

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IX, No. 18, 5<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Kason 1384 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Wednesday, 4 May 2022

## 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.

## If comprehensive training skill is combined with good administration, Tatmadaw members will have to secure missions and visions: Vice-Senior General



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets service members, families and trainees in Myeik Station on 3 May 2022.

THE correct administration system will affect welfare and then gain good morality, which is important for success, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief

(Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win in separately meeting with servicemen, families and trainees in Myeik, Palauk and Heinze stations yesterday.

Speaking at the meetings, the Vice-Senior General said that as the Tatmadaw is current-

ly playing an essential role in the State, all Tatmadaw members need to understand and conscientiously serve their duties and functions. Only when they know the truth will they do the correct work with success. The training is crucial for thoroughly

discharging the duty. If so, they will have self-confidence and then secure victory through skillfulness. Only when they study the development of military technologies will they have the capacity to keep abreast of other countries by building

the modern armed forces. If comprehensive training skill is combined with good administration, Tatmadaw members will have to secure missions and visions. The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services adopted

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# Renovation work on 100-year-old in 2025 Ledi stone inscription museum nears 100% completion

HIGH-SCALE renovation work on 100 years old in 2025 Ledi stone inscription museum in Monywa Township has been completed almost 100 per cent, said U Kyaw Win, treasurer of the board of trustees.

“The operation completed nearly 100 per cent, and the repair works started in January 2019. The cost is over K240 million. Two hundred and seventy-seven chambers containing 284 posts, 20 feet and 15 feet of 118 spans of ceilings and 56 brick walls have been completed. Nine pagodas were gilded. The stone inscription

museum is renovated before its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the next three years,” he elaborated.

Donations for the renovation of the stone inscription museum came from across Myanmar, such as Moenyo, Loikaw, Dawei, Mandalay, Yangon, Magway, Pakokku and other places.

“The board of trustees discussed the launch of the renovation. The renovation has started with the desire to keep it tidy. It is necessary to hand it over to the next generation. We want to be appreciated for our efforts. We want the next generation to do as



Renovation work at the Ledi Stone Inscription Museum.

well,” noted Chairman U Saw Lu of the board of trustees.

The Ledi stone inscription museum organizing committee

was formed on 27 November 1925 and the construction was completed after three years with the cost of over K120,000. During World War II, bombs exploded in the southern and western parts of the museum.

The Ledi stone inscription museum boasts of 806 stone slab inscriptions that depicted 96 Dipani — 61 treatises of Myanmar literature, 18 Nissara and one Pali text. Ledi Sayadaw compiled 89 treatises of Dipani, Ledi Pandita U Maung Gyi six Dipani, and Ledi U Kawi one Dipani, respectively. — Lu Lay/GNLM

## Virtual Coordinating Meeting between CPRCS and CTFMR held



The videoconferencing meeting between CPRCS and CTFMR in progress.

A virtual coordination meeting between the Committee on Prevention of Recruitment of Child Soldiers (CPRCS) and the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) was held yesterday morning at the Ministry

of Defence conference hall. Secretary of the CPRCS Colonel Aung Khin Thein, Senior officials from relevant ministries, representatives from the United Nations, led by the head of the Resident Coordinator’s Office (UNR-

CO), also attended the virtual meeting.

Officials from CPRCS and CTFMR also discussed cooperation issues related to the prevention and control of recruitment of child soldiers. —MNA

## Launching ceremony of MRTV App & Web to be broadcast live today

MINISTRY of Information’s Myanmar Radio and Television will launch one of its online media platforms, MRTV media worldwide mobile satellite data application service

(MRTV App & Web) on 4 May. The launching ceremony will be broadcast live on MRTV HD, MRTV News, MRTV-NRC, MITV and MRTV App & Web. It will also be aired on Radio

Myanmar, Myanma Radio (FM Channel-English programme) starting from 2 pm on 4 May at the Myanmar International Convention Centre II, Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

## COVID-19 vaccine drive continues in various states, regions

DOCTORS and nurses from public hospitals, Tatmadaw medical teams, healthcare workers and volunteers are working hard to give COVID-19 vaccines in different states and regions as the vaccination programme is one of the most important activities in the prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19 disease.

COVID-19 vaccine is administered daily to target groups regardless of race or religion, including Buddhist monks and nuns, local people over the age of 40, students, religious leaders, prisoners, people with disabilities, ethnic armed groups, people with chronic diseases, people in IDP camps and over 12-year-old students, respectively.

On 2 May, doctors and nurses from public hospitals, medical teams from the Tatmadaw, rel-

evant healthcare workers in collaboration with volunteers gave COVID-19 vaccines to 3,020 people from thirteen townships in Shan State (North), 702 people from Yankin and Tamway townships in Yangon Region, 20,730 people from twenty-six townships in Ayeyawady Region, 8,124 people from eleven townships in Rakhine State, 57,976 people from seven districts in Mandalay Region and 79 people from Htandabin Township in Bago Region, respectively.

Similarly, healthcare officials gave the vaccines to 70 students from six townships in Shan State (North) on 2 May.

It is reported that officials from the respective military commands visited the site and coordinated the necessary work. — MNA



A local in Yathedaung Township, Rakhine State receiving a Covid vaccine.

### 10 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 3 May, total figure rises to 612,924

MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 612,924 after 10 new cases were reported on 3 May 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 591,879 have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll stands at 19,434 without more casualties.—MNA

# I will strive to do my best through the power of the people

I'VE two national visions—

1. to ensure peace and prosperity of the State
2. to guarantee food sufficiency of the State.

The whole Union must be peaceful and prosperous. Everybody must have proper livelihoods with the capacity to keep abreast of other countries.

We need to manage the food sufficiency in the entire nation by utilizing underground and above ground natural resources.

The strength of the nation lies within. I will strive to do my best through the power of the people. I absolutely believe that it would be successful.

*(Excerpt from New Year Message of greetings delivered by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on the New Year occasion in 1384 Myanmar Era Myanmar New Year Day on 17-4-2022)*

## If comprehensive training skill is combined with good ...

### FROM PAGE-1

the policies for agriculture and livestock to contribute to the welfare of the entire armed forces as of 2012. As a result, such an effect effectively helps food supplies for service members and families. The correct administration system will affect the welfare and gain good morality, which is important for success. Training, administration, welfare, and morality are interrelated for smoothly achieving success in all duties and functions to build military unity automatically.

The Vice-Senior General



The Vice-Senior General meets service members, families and trainees in Palauk Station in Taninthayi Region yesterday.



The Vice-Senior General is pictured cordially greeting service members, families and trainees.

stressed that the Prime Minister set 2022 as the Year of Peace with an invitation to hold the peace talks. As peace is essential for holding a free and fair election, the Head of State invited all to convene the peace talks.

He continued to say that trainees have to learn lessons given at the training depots to apply them in the practical fields. All Tatmadw members need to abide by the fitness and health awareness policy handed down by Tatmadaw. Then, the Vice-Senior General

coordinated with officials to fulfil the requirement of service members and families.

After presenting foodstuffs to servicemen and families, the Vice-Senior General warmly greeted them.

The Vice-Senior General and party inspected the raising of layers, breeding of broilers, DYL pigs and dairy cows, and cultivating seasonal crops at the multiple agriculture and livestock farm of the local training depot in Palauk Station. — MNA



The Vice-Senior General presents foodstuffs to service members and families in Myeik, Palauk and Heinze stations (from left to right), respectively.

## SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win visits fish and shrimp (1000-tonne) cold storage of Pyae Phyo Tun Int'l Co Ltd, pays homage to Atularanthi Shwethalyaung reclining Buddha image on Pahtet Hill



The Vice-Senior General and party kowtow the Atularanthi Shwethalyaung reclining Buddha image on Pahtet Hill yesterday.



The Vice-Senior General looks into the marine products.

