

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

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

Five plants cultivated for exports under Naga SAZ, border development fund

THE Tamu District Agriculture Department in Sagaing Region is making efforts to seek ways for local farmers to earn income from agricultural tasks. The ways of earning an income of foreign exchange through the export of saplings to India will be the chances for local people to do new businesses in Sagaing Region.

Five kinds of plants including dwarf coconut, pomelo, rambutan, areca palm and Shwehlanbo chilli pepper variety are cultivated with the use of the K10 million from the Naga Self-Administered Zone and border area development fund, aiming at exports to India, said U Hla Myint, head of the Tamu District Agriculture Department.

“K10 million was allocated for the Naga SAZ and border area development last year. Dwarf coconut, pomelo and ram-



Five kinds of plants including dwarf coconut, pomelo, rambutan, areca palm and Shwehlanbo chilli pepper variety are cultivated with the use of the K10 million from the Naga Self-Administered Zone and border area development fund, aiming at exports to India.



butan seedlings are distributed in Myothit Township. Areca palm seedlings have been nurtured in Myothit, Khampat and Tamu townships.

“Approximately, 700 dwarf

coconut seedlings are sent to Myothit and Minhla farms. About 1,500 areca palm seedlings are distributed each to farms in Myothit and Minhla townships while 1,000 seedlings are aimed

for Khampat Township.

“That cultivation aims at the export market. Growers also eye them,” said U Hla Myint.

Shwehlanbo chilli pepper, which is highly consumed by

Meitei people or Manipuri people is cultivated on 241 acres in Tamu District. The yield rate is about 800 visses (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes) per acre. – Lu Lay/GNLM

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

COVID-19 vaccine drive continues in various states, regions

PAGE-3

NATIONAL

MoTC Union Minister attends 13th graduation ceremony of Myanmar Mercantile Marine College

PAGE-4

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Gold pieces from Kyaiktiyo Pagoda falls apart due to lightning strike

PAGE-5

LOCAL BUSINESS

Myanmar's capital goods import down by \$54 mln over one month

PAGE-7



Re-invitation for basic education staff who are absent from duty

THE State Administration Council is implementing nine objectives, including a social goal of national health and higher education, and is working hard to restore education to the next generation of young people in order to develop the nation's human resources.

For the education of the new generation, basic education schools across the country were reopened on 1-11-2021, and higher education universities/colleges were reopened on 12-5-2022. Basic education schools for the 2022-2023 Academic Year will be reopened on 2-6-2022.

Basic education is very important in the education of the new generation of young people who will be the leaders of the future. So those students can learn fully and to make the teachers/students ratio balance, experienced teachers are needed.

In order to resume their teaching duties for the next generations, teachers and educators who have been away from their duties due to intimidation, participation in peaceful protest, or worry, and teachers and educators who have been prosecuted under staff discipline are informed to report to the relevant Township Education Offices where the schools are located or the nearest Township Education Offices in their current area of residence to file an appeal voluntarily by 31-5-2022.

Among the basic education staff who are absent from duty due to various reasons, those who are absent without leave due to various reasons, those under the investigation, and those who file an appeal, shall be considered as unpaid leave for the period of non-duty and will be re-employed except for those who have committed serious crimes.

State Administration Council
Information Team

Mon State ex-chief minister receives 21-year prison term

THE Anti-Corruption Commission inspected the complaints against Mon State's former chief minister Dr Aye Zan for asking for money from businesspeople using his authority.

According to the inspection, he violated the existing law, rules and regulations and procedures during his office tenure and received K569 million from entrepreneurs in sand mining projects in the Thanlwin River starting in 2018. He also allowed reducing the amount of mineral tax in paying the State budget although he did not possess such authority and so it caused more than K132 million in losses to the State fund in the 2019-2020FY. He granted K20 million of COVID-19 funds to others and K65 million to other two persons and failed to repay. It caused losses to the State fund and was found that he took bribes. Therefore, he was prosecuted at the Mon State High Court under Section 55 of the Anti-Corruption Law on 27-4-2021.

The court sentenced Mon State's former chief minister, Dr Aye Zan, to 21 years imprisonment under Section 55 of the Anti-Corruption Law yesterday. — MNA

4 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 16 May, total figure rises to 613,144

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 613,144 after 4 new cases were reported on 16 May 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 592,099 have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll still stands at 19,434 without more casualties.— MNA

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01 860 4530

Reference wholesale prices for Union territory, Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay and reference retail prices for cities of regions and states

17-5-2022

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	2,090	2,140	2,130	2,100	2,135	2,160	2,145	2,125	2,215	2,230	2,130	2,140	2,175	2,175	2,175	2,395	2,430
95 Ron	2,150	2,195	2,195	2,155	2,195	2,215	2,200	2,180	2,275	2,290	2,185	2,200	2,230	2,230	2,235	2,450	2,605
HSD (500 ppm)	2,260	2,305	2,300	2,265	2,305	2,325	2,320	2,290	2,405	2,400	2,295	2,305	2,340	2,340	2,345	2,560	2,690
HSD (50 ppm)	2,285	2,335	2,330	2,295	2,330	2,355	2,350	2,320	2,435	2,430	2,325	2,335	2,370	2,370	2,370	2,590	2,725
HSD (10 ppm)	2,285	2,335	2,330	2,295	2,330	2,355	2,350	2,320	2,435	2,430	2,325	2,335	2,370	2,370	2,370	2,590	2,725

Fuel (Wholesale Price)	Yangon	Mandalay
92 Ron	1,991	2,064
95 Ron	2,045	2,120
HSD (500 ppm)	2,153	2,225
HSD (50 ppm)	2,180	2,253
HSD (10 ppm)	2,180	2,253

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

Fuel Import, Storage and Distribution Supervisory Committee

Union spirit is the resolve to build a Union through mutual amity between all the nationalities

UNION spirit is the foundation of the historic independence struggle, and it will also be the cornerstone of the future democratic country. In fact, the Union spirit is the resolve to build a Union through mutual amity between all the nationalities. As a peaceful and stable democratic State will be built only with the Union spirit we must nurture a highly qualified new generation possessing a strong Union spirit.

(Excerpt from the message sent by Chairman of the State Administration Council Senior General Maha Thray Sithu Min Aung Hlaing on occasion of 74th Anniversary Union Day on 12 February 2021)

U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar remarks at the opening ceremony of the Course for Attaché on English Proficiency and Foreign Service Skills (4/2022) in Law Ka Nat Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw

OPENING Ceremony of the Training Course for Attaché on English Proficiency and Foreign Service Skills (CfA) 4/2022 for the Attaché who will be the very first assignment to the Myanmar Embassies abroad took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw on Monday, 16 May 2022 at 10:30 am. On the occasion, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin addressed the opening speech. It was attended by Union Minister for International Cooperation, U Ko Ko Hlaing, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Permanent Secretary, Directors-General from the respective departments and officials as well as 33 trainees from the Union Minister's Office and respective departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The eight weeks intensive training course was conducted from 16 May 2022 to 24 June 2022

at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw and from 27 June 2022 to 8 July 2022 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Yangon) for the purpose of the improvement of the trainees' English Proficiency Skills and knowledge on the Governmental policy, international relations subject matters and general knowledge during their assignment abroad.

During the training course, it will be lectured by the Senior Diplomats, the Senior Officials from the respective departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs, Ministry of Immigration and Population, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Office of Union Auditor-General, Union Civil Service



The Training Course for Attaché on English Proficiency and Foreign Service Skills 4/2022 in progress.

Board, Anti-Corruption Commission, Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, Professor of International Re-

lations in Dagon University and the responsible tutors for English Proficiency Skills in Yangon University of Foreign Languages

(YUFL). In the course, it will be attended by 33 trainees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.— MNA

COVID-19 vaccine drive continues in various states, regions



A local in Mon State gets COVID-19 vaccine shot.

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.

Yesterday, doctors and nurses from public hospitals, medical teams from the Tatmadaw, relevant healthcare workers in collaboration with volunteers gave COVID-19 vaccines to 1,143 people including monks from seven townships in Mon and Kayin States, 816 people from Yinkin

and Tamway Townships in Yangon Region, 7,467 people from 26 townships in Ayeyawady Region, 8,723 people from thirteen townships in Rakhine State, 52,500 people from seven districts in Mandalay Region, and 380 people including monks from Toungoo Htandabin and Bago townships in Bago Region, respectively.

