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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 Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win pays tribute to martyrs at 75th Anniversary Martyrs' Day



representatives laid wreaths at the mausoleum and paid their tribute. Representatives from the Yangon Region government, those from political parties, heads of foreign missions to Myanmar and Charges d' Affaires of foreign embassies laid wreaths in front of the monument.

Representatives from various organizations and associations laid wreaths to pay tribute at the mausoleum of General Aung San and fallen leaders.

Likewise, people also paid tribute to the martyrs at the mausoleum in line with the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic released by the Ministry of Health. The 75th Anniversary Martyrs' Day for 2022 was observed in accord with the orders and directives issued by the Ministry of Health.—MNA

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win paid tribute to the martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Bahan Township of Yangon Region at the 75th Anniversary Martyrs' Day yesterday morning.

The Vice-Senior General cordially greeted the family members of martyrs and guests.

The Vice-Senior General and attendees laid wreaths of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to pay tribute to late General Aung San and martyrs. Meanwhile, the Flag of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was lowered to half-mast. The Guard of Honour presented arms and the military bugle sounded the last post, and then they observed a two-minute silence.

Families of the martyrs and



SAC Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win and attendees pay tribute to the martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2022 (top and above photos).

Ceremony to share merits with martyr leaders held in Nay Pyi Taw

ON the 75th anniversary of Martyrs' Day, the ceremony of giving merit to the great martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the nation was held yesterday morning at the Zabuthiri Hall of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Office in Nay Pyi Taw, Union Territory.

The ceremony was attended by monks led by Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Zaninda, the Presiding Nayaka of the Pauk Myaing Monastery in Nay Pyi Taw, and member of the State Administration Council, Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Maung Maung Naing, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Major-General Zaw Hein, deputy ministers, Nay Pyi Taw council members and officials.



The MoTC Union Minister and the congregation observe the Five Precepts from Sayadaws at the event in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Before the start of the ceremony, SAC Member Union Minister Admiral Tin Aung San, paid obeisance to the Buddha

statue in the hall and donated food, fruits, flowers, water and an oil lamp.

Afterwards, the Union min-

ister and the congregation observed the Five Precepts from Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Zaninda of the Pauk

Myaing Monastery in Nay Pyi Taw. They listened to the sermons that the monks chanted, and donated offertories to the monks.

Afterwards, the guests who attended the ceremony listened to the Samvega Katha from Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Vimala Buddhi, Presiding Sayadaw of the Mingala Zeyon Pali Tekkatho in Pinyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw, and shared the merits with great martyrs.

At 10:37 am, those who attended the ceremony paid their tribute to the great martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the nation and observed a one-minute silence tribute. After the ceremony, the Union minister and officials donated a day meal to Sayadaws and monks. — MNA

Public and foreigners visit Bogyoke Aung San Museum in Yangon on Martyrs' Day

THE public and foreigners visited Bogyoke Aung San Museum in Yangon on the 75th Anniversary of Martyrs' Day, yesterday.

The residence museum where General Aung San, the father of Myanmar's independence lived, was only shown online last year due to the COVID-19 prevention measures. This year, the museum is displayed as a special exhibition from 8 am to 4 pm.

Daw Thi Thi Thuang, Assistant Director of the National Museum (Yangon), said, "Today, on the 75th Martyrs' Day, the General Aung San Museum is displayed as a special exhibition. At the entrance to the museum, especially this year, the Yangon City Development Committee displays the speeches of the General, information related to him and songs honouring the General with a mobile LED board. Along the way up to the museum, there are 15 panels displaying his life. In the museum, the events of his life are explained in English and Myanmar languages."

"In the living room, there is a rare work painted by great

artist U Ngwe Kaing from 1964-65, called "a shop in the back of the house" is also shown. Upstairs, the General and his wife's bedroom have rare photos of the General and the pictures of the funeral ceremony. The full text of the General's speech on more than 600 pages, handwriting, banknotes and coins with the image of the General, and the complete Myanmar/English bilingual information on the history of the General is displayed on a 32-inch touch screen for the public to come and study," she said.

Purified drinking water and masks were also distributed at the museum. As for health care, there were township health groups, YCDC health groups and Myanmar Red Cross Society. For the safety of the public, the museum officials and departments fully assisted to make the visitors comfortable.

"Today is a special show. General Aung San Museum is open daily from Tuesday to Sunday from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. The museum is closed on Mondays and government holidays," said



The public pay observation tours round the Bogyoke Aung San Museum in Yangon on Martyrs' Day.

Daw Thi Thi Thuang.

Daw Than Than Htwe, who visited the General Aung San Museum, said, "I will always remember the General. Today I remember him more. I'm in tears when I remember him. I feel he was like my parent. The officials patiently explained, so I had to study it thoroughly.

"I also learned about the

General's family members. In memory of the General, I pray that all patriotism for the country and people like the General will survive," she said.

"I am saddened to remember that the country's leaders died on such a day. I also gain knowledge by visiting the museum. There is a full array of contents related to the General,

the equipment used by the General, and his family. I want those who haven't come yet to come and study," said Maung Phae Phyo, a visitor from Mingaladon Township.

On the 75th Martyrs' Day, a total of 534 people, including four foreigners, visited General Aung San Museum in Bahan Township, Yangon.—MNA

17 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 19 July, total figure rises to 613,855

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **613,855** after **17** new cases were reported on 19 July 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **592,754** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll still stands at **19,434** without more casualties.—MNA

The Global New Light of Myanmar

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Our Three Main National Causes

OUR Three Main National Causes – non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty – is the most important task of the democratization process. As the task of safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes is the main duty of the Tatmadaw, all the sectors of the State duty have already been transferred to the Tatmadaw. So, I would seriously urge the entire nation to join hands with the Tatmadaw for the successful realization of democracy, while adhering to Our Three Main National Causes.

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

MoI discusses “Myine Myine Saing Saing Thone Pwint Ta Khine” variety show



Union Information Minister chairs the meeting to broadcast the variety show, in Yangon yesterday.

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn presided over a meeting to broadcast the “Myine Myine Saing Saing Thone Pwint Ta Khine” variety show, which will be made in collaboration with film, theatre and music industries, in Yangon yesterday.

During the meeting, the Union minister said the show to be broadcast on all TV channels in September should be different from other shows to lure the interest of people and entertain them. The people from the music industry should participate

like others from the film and Thabin (theatrical) sectors. Myanmar Music Association (Central) should present a variety of songs including classic, modern and stereo music.

Then, attendees coordinated the discussion and the Union minister gave the necessary suggestions.

The “Myine Myine Saing Saing Thone Pwint Ta Khine” variety show will be broadcast on all TV channels in September for people to enjoy the arts of the artistes and to uplift their livelihood. — MNA

Myanmar attends 22nd ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime-22nd SOMTC



The 22nd SOMTC meeting is in progress virtually.

A Myanmar delegation attended the 22nd ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime-22nd SOMTC, chaired by Cambodia through videoconferencing yesterday.

The meeting was attended by secretaries and the director-general level representatives from 10 ASEAN member countries; the Director of Political and Security Community and officials from the ASEAN Secretariat. Myanmar senior officials led by the leader of SOMTC (Myanmar) Vice-Chief of the Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Aung Aung joined the meeting from Nay Pyi Taw.

The SOMTC leaders from 10 ASEAN countries exchanged views on the international level,

regional-level and national-level cooperation in the fight against transnational crimes. The meeting also discussed matters related to the prevention and combat of the threat of terrorism that infiltrated the Asian region, drug problems, arms smuggling, human trafficking, cybercrime and the fight against the illegal transport of wild animals and timber. In this meeting, Myanmar SOMTC leader, Police Maj-Gen Aung Aung clarified Myanmar’s counter-terrorism process, anti-narcotics and anti-arms smuggling activities and cooperation with neighbouring countries.

