for construction machinery demonstrated at the Combined Exhibition of Advanced Technologies (CEATEC). PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

The request comes as a debate over economic stimulus has been heating up among political parties vying for support in Sunday's general election.

Economic and fiscal policy

minister Daishiro Yamagiwa told a press conference after the meeting that the proposals will be reflected in an economic package that Kishida plans to compile if his party, as expected,

wins a majority in the election for the House of Representatives, the powerful lower chamber of parliament. The prime minister has vowed an economic package worth "tens of trillions of yen", or hundreds of billion dollars, to support the coronavirus pandemic-hit economy.

As the head of the panel, Kishida, along with 15 business leaders, researchers and his Cabinet, will discuss policy measures for economic growth and redistribution of wealth under his "new capitalism" policy. The panel will focus on issues such as expanding the middle-class through wage hikes and improving working conditions for nonregular employees and freelancers, as Kishida pledged when being inaugurated as prime minister on 4 October.—Kyodo News ■

Slowing growth creates headache for next
German government

GLOBAL supply chain bottlenecks forced the German government to downgrade its 2021 growth forecast on Wednesday as it prepares to hand over the reins of a spluttering economy to the country's next coalition.

Supply chain disruptions and shortages of raw materials, including plastics, metals and paper, have choked off the recovery from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic in Europe's top economy.

As a result, the government lowered its forecast for gross domestic product growth to 2.6 per cent this year, Economy Minister Peter Altmaier told

ZDF public television, from 3.5 per cent previously.

"It will still be one of the strongest growth rates in Europe," Altmaier said.

"But many goods are not being delivered because there is a shortage of raw materials in many areas and that is simply having an effect," the minister said.

"Higher energy prices are also a factor. At 2.6 per cent, the economy will still expand strongly this year. But it will only really begin to boom next year with growth of over four per cent."

A scarcity of components



Germany's car industry has been particularly hard hit by supply chain problems, with idled factories helping to an overall slowdown in the economy's recovery. PHOTO: POOL/AFP

has had a particularly hard impact on the country's manufacturing-driven economy, with

production lines grinding to a halt in Germany's important automotive sector.—AFP ■

UK to unveil budget as government eyes recovery



The automotive industry welcomes the vital step to permit the use of automated vehicles on UK roads, which will put Britain in the vanguard of road safety and automotive technology. PHOTO: AFP

BRITAIN unveils its latest budget Wednesday, looking to fix the public finances after emergency pandemic support sent debt rocketing. While attempting to bring down the deficit, Prime Minister Boris Johnson's government is set also to confirm multi-billion-pound funding projects aimed at driving long-term recovery and reducing pressure on the state-run health service. Finance minister Rishi Sunak delivers his tax and spending plans in parliament from around 1130 GMT, grappling not just with the pandemic but with problems

associated with Brexit. "Today's budget begins the work of preparing for a new economy post-Covid," he is set to say, according to excerpts of his speech released by the finance ministry. "An economy of higher wages, higher skills, and rising productivity. Of strong public services, vibrant communities and safer streets. An economy fit for a new age of optimism," Sunak will add. On the eve of the budget, the government revealed plans to raise minimum wage rates and end a freeze on pay rises for public-sector workers.—AFP ■



Bottled-water tycoon Zhong Shanshan has become China's wealthiest person, worth \$60.5 billion.
PHOTO: CNS/AFP

Water tycoon is China's richest as wealth crackdown batters Jack Ma

BOTTLED-WATER tycoon Zhong Shanshan has become China's wealthiest person, according to an annual ranking released Wednesday, as a government campaign to rein in the super-rich took a big bite out of the fortunes of perennial front-runners like Alibaba co-founder Jack Ma.

Zhong, in his late 60s, has seen his fortune swell following the stock listings last year of his Nongfu Spring mineral water and separate phar-

ma company Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise, which has tapped into massive demand for Covid-19 test kits.

He is worth \$60.5 billion, according to the Hurun Rich List, up seven per cent.