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

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.

MoTC Union Minister attends 13th graduation ceremony of Myanmar Mercantile Marine College



MoTC Union Minister Admiral Tin Aung San addresses the 13th graduation event of Myanmar Mercantile Marine College in Yangon yesterday.

THE Myanmar Mercantile Marine (MMM) College held its 13th graduation ceremony at the college parade ground in Yangon yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral

Tin Aung San, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, the deputy minister, region security and border affairs ministers, transport minister and relevant officials.

First, the graduate company marched and saluted the Un-

ion Minister. Then, he presented the awards to the outstanding cadets.

He also delivered a graduation speech adding the glorious history of MMMC during 50 years and explained job opportunities for the graduated officers

by linking with foreign shipping companies, the crucial role of maritime trade for economic growth and the need to serve the duties on cargo ships improving the dignity of country, citizens and college.

The MMMC was established

at Naval Training Headquarters in Seikkyi of Thanlyin, in 1963. It produced 5,513 mercantile marine graduates – 2,734 mercantile graduates and 2,779 marine engineers so far.

Then, the Union minister and party went to Myanma Shipyard. The managing director explained the work of shipbuilding and related work. Afterwards, they inspected the shipyard.

On arrival at Locomotive Factory (Insein) and Myanma Railways Hospital (Insein), the Union minister stressed the need to conduct maintenance works to be complete in time, safe and secure worksite and then inspected the factory and hospital.

He also checked the DEMU coaches from Japan at Diesel Locomotive Factory (Insein) and instructed the necessary things. — MNA

MoHT Union Minister inspects hotels, tourism development in Magway, Mandalay regions

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Htay Aung attended the opening ceremony of the Information Centre at Magway Myathalun Pagoda together with Magway Region Chief Minister U Tint Lwin, the regional minister for economy and relevant officials on 15 May.

During the ceremony, the Union minister said the Information Counters are established to provide accurate information and systematic development of the tourism industry. It should distribute the tourism development pamphlets to share the news and save the data on computers. The counter staff should have a wealth of local knowledge of the destinations.

After that, the Union minister and party inspected the Information Counter opened at Magway Airport and left the necessary things.

The Union minister then went to the Highway Bus Terminal of Magway Township and addressed the need to establish an information counter at the bus terminal for the passengers.

He also discussed hotels and tourism development programmes with the region economic minister, officials of the region tourism committee and hoteliers at the meeting hall of the regional government and gave the Health and Safety Protocol Certification to three hotels.

At noon, the Union minister also attended the opening ceremony of commodity manufacturing training courses for the people with disabilities jointly conducted by the Social Welfare Department, Small-Scale Industries Department and Directorate of Hotels and Tourism at the training hall of the Small-Scale



Industries Department in Magway Township and provided the cash assistance to the trainees.

The Union minister then inspected the Bagan-NyaungU Tower maintenance works and

preparations for providing services to domestic and foreign tourists.

He also met officials of relevant departments, hotels and tourism organizations at Herit-

age Bagan Hotel yesterday.

He then viewed the awareness campaign for tour guides at Thiri Pyitsaya Sakura Hotel and also inspected Royal Palace Hotel. — MNA

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www.gnlm.com.mm
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION
(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 454237515

ADVERTISING & MARKETING
(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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gnlmnews@gmail.com
www.gnlm.com.mm

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Gold pieces from Kyaiktiyo Pagoda falls apart due to lightning strike

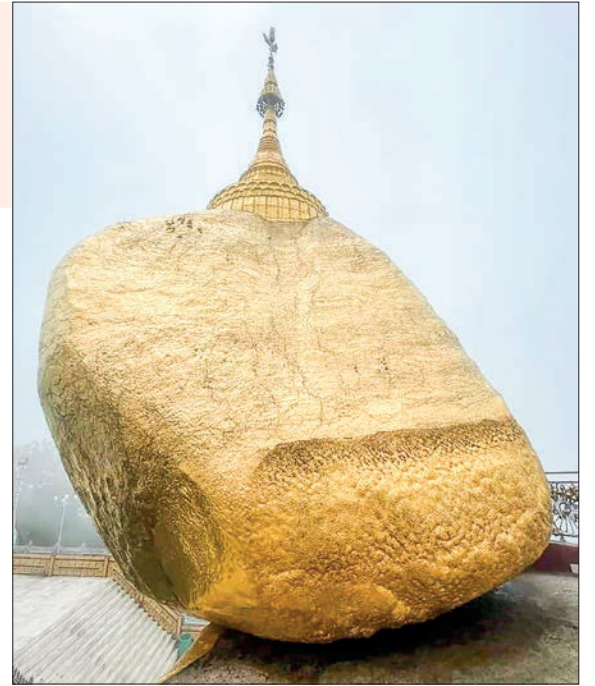
DUE to a lightning strike on the morning of 16 May, the Great Kyaiktiyo Pagoda trembled, making the gold pieces on the pagoda fall apart, according to the board of trustees of the pagoda.

Although the stone was not damaged, 40 ticals of gold leaves and 24 ticals of gold dust were discovered.

“The festival closing ceremony was

held on 14 May. It rained heavily on 15 May, and thunderstorm lightning strikes were also heard,” said Ko Soe Thein, a resident near Mukso Mountain.

Due to a lightning bolt in 2015, seven visses of gold were fallen from the pagoda. In addition, 72 ticals of gold flakes were also crumbled due to another lightning strike on 15 May 2019. — TWA/GNLM



The place from where some pagoda gold fell apart due to a lightning strike.

Action taken against 60 undisciplined cars that park at bus stops in Yangon



Yangon city centre.

ACTION is being taken against 60 undisciplined taxis and cars parked at bus stops in Yangon, according to the Yangon Region Transport Committee (YRTC).

The vehicles were arrested while parking in the designated yellow box. Relevant road safety oversight teams have been conducting education campaigns

since January 2022 to not stop or park at YBS bus stops for too long.

“There is no place for a bus to stop at bus stops because the taxi is parked. Even in the city centre such as at the Bogyoke Market, passengers have to go in the middle of the road to take a bus. Effective actions are required,” U Htein Lin, a resident in Pazundaung township told GNLM.

While arresting undisciplined cars under the law, the vehicle number and the arrested date will be recorded exactly and sent to the traffic police in respective townships. — TWA/GNLM

Magway govt to implement 24 water supply projects

MAGWAY regional government will implement 24 water supply projects in Magway District in the 2022-2023FY, according to the Department of Rural Development.

In implementing 24 water supply projects in six townships of Magway Region, officials estimated to sink tube-wells and construct six water towers in Magway Township, two projects in Taungdwingyi Township including tube-wells, 2,400 gallons water tank and power meter box construction.

They will carry out three projects – tube-well, 2,400 gallons water tower and power meter box in Chauk Township, another three projects – tube-well, water tank and one earthen lake maintenance in Yenangyoung Township, four projects – tube-well and water tanks, two earthen lake maintenance works in Natmauk Township and three projects – tube-wells and water tanks in Myothit Township using K790.610 million of Union budget of the department. —TWA/GNLM

Over 50,000 tonnes of sugarcane exported to China via Ruili

A total of seven sugarcane trucks have entered China through the Muse 105th-Mile trade Zone, and more than 50,000 tonnes of sugarcane have been exported via Ruili (Shweli).

Since the Muse 105th-Mile Trade Zone allowed trading trucks from Myanmar and China to enter on 15 May, it was learned that seven sugarcane trucks have entered China via the Kyinsankyawt checkpoint. Sugarcane trucks will be allowed to enter the crossing until the end of May. China has built a new route for sugarcane trucks to enter China, and the exportation will continue while

there are only a few days left to export, according to a businessman.

Due to the road construction, sugarcane trucks were accepted late, and traders are reportedly facing financial losses due to the overturn of the trucks because of the rain.

A total of 5,440 tonnes of sugarcane (2.448502 million yuan) has been exported within one month since the reopening of the Ruili- land border, a gateway to China. — TWA/GNLM

The Muse 105th-Mile Trade Zone.



