

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.

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends handover of five-storey Ananta Thukha Dhamma Beikman building of Dhammacakka Yeiktha Monastery on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla and congregation take Five Precepts at handover ceremony of five-storey Ananta Thukha Dhamma Beikman building of Dhammacakka Yeiktha Monastery on Kaba Aye Pogoda Road in Yangon on 3 July.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday morning attended the ceremony to inaugurate five-storey Ananta

Thukha Dhamma Beikman building of Dhammacakka Yeiktha Monastery on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road.

First, the Yangon Region Chief Minister, the command-

er of Yangon Command and well-wisher Dr Tha Yin Myat opened the ceremony.

The Senior General unveiled the plaque of the monastery. The Senior General and

party led by Bhamo Monastery Sayadaw of Mandalay Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja

Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa Bhamo Sayadaw and Dhammacakka Yeiktha Sayadaw sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

SEE PAGE-3

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr. Wang Yi, State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China hold Bilateral Meeting

PAGE-3

LOCAL BUSINESS

Used bikes from Japan grasp market share in Mandalay city

PAGE-11



CURRENT AFFAIRS

Black gram price moves onwards reaching approximately K1 mln per tonne

PAGE-12



It is concerned with the whole country

It is necessary to understand the Burma Defence Army is concerned not only with Tatmadaw members but also the entire Bamar nationals and the whole country. Actually, there is no comprehensive independence camp because no encouragement is given to soldiers of the Burma Defence Army. It is important for defending the country in the establishment of a new era. All should not work for just Myanmar but take lessons from other countries and nearby countries.

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by War Minister Colonel Aung San at the special meeting of the Burma Defence Army held in Yangon on 2 December 1942)



Renovated Zhou Enlai prayer hall officially opened at Shwezigon Pagoda

THE reopening ceremony of the renovated Zhou Enlai Prayer Hall took place yesterday morning in the precinct of Shwezigon Pagoda in Bagan Ancient Cultural Zone. The ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, State Councilor of the People's Republic of China and Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. Wang Yi, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myo Htut, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai, Mandalay Region Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Minister U Myo Aung and officials.



Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin, State Councilor and Foreign Affairs Minister of China Mr. Wang Yi pose for documentary photo in front of Zhou Enlai prayer hall on 3 July.

operation between the two countries, and would be able to move forward to the establishment of a Sino-Myanmar warm and cohesive community.

The Union Minister and China's Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. Wang Yi formally opened the prayer hall and then paid homage to Shwezigon Pagoda. They also paid homage to Thabbyinnyu Pagoda and inspected the renovation project of the pagoda which is being carried out with the Chinese assistance.

A magnitude 6.8 earthquake on 24 August 2016 caused damage to 425 pagodas in Ba-



Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and State Councilor and Foreign Affairs Minister of China Mr. Wang Yi view round renovation at Thabbyinnyu Pagoda in Bagan on 3 July.



At the ceremony, Ambassador Mr Chen Hai said the Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai visited Myanmar for nine times and built the prayer hall during his visit in 1961, as a symbol of the Sino-Myanmar friendship. The ambassador said his attendance to the inauguration ceremony of the prayer hall succeeded to the legacy of Sino-Myanmar friendly relations, reflecting the clear stance of China on bilateral

cooperation. He also added that the bilateral cooperation would benefit the peoples of both countries.

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Myo Htut said the Zhou Enlai prayer hall proves the friendly relations between Myanmar and China. He said that the two countries could pass on Pauk Phaw relationship and multi-sectoral cooperation to the next generations through cultural co-

gan. On 18 September 2016, a Provincial Administration joint executive committee of Cultural Heritage of China was sent to Myanmar to conduct the survey on 21 heavy damaged pagodas. Two countries signed an MoU on 22 September 2018 and the renovation project of the Thabbyinnyu Pagoda commenced with the assistance from China.—MNA

Further invitation to remaining groups to hold talks

DEMOCRACY as well as federalism requires equal rights. Talks will continue with the ethnic armed organizations to restore peace.

Good results came out from the talks with EAOs. Efforts will continue to restore peace by holding better talks.

Some EAOs cannot participate in the talks for various reasons. In line with the firm implementation of two political visions, the government further invites remaining groups to hold talks.

(The excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in meeting with ministers of Yangon Region government on 9 June 2022.)

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends handover of five-storey Ananta Thukha Dhamma Beikman building of Dhammacakka Yeiktha Monastery on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing sprinkles scented water on the plaque of five-storey Ananta Thukha Dhamma Beikman building on 3 July.

FROM PAGE-1

The Senior General and wife donated offerings to Bhamo Sayadaw and handed over the documents related to the five-storey building to Dhammacakka Yeiktha Sayadaw Bhaddanta Avudha. The Senior General and family, well-wishers and attendees

offered alms to members of the Sangha. Building donor Dr Tha Yin Myat spoke words of thanks. Vice Chairman of the SS-MNC Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Dr Bhaddanta Candanasara Kyaukme Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

The Senior General, wife and attendees visited the building and offered alms to members of the Sangha led by Bhamo Sayadaw. Dhammacakka Yeiktha Monastery was established by Bhaddanta Vidhajasiri in 1954. The five-storey building was constructed with contributions

of well-wishers led by the Senior General. The stake-driving ceremony took place on 12 January 2020. The 108 feet long and 45 feet wide facility was donated with more than K1,000 million by families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) led by the Senior General and wife, Agga Maha Thi-

ri Thudhamma Manijotadhara well-wisher Dr Tha Yin Myat and wife Thiha Thudhamma Theingi Social Excellent Performance Award winner well-wisher Daw Nwe Nwe Aye and family in addition to Four River Myanmar Co Ltd American Company families.—MNA

U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr. Wang Yi, State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China hold Bilateral Meeting

ON the sidelines of the 7th Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Foreign Ministers Meetings in Bagan, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar held a bilateral meeting with Mr. Wang Yi, State Councilor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of China at 11 am on 3 July 2022, at the Bayintnaung Hall of Nanmyint Tower in Bagan.

At the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on further consolidation of the existing Pauk Phaw relations, the continued implementation of Myanmar-China bilateral projects, importation of fertilizer from China to Myanmar, exportation of Myanmar's agricultural and marine products to China, the re-entry of Myanmar scholars to China, maintenance of peace and stability along the Myanmar-China border, smooth flow of border trade between Myanmar and China. They also cordially exchanged views on closer



Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin holds talks with State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China Mr. Wang Yi on 3 July.

collaboration between the two countries in both regional and multilateral contexts particularly the ASEAN and the United Nations.

The two Foreign Ministers touched on the ongoing implementation of ASEAN five-point consensus on the basis of ASEAN's non-interference policy and ASEAN Charter and fundamental

principles.

The Union Minister apprised the Chinese Foreign Minister on the latest political developments in Myanmar and the achievements made on the implementation of five-point road-map of the State Administration Council.

Following the bilateral meeting, the two Foreign Ministers attended the ceremony of ex-

change of Agreement of Cooperation on projects of the 2022 Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Special Fund between the government of Myanmar and the government of China, the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations of Myanmar and China International Development

Cooperation Agency, the Agreement of China-Aided Upgrading of No.2 Industrial Training Center (Mandalay) Project between the Ministry of Industry of Myanmar and Ministry of Commerce of China, and the Animal Disease Laboratory (Myanmar) between the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation of Myanmar and China International Development Cooperation Agency and the handing-over of certificate of China-Aided 1,000 Sets of Assembled Board House to Myanmar between the Ministry of Construction of Myanmar and the Ministry of Commerce of China, certificate of China-Aided Emergency Anti-Epidemic Assistance to Northern Myanmar (10.5 million Yuan) and Anti-Epidemic Supplies to Myanmar (32 million Yuan) between the Ministry of Health of Myanmar and the Ministry of Commerce of China.—MNA

Strong and sharp women in successive eras have been participating in endeavours of independence struggle, State-building and development tasks for the State and the people: Vice-Senior General

RELEVANT ministries, international organizations and civil society organizations are to cooperate with one another for ensuring peace and economic development, eliminating violence against women and girls and having endurance against natural disasters prioritized by the government, said Vice Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, on behalf of the SAC Chairman Prime Minister, at the ceremony to mark the Myanmar Women's Day at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Vice-Senior General spoke on the occasion through a video message, saying that according to the Beijing declaration from the Fourth World Conference Women held in Beijing of China in 1995, the government formed the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs on 3 July 1996 also designated as the Myanmar Women's Day.