They also viewed around the self-reliant dockyard and fish and shrimp lakes of the company.

The cold storage was built on Pahtaw-Pahtet Island near Myeik in order to export marine products as value-added products, minimize marine raw materials, increase earnings of foreign exchange, raise job opportunities in the region, develop human resources, pay the increased amount of tax to the State year after year and ena-

ble ethnic people for possessing safety life with the improvement of education, health and social measures. Its construction started in 1998 and was completed in 2000. The cold storage manages the purchase of quality marine products from some 1,800 fishing trawlers of the Myeik region, systematic packaging, making frozen blocks and storage. It sends marine products to Japan, the US, Hong Kong, China, Malaysia, Viet Nam and Thailand in line with the orders through

GAQP. Annually, it exports some 1,000 tonnes of seawater fish, about 600 tonnes of shrimps and about 290 tonnes of soft crabs to foreign countries and dutifully pays taxes at relevant rates to the State.

The Vice-Senior General paid homage to Atularanthi Shwethalyaung reclining Buddha image on Pahtet Hill and made cash donations to the fund of the pagoda. A pagoda photo was returned to him as a gift of Dhamma. — MNA

**V**ICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win inspected the fish and shrimp (1000-tonne) cold storage of Pyae Phyo Tun International Company Limited in Kyunso Township yesterday morning.

The Vice-Senior General and party viewed the packaging process of fish and shrimp in the good aquaculture practices-GAQP displayed at the cold

storage.

Managing Director U Hla Than of the cold storage reported on works of the company, breeding of seawater shrimps and production of cold storage products, and Managing Director U Soe Win of Myeik Corporation Public Co Ltd on matters related to the first-ever international fish auction market and industrial zone project in Myeik in accord with the guidance of the Prime Minister. The Vice-Senior General asked for further information and fulfilled the requirements.



The Vice-Senior General views the packing process of fish and shrimp at the cold storage.

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

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# Providing banking services need to be trustworthy for customers: MoPF Union Minister

IT should provide banking services in full for the sakes of

banks and the public in order to win the trust of people, said

Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein dur-

ing the opening ceremony of the Banking Training (1/2022-2023) for Assistant Managers of the Myanmar Economic Bank in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

He also said that the trainees should know the banking law, procedures and instructions through the training and need to hold guidance in the practical section. According to the trend, it should try hard to develop the core banking system.

The State-owned Myanmar Economic Bank serves banking procedures for the people,

businesses and organizations and keeps the accounts of all government departments in addition to the pensions and cash prizes of retired government employees under the laws, rules, orders, directives and procedures.

He then stressed the need to follow the Civil Service Personnel Law and Ethics of civil service personnel for the interests of the country and people.

A total of 30 assistant managers of Myanmar Economic Bank joined the five-week training course. — MNA



# Researchers should make continuous efforts to know the roots of the things: MoRAC Union Minister

UNDER the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, the Fine Arts Department organized a paper reading session on fine arts 1/2022 at the Ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Ko Ko talked about the definition of research during the event. There is the Department of Archaeology and National Museum, the Department of His-

torical Research and National Library, and the Fine Arts Department under the ministry for the cultural sector's role and presenting fine arts by conducting research, he elaborated.

In reading five papers on fine arts, the attendees read out their papers regarding the singing, dancing, songs and other supportive fine arts and techniques for these sectors. — MNA



# Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman attends Nay Pyi Taw Council Investment Committee (2/2022) Meeting



NAY Pyi Taw Council Investment Committee (2/2022) Meeting was held at 10 am yesterday

at Nay Pyi Taw Council Meeting Hall. First, Nay Pyi Taw Council

Investment Committee Chairman Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Maung Maung Naing

discussed the response to the Myanmar Investment Commission's request to Nay Pyi Taw Council for comments on agricultural investment.

"It is necessary to have a roundtable discussion in Union Territory in Nay Pyi Taw on the need for investment promotion and facilitation in the region," Dr Maung Maung Naing said.

He urged them to focus on coordinating on the difficulties investors face in expanding the business.

Next, Director Daw Yin Yin Nwe from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, Nay Pyi Taw, discussed rice production of MAYLP Agriculture Co., Ltd. through a joint venture farming system and to be able to submit an opinion to

the Myanmar Investment Commission on the proposal to allow the production and export of rice and broken rice.

Detailed explanations were made regarding the permission to issue the approval for the extension of the construction period of the new Kaba Shwe Pyi Tan Co., Ltd., which is engaged in the production, distribution and sale of bricks.

Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Zeyar Lin and committee members discussed the relevant issues.

After that, Nay Pyi Taw Council Investment Committee Chairman and Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Maung Maung Naing made a concluding remark at the meeting. — Tun Tun Win (District IPRD)/GNLM

## Myanmar marks 29<sup>th</sup> World Press Freedom Day

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn sent a video message to the 29<sup>th</sup> World Press Freedom Day ceremony organized by Myanmar Press Council in Yangon yesterday.

In his message, the Union minister talked about the theme of World Press Freedom Day 2022: “**Journalism under Digital Siege**”, which highlights the digital era’s impact on freedom of expression, access to information and privacy, the safety of journalists, and adverse effects of spreading groundless information and misinformation by breaking the laws on freedom of expression and press freedom and other vital roles.

He also stressed the need to follow the proper media ethics without misusing fundamental human rights to stand as a firm fourth pillar for the public and said the State Administration Council recognized the importance of the fourth estate in the media development and the country’s growth.

He then called on the journalists to work together in their respective fields to emerge the skilled journalists for the fourth pillar under the existing laws.

Afterwards, Vice-Chairman (1) of the Myanmar Press Council U Myo Tun (Maung Sein Naung-Lewe) read out the remark of the council chairman.

The council secretary and



members held a talk under the title of “True News to Public”,

and Vice-Chairman (2) of the council U Tin Maung Oo ex-

pressed words of thanks. — MNA

## MoHT Union Minister conducts field study in Shan State

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Htay Aung inspected the Information Counter of Heho Airport in Shan State and

attended the meeting of Kalaw Hill Resort Implementation Committee in Taunggyi Township together with Shan State

Chief Minister Dr Kyaw Tun on 2 May.

During the meeting, the Union Minister talked about creat-

ing a tourist city by organizing a committee under the estimated budget and the need to conserve the natural environment in developing the Htinshuu city.

He highlighted the need to conduct the systematic measures as Kalaw possesses a proper history and climate, cooperates with government, private and locals and conducts service training for the people with disabilities in Kalaw.

He then inspected the garbage cleaning campaign in the Inlay Lake by boat. He met tourism entrepreneurs and the head of the Irrigation Department and gave the award to Aureum Hotel Resort and Spa, which won ASEAN Green Hotel Standard Award at ASEAN Tourism Fo-

rum 2022 held in Cambodia in 2022, and National Health and Safety Protocol Certificates to three hotels.

Yesterday, the Union Minister attended the Barrier Free Tourism Service Training held at Kalaw Development Committee Hall.

During the event, he highlighted the launching of tour guide training courses to ensure job opportunities for locals, calling for Accessible Tourism, Barrier Free Tourism for the disabled, and providing materials for the disabled in their tours and further work plans.

The training was joined by the hotel staff and tour guides living in Kalaw and Pindaya townships. — MNA



## CRIME NEWS

### Illegal timbers, consumer goods, electronics seized

SUPERVISED by the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, action is being taken under the law against illegal trades across the country.

On 2 May, a combined inspection team on duty under the supervision of the Kayin State Anti-Illegal Trade Special Task Force conducted inspections at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) Checkpoint. It confiscated K7.5 million worth of Monosodium Glutamate (MSG), which was not declared in the Import Declaration, from a truck heading to Yangon from

Myawady. The action was taken under the Customs Law.

Similarly, the Myanmar Industrial Port Container Checkpoint seized K 207.63 million worth of consumer goods, which were not declared in the Import Declaration. The action was taken under the Customs Law.