CRIME NEWS

Illegal timbers, unregistered vehicles, consumer goods seized



Officials confiscate illegal teak logs.



They captured 5.0140 tonnes of illegal timbers at an estimated value of K251,150 in Thandwe and Taungup Townships on 12 May and 5.0026 tonnes of illegal Taungthayet at an estimated value of K350,182 in Taungup Township on 14 May. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

Crown car at an estimated value of K2,000,000. The action was taken under the Export/Import Law.

Afterwards, on the same day, the Forest Department inspection team captured K262,800 worth of 1.7520 tonnes of illegal teak in Khaboung forest reserve in Ottwin Township, and the action was taken under the Forest Law.



Seized illegal commodities.

In addition, on 15 May, the inspection on-duty team at the Mayanchaung Permanent Checkpoint captured K4,700,000 worth of Thai traditional medicines and mosquito repellent bottles that were illegally carried by an express bus heading to Mandalay from Mawlamyine. The action was taken under the Customs Law.

The Police Force seized four vehicles without licences at an estimated value of K12,000,000 in the front of the security checkpoint on the Sitoung Bridge and opened a file on this case under the Export/Import Law.

Moreover, on 16 May, Police confiscated an unregistered Toyota Mark-II car at an estimated value of K1,500,000 and an unregistered Toyota

Therefore, on 12, 14, 15 and 16 May, 11 arrests were made (estimated value of K21,064,132), according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA

SUPERVISED by the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, action is being taken under

the law against illegal trades across the country. The team led by the Forest

Department under the Rakhine State Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force made inspections.

Over K6.2 bln worth of Ice for smuggling into Malaysia seized in Yangon

POLICE seized more than K6.2 billion worth of Ice (methamphetamine) to be transported to Malaysia in North Okkalapa Township of Yangon, according to a police statement.

On 4 May, the Anti-narcotics task force seized more than K6.2 billion worth of drugs in a Toyota Wish car driven by Win Hlaing (aka) U Chel and Hla Baw in the Thiri Mingala Market of North Okkalapa Township.

According to the investigation, the police arrested other suspects Tun Naing and Win Myint in Mayangon Township on 6 May while Arr Gyi (aka) Arr Shi at the toll gate of Kyaunggon Township, Ko Pauk (aka) Aung Myat Win in Tachilek Township, Thai national Sai Shan Pha (aka) Bawn(aka) Mr Piayapong Khammongkhon and Sai Naw Kham (aka) Aik Sai in Pathein Township.

Similarly, the anti-narcotics agents captured a fishing boat, docked at the

jetty in Dala Township, together with Shine Htet Aung (aka) San Shay, Aye Thaung, Myo Naing and Than Soe on 7 May and boat owner Nyan Win on 8 May while Aung Kyaw Tun (aka) Aik Sam in Tachilek Township on 11 May.

According to the investigations, they transported the Ice from Southern Shan State to Yangon Region to smuggle to Malaysia via sea route.

Among these suspects, the Thai national Sai Shan Pha (aka) Bawn (aka) Mr Piayapong Khammongkhon is the wanted fugitive by the Thai government for murder and drug cases.

Officials charged a total of 18 suspects including the ones who are still at large – Sai Gwam (aka) Sai Gwam, Sai Aung Nyunt, Arr Chan and Lu Phi. Officials also cooperate with the ONCB of Thailand and the NADA of Malaysia to arrest the remaining drug smugglers. —MNA



Fourteen arrestees are pictured along with seized packs of Ice methamphetamine that are to be transported to Malaysia.

LOCAL BUSINESS

Myanmar's capital goods import down by \$54 mln over one month

A slowdown in the construction market acts as a barrier to importing capital goods, resulting in a drop of US\$54 million over one month of the current financial year 2022-2023, Myanmar Customs Department's statistics indicated.

Myanmar imported capital goods such as auto parts, vehicles, machines and steel, with an estimated import value of \$345.66 million between 1 April and 6 May 2022, which slightly declined from \$399.9 million.

Additionally, some foreign investment enterprises were suspended during the COVID-19 and the condominium property market relying on foreign expatriates plunged drastically. As a result of this, the realtors are forced to reduce

the rents. The rental market continued a downward spiral amidst the COVID-19 consequences and political changes. The occupancy is drastically declining, a realtor from Yangon elaborated.

Nevertheless, the real estate market sees an upturn in prices of the house and land as some investors believe it is a haven asset during difficult times.

As the Kyat is depreciating on the US dollar, construction costs have risen. Consequently, the developers are facing supply chain issues.

The construction sector imports steel, cement, electronic appliances, machinery and others.

Meanwhile, three other im-



Myanmar imported capital goods such as auto parts, vehicles, machines and steel, with an estimated import value of \$345.66 million between 1 April and 6 May 2022, which slightly declined from \$399.9 million.

port groups saw an increase. Myanmar imported consumer products worth over \$307.765 million, including pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and palm oil.

The imports of consumer products showed a slight decrease of \$23.6 million as against the year-ago period.

Intermediate goods make

up the largest share of Myanmar's imports, with petroleum products and plastic raw materials being the main import items. This year, imports of raw materials soared to \$482.66 million from \$461 million registered during the year-ago period.

Over one month, raw materials worth over \$306.3 million were also imported for the Cut-Make-Pack (CMP) garment sector, showing a rise of \$217 million compared with the last financial year.

The top-10 import countries to Myanmar are China, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, India, Viet Nam, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the US, as per data from the Ministry of Commerce. — Htet Myat/GNLM

Driver-substitution system given green light for Myanmar trucks through Kyinsankyawt-Wang Ding



The Kyinsankyawt-Wang Ding border post.

MYANMAR trucks are allowed for border-crossing through the Kyinsankyawt-Wang Ding trade channel under the driver-substitution system starting from 16 May 2022, said U Min Thein, vice-chair of the Muse Rice Wholesale Centre-MRWC.

"Over 30 Myanmar trucks are in queue to enter China. The number of trucks will gradually increase. Those cargo trucks directly come from Yangon and Mandalay cities," he elaborated.

However, detailed procedures and truck regulations have not been released yet.

Prior to 16 May, China banned Myanmar trucks and drivers to enter its side because of the COVID-19 protocols and only Chinese short-haul driv-

ers are allowed to transport the goods.

As a result of this, the cost of Chinese short-haul trucking tremendously rose to K10 million per truck, whereas the trucking was worth only K700,000-K800,000 when Myanmar truckers were allowed to enter China.

Myanmar sees a big slump in exports. The number of trucks to China through the Kyinsankyawt border post drastically dropped from 400 to 30 for now.

Therefore, the volume of rice and broken rice export plunges from 60,000 to 4,000 bags per day, U Min Thein stressed.

The permit of the driv-

er-substitution system slashed transport costs. However, it will take time to return to trade normality in the Muse border, he continued.

"It will take some time to go back to normality in the Muse land border. At present, Myanmar trucks are given the go-ahead to enter China side. This move will help reduce Chinese short-haul trucking costs from K10 million to K1 million," the MRWC vice-chair added.

China shut down all the checkpoints linking to the Muse border amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the checkpoints, Kyinsankyawt has resumed trading activities from 26 November on a trial run. Myanmar daily delivers rubber, green gram, chilli pepper, onion, mango and other food commodities to China through the Kyinsankyawt crossing.

Myanmar has opened five border trade zones with China - Muse, Lweje, Kampaiti, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung. The majority of trade is carried out through the Muse land border, the Ministry of Commerce's data indicated. — NN/GNLM

Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was reconstituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

The following telephone numbers, fax and email address can be reached to safely report information in connection with illegal trade.

- Auto telephone number - 067 409 883
- Mobile phone - 09 404339969
- Fax - 067 409 886
- Email address - antiillegaltradeinfo@gmail.com

Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee

Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was reconstituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

Regarding the "request for money from departmental organizations in conducting trade", the following numbers can be reached to safely report such information.