Strong and sharp women in successive eras have been participating in endeavours of independence struggle, State-building and development tasks for the State and the people. As more than a half of total population of the nation is women, enhancing the strength of women to be human resources benefiting the State will be a reliable force for the nation.

The committee needs to take a leading role in implementing the national strategic plan for advancement of women (2013-2022). As such a plan will conclude in 2022, the committee needs to



SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, on behalf of the SAC Chairman Prime Minister, gives a video message to Myanmar Women's Day Ceremony on 3 July.



An outstanding woman was awarded on 3 July.

review the advantages and disadvantages of the plan while cooperating with relevant ministries and organizations to draw the national strategic plan for advancement of women (phase II).

Implementation of the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan-MSDP and the COVID-19

Economic Relief Plan-CERP contributes to advancement of women for ensuring the gender equality and capacity enhancement of women and girls.

The Myanmar Tatmadaw turns out female cadets for the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and discharge duties in keeping

abreast of male. This year, the Defence Services Medical Academy will recruit female cadets for training. Likewise, female police members are discharging duties similar to male ones at Myanmar Police Force.

Relevant ministries, international organizations and civil society organizations are to cooperate with one another for ensuring peace and economic development, eliminating violence against women and girls and having endurance against natural disasters prioritized by the government.

The interim census enumerated in 2019 mentioned 51.1 million population of Myanmar with 46.8 per cent for men and 53.2 per cent for women.

The report stated that the school dropout rate of girls reached six of 100 persons in urban area and 11 girls in rural area. Moreover, a literacy rate for women above 15 accounted for 86.3 per cent and men, 92.4 per cent. Hence, it is necessary to conduct vocational courses

for women so as to grasp the job opportunities.

The Vice-Senior General urged all to participate in all-round development of women with business, livelihoods, education, health and public affairs, peace, security and prevention of violence against women and girls in ensuring the success of peace process and building the Union based on democracy and federalism.

Chair of the MNCWA Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Thet Thet Khaing reported on advancement of women, enhancement of women's rights and prevention of violence against women in all forms.

A video clip on milestones of development of women was presented.

SAC member Daw Aye Nu Sein, Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khaing, wives of Union ministers, deputy ministers and Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Myint Soe presented awards to outstanding women.—MNA

6 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 3 July, total figure rises to 613,648

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **613,648** after **6** new cases were reported on 3 July 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **592,589** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll still stands at **19,434** without more casualties. COVID-19 vaccine is being injected to those of priority groups in regions and states for prevention and control of the disease. Up to 2-7-2022, a total of **29,912,386** people above 18 have been vaccinated. A total of **5,539,758** people under 18 have been vaccinated. —MNA

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Delegations led by Foreign Ministers of Mekong-Lancang Cooperation arrive Myanmar to attend the 7th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting



Foreign Ministers of Mekong-Lancang Cooperation enjoy entertainments of artistes at Gala dinner on 3 July.



Foreign Minister of 7th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting are being welcomed by officials at NyaungU airport on 3 July.

(3-7-2022, Nay Pyi Taw)

THE Foreign Ministers of Mekong-Lancang Cooperation; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia H.E. Mr. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR H.E. Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand H.E. Mr. Don Pramudwinai and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam H.E. Mr. Bui Thanh Son; accompanied by their delegations arrived respectively at NyaungU Airport in Bagan in the afternoon of 3rd July 2022 to attend the 7th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting. They were

welcomed at the NyaungU Airport by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. U Kyaw Myo Htut, Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation of the Mandalay Region U Myo Aung, Director-General of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Wunna Han and officials concerned.

In the evening, the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. U Wunna Maung Lwin hosted a Gala Dinner in honour of the Foreign Ministers of Mekong-Lancang Cooperation and their delegations.

At the dinner, the artistes from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture presented the Cultural Performance. —MNA

Union Minister for Construction inspects construction, maintenance of roads, bridges in Yangon Region

UNION Minister for Construction U Shwe Lay inspected building/road and bridge construction and maintenance works in Yangon Region on 2 July.

During his inspection tour, the Union Minister viewed round the entrance to Nyaungnapin connecting with Yangon-Bago 6-lane Road in Yangon Region, which is being implemented by the Road Special Task Force (14) of the Highways Department.

He also examined the maintenance works at the historic building near Nyaungnapin Village, Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungnapin National Convention and instructed officials to keep the original work intact to inspect the foundation of the current building by Quality Control Team and to make the entrance/exit roads orderly.

Afterwards, the Union Minister met with the Managing Director of the KMIC Development

Co., Ltd of Korea in Nyaungnapin KMIC Industrial Zone and discussed acceleration of KMIC project implementation between South Korea and Myanmar, foreign investment and creation of job opportunities.

The Union Minister and party checked the construction works of the Thanlyin Bridge (3) which is easily linked to Yangon-Thanyin-Thilawa Special Economic Zone and is important for the smooth flow of goods, and instructed officials to pay attention to safety in carrying out construction activities.

The Thanlyin Bridge No 3 under construction on the Bago River is located near the Yangon-Thanyin Bridge No 1. The bridge will be 1,928-meter long and the 24 meters wide motor road. The facility will withstand 75 tonnes of load.—MNA



Union Minister for Construction U Shwe Lay inspects progress of Thanlyin Bridge No. 3 on 2 July.

Announcement for opening reception centres to receive CDM staff, students and youths

THE State Administration Council has been striving for the all-round development of the country including economic, social, education and health sectors. In addition, security forces are performing their duties day and night so that the entire mass of national people in various regions across the Union should be able to lead their lives and earn their living in the peace of mind. The State Administration Council gives priority to achieving genuine and perpetual peace, building up the united strength of the national brethren.

In order to prevent the unnecessary loss of human resources, the State Administration Council has publicly invited the basic education staff who are absent from duty to resume their duties and those who take part in armed resistance under various names of groups, including PDFs, to return to the legal fold if they wish to, and is systematically receiving the returnees.

It is found that, due to the persuasion, instigation and coercion of CRPH and NUG terrorist groups, some CDM staff, students and youths went to the strongholds of some ethnic armed organizations and received training in arms, ammunition and explosives.

It is known that some of those who have completed the training no longer want to be involved in terrorist attacks and so they fled to the regions within and without the country and are working there for their living. When they see terrorist attacks with their own eyes, they cannot accept such terrible acts at all. On the other hand, they have come to believe in the government's five-point roadmap and its endeavour for durable peace. Moreover, they want to live peacefully in their hometowns again with their parents and relatives. Nevertheless, they cannot do so because of the coercion and intimidation by CRPH and NUG terrorist groups and their subordinates, it is learnt.

Therefore, the government is taking measures to be able to open reception centres in border areas for those who would like to return homes to their respective regions. Moreover, those wishing to return home can contact Tatmadaw units and police stations. It is guaranteed that they will be able to lead their daily lives peacefully.

*Information Team
State Administration Council*

Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister visits Shwedagon Pagoda



A delegation led by Mr Prak Sokhonn, Special Envoy of the Alternate Chair of ASEAN on Myanmar Deputy Prime Minister Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia visited Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon yesterday morning.

First, the guest and party signed the visitors' book at the southern reception hall and donated flowers, water and oil lamps to the pagoda.

Members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees returned a photo of the Shwedagon Pagoda and a record book as a gift.

Next, the guest and party toured the platform and donated cash to the fund of the pagoda.

In the afternoon, the Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister left Yangon to Bagan by air to attend the 7th Mekong-Lanchang Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting.—MNA

Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Mr Prak Sokhonn and party visit Shwedagon Pagoda on 3 July.

Deputy Information Minister inspects information services in Southern Shan State

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Ye Tint inspected the Department of Information and Public Relations and Public Library in Kalaw Township of southern Shan State on 2 July.