In addition, on 3 May, 0.3200 tonne of illegal teak (estimated value of K48,000) were seized in the Kabaung forest reserve in Ottwin Township of Toungoo District and the action was taken under the Forest Law.



Therefore, on 2 and 3 May, three arrests were made (an es-

timated value of K 215.178 million, according to the Anti-Illegal

Trade Steering Committee. — MNA

# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Bago Region attracts over \$117.6 mln FDI, K9.5 bln domestic investment over one year

BETWEEN 1 February 2021 and April 2022, Bago Region pulled foreign investments of US\$117.612 million and K9.529 billion of domestic investments made by Myanmar citizens, which created over 6,000 job opportunities for residents, according to the Bago Region Investment Committee (BRIC).

At the BRIC's meeting held on 2 May, Bago Region Chief Minister U Myo Swe Win said that Bago Region mainly depends on agriculture and livestock. As the region has abundant raw materials to produce natural fertilizer, the chief minister urged BRIC to invite investment in fertilizer plants. Next, energy infrastructure is essential in manufacturing industries



The meeting of the Bago Region Investment Committee in progress on 2 May 2022.

and urban development. Then, the committee has to call for in-

vestors for hydropower and solar power projects as Bago Region

relies on reservoirs, dams and river sources. Afterwards, he

coordinated not to have vacant plots of land in the industrial zone. He instructed officials concerned to ensure the facilitation of the work process for the lease of the industrial estate.

The Bago Region Directorate of Investment and Company Administration's director explained matters concerning rice milling, processing and exports, importing raw materials and making finished products, and unboxing the investment facilitation toolkit 2022. The committee members also discussed investment-related matters, and finally, the Bago Region Chief Minister guided the committee to process under the existing law, rules and regulations. — MNA

## Domestic palm oil price rallies tracking global oil prices



The domestic consumption of edible oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local cooking oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes.

ACCORDING to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution under the Ministry of Commerce, the price of palm oil spiked following the prices in the world's palm oil-producing countries.

The committee has been issuing a weekly reference rate to govern the market in line with the changes in international rates.

The committee has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, including transport costs, tariffs and banking services and issuing the wholesale market

reference rate for edible oil on a weekly basis.

The reference rate in the Yangon market for a week from 25 April to 1 May was set at K5,620 per viss. However, the rate rocketed to K6,025 per viss for a week ended 8 May. The figures indicated a sharp increase of K400 per viss.

The Ministry of Commerce is striving for the consumers not to worry over the supply of edible oil. The ministry is also trying to secure edible oil sufficiency, supervise the market to offer a reasonable price to the consumers, maintain the

price stability and prevent market manipulation.

The MoC said in its statement that if those retailers and wholesalers are found overcharging, storing inventory intentionally and attempting unscrupulous action to manipulate the market, they will face legal action under the Special Goods Tax Law.

There are 31,090.98 tonnes of palm oil (19.03 million visses) remaining in the palm oil tanks. There is a sufficiency in the domestic market. The Department ensures the daily distribution of palm oil to other regions and states. The shipments of palm oil from foreign countries are regularly seen, as per the MoC's statement dated 25 April.

The domestic consumption of edible oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local cooking oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of cooking oil are imported annually through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet the oil sufficiency in the domestic market. — NN/GNLM

## Number of companies registered on MyCO exceeds 4,100 in past four months: DICA

THE number of companies registered on the online registry system, MyCO, totalled 4,112 in the past four months (January-April) this year, the statistics released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) indicated.

The registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018, keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

The figures of registered companies stood at 8,011 in 2021, 15,080 in 2020, 17,380 in 2019 and 8,506 in 2018, as per statistics of the DICA.

In addition, all registered companies need to file annual returns (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 Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

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

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, about 16,000 companies have been suspended so far for failure 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 status only after shelling out a fine of K50,000 for the AR fee, K100,000 for restoration of the company on the Register, and K100,000 for late filing of documents.

According to the DICA notice, if a company fails to restore its status within six months of suspension, the registrar will strike its name off the Register. —GNLM

# Bear a beautiful smile to all friends

ALL living beings, especially humans, are called social animals because they all socially contact each other in their daily life. In contacting others, they introduce them with a beautiful smile first.

As they all are social animals, they have to practice good social relations to each other to achieve success in their work processes. So, whenever they meet each other, they have to extend greetings before talking about the work process or negotiating something special. Due to a good introduction created by a smile, it is sure that their talks might be successful by cent per cent.

It is because a smile can change the daily routines from the easy process to the difficult ones. A cheap smile will be invaluable for enhancing the capacity of all persons to overcome challenges on a daily basis. A smile is the best tool to change the minds of others. So, bear a sweet smile, and it must be genuine.

Hence, all the persons need to culture the practice of smiling and then upgrade the hobby of smiling. But, they should bear sweet and hearty smiles but the pretended smiles. The good habit with a smile will decorate themselves with hearty faces showing the auspiciousness in relations with others to carry out the daily works. It is because the persons with sweet smiles can get a good helping hand lent by friends. Reciprocally, everybody can easily give a helping hand to others who bear sweet smiles.

Indeed, the bearing of a smile is not a difficult effort. But it should not underestimate the potential of the smile. It is because a smile can change the daily routines from the easy process to the difficult ones. A cheap smile will be invaluable for enhancing the capacity of all persons to overcome challenges on a daily basis. A smile is the best tool to change the minds of others. So, bear a sweet smile, and it must be genuine.



# The Advantages of Using Fibre-Optic Internet

By Yin Nwe Ko

I STARTED using internet access in 2012. One of my friends introduced me to how to use Facebook via internet access. His introduction made me greatly interested as one could write freely on Facebook without being edited by an editor. At that moment, the speed of the internet connection was rather slow, and the charges for using the internet were conducted according to the time duration of the users. Later, 3 G and 4 G internet appeared one after another, and the charges of using it were conducted by the volume of data of a user.

In March 2022, I had a chance to install the fibre internet at home. I have heard the speed of internet possesses very swift access without hesitation. In practical use, it was quite right. I installed the speed rate with 20 Mb/s which cost the company's lowest charges, but the connection ability was satisfactorily accepted. Its speed

was much swifter than the others I have already used. In fact, I was outdated because there were many fibre internet used in the large cities in Myanmar. Then, I wanted to be curious why this fibre internet was much better than any other connections. It was associated with modern technology that was out of my reach. Therefore, I asked a technician who was my cousin and was once one of the staff of MRTV.

He explained to me about the fibre-optic internet in detail interestingly. The followings are the advantages of using fibre internet for those who need internet access as an essential one.

Fibre-optic internet is a data connection carried by a cable filled with thin glass or plastic fibres. Data travels through them as beams of light pulsed in a pattern. Fibre-optic internet speeds are about 20 times faster than regular cable at 1 Gb/s. Why is fibre-optic cable internet so much better than

cable internet? Because there's no copper wire to gum up the works. Cable internet sends its signals down metal wires. The metal heats up, weakening the signal and picking up interference. That's why cable and DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) internet are so much slower and clumsier than fibre optics.

Fibre-optic internet works by splitting files like movies and games into data packets of zeroes and ones. A laser flashes this Morse code-type signal into one end of a plastic or glass filament. The "wire" is about as thick as one strand of human hair. A special sheath called a cladding keeps the beam of light inside the filament. It bounces off the walls for as far as 60 miles and pops out the other end where a modem decodes the light into a form your computer can use.

There are three types of fibre-optic cable internet:

- **FTTH or FTTP:** "Fibre To The Home" or "Premises." This is the fastest, most reliable fibre-optic connection

because the fibres come straight to your door.

- **FTTC:** "Fibre to the Curb." This gets the fibre to the utility pole outside your house but uses a coaxial cable from there. The short length of copper wire is a bottleneck
- **FTTN:** "Fibre To The Node" or "Neighborhood." The fibre optics get to within one mile of your house.

