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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Monday, 15 November 2021

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 holds Kathina robe offering ceremony



Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party attend Kathina robe offering ceremony of SAC.

THE State Administration Council held the Kathina robe offering ceremony yesterday morning at Sasana Maha Beikmandaw in Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw. Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla attended the ceremony and presented Kathina robes and offertories.

Present were 18 members of the Sangha led by Ovada-

cariya Sayadaw of Uppatasanti Pagoda Board of Trustees Presiding Nayaka of Paukmyaing Monastery in Lewe Township of Nay Pyi Taw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Jininda.

Also present were Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, members of the State Administration Coun-

cil and their wives, and officials.

The Senior General and wife and the congregation observed the display of Kathina robes, offertories and Padethabins (tree-shaped stands where various kinds of offerings are hung) which were to be donated to the Aungmye Buddhist Learning Centre. The Senior General offered oil lights, water and fruits and meals in the emerald alms-bowl to the Buddha Image in the hall.

The Senior General and wife offered Kathina robes, offertories and alms to the Paukmyaing Sayadaw and Presiding Sayadaw of Aungmye Buddhist Learning Centre Bhaddanta Vicakkhana.

The Vice-Senior General and wife offered Kathina robes and alms to Presiding Sayadaw of Maha Thihanada Monastery Bhaddanta Acinna. The members, the secretary and the joint-secretary of the State

Administration Council and the Chief Justice of the Union then donated Kathina robes and alms to members of the Sangha respectively.

The Paukmyaing Sayadaw delivered a sermon and the congregation shared the merits gained. At the Kathina robe offering ceremony 2021 of the State Administration Council yesterday, the donations including 42 Padethabins was valued at K 97.64375 million.— MNA

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State Administration Council Press Release

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

1. Some student youths, State service personnel and citizens, with worries, have evaded to areas of EAOs and foreign countries due to the incitements and intimidation of NLD members, extremist followers, unlawful associations and terrorist groups such as CRPH and NUG, stimulation of CDM, and persons and organizations at home and abroad not wishing to restore peace and stability of the State since Tatmadaw assumed the State responsibilities on 1 February 2021.
2. They are further worried about the dictatorship statement and speeches of unlawful association and terrorist group CRPH and NUG, and some relevant persons. As they face no security guarantee and difficulties in socio-economic life in those areas, they wish to return to their native lands.
3. **The State Administration Council will specifically ease restrictions for service personnel, intellectuals and intelligentsia, and persons from various arenas and citizens who, with worries, absconded from the country except for persons who committed murders, robberies, setting fires, mine explosions and intentional attacks on security troops, those who crowded to attack public service personnel and some people, those who destroyed government and private-owned buildings and those who are highly involved in the CDM activities by providing monetary assistance and other means.**
4. As those who evade their native areas are also citizens, the State Administration Council will arrange their returns from the evaded areas to various parts of Myanmar.
5. As such, the information was released that if those who evaded to various areas, except for persons who committed any kinds of crime, wish to return to their native lands in Myanmar of their own accord due to multiple worries, the citizens abroad can contact nearby ward, village, township and district administration bodies and relevant embassies, military attaché offices and consulates in accord with the easing restrictions under the law.

Information Team
State Administration Council

THE State Administration Council will specifically ease restrictions for service personnel, intellectuals and intelligentsia, and persons from various arenas and citizens who, with worries, absconded from the country except for persons who committed murders, robberies, setting fires, mine explosions and intentional attacks on security troops, those who crowded to attack public service personnel and some people, those who destroyed government and private-owned buildings and those who are highly involved in the CDM activities by providing monetary assistance and other means.

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



Cargo trucks carrying medical equipment and accessories are ready to depart border trade camp to destinations.

THE Ministry of Commerce arranges import of essential medical supplies that are critical to the COVID-19 prevention, control and treatment activities, through border trade camps, international airport and sea-ports under standard operation procedures.

Yesterday, anti-COVID-19 equipment, medical products were imported by two compa-

nies using three vehicles.

A total of 20 tonnes of liquid oxygen carried by one bowser, and 16 tonnes of mask were imported via Myawady and Chinshwehaw border trade camps.

One oxygen bowser led to Yangon via Myawady border trade centre, officials said.

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

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) including online registration for the import process.

It is reported that the Ministry of Commerce is coordinating with relevant departments, treatment of COVID-19, as well as contact persons for inquiries can be reached through the Ministry's Website—www.commerce.gov.mm. — MNA

Public request by Ministry of Health

ONLY when the people cooperate will the work process achieve success in a short time for effective prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19 among the people. As such, all the people are requested to abide by the following points: -

1. Stay at home as much as possible.
2. Don't accept the guests at the house. You don't visit other houses.
3. The older persons above 65 or those suffering from chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and heart must be worn masks in the house. They must be placed at well-ventilated sites.
4. Wear masks if you go outside without fail. Systematically wash hands. Take a six-foot distance from others. Avoid visits to the rooms where ventilation is not good.
5. Avoid the crowds.
6. If possible, go shopping once a week. Don't buy anything from the vendors who don't systematically wear masks.
7. Take care of carrying the virus to the houses whenever return home from outside. Systematically discard the used masks and single disposable equipment outside the houses. Avoid close contact with family members before changing clothes or washing the body.
8. As the vaccines for your quota is the best, accept vaccinations for full time. Despite receiving the vaccination, you should abide by the protective ways.
9. Systematically cooperate in prevention, control and treatment of the disease with manpower, money, materials and expertise.

Ministry of Health (2-8-2021)

714 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 14 November, total figure rises to 513,262

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 513,262 after 714 new cases were reported on 14 November 2021 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 484,340 have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll reached 18,929 after 16 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 13-11-2021, a total of 14,692,607 people have been vaccinated. Of them, 9,561,157 people have been vaccinated two times and 5,131,450 people once.—MNA

Political maturity

POLITICAL maturity and unity of stakeholders and the entire people play a crucial role in building the Union based on democracy and federalism. It is necessary to take lessons that Myanmar could not achieve the deserved development due to requirements in political maturity in successive eras. We must try hard to overcome such challenges. We need to build political maturity and unity with wise mental faculty for ensuring the peace of the nation.

(Excerpt from the Message sent by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Chairman of the National Unity and Peacemaking Central Committee Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to mark the Sixth Anniversary of signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA on 15 October 2021)

State Administration Council holds Kathina robe offering ceremony

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SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla offer Kathina robes and alms to Sayadaw.



SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe donate alms to Bhaddanta Acinna.

Union Minister for Health meets Chairman of Nippon Foundation



UNION Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win held a talk with a delegation led by Chairman of the Nippon Foundation Mr Yohei Sasakawa at meeting hall of the Ministry of Health yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed provision of humanitarian assistance to Myanmar for COVID-19 prevention and control processes by the Nippon Foundation, necessary drugs and medical supplies required by Ministry of Health and donation for construction of clinics and hospital, conditions for Japan to donate COVID-19 vaccine to Myanmar, and issues that can be done to improve Japan-Myanmar relations.

They also discussed the possibility of rebuilding and upgrading the hospital with the help of Japan.—MNA

Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win holds talks with Chairman of the Nippon Foundation Mr Yohei Sasakawa.

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

Ngapali Beach's early cold season festival opened in Rakhine State



Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Htay Aung opens early cold season festival at Ngapali Beach.

THE Paradise Hotel in Ngapali Beach held the opening ceremony of the “Ngapali Beach’s early cold season festival” yesterday morning and Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Htay Aung, Chief Minister of the Rakhine State Government Dr Aung

Kyaw Min, Commander of the West Command Maj-Gen Htin Latt Oo, and officials attended the ceremony.

The Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism addressed the ceremony. He said the “Ngapali Beach’s early cold season festi-

val” was also held in 2019, and the festival is held this year with the purpose of making people relax as the COVID-19 infection rate has also decreased, as well as it is a symbol of a peaceful Rakhine State. The festival will hold for five days and will include many

traditional Myanmar festivals. He urged local people and the visitors to come and enjoy in the festival.

The Rakhine State Chief Minister also said Ngapali Beach is a major tourist destination in Rakhine State and one of the most famous beaches in Myanmar. It has been described as the virgin beach of Asia, he said. The “Ngapali Beach’s early cold season Festival” is held for the

people to come and rest freely.

Minister for Economic Affairs of the Rakhine State Government U San Shwe Maung clarified the holding of the festival, and U Phoe Yi Aung from the Hoteliers Association (Rakhine Zone) expressed words of thanks.

The Union Minister and party opened the festival, observed the performance and presented cash awards.—District IPRD/GNLM



Union Minister Dr Htay Aung presents cash awards to local traditional dance troupe. PHOTO: DISTRICT IPRD

Deputy Information Minister inspects work process of IPRD offices



Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Tint meets staff of Information and Public Relations Department.

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Ye Tint met with the townships IPRD officials and staff in Waw, Kyaikto and Bilin townships and Thaton District on 13 November.

He inspected Thanbyuzayat Retransmission Station yesterday morning. He then held a discussion with region, district, township heads and employees

at the respective IPRD offices in Thanbyuzayat and Ye townships and at Dawei District IPRD office and Dawei Retransmission Station.

During the meetings, the Deputy Minister stressed the needs to reopen the libraries, conduct awareness programmes, resume the public relation services and cooperate with department

concerned to improve the knowledge of youths.

He also highlighted the main responsibilities of dutiful government employees for the country and public, proper momentum in launching health awareness programmes despite the decline infection rate and other matters related to the station buildings and security.—MNA

COVID-19 vaccines delivered across Myanmar

SINOVAC COVID-19 vaccines, which are stored at the Central Vaccine Store of the Department of Public Health in Yangon, are delivered to respective regions and states across Myanmar by Tatmadaw aircraft and Cold Chain Delivery Logistics Trucks, meeting the quality control standards.