Then, he inspected preparation to commission the Community Centre into service at Shan State IPRD office in Taunggyi and met the heads and staff of IPRD offices of Shan State and district, Nyaungshwe Township and Kyauktalngyi, engineers from MRTV re-transmission station and staff from Sub-Printing House.

In the afternoon, the dep-

uty minister looked into the Hopong District IPRD and met with Chairman U Khun Ye Htwe of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone and district officials, heads of Pinlaung and Naungtayar IPRDs.

At the Loilem District IPRD, he met with officials of the Laikha, Mongkai and Kunhing townships and Panglong. After meeting with staff from Namsang and Mongnai townships, he inspected MRTV re-transmission station yesterday.

During the meetings, the deputy minister called for emphasizing information and awareness of state stability and future tasks, cooperation



Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Tint meets staff of IPRDs on his inspection tour in Shan State (South) on 3 July.

with relevant departments for widening the scope of students

and youths and striving for successful implementation of

public relation tasks.—District IPRD/GNLM

Macadamia seedlings, equipment provided to farmers in line with Mekong-Lanchang Fund

KACHIN State Chief Minister U Khat Htein Nan, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Gyi and State Cabinet Ministers attended a ceremony to supply Macadamia seedlings and equipment to farmers at Nawngnan Rubber Farm in Myitkyina, through the Mekong-Lanchang Fund on 1 June.

The Kachin State Chief Minister and the deputy minister urged local farmers and departmental personnel to thrive the plants.

Next, 14,820 macadamia saplings, two crushers for nuts of plants from 100 acres of farmlands, and one peeling machine were given to the



A macadamia sapling was presented to a local farmer.

farmers.

At Myitkyina Cocoon

Farm, they called for distribution of quality cocoons to

silkworm farmers, systematic cultivation of mulberry plants

and maintenance, farming and production of cocoons and creation of jobs for local people.

They visited Super One Dairy Cow Farm and Chan Dairy Cow Farm and stressed the need to seek necessary techniques for improvement of livestock farms, use inputs and emphasize increased production of milk and dairy products benefiting the farmers.

At Washaung Diversion Weir in Waingmaw Township, they instructed officials to form water user groups (WUG) and Water Users Association (WUA) in Kachin State and provide sufficient water to farmlands. —MNA

Lawkananda Sanctuary sees increasing star tortoise reproduction this year



Star tortoises are being released into natural water at Lawkananda Wildlife Sanctuary.

A total of 1,576 baby tortoises hatched at Lawkananda Sanctuary this year and the number of star tortoises was up by 266 against the year-ago period, according to the Forest Department in NyaungU Township, Mandalay Region.

Last year, 1,350 baby tortoises were reproduced. There were 42 male star tortoises and 40 female tortoises, totaling 82. Farming of the critically endangered star tortoises started in 2011 at the Sanctuary.

This native star tortoise can be found only in Myanmar and they are on the brink of extinction in their natural habitats. As a result, they are set free to

their habitats frequently after reproduction. They are kept at Lawkananda Sanctuary farm so that the tortoise lovers and researchers can closely observe them, said U Shwe Htay Aung, a warden of Lawkananda Sanctuary.

“During the period between 22 September 2021 and 8 March 2022, 155 female star tortoises laid 2,899 eggs in 436 6”x4” burrows. We leave a signature at eight inches away from a hole as it takes three to nine months for incubation and rearing process. We erect small boards stating the identification number of female tortoises, egg laying date, number of eggs and location. On

18 October 2021, six eggs were found in a hole of female star tortoise labelled 253 and six baby tortoises were born on 18 May 2022. There are 1,576 new born star tortoises as of 28 June 2022 at the Sanctuary. The mating season of the star tortoise has ended,” he elaborated.

Over 1,000 star-tortoises were born yearly at the farm. This year, tortoise fertility rate hit the highest in 22 years.

Population of star tortoises is now estimated at 8,788 at the Lawkananda Sanctuary and 2,650 were released into their habitats earlier, totaling 11,438 star-tortoises farmed at the Sanctuary.—Ko Kyemon/GNLM

Illegal timber, consumer goods, motorcycle nabbed at various checkpoints

UNDER the supervision of the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, effective action is being taken to prevent illegal trade under the law. On July 2, illegal rice cooker in total numbers of 460 (estimated value of K2,127,500), 6,000 pairs of flip-flops (valued of K3,000,000) without paid customs duty on 3 July, (estimated value of K5,127,500) was seized by the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Task Force of Kayin State at Myawady trade zone. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures Law.

Similarly, without a licence, a KENBO 125 motorcycle (approximate K150,000) was confiscated under the authorities of Anti-Illegal Trade, leading by Myanmar Police Force in Monywa, Sagaing Region on 3 July. The act was

taken action by Import and Export Law.

In the same way, under the management of the Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force, led by the Bago Region Forest Department, in the Kyaukmasin forest reserve at Yedashe Township, Toungoo District and 1.3634 tonnes of illegal timber (estimated value of K95,438) was seized and taken action under the Forest Law.

Therefore, four cases (estimated value K5,372,938) were arrested on 2 and 3 July by the report of the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. —MNA

Officials of Bago Region Forest Department inspect illegal sawn timber seized at Kyaukmasin forest reserve on 3 July.



OPINION

Try to understand the important role of spare time in life

Everybody knows a proverb goes: Time and tide wait for no man. It is because time is always changing, and the universal truth mentions the past could not be grasped and the future cannot be held up to the present.

If one efficiently utilizes the time, one will benefit. To do so, time users must have the capacity to manage their spare time throughout their lives. If they waste their invaluable time, they will face a terrible loss in all aspects. Proper time management will bring good results to the users. Reciprocally, inappropriate time management will face unbelievable loss.

Those who systematically manage the daily routines do not have spare time to focus on bad ideas and thoughts over others and to consider bad conspiracies. Inappropriate thoughts do not have the chance to enter their considerations. Gradually, the best time managers become noble and mature in all arenas with occupying the respect of others.

nation. It is because the venerable monk efficiently utilized his life in the compilation of the Buddhist treatises.

Those who systematically manage the daily routines do not have spare time to focus on bad ideas and thoughts over others and to consider bad conspiracies. Inappropriate thoughts do not have the chance to enter their considerations. Gradually, the best time managers become noble and mature in all arenas with occupying the respect of others.

In Myanmar history, there was an old Buddhist monk in the reign of King Kya Swa (596-612 ME). He cleaned his teeth with a natural toothbrush on a daily basis. He threw these toothbrushes into a large pit. For many years, the pit was filled with toothbrushes. So, he considered that time had gone like daily use of toothbrushes. Hence, he understood the important role of time in life and started his studies. Finally, the monk was named Shin Disapamauk by the king. As such, everybody should understand the important role of efficiently spending their spare time in their life.

What COVID-19 taught us about risk in a complex, inter-connected world

A NEW UN report has shed fresh light on the ways that the COVID-19 pandemic unleashed cascading risks, particularly on vulnerable people, worldwide.

From the mangroves of West Bengal to the vast archipelago that makes up Indonesia, and from the bustling port city of Guayaquil, Ecuador, to the tropical shores of southern Togo, systemic risks from the COVID-19 pandemic have been exposed in stark human terms.

Millions of people who were already struggling to make ends meet, often working in the informal economy in agriculture and surviving below the poverty line, had to contend with a host of new risks that they could not possibly have foreseen.

These included joblessness, debt, civil and domestic violence, children's education derailed, and opportunities severely diminished. In many locations, women

suffered disproportionately due to pre-existing gender biases in society.

Taken together, these human experiences are not just a catalogue of suffering from places in the world that are not often in the headlines. They also bring into sharp focus a very real challenge: how to better understand and manage the cascading, systemic risks that resulted from COVID-19 as it spread across borders.