## A longer trip through metal wires makes this the slowest of the three options

Is fibre-optic internet service better? In a word, 'Yes'. It's much faster and more reliable than cable internet or DSL. But it has other major advantages like no throttling and better TV picture quality. Let's take a quick stroll through some ways fibre-optic cable internet beats standard cable.

Fibre-optic internet speed is 1 Gbps. That's 10 to 20 times speedier than the 50 to 100 Mb/s cable most of us know now. For a concrete fibre-optic vs cable inter-

net speed comparison, see the list below. It shows how long it takes to download a 2-hour movie on fibre-optic vs cable internet.

## Time to download a 2-hour HD movie:

- Fibre optic internet speed 1 Gb/s: **40 seconds**
- Cable internet speed 100 Mb/s: **7 minutes**
- DSL speed 25 Mb/s: **30 minutes**
- 4G LTE speed 35 Mb/s: **25 minutes**
- 5G internet speed 10 Gb/s: **4 seconds**

The truth is that the cable connection should be fast enough to stream video without interruption, but peak traffic overloads the wires. That is where fibre-optic internet vs cable speed differences get obvious. Fibre optics can handle more users and more data at consistently higher speeds.

Another bonus? Fibre-optic cable internet does not need energized lines, so it is not as prone to outages as cable internet. As long as the fibre-optic cable stays intact, it

can keep delivering your bits and bytes even when the lights are out.

Have you ever noticed the power goes out just when you need it most? On a hot summer Sunday, for instance, when you really, really want your air conditioner to work? That is because those hot days overload our powerlines. Everyone is maxing out their A/C at the same time. The same thing happens with our cable internet systems. Internet providers use "throttling" to prevent those outages. At peak times, your ISP (Internet Service Provider) may lower your cable speed from 100 Mb/s to 20 or lower to ration their service. Fibre-optic internet speed does not throttle because it's less susceptible to overload.

Cable internet has different speeds for download and upload, and upload speeds are a lot slower. That is based on how people use the internet. Most of us do a lot more downloading than uploading, so internet providers give most of their bandwidth to downloads. With fibre-optic internet speed,

that slow upload time goes out the window. Because there is no worry of overloading the system, fibre-optic internet providers can give equal shrift to uploads and downloads alike. That makes it easier to share files and work from home with fibre-optic cable internet service.

4K TVs pack four times more pixels into the same real estate, which makes for much crisper pictures. But it also sucks a lot more bandwidth from your internet connection. With speeds of 100 Mb/s or less, cable internet may struggle at times to deliver 4K internet streaming. Fibre-optic internet service won't even bat an eye at it. A fibre-optic connection running at even a sub-optimal 500 Mbps should have no trouble streaming high-quality 4K TV and movies.

His long and patient explanation made me understand because he only used a few terminological words. However, the last part of his explanation made me amazed due to his peculiar word "Telemedicine."

He said that no one loves going to the doctor. One misses hours of work while he or she languishes in waiting rooms. He or she answers the same questions over and over about street addresses and medication allergies. But can fibre optic internet providers really help with that? Yes, they can. Telemedicine lets health care professionals evaluate, diagnose, and even treat patients remotely. Thanks to higher resolution video chats, much faster fibre-optic internet speeds make telemedicine more reliable. It can help the elderly, and those with disabilities live more independently as well.

I have known just the quickness of fibre internet before. To be frank, I never knew the facts he explained. Just now, I have heard them. I thanked him, I said. At the same time, I would like to urge you, my esteemed readers, that if you are the ones who need internet access as an essential requirement, you should choose the fibre-optic internet. ■

# Debate on relaxing mask requirement starting in Japan

DEBATE is emerging in Japan over how much longer people should wear masks to combat the coronavirus.

With the sixth domestic wave of infections on the wane, many are expressing signs of impatience as countries abroad abandon face-coverings in certain situations in line with expert advice.

Some Japanese experts are also advising an easing of restrictions, such as removing them when people are outdoors and practicing social-distancing. Deliberations on the issue appear to be gathering steam at the government's expert panel on COVID-19.

On 20 April, Toshio Nakagawa, president of the Japan Medical Association, spoke up for the current policy at a press conference, saying, "I don't expect the day will come in Japan when people will remove their masks 'in a life with COVID-19'."

But frustration is brewing on the internet as the country enters its third year of life with mask use urged in public spaces. People on social media complain of "infections spreading even though nearly everyone has been wearing masks" and "feelings of desperation."

At a press conference on 27 April, Nakagawa repeated his view that people should continue to wear masks as long as the fear of infection from COVID-19 remains. Health, Labor and Welfare Minister Shigeyuki Goto added that "wearing masks is extremely important."

However, Daishiro Yamagawa, the minister for economic and fiscal policy, said during a television program on 24 April, "I think masks are no longer necessary outdoors," adding that relaxing mask use in stages is a realistic prospect.

On the same program, Tottori



People wearing face masks due to the coronavirus pandemic walk in the summer heat in Tokyo's Shibuya area on 12 August 2020. PHOTO: KYODO/FILE

Gov. Shinji Hirai called for reviewing measures taken so far to prevent COVID-19, revealing that he has been publicly stressing that masks are unnecessary as long as enough distance is maintained

between people.

Members of the government's expert panel mentioned the question of when to lift the mask recommendation during its meet-

ing on 27 April.

"I have been saying that the time of either-or has gone," Shigeru Omi, head of the panel, told reporters following the meeting.

Saying the situation has

moved on from a period of growing infections when people were uniformly advised to wear masks, Omi said the panel would discuss the question based on "rational standards." Mask requirements are easing overseas. The United States has lifted a federal mask mandate, while the use of masks has become unnecessary in countries such as Britain and France.

In Japan, the number of daily new infections stood at 40,443 on 26 April, and 51.8 per cent of its population had been vaccinated for the third time by then, according to government data.

"Even under the current state of infections, there is no problem to remove masks outdoors, if enough distance is maintained between people in activities such as those in the park or out for walks," said Atsuo Hamada, specially appointed professor of infectious diseases at Tokyo Medical University.

SOURCE: KYODO

## Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 3 May 2022)

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

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 4 May 2022:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, upper Sagaing, Mandalay Regions and Kachin, Chin States, fairly widespread in lower Sagaing, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Shan State, scattered in Magway, Yangon Regions and Kayah State and isolated in the remaining regions and states with isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay Region. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4-7) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Shan, Chin, Kayin and Mon States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 May 2022:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 May 2022:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 May 2022:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



# Myanmar Fire Brigade well equipped with advanced technology, soft skills, competence

By Maung Thin Pyant

**T**HE Republic of the Union of Myanmar is an ethnically diverse country. Being a developing country, Myanmar has been stepping up to reform its economy since the previous administrations. With a constructive effort, Myanmar has gradually improved. In keeping abreast of the development of the international countries, fire hazard management is of great importance in modern building and rural industrial development. The fire brigade provides the frontline rescue services in protecting the lives and property of the people. Regardless of the different religious beliefs, languages and skin colours, every country has its own fire brigade. Every country has different patterns of politics, economics, education and health. Nonetheless, every firefighter across the globe is ready to serve the people's lives, all of them perform the same, and they are committed to the job.

## History of firefighters

It is noted that the history of firefighters began in ancient Rome under the rule of Augustus in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century. It was said



File photo shows the fire on the garment factory in the Shwelinpan Industrial Zone.

firefighting attempts could be traced to ancient Egypt before that. Marcus Licinius Crassus created the first Roman fire brigade. He organized a fire brigade to rush to the fire scene and set the price to extinguish the fire. In 60 AD, Emperor Nero formed firefighters called the Vigiles to put out fires using water buckets and pumps.