Yesterday, 88,332 doses of Sinovac COVID-19 vaccines with syringes were delivered to Magway, Magway Region,

69,516 doses of the vaccine with syringes to Pyay, Bago Region, 36,348 doses of the vaccine with syringes to Taunggyi, Southern Shan State and 223,856 doses of the vaccine with syringes to Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Region respectively.

Officials from the respective townships received the vaccines and will distribute them to respective townships, it is reported.—MNA

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

Myanmar attends 3rd edition of Goa Maritime Conclave 2021 (GMC-2021)

THE delegation led by the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Moe Aung attended the third edition of Goa Maritime Conclave 2021 (GMC-2021) hosted by the Indian Navy in Goa from 7 to 9 November.

The Goa Maritime Conclave is hosted by Indian Navy once two years. This year, the conclave was hosted in Naval War College of Indian Navy. During the event, Indian Defence Secretary Dr. Shri Ajay Kumar, Foreign Secretary Mr. Harsh Vardhan Shringla and Chief Admiral Karabir Singh of the Naval Staff of India respectively made opening speeches.

Then, the Chiefs of Navies discussed regarding Peaceful India Ocean under the theme of Maritime Security and Emerging Non-Traditional Threats: A Case for Proactive Role for IOR Navies.

During the discussion, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Moe Aung also dis-



Admiral Moe Aung holds talks at third edition of Goa Maritime Conclave 2021 in India.

cussed the strategic location of Indian Ocean, opportunities and challenges, active cooperation of Tatmadaw (Navy) in maritime security and non-traditional security threats in Indian Ocean being solved via Navy to Navy Staff Talks, Co-

ordinated Patrol, Bilateral and Multilateral.

Then, the Chiefs of Navies declared the Common Maritime Priorities in IOR.

The retired naval chiefs, senior naval officers, ambassadors and experts read the

papers in three sections under the topic of Maritime Security and Emerging Non-Traditional Threats.

Then, the Information Fusion Centre—Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR), which is made up of liaison officers from 22

countries including Myanmar, exchanged views on non-traditional threats and maritime security and safety.

During the visit, Admiral Moe Aung separately met with Vice Admiral Nishantha Ulugetenne of Sri Lanka of Commander of the Navy of the Sri Lankan Navy, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, of Western Naval Command Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Southern Naval Command Vice Admiral Anil Kumar Chawla, and Chief Hydrographer Vice Admiral Adhir Arora and they exchanged views.

Moreover, the delegation also visited the Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel-DSRV of Indian Navy at Mormugoa Port Terminal, Kolkata Class missile destroyer INS Kochi (D64), Goa Shipyard Limited, INS Hansa airbase of Indian Navy and the Naval Aviation Museum.—MNA

Kyeeohn Kyeeewa dam faces overflow of water



THE water level of Kyeeohn Kyeeewa dam in Pwintbyu Township of Magway Region exceed by 8 ft above the spillway due to the heavy rain in October. Currently, the water level gradually declines and is only 1.8 ft until the morning of 14 November, according to AE U Soe Tint of dam.

Pwintbyu Township has had lots of rain during this September and October and the water level exceeds above 340

ft of the water storage capacity and more than 8 ft over the spillway. The officials erect green flags for the locals regarding the water level and also express the situation via online daily.

Currently, the rain stops and there is no water flow into the dam and the exceed water level become lower day by day. Therefore, there is no serious situation for the people about the overflow of water.—Ye Win Naing/GNLM

Water flows out from spillway of Kyeeohn Kyeeewa Dam in Pwintbyu Township. PHOTO: YE WIN NAING

Officials arrange transportation for 209 returnees from Laos

A total of 209 Myanmar returnees from Laos arrived back in Kengtung, Shan State (East), on 13 November at 4:30 pm and were repatriated to Taunggyi by the authorities.

The returnees were initially kept at Wamlon Quarantine Centre in Wamlon Village-tract, Tachilek Township.

Then they returned to Kengtung on the evening of

13 November after conducting necessary medical check-ups.

Police and officials provided food boxes and purified water bottles to the returnees in accordance with the COVID-19 precaution measures.

Officials arranged free transportation for the returnees and then repatriated them to Taunggyi.—Aung Zin Myint (IPRD)/GNLM



Trucks carrying Myanmar returnees from Laos are seen in a queue before departure for regions and states. PHOTO: AUNG ZIN MYINT (IPRD)

Local residents expect tourism recovery in Myeik Archipelago

THE local residents are looking forward to tract to tourism recovery in Myeik Archipelago, Taninthayi Region as the high season commences.

The suspension in local transport to Taninthayi Region by bus or by plane hinders local tourism in the region.

“There is a flight to Kawthoung city. The tourism companies submitted a report regarding a day trip plan to Taninthayi Region Government. The officials are taking COVID-19 prevention measures at present. The tourism needs to kick off with the local visitors at first. We still cannot expect the tourists at the moment. The tourism companies can call upon the authorities to ease the restrictions if the local visitors ask for it,” said an official of Taninthayi Region Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

The transportation sector is paramount of importance to restart for the tourism recovery in Myeik Archipelago.

“The resumption of flights and express bus service to Dawei and Myeik cities are required. The transportation is crucial in tourism development. There is only chartered flight available for now. The COVID-19 cases have significantly dropped and the high season has come. The relevant departments need to forward this problem to the regional government,” said a tour agent.

Also, there are tourism



Beach of the island is attractive to travellers with beautiful scenes.

barriers including lack of infrastructure.

“The Community-based Tourism (CBT) has started in Doneyaunghmine village in Myeik city, where the visitors can study the culture, tradition, customs and living styles of Salon ethnic people and Kayin ethnic people. However, the lack of infrastructure for the arrival of vessels hindered tourism. The government support and loan is vital of importance for the tourism industry which was stopped in the past two years during the COVID-19 pandemic. Airlines and highway bus lines play a

pivotal role in transportation,” said an official of Myeik District Tourism Association.

The departments concerned will submit the needs and health protocols for travelling in order for the Myeik’s tourism to recover. The infection rate will be closely monitored as well.

“The tourism depends strongly on vaccination rate of the local residents. The vaccination program has covered over 50 per cent of the local population. The tourism recovery will undoubtedly bring about the job opportunities and the income

for the local residents,” an official continued.

Myeik Archipelago has already attracted the attentions of local visitors and tourists. The tour companies received tons of inquiries about tour plan to Myeik islands. There were 42 tour companies who have been offering service to Myeik Islands.

Natthamee, Lay, Thameehla and Doneyaunghmine islands and Done waterfall are the tourist attractions of Myeik Archipelago. The tourists also eye the famous Smart Islands out of 800 islands in Myeik Archipelago as it has natural pebble beach and sandy beach. The travellers flocked to the Smart Islands during the holidays last three years.—Myint Oo (Myeik)/GNLM



Visitors are taking relaxation on the island. PHOTO: MYINT OO (MYEIK)

Over 12-year-old students get COVID jabs in Yamethin

HEALTH staff gave second dose of COVID-19 vaccines to over 12-year-old school children who are studying at No.5 Basic Education High Schools in Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region yesterday.

Officials from the township level departments, members of the fire brigade, staff from the General Administration Department, education staff, Red Cross members and volunteers provided assistance during the

vaccination.

Vaccination activities are documented by officials followed by measuring body temperatures, blood pressure, and monitoring oxygen level by healthcare officials.

Vaccines were given systematically to the local people, and only those with normal conditions are vaccinated.

Second dose of COVID-19 vaccines will be given to students from 110 middle and high schools in Yamethin Township starting from 14 November to 10 December.

At the same time, the vaccine is being given to people aged 18 and over from wards and villages at the township General Administration Department meeting hall, according to Dr Myint Myint Maw, head of the township public health department. —Zaw Win Aung (District IPRD)/GNLM



Health staff vaccinates school child in vaccination process. PHOTO: ZAW WIN AUNG (DISTRICT IPRD)

Vaccination of Sinopharm COVID-19 continues in Bahan Township

TO control COVID-19 disease in Bahan Township, Yangon Region, COVID-19 vaccination and people including elderly persons and civil servants participated in the activities yesterday at Mingala Market Dhamma Hall and Workers’ Dhamma Hall separately.

Vaccination activities are documented by Red Cross members followed by measuring body temperatures, blood pressure, and monitoring oxygen level.

Vaccines were given systematically to the people, and only those with normal conditions are vaccinated.

There are 22 wards in Bahan Township and vaccine is being given to priority groups

according to their age groups, officials said.

The second vaccination was given on 13 November at the same place and a total of 140 people were vaccinated.

Similarly, the COVID-19 vaccine is given at the Workers’ Dhamma Hall for 40 years and above and 211 people were vaccinated for the first time.

Township Public Health Department staff, Township Social Welfare Department staff, township police, township fire brigade, township Red Cross, ward administrators and charitable organizations assisted in the vaccination activities, officials said.—Aung Myint (IPRD)/GNLM

1,300 companies struck off register due to absence of AR in past four months: DICA

A total of 1,300 companies were struck off the register in the past four months (July-Oct) as they failed to submit annual return (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The DICA has notified any registered company which fails to submit its AR on MyCO are to be suspended, under 430 (F) of Myanmar Companies Law, according to the DICA's notification.

All registered companies need to file AR on the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation, and at least once every year (not later than one month after the anniversary of the incorporation), according to Section 97 of the law.