Life-threatening domino effect

The report, "Rethinking risks in times of COVID-19" shows how, in each of these four locations – part of five field studies carried out in 2021 by the UN University's Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) – a clear picture emerges of a domino effect, resulting from the outbreak of COVID-19, that rippled across



From the mangroves of West Bengal to the vast archipelago that makes up Indonesia, and from the bustling port city of Guayaquil, Ecuador, to the tropical shores of southern Togo, systemic risks from the COVID-19 pandemic have been exposed in stark human terms. Indian Fishermen catch fish on a foggy morning on the Matla river in the Sundarbans delta, some 120 kms southeast of Kolkatta. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

societies far beyond the immediate effects of the pandemic itself. This starkly illustrates that our world is interconnected through systems that come with associated, volatile risks that have

revealed, and reinforced, vulnerabilities across society. In the Ecuadorian port city

of Guayaquil, for instance, families already living in overcrowded housing suffered more from

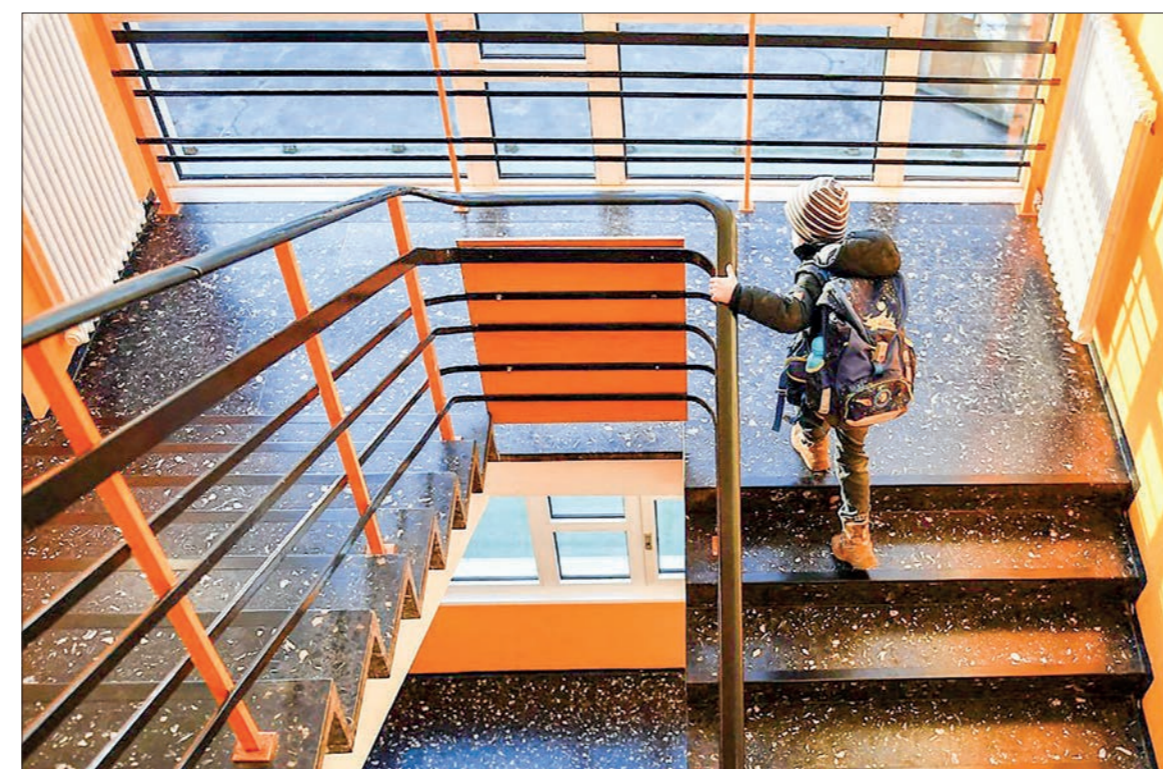
Covid air war being lost, experts warn, urging mass ventilation

THE world is still not using one of its most effective weapons against Covid — properly ventilating public spaces — more than two years into the pandemic, experts warn.

At the moment there is a "fragile, armed peace" with Covid-19, said Antoine Flahault, director of the Institute of Global Health at the University of Geneva. "In the hopes of stemming the tide of the pandemic and reducing mortality, we need to reduce the level of contamination, which the vaccine cannot do alone," he told AFP.

"We need a new phase — improving the quality of indoor air." Covid-19 is primarily transmitted through the air. It is carried in large droplets or fine aerosols when an infected person breathes — and even more so when they talk, sing or shout.

In a closed off or poorly ventilated room, these aerosols can remain in the air for some time, moving around the space and



Schools are among the places that need governmental action to properly ventilate. PHOTO: TOBIAS SCHWARZ/AFP/FILE

greatly increasing the risk of infection. While it is generally accepted that Covid can be transmitted within two metres

(6.5 feet) via both droplets and aerosols, there is still no consensus on the importance of long-distance airborne trans-

mission indoors. A team of researchers from the UK Health Security Agency and the University of Bristol

reviewed 18 studies in several countries on airborne transmission.

In research published in the BMJ this week, they found that people can infect each other when they are more than two metres apart.

Open that window

We know one thing for sure: if you open a window, or well-ventilate a space, the virus-carrying aerosols dissipate like smoke.

But experts say that nowhere near enough is being done to ventilate public and private spaces across the world. "On the whole, this is an issue that governments have not yet taken up," Flahault said.

He called for massively increased funding to ventilate many public spaces, starting with schools, hospitals, public transport, offices, bars and restaurants.

"Just as we knew to filter and treat drinking water" in

homes at the beginning of the 1900s, "one can imagine some households will equip themselves with air purifiers and consider opening their windows," Flahault said.

Only a few countries have announced ventilation plans since the start of the pandemic.

In March the US government called on all building owners and operators, as well as schools and universities, to "adopt key strategies to improve indoor air quality".

The plan, dubbed the Clean Air in Buildings Challenge, is covered by previously announced Covid funding and also includes a review of existing ventilation, heating and air conditioning systems.

The European Union has not issued any binding statements on improving air quality in light of Covid.

SOURCE: AFP

stay-at-home orders than those in more favourable living situations.

The city's health-care system reached a tipping point in a matter of weeks after the first case was detected in February 2020, resulting in a high number of corpses being left unattended in hospitals and care homes, as well as on the streets. The images of bodies accumulating in the streets that circulated in the global media were among the first to show what happened when COVID-19 arrived in densely populated urban areas.

A complex, fragile web

Yet before COVID-19, the interconnectedness of such risks may not have been immediately obvious in our daily lives. Nor was the systemic nature of these risks, meaning how they affected, or can potentially affect, whole societies beyond the initial problem.

For one thing, we have tended to think about systemic risks in relation to what happened as a result of the 2008 financial crash, where the failure of big banks rippled across the global economy, leaving millions out of work and sparking a global economic recession.

Other examples can be seen in how climate change, natural hazards and, more recently, the

global consequences of the war in Ukraine have brought home how our world relies on a complex, often fragile, web of interdependent factors that, if destabilized, can have devastating effects on whole societies. For example, Ukraine and Russia are both key global cereal and fertilizer producers. One of the ripple effects of the war can be seen in rising global food prices, resulting in higher costs of living for those who can afford it and pushing those who cannot deeper into food insecurity.

Time for a broader perspective

The emergence of COVID-19 has forced a broadening of perspective on systemic risks. The good news is that it has expanded understanding of these risks, and how to address them.

Hazards and shocks can emerge from outside and within the system. Exposure to them can be indirect, meaning that effects can be felt in places that are not directly affected by the hazard — in this case, COVID-19 — but end up being affected as a result of interconnectedness. Finally, the vulnerability of one system can also turn into a hazard or shock for other interdependent systems.

SOURCE: UN NEWS



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 3 July 2022)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 4 July 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing, and Magway regions and Kayah State, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Upper Sagaing, and Mandalay regions and Kachin State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi regions and Rakhine and Mon states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squall with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (35) mph. Wave height will be about (8-12) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi regions and Shan, Rakhine, Kayin, Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 July 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 July 2022: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 July 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Military columns continuously take necessary security measures to prevent terrorists from settling in Ukarithta area

THE information was released on 2 July that the KNLA and the so-called PDF terrorist group repeatedly attacked the Ukarithta camp with a larger strength. Tatmadaw members from the camp relentlessly fought the terrorists by taking ground and air supporting fire with all their might, and reinforcements worked together with those from the camp amid the geographical barriers and climatic conditions, and they performed local security measures at the camp and environs.