In the afternoon, the SOMTC process (2022-2024) which will implement the ASEAN Action Plan (2016-2025) on

combating transnational crime; SOMTC’s TOR and the TOR of the SOMTC Working Group on General Transnational Crime have been approved, and each country discussed completed projects on combating transnational crimes and pending/in-progress situations.

Afterwards, the respective countries presented meeting plans with China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, Canada, European Union, India, New Zealand, and the United States, which have been cooperating in the fight against transnational crime in the Asian region, and preparatory activities.

The 22nd SOMTC and related meetings were agreed to continue on 20 and 21 July. — MNA

22nd APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF-22) held ministerial dialogue

DEPUTY Minister for Transport and Communications Brig-Gen Lu Mon attended and discussed the 22nd APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF-22) that is virtually held by the Asia Pacific Telecommunity-APT with Hybrid Format from 19 to 21 July.

At the opening ceremony of ministerial dialogue, APT Secretary General Mr. Masanori Kondo gave a welcome speech and the Telecommunity Policy and Regulatory Forum Chairman Mr. Trieu Minh Long gave an opening speech.

Afterwards, the six moderators consists of Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Lu Mon exchanged the policy strategies and approach methods that enable govern-

ments, business owners and citizens with the topic of “Digital Transformation and Innovation Strategies for Sustainable Digital Society” in order to speed up the digitalization, as well as good experiences in implementing digital development in Asia-Pacific countries.

This forum has been held annually since 2005 to adopt harmonized policies in the communication and ICT sector development of Asia-Pacific countries. In the forum, APT Secretary General Mr. Masanori Kondo acted as the moderator, and ministers and deputy ministers from Thailand, Japan, Myanmar, Malaysia, Mongolia and Vietnam participated as the speakers.—MNA



Families of Martyrs pay tribute to fallen leaders



Wreaths are laid at the Bogyoke's tomb on behalf of the family members.



Family members lay wreaths to pay tribute to Thakin Mya.



A family member pays tribute to Deedok U Ba Cho.



A family member lays wreaths to pay tribute to U Ba Win.



Family members pay tribute to Mahn Ba Khaing.



Family members pay tribute to Mahn Ba Khaing.



Family members lay wreaths to pay tribute to Mongpon Sawbwa Sao San Tun.



Family members lay wreaths to pay tribute to U Razak.



Family members pay tribute to U Ohn Maung.



Family members lay wreaths to pay tribute to Yebaw Ko Htwe.



The Vice-Senior General warmly greets the family members of the martyrs.



The Yangon Region cabinet members lay wreaths at the mausoleum.



One of the diplomatic corps pays tribute to the martyrs at the mausoleum.



Political parties pay tribute to the martyrs at the mausoleum.



One of the civil society organizations lays wreaths to pay tribute to the martyrs.



People are seen paying tribute to the martyrs at the mausoleum.

Alms food offered to Buddhist monks at Yangon City Hall to commemorate 75th Martyrs' Day

ALMS food was donated to venerable Buddhist monks as a commemoration service to the martyrs of national independence at the meeting room of the City Hall of the Yangon City Development Committee at 10:30 am yesterday.

Chairman of the Central Committee for Organizing the 75th Martyrs' Day Ceremony Union Minister for Religion Affairs and Culture U Ko Ko, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Yangon Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Colonel Win Tint, Chief Justice Daw Sandar Thwe of the Region High Court, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Dr Moe Zaw Tun,

the Yangon mayor, committee members and guests attended the ceremony.

First, Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kovida Meiktila Sayadaw administered the Five Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited Metta Sutta, and the congregation offered alms and meals.

Joint-Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Pannadhaja Pazundaung Sayadaw delivered a sermon and the congregation shared merits gained in dedication to General Aung San and martyrs. — MNA



MoRAC Union Minister and the congregation take the Five Precepts from Sayadaws at the event.

Ceremony of lowering National Flag to half-mast held at Ministers' Office (Secretariat) to mark 75th Martyrs' Day



The ceremony of lowering the National Flag to half-mast is in action at the former Ministers' Office.

A ceremony of lowering the State Flag to half-mast was held at the Ministers' Office (Secretariat) where General Aung San and leaders were assassinated, to mark the 75th Martyrs' Day on the morning of 19 July 2022.

Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Yangon Mayor U Bo Htay and members, departmental staff and the Guard of Honour attended the event and saluted General Aung San and fallen leaders. Then, they lowered the National Flag to half-mast

and shared the merits in silence for two minutes.

Following the rules of the Ministry of Health for the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministers' Office (Secretariat) has been restricted from exploring in the past years. But in the current year 2022, people are allowed to visit the office building again, according to the rules for the prevention of the COVID-19 virus.

People may visit the meeting hall where the leaders fell and the parliamentary

building, located in the Ministers' Office (Secretariat), as a special exhibition, only between 9 am and 3 pm yesterday. On other days, the meeting room, the parliamentary building and other historical sites are open to public from 9 am to 5 pm following the prevention guidelines of the Ministry of Health.

People and vehicles on road stopped and commemorated the fallen leaders by saluting and honking at 10:37 am on the 75th Martyrs' Day. — MNA

People pay tribute to General Aung San's statue marking 75th anniversary of Martyrs' Day

PEOPLE and social organizations paid tribute to the statue of National Leader General Aung San to mark the 75th Martyrs' Day in Bogyoke Park, Natmauk road of Bahan township yesterday.

"When I was 14 years, Bogyoke was assassinated. So, I joined the army. I came here every Martyrs' Day to pay tribute to the fallen leaders. I have faith in General Aung San, the father of the army, and General Ne Win is the mother," said U Soe Nyunt, who is 89 years old and retired.

People and vehicles on the roads stopped and honked their horns with the Flag of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar being at half-mast to pay tribute to fallen leaders at 10:37 am. People went to visit the house of General Aung San and the Bogyoke Park on Natmauk Road yesterday.

General Aung San, a leading luminary of the country, was born on the 1st Waxing of Taboung 1276 ME and died on the 2nd Waxing



of Wakhaung 1309 ME. It was engraved under the statue in Bogyoke Park. The opening ceremony of the statue was held on 13 February 1955, Bogyoke's 40th birthday. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/GNLM



PHOTO: KANU

LOCAL BUSINESS

Corn prices slide to over K800 per viss

THE prices of corn keep falling and touch a low of over K800 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilograms), according to the Yangon Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Bayintnaung wholesale commodity centre).

In early June, the corn was priced at K1,120 per viss depending on the quality. The current market price dipped to the lowest of K850 per viss. The price reflects a decrease of K270 per viss within 45 days.

The drop in prices is attributed to the transaction policy changes. Earlier, export earnings for beans were allowed to be made with the Yuan-Kyat or Baht-Kyat direct payment. Starting from 30 June, transactions for rice, corn, oil crops and beans and pulses are to be paid in US dollars.

Additionally, the foreign currency earnings are set to be converted into local currency at K1,850. The US dollar is valued at over K2,300 in unauthor-



At present, corn is cultivated in Shan, Kachin, Kayah and Kayin states and Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. Myanmar has three corn seasons - winter, summer and monsoon. The country produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corn every year.

ized exchanges. The large gap between the official and unofficial exchange rates is vividly seen. Therefore, traders have to closely observe the impacts of this move, traders aired their opinions.

Corn harvest season is com-

ing soon in Thailand, the leading buyer of Myanmar's corn. The prices of corn in Thailand are also declining accordingly, said U Min Khaing, chair of the Myanmar Corn Industrial Association.

The prevailing FOB price of corn stands at US\$310-330 per

tonne.

Thailand gives the green light to corn imports under zero tariff (with Form-D), between 1 February and 31 August. However, Thailand imposed a maximum tax rate of 73 per cent on corn imports to protect the rights

of their growers if the corn is imported during the corn season of Thailand.