According to Section 266 (A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, public companies must submit annual returns and financial statements (G-5) simultaneously.



Office of Directorate of Investment and Company Administration is managing approvals for inflow of foreign investment and citizens' investment.

All overseas corporations must submit ARs in the prescribed format on MyCO within 28 days of the financial year ending, as per Section 53 (A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

As per DICA's report, more than 16,000 companies were sus-

pending for failing to submit AR forms within the due date. Newly established companies are required to submit ARs within two months of incorporation or face a fine of K100,000 for filing late returns.

The DICA has notified that

any company which fails to submit its AR within 13 months will be notified of its suspension (I-9A). If it fails to submit the AR within 28 days of receiving the notice, the system will show the company's status as suspended. Companies can restore their sta-

tus only after shelling out a fine of K50,000 for AR fee, K100,000 for restoration of the company on the register, and K100,000 for late filing of documents, totalling K250,000.

If a company fails to restore its status within six months of suspension, the registrar will strike its name off the register, according to the DICA notice.

The registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017. The number of companies registered on the online registry system, MyCO, topped more than 2,000 in the first half of this year. Earlier, MyCO received more than 1,000 applications from new companies every month.

At present, 100 per cent of the applicants are using the online registration platform, according to data provided by the DICA.—GNLM

Agricultural export tops \$315 mln as of 5 November



Female farming workers are carrying out farming works at crop plantation.

THE value of agricultural exports was registered at US\$315.04 million as of 5 November in the current mini-budget period (Oct 2021-March 2022), as per the statistic of the Ministry of Commerce.

The figures reflect a decrease of \$28.49 million. The agro exports stood at \$343.53 million in the corresponding period of the 2020-2021 FY as the main trade partner China shut down all the borders in wake of COVID-19 negative consequences, according to the trade figures released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Last month, the coronavirus pandemic impacted the foreign demand for agricultural products, livestock, mineral and finished industrial goods. In contrary, the exports of fishery,

forest products and other goods rose slightly.

In the exports sector, the agriculture industry performed the best, accounting for 37 per cent of overall exports. The chief items of export in the agricultural sector are rice and broken rice, pulses and beans and maize. Fruits and vegetables, sesame, dried tea leaves, sugar, and other agro products are also shipped to other countries.

Myanmar's agro products are primarily exported to China, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. Sometimes, the export market remains uncertain due to unsteady global demand.

The country requires specific export plans for each agro product, as they are currently

exported to external markets based upon supply and demand. The G to G pact also ensures the strong market for the farmers. Contract farming systems, involvement of regional and state agriculture departments, exporters, traders, and some grower groups, are required in order to meet production targets, the Agriculture Department stated.

The Commerce Ministry is endeavouring to help farmers deal with challenges such as high input costs, procurement of quality seeds, high cultivation costs, and erratic weather conditions.

The agricultural exports jumped to US\$4.6 billion last financial year 2020-2021, despite the downward trend in other export groups.—KK/GNLM

MIC nods four foreign projects in October

THE Myanmar Investment Commission gave the go-ahead to four foreign projects from China, China (Taipei) and Nepal in October of the current mini-budget period and the capital of US\$14.883 million were brought into the country, including expansion of capital by existing enterprises, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Those enterprises are to execute in manufacturing and power sectors respectively.

The Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations has been inviting

responsible businesses to benefit the country.

Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) ensures to approve the responsible businesses by assessing environmental and social impacts. The commission is working together with the relevant departments to screen the projects.

Next, the COVID-19 surge and the political changes led to the drastic fell in FDI sector compared with the previous years. Myanmar attracted foreign direct investment of more than US\$3.79 billion in the last financial year 2020-2021 from 48 enterprises.—KK/GNLM



Myanmar Investment Commission takes responsibility for approving investments for Myanmar.

Shape powerful country in agricultural and livestock sectors

ALL countries possessing industrial power become developed nations. To have industrial power, these countries need to apply modern technologies in the manufacturing sector with creativity.

Today's Myanmar government implements the policies for ensuring the prosperity and food sufficiency of the nation. Being an agro-based country, Myanmar should emphasize agricultural and livestock farming to have food sufficiency.

It was reported that those engaging in the production of foods account for 70 per cent of the total population of the country. Export products in the agricultural and livestock sectors earn the largest amount of foreign exchange among other sectors. As such, only when the production of agriculture and livestock industries increases, will rural people have to enjoy the high living standard.

Local people should not be satisfied with operating the traditional livestock breeding techniques with more efforts to apply advanced technologies. Consequently, their production will increase, building a prosperous country.

Factories manufacturing products at home need natural gas while the agricultural sector requires fertilizers. Fertilizers are produced with the use of natural gas. Hence, the government adopts energy policies for ensuring efficient use of natural gas at home.

Offshore and inland blocks produce natural gas for export purposes as well as domestic use. Natural gas is used in generating electricity. Wind energy can be generated in coastal areas in addition to renewable energy such as hydropower and solar power.

To develop a stable market economy and invite international investment, the government is striving for the enhancement of the economic development of the entire national people. Production of businesses needs electricity, natural gas, raw materials and transport system.

As Myanmar is rich in natural resources, it is necessary to have the creativity for manufacturing the finished goods with the use of raw materials from the natural resources. Only when industrial productivity is high will the people have a high living standard. The entire people should enthusiastically focus on product promotion and enhancement of industrial capability, aimed at serving their interests and the State interests.

As Myanmar is rich in natural resources, it is necessary to have the creativity for manufacturing the finished goods with the use of raw materials from the natural resources. Only when industrial productivity is high will the people have a high living standard. The entire people should enthusiastically focus on product promotion and enhancement of industrial capability, aimed at serving their interests and the State interests.

Agricultural and livestock breeding country is not low credible. Primarily, the income from these sectors should be managed with a systematic allotment for nation-building tasks in order to create peaceful and prosperous environs for the people. If so, the country would be powerful in the agricultural and livestock sectors, taking a firm position in the global community.

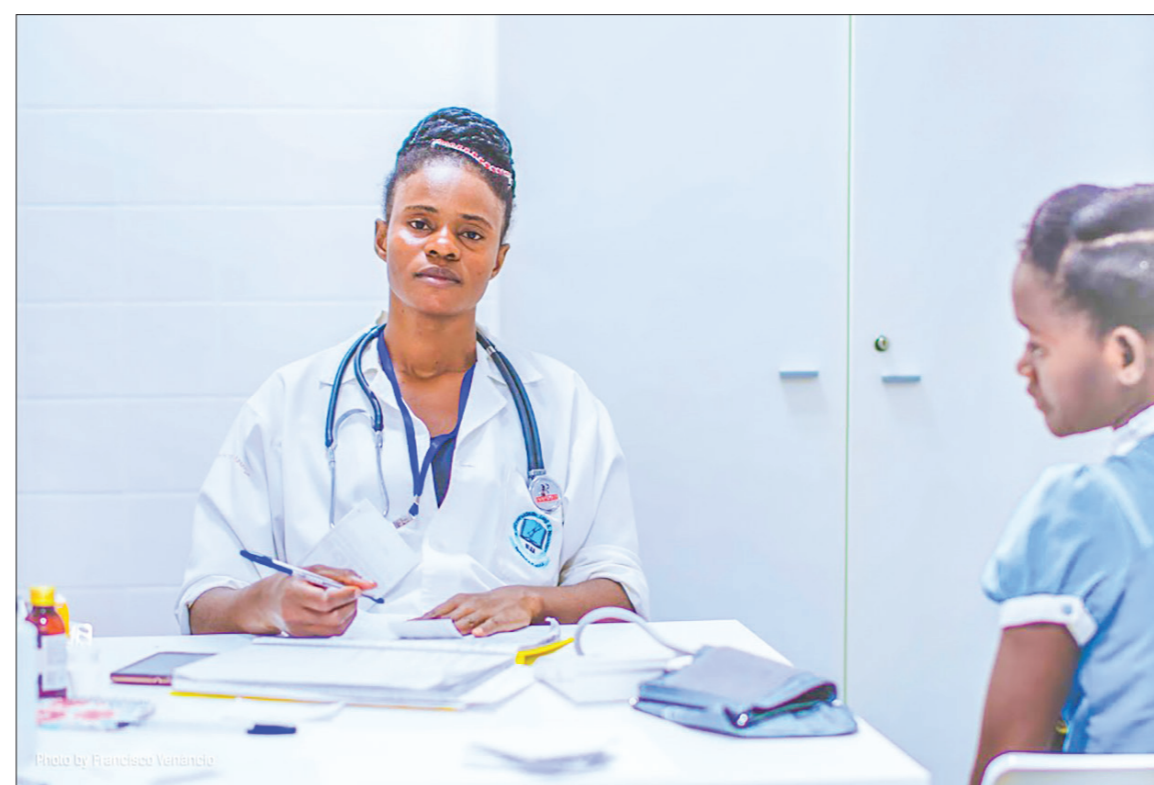
Women's reproductive health disrupted by COVID-19 pandemic

WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH HAS been disrupted as a result of the psychological burden of the COVID-19 pandemic, and affected women need additional medical and psychological support, according to recent research presented at the Society for Endocrinology annual conference in Edinburgh. The findings indicate that stress and sleep disturbance related to the pandemic has had adverse effects on women's menstrual cycles. The study suggests that further studies are necessary to establish the longer-term impact of the pandemic on female reproductive health. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a detrimental effect on the lives of our global population. Negative impacts on our mental health have been compounded by significant changes to our daily lifestyle, eating, and exercise habits. Stress is a known factor that can disturb women's menstrual cycles by affecting hormone levels, as well as causing sleep and body weight disturbances. Stress hormones can directly inhibit sex hormone release,

whilst sleep disturbance is associated with infertility and increased belly fat is also associated with menstrual dysfunction. To investigate the impact of the pandemic on reproductive health, Dr Michelle Maher, as part of a research team led by Dr Lisa Owens in Dublin, surveyed over 1,300 women in April 2021. In addition to standard measures of depression, anxiety, and sleep quality, the survey also asked about their menstrual cycles. Menstrual disturbances included irregular, missed, painful or heavy periods and pre-menstrual symptoms. 56 per cent of respondents reported an overall change in their menstrual cycles since the beginning of the pandemic, with 64 per cent reporting a worsening in pre-menstrual symptoms and 54 per cent experiencing reduced sex drive. Rates of severe depression, anxiety and poor sleep were more than double those from pre-pandemic levels for women of reproductive age.