Although this information was released on 2 July in a timely manner, documentary photos

and evidences were not fully reported due to time constraints. Here are some more photos of the military cooperation between the Tatmadaw members from the Ukarithta camp and the reinforcement forces.

During the security measures in the vicinity of the camp, it was found that the KNLA and so-called PDF terrorists took religious buildings and residential buildings to cover them during their attacks. Tatmadaw troops are continuing to provide the necessary security measures so as to prevent terrorists from taking refuge in the Ukarithta area.—MNA



A record photo where terrorists took positions at pogodas and religious buildings to attack Tatmadaw column.



A record photo where terrorists took positions at pogodas and religious buildings to attack Tatmadaw column.



Record photos show the sites where terrorists took positions at residential buildings in the village to attack Tatmadaw column.



Tatmadaw members of Ukarithta Camp and those from reinforcement troops conduct defence duty together in front of the camp.



Record photo shows the sites where terrorists took positions at residential buildings in the village to attack Tatmadaw column.

Various kinds of drugs confiscated in Myeik, Muse

DRUGS were seized in Myeik and Muse townships as reported by the Myanmar Police Force.

A motorcycle driven by Min Tun was stopped and inspected by a combined team consisting of members of the Anti-Drug Police Force at the BOC Street of Myeik (South) Ward in Myeik at 2:30 pm on 30 June and 1,200 stimulant tablets were found. Drug dealer Zaw Win was also arrested at 3:25 pm at his house, located in the Ahlelkyun Ward, Myeik Township in further

investigation.

Similarly, a coordinated team consisting of members of the Anti-Drug Police Force inspected a house of Win Naing Lin in Kalwin Village of Myeik Township and seized 4,000 stimulant tablets at 4:30 pm. The team also arrested Soe Ko Ko (aka) Gaung Gyi who is connected to the suspect, at his house in the Kangyi Ward, Myeik Township, together with 2,400 stimulant pills and 0.1 kilogramme of marijuana at 5:30 pm.

On 1 July, 36,000 stimulant tablets were confiscated from a motorcycle driven by Khun Aung (aka) Mar Aung by a combined team consisting of members of the Anti-Drug Police Force, while performing inspections on the circular road of Kaumgnutone Ward in Muse Township.

The MPF stated that the suspects are being prosecuted under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—MNA



LOCAL BUSINESS

Foreign demand elevates green gram prices

GREEN gram market sees an upward trajectory in prices as they are highly demanded by exporters involved in border posts and sea trade.

“The prices of green gram are up by K10,000 per three-basket bag in recent days, following the strong foreign demand. The green gram prices move in the range of K145,000 to over K150,000 per bag in the Mandalay market depending on the quality.

According to the newsletter (7/2022) dated 23 May issued by the Ministry of Commerce, traders need to seek an export licence for various beans and pulses, oil crops and edible oil in order to alleviate the impacts on the domestic edible oil prices amid the global oil export

slump. This notice will come into effect starting from 1 August 2022 and traders must seek export licence for those goods whatever trade routes (sea, border or air) they use.

China accounts for 60 per cent of Myanmar’s green gram exports. China prefers green gram (golden) varieties. China makes value-added products from green grams and re-exports them to foreign markets. Moreover, it produces bean by-products as feedstuffs. Myanmar conveyed US\$176.7 million worth over 230,239 tonnes of green grams to foreign trade partners between 1 April and 26 June of the current financial year 2022-2023, according to the Ministry of Commerce’s trade data.—KK/GNLM



Bags of green gram are stored in warehouse.

Used bikes from Japan grasp market share in Mandalay city



Second-hand Japan-made bicycles are seen in the market.

MANDALAY city is well-known for its bike tour so the bikes do a roaring business in the city. The second-hand bikes from Japan with good performances have grasped a market share in the market.

The prices slightly go up on the brisk sales.

“Although they are second-hand bikes, they are durable with strong performance. The prices vary on the normal bikes and bikes with shifting gears.

The price of a bike is worth approximately K120,000. A bike basket is fixed on some bikes, and some bikes are well maintained. We offer it at an affordable rate,” said a seller from Mandalay city.

The used bikes from Japan are imported into the country through maritime trade by the container ship. The shops keep them in good condition with some maintenance for re-sales.

“Chinese bicycles are widely seen in the market. The buyers

prefer Japanese used bikes as they have high durability and good performance. The bicycles are environmentally fit and have become popular during the fuel price hike,” said a local resident.

There are two types of bicycles for adults and children. The prices ranged between K120,000-K150,000. There are separate markets for the race bikes with shifting gears.—Maung Aye Chan/GNLM

Yangon Port handles 306 cargo ships in H1

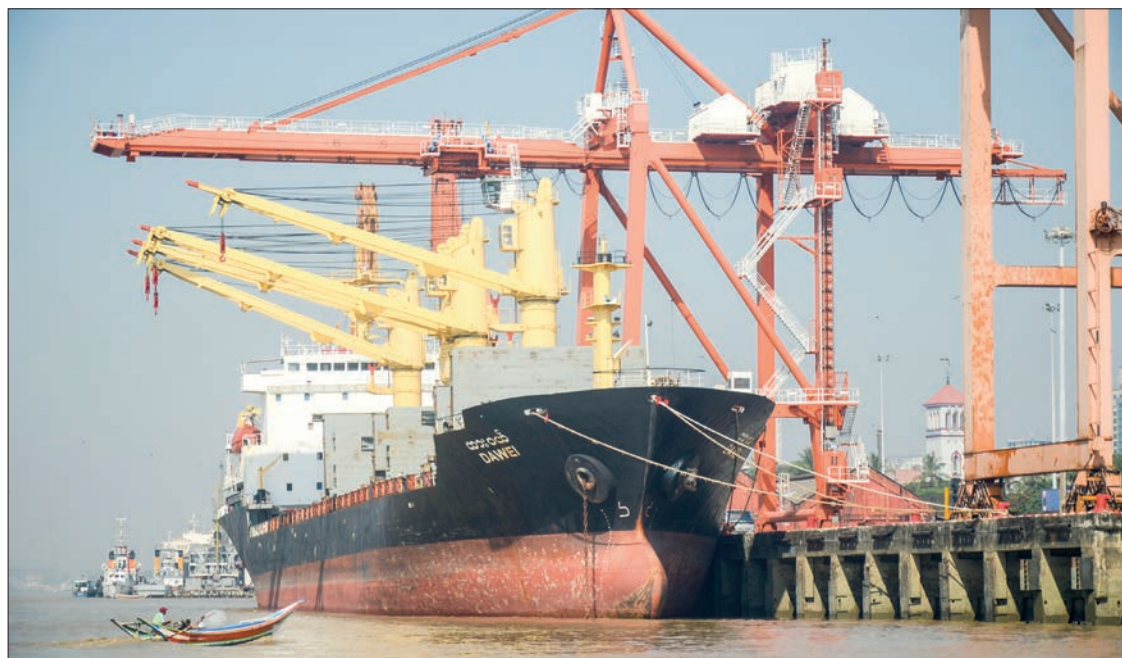
A total of 306 cargo ships docked at Yangon Port in the first half of 2022 (Jan-June), according to the Myanmar Port Authority.

The shipping lines have planned to extend ranges of services starting from May in order to facilitate exports and imports. The cargo ships are increasingly entering the terminals in Yangon.

The number of cargo ships entering Yangon Port stood at 49 in January, 48 in February, 50 in March, 52 in April, 54 in May and 53 in June respectively.

The turnaround time at the port was designated approximately three days, under the instruction of the Myanmar Port Authority and the cooperation of the ocean liners, exporters and importers. Therefore, the arrival of the ships has increased.

The Myanmar Port Authority and Yangon inner terminals are providing services to ensure the



An oceanliner docks at Yangon port.

fast and reliable freight handling and withdrawal of the containers in order for trade flow to return to normalcy.