Ranked third last year, Zhong was propelled to the top spot as the Communist Party government's drive to redistribute wealth in the name of equality sliced billions from the fortunes of other tycoons.—AFP ■

S.Korea's consumer sentiment improves for 2 months in October

SENTIMENT among South Korean consumers over economic situations improved for two straight months in October amid a higher vaccination rate for COVID-19, central bank data showed Wednesday.

The composite consumer sentiment index (CCSI) gained three points over the month to 106.8 in October, after climbing 1.3 points in September, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK).

It came as the country's full vaccination rate topped 70 per cent of the population, set by the



A woman walks past a store whose goods are on sale at the Myeongdong shopping area in Seoul. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

government as a key precondition to ease antivirus measures.

The government planned to gradually let

people return to normal life from the pandemic in November.

The index for current living conditions among

households added one point to 92 in October, and the prospective index for living conditions rose two points to 98.

The prospective index for household income increased two points to 101, and the prospective index for consumption expenditure was up three points to 112. Inflation expectations, which gauge outlook among consumers over headline inflation for the next 12 months, stood unchanged at 2.4 per cent in October compared to the previous month.—Xinhua ■

Heineken cheers profit jump, but outlook 'below 2019'

HEINEKEN on Wednesday posted a 2.6 billion euro (\$2 billion) jump in year-on-year net profit three-quarters into 2021, but reported a major slump in beer sales in Asia markets because of Covid-19 restrictions.

Net profit for the first nine months was up to 3.082

billion euros (\$3.5 billion) as opposed to 396 million euros last year and 1.66 billion in 2019, the world's number two brewer said in a statement.

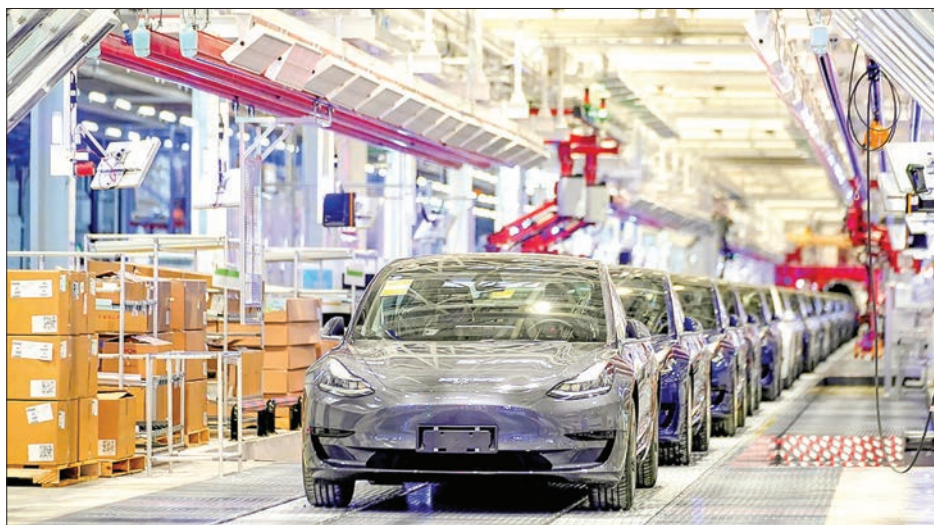
But the profits were boosted by an exceptional gain of 1.3 billion euros from a remeasurement to fair

value of a previously held equity interest in United Breweries in India — and full year expectations remained below that of 2019. Heineken took control of United Breweries — which makes India's popular Kingfisher brand — in July, pushing its holding to 61.5

per cent from 46.5 per cent before. Overall beer volumes grew by four per cent since the start of the year, but the Amsterdam-based brewer saw a 37.4 per cent dip in key markets such as Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam in the third quarter.—AFP ■