Menstrual cycle disturbances were associated with increased levels of mental distress and poor sleep amongst the women surveyed.

Dr Michelle Maher asserts, "Our findings highlight a real need to provide appropriate medical care and mental health support to women affected by menstrual disturbance, given the unprecedented psychological burden associated with the pandemic." This is the first study to demonstrate that women continue to experience reproductive health disturbances one year into the pandemic and that this is associated with increased levels of psychological distress and poor sleep. Further investigation will contribute to a greater understanding of the extent of reproductive health disruption and guide our future practice and health policy. Dr Maher cautions, "This study was conducted at a relatively early stage of the COVID-19 vaccination programme, so the length of the pandemic and effectiveness of the vaccine may influence future findings, further investigation with objective, measurable data is needed." The team now plans to conduct these surveys at 6-month intervals, to determine progress and identify any longer-term effects



Women have been at the frontline of responding to the COVID-19 crisis. Globally, they comprise 70 percent of health workers. Some 12 million women globally are estimated to have experienced disruptions in family planning services due to the COVID-19 pandemic. PHOTO: ANI

on female reproductive and mental health. In addition to the surveys, more objective measurements of blood pressure, weight, sex hormone levels, and ovulation will be collected from the women participating. Dr Maher advises, "We would

encourage women experiencing any reproductive disturbances such as (irregular, missed periods, painful or heavy periods, PMS or reduced sex drive) as well as mental health disturbances (including symptoms of low mood, anxiety, stress and poor

sleep) to see their GP for advice." "We are planning to provide support for women affected by menstrual cycle abnormalities by developing psychological support workshops at our centre", adds Dr Maher.

SOURCE: ANI

WHO: Europe reports largest weekly increase in COVID-19 infections



COVID-19 cases have been surging not only in countries with lower vaccination rates in Eastern Europe, but also in countries with some of the world's highest vaccination rates in Western Europe. Romanians wait in line to get an anti-Covid vaccine during a "marathon of vaccination" at the National Library on 25 October, 2021. PHOTO: AFP

EUROPE reported almost two million new COVID-19 infections last week,

the largest weekly case count in the region since the start of the pandemic, the World Health

Organization (WHO) said on 12 November.

There were also almost

27,000 coronavirus-related deaths in Europe, more than half of all COVID-19 deaths in the world last week, WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said at a press briefing.

He said that COVID-19 cases have been surging not only in countries with lower vaccination rates in Eastern Europe, but also in countries with some of the world's highest vaccination rates in Western Europe.

According to the WHO's weekly report on COVID-19, during the week of Nov. 1-7, the WHO European Region reported 1,949,419 new cases, a seven percent week-on-week increase, while other regions reported declines or stable trends. Europe's 26,726 new deaths represented a ten percent weekly jump, while other regions showed decreasing trends.

Of the European region's 61

countries, 26 reported increases of ten percent or more in the number of new cases in the past week, with the highest numbers coming from Russia, the United Kingdom and Turkey.

"Some European countries are now reintroducing restrictions to curb transmission and take the pressure off their health systems," Tedros said.

"We continue to recommend the tailored and proportionate use of testing, masks, physical distancing, measures to prevent crowding, improved ventilation, and more. And get vaccinated when it's your turn. Every country must constantly assess its situation and adjust its approach accordingly," he said.

Michael Ryan, executive director of the WHO's Health Emergencies Program, has recently noted that the surge in cases in Europe was occurring as temper-

atures were dropping and people were moving back inside with the perception that the pandemic was nearing the end. Meanwhile, some exhausted health workers were leaving the profession and some hospitals across Europe were forced to shut down their intensive care units and critical care services.

What is happening in Europe despite the availability of vaccines is "a warning shot for the world," Ryan said. "We all have to double down and recommit ourselves to doing everything we can to be the last person in the chain of transmission."

"I think every country now needs to look at its epidemiology, look at protecting its health workforce or its health system and ensure that it can get through the next few months without systems going into collapse again."

SOURCE: AFP

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr. Vinay Kumar as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of India to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in succession to HE Mr Saurabh Kumar.

Mr. Vinay Kumar was born on 23 August 1969. He holds a Bachelor of Technology (Hons.) degree. He joined the Foreign Service of India in 1992. He served in various positions at Indian Missions in Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Canada, Poland, Iran, United States, Nepal and Afghanistan. At the Headquarters, he served as Joint Secretary of the East and South Asia Division from 2013 to 2015 and as Joint Secretary of the South and Nalanda Division from 2017 to 2018. He has been serving as Additional Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs of India since 2020. He is married. —MNA


Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Antonito de Araújo as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in succession to HE Mr João Freitas de Câmara.

Mr Antonito de Araújo was born on 27 February 1964 in Dili, Timor-Leste.

Mr Antonito de Araújo obtained a degree in International Relations at the Universidade da Paz (UNPAZ) in Dili, Timor-Leste. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Timor-Leste in 2007. He has served in various capacities at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Timor-Leste and Timor-Leste Embassies in Lisbon, Havana and Tokyo. Currently, he is serving as Charge d' Affaires at the Timor-Leste Embassy in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

Mr. Antonito de Araújo is married with five children. —MNA



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 14 November 2021)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (17:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure over Central part of Andaman Sea still persists. It is likely continuous to move West-Northwestwards and further intensify into a Depression over Westcentral and adjoining Southwest Bay of Bengal around (17.11.2021). Weather is a few cloud over the Northeast and Central Bay of Bengal and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 15 November 2021: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region and Shan State, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay Region and Chin State, scattered in Sagaing Region and Kachin, Kayah and Mon states and isolated in the remaining regions and states. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30-35) mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (7-9) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (4-7) feet off and along Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi regions and Shan, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15 November 2021: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FIRST, I'd like to point out one of the fundamental prerequisites for learning the English Language. That's a 'Verb'. More specifically saying, it's an active verb that can have a force or strong effect while communicating with others either by written or spoken English or both.

Second, all English learners, including this author Mingalajii, should study "Simple Tenses" very (very) carefully. Major categories of them are as follows: -

- 1. Present Simple ပစ္စုပ္ပန်ကာလ၌ ကြိယာနိရိုနိ
- 2. Past Simple အတိတ်ကာလ၌ ကြိယာနိရိုနိ
- 3. Future Simple အနာဂတ်ကာလ၌ ကြိယာနိရိုနိ

Let's get at the first one. "Present Simple" means that the verb we're going to use happens at present or right at the moment. That's the basic principle of "Present Simple". Please don't go over the grammatical name of "Present Simple". Just study what form it is and how we have to use it correctly or properly in our everyday expression of English. That's workable!

We're going to check some examples. E.g., 1 I learn English very intensively. E.g., 2 She improves her skills. The verbs used in these two instances are in the form of "Present Simple". Learners should note the following format: -

Verb + s/es (He/She/It)

Verb without s/es (I/We/They)

In a sentence, "Subject" must be in agreement with the "Verb" following it. In example one, the subject "I" is followed by the verb "learn" that must be used as what is grammatically called "**Verb Infinitive**", a basic form of the verb. Most Myanmar pupils and students, including the author as I was young, used to call it "**VI**", the same as "**Verb without s/es**", accordingly to the format shown above in bold letters.

Another form is what is grammatically named "Past Simple" and အတိတ်ကာလ၌ ကြိယာနိရိုနိ: in the Myanmar Language. Please use the previous examples and let's transform the verbs into the past simple forms.

E.g., 1 I learned or learnt English very intensively.

E.g., 2 She improved her skills.

Both instances indicate that they happened in the past. In the first one, you will see two different patterns (learned and learnt) of the verb "learn" (verb infinitive or verb basic pattern without s/es). That's what is morphologically called the "irregular verb". (I'll be writing about them in a later session).

Please look into the following news item from the Reuters news agency.

Dollar dips but shows biggest weekly gain in almost 3 months

By Saikat Chatterjee and Sinéad Carew

LONDON/NEW YORK, 12 November (Reuters) - The U.S. dollar lost a little ground on Friday as high inflation wreaked havoc on consumer sentiment, but the greenback was on track for its biggest weekly gain in almost three months after a surprisingly strong U.S. inflation print on Wednesday prompted investors to advance their bets for a U.S rate hike.

The dollar turned red on Friday morning after the University of Michigan sur-



Workable English

By Mingalajii

vey showed a plunge in U.S. consumer sentiment in early November to its lowest level in a decade as surging inflation cut into households' living standards, with few believing policymakers are doing enough to mitigate the issue.

With short-dated U.S. Treasury yields edging higher — five-year bond yields rose to a February 2020 high — investors were ramping up bets this week that the Federal Reserve will have to raise interest rates sooner than expected.