Therefore, only two months (July and August) are remaining for corn exports under Form D exemption.

Myanmar conveyed 1.7 million tonnes of corn to Thailand in the 2020-2021 Financial Year. In the 2021-2022 corn season, Myanmar targets to export 1.5 million tonnes of corn.

Myanmar exported 2.3 million tonnes of corn to foreign trade partners in the 2020-2021 corn season. The majority of them were sent to Thailand and the remaining were shipped to China, India and Viet Nam, according to the association.

At present, corn is cultivated in Shan, Kachin, Kayah and Kayin states and Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. Myanmar has three corn seasons - winter, summer and monsoon. The country produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corn every year. — NN/GNLM

Myanmar's eel and crab exports to China via Muse border resume

MYANMAR'S exports of eel and crab to China via the Muse border post have restarted since 20 June following the closure of Sino-Myanmar border posts triggered by the COVID-19 impacts, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar delivered US\$0.646 million worth of 129.249 tonnes of crab and \$0.83 million worth of 20.8 tonnes of eel in the week ended 27 June.

Myanmar sent 8,211.759 tonnes of crab (\$23.737 million) and 2,855 tonnes of eels (\$9.675 million) in the 2019-2020 financial year. The country exported 1,962.76 tonnes of crab (\$5.43 million) and 6,984.35 tonnes of eel (\$28.127 million) in the 2020-2021FY. There is no export of crab and eel recorded in the 2021-2022 mini-budget period as per the news released by the Ministry of Commerce online.

If the crab export volume exceeds 50 tonnes, the price tends to decline. The prices go up during festivals and public holidays.

A crab fetches around

33.336 Yuan per kilogramme whereas the prices of eel move in the range of 36-40 Yuan per kilogramme depending on the size and quality, according to the traders.

Myanmar conveyed fishery and aquaculture products to China after disinfection and PCR testing.

The fisheries products across the country - Ayeyawady, Bago, Yangon and Mandalay regions and Rakhine and Shan states - are sent to the Muse land border and the traders export the frozen fish and live fish, crab, eel, long-finned eel and other fisheries products to China through the Muse border. During the last financial year 2019-2020, fishery exports through Muse were valued at \$170.735 million for 128,067 tonnes.

The market primarily depends on China. The trade suspension in China in the previous mini-budget period battered both the traders and the breeders engaged in eel and shrimp farming.

Processing and packaging



Myanmar's exports of eel and crab to China via the Muse border post have restarted since 20 June following the closure of Sino-Myanmar border posts triggered by the COVID-19 impacts, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

technologies for fresh seafood are required in order for Myanmar to penetrate the European market beyond China.

As Myanmar has marketable native eel species and has already carried out successful eel farming on a trial run. Value chain development with systematic farming will increase the

State's income.

The Myanmar Fisheries Federation is endeavouring to provide breeding and hatchery technology to the breeders.

As the cross-border trade between Myanmar and China does not still return to normality amid the strict policy on COVID-19 and travel restrictions, the

value of trade via a major trading hub Muse border plunged to \$507 million as of 8 July 2022 in the current FY2022-2023, indicating a tremendous drop of \$307 million compared to the value registered in the corresponding period last year; the Customs Department's statistics indicated. — KK/GNLM

OPINION

Let's overcome the challenge of COVID-19 sub-variants with good preparations

THE Ministry of Health recently issued a press release on its detection of SARS-CoV-2 Variant Omicron for raising public awareness about various dangerous sub-variants related to coronavirus.

Currently, Omicron BA.4 and BA.5 sub-variants trigger a new wave of the outbreak in some global countries including neighbouring countries of Myanmar. In fact, the COVID-19 virus took a break across the world but it resumed dangerous infection to attack global countries in a few months. Hence, many countries resumed businesses for the people to earn income for their families and nation-building tasks.

Especially, the global countries resumed tourism industry for giving chances for the international tourists to pay visits to many eminent sites so as to take relaxation. On the other hand, host countries earn incomes for their budgets to be allotted to various development tasks for their people.

In Myanmar, the 16 laboratory samples of COVID-19 virus of the positive cases were sent to the Department of Medical Research on 30 June 2022. According to the results of the department, the SARS-CoV-2 Variant Omicron BA4 was found in one laboratory sample and BA5 in five laboratory samples. Currently, the Ministry of Health is continuously conducting "COVID-19 Molecular Disease Surveillance", and releasing information on the detection of COVID-19 cases and SARS CoV-2 Variant Omicron from those who returned by the Commercial Flight and Relief Flight, and via border checkpoints in a timely manner. All the patients suffering from Omicron BA4 and BA5 sub-variants are Myanmar citizens who returned from foreign countries. At present, they all completed isolation in medical treatment since they have tested positive for COVID-19. They are in good condition of health.

According to the findings of international countries, the Omicron variants cause less severe illness and fewer deaths among those who are fully vaccinated. As such, all people need to take vaccinations under the arrangements of relevant authorities or own arrangements as part of preventing the infection of disease in time.

No matter how severe the disease is, all people need to take basic preventive measures such as wearing masks, washing hands whenever return home, avoiding busy and public places and taking vaccination full time. If so, they will stay away from the infection of the pandemic to some extent. Even if they suffer from the infection of the disease unavoidably, it is sure that they may not face the severe infection of the disease due to the effects of vaccinations.

5S to succeed

By Chit Ko Pe

AS ONE of the manufacturing superpowers, Japan now stands as the third largest economy in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the world. Not lingering on ruins and damages left behind after the defeat of World War II in 1945, Japan braced itself and stormed through to be where Japan is now.

It is the manufacturing sector that has evolved Japan's economy to such an enormous extent. Indeed, "5S" is the driving force behind it. In the 1980s, the word "5S" originated and grew in Japan's manufacturing sector. The service industry followed the service industry with 5S in the 1990s. 5S is formed by abbreviations of Japanese terms - Seru, Seiton, Seiso, Seiketsu and Shitsuke. They are correspondingly expressed in English maintaining such a word of 5S - Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize and Sustain respectively.

In a safety context, "5S" is widely known as a tool for house-keeping at a workplace. As things

go messy, they become some kind of hazard on a site. With the 5S approach, hazards are easily identified and simultaneously wiped out in order to create a safe and clean workplace.

From the work safety perspective, each S is scrutinized as follows-

"Sort" means the segregation of good or necessary items from bad or unnecessary ones.

"Set" mentions the placement of good or necessary items with labels, numbers, and zones at respective storage areas while red-tagging bad or unnecessary ones in separate areas.

"Shine" indicates the cleaning and disinfection practice at the workplaces, as well as maintenance service of equipment and tools.

"Standardize" directs the routine up-keep of such actions mentioned in the above-mentioned 3S with everyone's participation.

"Sustain" points to discipline, commitment and empow-

erment for further improvement through reporting and monitoring.

Not only does 5S create a good working environment with improved quality and safety, but it enhances the way we live as

well. Let me refer to the Japanese terms - "Muri", "Mura", and "Muda". Their definitions are- Muri: overstrain, irrationality or absurdity, Mura: jaggedness or inconsistency in action and thought, and Muda: wasteful or

undervalued activity. These 3Ms make our lives hard and tough. To get rid of them, they said 5S is the tool to be used.

One needs to sort out his or her problem or difficulty, and shall try to understand why abnormal his or her behaviour or action is or why fruitless his or her efforts are. The parents, siblings, friends, or co-habitants in a society shall step in unless it is sorted out by himself or herself. It is when non-governmental organizations (NGOs) come into existence to lend a helping hand in fixing it. Their scopes vary from individual persons to groups to the whole of mankind.

The junks are put aside and a proper direction or programme is set to ensure it suits well with a person who deviates from a correct way. Parental guidance amends a misbehaved child to become an obedient one. A suitable environment such as a youth development and rehabilitation centre or youth addiction treatment and recovery programme is set to get the ones exposed to and integrated with it. These examples are a few to name.