Tesla opens first overseas vehicle R&D centre in Shanghai

TESLA has opened its R&D innovation centre, the first of its kind among the electric car company's overseas facilities, and a Gigafactory data centre in Shanghai, Tesla China said on 25 October. Tom Zhu, president of Tesla China, said Tesla has been practicing its commitment to deeply cultivating the Chinese market, adding that the R&D centre will further promote Tesla's localization process in China. According to the plan, the R&D innovation centre will carry out original development work for vehicles,



Tesla China-made Model 3 vehicles are seen during a delivery event at its factory in Shanghai, 7 January 2020. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

charging equipment and energy products. The data centre will be used to store Chinese operations data such as factory production information.—Xinhua ■

MYANMA Port Authority "NOTICE of High Tide"

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 20.31 feet to 21.06 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of November 4th to November 8th, 2021. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V GOLDEN AUTUMN V.V223

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V GOLDEN AUTUMN VOY.NO. (V223)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-10-2021** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:
M/S CHUN AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO LTD

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **The Erawan Agricultural Chemicals Co.,Ltd** have registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "**Aventine CO., LTD**", to new distributor name "**Agro Power CO.,LTD**". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Agro Power Co.,Ltd . Ph- Ph-095012662.

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Era-amine 84	2,4-D dimethyl ammonium 84% w/v SL	F2020-2355

Ads
TradeMark
Call
09251022355
09974424848

Beijing Games organizers say virus 'biggest challenge', 100 days from start

BEIJING Winter Olympics organizers said Wednesday that protecting the Games from the coronavirus is the "biggest challenge", as China races to stamp out an outbreak 100 days before the event starts.

The Chinese capital will in February become the first host of a Summer and Winter Games, and last week welcomed the Olympic flame with a low-key ceremony.

But with just a few months until it kicks off, China is battling a virus outbreak that has seen millions told to stay at home, mass testing across at least 11 provinces and brought many flights and trains to a standstill.

"The pandemic is the biggest challenge to the organization of the Winter Olympics," Zhang Jiandong, executive

vice-president of the Beijing Organizing Committee, told a press conference.

China's strict rules "can reduce the risks and impact of Covid-19", he said, adding that those in the Games' strict bubble who do not comply with anti-epidemic measures will face consequences. He did not say what.

Zhang told reporters that "all preparations are complete" and venues finished.

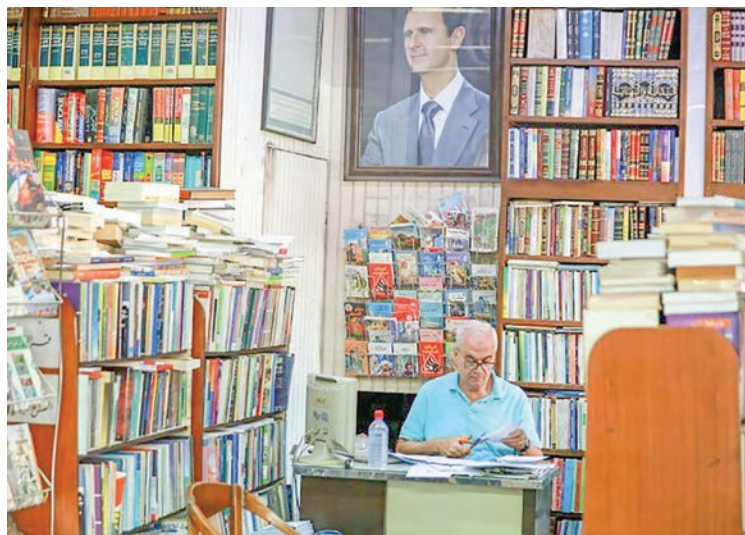
Case numbers remain comparatively low in China — where the virus emerged towards the end of 2019 — but authorities have maintained a strict zero-Covid approach through border controls and rigorous local lockdowns.