Against a basket of its rivals, at 1517 EST (2017 GMT) the dollar index was down 0.04 per cent at 95.116 after falling as low as 94.991 in response to consumer sentiment. Earlier in the session, it had risen to its highest level since July 2020.

"Consumers are clearly more worried about real income growth as inflation outpaces wages for now, and that is weighing on sentiment," said Erik Nelson, macro strategist at Wells Fargo.

"That is feeding into growth worries for the dollar and pushing it lower against most currencies, especially the Japanese yen as U.S. yields decline here."

The dollar was down 0.14% at 113.915 yen after falling as low as 113.77.

Currency markets have been shaken up since Wednesday when data showed a broad-based rise in U.S. consumer prices last month at the fastest annual pace since 1990, casting doubts on the Fed's stance that price pressure will be transitory.

But while Friday's survey raised some eyebrows, strategists were bullish on the dollar, which was boasting its biggest weekly percentage gain since the week ending 22 August.

"The confidence data this morning was probably a bit of an eye-opener for the markets ... and perhaps helped nudge the dollar just slightly off its highs," said Shaun

Osborne, chief FX strategist, Scotiabank in Toronto.

While the closure of bond markets on Thursday interrupted the flow of the market this week, still "the focus is clearly on inflation" according to Osborne, who says this "should mean that the US dollar stays relatively well supported."

"We'll be in a standoff in the next few months. We'll keep an eye on what the Fed does," he added.

The renewed strength in the dollar earlier during the week injected fresh life into the moribund currency volatility markets, as traders have scrambled to buy options to protect themselves against further dollar strength. A currency volatility index (.DBCX) hit a fresh six-month high on Friday.

Markets were pricing the first-rate increase by July and a high likelihood of another by November. CME data is assigning a 5 per cent probability of a rate hike by then, compared with less than 30% a month earlier.

The euro was down 0.06 per cent at \$1.1443 after falling earlier to an almost 16-month low at \$1.1433.

Investors have become increasingly bearish on the outlook for the single currency as the European Central Bank appears unlikely to change its extremely dovish policy settings in the near term against the backdrop of a slowing economy.

Sterling bulls received a slight reprieve on Friday as GBP/USD rebounded after hitting a fresh 2021 low, though the rise may only offer temporary solace as technical and fundamental factors pointed to further declines.

Sterling was last up 0.39 per cent against the dollar. It had gained ground in the late morning as the dollar weakened and after the European Union said it was

committed to coming to an agreement with the UK regarding Northern Ireland.

The risk-sensitive Australian dollar was up 0.53 per cent at \$0.733 after earlier sinking as low as \$0.7277 for the first time in more than a month.

In cryptocurrencies, bitcoin was down 1% at \$64,104.89 after briefly hitting a record high of \$69,000 earlier in the week. (News ends)

I have highlighted the words (Verbs) in bold letters in this news item. We are going to learn the verbs one by one from the aforesaid news items as follows: -

- 1. dip (verb) [transitive] to put something quickly into a liquid and take it out again . **dip something (into something)** *He dipped the brush into the paint.*
- . **dip something (in)** *Dip your hand in to see how hot the water is.*
- . *The fruit had been dipped in chocolate.* [intransitive, transitive] to go downwards or to a low level; to make something do this

SYNONYM fall

- . (+ adverb/preposition) *The sun dipped below the horizon.*
- . *Sales for this quarter have dipped from 38.7 million to 33 million.*
- . *The road dipped suddenly as we approached the town.*

. **dip something (+adverb/preposition)** *The plane dipped its wings.*

[transitive] dip something (British English) if you dip your headlights when driving a car at night, you make the light from them point down so that other drivers do not have the light in their eyes

[transitive] **dip something** when farmers dip animals, especially sheep, they put them in a bath of a liquid containing chemicals in order to kill insects, etc. (**Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary**)

dip v (-pp-) ၁။ sth (into sth): -- sth (in) နှစ်သည်။ တို့သည်။ နှိုက်သည်။ Dip your pen into the ink. Dip your fingers in to see how hot the water is. dip sheep (i.e. put them in a liquid that protects them from (infection or kills insects)). ၂။ နိမ့်သွားသည်။ ငုံ့လျှိုးသွားသည်။ တျဆင်းသည်။ ငုံ့သည်။ (British English) ကား၏ ရှေ့မီးကြီးကို အောက်ဖိုက်ပေးသည်။ The birds rose and dipped in flight. Profits dipped again this year. The sun dipped (down) below the horizon. dip the headlights of a car (i.e. lower their beams to make it easier for other drivers to see ahead). I had to dip my head going through the doorway. ၃။ လျှောဆင်းသည်။ နိမ့်ဆင်းသွားသည်။ The land dips (down) gently to the south.

Noun ၁။ နှစ်ခြင်း။ နှိုက်ခြင်း။ တို့ခြင်း။ ၂။ [countable] (informal) ဝင်လယ်ထဲတွင် ခေတ္တရေစိမ်ခြင်း။ ကူးခြင်း။ have/take/go for a dip ၃။ [uncountable] သိုးများကို စိမ်ရန် ဝိုင်းသတ်ဆေးရည်။ ၄။ [countable and uncountable] ဘီစကွတ်၊ ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်စိမ်းသည်နှင့် တို့စားရန် အပျစ်ရည်တစ်မျိုး။ a/some cheese dip. ၅။ [countable] နိမ့်လျှောအဆင်း။ ဆင်ခြေလျှော။ a dip among the hills. See also Lucky Dip

Dip into something (Phrasal Verb) ၁။ နှိုက်ယူသည်။ He dipped into his bag and took out a notebook. ၂။ (စုဆောင်းထားငွေစသည်မှ) ထုတ်ယူသည်။ We had to dip into our savings to pay for this holiday. ၃။ စာမြည်းသည်။ သာဓနတာလျှံတာ-ဖတ်သည်။ I've only had time to dip into the report. (**English Myanmar Dictionary of the Myanmar Language Commission**)

(To be continued)

Australia facing COVID-19 surge in March: expert

A leading Australian infectious disease expert has warned that the country could face a coronavirus resurgence in March.

Dale Fisher, a senior consultant in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Singapore's National University Hospital, said Australians should be "cautious" for the next eight months based on experiences in other highly-vaccinated countries.

He compared Australia to Singapore where COVID-19 infections and deaths have surged to record highs despite approximately 88 percent of the population being fully vaccinated.

Fisher said that because Singapore began vaccinating its population early the country is now dealing with waning protection, a situation Australia could find



A face mask-clad woman passes a pertinent piece of graffiti art in the locked-down inner Melbourne suburb of Prahran on Thursday. **PHOTO: AFP**

itself in by March when summer gives way to cooler weather.

"I think you will get a bit of a honeymoon (in summer), be-

cause people open the doors, windows, go outside for picnics. So

obviously, that's much safer," he told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC). "My concern, in Australia, would be more about March to April, as you're going back into winter. It's probably going to be a good flu season as well.

"If there's any vaccine waning going on, that'll be about the right time. People will be closing their windows and doors," he said. As of Friday 90.1 percent of Australians aged 16 and over had received one COVID-19 vaccine dose and 82.4 percent were fully inoculated.

Australia on Saturday reported more than 1,480 new locally-acquired coronavirus infections and four deaths compared with 3,099 new cases and 14 deaths in Singapore on Friday. — Xinhua ■

EU drug agency recommends 2 anti-COVID-19 medicines



This file photo taken on 11 June 2021 shows the entrance of the European Medicines Agency headquarters in Amsterdam. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE European Medicines Agency (EMA) has recommended the authorization of two medicines for the treatment of COVID-19.

The two medicines are

Ronapreve made by the Switzerland-based pharmaceutical company Roche, and Regkirona made by South Korean drug company Celltrion, the agency said in

a statement on Thursday.

The EMA said that Ronapreve can be used for treating COVID-19 in adults and adolescents (from 12 years of age and weighing at least 40 kilograms) who do not require supplemental oxygen and who are at increased risk of their disease becoming severe. Ronapreve can also be used for preventing COVID-19 in people aged 12 and older weighing at least 40 kilograms, it said. The EMA said Regkirona can be used for treating adults with COVID-19 who do not require supplemental oxygen and who are also at increased risk of their disease becoming severe. — Xinhua ■

Pandemic sees criminals target online shoppers

THE coronavirus pandemic has sparked a sharp rise in online shopping fraud, Europe's policing agency warned on Friday, saying criminals continued to prey on victims working from home.

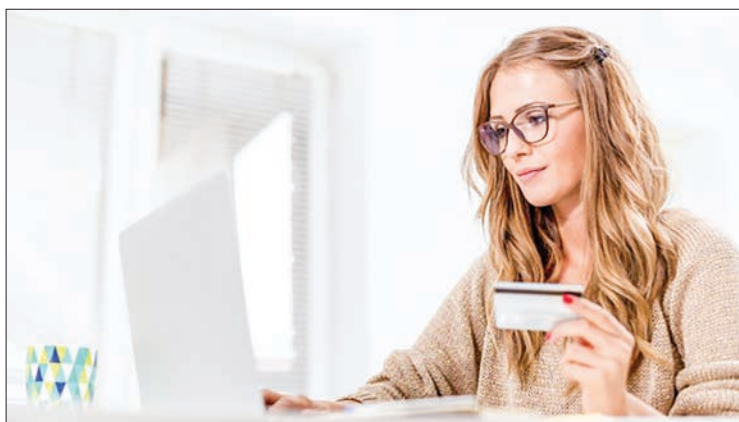
Fears of catching the virus have driven a sharp increase in online shopping, which in turn has led to a major rise in delivery fraud in the second year of the pandemic, Europol said in its annual cybercrime report.