- Auto telephone number - 067 409 881
- Mobile phone - 09 699611116
- Fax - 067 409 887
- Email address - antiillegaltradeoffice@gmail.com

Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee

OPINION

Pave ways for youths how to apply social media

TODAY'S various sorts of social media are occupying parts of the life of youths. Most people are swimming in the sea of social media endlessly. Indeed, everything should be under control for the people to be free from danger. As such, it is necessary to take care of applying social media which can create many chances for the youths with the advancement of digital technologies but make dangerous.

The youths can find a lot of friends online. They can scrutinize the nature of their friends in daily life but miss the chance to analyze their partners through social media. But, most of them do not be reluctant to contact each other to disclose their internal and secret affairs, forgetting the unsafe nature of social media.

On the other hand, Internet facilities, including social media, can be dubbed as a gold pot for those pursuing education in various subjects. Learners have easy access to trainers through social media. They can search for advancements in various subjects. Youths can grasp the opportunities to study the latest improvements in subjects thanks to social media. They can improve themselves in four skills of studying languages as well as arts and science subjects.

Hence, all the youths need to take care of the nature of social media by utilizing the advantages but discarding the disadvantages. To be able to do so, they have qualified for analyzing the rights and wrongs on the Internet and are capable of curbing the low-standard issues.

Furthermore, the youths can search the opportunities for improvement of their living standard. For instance, they can seek the job opportunities deserved for their qualification. Most of the educational sources are free of charge for the learning of the youths.

However, too much reliance on social media will stop the enhancement of the capacity of the learners. It is because they may easily copy the answers to the problems. If they too much spend time online, their moves derail the learning process and lose the invaluable spare time of their youthhood age.

As such, parents or guardians need to take care of their young offspring in daily routine processes. They are responsible for leading the youths to the right path in life, pointing out the correct directions to the youths on how to spend their invaluable time in applying social media.



Half of Covid survivors show one symptom even after 2 years: Lancet Journal



The study findings indicate that there is an urgent need to explore the pathogenesis of long COVID and develop effective interventions to reduce the risk of long COVID. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ANI

TWO years after getting infected with COVID-19, health outcomes of people who have suffered hospitalization, reported at least one symptom, said a follow-up study by The Lancet medical journal on Thursday. The Lancet Respiratory Medicine study said that evidence shows that a considerable proportion of people who have recovered from COVID-19 have long-term effects on multiple organs and systems. "Regardless of initial disease severity, COVID-19 survivors had longitudinal improvements in physical and mental health, with most returning to their original work within two years; however, the burden of symptomatic sequelae remained fairly high", stated The Lancet. It has also been found that COVID-19 survivors had a remarkably lower health status than the general population at two years. The study findings indicate that there is an urgent need to explore the pathogenesis of long COVID and develop effective interventions to reduce the risk of long COVID. "Future studies should further explore the pathogenesis of long COVID and develop effective intervention strategies to reduce the risk of long COVID," the Lancet said. According to a UK study published in The Lancet in April,

only around one in four hospitalised patients feel fully recovered a year after having COVID-19. The most common long-Covid symptoms were fatigue, muscle pain, physically slowing down, poor sleep, and breathlessness. Meanwhile, the Study stated that throughout the two years after acute infection, hospital survivors with COVID-19 continued to recover in terms of symptomatic sequelae, exercise capacity, mental health, and quality of life, regardless of initial disease severity, but a fairly high burden of symptoms was still seen at two years.

SOURCE: ANI

Native Americans still face challenges in COVID-19 pandemic

IT'S a familiar landscape of Native Americans' communities in the West: red sandstone, yellow-tinged sagebrush, a blue sky canopy that meets rolling mountain peaks, with cattle and horses dotting the meadows. A newer addition to the timeless landscape in the last two years is a series of hand-lettered turquoise signs along the roads in those rural regions, such as "Stay home, protect our elders" and "Native people are resilient, resourceful, kind, and most of all hopeful."

DISPROPORTIONATE LOSSES

The daily curfew for residents on the Navajo Nation, which has the largest land area retained by a Native American tribe in the United States, was lifted on 6 August after it had been enforced for about 17 months, but the indoor mask mandate is still in effect despite policy changes in the states of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah.

The Navajo Nation covers parts of those three states, which all have lifted their mask mandate this spring. Tribal leaders reaffirmed maintaining the strict coronavirus protocols such as mask wearing in public since

COVID-19 has taken a disproportionate toll on Native Americans.

On 24 February one day before the so-called "People's Convoy", a group of truckers that oppose COVID-19 guidance, arrived at the Arizona portion of Navajo Nation, the Nation's President Jonathan Nez emphasized the need for tribal citizens to protect themselves and their loved ones.

"Please get fully vaccinated, which includes a booster shot," Nez warned, "Our mask mandate remains in effect in all public places within the Navajo Nation. Please take precautions and be extra cautious in public."

Nine new COVID-19 cases and one death were reported on 11 March and the total number of deaths in Navajo Nation reached 1,656, according to the latest data released by the Navajo Department of Health, in coordination with the Navajo Epidemiology Center and the Navajo Area Indian Health Service.

On the same day, the state of New Mexico reported 264 new cases and Utah 244 new cases. Arizona now only reports COVID-19 cases on a weekly basis each Wednesday.

"COVID-19 remains a priority for the Navajo Nation as we



A doctor consults with a woman at a Covid-19 testing centre at the Navajo Nation town of Monument Valley in Arizona. PHOTO: MARK RALSTON/AFP

continue relying on the guidance of our public health experts as we move forward. Case numbers are low at the moment, but we have to be cautious and prepared in the event that another variant begins to spread," Nez said in a statement.

This message reflects how far the Navajo Nation has come in battling and recovering from COVID-19, and how it remains vigilant against the fatal disease.

In June of 2020, the Nava-

jo Nation, with a population of 173,667 on the 2010 census, surpassed New York and New Jersey, both regarded as hot spots of the pandemic, with the highest per-capita coronavirus infection rate in the country, showing a clear sign of COVID-19's disproportionate impact on minority communities.

"ENDANGERED SPECIES"

Besides Navajo Nation, almost all Native Americans' com-

munities, from Choctaw Nation in Oklahoma to Pinoleville Pomo Nation in California, experienced at least two waves of death surges since the pandemic started.

A blog of California Health Care Foundation detailed some painful stories about Native American families in the crisis.

Heather Yazzie was sent to hospital in 2020 summer with her father, a member of the Navajo Nation, and her mother, part of the Pala Band of Mission Indians.

All three were being treated for COVID-19.

Heather was released the next day, but her parents had to stay. "Dad, I love you," she told her father before she left. "You're gonna be okay." Shortly after they spoke, he died. Since then, Heather lost five other relatives to the pandemic.

Leticia Aguilar, a Native American living in Sacramento, lost her grandmother and aunt within four days in 2020 to COVID-19. She said she was greatly relieved that they would at least be counted. "It meant a lot for us as natives."

The blog noted that like so many communities of color, Native Americans had been devastated by the virus, but the data may not reflect the full extent of the toll COVID-19 has taken on them.

The communities of Native Americans always worry that their loss is not being fully recognized by a state data system that is misclassifying Native Americans as Latinx or multi-racial, and that the deaths could lead to an irreplaceable cultural devastation.

SOURCE: XINHUA

ARTICLE

National/Weather Report

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Heads of Service Organizations confirmed and appointed

1. The State Administration Council has confirmed the appointment of U Myint Thura, Director-General of the Department of Trade under the Ministry of Commerce, after the one-year probationary period.
2. The State Administration Council has appointed Dr Than Naing Tun, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Livestock Research of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, as Director-General of the same department of the ministry on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 16 May 2022)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy over the central Bay and a few cloud elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 17 May 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi, Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Mon States, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing, Bago Regions and Shan, Rakhine, Kayin States, scattered in lower Sagaing, Mandalay Regions and Kayah State and isolated in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of regionally heavyfalls in Kachin State and isolated heavyfalls in lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Mon State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (6-8) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 May 2022: Likelihood of Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 May 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 May 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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ENVIRON WORLD

Wheat prices hit record high after Indian export ban



(FILES) In this file photograph taken on 12 April 2022, an Indian farmer poses as he harvests wheat crop in a field on the outskirts of Amritsar, in the northern Indian state of Punjab. Wheat prices surged to a record high on 16 May 2022, after India decided to ban exports of the commodity as a heatwave hit production. **PHOTO: AFP**

WHEAT prices surged to a new record high on Monday after India decided to ban exports of the commodity as a heatwave hit production.