There comes support in a form of moral encouragement or advice in kind or appropriate stuff or financial assistance to shine anyone being cared for or reformed without any hardship falling on. Incentives such as hand-out, stipends, humanitarian aid and so forth are to be offered to alleviate any suffering

and maintain human dignity on all fronts.

Changes happen as time passed. Ineffective or unproductive ways are outdated and faded away. But innovative ways or good practices shall remain unchanged. It is evident that Covid-19 changes the way we live and we, in turn, adapt to new normal norms (3N) that we standardize anew for personal and workplace hygiene.

Not being complacent with what has been diligently done and successfully achieved, any bit of let-up can cause failure and setback. To sustain the whole process, a consistent review shall be done without any interruptions. Social dialogue is a means among others involving social partners from different backgrounds or within a group voicing comments and suggestions and exchanging opinions towards a better end. Before it turns out to be in a state of doom and gloom due to a lack of social dialogue, another means of administrative measure shall resort to refresher training courses or counselling sessions with a view to realigning distracted people back to the oriented path that is already proved productive and prolific.

5S is undeniably a tool for quality and safety improvement in production.

Rather, I prefer to remark - 5S is the way to success in life, too.



5S is a system for organizing spaces so work can be performed efficiently, effectively, and safely. IMAGE CREDIT: 5S TODAY

Supporting post-COVID-19 recovery among African cross-border traders

PAULINE Satau, a small business owner from Kazungula village in north-eastern Botswana, didn't set out to be an informal cross-border trader.

Like approximately 70 per cent of informal cross-border traders in the Southern African region, she ventured into business out of necessity and a desire to feed her family.

And for many years she did just that, growing her business from selling corn on the cobb to poultry farming. In 2020, she expanded her business, conducting cross-border trade in neighbouring Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Then COVID-19 hit, forcing her out of business and triggering

far-reaching and disproportionate consequences for low-income households and small businesses.

"The pandemic brought my hard work to an abrupt stop," she said.

Supporting the recovery of African small businesses

Ms Satau was among 300 small-scale traders who benefited from UNCTAD's training programme on cross-border trade and entrepreneurship held in border towns of Botswana, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia between February 2021 and May 2022.

UNCTAD conducted nine six-day training sessions as part of a UN multi-agency project en-

tered "Global initiative towards post-COVID-19 resurgence of the micro, small and medium-sized enterprise (MSME) sector".

The project was aimed at rebuilding livelihoods and mitigating the impacts of the pandemic.

"The training sharpened my business skills. I learned that I shouldn't be stagnant, but make my business evolve," Ms Satau said. The training programme entailed dissemination of traders' guides, content on COVID-19 control measures and sessions on strategies for making businesses more resilient.

It also included opportunities for engagement between traders and border officials to dispel long-standing mistrust between

them. "Without the training, I would have continued on the path of playing small in this industry," said Kefilwe Mogaetsho, a participant from Botswana.

How the training sessions helped

At a sub-regional project workshop convened by UNCTAD in June 2022, participants heard the feedback reported by the trainers. Over 90 per cent of them said they had acquired the confidence to pass through official border posts because of their improved understanding of trade and customs rules.

And 96 per cent of them said they were ready to adopt new busi-

ness models. "Now that I know the rules, I spend less time clearing my goods," one trader said, adding: "I am no longer afraid of border officials."

Some Tanzanian border customs officials said the number of women carrying small consignments through official border posts had increased steadily and cases of smuggling had reduced after the training.

UNCTAD shared with policymakers experiences and lessons learned from the training. This will help advance evidence-based policymaking that is informed by the challenges, priority needs and expectations of the small-scale traders.

SOURCE: UNCTAD



UNCTAD equips 300 women small-scale traders in five countries with greater knowledge of trade rules, customs procedures and entrepreneurship skills. PHOTO: WAZZKII/SHUTTERSTOCK/UNCTAD

ARTICLE WEATHER REPORT



BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and south Bay and weak to moderate elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 20 July 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Magway region, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, lower Sagaing, Mandalay regions and northern Shan and Kayah states, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing, Bago regions and southern Shan state and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in upper Sagaing, Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar Waters. Wave height will be about (5-8) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Taninthayi region and Kayin, Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20 July 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20 July 2022: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20 July 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Trade Mark Ads Call 09251022355, 09974424848

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Bayintnaung market: weekly commodity prices

BETWEEN 13 and 19 July, the Shwebo Paw San, chilli and onion prices were high and the green gram prices reached below K1.6 million per ton in the Bayintnaung market. Moreover, the palm oil prices outside Yangon are still higher than the reference prices.

Black gram

On 18 July, the black gram (FAQ/RC) was priced at K1,582,500 per tonne in the Yangon market while K1,812,500 per tonne of SQ/RC and K1,462,500 per tonne of pigeon pea (Red/RC).

Rice

The Shwebo Paw San is priced at K70,000 per bag this week and it is about K5,000 higher than the price of last week.

It was K54,500 per bag of Pathein and Myaungmya rice, K49,000 per bag of Bogale, K35,000-37,000 per bag of 90 days rice and K32,000-32,500 per bag of double-cropping rice.

Onion

The onion prices rose by K100 per viss in the regions where produce onion and in the Yangon market, it rose by K100 per viss than the prices of 11 July while K200 per viss of Monywa onion.

On 18 July, Seikpyu onion price was K1,250-1,550-1,650-1,750 per viss and Monywa onion fetched K1,450-1,650-1,800-1,900 per viss in the Yangon market.

It is K1,500 per viss of onion at the Seikpyu wholesale centre and K1,550 per viss at the Pakokku wholesale centre.

Garlic

On 18 July, Shan garlic price was K2,000-2,600-3,200-3,700 per viss while K2,950 per viss of Kyukok garlic.

Chilli

The chilli prices are still high. It is K9,500-9,800 per viss of new Thedaw Moe Htaung, K9,500 per viss of long Thedaw chilli, K8,300-8,500 per viss of Myarni, K8,500-8,700 per viss of Panye, K8,300-8,500 per viss of delta chilli and K11,000 per viss of Seinsar chilli.

Potato

It was K1,450 per viss of Shan (Aungban) potato, K1,800 per viss of Hnone Akyaw Thee and K1,550 per viss of Chinese potato.

Cooking Oil

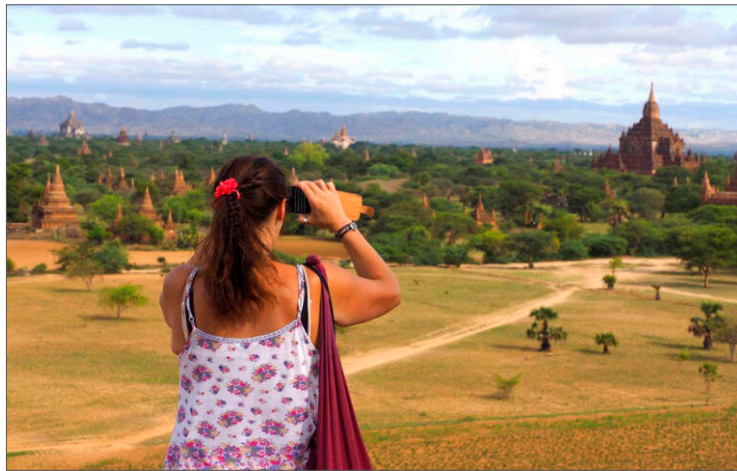
On 18 July, two trucks sold a total of 1,100 visses of palm oil at K3,900 per viss in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The palm oil price was about K7,000 per viss outside Yangon although the foreign and local reference prices drastically declined.

It is K7,800 per viss of sunflower oil and K8,000 per viss of sesame oil.