Earlier, the larger ships had draft problems preventing their sailing on the Yangon River. The draft extension is up to 10 meters

with the new navigation channel accessing the inner Yangon River.

The value of Myanmar’s maritime trade between 1 April

and 24 June of the current financial year 2022-2023 surged to US\$5.9 billion. The figure reflected an increase of US\$1.49 billion as against last FY. Sea trade rose from \$4.4 billion recorded during the year-ago period, the statistics of Myanmar Customs Department showed. Exports through sea trade were valued at \$2.49 billion, imports were registered at \$3.4 billion.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, fishery products, minerals, livestock, forest products, finished industrial goods, and other products, while it imports capital goods, consumer goods, and raw industrial materials. The country currently has nine ports involved in sea trade. Yangon Port is the main gateway to Myanmar’s maritime trade, and includes the Yangon inner terminals and the outer Thilawa Port.—Htet Myat/GNLM

CURRENT AFFAIRS

State fuel storage facilities regularly meet demand



A tanker is seen docking at Thilawa Port.

MAJ-GEN Zaw Min Tun, leader of the SAC's Information Team at the 17th press conference, said that the demand for fuel oil could be met regularly due to the stockpiling of the State reserve fuel.

In some areas, there may be temporary imbalances in supply and demand, but the necessary arrangements are being made between importers and retailers over time to alleviate these problems.

An OSS team has been set up at the Thilawa depot, which specializes in petrol retail out-

lets," said Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun.

As of June, about 17 vessels carrying various types of fuel oil arrived, and a sufficient amount of fuel was stored in the country. The systematic scrutiny of fuel oil imports has already allowed ensuring sufficiency, and the State was balancing the entire fuel distribution chain, he added.

A 10-member distribution supervision committee was formed with the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce to effectively manage the entire distribution sector of fuel oil storage.

On 2 July, the price of Octane 92 was K2,060 per litre in Yangon, K2,100 in Nay Pyi Taw, and it costs K2,105 in Mandalay.

Octane 95 per litre is K2,170 in Yangon, K2,215 in Nay Pyi Taw, and K2,220 in Mandalay, respectively.

Similarly, diesel costs K2,435 per litre in Yangon, K2,475 in Nay Pyi Taw, and K2,480 in Mandalay, respectively.

The premium diesel price is K2,460 per litre in Yangon, K2,505 in Nay Pyi Taw, and it is selling at K2,510 in Mandalay. —TWA/GNLM

Strong winds, flash floods expected in regions, states from 3 to 9 July

ACCORDING to the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, strong winds and flash floods are expected in regions and states from 3 to 9 July, including Yangon Region.

There will be once or twice thundershowers in Myitkyina, Kengtung, Taunggyi, Hpa-an, Mawlamyine, Dawei, Yangon (Kaba Aye) within a week.

Occasional strong winds and rough seas can be seen along the Myanmar coast and offshore. Surface winds will be up to 35 mph during heavy rain. Wave height will range from 8 to 12 feet along the Myanmar coast and offshore.

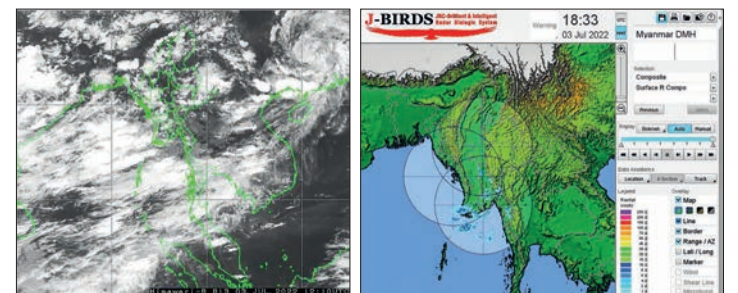
There will be scattered rain or thundershowers in Lashio, Haka, Homalin, Monywa, Mandalay, Magway, Patheingyi, and Loikaw. Moderate to heavy rain

is expected in Sittway. Heavy rain and strong winds are expected with 3 inches (77 mm) and above in 24 hours.

On 4 July, the forecast for Yangon and adjoining areas is moderate rain with thundershowers at noon. For Mandalay and adjoining areas, isolated rain or thundershowers are forecast until noon on 4 July.

With the heavy rain with strong winds, natural disasters such as flash floods and landslides can affect people living in the highlands and rivers and streams.

The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology is releasing early warnings to warn of floods as people living near rivers and streams are at risk of landslides and floods.—TWA/GNLM



Black gram price moves onwards reaching approximately K1 mln per tonne

THE upward trend of various beans continued and hit a high record per tonne, according to the beans market.

At the end of June 2022, the prices of exported pulses and red beans increased SQ/RC K1,915,000 per tonne. Red bean RC (produced in 2022) has reached K1,497,500 per tonne, according to the Yangon Pulses Market on 1 July.

Similarly, the export FAQ is US\$880-900 per tonne and Standing SQ is \$990-1010, while the red bean FAQ costs \$755-775.

Similarly, the export price of red bean FAQ increased by \$60 per tonne and red bean FAQ by \$20 per tonne.

India, which is the primary exporter of Myanmar pulses, did not receive enough rain this year due to the late monsoon.

In case of insufficient rainfall, black gram accounted for 52.1 per cent, red beans for 54.9 per cent, and green peas



Sample of black gram is seen at brokerage.

are expected to fall by 34.1 per cent.

Demand for these three legumes could increase if the cultivation declines. Therefore, in the Yangon market, the price of pulses is expected to rise.

In 2022, Myanmar pulses production will increase by eight per cent to 6.75 million tonnes. The Yangon-based

NGO's estimates put the figure at 7.25 million tonnes, including last year's balance.

In the Indian pulses market, such as the Yangon pulses market, the prices of pulses usually fall in May, June and July. During these months, domestic demand was weak and summer pulses from the country entered the domestic

market.

Pulses prices have been rising in the country from August until November and falling again in December, according to the pulses industry.

In the Yangon bean market, between July and August 2020, the price of red beans was below K1 million per tonne. On 9 October it was K1.2 million and K1,115,000 in November. In December the monthly high price was just under K1 million, according to the 2020 bean price index.

Between June and July 2021, it was around K1.1 million per tonne of RC, K1340,000 on 23 August, K2 million on 29 September, and K1850,000 on 1 October. It was K1,435,000 on 27 November and K1425,000 on 1 December, respectively.

Pulses prices fell to a record high more than halfway through the second half of August 2017 due to a seven-month ban on pulses exports to India.

After mid-2015, demand for pulses from India increased and prices in the Yangon market rose to a record high, according to pulses trader Ko Naing.

In mid-September of that year, the price of a tonne of RC was over K1.4 million, and a month later, in mid-October, the price of a tonne of SQ/RC was over K2.6 million.

Therefore, depending on the long-term market situation of Yangon pulses in recent years, the price of RC pulses at K1.7 million per tonne on 30 June 2022. Depending on the situation in Myanmar and India, it is expected to rise further in the next five months.

U San Myaing, a pulses trader who studies the pulses market, said that only those who buy pulses would benefit from higher prices, while those who grow pulses would be encouraged to grow pulses. —TWA/GNLM

Japan consumers asked to accept higher prices for Philippine bananas

THE Philippines has taken the rare step of asking retailers and consumers in Japan, its biggest export market, to bear the brunt of higher prices for its bananas to sustain its industry for the popular fruit.

The prices of Philippine bananas in Japan must be "fair" and reflect increasing production and logistics costs if the public wants to continue enjoying the same level of supply and quality, an agricultural attache at the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo said in a recent interview with Kyodo News.

The embassy's un-



Jose Laquian (C), the Philippine Embassy's agricultural attache to Japan, and his staff are pictured in front of Philippine bananas at a Philippine Independence Day event in Tokyo on 10 June 2022. **PHOTO: PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN TOKYO /KYODO**

sual request for a price hike was made to the Japan Retailers Asso-

ciation, which includes supermarkets among its members, in early June.

The move comes at a time when the public is already feeling the squeeze of in-

flation, the impact on import prices due to a weak yen and long-stagnant wages.