The price jumped to 435 euros (\$453) per tonne as the European market opened.

Global wheat prices have soared on supply fears since Russia's February invasion of agricultural powerhouse Ukraine, which previously accounted for 12 per cent of global exports.

The spike, exacerbated by fertiliser shortages and poor harvests, has fuelled inflation global-

ly and raised fears of famine and social unrest in poorer countries.

India, the world's second-largest wheat producer, said on Saturday that it was banning exports after its hottest March on record.

New Delhi said factors including lower production and sharply higher global prices meant it was worried about the food security of its own 1.4 billion people.

Export deals agreed before the directive issued on 13 May could still be honoured but future shipments needed government

approval, it said.

However, exports could also take place if New Delhi approved requests from other governments "to meet their food security needs".

India, which possesses major buffer stocks, previously said it was ready to help fill some of the supply shortages caused by the Ukraine war.

The export ban drew sharp criticism from the Group of Seven industrialised nations, which said that such measures "would worsen the crisis" of rising commodity prices.— AFP

Dinosaur fossil dating back 125 mln years found in north China

RESEARCHERS have found a relatively complete dinosaur fossil dating back approximately 125 million years in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

Researchers from the Natural History Museum of Bayannur City, Inner Mongolia, discovered it during a regular inspection of Urad Back Banner.

A preliminary study on bone morphology showed that the fossil belonged to an iguanodon in the Early Cretaceous period. It was large and close to adulthood, said Dai Ruiming from the museum. Researchers are cleaning and reinforcing the giant skeleton of the large herbivorous dinosaur. Protection measures will be taken based on

how many fossils they will find.

The fossilized bones will be brought back for further study if they belong to a single individual dinosaur. If too many well-preserved fossils are discovered, researchers can consider building an in-situ burial museum for protection, Dai said.

The Cretaceous period, which began 137 million years ago and ended 65 million years ago, was the last time dinosaurs ruled the planet. Fossils from that period offer significant evidence for studying their evolution, living conditions, and extinction. Urad Back Banner is dubbed the "hometown of dinosaurs" in China. So far, fossils of 19 dinosaur species have been found there.— Xinhua

Extreme temperatures compound poverty in Pakistan's hottest city



In this picture taken on 11 May 2022, 12-year-old schoolboy Saeed Ali suffering from heatstroke rest laying on a hospital bed in Jacobabad, in southern Sindh province. Jacobabad in arid Sindh province has experienced extreme temperatures in the latest heatwave to grip South Asia — peaking at 51 degrees at the weekend. **PHOTO: AFP**

BY the time Pakistani schoolboy Saeed Ali arrived at hospital in one of the world's hottest cit-

ies, his body was shutting down from heatstroke.

The 12-year-old collapsed

after walking home from school under the burning sun, his day spent sweltering in a classroom with no fans.

"A rickshaw driver had to carry my son here. He couldn't even walk," the boy's mother Shaheela Jamali told AFP from his bedside.

Jacobabad in Pakistan's arid Sindh province is in the grip of the latest heatwave to hit South Asia — peaking at 51 degrees Celsius (124 Fahrenheit) at the weekend.

Canals in the city — a vital source of irrigation for nearby farms — have run dry, with a smattering of stagnant water barely visible around strewn rubbish.

Experts say the searing weather is in line with projections for global warming.— AFP

Iraq at a standstill during latest sandstorm

ANOTHER sandstorm descended Monday on Iraq forcing the closure of airports, schools, universities and public administrations across the country, officials said.

It is the eighth duststorm since mid-April to hit Iraq, which has been battered by soil degradation, intense droughts and low rainfall linked to climate change.

The last one earlier this month led to the death of one person while 5,000 others had to be hospitalized for respiratory problems.

On Monday a thick cloud of dust enveloped the capital Baghdad in an orange glow and blanketed many other cities including the Shiite shrine city of Najaf to the south, and Sulaimaniyah, in the northern Kurdish autonomous region, AFP correspondents said.

Yellow and orange sand covered building roofs, cars and even crept into homes. It drastically reduced visibility to just 300 metres (yards) at Baghdad airport, prompting authorities to close

airspace and halt flights, state-run INA news agency reported. Airports in Najaf and Sulaimaniyah were also closed for the day, the agency said.

Authorities in seven of Iraq's 18 provinces, including Baghdad, ordered government offices to shut. Health units across the country remained open, however, as authorities warned that the most at risk were the elderly and people suffering from chronic respiratory diseases and heart ailments.— AFP



A pedestrian crosses a road in the city of Nasiriyah in Iraq's southern Dhi Qar province on 16 May 2022 amidst a heavy dust storm. **PHOTO: ASAAD NIAZI / AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

India records 2,202 new COVID-19 cases, 27 more deaths

INDIA'S COVID-19 tally rose to 43,123,801 on Monday, as 2,202 new cases were registered during the past 24 hours across the country, showed the health ministry's latest data.

Besides, 27 deaths from the pandemic registered across the country since Sunday morning took the total death toll to 524,241.

There are still 17,317 active COVID-19 cases in the country with a fall of 375 active cases during the past 24 hours.

So far, 42,582,243 people have been successfully cured and discharged from hospitals, of whom 2,550 were discharged during the past 24 hours.— Xinhua

Beijing reports 39 new local COVID-19 infections

BEIJING reported 39 new locally transmitted COVID-19 infections between 3 pm Sunday and 3 pm Monday, Pang Xinghuo, deputy head of the Beijing municipal disease prevention and control centre, told a press briefing on Monday.

The national capital has reported 1,113 locally transmitted infections since 22 April. It has classified 19 areas as high-risk for COVID-19 and 25 as medium-risk.— Xinhua

S Korea reports 13,296 new COVID-19 cases

SOUTH Korea reported 13,296 new COVID-19 cases as of midnight Sunday compared to 24 hours ago, raising the total number of infections to 17,795,357, the health authorities said Monday.

The daily caseload was down from 25,434 in the previous day, and lower than 20,588 tallied a week earlier, according to the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (KDCA).

The health authorities believed that the daily caseload has been on the decline following the Omicron variant-driven resurgence, which may have peaked in the middle of March.

Among the new cases, 28 were imported from overseas, lifting the total to 32,342.

The number of infected people who were in a serious condition stood at 345, up seven from the previous day.

A total of 35 more deaths were confirmed, leaving the death toll at 23,744. The total fatality rate was 0.13 per cent.— Xinhua

'I feel free': France lifts Covid mask rule on public transport



(FILES) In this file photo taken on 14 May 2020, commuters wearing facemasks walk at the Saint-Lazare platform of line 13 metro station in Paris during the ease of lockdown measures taken to curb the spread of the COVID-19. PHOTO: AFP

FACE masks are no longer required in metros, trains and planes in France from Monday, as French authorities lifted one of the last remaining health measures imposed since the pandemic began in 2020.

Health minister Olivier Veran announced last week that masks would no longer be mandatory on public transport and in taxis, following the large drop in Covid cases recently.

"I feel free. Breathing

properly wasn't that easy with masks," said 26-year-old Parisian Jaceula Madimba in the metro on Monday morning.

France began easing its strict face mask rules in February after a winter surge in cases, but for weeks they were still required at the workplace or in schools until infections declined further.

Veran cautioned that the new measure did not mean the pandemic was over, and insisted that the mask remained recommended.

"I think wearing masks is still necessary just to be safe, for my friends and family," said Aurelia Imbert, an engineer on her way to Czech Republic for work from Paris Charles de Gaulle airport. Masks, as well as a health pass proving Covid vaccination, are still required for entering hospitals.— AFP

Chinese scientists develop mosaic vaccine for protection against COVID-19 variants

CHINESE scientists have developed a mosaic nanoparticle candidate COVID-19 vaccine that can protect against the infections of COVID-19 variants.