The peanut oil price was K9,000-11,000 per viss. — TWA/GNLM

More than 1,600 foreign tourists visit Myanmar



A tourist is pictured at the Bagan temple complex in Myanmar.

A total of 1,622 foreign tourists from 54 countries visited Myanmar between 20 May and 14 June, according to the statement of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Most of the tourists came from China, followed by India,

Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam, and the US.

With the influx of foreign tourists, the new variants of COVID-19, namely BA.4 and BA.5, are also spreading at a rapid rate across the world. The

rate of infection is increasing exponentially in the neighbouring countries of Myanmar, with dozens of casualties. Myanmar has alerted those coming to the country through border checkpoints, including from Thailand, to comply with the disease prevention and control measures.

Myanmar has opened for tourism since 20 May this year, with the resumption of international flights at its international airports on 17 April and the e-visa application on 20 May. Furthermore, the country also allowed online e-visa (business) applications for foreign investors on 1 April. From 17 April to 14 July 2022, over 85,000 foreign visitors visited Myanmar, according to the Ministry of Hotel and Tourism. — TWA/GNLM

YBS vehicle catches fire on Aung Zeya suspension bridge

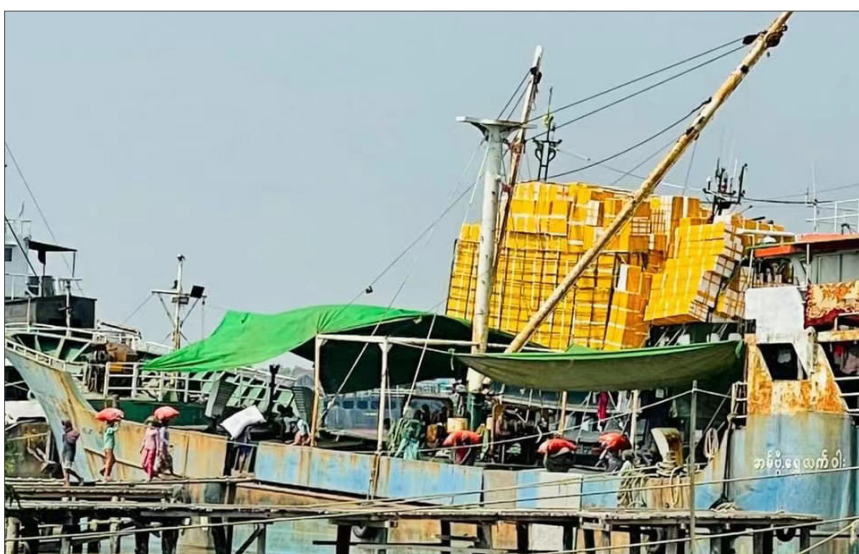
A YBS bus from No 61 bus line caught fire on the Aung Zeya suspension bridge in Insein Township, Yangon Region, yesterday morning. The fire broke out at around 7:25 am and was extinguished at 7:49 am.

Although the entire vehicle was destroyed by fire, no passenger was injured. The Insein Township Fire Station, Hline-thaya Township Fire Station, and Super Myanmar Special Fire Brigade and Insein Township Red Cross Society went to the scene to help put out the fire. — TWA/GNLM



Firefighters are pictured putting out the fire on the YBS bus.

Exports reach \$2.90 mln; imports stand at \$6,960 on Myanmar-Bangladesh border



TWO Myanmar-Bangladesh border trade posts – Sittway trade camp (Shwe Min Gan) and Maungtau border trade camp (Kanyinchaung) — exported US\$2.90 million worth of products and imported products worth \$6,960 in June.

Sittway trade camp (Shwe Min Gan) exported \$589,161 worth of products

and the Maungtau border trade camp (Kanyinchaung) exported \$2,327,948 worth of products.

The export volume of Myanmar was higher and the import volume was only 0.04 per cent of the trade, according to data. The government also conducted COVID-19 tests on the crews who returned from

Bangladesh after shipping the goods.

The health officials tested Myanmar crews between 4 and 14 July and 11 tested positive for COVID-19. The patients are in good condition and have recovered.

The government permits only those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 for embarking and the respective township health departments also provide Booster dose. — TWA/GNLM

Export cargoes are loaded on to the ship at the Sittway border post.

Beijing issues coupons to boost catering consumption

BEIJING began issuing coupons worth a total of 100 million yuan (14.82 million US dollars) on Monday to spur catering consumption, according to the municipal commerce bureau.

Funded by the government and platform enterprises that provide catering services, the promotional campaign is expected to cover more than 70,000 restaurants, the bureau said.

The first batch of restaurant coupons was issued through online platforms, such as Ele.me and Meituan. The restaurant coupon issuance is among a host of measures the Chinese capital has been implementing to revitalize the consumer mar-



A trending restaurant in Beijing filled with customers on 6 June 2022 as the city resumed dine-in services at midnight. PHOTO: LI HAO/GT/XINHUA

ket impacted by COVID-19.

Other measures include launching coupons for accommodations in the suburban are-

as, expanding vehicle consumption and launching events to boost digital, cultural and sports consumption.—Xinhua

America's Fauci to retire by end of Biden's current term



People line up at a walk-up COVID-19 testing site in Miami Beach, Florida on 17 November 2020.

PHOTO: CHANDAN KHANNA / AFP/FILE

ANTHONY Fauci, who has helmed the United States' response to infectious disease outbreaks since the 1980s, will retire by the end of President Joe Biden's current term, he said in interviews Monday.

The 81-year-old told Politico and CNN he would step down from his position as director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) to pursue other avenues sometime before January 2025.

"Obviously, you can't go on forever. I do want to do other

things in my career, even though I'm at a rather advanced age," Fauci, who is also Biden's chief medical advisor, said to CNN.

He told Politico he did not plan to stay in office long enough to see out Covid-19 because the disease was not going away soon.

"I think we're going to be living with this," said Fauci, who was appointed director of the National Institutes of Health's NIAID in 1984 and has served under seven presidents.

When Covid first spread

globally from China, he became a trusted source of reliable information, reassuring the public with his calm and professorial demeanor during frequent media appearances.

But his honest takes on America's failures to get to grips with the virus brought Fauci into conflict with former president Donald Trump, and turned the physician-scientist into a hated figure for some on the right.

Fauci now lives with security protection after his family received death threats and harassment.

But he was conciliatory toward his former nemesis Trump in his Politico interview.

"We developed an interesting relationship," said the Italian-American.

"Two guys from New York, different in their opinions and their ideology, but still, two guys who grew up in the same environments of this city. I think that we are related to each other in that regard."

During the 1980s, Fauci became a lightning rod for criticism that the government was not doing enough to stem the rise of HIV-AIDS — but later forged a close collaboration with activists.—AFP

Thailand sees rise in severe COVID-19 cases

THE number of severe COVID-19 cases and coronavirus-related deaths in Thailand has increased slightly, fuelled by the Omicron sub-variants and the country's long holidays.

The majority of the critical cases and people on ventilators are found in the capital Bangkok and neighbouring provinces, Opas Karnkwinpong, director-general of the Department of Disease Control, said at a press conference Monday.

He said most of the new cases detected last week were among high-risk groups, including the elderly and people with chronic diseases, of which many were either not vaccinated or not fully vaccinated.

A high volume of inter-provincial traveling during the recent holidays could have led to an increase in the number of COVID-19 infections, and requires further monitoring, Opas added.