"The extension of lockdowns throughout Europe has brought with it a number of new e-commerce opportunities, which have often proven

to be a target for criminals," the Hague-based agency said.

"Criminals offer goods and receive payment without deliv-

ery, defraud online shops with weak security measures, or use delivery services as phishing lures," it said. — AFP ■



The coronavirus pandemic has sparked a sharp rise in online shopping fraud, Europe's policing agency warned on Thursday, saying criminals continued to prey on victims working from home. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

WHO warns of massive syringe shortfall in 2022

THE World Health Organization warned there could be a shortfall of up to two billion syringes in 2022, which threatens to hamper vaccine efforts globally if production does not improve.

The shortages are the result of COVID-19 vaccine campaigns, with billions more syringes than normal being used worldwide, badly denting global supplies.

Lisa Hedman, the WHO's senior advisor on access to medicines and health products, said as the supply of COVID-19 vaccine doses increases, the supply of syringes needs to keep pace.

"We are raising the real concern that we could have a shortage of immunisation syringes, which would in turn lead to serious problems, such as slowing down immunisation efforts," she told reporters. "Depending on how the vaccine uptake goes, it could be a deficit of anywhere from one billion to two billion."

More than 7.25 billion COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered globally, according to an AFP tally. — AFP ■

Global vaccination important for addressing supply bottlenecks

THE widespread supply bottlenecks in the world would not be resolved quickly and global vaccination is among the early steps to tackle the issue, Carmen Reinhart, vice president and chief economist of World Bank Group has said.

"We're not talking about a single supply shock or a single bottleneck. It's very broadspread," Reinhart said recently in an interview with Xinhua.

The resolution to supply bottlenecks depends on industry, country and labor force, according to Reinhart, who had worked at Harvard Kennedy School as professor of international financial system prior to her appointment to the World Bank in June 2020.

Reinhart said the normalization of employment will ease bottlenecks and the distributional issues that have arisen. "Unless we get over these recurrent waves of COVID-19, normalization appears elusive and unlikely," added Reinhart.

Besides, the COVID-19 pandemic has been associated with a major spike in transport costs and what is happening in global transport costs is really quite exceptional, said Reinhart. "We have all kinds of supply bottlenecks, mismatches between where workers are needed and where workers are available." — Xinhua ■

New Zealand PM calls for solidarity against regional challenges at APEC meeting

NEW ZEALAND Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern reaffirmed her confidence in multilateral cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region and called for consistent joint efforts to tackle the most important regional challenges at the 28th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting on Saturday (local time).

Addressing the meeting, Ardern, who chairs APEC in 2021, underscored the persistent challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic and the benefits of collaborative response by all member economies.

Each economy is facing the same fundamental problems in terms of getting as many people vaccinated as fast as possible, keeping businesses afloat and people in jobs, resuming safe cross-border traveling, accelerating economic recovery, and securing an equitable response, she said.

Looking ahead, Ardern stressed the importance of protection offered by mass vaccination.

"Today is also a chance to look to the future, as we seek to emerge from this crisis better than before. A future where

our businesses flourish and our economies offer opportunities for all, where we embrace a green transformation, combat climate change and harness digital technologies. A future where, once protected by vaccination, we are able to deepen our connections for all our benefit," she said.

Calling for more solidarity and renewed belief in the institution of APEC, Ardern said, "I hope we can write a new chapter in APEC's history, and leave the organization stronger and ready to assist us all in tackling our most important challenges." — Xinhua ■



A woman (R) waits for her order outside a small shop on the first day of the easing of restrictions in Wellington, New Zealand, 28 April 2020, following the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

EBRD to invest 2.28 bln USD in Ukraine in 2021-2022: official



Anti-vaxxers stage a protest against the COVID quarantine restrictions, outside the Ukrainian parliament in Kiev on 3 November, 2021. PHOTO: AFP

THE European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) will invest some 2 billion euros (about 2.28 billion U.S. dollars) in Ukraine in 2021-2022,

Interfax-Ukraine news agency said on Friday, citing a senior bank official.

Mark Magaletsky, a deputy head at the EBRD in Ukraine,

said in an interview that Ukraine will receive about 1.14 billion dollars from the bank this year and the same amount of financing in 2022.

The funds will be distributed among private enterprises, state-owned companies and local governments, Magaletsky said.

The EBRD is one of the largest international financial investors in Ukraine. Since 1993, the bank has earmarked about 17.5 billion dollars for 505 projects in the Eastern European country.

Last year, the EBRD invested some 929 million dollars in energy-saving, infrastructure, agriculture and other projects in Ukraine. — Xinhua ■

Indian retail investors allowed access to gov't bond market

INDIAN retail investors have been allowed easier access to subscribe to government securities (G-Sec) bonds with the launch of two schemes by the country's Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday.

The two schemes of India's Central Bank, retail direct scheme and integrated ombudsman scheme, would expand the scope for investment and improve customer grievance redressal mechanism.

Accessing capital markets, including government securities, will now be easier and



The retail associations and bodies are opposed to the strict restrictions by a few states in order to curb the pandemic and cry that they would be hit badly in the months to come if the measures continue for some more time. PHOTO: AFP

hassle free for small investors, Modi said. Commenting on the launch of the two schemes, Chandrajit Banerjee, director general of the Confederation

of Indian Industry, an industry body, said, "It will result in deepening the bond market by broadening the base of the investors." — Xinhua ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

China's machinery industry continues double-digit growth in Jan-Sept

CHINA'S machinery industry continued double-digit growth in terms of revenue, profits and added value in the first nine months of the year, data from the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) showed.

The combined operating revenue of companies in the sector came in at 18.75 trillion yuan (about 2.9 trillion US dollars) in the first three quarters, soaring 18.6 percent year on year, according to the MIIT.

During the period, the total profits of the companies rose 13.2 percent from a year earlier to 1.12 trillion yuan, the ministry said.

In the Jan.-Sept. period, the added value of China's machinery industry also climbed 14.1 percent year on year, 2.3 percentage points higher than the overall growth of China's industrial sector. — Xinhua ■

Ship that blocked Suez Canal repaired in China's Qingdao

THE giant cargo ship Ever Given that blocked the Suez Canal for nearly a week in March has been repaired in east China's coastal city of Qingdao, local authorities said Saturday.

The ship loaded 5,147 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) at around 5 am Saturday, resuming operations after over a month of repair in Qingdao, said Tian Xuye, an operation supervisor with Qingdao Qianwan Container Terminal Co., Ltd.

The ship will proceed to Shanghai and Ningbo to load goods before leaving for Europe, with a stopover in Malaysia. This journey will mark her first cargo voyage after repair. — Xinhua ■

Syrian airline suspends flights to Minsk

THE Syrian private Cham Wings Airlines said that it suspended flights to Belarus' Minsk airport on Saturday, Belarusian media reported.

The arrival screen on Saturday at the Minsk international airport shows flights from Damascus have been cancelled.

The European Union is considering imposing new sanctions on carriers connecting Minsk with destinations in the Middle East, as migrants came to the Polish border through Minsk.

Cham Wings Airlines said that "Since the majority of Cham Wings passengers flying to Minsk are of Syrian nationality ... Cham Wings Airlines has taken the decision to suspend its flights to Minsk."

President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko said in an interview that there is no one plane of the national Belarusian air carrier Belavia that brought migrants from the Middle East to Belarus. — Xinhua ■

Steady need for new planes despite pandemic: Airbus

THE pandemic will have no long-term impact on the need for new aircraft, according to a market outlook released Saturday by European plane maker Airbus, which foresees greener fleets emitting less CO2.

There would be demand for 39,020 new passenger and freighter aircraft by 2040, bringing the global fleet to 46,720, the company said, releasing its outlook ahead of the Dubai Airshow's opening on Sunday.

The forecast is not far

off the 39,210 planes Airbus estimated in its 20-year market forecast issued in September 2019—before a Covid-induced downturn which will still leave airlines with close to \$52 billion in losses this year.

While Airbus has returned to profit and delivered 460 aircraft in the first 10 months of the year, its American rival Boeing is still losing money and has supplied just 268 planes.

Yet Boeing projects new deliveries in the industry to total 43,610 by 2040, or roughly the same



Emirati and foreign delegates gather around an Airbus A380 passenger jet on a runway at the 2007 Dubai air show. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

as the 43,315 forecast by aviation data firm Cirium.

Global air traffic has

started to bounce back from the worst of its pandemic decline, though in

October it was still around half the level before the global health crisis idled

aircraft.

“Our industry is extremely resilient, the only thing is that we’ve lost two years of traffic because of the pandemic,” Christian Scherer, chief commercial officer and head of Airbus International, told reporters in Dubai.

The market is only expected to return to pre-pandemic levels between 2023 and 2025.

Domestic air travel is doing better—which benefits Airbus and its A320 family of narrow-body aircraft. — AFP ■

From crab balls to cars, Biden’s hometown feels inflation pinch



Gianni Esposito (C) speaks to an employee as another serves pizza at Gianni’s Pizza in Wilmington, Delaware on 12 November 2021. PHOTO: AFP

A pizzeria in President Joe Biden’s hometown Wilmington recently took sparkling water off the menu because it got so pricey managers figured no one would buy it.

At the car dealership that Biden’s presidential motorcade occasionally passes when he comes to town, sales people have had trouble keeping new vehicles in stock, while prices for their used models have

climbed ever higher in recent months.

“Each day is a new day. We’re not really sure what’s going to happen in the business or in the economy when we wake up in the morning,” said Jim Ursomarso, vice president of Union Park Automotive.