There were 50 new domestic cases reported Wednesday in six regions.—AFP ■



This file photo shows the general view of Big Air Shougang, one of the competition venues for Beijing 2022 Winter Olympic Games. PHOTO: XINHUA/ZHANG CHENLIN

Damascus bookshops disappear as crisis hits culture



The Al-Nouri bookstore was founded in 1930 and is one of the capital's oldest bookshops, but is threatened with closure. PHOTO: AFP

THE Damascus bookshops and publishing houses that once stood as beacons of Syria's intellectual life are being replaced with shoe shops and money changers, as culture falls casualty to crisis.

Syria is home to some of the Arab world's literary giants, and Damascus boasted an abundance of busy bookshops and publishing houses printing and distributing original and translated works.

But the city's literary flare has faded.

A decade-old civil war, a chronic economic crisis and a

creative brain drain that has deprived Syria of some of its best writers and many of their readers, have compounded worldwide problems facing the industry, such as the growing popularity of e-books.

"People can't afford to read and bookstores can't cover the expenses of staying open," said Muhammad Salem al-Nouri, 71, who inherited one of the capital's oldest bookshops from his father.

Last month, the iconic Nobel bookshop in Damascus, founded in 1970, closed its doors. The Al-Yaqza bookshop,

founded in 1939, shut seven years ago, with a shoe store now taking its place.

A money exchange office has replaced the Maysalun bookshop which was open for four decades. The Al-Nouri bookstore, founded in 1930, is at risk of meeting the same fate.

"We wanted it to remain for our children and grandchildren," Nouri told AFP. "But the Al-Nouri bookshop is threatened with closure, as are other bookstores."

The Nouri family currently runs two bookshops in central Damascus.—AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

Qatar emir pledges 'equal citizenship' after vote controversy

Qatar's emir pledged "equal citizenship" Tuesday after some people were excluded from participating in the country's first legislative elections, sparking rare debate in the wealthy Gulf country.

Only descendants of Qataris who were citizens in 1930 were eligible to vote and run for 30 of the 45 seats in this month's Shura Council polls, disqualifying members of families naturalized since then. "To promote equal Qatari citizenship and translate it into practice... I have instructed the council of ministers to prepare the appropriate legal amendments to ensure the achievement of this goal," Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani told lawmakers at the new council's opening session. In his first remarks on the issue, he called for combatting "tribal bigotry vis-a-vis public interest or loyalty to the homeland".

This "negative aspect of tribalism" was surprising, he said, in apparent reference to isolated protests during the run-up to the elections.

Energy-rich Qatar, a US ally, has a population of approximately 2.5 million, most of whom are foreigners and ineligible to vote. Qataris number about 333,000.—AFP ■

Afghan all-female orchestra keeps music alive in exile

FOR the first time in months, members of Afghanistan's all-female Zohra orchestra have reassembled in Doha, their music once again filling the air as they face an uncertain future.

While grateful to be safe in Qatar, their escape from Taliban rule is bittersweet, as the girls leave behind friends from the orchestra and their "old companions" — their instruments. Last week marked the first time in three months that Marzia Anwari, along with other members of the Afghan music community who escaped to Qatar, played live for an audience. "Most of the girls from the Zohra orchestra are here with me in Qatar, but some



Afghan musician Marzia Anwari from the Zohra orchestra rehearses ahead of a concert in Doha. Last week marked the first time in three months that members of the Afghan music community who escaped to Qatar played live for an audience. PHOTO: AFP

of them are still in Afghanistan," the 18-year-old violist told AFP.

"I hope that they can join us

here as soon as possible and we can be together and rebuild our orchestra."—AFP ■

NEWS
IN BRIEF

Brazil senators back criminal charges against Bolsonaro

A Brazilian Senate commission approved a damning report on Tuesday that recommends criminal charges be brought against President Jair Bolsonaro, including crimes against humanity, for his Covid policies.

Seven of the panel's 11 senators voted to endorse the text -- presented last week after a six-month investigation into Brazil's pandemic response -- which also calls for the indictment of 77 other people, including several ministers and three of Bolsonaro's children.