Vigiles patrolled the streets of Rome and served as a fire rescue team and police force. When there was a fire, the firefighters would line up to the nearest water

source and pass buckets hand in hand to the fire.

In 1666, a great fire started in a bakery owned by Thomas Farina and the importance of firefighters and the fire equipment was noticed. People began to find ways to remedy the loss of property in the fire. The first fire insurance company called Fire Office was established in 1667.

The first US President, George Washington, also served as a volunteer firefighter in Virginia. Benjamin Franklin also helped found the first fire service department in Philadelphia in 1736. Also, he was a volunteer firefighter before then.

Then, the insurance company hired private fire service departments to combat the fire due to the lack of state-sponsored fire service departments, leading to the competition of the private firefighters.

## Maintaining the capacity for an act of heroism

The first-ever organized municipal fire brigade in the world was established in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1824, led by James Braidwood. The London Fire Bri-

gade was established in 1833, and James Braidwood was the department's chief. The world leaders recognized the firefighters, and Winston Churchill held the firefighters in high esteem and called them Angels with Grimy faces during World War II. Firefighters have been the selfless and bravest human beings in the past years. They keep the act of bravery, courage and heroism to date.

## The resonant and echoing sound of the gong in Bagan as a preventive fire measure



Firefighters are pictured extinguishing the fire in the Hlinethaya Industrial Zone. PHOTO: THITSA

There has been evidence of Myanmar's fire preventive activities since the Bagan Dynasty in 1044 AD. King Anawrahta (reigned 1044-1077 AD) was a noble King acquiring martial arts skills and a heart of gold. He was sagacious enough to take preventive measures against fire hazards. The history of Myanmar's fire service began in the King Anawrahta era. About 663 fire service crews were appointed to take fire safety measures in the palace. They gave a warning to the people by hitting a gong for the time limit of fire in use. Onomatopoeic words for the resonant and echoing sound of the gong (Thaw Thaw Nyan Bagan Mee Saw Maung) were noted from the duties of the fire service crew in the palace.

## Fire safety practices without having a bias

King Swar Sawke released a statement regarding the fire hazard that the mayor, clerk, prison warden and staff must interrogate those suspects and prevent fire and crimes in the palace's proximity. The king also made the royal families participate in the fire safety practice without having bias.

## Strict rules for fire safety

King Alaungpaya, the founder of the Konbaung Dynasty, released a statement concerning the fire outbreak on the 1<sup>st</sup> waxing of Taboung 1119 ME that "every house had to take fire preven-

tion and preparedness such as putting water pots at the top of the roof and keeping fire safety hooks at their house. People had to keep alert to the gong sound which was meant to warn people not to have fire spark and smoke after cooking time. The house owner would be arrested at the mayor's office if a kiln could still ignite. People cannot smoke on roads. Firefighter crew must patrol five times a day". Small towers were built at the moats, gates and walls. Princes and garrisons must monitor the fire safety activities.

## Historical documents regarding law enforcement on fire safety

King Mindon appointed four foreigners as fire brigade members under the names of Paitsa, Sabei, Hninsi and Phyuileik. The smoke covered the whole palace of King Mindon while opening a box from Italy. Those four firefighters were extinguished. Then, some European countries donated two fire engines and firefighting equipment to King Mindon.

The market fire broke out in the palace's backyard on the 6<sup>th</sup> waxing of Taboung 1235 ME. Even Prince Makaya led the firefighting troops. Over 700 houses were destroyed in the market fire, so King Mindon sentenced South Mayor U Pesi and North Mayor U Tha Oh with legs chained. Also, Kanni minister, was dismissed from the position due to incom-

petence. There was evidence of strict rules and law enforcement regarding fire safety.

## Remembering our fallen heroes

Fire can burn the city, and the ancient Kings were aware of it and strictly monitored that. The world is facing natural disasters linked to climate change and global warming in the digital age. The consequences of torrential rain, strong wind, earthquake, volcano eruption, cyclones and tsunami disasters are significant challenges for the world leaders. The digital sector is of vital importance in overcoming unprecedented natural disasters. Even the developed countries are facing a series of difficulties. Meanwhile, the developing countries with a lack of advanced technology are undoubtedly experiencing more damage and loss.

Being a developing country, Myanmar falls short of technology and equipment in fire hazardous and disaster risk management. Nevertheless, the country managed to develop the skills and attributes of the firefighters. Myanmar fire brigade is an institution that stands proudly in history. They did heroic deeds by risking their lives in hazardous fires and natural disasters. As a result, they were honoured for their selfless and heroic actions and left a mark on people's hearts.

SEE PAGE-11

# Myanmar Fire Brigade well equipped..

FROM PAGE-10

## Municipal fire services

The Municipal Act was drawn up in 1874 during the British rule in Myanmar, and municipal governance was implemented with municipal committees in the big cities across Myanmar. The committees were formed in Yangon, Toungoo and Mawlamyine cities on 31 July 1874, Patheingyi on 5 November, and Pyaw Oo on 12 November. On 31 July 1883, Yangon Municipal Committee organized a municipal fire brigade. The Municipal Act was amended in 1884. The Municipality performed to have an adequate water supply for fire prevention activities in Yangon city. The steam fire engine, firefighting equipment and pump were used in the firefighting training courses. A fire station was also established. The Central Fire Station, the first-ever iron-frame building in Yangon constructed by spending 4,000 rupees in 1912, was installed with a blue plaque and listed in the heritage of Yangon as a colonial-era landmark. It was built in the Edwardian architectural style. Yangon Central Fire Station has historical significance and could upgrade from a horse-drawn fire engine to a fuel or steam fire engine.

## All-Myanmar Volunteer Fire Brigade with delegates from 19 districts

The first all-Myanmar volunteer fire brigade conference was held at the Zenat Islamic Girls' School Hall on 5 May 1946, attended by 197 delegates from 19 districts. The patrons; General Aung San, U Ba Cho, U Ba Jam, Thakin Mya, U Ba Pe Gyi, U Soe Nyunt, Hinthada U Mya, U Tin (Myanma Alin), U Mya (Pyaw-bwe), Thakin Than Tun, U Ba Win and Bandula U Sein attended the conference. U Hla Kyaw was appointed as Chairman of the All-Myanmar Volunteer Fire Brigade at the conference. U Hla Kyaw, chair of the central executive committee, vice-chair U Thant (Letpadan), secretary U Hla and executive members U Tun Yin, U Soe Win, U Tun Sein, U Ba Tun (Hinthada), U Ohn Shwe (Zigon), U Aye Shwe (Pyapon), U Ngwe Kyi (Dawei) and U Ba Yee (Paungde) were appointed respectively.

## General Aung San's instruction at the conference

The conference was attended by national leader General Aung San, who instructed that the "duty of every firefighter was to have the most important attrib-

utes of firefighters. They were honoured for their act of bravery and heroism. Fire brigades must be organized in each district. The establishment of the fire brigade also promoted tenacity, humility, accountability, excellence in communication, self-control and persistence. They rescued the people in hazardous fires even by risking their lives. They were the real heroes. Fire hazard was terrifying, and firefighting troops should be organized in each ward. Even women had better participate in it".

Myanmar Fire Service Day



Myanmar Fire Brigade members are seen fighting to put out the fire.

was designated on 5 May 1946 to commemorate the establishment date of the Myanmar Fire Brigade. Myanmar marks Fire Service Day every year.

## Balancing MET in harmony

During the 75<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Fire Service Day (Diamond Jubilee), the Union Minister for Home Affairs remarked that the State formed a fire brigade to extinguish fire, protect the lives and property of the people, and implement industrial protection natural protection disasters and other emergency services.

Myanmar Fire Brigade has been implementing four primary duties and functions; fire precaution & fire prevention, fire extinction, search and rescue services, and humanitarian and social services.