Retailers have been traditionally reluctant to raise prices too much for fear of upsetting consumers used to stable ones, but have been forced to do so for a range of products.

Yet since 2015, banana prices in Japan have remained flat at around 260 yen (\$1.9). The Philippine government wants Japan to understand that a hike is urgent to offset rising costs, partly due to the coronavirus pandemic and Russia's war on Ukraine, as farmers in the Philippines are hardly

reaping profits.

"You come to a situation where you just have to get a fair price of the bananas on the market which means that at current levels it will be no longer tenable to getting the supply chain going in Japan," said Jose Laquian, the agricultural attache. The Philippines is the biggest supplier of bananas to Japan, dominating 76 per cent of the banana imports and shipping around 844 million tons in 2021. Trade data cited by the embassy showed that Ecuador accounted for 11 per cent, followed by Mexico at 6.6 per cent. —Kyodo

Up to 39 million KDDI mobile lines hit by disruption lasting 40 hours



Coast Guard members inspect KDDI's cellphone base station equipment installed on their patrol vessel on 23 May 2014 in Shibushi, Kagoshima, Japan. **PHOTO: KDDI/KYODO/FILE**

KDDI Corp, one of Japan's top three cellular carriers, said Sunday up to 39.15 million mobile connections

had been affected by a nationwide network disruption that has continued for about 40 hours.

The "au" mobile brand operator was still working to fully restore its network, with its president, Makoto Takahashi, saying work to resume services in eastern Japan will likely end around 5:30 pm.

Most of its customers in western Japan were gradually regaining access to mobile data services, but traffic for phone calls was still being restricted, Takahashi said at a press conference.

KDDI said a failure with its voice call system had triggered a concentration of traffic that led it to

control communications.

The disruption, which began at around 1:35 am Saturday, has impacted services including banking, transmission of weather data, parcel deliveries, network-connected cars and internet of things devices.

Passengers were briefly unable to use IC rechargeable cards on buses traveling in the Tokyo metropolitan area, while a regional bank said automated teller machines located outside its branches also could not be used. —Kyodo

China's garment industry records revenue growth in Jan-May

CHINA'S garment industry registered a growth in operating revenue in the first five months of this year, official data showed.

From January to May, the country's 13,053 major apparel companies raked in a total of 561.1 billion yuan (about 83.9 billion US dollars), up 6.1 per cent year on year, according to the Ministry of Industry and Information Technol-

ogy.

The total profits of these companies dropped 4.6 per cent year on year to 23.3 billion yuan. The combined output expanded 0.5 per cent year on year to 9.3 billion pieces. In the January-May period, the country's exports of garments and accessories increased 10.2 per cent to 62.2 billion US dollars, data from the ministry showed. —Xinhua

S Leone slashes 'zeros of shame' from banknotes

SIERRA Leone on Friday introduced a new family of banknotes, stripping three zeros off the leone, in a bid to restore confidence in the inflation-hit national currency.

The Bank of Sierra Leone announced the

move last August, insisting the public's purchasing power would not be affected by the change.

"We have removed three zeros from our banknotes but the money yesterday is the same value as today," President Julius Maada Bio said at

ceremonies at the central bank where the new bills were unveiled.

A note of 10 new leones is the equivalent of a note of 10,000 old leones, which changes hands for around 75 US cents.

Year-on-year inflation in the West African state

was 24.87 per cent in May, according to the national statistics agency.

Rising prices had driven the printing of banknotes, resulting in a mountain of paper money that is costly to sustain and unwieldy for the public. —AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V KOTA RAJIN VOY.NO. (KRJN0257S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V KOTA RAJIN VOY.NO. (KRJN0257S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-7-2022** 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Hong Kong's Palace Museum opens its doors to public

HONG Kong welcomed the opening of the Palace Museum on Sunday, just days after the 25th anniversary of the city's hand-over from Britain to China, in a continued effort to position itself as an international arts and culture hub amid mounting concern over censorship.

More than 900 artifacts from the Palace Museum in Beijing will be displayed in the 13,000-square-metre space, which spans seven floors and houses nine themed galleries.

Many of the items on loan, including 166 "grade one" national treasures, are being ex-

hibited for the first time in the city, alongside over 100 works on loan from local museums and cultural institutions, with the aim of showcasing imperial life and promoting Chinese culture.

The museum is also displaying 13 pieces of art from the Louvre Museum in France in an effort to highlight China's cultural exchanges with other parts of the world.

Despite its highly anticipated arrival after nearly six years in the making, the museum has garnered heavy criticism due to the government's failure to



The Hong Kong Palace Museum presents over 900 priceless treasures from the Palace Museum. **PHOTO: CALVIN NG / CHINA DAILY/XINHUA**

consult the public before the project was first announced in December 2016.

Following the controversy, then-Chief Executive Carrie

Lam set up an eight-week public consultation with over 48,000 people participating, including an exhibition visit, online tour, questionnaires and opinion

polls.

Construction of the HK\$3.5 billion (US\$446 million) project began in March 2019 and ended in December 2021. —Kyodo

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Russian lawmakers toughen legislation on foreign media

RUSSIAN lawmakers on Thursday approved legislation that will make it easier to shut down foreign media amid Moscow's offensive in Ukraine.

The law also makes it easier to temporarily suspend the work of Russian media accused of spreading "dangerous" information and discrediting the country's armed forces. —AFP

Ukrainian president, Norwegian PM discuss support for Kyiv

UKRAINIAN President Volodymyr Zelensky met with visiting Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store on Friday to discuss further support for Kyiv, the presidential press service said. During the talks, Zelensky thanked Store for the defence, political and humanitarian support and for the decision to allocate 1 billion euros for Ukraine. —Xinhua

Battle rages for Ukraine city, Belarus says downed missiles

FIGHTING raged for the strategic Ukrainian city Lysychansk on Saturday, as Belarusian leader Alexander Lukashenko said his army had intercepted missiles fired on his territory by Kyiv's forces.

Ukraine denied claims by Moscow-backed separatists who said they had encircled Lysychansk, the last major city in the Lugansk area of the eastern Donbas region still in Kyiv's hands.

Lysychansk is located across the river from neighbouring Severodonetsk, which Russian forces seized last week.

The city's capture would allow Russian forces to push deep-



Fighting raged for the strategic Ukrainian city Lysychansk on Saturday. Ukrainian servicemen run for cover during an artillery duel between Ukrainian and Russian troops in the city of Lysychansk, eastern Ukrainian region of Donbas, on 11 June 2022. **PHOTO: ARIS MESSINIS/ AFP**

er into the Donbas, which has become the focus of their offensive since failing to capture Kyiv. "Fighting rages around Lysychansk... The city has not been

encircled and is under control of the Ukrainian army," Ruslan Muzytchuk, a spokesman for the Ukrainian National Guard, said on Ukrainian television. —AFP

Schools in Ukraine's capital to re-open in September



Students perform on the opening ceremony of the new school year at a school in Kiev Oblast, Ukraine, 1 September 2020. Over 4.2 million students have resumed their studies in Ukraine, including 428,000 first-graders, as the country marks the start of the new school year. **PHOTO: SERGEY STAROSTENKO/XINHUA**

SCHOOLS in Ukraine's capital Kyiv will re-open for classes at the start of the school year on 1 September; the city's authorities said Friday.

Kyiv schools are now on summer holiday and had all gone online after Russian invaded Ukraine on 24 February.

"The most important task for the new school year is the safety of students and teachers," Olena Fidanyan, head of Kyiv's education and science depart-

ment, said in a statement.

She said territories adjacent to the schools will be checked for explosives and bomb shelters in schools will be restocked with water, medicine and other necessities.

"At the start of the school year, all schools will hold the necessary training with teachers and children on actions during an air-raid alert" Fidanyan added.

Those children who have

not been able to return to Kyiv will be able to study remotely, Fidanyan said.

Several weeks into its invasion, Russia reduced its military activity near Kyiv, instead focusing its offensive on Ukraine's eastern Donbas region.