The Thai cabinet on Monday approved nearly four billion baht (around 110 million US dollars) for the procurement of COVID-19 medicines and medical supplies to prepare for a potential outbreak. Thailand on Monday reported 1,814 COVID-19 cases and 17 deaths, which excluded those who tested positive with rapid antigen test kits.—Xinhua



Visitors buy Thai SIM cards upon arrival at Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok on 1 July 2022. PHOTO: LILLIAN SUWANRUMPHA / AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

7th COVID-19 wave starts in Iran

IRANIAN Health Minister Bahram Einollahi said on Sunday that the seventh wave of COVID-19 infections has started in the country, official news agency IRNA reported. At a press conference, he called on the people to receive a booster dose of vaccines and observe the health protocols especially wearing face masks in crowded indoor places. The Iranian Health Ministry reported 5,751 new COVID-19 cases on Sunday, while 13 people died from the virus over the past 24 hours.—Xinhua

SAS and pilots' unions reach agreement, ending strike

SCANDINAVIAN airline SAS and the unions representing their pilots said Tuesday that they had reached an agreement, ending a two-week strike that has cost the ailing airline between \$9 and \$12 million a day.

The agreement ending the strike after 15 days was confirmed by both the company and the unions after a negotiation session ran through Monday and into the early hours of Tuesday.—AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Japan, Saudi Arabia vow to work together for stable int'l oil market

THE foreign ministers of Japan and Saudi Arabia agreed Tuesday that the two nations will work together to stabilize the global oil market as oil prices have surged following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

During their meeting in Tokyo, Yoshimasa Hayashi also asked his Saudi Arabian counterpart, Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al-Saud, for cooperation in an additional oil output increase by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies, known as OPEC Plus,

according to the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

The talks came days after US President Joe Biden visited Saudi Arabia, an OPEC member and one of the world's largest crude oil producers, and met de facto Saudi Arabian leader Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on Friday.

Biden conveyed his hope that Riyadh would take action to ensure the availability of adequate oil supplies but failed to reach any agreements.

In late June, OPEC Plus

decided to maintain its plan for August of increasing the members' crude oil production despite pressure from Washington to further ratchet up the supply.

Since Russia launched military attacks against Ukraine in late February, Western nations, led by the Group of Seven major developed countries, have strongly condemned Moscow and imposed economic sanctions on it, including a ban or phase-out of oil imports from Russia, another major oil producer.—Kyodo



This picture taken on 11 December 2019, shows an oil tanker at the port of Ras al-Khair, about 185 kilometres north of Dammam in Saudi Arabia's eastern province overlooking the Gulf. **PHOTO: GIUSEPPE CACACE / AFP/FILE**

Thai monetary policy normalization to be sooner than later, says central bank governor

THAILAND'S central bank governor Sethaput Suthiwartnarueput said a monetary policy normalization should be "sooner rather than later" and in a gradual manner to anchor inflation expectations without stymieing the country's economic recovery.

The Bank of Thailand (BOT) still needs to balance risks between growth and inflation, but with the economic recovery becoming more intact, the emphasis is now shifting more on inflation, Sethaput said in an exclusive interview with Xinhua.

"We expect inflation to come in at above six per cent this year, well above our target range of 1-3 per cent, and gradually get back into the range next year," he said.



The Bank of Thailand (BOT) still needs to balance risks between growth and inflation, but with the economic recovery becoming more intact, the emphasis is now shifting more on inflation. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

The 6-plus per cent rate would be Thailand's highest inflation growth in 24 years. Surging energy and other commodity prices have pushed up consumer inflation in the Southeast Asian country to a 14-year

high of 7.66 per cent in June.

Growth of the core inflation, which excludes raw food and energy prices, also accelerated to 2.51 per cent in June, according to the Ministry of Commerce.—Xinhua

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Malaysian airline to resume flights to more Australian capital cities

MALAYSIAN airline AirAsia has announced that it would recommence flights to several Australian capital cities and New Zealand later this year for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic hit.

AirAsia X, which is the long-haul arm of the budget airline, will fly from the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur to Melbourne and Perth from 1 November. The airline, which has already restarted flights from Kuala Lumpur to Sydney, will also offer flights from New Zealand's capital city to Auckland from November.—Xinhua

Jiangxi province sees booming digital economy

THE digital economy in east China's Jiangxi Province registered 19.5 per cent year-on-year growth in 2021, reaching nearly 1.04 trillion yuan (around 154 billion US dollars), local authorities told a press conference on Monday. Jiangxi's digital economy contributed 35 per cent to the province's gross domestic product in 2021, according to a white paper on Jiangxi's digital economy development, which was released at the press conference.

The conference also saw the release of the province's first batch of digital technology application scenarios in an "opportunity list" and digital technology "product list."—Xinhua

Indian rupee breaches 80 per dollar, hits new record low



The Indian rupee fell to more than 80 per United States dollar for the first time on record on Tuesday (19 July), as the greenback extended its rally and foreign capital outflows intensified. The rupee was 80.0600 against the greenback soon after trading started, Bloomberg data showed. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE Indian rupee fell to more than 80 per US dollar for the first time on record Tuesday, as the greenback extended its rally and foreign capital outflows intensified.

The rupee 80.0600 against the greenback soon after trading started, Bloomberg data showed.

High inflation and rising interest rates in the United States coupled with fears of an impending recession in the world's biggest economy have fuelled a broad dollar rally in recent weeks as investors turn

increasingly risk-averse.

Tighter US monetary policy has exacerbated outflows from emerging markets such as India, where foreign investors have withdrawn a net \$30.8 billion in debt and equity this year.

Data released last week showed US consumer price inflation hit a fresh four-decade high in June, exceeding market forecasts and stoking expectations of another large Federal Reserve rate hike next week.

In a written statement to the Indian parliament on Monday, finance minister Nirma-

la Sitharaman attributed the rupee's sharp fall to external reasons.

"Global factors such as the Russia-Ukraine conflict, soaring crude oil prices and tightening of global financial conditions are the major reasons for the weakening of the Indian Rupee against the US dollar," she said.

At the same time, the Indian currency has strengthened against the British pound, the Japanese yen and the euro in 2022 so far, Sitharaman added.—AFP

Heatwave-hit Farnborough airshow basks in bumper Boeing order

BRITAIN'S Farnborough airshow flew into view Monday under a sweltering heatwave, as US plane-maker Boeing basked in the glow of the first gigantic order in global aviation's first get-together since Covid.

Visitors flocked to air-conditioned chalets and exhibition halls to escape the intense heat on the first day of one of the world's biggest civil and defence shows, while queues snaked for ice cream vans under dizzying air displays.

Tens of thousands of visitors are expected at this year's event, which coin-

cides with Britain's first-ever "extreme heat" red alert that has been declared for both Monday and Tuesday, when temperatures set to soar further.

"People who come to visit are really happy to visit. Some of the stays are a little longer than they would normally be because it's pretty relaxing inside," said John Paul Frasier, adviser for Canadian manufacturer De Havilland Aircraft, speaking to AFP inside its business chalet.

"It's pretty challenging and we know that tomorrow is going to be a little bit warmer."

The business terraces were meanwhile deserted as some plucky visitors – clad in hats, shorts and sunglasses – headed to the tarmac to watch the commercial and military jets soar across the skies.

Beads of sweat

"It the hottest I've seen, we just have to power through," said Aaron Rutter, vice-president of sales at Lisi Aerospace, with beads of sweat dropping from his forehead as he watched Boeing's new 777X jumbo jet make a series of twists and turns across the sky.—AFP



Visitors flocked to the airshow for the first time since 2018 after the last event in 2020 was cancelled due to Covid. PHOTO: AFP

Volvo sees higher sales despite supply disruptions

SWEDISH truck maker Volvo on Tuesday reported higher sales and profits in the second quarter despite the company still feeling the effects of global supply chain disruptions.

The world's number two truck maker reported a better than expected revenue of 118.9 billion Swedish kronor (\$11.4 billion) and a net profit of 10.5 billion.

Analysts had predicted an average of 107 billion in revenue and 8.9 billion in net profit, according to a survey by Factset.