The wave of inflation that’s swept the United States this year as Covid-19 vaccines have helped businesses reopen and con-

sumers spend has spared no part of the country—not even Wilmington, the city that has provided a backdrop for much of Biden’s political career.

Voters in the Mid-Atlantic city gave Biden seven times more votes than his predecessor Donald Trump in last year’s election, but business owners now fret as prices rise and public approval in his administration falls.

“Here in Delaware, he’s loved. But as time has gone by, we have been lacking the reciprocation,” said Serena Kelley Jefferson, co-owner of Serena’s Soulfood, whose mother cooked for Biden, and who recently took crab balls off her menu because they became too costly to serve profitably.

Inflation spreads

Inflation was predicted

to increase as the US economy recovered in 2021, but a Wednesday report from the Labour Department showing the consumer price index last month experienced its biggest year-on-year gain in more than three decades was an unwelcome surprise.

This year’s initial price spikes were most severe for products like used cars and airplane tickets. The latest data, however, showed them extending into groceries and gasoline, with ripple effects across the economy.

“After the pandemic, this was the worst thing that could happen to small businesses, especially restaurants,” said Gianni Esposito, whose eponymous pizza parlor has received Biden repeatedly, including on the day he began his latest presidential campaign in 2019. — AFP ■

China’s mobile gaming market sees revenue growth in October

CHINA’S mobile gaming market recorded a growth in revenue in October, according to a recent industry report.

The sales revenue of the market reached about 18.64 billion yuan (about 2.9 billion US dollars) last month, up 0.48 percent year on year, said the report released by

CNG, a research institute on the gaming industry.

The revenue also increased 3.37 percent from September, the report said.

The overseas sales revenue of China-developed mobile games stood at about 1.6 billion dollars in October, down 1.79 percent from September. — Xinhua ■



File photo shows a staff member presents a mobile game to a customer during a press conference in the Palace Museum in Beijing, capital of China. PHOTO: XINHUA

NEWS IN BRIEF

Elon Musk sells \$6.9bn in Tesla shares after Twitter poll

TESLA CEO Elon Musk sold more than \$6.9 billion worth of shares in the electric carmaker this week, according to regulatory filings released Friday.

The 50-year-old South African billionaire sold more than 5.1 million Tesla shares, of which about 4.2 million were held in a trust. His massive disposal hit Tesla’s share price, which slumped 15.4 percent over the week.

Tesla last month became the latest US tech giant to hit \$1 trillion in market value.

Musk’s selloff came days after he created a Twitter poll -- in which millions voted—asking whether he should sell 10 percent of his huge stake in the electric carmaker.

On Saturday, Musk tweeted: “Much is made lately of unrealized gains being a means of tax avoidance, so I propose selling 10% of my Tesla stock. Do you support this?”

In the poll, almost 58 percent of the 3.5 million votes cast were in favor of him proceeding with the sale.

Tesla shares had plummeted at the Wall Street opening on Monday and have fallen further since. The stock Musk disposed of this week was sold at a significantly lower share price than if he had sold before his tweet. — AFP ■

Ministry of Industry No.2 Heavy Industrial Enterprise Sheet Glass Factory (Pathein) Invitation for Expression of Interest in Public Private Partnership (PPP)

Sheet Glass Factory (Pathein) under No.2 Heavy Industrial Enterprise, Ministry of Industry is intended to cooperate for Public Private Partnership - (PPP) with local and foreign entrepreneurs in it.

Companies that are interested in those cooperation are required to submit their Expression of Interest proposal form not later than 3:00 pm (Myanmar Standard Time), on 15th December, 2021 to Technology Development Department, No.2 Heavy Industrial Enterprise, Ministry of Industry, Office No.14, Nay Pyi Taw, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Interested entities can take over the Expression of Interest form and other indications at the above office by presenting the following submissions.

- a cover letter expressly stating the interested sponsor’s investment in PPP.
- Valid Certificate of Incorporation
- Record and Regulation of Company
- Name of Foreign Technical Cooperator and its facts
- Your full experiences in the Glass
- Contact Person Name, Address, Phone, Email (Detail Enquire: 067-409634, 067-409635)

NEWS
IN BRIEF

Egypt's Sisi looks to new desert capital to cement legacy

AN opulent presidential palace, a brand new parliament, a regal opera house and spacious parks are all part of the vision for an ambitious new administrative capital rising up out of the Egyptian desert.

As far as the eye can see, building sites dot the horizon heralding the arrival of this crown jewel of President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi's grand urban plans. About 50 kilometres (30 miles) east of the north African country's 1,000-year-old capital, Cairo, construction workers are racing to finish the project. — AFP ■

Indian troops kill 26 rebels in Maharashtra state

AT least 26 armed rebels, known as Naxals, were killed in an encounter with Indian security forces in southwestern state Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district on Saturday, local media reported.

Four security personnel were also injured in the gunfight that took place in the Mardintola forest area. "So far, the bodies of 26 Naxals have been recovered from the forest," media reports quoted a top police official as saying. According to a report by India Today, the gun battle took place at Korchi in the Mardintola forest area when a C-60 police commando team was conducting a search operation. — Xinhua ■

Gas explosion in Mexico City leaves one dead, 12 injured

AN explosion caused by accumulation of gas inside a house in Mexico City killed one person and injured 12 others on Saturday, authorities said.

The explosion occurred at about 9:40 am local time (1540 GMT) in the Pensil Norte neighborhood, said the city's Secretariat of Comprehensive Risk Management and Civil Protection. The deceased was a 20-year-old woman whose body was located in the rubble of the house that collapsed.

No other houses or properties were damaged in the explosion. — Xinhua ■

Ukraine, NATO countries hold naval drills in Black Sea



Romanian frigate "Regina Maria" personnel with the NATO Standing Maritime Group-2 keep watch during a military drill on the Black Sea, 60km from Constanta city 16 March 2015. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

THE Ukrainian Navy held a passing exercise (PASSEX) in the Black Sea with the naval forces of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) member states, namely the United

States, Turkey and Romania, the Ukrainian Defense Ministry said in a statement Saturday.

The naval drills involved seven vessels, including the island-class patrol boat "Slovi-ansk" of the Ukrainian Navy and the flagship of the US Sixth Fleet "Mount Whitney."

The P-8 "Poseidon" patrol aircraft and a helicopter of the US Navy also took part in the exercises, which included tactical maneuvering, signal production training, communication training and other activities.

According to the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, the main goal of the naval drills is to work

out the interaction of the multinational tactical group in line with the NATO standards and increase the level of interoperability between the participating naval forces. Another aim of the exercises is to maintain security in the Black Sea, the ministry said.

Ukraine holds PASSEX naval drills in the Black Sea periodically with NATO members and partner countries to bring the level of its naval forces closer to the alliance's standards. In June 2020, Ukraine was granted the status of a partner in the NATO Enhanced Opportunities Program. — Xinhua ■

In Texas, 'sanctuary cities' pass their own anti-abortion laws

WHILE the US Supreme Court ponders a ruling on Texas' controversial abortion law, some communities in this conservative state are deciding not to wait and are declaring themselves "sanctuary cities for the unborn."

Inspired by SB 8, the highly restrictive Texas law that bans abortion after six weeks and makes no exception for rape or incest, around forty local municipalities have passed measures effectively prohibiting the procedure on their territory.

This week, Anson, a town of about 2,400 residents in central Texas, became the latest community to adopt such legislation, a move that made resident Mariah Mayo proud.

"I stand here today for ... the innocent unborn who are unable to have their voices heard,"



Protestors are seen outside of the US Supreme Court in Washington, DC on 1 November 2021. PHOTO: AFP

Mayo, a local nurse, was quoted as saying by Liveaction.org, an anti-abortion organization. "I

agree 100 percent with what my preacher said and I too want abortions to be outlawed. Let's add

this to our many reasons why we are proud to live here in the great city of Anson, Texas." — AFP ■

Bullfights return in Peru after lengthy pandemic pause



November is the time of the year in Lima that many await and lots despise: the Feria Taurina del Señor de los Milagros, the largest bullfight festival in Peru, is held in Lima's renowned Plaza de Acho. PHOTO: AFP

PERU'S bullfights, which are about as popular as soccer in the South American nation, made their much-anticipated

return this weekend to the rings of Lima after a lengthy pandemic-induced hiatus. Spanish bullfighter Juan

Ortega and his Peruvian colleague Joaquin Galdos took to the ring at the Plaza La Esperanza in Lurin, a coastal district on the capital's south side, where the first bullfights since the Covid-19 outbreak in March 2020 were held Saturday.

"Ole, Ole!" the nearly 3,000 spectators shouted at various points throughout the fight.

All major public events were brought to a screeching halt last year in Peru, dealing a bitter blow not only to lovers of the ancient but controversial bullfighting tradition, but to the matadors at the center of the spectacle and the associated showmen and cattle breeders.

Bullfighters' assistants, costume seamstresses, cattle

wranglers and transporters and food vendors were also affected by the lockdown.

Colonial tradition

Bullfighting in Peru is not for the faint of heart, as the contest ends with the death of the animal.

"What you feel in a (bullfighting) plaza is equivalent to the gladiators in the Roman Colosseum," 26-year-old matador Galdos told AFP before heading into the ring.

The practice arrived in the Americas with Spanish conquistadors in the 16th century, and to this day the spectacles attract thousands of Peruvians of all social classes.

The country has more bullrings than football stadiums. — AFP ■

Putin says any disruption in gas supplies to EU would threaten Moscow-Minsk relations

PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin said on Saturday that Belarus had not consulted him before raising the possibility of cutting Russian natural gas flows to Europe, adding that such a move would risk harming ties between Minsk and its key ally Moscow.