Scientists from Sun Yat-sen University, the First Affiliated Hospital of Guangzhou Medical University, and the Guangdong Provincial Centre for Disease Control and Prevention de-

signed the quadrivalent mosaic nanoparticle vaccine comprising spike proteins from the SARS-CoV-2 prototype and three major variants including Alpha, Beta, and Gamma variants.

The virus spike protein is known to play a critical role in viral attachment and fusion with the host cell, and therefore, the majority of antibodies that neu-

tralize viral infection target the spike protein.

However, mutations from the virus variants located on the spike protein extensively lead to broad antibody resistance and immune escape from vaccine-elicited sera, bringing additional uncertainty surrounding the efficacy of existing vaccines.— Xinhua

EU plans to scrap Valneva's Covid vaccine deal

THE European Commission intends to terminate an agreement to buy the Covid vaccine of French-Austria drug maker Valneva as the shot has yet to receive marketing authorization, the company said Monday.

The European Union's executive arm had signed a deal to buy up to 60 million doses of the VLA2001 vaccine — which uses the traditional technology of inactivated virus — in 2022 and 2023.

But the contract has a clause allowing Brussels to scrap the agreement if the

vaccine does not receive the green light from the European Medicines Agency by 30 April.

The company has 30 days from 13 May to obtain the marketing authorization or propose "an acceptable remediation plan", Valneva said in a statement.

"The Company will work with the EC (European Commission) and the participating EC member states to agree to a remediation plan and to make VLA2001 available to those member states who still wish to receive it," the state-

ment said.

Valneva shares sank on the Paris stock market following its announcement.

"The EC decision is regrettable especially as we continue to receive messages from Europeans who are looking for a more traditional vaccine solution," Valneva chief executive Thomas Lingelbach said.

Valneva received further questions from the medicines agency last month and the company said it submitted responses on 2 May that "adequately" answers them.— AFP



An illustration picture shows vials with Covid-19 Vaccine stickers attached and syringes with the logo of French-Austrian vaccine firm Valneva on 17 November 2020. PHOTO: AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Asian stocks retreat on fears of recession from Covid damage



Students stand next to a sign showing the numbers for the Hang Seng Index before the close in Hong Kong on 16 May 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

ASIAN equities retreated Monday following last week's temporary rally on Wall Street due to fears of surging inflation and

supply chain woes inflicted by Beijing's punishing zero-Covid policy.

World markets have been

volatile for much of 2022, fuelled by uncertainty over supply chain snarls due to China's lockdowns, inflation pressures and anxiety over Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Wall Street stocks closed Friday with a robust rally on the tech-rich Nasdaq after a tumultuous week that saw markets fluctuate based on US inflation data and an ongoing slump in Chinese exports.

One of the main drivers of volatility is China's continued lockdowns. Economic engine Shanghai in particular has been under strict virus restrictions since April, shuttering factories and pausing port activity.

The extent of the economic haemorrhaging was revealed

Monday when China's National Bureau of Statistics announced that retail sales had slumped by 11.1 per cent on-year in April and its industrial production sank 2.9 per cent — the lowest showing since March 2020.

"It is clear that the impact of lockdowns, or the fear of lockdowns, overwhelmed any economic easing, and the Shanghai lockdown had ripple effects across the nation," said Wei Yao, head of research for Asia Pacific and chief economist at Societe Generale SA, according to Bloomberg. The urban unemployment rate also climbed to its highest level in more than two years — which Wei said will be of particular worry to China's leadership. — AFP

Japan wholesale inflation posts record 10% in April on war, yen fall

WHOLESALE prices in Japan surged 10.0 per cent in April from a year earlier, marking the sharpest gain on record, amid surging energy and raw-material costs following Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the yen's steep fall, Bank of Japan data showed Monday.

The prices of goods traded between companies increased for the 14th straight month, in fresh evidence of inflationary pressures in Japan, reinforcing the view that consumer inflation will further accelerate in the coming months.

The 10.0 per cent gain was the fastest since comparable data became available in 1981.

Surging energy and raw-material costs are threat-



The Tokyo Skytree tower is seen as people walk along a shopping street near Sensoji Temple in Tokyo on 15 April 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

ening to eat into corporate profits unless they are passed on to consumers. A growing number of companies are raising prices

in line with increasing costs, while consumers are starting to feel the pinch.

Prices of petroleum and

coal products jumped 30.9 per cent as Russia's war in Ukraine raised supply concerns. Raw materials that saw price hikes included iron and steel, up 29.9 per cent, along with lumber and wood products, up 56.4 per cent. Nonferrous metals surged 25.0 per cent.

The war in Ukraine also affected beverage and food prices, which climbed 3.7 per cent. Prices of grain such as wheat grew sharply as both Russia and Ukraine are major producers.

"The rise in wholesale prices was surprisingly large, amplified by the yen's sharp depreciation since March," said Hideo Kumano, executive chief economist at the Dai-ichi Life Research Institute. — Kyodo

Afghan money exchangers reopen after strike: brokers

THOUSANDS of money exchangers in Afghanistan ended their strike on Monday, the brokers commission said, a day after they shut their shops to protest a steep hike in licence fees imposed by Taliban authorities.

Afghanistan's formal banking system collapsed when the Taliban swept back to power in August last year, ending two decades of US-led military interven-

tion in the deeply impoverished nation.

Since then money exchangers — who swap currencies, make informal cash transfers and even give loans — have played a key role in meeting the financial needs of many of Afghanistan's 38 million citizens mired in humanitarian crisis.

"Today, the money exchange markets across Afghanistan are

open," Abdul Rahman Zeerak, spokesman for Afghanistan's Money Exchange Commission, told AFP.

"They (Taliban leaders) requested that we should open the markets and that they will resolve our problems fully."

Money exchangers in Kabul and other cities, including Herat and Kunduz, went on strike on Sunday after the central bank

raised their licence fees to five million Afghanis (\$56,000) from 300,000. Zeerak said the central bank had also told currency traders to conduct transactions online, and that they must have a minimum of 50 million Afghanis to operate. On Tuesday the commission will have a meeting with the finance ministry and the governor of Afghanistan's central bank, he said. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ryanair slashes annual loss as lockdowns lifted

IRISH no-frills carrier Ryanair on Monday announced a large reduction in annual net losses as the aviation sector recovered from pandemic lockdowns.

Loss after tax dropped to 355 million euros (\$369 million) in the 12 months to the end of March, compared with a net loss of 1.0 billion euros in its previous financial year.

"This recovery, however, remains fragile" following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, chief executive Michael O'Leary said in a statement. "Given the continuing risk of adverse news flows on" Ukraine and Covid, "it is impractical—if not impossible—to provide a sensible or accurate profit guidance range at this time", he added. While Ryanair expects cost increases as a result of surging oil prices fuelled by the war, it hopes "to return to reasonable profitability" in its current financial year.

It forecast passenger traffic of 165 million in its current year, compared with a pre-pandemic level of 149 million. — AFP

First commercial flight in 6 years leaves Yemen's rebel-held capital

THE first commercial flight in nearly six years took off from Yemen's rebel-held capital on Monday, a major step forward in a peace process that has provided rare relief from conflict.

The Yemenia plane carrying 126 passengers, including hospital patients needing treatment abroad and their relatives, took off from Sanaa for the Jordanian capital Amman just after 9:00 am (0600 GMT), AFP journalists saw.

Before take-off, the plane with red-and-blue tail livery taxied through an honour guard of two fire trucks spraying jets of water.

Sanaa's airport has been closed to commercial traffic since August 2016 because of air strikes by the Saudi-led military coalition, who are fighting Iran-backed Huthi rebels. — AFP

New Zealand to boost electric car sales

NEW Zealanders who trade in their gas-guzzling car will get financial aid towards buying a cleaner alternative, in one of a raft of climate change initiatives announced by Jacinda Ardern's government Monday. The country's first Emissions Reduction Plan, costing nearly three billion NZ dollars (1.88 billion US dollars), outlined spending for the next four years to help meet its goal of cutting carbon dioxide emissions to net-zero by 2050.