"In this quarter, we have had extra costs related to supply chain disruptions as well as higher costs for material and have continued to work



US Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Special Agents demonstrate the inspection methods used to inspect commercial vehicles such as this Volvo semi-truck in Centreville, Virginia. PHOTO: AFP / PAUL J. RICHARDS / FILE

proactively and successfully with price management to mitigate these effects," Martin Lundstedt, CEO of Volvo, said.

"The situation in the global supply chain for semiconductors and other components continues to be unstable, characterized

by disruptions, unpredictability and lack of freight capacity," he noted.

"We will therefore continue to have disruptions and stoppages both in the production of trucks and in other parts of the group."

Like many other companies, Volvo has also been impacted by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. In February, it said it had stopped sales and halted production at its Kaluga plant.

In April, Volvo announced it had nine billion kronor in assets related to Russia and that in the first quarter assets amounting to four billion would negatively impact its results.—AFP

Stellantis ending Jeep production in China

US-EUROPEAN car-maker Stellantis said on Monday it was ending production in China of its Jeep SUV after failing to acquire a majority stake in its joint venture with local firm GAC.

GAC-Stellantis is

one of two joint ventures in China embarked on by Stellantis, which was formed in January 2021 last year by the merger of Fiat-Chrysler and PSA.

"Stellantis intends to cooperate with GAC Group in an orderly ter-

mination of the joint venture formed in March 2010, which has been loss-making in recent years," the group said. It said the move was "due to a lack of progress in the previously announced plan for Stellantis to take a major-

ity share" in the business.

The decision to wave goodbye to GAC would show up as "a non-cash impairment charge of approximately 297 million euros (\$302 million) in its first-half 2022 results", due out on July 28.—AFP

France to launch buy-out of power giant EDF

THE French government on Tuesday outlined its plans to take full control of EDF, the highly indebted power utility that is spearhead efforts to relaunch the country's nuclear industry.

The offer to minority shareholders will be priced at 12 euros per share, meaning the operation to fully nationalize the group will cost 9.7 billion euros (\$9.9 billion), the finance ministry said.

The electricity provider is currently 84-per-cent owned by the state, with institutional and retail in-

vestors holding 15 per cent and staff one per cent.

EDF's finances have been weighed down by declining output from France's ageing nuclear power stations, which it manages, and the state-imposed policy to sell energy at below cost to consumers in an effort to help them pay their energy bills.

The energy crisis triggered by Russia's war in Ukraine has added to EDF's acute difficulties, and to the urgency of ensuring France's energy security.—AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AS FENIA VOY.NO. (034W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS FENIA VOY.NO. (034W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **20-7-2022** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

With Russia's war, Japan renews focus on nuclear deterrence

NUCLEAR deterrence is taking centre stage in Japan's security policy after Russia's threat to use nuclear weapons in its war against Ukraine, with Tokyo re-emphasizing the centrality of the US nuclear umbrella amid regional tensions heightened by China's muscle flexing.

But Japan will still face a delicate juggling act since, as the only country to have experienced the horrors of a nuclear attack, it remains committed to leading discussions on bringing about a world without nuclear weapons and will continue to face calls from survivors of the 1945 atomic bombings to do more to bring that about.

When launching an attack on Ukraine in February, Russian President Vladimir Putin



Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida (2nd from L) visits the Ground Self-Defence Force's Asaka base straddling Tokyo and Saitama Prefecture on 27 Nov 2021. PHOTO: KYODO

reminded the world that Russia remains one of the most powerful nuclear states, saying there should be no doubt that “any

potential aggressor will face defeat and ominous consequences should it directly attack our country.”—Kyodo

Pentagon awards contracts for satellites to track hypersonic missiles

THE US Defence Department on Monday announced two contracts worth \$1.3 billion for the fielding of satellites to better detect hypersonic missile threats posed by Russia and China, with deployment to begin in April 2025.

The satellites are designed to track not only missile launches but also hypersonic manoeuvring vehicles. Historically, the United States has not flown such satellites, according to Derek Tournear, director of the Space Development Agency.

“Primarily Russia and China have been developing and testing hypersonic glide vehicles – these advanced missiles that are extremely maneuverable. And so these satellites are

specifically designed to go after that next generation version of threats out there,” he told reporters.

Hypersonic weapons are designed to travel at more than five times the speed of sound. Detection and defence against them is believed to be challenging because they can manoeuvre en route to the target and fly at lower altitudes than conventional ballistic missiles, according to experts. The agency awarded the agreements to two American companies — L3Harris Technologies Inc. and Northrop Grumman Corp. — which will deliver a total of 28 satellites that will enable missile tracking from low-Earth orbit.—Kyodo

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Erdogan renews threat to ‘freeze’ Swedish, Finnish NATO bids



Russia's invasion of Ukraine has led to a swift turnaround in Finnish and Swedish public opinion in favour of NATO membership. PHOTO: AFP / SAM YEH

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Monday renewed his threat to “freeze” the

NATO membership bids of both Sweden and Finland unless the military alliance complies with

Ankara's conditions.

At a NATO summit in Madrid at the end of June, Erdogan called on the two countries to “do their part” in the fight against terrorism, and accused them of providing a haven for outlawed Kurdish militants.

Speaking Monday, the eve of three-way summit with Russia and Iran, Erdogan told reporters; “I want to reiterate once again that we will freeze the process if these countries do not take the necessary steps to fulfil our conditions”.

“We particularly note that Sweden does not have a good image on this issue,” the Turkish leader added.—AFP

Europe must not tire in battle against Russia: EU's Borrell

EUROPEANS must not tire in their effort to defeat Russia's invasion of Ukraine, EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said Monday, warning Vladimir Putin would seek to exploit “democratic fatigue”.

Speaking after talks with EU foreign ministers, Borrell said the Russian leader “believes democracies are weak” and urged Europe to stand by its decisions to arm Ukraine and impose sanctions on Moscow.

“I'm sure Putin is counting on democratic fatigue,” he said, responding to a question

about fears that EU leaders resent the domestic economic cost of the sanctions and Russian disruption to energy supplies.

“EU member state governments have to continue standing behind the decisions they have taken. They took the decisions on restrictive measures on the Russian economy and they have to stick to it.

“For us this is a test of our resilience at the level of our societies. We have to be tough enough to hold on. We have no choice — and neither do the Ukrainians.”—AFP

Banned Russian TV channel broadcasts from abroad

RUSSIAN TV station Dozhd, which was blocked in March as the government cracked down on independent media outlets following the invasion of Ukraine, began broadcasting from abroad on Monday.

The station began broadcasting at 1700 GMT via its YouTube channel a news pro-

gramme hosted by its editor and chief and top presenter, Tikhon Dzyadko.

Dozhd decided to suspend operations after authorities blocked its broadcasts which contained critical coverage of the conflict.

Other independent media outlets faced similar bans and

many journalists went into exile to avoid the possibility of being charged under a new law that carries up to 15 years of jail time for publishing false information on the Russian military.

Like several other media, Dozhd decided to base itself in neighbouring Latvia. — AFP



Ukrainian military forces lieutenant Anton Galyashinskiy aka “Wider” holds a Parrot drone during a practice session on the outskirts of Kyiv, on 14 July 2022. PHOTO: IONUT IORDACHESCU / AFP

Three-way fight for Sri Lanka presidency: parliament

THREE candidates were nominated Tuesday to replace former Sri Lankan president Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who fled the country and resigned last week over the island's worsening economic crisis.

The winner will take charge of a bankrupt country that is in talks with the IMF for a bailout as its 22 million people endure severe shortages of food, fuel and medicines.

The parliament announced that acting President Ranil Wickremesinghe will face former education minister Dullas Alahapperuma — who has the backing of the main opposition — and leftist leader Anura Dissanayake in a

secret ballot on Wednesday.

The three were formally nominated by legislators in a session that lasted under 10 minutes at the tightly guarded parliament building.