He addressed that Myanmar Fire Brigade must excel in manpower (efforts and capacity of human beings), equipment power, and technology power in harmony by aiming to keep abreast of the development with international firefighting organizations and future development.

## Seven tasks of the Fire Services Department

Myanmar Fire Brigade was

organized in 1946, and its diamond jubilee day fell on 5 May 2021. This year, it is the 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Myanmar Fire Brigade. Myanmar Fire Brigade is carrying out seven tasks; (1) fire extinction, search and rescue services, administration, organizational abilities of the firefighting members, (2) repair, overhaul and maintaining operational readiness of fire engine and equipment, (3) educating the public for the awareness of fire and natural disaster, (4) increasing number of reserve and specialized firefighters and offering training

courses, (5) conducting research on the operation management system, firefighting technology and rescue technology to keep abreast of the development with international organizations and providing training for all the firefighters to enhance their skills and knowledge, (6) making official departments, private institutions and businesses comply with the law for fire risk assessment guidance; in the exercise of the power conferred by the provisions of Myanmar Fire Brigade Law and by-law, and (7) enhancing the capacity of the firefighters to become the strong reserve force for the State.

## Objectives of Myanmar Fire Brigade

Myanmar Fire Brigade is endeavouring to protect the lives and property of the people in the State and perform fire prevention, safety and rescue and service for environmental hazards with 24-hour service and mitigation measures and accomplish its duties and functions. Firefighters are committed to their duties. Additionally, five objectives of the Myanmar Fire Brigade are protecting lives, property and cultural heritage of the State from fire

and natural disasters, firefighting, fire prevention, search and rescue activities, humanitarian, social services, raising public awareness campaigns effectively in order to have public participation in emergency response, and assisting in the State's Rule of Law, Peace and Security.

## Titles and Honorary awards

The mottos of the Myanmar Fire Brigade are consciousness, fidelity and bravery. They act in the "Know Quickly, Go Fast and Extinguish Quickly" system. Myanmar firefighters have four abilities; firefighting ability, search

capsize.

## Cooperation activities

The firefighting abilities improved on account of the cooperation with international organizations. Myanmar Fire Brigade joined hands with international institutions in fire and disaster prevention activities. It had the rescue training from Singapore at the Pyin Oo Lwin firefighting training school, firefighting training in Japan and earthquake awareness education, rescue training in India, sending scholars to Poland, research collaboration with China, cooperation with Thailand in disaster risk management, cooperation with the US in disaster risk reduction and partnerships with Republic of Korea and France. Myanmar Fire Brigade provides courses regarding capacity development and technical skills to produce the new generations of firefighters.

## Well-equipped Myanmar Fire Brigade with advanced technology, skills, competence

Fire is one of the Five Enemies of Buddhists. It's also used in their daily life. Natural disasters (water, land, mountain, tide, rainfall, cyclones and earthquake) also destroy the lives and property of people. Advanced technology and firefighting equipment play a pivotal role in mitigating the loss in fires and disasters.

Myanmar Fire Brigade enhanced its capacity and tried to meet the needs with a fleet of Fire trucks and equipment as it connected to the international firefighters and exchanged technology and practices. Thus, the improvement of the Fire Brigade with advanced fire engines and equipment assisted in fire and disaster risk reduction efforts. This article is written to mark the 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Myanmar Fire Brigade. The fallen heroes will be remembered, and they left a lasting legacy through generations.

Translated.



Myanmar Fire Brigade members are pictured carrying out rescue measures against the flood.

# NATIONAL

## Fuel Import, Storage and Distribution Supervisory Committee Reference wholesale prices for Yangon and Mandalay and reference retail prices for cities of regions and states

4-5-2022

Kyat/Litre

Fuel (Retail Price)	Yangon	Mandalay	Nay Pyi Taw	Bago	Magway	Dawei	Monywa	Pathain	Myitkyina	Sittway	Hpa-an	Mawlamyine	Lashio	Taunggyi	Loikaw	Haka	Kengtung
92 Ron	1,965	2,010	2,005	1,970	2,005	2,030	2,015	1,995	2,090	2,105	2,000	2,010	2,045	2,045	2,045	2,265	2,405
95 Ron	2,020	2,070	2,065	2,030	2,065	2,090	2,075	2,055	2,145	2,165	2,060	2,075	2,105	2,105	2,105	2,325	2,720
HSD (500 ppm)	2,325	2,370	2,365	2,330	2,370	2,390	2,385	2,355	2,470	2,465	2,360	2,370	2,405	2,405	2,405	2,625	2,715
HSD (50 ppm)	2,350	2,400	2,395	2,360	2,395	2,420	2,415	2,385	2,495	2,490	2,390	2,400	2,430	2,435	2,435	2,655	2,750
HSD (10 ppm)	2,350	2,400	2,395	2,360	2,395	2,420	2,415	2,385	2,495	2,490	2,390	2,400	2,430	2,435	2,435	2,655	2,750

Fuel (Wholesale Price)	Yangon	Mandalay
92 Ron	1,866	1,937
95 Ron	1,923	1,995
HSD (500 ppm)	2,215	2,289
HSD (50 ppm)	2,243	2,317
HSD (10 ppm)	2,243	2,317

**Remarks:** (1) It's calculation is based on MOPS price.

(2) If people are not satisfied with purchase of fuel, they may safely send complaints to telephone numbers of the committee as follows: -

067-409881 and 09-699611116, 067-411129, 09-440433533



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# COVID-hit Japan travel agency looks for growth in agriculture

MAJOR Japanese travel agency H.I.S. Co. has decided to move into agriculture to diversify its revenue sources after a tough period in which the coronavirus pandemic dealt a heavy blow to the tourism sector.

H.I.S. Farmers Co., a wholly owned subsidiary of the travel firm, was set up in April to produce and sell fresh fruits and vegetables.

The company is not ignoring its core business, though, as it plans to incorporate tours at the farms to allow people to have a hands-on agricultural experience.

The company has started growing cherry

tomatoes at a farm north of Tokyo in Hasuda, Saitama Prefecture, with the produce available for purchase via its website. The company plans on expanding its sales channels from May onward.

H.I.S. has also obtained a 5,000-square-metre property, including abandoned farmland, in Nichinan, Miyazaki Prefecture, to produce grapefruits. It plans to ship the products from the southwestern Japan area in 2025 after expanding the cultivation area.

It plans to work with local farmers to make processed goods using fruit juices it produces, the

company said.

H.I.S. Farmers is planning on branching out across the country, including to the city of Yamagata, after its parent company and the northeastern Japanese city concluded a pact last year to revitalize the area through tourism and farming.

At each location, the H.I.S. unit will introduce farming experience tours to provide an in-person experience of cultivation and harvesting. It is considering offering its fresh produce at theme park Huis Ten Bosch, operated by the parent firm in Nagasaki Prefecture in southwestern Japan.—Kyodo



Undated supplied photo shows H.I.S. tomatoes being picked at a farm in Saitama Prefecture. PHOTO: KYODO

# Boeing reports increased stability, growth for aircraft finance sector



The Boeing 2021 Commercial Market Outlook projects that through 2040 there will be demand of more than 43,500 new airplanes valued at 7.2 trillion dollars. PHOTO: ERIC PIERMONT/AFP/FILE

BOEING Capital Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Boeing Company, on Monday re-

leased the 2022 Commercial Aircraft Financing Market Outlook (CAFMO), showing improving financing stability as the industry recovers from the impacts of the global pandemic.

“Financiers and investors remain committed to the long-term fundamentals that continue to make aircraft a valuable asset class,” said Tim Myers, president of Boeing Capital Corporation. “Despite the changing landscape since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, the indus-

try remains resilient and there continues to be sufficient liquidity in the market for our customers with increasing opportunities as traffic recovers.” The 2022 CAFMO reflects Boeing’s near-term view of market dynamics and assesses financing sources for new commercial airplane deliveries. “Industry fundamentals continue to show varying degrees of strength in different markets that reflect the regional trends of the global pandemic,” Myers said.—Xinhua

# China’s endeavour to become intellectual property powerhouse

THIRTY-SEVEN years ago when Hu Guohua applied for a patent he had to queue overnight outside China’s patent office.