Hundreds of thousands of Kyiv residents have returned to the city in recent weeks with restaurants, supermarkets and other businesses gradually reopening to visitors. —AFP

Iran top diplomat in Syria to calm Türkiye tensions

IRAN'S foreign minister travelled Saturday to Damascus on what he said was a mission to calm tensions, after Türkiye threatened to launch a new offensive on Kurds in northern Syria.

Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said his visit "was aimed at establishing peace and security in the region between Syria and Türkiye", according to Iran's official news agency IRNA. Iran is a major ally of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and an important trading partner for Türkiye.

Turkey has launched a

string of offensives in Syria since 2016 targeting Kurdish militias as well as Islamic State group jihadists and forces loyal to Syria's President Bashar al-Assad.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said earlier this year he wanted to encourage one million Syrian refugees to return to their country by building them housing and local infrastructure in their homeland.

In recent weeks, Erdogan said he planned to launch a military offensive against Kurdish fighters in Syria waging an insurgency against his country.



Free Syrian Army (FSA) was positioned as the official army of the opposition during Syrian civil war. **PHOTO: AFP**

These include the US-backed Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG), which formed a crucial part of an international coalition against the Islamic State group. —AFP

Half of passengers' baggages stuck at Paris airport due to tech failure



Airport workers striking for a third consecutive day on Saturday said they would stage another walkout at the French capital's main international hub from 8 to 10 July to press their pay demands, signalling further disruption for early summer travellers. Airport workers gather outside a terminal as they stage a strike at Roissy-Charles De Gaulle Airport, north of Paris, on 1 July 2022. **PHOTO: BERTRAND GUAY/AFP**

DUE to a technical problem at the Paris Charles de Gaulle airport (CDG) since Friday, at least 50 percent of passengers' baggages were stuck at the airport,

French news channel BFMTV reported on Saturday.

The technical issue lasted until 5 p.m. local time, leading to half of passengers arriving

at their destination without their baggage. Workers at CDG airport were also on strike on Friday demanding higher wages.

The French Civil Aviation Authority has requested airlines to reduce the number of flights scheduled to depart and arrive at the airport by 17 per cent. At least 10 per cent of flights were canceled, noted BFMTV.

"It was (because of) a technical problem that has not been recovered since there are no more maintainers," Emmanuel Duchemin-Humbert, spokesperson of the Force Ouvriere of the Airports of Paris union, told BFMTV on Saturday.

The strike will continue till Sunday and further strikes are expected for 8-10 July and 13-17 July, noted BFMTV. —Xinhua

Uzbekistan declares state of emergency in protest-hit Karakalpakstan region

UZBEKISTAN on Saturday announced a month-long state of emergency in the protest-hit autonomous region of Karakalpakstan.

The decree was signed by President Shavkat Mirziyoyev after demonstrations concerning the government's proposed constitutional amendments over the region's autonomous status.

According to the official or-

der, the state of emergency will run from 3 July to 2 August.

The decree limits entry and exit from the province and all public events are prohibited. It also introduces temporary restrictions for the protection of public order such as restricting entry of vehicles and searches on individuals, etc.

Mirziyoyev visited the region's capital of Nukus, where

protesters tried to storm government buildings and announced that changes relating to Karakalpakstan will remain unchanged.

"It is necessary to leave the draft norms of the legal status of the Republic of Karakalpakstan unchanged," he said, adding that "we will definitely build a new Uzbekistan and a new Karakalpakstan together." —AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hundreds of flights axed as US kicks off long holiday weekend

AIRLINES cancelled several hundred US flights Saturday at the start of a long and almost certainly messy holiday travel weekend as carriers struggled to staff their planes.

As of mid-day, with Americans gearing up for 4 July Independence Day celebrations, some 600 flights within, into or out of the United States had been cancelled and more than 2,500 were delayed, according to flight tracking service flightaware.com.

The numbers on Friday were awful as well, with 587 US flights scrapped among a global total of 3,060 cancellations, the site said. For days, amid a surge in travel as summer rolls in and people sick of cooped up pandemic life look to go places again, horror stories have abounded as travelers got stranded at airports, enduring odysseys to get where they are going.

The airline industry was devastated in the early stages of the pandemic as people stayed close to home.

And although federal Covid-19 relief spared airlines from laying off staff, tens of thousands of workers left the industry after carriers urged early retirements. —AFP

Palestinians hand bullet that killed Al Jazeera journalist to US

THE Palestinian Authority handed the bullet that killed Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh to US forensic experts on Saturday as it seeks to prove conclusively that it was fired by an Israeli soldier. The Palestinian Authority was assured that no modifications would be made to the bullet that killed Abu Akleh during an Israeli raid in the occupied West Bank, and that it would be returned as soon as the assessment was complete, Palestinian Attorney General Akram Al-Khatib told AFP.

The Palestinian Authority gave the green light to hand over the bullet to the United States, but not to Israel, the Palestinians' official Wafa news agency reported.

The Palestinian-American journalist, who was wearing a vest marked "Press" and a helmet, was killed on 11 May while covering an Israeli army operation in Jenin camp in the northern West Bank. —AFP

Hong Kong's
Palace Museum
opens its doors to
public
PAGE-14



SPORT

Ronaldo wants to leave Man United - reports

CRISTIANO Ronaldo wants to leave Manchester United this summer if the Premier League club receive an appropriate offer, according to multiple reports on Saturday.

The 37-year-old Portugal forward returned to Old Trafford from Juventus



ventus last summer but despite being United's top scorer last season, and third in the Premier League, the campaign was overall disappointing.

United finished sixth in the Premier League, missing out on Champions League qualification, leaving the five-time Ballon d'Or winner, who has a year left on his contract plus an optional year, facing the prospect of playing in the Europa League for the first time. Manchester United are adamant Ronaldo, who scored 24

goals in all competitions, is not for sale, according to reports, with new manager Erik ten Hag keen to work with him.

Ronaldo won three Premier League titles and the Champions League during six trophy-laden years with United before leaving for Real Madrid in 2009 and Juventus in 2018, collecting more trophies at both clubs. United's international players are due to report for training in the coming days ahead of flying to Thailand on Friday for the start of their pre-season tour. —AFP

A report from The Times states that Ronaldo wants to leave United this summer as the report says he wants to return to play in the UEFA Champions League and challenge for trophies. PHOTO: AFP

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs

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

2. Economic affairs

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

3. Social affairs

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

Semifinal fights of Shwe Aung Lan Myanmar Traditional Boxing held

SEMIFINALS of the Shwe Aung Lan Myanmar Traditional Boxing was held on 3 July.

Saw El Phu (Doh Yoeya) fought against Hein Tun Aung (Shwe Thaton), and Saw Ba Hein (Cement Plant) took on Min Kyaw Za (Zwekapin Myay) in the 60-kilo event.

In the 63.5-kilo event, Natkha Min (Zwekapin Myay) faced Kyar Thwe (Tun Tun Min), and Almwi (Dragon King) fought with Thet Win Aung (Shwe Thaton),

In the 67-kilo event, Saw Min Min (Shwe Thaton) faced Ko Nine (Zarni Thway) and Marn Min Aung (Cement Plant) took on Gabar Shar (AMT2).

Hein Tun Aung defeated Saw El Phu (Doh Yoeya) in the 60-kilo semi-finals through technical knockout and advanced to the final. Saw Ba Hein (Cement Plant) and Min Kyaw Za (Zwekapin Myay)

competed and Saw Ba Hein sailed into the final.

In the 63.5-kilo semi-finals, Natkha Min (Zwekapin Myay) and Kyar Thwe (Tun Tun Min) competed, but the Kyar Thwe gave up and Natkha Min advanced to the finals.

The fight of Almwi (Dragon King) and Thet Win Aung (Shwe Thaton) was finished with draw until the fifth round, so Almwi won by technical knockout.

In the 67-kilo event, Saw Min Min won by technical knockout after a draw fight against Ko Nine (Zarni Thway) and Gabar Shar defeated Marn Min Aung and reached the final.

The final matches will be held on 10 July.—TWA/GNLM



Saw Min Min

Hein Tun Aung



Gabar Shar

Almui



Saw Ba Hein

Natkha Min