A "scrap and replace" pilot scheme will initially give 2,500 low-income families financial support towards an electric or hybrid vehicle if they replace their petrol- or diesel-powered car. Transport Minister Michael Wood said the scheme's details were yet to be finalized but he envisaged it would expand rapidly to include "tens of thousands" of New Zealanders. He said the government's ultimate goal was for less reliance on all cars by 2035 by getting people to switch to public transport or other alternatives. The government also allocated 650 million NZ dollars to help cut fossil fuel use in the industrial sector over the next four years. —AFP

Notice for Change of distributor

Notice is hereby given that the official distributor - Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd to Y Agro Solution Co.,Ltd - has been changed for the following fungicide manufactured by Arysta LifeScience India Limited.

Sr.	Trade name	Active ingredient	Registration type	Registration no.
1	Pluto 80 WP	Sulphur 80%WP	Full	F 2017-1629

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the period prescribed, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board.

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd.
Suite # 09-02 , Crystal Tower ,Junction Square Compound,
Kyun Taw Road,Kamayut Township , Yangon
Tel:(+95)01-9339359, 9339360

Notice for change of distributor

Notice is hereby given that the official distributor – Aventine Limited to Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd has been changed for the following insecticide manufactured by UPL limited, India.

Sr.	Trade name	Active ingredient	Registration type	Registration no.
1	Acemida 51.8% SP	Acephate 50% + Imidacloprid 1.8% SP	Full	F2017-1272

Aventine Limited invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the period prescribed, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board. Aventine Limited, No. 9(C1), Yawmingyi Street, Dagon Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: +95 1 373388

Notice for change of distributor

Notice is hereby given that the official distributor – Aventine Limited to Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd has been changed for the following insecticide manufactured by United Phosphorous Ltd, India.

Sr.	Trade name	Active ingredient	Registration type	Registration no.
1	Lancer 75 SP	Acephate 75% SP	Full	F 2012 - 842

Aventine Limited invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the period prescribed, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board. Aventine Limited, No. 9(C1), Yawmingyi Street, Dagon Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: +95 1 373388

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

INVITATION FOR BIDS TO CONDUCT PETROLEUM OPERATIONS IN MYANMAR HTAUKSHABIN-KANNI OIL FIELD (2022)

1. The Ministry of Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar hereby announces Invitation of Sealed Bids for Petroleum Operations to be conducted in Myanmar Htaukshabin-Kanni Oil Field on Improved Petroleum Recovery (IPR) basis.

2. All interested parties are cordially invited to submit "the Letter of Expression of Interest", together with Company's Article of Association (AOA), Memorandum of Association (MOA) or Constitution of Company, Certificate of Incorporation, last (3) Years Annual Report and last (3) Years Financial Statement (or) Financial Report, Detail Track Record and related documents, "Myanmar Htaukshabin-Kanni Oil Field Bidding Round -2022", to the following address **not later than (12:00) noon at the date of 17 June 2022:-**

Director General
Oil and Gas Planning Department
Ministry of Energy
Building No.6, Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

3. The petroleum operations shall be conducted on improved petroleum recovery basis and the party(s), who desire to enter into the Improved Petroleum Recovery Contract (IPR) with the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) shall have technical competency, financial capability, experience, expertise and technical know how to conduct petroleum exploration and development works and must have good track record.

4. The potential bidders will be pre-qualified and selected. Then the potential bidders who passed pre-qualification will be presented with General Overview of Htaukshabin-Kanni Oil Field's data and information free of charge by Geological/ Geophysical Team of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise.

5. The potential bidders will be explained and provided with Standard Terms and Conditions by Oil and Gas Planning Department in order to submit proposal(s).

6. The potential bidders will have to submit the proposal(s) together with proposed Terms and Conditions.

7. The potential bidders' proposed Terms and Conditions will be assessed and the best offered Terms and Conditions will be selected for awarding.

8. If the potential bidder is foreign-owned company, such potential bidder will have to submit at least one Myanmar National owned company for cooperation.

9. The pre-qualified bidders can contact to the following address:-
Director General
Oil and Gas Planning Department
Ministry of Energy
Building No.6, Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Tel: 95-067 3 411 046
Fax: 95-067 3 411 213
Email: oilandgasplanningdepartment@gmail.com

Note: For further inquiry (and/or) information, please contact the followings:-

- (1) Director General
Oil and Gas Planning Department
Ministry of Energy, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Tel: 95-067 3 411 046
Fax: 95-067 3 411 213
Email: oilandgasplanningdepartment@gmail.com
- (2) Managing Director
Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ministry of Energy, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Tel: 95-067 3 411 055/ 3 411 056
Fax: 95-067 3 411 178/ 3 411 125
Email: mogemoffice4163@gmail.com
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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ASIATIC NEPTUNE VOY.NO. (77S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ASIATIC NEPTUNE VOY.NO. (77S/N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-5-2022** 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**

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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.

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GLOBAL AFFAIRS

N Korea's Kim slams lack of medical supplies as likely COVID cases surge

NORTH Korean leader Kim Jong Un has strongly criticized his Cabinet for not providing medicines to citizens according to their needs, state-run media reported Monday, as suspected coronavirus cases continue to explode in the country.

The Korean Central News Agency said more than 392,900 new cases of fever were reported during a 24-hour period through late Sunday afternoon, an increase of over 90,000 from the previous day, with eight new deaths.

North Korea has reported over 1.21 million cases of fever and 50 deaths in total since confirming its first COVID-19 case on Thursday, more than two years after the pandemic began.

To stabilize the supply of medicines in Pyongyang, Kim



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is pictured at an emergency meeting of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on 15 May 2022. PHOTO: KCNA/KYODO

issued an order as chairman of the party's Central Military Commission to bring in "the military medical field of the People's Army", according to the report.

In Seoul, South Korean Pres-

ident Yoon Suk Yeol expressed a willingness to support North Korea with necessary medical supplies and medicines, including vaccines, to help it battle the ongoing coronavirus outbreak, if

North Korea chooses to accept them.

According to the country's Korean Central Television, at least 168 people had been confirmed infected with the virus as of late Saturday afternoon, including 42 in Pyongyang.

COVID-19 test kits and treatment drugs are likely in short supply in North Korea. Kim's public criticism of his Cabinet could be a sign popular discontent may be expected to grow amid the virus surge.

South Korea's Yonhap News Agency reported Sunday that North Korea recently asked China for COVID-19 supplies and equipment. The report could signal earnest efforts by the North to source medicines from outside the country.

At an emergency meeting

of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on Sunday, Kim "strongly criticized the Cabinet and public health sector for their irresponsible work attitude and organizing and executing ability," KCNA said.

Saying that medicines provided by the state had not reached people through pharmacies "correctly in time," Kim said officials in charge of supply were "not properly recognizing the present crisis but only talking about the spirit of devotedly serving the people."

The report also said that despite an order for the immediate release and supply of medicines from the state reserve to swiftly contain the spread of infections, medicines have not been properly supplied to pharmacies. —Kyodo

THE WORLD in brief

Queen Elizabeth II attends Jubilee celebration after health concerns

A smiling Queen Elizabeth II attended a Platinum Jubilee celebration at Windsor on Sunday, days after ill health and old age forced her to pull out of the opening of the UK parliament for the first time in nearly 60 years.

The 96-year-old monarch used a walking stick to make her way to the royal box at the show, entitled "A Gallop Through History", near her Windsor Castle home west of London.

The audience gave the queen a standing ovation at the star-studded equestrian extravaganza, led by Hollywood actors Tom Cruise and Helen Mirren.

The queen on Friday spent almost an hour at the Royal Windsor Horse Show at the same venue, in an increasingly rare public appearance.

The queen last week did not open parliament, the first time she has missed the event since 1963. —AFP

Indonesia tourist bus crash kills 14

At least 14 people were killed and more than a dozen others injured when a bus carrying domestic tourists crashed into an advertising sign in Indonesia's East Java province early on Monday, police said.

The bus — which was carrying 31 passengers, the driver and a crew member — hit the pole and then rolled over on a toll road connecting the town of Mojokerto to the country's second city, Surabaya.

The victims were from Benowo, a village near Surabaya, and were returning home after a long weekend at popular holiday destination Dieng Plateau, about 400 kilometres away in Central Java, local official Ridwan Mubarun told Indonesian television station Metro TV.