The nearly 1,200-page report also urges Brazil's Supreme Court to suspend the far-right leader's access to his accounts on social media platforms YouTube, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for falsely alleging that Covid-19 vaccines were linked to AIDS.—AFP ■

Greek PM tells Turkey to stop 'aggressive posturing'

Greece's leader on Tuesday called on Turkey to stop its "aggressive posturing" and engage in talks over their maritime dispute, during a visit to Saudi Arabia to strengthen ties with Gulf countries.

Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis warned that Greece had "drawn our lines very, very clearly" after signing defence deals with the United States and France earlier this month.

Mitsotakis also held talks with Saudi Arabia's crown prince and de facto ruler, Mohammed bin Salman, and Bahrain's crown prince before addressing the Future Investment Initiative in Riyadh.—AFP ■

Anger over men-only foreign delegations to meet Taliban

GLOBAL powers and aid groups that have loudly demanded an inclusive Afghanistan under the Taliban are now facing criticism for sending all-male delegations to Kabul to meet the hardline Islamists.

Since seizing power in August, the Taliban have excluded women from their new caretaker government and put restrictions on work and education, drawing condemnation from the outside world.

But female representation has been little better among some governments and aid groups in their meetings in the capital with Afghanistan's new rulers, who are seeking international recognition.

"Senior women in your teams should be leading your interactions with the Taliban... Don't exclude women," said Shaharзад Akbar, the exiled head of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission. In a tweet addressing "governments and aid agencies", she called on them to "NOT NORMALIZE Taliban's erasure of women".

'Sausage party'

Heather Barr from Human Rights Watch created a list, under the hashtag "sausageparty", of pictures posted by the Taliban of their meetings with delegations in Kabul.—AFP ■



Former Afghan MP and negotiator Fawzia Koofi, seen here in 2019, has voiced anger at the lack of women in foreign delegations meeting the Taliban in Kabul. PHOTO: AFP

In Biden shift, US denounces Israel on settlements



Beyond creeping. Israel's controversial concrete barrier separating the Jewish settlement of Pisgat Zeev in the northern part of east Jerusalem and the Palestinian area of Al-Ram in the occupied West Bank. PHOTO: AFP

THE United States on Tuesday forcefully criticized Israel for the first time in years on its settlements, with President Joe Biden's administration saying it "strongly" opposed new construction on the West Bank.

The reaction comes after four years under Donald Trump in which the United States offered a green light to Israel's activity on occupied Palestinian

land, with his secretary of state, Mike Pompeo, touring a settlement at the end of his tenure.

The State Department under Biden had repeatedly warned against settlement construction and on Tuesday sharply criticized Israel after it moved ahead.

"We are deeply concerned about the Israeli government's plan to advance thousands of

settlement units" on Wednesday as well as tenders published Sunday for more than 1,300 homes, State Department spokesman Ned Price said.

"We strongly oppose the expansion of settlements, which is completely inconsistent with efforts to lower tensions and to ensure calm, and it damages the prospects for a two-state solution," he told reporters.—AFP ■

Sudan PM released as protesters face tear gas

SUDANESE Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok was brought home late Tuesday, his office said, after a day of intense international pressure following his removal in a military coup.

Hamdok was "under close surveillance" while other ministers and civilian leaders remained under arrest, his office added, after the army dissolved Sudan's institutions on Monday.

Earlier in the day, the United States had said it would suspend aid over the coup and the EU had threatened to do the same.

Meanwhile UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres demanded Hamdok "be released immediately" ahead of an emergency Security Council meeting that began at 2000 GMT.

The talks among the top UN powers could produce a joint text condemning the putsch later Tuesday or on Wednesday, a diplomat speaking on condition of anonymity said.

Before the meeting, Dmitry Polyanskiy, Russia's deputy



Sudanese demonstrators lift national flags and burn tyres on a street in the capital Khartoum, on 26 October 2021, as they protest a military coup that overthrew the transition to civilian rule. PHOTO: AFP

ambassador to the UN, said the council "should appeal to stop the violence from all sides".

The coup comes just over two years into a delicate power-sharing arrangement between the military and civilians after the army's ousting during enormous street protests in April 2019 of longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir.