Eight months later, he received a patent certificate for his invention, a colour display device to help analyze satellite images. Soon after newspapers splashed photos of the spectacled aerospace engineer, who became the country’s first patent

rights holder.

Much has changed over the years, as China implemented numerous reforms to add efficiency to the entire system and has established itself as a leader in the intellectual property sector.

China’s Patent Law came into effect on 1 April, 1985, and the patent office received more than 3,400 applications on the very first day.—Xinhua

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (171N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (171N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-5-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V IAL 001 VOY.NO. (125N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V IAL 001 VOY.NO. (125N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-5-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S INTER ASIA LINES

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PHUC THAI VOY.NO. (2223S/2224N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PHUC THAI VOY.NO. (2223S/2224N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-5-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

# GLOBAL AFFAIRS

## S. Korea's parliament passes controversial prosecution reform bill

SOUTH Korea's parliament on Tuesday passed the last of two controversial bills that significantly reduce prosecutors' investigative powers, going ahead with the move despite strong criticism from the opposition party.

During a parliamentary plenary session, the ruling Democratic Party pushed through the bill to revise the Criminal Procedure Act as part of the par-

ty's push to reform prosecution legislation and limit the scope of investigations.

The main opposition People Power Party has been extremely critical of the DP's rush to enact the law to prevent a corruption investigation into President Moon Jae In's administration, which wraps up at the end of the leader's term on 9 May.

The DP, which holds 171 of the 300 seats in the National

Assembly, passed the revision to the Prosecutors' Office Act, another reform bill, on Saturday, which reduces the prosecution's investigative powers to only two crime types from the current six.

The outgoing president will be holding his final Cabinet meeting later in the day, at which he is expected to announce the bill's passing. Once he does this, the bill will take effect in four months. — Kyodo



Lawmakers of the main opposition People Power Party chant during a sit-in protest held Wednesday in the National Assembly in Seoul on 27 April. The party is hoping to block a bill pushed by the Democratic Party of Korea that would strip the prosecution of its investigative power. **PHOTO: YONHAP**

## Leni Robredo: 'Last woman standing' in Philippines presidential race



Philippine Vice-President and opposition presidential candidate Leni Robredo (C-with microphone) speaks from a truck during a campaign rally in the town of Libamanan, Camarines Sur province, south of Manila on 8 February 2022, as candidates hit the road for the start of the three-month long campaign season. **PHOTO: CHARISM SAYAT/AFP**

LENI Robredo was a neophyte congresswoman in 2016 when she came from behind to narrowly beat Ferdinand Marcos Junior for Philippines vice-pres-

ident. She hopes to repeat the feat in their 9 May rematch for president.

The only woman in a field of 10 candidates, Robredo is the

last obstacle to the Marcos family regaining the presidency they lost in 1986 following a popular uprising.

But this time, the former lawyer and economist faces a much bigger gap with Marcos Jr, the late dictator's only son, who voter surveys show is heading towards a landslide victory.

Relentless attacks from President Rodrigo Duterte, who once called her a "scatterbrain", and a vicious social media misinformation campaign waged by pro-Marcos groups have hurt the soft-spoken Robredo's popularity.

Her pledge to "defeat the archaic and rotten style of politics" in the feudal and corrupt democracy has resonated with progressive voters fed up with Duterte's authoritarian style.— AFP

## Hundreds of migrants resume Channel crossings to UK

HUNDREDS of migrants crossed the Channel from France to Britain in small boats on Sunday, the UK Ministry of Defence said, following an 11-day hiatus in the controversial arrivals.

The resumption in the journeys, thought to be due to a change in the weather, comes weeks after Britain announced contentious proposals to send those who cross the Channel

thousands of miles away to Rwanda. The plans, which have been roundly criticized by rights groups and UK opposition parties, have come as the number of migrants crossing one of the world's busiest shipping lanes has risen dramatically.

Sunday's arrival of 254 people mean nearly 7,000 have reached the UK so far in 2022, more than three times the number recorded by this time last

year, according to data compiled by Britain's domestic Press Association news agency.

More migrants were seen being brought into the port of Dover, in southeast England, on Monday aboard lifeboats and Border Force vessels after being picked up in the Channel. There appears to have been an 11-day break in the crossings from 20 to 30 April during a period of strong winds and choppy seas.—AFP

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Israel slams Russian claims on Hitler over Ukraine war

ISRAELI Foreign Minister Yair Lapid on Monday slammed his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov for alleging Adolf Hitler may have "had Jewish blood" and summoned Moscow's ambassador for "clarifications".

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine on 24 February, Israel has sought to keep a delicate balance between the two sides, but remarks by Lavrov to an Italian channel sparked anger in Israel.

Moscow has previously said it wants to "de-militarize" and "de-Nazify" Ukraine.

Lavrov, speaking to Italian outlet Mediaset's Rete 4 channel in an interview released Sunday, claimed that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky "puts forward an argument of what kind of Nazism can they have if he himself is Jewish".

Lavrov, according to a transcript posted on the Russian foreign ministry website, then added: "I could be wrong, but Hitler also had Jewish blood".

Lapid condemned the remarks as "an unforgivable and outrageous statement as well as a terrible historical error", in a statement from the foreign ministry.

"Jews did not murder themselves in the Holocaust," he said. "The lowest level of racism against Jews is to accuse Jews themselves of antisemitism." — AFP

#### Mali's junta breaks off from defence accords with France

MALI'S ruling junta announced on Monday it was breaking off from its defence accords with former colonial ruler France, condemning "flagrant violations" of its national sovereignty by the French troops there.

The announcement — threatened several times over the past few weeks — was the latest confirmation of deteriorating relations between the junta in Mali and France.

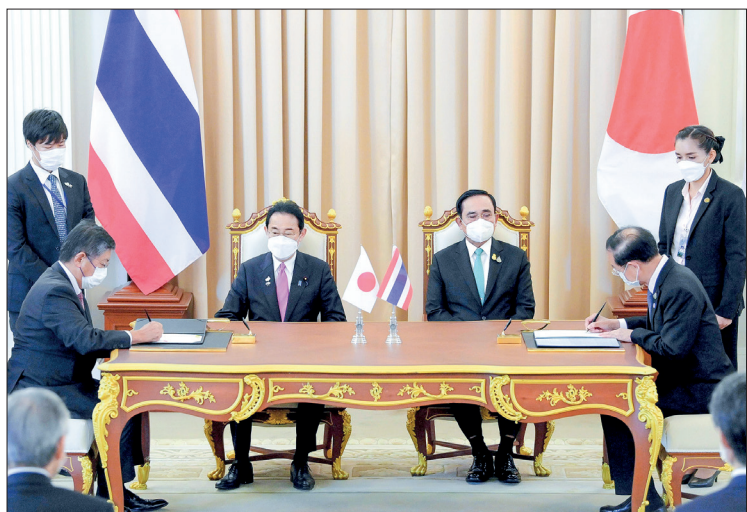
"For some time now, the government of the Republic of Mali notes with regret a profound deterioration in military cooperation with France," spokesman Colonel Abdoulaye Maiga said in a televised statement.

Maiga cited multiple instances of French forces having violated the country's airspace.

He referred to the June 2021 decision by France to end joint operations with Malian forces.

And he mentioned France's decision taken in February to pull out its troops from Mali.

The Malian authorities said they had informed Paris of the decision on Monday afternoon.—AFP



Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida (C, L) and Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha attend a signing ceremony in Bangkok on 2 May, 2022, for the two countries' agreement enabling the transfer of defence equipment and technology between them. **PHOTO: POOL PHOTO/KYODO**

## Japan, Thailand ink agreement on defence transfer amid China's rise

JAPAN and Thailand signed an agreement Monday enabling the mutual transfer of defence equipment and technology, deepening their bilateral security cooperation amid the growing clout of China's rise in the Indo-Pacific region.

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha also agreed during their summit to work closely in extend-

ing humanitarian assistance to Ukraine and its neighbours as Russia's invasion since February has sent over 5.5 million people fleeing the war-torn country.

To help Thailand recover from the COVID-19 pandemic fallout, Kishida announced that Japan will extend around 50 billion yen (\$385 million) in loans and 500 million yen in grant aid to strengthen the quarantine

regime in the Southeast Asian nation, a hub of Japanese corporate activities in the region.

Japan has been deepening ties with members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations as it seeks to promote its vision of a "free and open" Indo-Pacific region to counter China's growing influence. During the summit, the two leaders agreed to continue coordination to realize that goal.—Kyodo

### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Here are the latest developments in the war in Ukraine:

#### Israel slams Lavrov Hitler comments

ISRAELI Foreign Minister Yair Lapid slams his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov for alleging Adolf Hitler may have "had Jewish blood" in a bid to discredit Kyiv. Lavrov's comments — which invoked a conspiracy theory exploiting a gap in the dictator's ancestry — see Israel summon Moscow's ambassador for "clarifications" and condemn the "unforgivable and outrageous statement".

#### EU to propose new sanctions on Russia

THE European Commission is set to propose a new package of measures, including an embargo on Russian oil, officials say.

The anti-Russian measures will also target the country's largest bank, Sberbank, which will be excluded from the global banking communications system SWIFT, diplomats said.

#### Boris Johnson to address Ukraine parliament

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson will deliver an address to Ukraine's parliament — the first by a foreign leader since Russia invaded on 24 February — where he is set to hail the country's resistance as its "finest hour". He will also announce another 300 million pounds (\$376 million, 358 million euros) in military aid for Kyiv, his office says.

#### Teen killed in Odessa

A 15-year-old boy is killed in a fresh Russian strike on Ukraine's Black Sea port of Odessa, the southern city's council says.

A missile hit a residential building that had five people inside, said the statement, adding that a girl had been hospitalized.

#### Russian clubs banned from Champions League

RUSSIAN clubs have been banned by UEFA from participating in the Champions League and all other European competitions next season, European football's governing body announces.

#### Bolshoi scraps some performances

RUSSIA'S Bolshoi Theatre announces it is cancelling the performances directed by Kirill Serebrennikov and Timofey Kulyabin, who have both spoken out against Moscow's military campaign in Ukraine.

#### Finnish group scraps nuclear plant deal

FINNISH-LED consortium Fennovoima says it has terminated a contract with Russian group Rosatom to build Finland's third nuclear power plant, citing the Ukraine conflict.

**SOURCE: AFP**

### RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

## 'Operating normally': Russia shows seized Ukraine nuclear plant



An administrative building is charred, but those of the reactors seem intact: AFP was able to visit the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant on Sunday, the largest in Ukraine and Europe, whose capture by the Russian army has aroused concern of the international community. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEARLY two months after it was seized by Russian forces, there are few signs of the fighting for the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant in Ukraine that sparked global fears of a potential atomic disaster.

Other than a scorched administrative building, the vast complex in southern Ukraine — Europe's largest nuclear power

plant — appeared largely untouched by the clashes during a visit by AFP this weekend, part of a press tour organised by the Russian military.

There has been deep international concern over the situation at the plant, which has six of Ukraine's 15 reactors and can create enough energy for four million homes.

Russian forces seized the site amid fighting in early March that caused a large fire at a training facility at the plant, which sits along the Dnipro river south of the Ukrainian-held city of Zaporizhzhia. There was no spike in radiation, but the clashes nonetheless caused deep worries, especially in the country that was the site of the world's worst nuclear accident at Chernobyl in 1986.

Rafael Grossi, the head of the UN's nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, said last week that it was "extremely important" for IAEA monitors to be able to access the site, which was built in the early 1980s but modernised in recent years. Russia insists it is taking all necessary precautions at the plant, where its troops now patrol in the shadows of its enormous and heavily reinforced red-domed reactors.—AFP

## Online media fuelling divisions and global tensions

UNREGULATED online content has spread disinformation and propaganda that have amplified political divisions worldwide, fanned international tensions and even contributed to

Russia's invasion of Ukraine, a media watchdog warned Tuesday. Reporters Without Borders said democratic societies are increasingly fractured by social media spreading disinforma-

tion and more opinion media pursuing a so-called "Fox News model", referring to the controversial right-wing television network in the United States.—AFP

Japan, Thailand ink agreement on defence transfer amid China's rise

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# SPORT

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

### 1. Political affairs

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

### 2. Economic affairs

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

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

### 3. Social affairs

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

## Myanmar lose U-20 South Korea 0-3 in third friendly



Myanmar player (red) tried to clear the ball against South Korean U-20 player (black) during their friendly match on 3 May 2022. PHOTO: MFF

THE Myanmar women's team, taking training in South Korea in preparation for the 31st SEA Games, played their third friendly match in South Korea against the South Korean U-20 women's team on 3 May.

The Myanmar women's team lost to the South Korean U-20 squad 0-3 in the match.

Myanmar women's national team head coach U Tin Myint Aung used a different starting line-up for the match against South Korea.

The team line-up includes goalkeeper May Zin Nwe, Khin Myo Win, Chit Chit, Nant Zu Zuu Htet, Khin Mo Mo Tun, Thin Thin Yu, Pont Pont Pyae Maung, Lin

Myint Mo, Khin Moe Wai and Myat Noe Khin.

The team made six substitutions during the match and used youth players in both the first and second half. The Myanmar women's squad played three friendly matches in South Korea with one draw and two losses.

Myanmar lost 3-0 to the South Korean U-20 Women's Team in both friendlies and drew 1-1 with the Seoul City Women's Team.

According to the Myanmar Football Federation, the Myanmar women's team will take training in South Korea until 5 May and leave for Viet Nam on 6 May. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

## Murray sees off Thiem in Madrid as Halep surges on

ANDY Murray has urged Dominic Thiem to "keep going" in his comeback from injury after Murray defeated the Austrian 6-3, 6-4 in the Madrid Open first round to claim his first win on a clay court in five years.

Thiem returned from a 10-month wrist injury lay-off four weeks ago and has yet to taste victory in any of the four matches he has contested so far.

Former world No.1 Murray, who has spent several seasons dealing with hip problems and recovering from surgeries, gave Thiem some words of encouragement at the end of their

clash at the Caja Magica.

"I hope you feel better soon. I'm glad to see you back, keep going, it takes a lot of time but you'll be fine," Murray told the former US Open champion as they shook hands at the net.

Murray, who initially intended to skip the clay season, made a surprise appearance in Madrid after the hard-court Challengers he was planning to compete at were cancelled.

He plans on playing in the Spanish capital, as well as next week's ATP 1000 tournament in Rome before shifting his focus to next month's grass season.—AFP

## Man Utd stroll takes sting out of fan protest against Glazers



Manchester United eased to victory against Brentford. PHOTO: AFP

MANCHESTER United took the sting out of their fans' latest protest against the Glazer family as they eased to a 3-0 win against Brentford on Monday.

Ahead of a summer of change for troubled United, Ralf Rangnick's side won for just the second time in seven games to keep the atmosphere from turning toxic at Old Trafford.

Bruno Fernandes struck early in the first half and Cristiano Ronaldo converted a second half penalty before France defender Raphael Varane bagged his first goal for United.

Despite winning their last home game of the season, United remain in sixth place in the Premier League with two games left.

They sit five points adrift of the top four with no realistic hope of qualifying for next season's Champions League.—AFP