And Bloomberg notes that the pipelines crossing Belarus are owned by Russia's Gazprom PJSC, which lessens the risk of any shutdowns.

"He can, probably, though there's nothing good in that and I will, of course, talk to him about that, if it wasn't just hot air," Putin said Saturday in an interview on Russian television.

Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko threatened on

Thursday to retaliate against any new European Union sanctions against Minsk over a migrant standoff on the Belarus-EU border, suggesting he would cut off the flow of natural gas.

"We heat Europe, and they are still threatening us that they'll shut the borders," the strongman leader, who has been in power since 1994, reportedly told cabinet ministers, reports CNBC.

"And what if we cut off [the transit of] natural gas to them? So I would recommend that the leadership of Poland, Lithuanian and other brainless people to think before they speak."

Political genius destabilizing European Union Russia and Belarus have been allies for years,



Russian President Vladimir Putin and Belarus counterpart Alexander Lukashenko, shown here in Sochi earlier this year, will meet for the first time since Belarus forced a Ryanair jet to land in Minsk and arrested an opposition activist onboard. **PHOTO: AFP**

with Moscow helping the country with cash, cheap energy supplies, and military assistance. However,

Lukashenko's comments come at a sensitive time for Russia's energy exports to Europe. — AFP ■

Fernandez under pressure ahead of Argentina parliamentary elections



Argentine President Alberto Fernandez's party could lose its majority in the senate in mid-term voting on Sunday. **PHOTO: AFP**

PRESIDENT Alberto Fernandez faces a nervous 24 hours as Argentines head to the polls in mid-term parliamentary elections on Sunday that could see his party lose its Senate majority.

Nearly half the lower house Chamber of Deputies seats are up for grabs, as well as a third of the Senate members in the mandatory vote for 34.3 million people.

Fernandez's Frente de Todos (Everyone's Front) party is already a minority in the lower house and analysts believe it risks losing its Senate majority.

In September, the Frente suffered a bruising defeat in primaries, picking up just 33 percent of the vote compared to 37 percent for Fernandez's predecessor Mauricio Macri's Juntos por el Cambio (Together for Change) opposition group.

"If the results of the PASO (September's primary) are repeated, the ruling party could lose its majority in the Senate," said political analyst Rosendo Fraga of the New Majority think tank.

Fernandez's government has been hard-hit by growing public discontent.

The country has been in

recession since 2018, with GDP dropping 9.9 percent last year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Argentina has one of the world's highest inflation rates, at 40 percent so far this year, and a poverty rate of 42 percent for a population of 45 million.

The primaries setback unleashed a political crisis pitting Fernandez against his deputy president and coalition partner Cristina Kirchner, who pressured her boss into a cabinet reshuffle in the hopes it would help appease an increasingly-frustrated electorate.

If the Frente loses its Senate majority, the opposition "will most probably use" its legislative blocking power, said analyst Gabriel Puricelli of the University of Buenos Aires. — AFP ■

Former princess Mako, husband leave Japan to start new life in US

FORMER princess Mako Komuro and her husband left Japan on Sunday to start a new life in the United States, less than a month after tying the knot amid controversy over a financial dispute involving his mother and her former fiancé.

The couple, both 30, departed from Tokyo's Haneda airport for New York where Kei Komuro works as a law clerk at a legal firm. Their departure follows an apparent settlement of the dispute, with the former fiancé reportedly agreeing to receive "settlement money" in a meeting with Kei Komuro on Friday night.

Some 100 reporters had gathered at the airport to get

a glimpse of the couple, who looked stern-faced as they walked through the departure lobby. But the newlyweds smiled at each other when they reached near the boarding gate.

In an unprecedented step for an imperial marriage, the niece of Emperor Naruhito skipped the usual traditional rites and turned down a lump-sum payment of about 150 million yen (\$1.3 million) in taxpayers' money, amid public unease over the dispute.

The 1947 Imperial House Law, which limits heirs to the imperial throne to males with an emperor in the paternal line, requires female royals to give up their imperial status when they



Former princess Mako Komuro (R) and her husband Kei Komuro leave their apartment in Shibuya, Tokyo, on 14 November 2021. **PHOTO: KYODO**

marry commoners.

When the couple spoke before members of the press on 26 October, the day they registered their marriage, Mako Komuro re-

vealed it was her who had asked Kei Komuro to move forward his plans to study abroad and "set up a base (for living) overseas." — Kyodo ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

Harris, French PM lay wreaths six years on from Paris terror attacks

US Vice President Kamala Harris and French Prime Minister Jean Castex laid wreaths at a Paris cafe and France's national football stadium Saturday, six years since deadly terror attacks that left 130 people dead.

The attacks by three separate teams of Islamic State group jihadists on the night of 13 November 2015 were the worst in France since World War II.

Gunmen mowed down 129 people in front of cafes and at a concert hall in the capital, while a bus driver was killed after suicide bombers blew themselves up at the gates of the stadium in its suburbs.

Harris, closing a four-day trip to France, placed a bouquet of white flowers in front of a plaque honouring the victims outside a Paris cafe. — AFP ■

New prison riot in Ecuador leaves 68 dead

FEROCIOUS clashes have left 68 inmates dead in an Ecuador prison, police said Saturday, in the latest unrest at a Guayaquil jail that was the scene of a September riot which killed 119 prisoners.

"According to preliminary information, some 68 prisoners were killed and another 25 were wounded," the Ecuador Prosecutor's Office wrote on Twitter.

The riot began around 7:00 pm Friday (0000 GMT) when prisoners tried to enter a section of the jail, firing gunshots and using explosives, and police moved in to contain the unrest.

"These events are the result of a territorial dispute between criminal gangs inside the penitentiary," Police commander General Tannya Varela said.

Varela had earlier told reporters that 58 people were killed. An intervention by police to try and reestablish order "saved lives," added Pablo Arosemena, governor of the province of Guayas, whose capital city is Guayaquil.

Arosemena condemned "the level of savagery, the level of inhumanity" on the part of the inmates who took part in the attack. — AFP ■



Myanmar's veteran defender David Htan (white jersey) poises to kick the ball against Burundi team players during their friendly match on 13 November, 2021. **PHOTO: MFF**

Myanmar squad lose 1-2 to Burundi team in friendly match

THE Myanmar national men's football team, which is under training in Turkey as part of preparations for the ASEAN Suzuki Cup, lost 1-2 to Burundi, an African team, in the second tune-up match on the night of 13 November.

The Myanmar team was leading by one goal for more than 70 minutes of the match, but lost by two goals after 75 minutes.

Myanmar national team

head coach Antoine Hey used his favorite line-up including goalkeeper Myo Min Latt, defenders: David Htan, Zaw Ye Htun, Nyein Chan, Win Moe Kyaw, Midfielders: Maung Maung Win, Yan Naing Oo, Maung Maung Lwin, Suam Lam Mang, Hlaing Bo Bo and striker Than Paing.

The first goal for Myanmar was scored by Suam Lam Mang at 28th minute, but Burundi team equalized at 78th minute and the

winning goal for the African team was scored from the penalty spot in the 81st minute-mark.

Myanmar beat Turkey Club Manavgatspor 2-1 in their previous friendly match on 10 November. The Myanmar team will play another friendly match against Indonesian team on 25 November and is trying to play other friendly matches, Myanmar Football Federation authorities said.—Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration 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.

Gallagher gets first England call as five withdraw

CRYSTAL Palace midfielder Conor Gallagher has been drafted into the England squad for Monday's World Cup qualifier in San Marino after Jordan Henderson, Jack Grealish, Raheem Sterling, Mason Mount and Luke Shaw withdrew on Sunday.

The Three Lions only need to avoid defeat against the minnows in Serravalle to secure their place in next year's tournament in Qatar.

Liverpool captain Henderson and Manchester City's Grealish have returned to their

clubs for further assessment on injuries.

City forward Sterling is unavailable due to a personal matter, while Chelsea midfielder Mount requires dental surgery and Manchester United left-back Shaw is following a concussion protocol.

Gallagher steps up from the Under-21s for his first senior call-up.

The 21-year-old has impressed for Palace this term, scoring four goals for Patrick Vieira's side. — AFP ■



Crystal Palace midfielder Conor Gallagher has been drafted into the England squad for Monday's trip to San Marino. **PHOTO: AFP**

Van Dijk blasts 'awful, outrageous' Dutch World Cup performance



Players of the Netherlands react during the FIFA World Cup 2022 group G qualifying match between Montenegro and the Netherlands in Podgorica, Montenegro. **PHOTO: EPA/AFP**

NETHERLANDS captain Virgil van Dijk blasted his team's second-half performance in Saturday's 2-2 draw at Montenegro as "awful" and "outrageous" as their World Cup hopes were left in the balance.

The Dutch would have qualified for the finals in Qatar next year with a win in Podgorica and they were well set after a Memphis Depay double gave them a 2-0 lead. However, Ilija Vukotic marked his international debut with a goal in the 82nd minute to give the home side hope and four minutes later Nikola Vujnovic looped in a header to grab the draw.

"The way we played in the second half was just outrageous," Liverpool star Van Dijk told Dutch broadcaster NOS. "We always want to have the ball, we all want to play football, attack and score. But football is also knowing how to defend.

"That's what we haven't done tonight. Our organisation was just awful. We should have qualified here." The Dutch still head Group G but are just two points ahead of Turkey, who put six past Gibraltar. They host Norway in Rotterdam on Tuesday in the final round of matches while Turkey travel to Montenegro.— AFP ■