Top General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan had earlier vouched

for Hamdok's "good health", while a military source who requested anonymity said Hamdok had been escorted home, with "security measures" erected "around the perimeter".

Angry citizens stood their ground on barricaded streets where tyres burned, chanting "No to military rule", the day after four people were shot dead by security forces, according to a doctors' group.—AFP ■

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs

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

2. Economic affairs

- (a) To enhance production based on agriculture and livestock through modern techniques and strengthen all-round development in other sectors of the economy.

- (b) To develop a stable market economy and promote international investment in order to enhance the economic development of the entire National people.
- (c) To promote and support local businesses to create employment opportunities and increase domestic production.

3. Social affairs

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

Finalists for 2022 AFC Women's Cup Championship announced

THE 2022 AFC Women's Cup group stage kicks off on 24 October and all the finalists, including team Myanmar, have been emerged winners for the last round of the tourney.

The finals will be held in India from 20 January to 6 February 2022, with a total of 12 teams competing. Out of the 12 finalists, eight have won the tournament and four have qualified directly.

Japan, defending champions, host India, first runners up to Australia and second runners up China did not need to participate in the qualification.

Myanmar, Thailand, Viet

Nam, the Philippines, South Korea, Iran, China Taipei and Indonesia have been qualified in the group stages.

The tournament was divided into eight groups in September and October, with only the top teams from each group winning the tournament.

The Myanmar team has already qualified for the tournament and will continue to prepare for a good result in the final round.

This is the fifth time Myanmar has qualified for the finals of the Asian Cup Women's Championship. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM



Myanmar women's national football team pose for a group photo before an international match. **PHOTO: MFF**

'I prefer other players, says Real's Ancelotti about Hazard

CARLO Ancelotti delivered a reality check to Eden Hazard on 26 October by saying the Belgian is being left out of Real Madrid's starting lineup because he "prefers other players".

Hazard has endured a nightmare two years riddled with injuries since joining from Chelsea for €100 million (\$150 million) and he stayed on the bench during Madrid's 2-1 win over Barcelona at Camp Nou on Sunday.

The 30-year-old has only started four La Liga games this season under Ancelotti, with an unknown muscle injury the latest fitness issue to rule him out of action earlier this month.

Ancelotti says Hazard is now available again but the



Eden Hazard at Santiago Bernabeu. Hazard has only started four La Liga games this season under Ancelotti. **PHOTO: AFP**

likes of Vinicius Junior and Rodrygo are being picked on merit.

"He has absolutely everything," said Ancelotti, ahead of Madrid's game against Osasuna on Wednesday.

"But he has to put up with it. He's not playing but

he has all the characteristics of a Real Madrid player - quality and motivation - but there are times when the coach prefers other players. "He can play. But the coach in this moment prefers other players. The important thing is he is motivated to work and to play. —AFP ■

France footballer Hernandez avoids jail as Madrid court accepts appeal

BAYERN Munich defender Lucas Hernandez will not go to a Spanish jail for violating a restraining order in 2017 after a Madrid court on Wednesday accepted the appeal by the French player.

"We consider that the appeal should be upheld and the order to enter prison suspended," the court said in a statement.

The suspension of the sentence will be for a period of four years as long as Hernandez does not commit any further crime and the payment of a fine of 96,000 euros (\$111,000), the court said.

Hernandez, a World Cup winner with France in 2018, was arrested four years ago in Spain for violating a court order banning him from contact-

ing his partner after a violent altercation between the pair.

He and his partner, Amelia Lorente, were both convicted of domestic violence in February 2017.

She hit and scratched Hernandez, while the player hit her in the ribs, back and face, according to the court ruling at the time.

Neither made a complaint against the other, but both were charged by Spain's public prosecutor.

The then-Atletico Madrid player and his girlfriend were each sentenced to 31 days of community service. They were also ordered not to see each other for six months.

Four months later though, Hernandez was arrested at a Madrid airport.—AFP ■