"Fourteen people have died and 19 others sustained minor and serious injuries," Mojokerto police chief Rofiq Ripto Himawan told reporters on Monday, adding that authorities were still investigating the cause of the accident. —AFP

Crisis-hit Sri Lanka set for uneasy 'economic war cabinet'

SRI Lanka was set to form a new cabinet on Monday as bitter political rivals make common cause to tackle a worsening economic crisis after last week's deadly violence, party leaders said.

Protestors remained camped outside President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's residence demanding that he resign meanwhile, as troops continued to patrol the streets while ordinary Sri Lankans queued up for scarce supplies.

Ranil Wickremesinghe, appointed prime minister for a sixth time on Thursday, has struggled to form a "unity government" after the main opposition insisted that Rajapaksa should follow his brother Mahinda who quit as premier last week.

However, two stalwarts from the main Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) opposition party agreed to break ranks and join an "economic war cabinet", party sources told AFP. Opposition leader Sajith Premadasa said his party would not block in parliament any legitimate "solutions to the economic problems".

Another opposition group,



Sri Lanka's new prime minister Ranil Wickremesinghe (C) visits a Buddhist temple after his swearing in ceremony in Colombo on 12 May 2022. PHOTO: AFP

the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), said they will also offer conditional support to Wickremesinghe, overturning their earlier decision not to.

"We will support any correct decisions taken by the new government to address our grave economic crisis," SLFP leader Maithripala Sirisena said in a letter to the premier.

Official sources said the full cabinet was likely to be sworn in ahead of Tuesday's parliamentary session, the first since 73-year-old Wickremesinghe's appointment.

Four ministers were sworn

in on Saturday, all from Rajapaksa's Sri Lanka Podu Jana Peramuna (SLPP) party.

However, there is no finance minister yet, and it is widely expected that the prime minister will retain the crucial portfolio to lead ongoing negotiations with the IMF for an urgent bailout.

Wickremesinghe has also called for international support.

He held talks Sunday with World Bank and Asian Development Bank representatives in Colombo focusing on the issues facing the supply of medicines, food, fuel and fertiliser, his office said in a statement. —AFP



SEA Games Men's Billiard: Myanmar billiard player Pauk Sa reaches final

SEA Games Billiards Snooker and Pool matches continued on 16 May with Myanmar participating in the Billiard event.

Pauk Sa started the quarterfinals with a three-set win over hosts Viet Nam and a 3-1 victory over Thai star Prabut in the semifinals as well.

Pauk Sa lost 65-100 points in the first match but won three remaining matches in a row.

Pauk Sa scored 100-9 points in the second match, 100-27 points in the third match and 100-30 in the fourth or final match.

Pauk Sa will face off against Singaporean Billiards star Peter Gilchrist in the final on the morning of 17 May. Peter Gilchrist has won the SEA Games individual billiards gold medal six times in a row since 2009. Min Si Thu Tun lost to Peter Gilchrist in the quarterfinals as two Myanmar billiard players competed in the individual billiards competition.



Myanmar Billiard Player Pauk Sa. PHOTO: PAUK SA'S FACEBOOK PAGE

In the Snooker 6 Reds individual event, two Myanmar players, Aung Phyo and Win Ko Ko were eliminated from the quarterfinals.

Thaw Zin Htet, a Myanmar player who competed in the Pool 9 Ball individual competition, was satisfied with the quarterfinals. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

SEA Games Men's Futsal: Thailand beat Myanmar 2-1

MYANMAR and Thailand competed in the 31st SEA Games Men's National Futsal Championship yesterday at Nam Gymnasium, and Myanmar lost 2-1 to Thailand.

The Myanmar team showcased the main players including Kyaw Htet Aung, Myo Thet Aung, Myo Myint Soe, Khin Zaw Lin, and Thaing Bwe Aung.

AFF defending champions Thailand took the lead in 3 and 13 minutes, but Myanmar defended well in the remaining minutes. In the 14th minute, Thaing Bwe Aung scored the first goal for the Myanmar team through a counter-attack and the Thai team took the lead 2-1 at the end of the first half.

In the second half, as the match was tense, and the Thai team committed five fouls the Myanmar team had to play very carefully. Myanmar goalkeeper

Kyaw Htet Aung defended the Thai team's scores and team captain Myo Myint Soe showed good form in the back row, so the Thais could not score further goals. "In today's game, my boys were able to follow the technique. The Thai team was good in everything, but we reacted well," said Myanmar National Team Head Coach Bunlert Cheowarang.

"My team were able to play with more confidence than they previously did against Indonesia. Some players still need confidence and experience," the Myanmar head coach added. The Myanmar national futsal team has lost both of its last two matches at the SEA Games and will face hosts Viet Nam on 18 May and Malaysia on 20 May.

Indonesia beat Malaysia 3-0 in an earlier group match yesterday. — GNLM



A Myanmar Futsal player (white) poised to shoot the ball against the Thai team at the SEA Games Futsal group match in Viet Nam on 16 May 2022. PHOTO: MFF

1st batch of Myanmar athletes returning from 31st SEA Games welcomed back home



A chartered flight carrying the first batch of Myanmar athletes who had competed in the 31st South-East Asia Games held in Hanoi, Viet Nam, landed at

Yangon International Airport yesterday evening. Athletes were welcomed back by Yangon Mayor U Bo Htay, Yangon Region Natural Resources Minister U Zaw

Win, the vice mayor, President U Nyi Nyi of the Myanmar Fitness Federation, and officials from the Department of Sports and Physical Education and the public. To honour athletes who are striving for national pride, the State also awards them as soon as they receive a medal in competitions – US\$3,000 for a gold medal, \$2,000 for a silver medal, and \$1,000 for a bronze medal in individual competitions; \$1,000 each team player for a gold medal in team competitions, \$750 each for a silver medal, and \$500 each for a bronze medal. – MNA

5th Batch of Myanmar sports team leaves to compete in 31st SEA Games

THE fifth batch of the Myanmar sports team left Yangon International Airport at 10 am yesterday to compete in the 31st South-East Asian Games being held from 12 to 23 May in Hanoi, Viet Nam and other related cities.

The sports team was seen off by the Chairman of the Yangon Region Sports and Physical Education Committee Di-

rector-General of the Department of Sports and Physical Education.

Nine males and four females for the Judo sport, 17 males and eight females for the Vovinam sport and four males and four females for the weightlifting sport are included in the sports team. — MNA

SEA Games national men's football group stage matches concludes

THE last day of Group B of the SEA Games will be held on 16 May and Thailand and Malaysia advancing to the semifinals.

On the last day of the group, Malaysia and Cambodia drew 2-2 and Thailand beat Laos 1-0. Malaysia beat Thailand and Laos twice in a row but drew with Singapore and Cambodia in the last two matches to reach the semi-finals.

Due to the draw of Malaysia, Thailand defeated Laos to win first place in the group. Thailand lost to Malaysia in the opening match but won the last three matches and reached the semifinals of the group. In the semifinal, Viet Nam will face Malaysia and Thailand will take on Indonesia. The semifinal matches will be played on 19 May. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM



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.



State awards US\$100,000 to semifinalist Myanmar women's football team

UNION Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Min Thein Zan yesterday greeted Myanmar athletes at the 31st South-East Asian Games in Ha Long City, Viet Nam.

During the meeting, the Union minister praised the brilliant performance of the sporting team as they have shown their hard work. The State and the people will look forward to honouring the nation pride through sports and

success, the Union minister said.

Next, the State awarded US\$100,000 to the Myanmar women's football team advancing to the semi-finals.

The Myanmar women's football team will play against the Vietnamese women's football team on 18 May in the semifinals.

In the evening, the Union minister watched the performance of Myanmar athletes



at the Taekwondo Championships held at Tay Ho Stadium in Hanoi.

Today's competitions include billiards and snooker championships at Ha Dong Stadium, Archery and Shooting competitions at Hanoi Na-

tional Sports Training Centre, and Petanque Games at Hanoi Sports Training Centre.

Sepak Takraw competitions at Hoang Mai Stadium and Lethwei events are also being held at Bac Ninh Stadium, where Myanmar athletes are competing.

Myanmar Billiard player Pauk Sa has already advanced to the final and the Myanmar team advanced to the semifinals in the men's and women's triathlon yesterday. —MNA