Moments earlier, opposition leader Sajith Premadasa announced on Twitter that he was withdrawing from the race in favour of the 63-year-old Alahapperuma, a dissident member of Rajapaksa's SLPP party.

"For the greater good of my country that I love and the people I cherish, I hereby withdraw my candidacy for the position of President," Premadasa said.

Political sources said the two had struck a deal overnight

for one to be president and the other prime minister and to work to form a unity government to navigate the country's worsening economic crisis.

But Wickremesinghe, 73, a veteran political operator and six times prime minister, has the formal backing of the leadership of the SLPP, which remains the largest party in the 225-member parliament. The third candidate is Anura Dissanayake, 53, leader of the leftist JVP, or People's Liberation Front, which has three parliamentary seats. A possible fourth candidate, former army chief Sarath Fonseka, failed to get support from legislators to enter the presidential race.—AFP



Sri Lanka army soldiers stand guard near the parliament building in Colombo on 14 July 2022, a day after thousands of anti-government protesters stormed into Sri Lanka Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe's office after he was named acting president.

PHOTO: STR/AFP

Sunak widens lead in race to become UK PM after party vote



Five candidates were in the running to replace UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson but now Tom Tugendhat is out. PHOTO: AFP

FORMER finance minister Rishi Sunak widened his lead in the latest round of voting Monday by Conservative MPs to decide Britain's next prime minister,

but the race to get in the final two tightened.

Sunak won the support of 115 Tory lawmakers, followed by Penny Mordaunt on 82 votes,

Liz Truss on 71, Kemi Badenoch on 58 and Tom Tugendhat on 31, who drops out as the last-placed candidate, the party announced.

MPs will keep voting until only two candidates remain, the winner then being decided by the party members.

Mordaunt had been bookmakers' favourite before the weekend, but lost votes from the previous round.

Foreign Secretary Truss closed the gap to 11 and can probably expect more support switching to her from Badenoch's backers, should the insurgent candidate be eliminated in the next round, promising a tense race to make the final cut Wednesday. Television bosses earlier Monday scrapped a planned debate between the remaining contenders for Tuesday night after Sunak and Truss pulled out, said Sky News, which was due to host it.—AFP

Spain's former king wins permission to appeal in harassment case

SPAIN'S former king Juan Carlos I on Monday won permission to appeal against a London court ruling that allowed his former lover to bring a harassment case against him.

Corinna zu Sayn-Wittgenstein-Sayn, 58, is seeking civil

personal injury damages from the 84-year-old monarch, who lives in the United Arab Emirates.

In March, a High Court judge rejected Juan Carlos' claim that he had state immunity and that English courts had

no jurisdiction to hear the case.

Judge Matthew Nicklin ruled that he was no longer a member of the royal household of his son, the current Spanish King Felipe VI, that would give him legal protection.—AFP

Fresh roadblocks as Panama protesters reject deal

THERE were fresh demonstrations and roadblocks in Panama on Monday as protest groups turned their backs on a deal signed with the government to end their protest in exchange for a fuel price cut.

After union leaders consulted grassroots supporters on the deal announced Sunday, it was decided to continue the protest, said Luis Sanchez, a leader of the Anadepo civic grouping. "We had warned the executive that we still have to consult the rank and file," he told the TVN-2 channel.

The agreement, he added, "was signed under pressure" and members have opted to continue the mobilization that had seen trucks and banner-waving demonstrators paralyze the strategic Pan-American High-

way. "In the meantime, there is no agreement," said Sanchez as he tore up a sheet of paper.

On Sunday, the government and some protest leaders announced a deal to end more than two weeks of demonstrations over high fuel prices and rising living costs in the country of 4.4 million people.

The outpouring has cost the economy millions of dollars in losses and has led to shortages of fuel and food in some parts of the country, according to the private sector. "We are in a bad way; no food, no buses. I wanted to buy rice and... what little can be found is very expensive. The vegetables are damaged," said Angelica Ruiz, a resident of Pacora east of Panama City who also had trouble getting to her place of work.—AFP



Protesters in Panama have blockaded important roads with trucks and burning barricades. PHOTO: AFP



The Myanmar women's national football team arrive back at the Yangon International Airport from the Philippines after winning the third prize in the 2022 ASEAN Women's Championship. PHOTO: MFF

AFF Women's Championship bronze medallist Myanmar women's team come back home

THE Myanmar national women's team returned to Yangon at 8:00 pm on 17 July after winning the bronze medal with a 4-3 victory over Viet Nam in the third-place match of the 2022 ASEAN Women's Championship hosted by the Philippines.

Members of the women's football committee of the Myanmar Football Federation, Federation officials, Myanmar national team U-19 and U-16 women's teams and family members welcomed back the Myanmar women's team at the Yangon

International Airport.

The Myanmar women's national team will resume camp training for the upcoming international competitions after the ASEAN Championship, according to the Myanmar Football Federation. — GNLM

Participating teams changed for Viet Nam U-19 Invitational Cup

THE 2022 Viet Nam U-19 invitational tournament, also named the U-19 Thanh Nien Cup, which will be organized by the Viet Nam Football Federation, has seen some changes in the participating teams.

Although there were some changes in the teams participating in the tournament, a total of four teams will compete. The host Viet Nam team and Myanmar team will compete as usual, but Malaysia and Thailand will compete as new teams.

In the past, the top teams in Asia, such as Japan and Saudi Arabia, registered to participate, but withdrew, so it was replaced by the Malaysian and Thai teams.

All four of these teams competed in the recently concluded 2022 ASEAN U-19 Championship, with Malaysia winning the cham-



A Myanmar striker (red) tried to pass over Thai defenders during the previous match of the AFF U-19 Championship 2022. PHOTO: MFF

pionship and Thailand and Viet Nam reaching the semi-finals.

The International U-19 Thanh Nien Cup will be held at Binh Duong Stadium from 5 to 11 August. The Myanmar team has been taking training since the end of the ASEAN U-19 tournament to

compete in the next tournaments, including this, with 28 preliminary players. The team is managed by U Soe Myat Min as the head coach, and the team that participated in the 2022 ASEAN U-19 competition is basically formed. — 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.

Spurs sign Middlesbrough defender Spence

TOTTENHAM signed Middlesbrough defender Djed Spence on Tuesday in a deal that could rise to a reported £20 million (\$24 million).

Spence agreed a five-year contract with Tottenham after impressing during a loan spell with Championship side Nottingham Forest last season.

The 21-year-old right-back's initial price is believed to be £12.5 million but that could rise to £20 million if add-on clauses are reached.

Spence shot to prominence as Forest won promotion to the Premier League via the second tier play-offs last term.

He made 46 appearances, scoring three goals in a season that culminated with victory over Huddersfield in the play-off final at Wembley. Tottenham boss Antonio Conte has been on a major recruitment drive since leading his team to Champions League qualification via a top four finish in the Premier League. —AFP

Myanmar national youth teams to compete in MNL-2 competition

THE Myanmar youth national team U-19 and U-16, which are preparing to compete in international competitions, will compete in the 2022 season MNL-2 (first division) tournament, which is scheduled to start in August.

Due to the Covid-19 epidem-

ic, the Myanmar U-19 and U-16 teams have not been able to take training in camp for more than two years, and have only been able to start training in April and May.

Both of these teams are composed of between 25 and 30

preliminary players, and the Myanmar U-19 team is headed by U Soe Myat Min, and the Myanmar U-16 team is managed by U Aung Zaw Myo as the head coach.

The Myanmar teams will compete in the ASEAN-level tournament and the Asian Cup

qualifiers this year, but since they will be formed for a long time, they are planning to compete in the MNL-2 (first division) tournament so that the players can gain experience.

Myanmar's youth national teams have been competing in

local leagues for players to gain experience for the past decade.

The Myanmar U-19 team participated in the ASEAN U-19 tournament held in Indonesia from 2 to 15 July and was eliminated from the group stage. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM