

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IX, No. 107, 5th Waxing of Wagaung 1384 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Monday, 1 August 2022

Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

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

National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar holds 2/2022 meeting



Chairman of State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing reports implementation of future plans by SAC government in State of Emergency period at National Defence and Security Council meeting 2/2022 on 31 July.

THE National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar held the meeting 2/2022 at the meeting hall of National Defence and Security Council in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Present at the meeting were Pro Tem President U Myint Swe, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U T Khun Myat, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior

General Soe Win, Union Minister for Defence General Mya Tun Oo, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Soe Htut, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, specially invited Secretary of the State Administration Council Lt-Gen Aung Lin Dwe and Joint-Secretary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo. Vice-President U Henry Van Thio asked for a leave of absence from the meeting.

In his presentation, the Senior General said that there were

... the SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services met with EAOs for nine times while 75 times by NSPNC with EAOs, political parties and other organizations.

1,077 election cases in 2020 General Election period, and of them, 546 cases were opened under Union Election Law and 345 cases were firmly prosecuted while 200 were withdrawn and one still seeking legal suggestion.

A total of 2,417 officials were prosecuted for failing to supervise the electoral processes systematically. It also took action against 479 who participated in voting frauds and lawless action and arrangements are being made to report/prosecute

SEE PAGE-3

INSIDE TODAY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

23 YBS bus lines to change fare of 400 kyats

PAGE-5



LOCAL BUSINESS

Yangon market sees inflow of 150,000 visses of onion per day in end-July

PAGE-7



LOCAL BUSINESS

Black gram price bounces to K1,661,000 after three weeks

PAGE-7

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

National Defence and Security Council

Announcement No 2/2022

4th Waxing of Wagaung 1384 ME
31 July 2022

1. THE meeting of the National Defence and Security Council took place at the meeting hall of the National Defence and Security Council at 9:30 am today. At the meeting, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented the conditions for the implementation of the five-point roadmap of the State Administration Council, situations where national stability and community peace have been emphasized, situations of meetings and discussions with ethnic armed organizations, and operations of terrorist groups under various names, including PDF, which are committing subversive activities in some regions and states under the instructions of NUG. He also reported on the need to extend the declared period for the State of Emergency across the country under Section 425 of the Constitution in order to continue working to return the country to the path of a peaceful and disciplined multiparty democratic system and to hold multiparty democratic general elections under Section 429 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
2. Members of the National Defence and Security Council seconded the submissions of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. Then, all members of the National Defence and Security Council, including the Pro Tem President, unanimously decided to extend further six months of the declared period of the State of Emergency across the nation under Section 425 of the Constitution.
3. The information was hereby released that the meeting was attended by Pro Tem President U Myint Swe, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U T Khun Myat, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Union Minister for Defence General Mya Tun Oo, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Soe Htut, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, special invitees Secretary of the State Administration Council Lt-Gen Aung Lin Dwe and Joint Secretary of the Council Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo. It is announced that Vice-President U Henry Van Thio has requested a leave of absence due to health reasons.

Sd/

Myint Swe
Pro Tem President

MRTV to broadcast speech of SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to public

A speech will be delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at 8 am on 1 August about the SAC's 18-month work process of serving the State.

The speech will be broadcast on MRTV HD, MRTV News Channel, MWD HD Channel and MWD HD Variety Channel and aired on Radio Myanmar, Cherry FM, Padamyar FM, Bagan FM, Pyinsawady FM, Mandalay FM, Shwe FM and Thazin FM.—MNA

9 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 31 July, total figure rises to 614,092

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **614,092** after **9** new cases were reported on 31 July 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **592,898** 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 30-7-2022, a total of **30,208,713** people above 18 have been vaccinated. A total of **6,047,306** people under 18 have been vaccinated. —MNA

Trade Mark Ads

Call

09251022355,
09974424848

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

lasting 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

Further invitation to remnant 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 remnant 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.)

National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar holds 2/2022 meeting

FROM PAGE-1

against who cast vote for two times and above.

The UEC led the investigation processes on the political parties as per Political Parties Registration Law Section 18 and Rule 23 and inspected 85 political parties from August 2021 and July 2022.

The 18-month Pankhinn Project is being conducted to grant certain certificates to 3,491,364 people (over 3.4 million) out of eligible citizen voters, associate citizens, naturalized citizens for coming election and has already granted to 3,340,130 people (over 3.3 million) so far.

The Pilot Projects to verify the ground population census for the accuracy of the basic voter lists were launched on 14 February 2022 and completed in 298 townships while 14 were in operation and 13 were remaining as of 25 July.

Regarding the Road-Map (2), "Effective measures will be taken with added momentum to prevent and manage the COVID-19 pandemic," between 31 January 2021 and 31 January 2022, there were 395,668 cases, 388,832 recoveries and 16,185 deaths. Between 1 February and 28 July 2022, there were 78,477 cases, 79,592 recoveries and only 124 deaths.

The country bought 45 million doses of vaccines from China, India and Russia as of 3 July 2022 and received 31,591,600 doses donation from China, India, Russia, Thailand, Malaysia, Japanese Nippon Foundation, GAVI Covax Facility and AHA Centre. The country produced vaccines in April and made over 4 million doses as of 1 July. The country achieves over 80 million doses and signs to purchase further 1.4 million doses.

It is necessary to up-

... it is necessary to be able to hold elections across the country in order for those who represent various classes of people in the regions and across the country to be elected.

grade health services for ensuring promotion of average lifespan of people for building a healthy and strong society, raising awareness for consumption of safe foods, inspecting foods for safety, using modern medicines and medical equipment and prioritizing vaccination and production of vaccines for prevention of the pandemic.

As per Road-Map (3) "Actions will be taken to ensure the speedy recovery of businesses from the impact of COVID-19," the SAC will continue its efforts to revamp the COVID-hit businesses. Before the office of SAC, the local and foreign debts increased year-on-year. The current government repays about \$700 million including capital and interest yearly. During the one-year office term, the government managed to export and reduce the nonessential imports. In former two governments' terms, the trade deficit was \$24.71 billion.

Moreover, a new K400 billion fund out of remaining K491.18 billion fund of National Disaster Management Fund

was also established with the permission of National-Level Central Committee for Prevention, Control and Treatment to promote the socio-economy status of rural population.

It is estimated to plant over 1.5 million acres of sunflower plantation in the country in 2022-2023 and a total of K100.248 billion was granted to sunflower farmers.

Being an agricultural

country, the government invests K400 billion in summer rice, bean, maize and edible oil crops plantation under Contract Farming system in coming year.

Road-Map (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," the State stability plays key role for the development of country. Therefore, Tatmadaw firstly released statement for ceasefire and eternal peace on 21 December 2018 and extended the ceasefire until the end of 2022 on 28 February, and it has already released for 21 times.

On 17 February, 2021, the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee, Work Committee and Negotiation Committee were formed to boost the peace processes and the SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services met with EAOs for nine times while 75 times by NSPNC with EAOs, political parties and other organizations.

Discussions were also held regarding the agreements in part (1/2/3) of the Union Accord and the points to be discussed in Table (2) that remain to be discussed in Part (3) and the agreements were signed.

Regarding the invitation to the leaders of the ethnic armed organizations to meet and discuss peace, another invitation was made on 14 June 2022 for the participation of the ethnic armed organizations that have not yet attended the peace talks. It will be necessary for the EAOs to cooperate, he said.

Between 1 February 2021 and 23 July 2022, 6,311 weapons, 335,184 ammunition of various types, and 11,715 grenades/mines of all kinds were seized from terrorists. He said that most of the incidents are happening only in areas such as KIA, KNU and KNPP, which provide manpower and weapons behind the terrorist incidents that occurred.

In the 18 months since 1 February 2021, there were a total of 14,907 terrorist attacks, including arson attacks, killings and bomb attacks, killing a total of 3,483 civilians, injuring 3,065 people, and 41 were missing.

He said that the prevention and control of drugs, which will make the whole nation ruined, is also being increased. In the year 2021, the total amount of drugs and related materials was over 970,288.9714 million Myanmar Kyats (USD 524.48 million). From January to May 2022, more than 576,416.6651 million Myanmar kyats (311.58 million USD) of drugs and related materials were seized. The value of seized drugs in the five months of 2022 is more than half of the value seized in 2021.

Action must be taken to prevent abuse of democracy, the establishment of a dictatorship in the name of democracy, and the establishment of personal influence over the institution.

SEE PAGE-4

National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar holds 2/2022 meeting

FROM PAGE-3

Regarding the implementation of the Road-Map (5), which states “After conducting in accordance with the provisions of the emergency period, we will hold a free and fair multi-party democratic general election in accordance with the Constitution (2008) and continue to hand over the responsibility of the state to the winning party in accordance with democratic standards,” the Senior General said “Our government is constantly aiming to re-hold a free and fair multi-party democratic generation election. What remains to be done has been fully presented”.

The basis for strengthening a genuine multi-party democratic system is a “free and fair multi-party democratic general election”. According to the results obtained through the election, the respective Hluttaws and the government can be structured and run the state apparatus. Therefore, I would like to present that it is necessary to be able to hold elections across the country in order for those who represent various classes of people in the regions and across the country to be elected.

Since the introduction of the multi-party democratic system in our country, general elections have been held three times. There are 330 townships in the country and 325 townships in the 2010 election. Elections were held in 323 townships in the 2015 election and 315 townships in the 2020 election. We can see that the number of townships that can hold elections is decreasing. It should be noted that the number of ethnic regions that have lost their democratic rights has increased because elections were not held under governments that were demo-

According to Section 20 (f) of the basic principles of the constitution, Articles 6,7,8, which include three responsibilities, Tatmadaw has the main responsibility to protect the multi-party democratic system and the federal system. The Tatmadaw will carry out these responsibilities as a guardian for the benefit of the nation and the ethnic people.

cratically elected and were supposed to implement a democratic system. I would like to report that there are still issues that need to be addressed to ensure that elections can be held without gaps across the country.

There are reasons that the townships couldn't hold elections because there was no peace. The main reason for the instability is due to the presence of armed conflicts and the emergence of ethnic armed groups. We as the government have found that ethnic groups and ethnic regions need to be given more rights in order to resolve these issues. I would like to present that representatives representing various ethnic regions and public classes must be arranged to enter the parliament, which is the official political stage.

When looking at the classification of the 92 political parties currently in our country, (1) 43 parties representing the political ide-

ology, (2) 30 political parties representing the region and (3) 19 parties representing ethnic groups can be found. All of them have representations and support. To make these representations comprehensive, the current First Past The Post-FPTP election system is not fully sufficient, efforts are being made to include the Proportional Representation-PR system. In order to do this, the relevant organizations, including the Election Commission, must continue to do preparations and plans. Political parties must also make appropriate changes to the electoral system. The public also needs to be widely educated about the election system. In order to do this, the preparation time and the work time are needed.”

Regarding the efforts to strengthen the true and disciplined multi-party democratic system, the Senior General said, “Today, the Tatmadaw is taking on national responsi-

bility and is acting in accordance with the Constitution. This happened because officials of the previous government, political representatives and election officials violated the constitution and existing laws. Our country's founding democratic system has withered. These issues should not happen again. Action must be taken to prevent abuse of democracy, the establishment of a dictatorship in the name of democracy, and the establishment of personal influence over the institution. Action must be taken to prevent major vote fraud in the elections. For this, we need to build the foundations now. The basics need to be strong. In order to do these things, our government is working towards the welfare of the people and the future of the Union.

In our country, we must continue to strengthen the “genuine and disciplined multi-party democratic system” which is the desire of the people. The Tatmadaw has firmly guaranteed a union based on a multi-party democratic system and a democratic federal system. According to Section 20 (f) of the basic principles of the constitution, Sections 6,7,8, which include three responsibilities, Tatmadaw has the main responsibility to protect the multi-party democratic system and the federal system. The Tatmadaw will carry out these responsibilities as a guardian for the benefit of the nation and the ethnic people.

Then the Senior General submitted a report to the SAC Government to allow him to serve for an additional 6 months in accordance with the emergency provisions of the Constitution to enable him to carry out his duties successfully.

Then, Pro Tem President U Myint Swe invited the members

of the National Defence and Security Council individually to discuss the issue of extending the time period according to Article 425 of the Constitution. According to the authority of subsection (b) of Section 421, the members unanimously supported the proposal to extend the period of the declared state of emergency for another 6 months under Section 425 of the Constitution.

After that, the Senior General, said that the things he discussed and presented were according to the actual conditions, adding that the previous government turned a blind eye to the offer to meet and discuss the differences in the ballots since the end of the 2020 general election and that he is only carrying out his national duties in accordance with the existing laws.

He said that when the elections are held again, we must take steps to ensure that ethnic representatives can participate in the parliament by having the full rights of the ethnic groups.

Then Pro Tem President U Myint Swe said that according to the country's constitution, the military is “to protect the constitution; To protect our three main national causes, mainly responsible for maintaining a genuine and disciplined multi-party democratic system.” These are not created duties, but history-given duties, he said.

The Pro Tem President also urged “the State Administration Council (Tatmadaw) to perform the duties as the Guardian of the state and the people and to strive for the rule of law, community peace, development of the people's socio-economic life, and to strengthen a genuine and disciplined multi-party democracy,” and concluded the meeting.—MNA

CURRENT AFFAIRS

23 YBS bus lines to change fare of 400 kyats

IT is reported that fares will be changed on 23 YBS bus lines operating in Yangon.

The change in fares has been set by Yangon Urban Public Transportation (YUPT) and some bus lines have already started the rising fare.

Fares were set at a fixed price in the past, but currently, the fares are charged at 200 kyat per route, and 400 kyats will be charged for the whole journey.

Similarly, other bus lines fares such as YBS-2, YBS-3, YBS-4, YBS-7, YBS-8, YBS-10, YBS-11, YBS-24, YBS-26, YBS-28, YBS-29 (Dagon University-Sule), YBS-29 (Shwe Paukkan Bridge-Sule), YBS-36, YBS-40, YBS-59, YBS-65, YBS-84, YBS-110, YBS-111, YBS-112, YBS-114, YBS-115 and



A city bus of bus line No 23.

YBS-116 will be changed.

Passengers of these bus lines with a YPS card can board once. Passengers have to cut the card twice for getting on and get-

ting off, and the fare is 200 kyats per section of the trip. At the start/end of the trip, they have to pay a fare of 380 kyats, officials said.—TWA/GNLM

Only 890,000 acres of rain fed rice to be cultivated in Yangon Region

ACCORDING to the statistics of Yangon Region Department of Agriculture, only 890,000 acres of rain fed rice could be cultivated in Yangon Region.

This year, it was earmarked to plant more than 1,100,000 acres in Yangon Region during the rainy season, but only 890,000 acres were planted starting from the first week of May.

According to the Department of Agriculture, last year's rice yield was 68.28 baskets per acre, but this year's yield will be 69.33 baskets.

Rice species named Manaw Thukha, Hsinthukha, Yadanatoo, Shwewahtun, Thehtetyin, Yetkoese, Hmawby-3, Yakyaw, Ayeyamin, Pawsanhmwe, Pawsanyin, Innma Yebaw, Hmawby-2, Meetone, Ngakywe, Ngasein, Kaukyin, and Ziyar are mainly cultivated in Yangon Region.

In the fiscal year 2022-2023, more than 4,800 acres of systematic farmland are being identified in various regions and states.

The Nay Pyi Taw Department of Agricultural Mechanization aims to create large plots of land that can be cultivated in a row so that farm

equipment can be widely used by identifying mechanized agricultural land throughout the country.

In Yangon Region, over 1,500 acres of ideal rice fields, about 1,200 acres of ideal seed plantations, about 14 types of high-yielding rice, five varieties of good quality rice and seven regional varieties are planted for this year.

In this fiscal year, the focus will be on rice crops in the identification of mechanized agricultural land throughout the country.

It is also known that the most will be identified in Mon state and Taninthayi region.

This year, due to various circumstances, the production capacity of rice is likely to decrease, and domestic rice prices are also high.

"One bag of Pawsan is K100,000, and the price for one bag of low grade rice is more than K60,000. Rice has already reached the highest level with K4,000 per kilo. Because the price of rice will rise, people who can afford it will buy more rice. Some people are buying and eating raw rice," said Daw Aye Yi, a residence of Hline Township.—TWA/GNLM

YRTC issue statement that robbery on YBS 42 was false

THE Yangon Region Transport Committee (YRTC) issued a report on 31 July that the news circulating on social media that about ten passengers were robbed of their gold and silver jewelry on YBS 42 on 30 July is false.

YRTC has announced that the robbery news on YBS 42 on 30 July 2022 is being spread on social media and that the content is false.

The news was released on 30 July that the robbery case was occurred on the YBS 42 running from Shwepyitha to Thakayta.

During that incident, a person who was present on the vehicle said that around 2 o'clock in the afternoon, about 15 people got into the bus at the same time. About ten passengers in the vehicle were held at the driver with a knife and robbed the passengers for gold and money.

He said on the social media that the robbers surrounded him but he was saying that he didn't have a phone. There was no CCTVs and the No 42 bus line did not know whether

they were working together with the drivers and the burglars.

It is known that the YBS 42 bus line is owned by Shwepyitha People's Public Co Ltd, and it runs from Thadukan Industrial Zone to North Okkalapa, Aung Mingala Highway Bus Terminal and Thakayta.

This kind of incident happened only in 2021 and did not happen at all on 30 July. The car number 6P-6057 where the incident occurred is not on the YBS 42 line at all. It has been confirmed by an official from Shwepyitha People's Public Co Ltd.

The company is responsible for running the YBS 42/65 bus lines.

The YBS 42 bus line is running 90 buses per day, and the YBS 65 bus line is running 100 buses per day, and the same line YBS 65 (YUPT) is running 60 buses per day.

Thus, two YBS companies are running up to 160 buses per day.—TWA/GNLM



Farming workers are working in monsoon rice farm in Yangon Region.

Viper and Cobra will be purchased by pharmaceutical factory (Insein) at rate of K8,000

PHARMACEUTICAL Factory (Insein) has reported that it wants to buy Viper and Cobra at a rate of K8,000 each to produce snake antidote.

It is reported that 1,200 Vipers and 400 Cobras caught in

Yangon, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Magway, Bago and Sagaing Regions will be purchased to produce antidote for snake venom at the pharmaceutical factory (Insein).

The snakes to be pur-

chased must be above 0.25 Kg.

The pharmaceutical factory's announcement stated that the value must be delivered to the factory at a rate of K8,000.

The snakes will be purchased through the instant

payment system according to the quantity you want to sell, and if you want to know more details, you can contact us at phone-01646273/01646283, officials said.

In 2020, the World Health

Organization purchased 2,000 viper anti-venom injections and 2,000 cobra antidote injections produced by a pharmaceutical factory (Insein).—TWA/GNLM

CRIME NEWS

Illegal timbers, consumer goods, electronic accessories and vehicles impounded



Forestry officials inspect seizure of illegal timber in Bago Region.

SUPERVISED by the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, effective action is being taken to prevent illicit trade under the law.

A combined inspection team under the supervision of the Anti-Illegal trade special task force of Bago Region, led by the Forest Department inspected at Bago and Toungoo districts on 28 and 29 July. They seized

20.874 tonnes of illegal timbers at estimated value of K10,130,752 and action was taken under the Forest Law.

Similarly, under the supervision of the Anti-Illegal trade special task force of Kachin State, led by the Myanmar Police Force searched an express bus, driven from Mandalay to Mohnyin at Nantsiaung checkpoint on 30 July. They found 3,200 kilo-

grammes of Ammonium Nitrate (estimated value K3.2 million), which is illegal restricted goods and action was taken under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Furthermore, under the supervision of Anti-Illegal trade task force, an on duty inspection team inspected a truck at 20 miles and 3 furlongs on Mandalay-PyinOoLwin road. They

found a vehicle, which is stopped and suspicious. They confiscated phone accessories, computer accessories, electronic equipment and consumer goods (estimated value K41,022,050), which are without custom clearance and a 10 wheels Nissan diesel truck estimated K13 million. Total worth of seizures amounted to K54,022,050 and action was taken under the Customs Law.

Therefore, 14 cases (estimated value of K67,352,802) were taken action from 28, 29 and 30 July, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. —MNA



Communication device.



Photo shows seizure of communication devices in Mandalay Region.

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

1-8-2022

Kyat/Litre

Fuel (Retail Price)	Yangon	Mandalay	Nay Pyi Taw	Bago	Magway	Dawei	Monywa	Patheingyi	Myittha	Sittway	Hpa-an	Mawlamyine	Lashio	Taunggyi	Loikaw	Haka	Kengtung
92 Ron	1,820	1,865	1,860	1,830	1,865	1,890	1,875	1,850	1,945	1,960	1,860	1,865	1,900	1,905	1,905	2,125	2,620
95 Ron	1,890	1,935	1,935	1,895	1,935	1,955	1,940	1,920	2,015	2,030	1,925	1,940	1,970	1,970	1,975	2,190	2,675
HSD (500 ppm)	2,135	2,185	2,180	2,145	2,180	2,205	2,200	2,170	2,285	2,280	2,175	2,185	2,220	2,220	2,220	2,440	2,965
HSD (50 ppm)	2,195	2,240	2,240	2,200	2,240	2,260	2,255	2,255	2,340	2,335	2,230	2,245	2,275	2,275	2,280	2,495	2,995
HSD (10 ppm)	2,195	2,240	2,240	2,200	2,240	2,260	2,255	2,255	2,340	2,335	2,230	2,245	2,275	2,275	2,280	2,495	2,995

Fuel (Wholesale Price)	Yangon	Mandalay
92 Ron	1,728	1,796
95 Ron	1,793	1,862
HSD (500 ppm)	2,035	2,105
HSD (50 ppm)	2,090	2,161
HSD (10 ppm)	2,090	2,161

Remarks:

- (1) It's calculation is based on MOPS price.
- (2) If people are not satisfied with purchase of fuel, they may safely send complaints to telephone numbers of the committee as follows: -

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

Fuel Import, Storage and Distribution Supervisory Committee

LOCAL BUSINESS

Yangon market sees inflow of 150,000 visses of onion per day in end-July

WHOLESALE onion prices have gradually risen for three consecutive days (25-27 July) and then, the flat price occurred next three days (28-30 July), a trader Ko Tun Oo pointed out market price data.

On 23 July, the wholesale prices stood at K1,300-1,850 per viss of onion from Seikkphyu Township and K1,400-1,950 per viss of onion from Monywa Township. The prices slightly increased to K1,400-2,000 per viss of onion from Seikkphyu Township and K1,500-2,100 per viss of onion from Monywa Township on 27 July. The prices remained unchanged in the last three days.

The news of low onion stocks and low yield are circulating in the markets outside Yangon. However, approximately 420,000 visses (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes) of onions flowed into the Yangon market between 25 and 27 July. About 510,000 visses of onion entered the Yangon market in the past three days (28-30 July).

A total of 73,620 visses of onions on 28 July and 540,000 visses of onions on 30 July flood markets in Pakokku Township.

Only 300,000 visses of onion stocks left in one particular high-yielding region is spreading. Despite the baseless ru-



Bags of onion which came from various regions of the nation are displayed at the brokerage.

mour, over 900,000 visses of onion are supplied to Yangon in the past six days.

Foreign onion prices are much lower than the prices of local ones in the Yangon market. There is low export potential amid red tape, currency policy and foreign onion price conditions. Therefore, onion is heavily relying on the domestic market, said Ko Hla Soe, a trader.

Growers keep onion stocks in their hands rather than brokers. Moreover, there is news of onion wholesale price hike to K3,000 per viss in the regions and states other than Yangon. This is just a speculating story rather than statistical analysis. I can only conclude that the onion

market might change in August," said a buyer.

A total of 3.65 million visses of onions entered the Yangon market within 26 days in June 2022, while supply volume dropped to 3.466 million visses within 24 days in July, wholesale market's data indicated.

The statistics showed that there is over 140,000 visses of onion supply per day in the Yangon market at the end of July. Market saw onion supply of below 100,000 visses for six days and 240,000 visses for two days in August 2021. The prices stood at only K600 per viss for large sized onions then and the small ones fetched just K200 per viss.—TWA/GNLM

Black gram price bounces to K1,661,000 after three weeks

THE prices of black gram (called urad in India) regained to K1,661,000 per tonne in the domestic market.

The black gram price touched a low of K1,537,500 per tonne on 11 July, whereas the price jumped to K1,661,000 per tonne on 29 July. The figure reflected an increase of K120,000 per tonne in the past three weeks.

Kyat depreciation against the US dollar in the local forex market is the main reason for the price rise. At present, a dollar is valued around K2,800 in the informal exchange.

According to a Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and India, India will import 250,000 tonnes of black gram and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon pea (tur) from Myanmar for five consecutive years from 2021-2022 financial year to 2025-2026 FY.

Although India will continue buying Myanmar's black gram, restriction in Myanmar's forex market hampered export and import.

The Foreign exchange earned by locals in Myanmar has to be deposited in accounts at the authorized banks and exchanged for the local currency at the Central Bank of Myanmar's reference rate of K1,850. This new policy hindered work procedures. Moreover, there is a large gap between the regulated exchange rate and the unofficial exchange rate on the over-the-counter-market. As a result of this, exporters are closely observing the market to buy the goods.

Yet, market prices in neighbouring India do not decline. The prices of black gram in Myanmar are correlated with India's demand, fuel price hike, forex rate and export, import policies. It is hard to speculate about the price.

Last September 2021, the prices hit an all-time high of K2 million per tonne when the US dollar exchange rate with Myanmar currency hit over K3,000 in the local forex market.

Myanmar conveyed \$409.82 million worth of over 539,311 tonnes of various beans and pulses to foreign trade partners between 1 April and 22 July 2022 in the current financial year 2022-2023. The country shipped \$315.8 million valued over 399,731 tonnes of pulses and beans to foreign markets through sea route, and \$94.005 million valued over 139,579 tonnes were sent to the neighbouring countries through land border.

Myanmar exported US\$1.57 billion worth of over 2 million tonnes of various pulses to foreign trade partners last financial year 2020-2021. The country shipped \$966.4 million valued 1.24 million tonnes of pulses and beans to foreign markets through sea route, and \$604.3 million valued 786,920 tonnes were sent to the neighbouring countries through land border.

Myanmar yearly produces approximately 400,000 tonnes of black gram and about 50,000 tonnes of pigeon peas. Myanmar is the top producer of the black gram that is primarily demanded by India, while pigeon peas, green grams and chickpeas are cultivated in Australia and African countries beside Myanmar.—NN/GNLM

Pigeon pea prices remain on high side in last week of July

THE prices of pigeon pea (red gram) stayed high at K1.485 million per tonne in the Yangon market in the last week of July, said a trader from Bayintnaung wholesale market.

The price was up by K5,000 per tonne in the Yangon market this week compared to last week's rate, the market data indicated.

At present, the price of pigeon peas in India is rising amid the acreage reduction. Traders are focusing on the supply and demand balancing. The prices are unlikely to fall amid currency volatility.

Myanmar's pigeon pea is primarily shipped to India, and also exported to Singapore, the

US, Canada, Pakistan, the UK, and Malaysia. But, the export volume to other countries rather than to India is extremely small.

This year, the G to G pact ensured a strong market next five years, along with other relaxations on import quota, Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization under the Ministry of Commerce stated.

Myanmar's agriculture sector is the backbone of the country's economy and it contributes to over 30 per cent of Gross Domestic Products. The country primarily cultivates paddy, corn, cotton, sugarcane, various pulses and beans. Its second largest production is the

pulses and beans, accounting for 33 per cent of agro products and covering 20 per cent of growing acres. Among them, black gram, pigeon pea and green gram constitute 72 per cent of bean acreage. Other beans including peanut, chickpea, soybean, black eyed beans, butter bean and ricebean are also grown in the country.

Myanmar exported more than 8,200 tonnes of pigeon pea to the foreign trade partners between 1 October and 22 July in the current financial year (2022-2023), generating an income of over US\$6 million, according to the Ministry of Commerce's trade data.—KK/GNLM

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

OPINION

Unforgettably grateful to breastfeeding mothers

In Myanmar society, mothers breastfeed their babies as a tradition with compassion. So, older people say that the reddish blood of a mother from her body changes its colour to the whitish one in the breasts before feeding it to babies with their compassion.

It means the great compassion of mothers over their children. It is a wonderful symbol of Myanmar's motherly spirit. Verse vasa, children show their love to their mothers based on the interrelation of compassion between them. The breast milk of mothers proves their mental and physical exchange of compassion. How wonderful it is!

As part of marking the day, the UN agencies, especially UNICEF provides aid to global countries for improving the life of breastfeeding mothers and their families including babies. Such aid would be a support to those families facing difficulties of high charges for necessary materials dealt to breastfeeding babies.

support breastfeeding around the world. Along the way, it works with the World Health Organization and UNICEF to get its aid to the right people in the right communities.

Breastfeeding weeks aim to raise awareness of the health and wellbeing outcomes of breastfeeding and the importance of supporting mothers to breastfeed for as long as they wish. As part of marking the day, the UN agencies, especially UNICEF provides aid to global countries for improving the life of breastfeeding mothers and their families including babies. Such aid would be a support to those families facing difficulties of high charges for necessary materials dealt to breastfeeding babies.

Truly, breastfeeding mothers are admirable. They are supporting their husbands for earning incomes for operating the families while nurturing their children to be safely adults. They make the sacrifice with their life and limb for their families abandoning their interests and prioritizing their families. They invest their lives in the family without hoping for any profit.

So, everybody needs to consider the value of breastfeeding mothers. Actually, the mother gave birth to and breastfed them. It should not be forgettable for all. It is impossible to pay back the debt of gratitude for breast milk to the mother.

Can Monkeypox spread through Sex? Check what experts have to say

After monkeypox was declared a global health emergency by the World Health Organization, concerns have emerged about sexual behaviour considering that the virus can be spread through close contact of any kind, including through kissing, touching, oral and penetrative vaginal or anal sex with someone who has the symptoms.

Rashes, body fluids (such as fluids, pus, or blood from skin lesions), and scabs are particularly infectious, according to the WHO. Ulcers, lesions or sores can also be infectious since the virus can be spread through saliva. Contact with objects that have been in contact with the infected person - such as clothing, bedding, towels - or objects such as eating utensils could also be a source of infection.

Through physical contact

Considering the spread through physical contact, there

were concerns on whether the physically transmitted disease could affect their sexual lives.

People who have the disease are contagious while they have symptoms (usually within the first two to four weeks). It is not clear whether or not people who are asymptomatic can transmit the disease.

Dr Dhiren Gupta, Intensivist and Senior Consultant at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital said, "Monkeypox spread gets amplified during sexual contact. This contact can happen during intimate contact including oral, anal and vaginal sex or touching the genitals (penis, testicles, labia, and vagina) or anus (butthole) of a person with monkeypox.

Hugging, massages and kissing as well as prolonged face-to-face contact could also lead to contraction of the virus, said Dr Gupta.

A person can also contract the disease if he touches fabrics

and objects during sex that were used by a person with monkeypox and that have not been disinfected, such as bedding, towels, and sex toys.

Having multiple or anonymous sex partners may increase your chances of exposure to monkeypox. Limiting your number of sex partners, says the expert, may reduce the possibility of exposure.

Science is trying to better understand if the virus could be present in semen, vaginal fluids, or other body fluids.

Intimate contact during intercourse

Dr Manoj Sharma, Director, Senior Consultant Internal Medicine, Fortis Hospital Vasant Kunj, said, "Monkeypox spreads through close intimate contact during intercourse. It can spread through oral, vaginal, and anal sex including touching the genitals of an infected person.

Would using a condom help?



The European Union's executive arm has approved a smallpox vaccine for use against monkeypox after the World Health Organization (WHO) declared its spread a global health emergency. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

"It can spread by hugging, kissing or coming in contact with bedding, clothes or objects used

by an infected person so barrier methods like using a condom may not be effective" Dr Sharma

added. Dr Deepali Bhardwaj, Sr Dermatologist said, "Monkeypox can

spread by sex, the touch of all sorts hence strict isolation is the key. It's time to be cautious again and more hygienic of course. It's the duty of us citizens to ensure that the system collapse and a similar situation doesn't arise. Strict mask, hand hygiene, social distancing must be maintained and in early symptoms reach out to a doctor as soon as possible should be done besides enhancing immunity in general."

How can stigma related to same-sex behaviour during the outbreak be avoided?

Inadmissible to stigmatize people

Messages that stigmatize certain groups of people around this outbreak have been circulating: the WHO has made it clear that this is unacceptable. Anyone who has close physical contact of any kind with someone with Monkeypox is at risk, regardless of who they are, what they

do, who they choose to have sex with or any other factor. The WHO points out that it is inadmissible to stigmatize people because of a disease. Anyone who has been infected, or who is helping care for people who are unwell, should be supported: stigma is likely to only make things worse and slow efforts to end the outbreak.

As per a WHO report, the rashes can also resemble some sexually transmitted diseases, such as herpes and syphilis. This may explain why several of the cases in the current outbreak have been identified among men seeking care at sexual health clinics. The risk of becoming infected is not limited to sexually active people or men who have sex with men. Anyone who has close physical contact with someone who is contagious is at risk.

SOURCE: ANI

IOM: Uptick in migrants heading home as world rebounds from COVID-19



Nearly 50,000 migrants were assisted to voluntarily return to their country of origin in 2021. PHOTO: LANDPORTAL.ORG

According to the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) 2021 Return and Reintegration Key Highlights published on Thursday, nearly 50,000 migrants were assisted to voluntarily return to their country of origin in 2021.

Global Migration, which had decreased by approximately 27 per cent during the COVID-19 pandemic, has begun to rebound to pre-pandemic levels. In 2021, IOM assisted 49,795 migrants return to their countries of origin, representing an increase of 18

per cent from the previous year.

Reflecting on the report Yitna Getachew, Head of the agency's Protection Division, said that "this publication highlights IOM's ability to meet an increasing demand by migrants for safe and dignified returns as well as to support their

reintegration into the countries of origin following the lifting of many travel restrictions imposed during the pandemic."

As Mr. Getachew indicates, the 2021 Return and Reintegration Key Highlights is noteworthy for documenting the success of

IOM in meeting increased demand.

Also noteworthy in the report, is the continued trend of increasing returns from transit countries in other host regions outside Europe.

Largest beneficiary of IOM's efforts

In 2021, Niger was the largest beneficiary of IOM's efforts to assist in dignified returns, with a total of 10,573 migrants helped to head home. Niger's beneficiaries dramatically overshadow any nation in Europe. However, Europe's accumulated beneficiaries still outnumber Niger.

The bedrock of assisted voluntary return programmes are reintegration schemes, which provide opportunities to returnees and promote sustainable development, said IOM.

In 2021, IOM offices in 121 countries worldwide, supported 113,331 reintegration activities at the individual, community, and

structural level.

Overall, the top three countries, including both host and countries of origin, that provided reintegration support in 2021 were Germany, Nigeria and Guinea.

The support consisted mainly of social and economic assistance, as well as reintegration counselling. The aim of these multi-dimensional schemes are to ensure a level of economic self-sufficiency, social stability and psychological wellbeing, that make's further migration a choice rather than necessity.

IOM's latest guidance is further captured in the agency's 2021 Policy on the Full Spectrum of Return, Readmission and Reintegration. The policy tasks the IOM with multilateral engagement on return migration through a holistic, rights-based, and sustainable development-oriented approach that can boost returns, readmission, and sustainable reintegration.

SOURCE: UN NEWS



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 31 July 2022)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 1 August 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, scattered in Magway, Yangon, and Ayeyawady regions and Rakhine and Kayah states, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing, and Bago regions and Kachin State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, and Taninthayi regions and Mon State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4 - 8) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Moderate monsoon.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 August 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 August 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 August 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

SIC/ENVIRON WORLD

Chinese booster rocket makes uncontrolled return to Earth

A Chinese booster rocket made an uncontrolled return to Earth on Saturday, leading US officials to chide Beijing for not sharing information about the potentially hazardous object's descent.

US Space Command "can confirm the People's Republic of China (PRC) Long March 5B (CZ-5B) re-entered over the Indian Ocean at approx 10:45 am MDT on 7/30," the US military unit said on Twitter.

"We refer you to the #PRC for further details on the reen-

try's technical aspects such as potential debris dispersal + impact location," it said.

In a statement posted to its official WeChat profile, the China Manned Space Agency later gave coordinates for an impact area in the Sulu Sea, about 35 miles (57 kilometres) off the east coast of the Philippines' Palawan Island.

"Most of its devices were ablated and destroyed during re-entry," the agency said of the booster rocket, which was used last Sunday to launch the



A Long March 5B rocket at the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in southern China's Hainan province. **PHOTO: STR/AFP**

second of three modules China needed to complete its new Tiangong space station.

Malaysia's space agency said it detected rocket debris burning up on re-entry

before falling in the Sulu Sea northeast of the island of Borneo.

"The debris of the rocket caught fire while entering the Earth's airspace and the move-

ment of the burning debris also crossed Malaysian airspace and could be detected in several areas including crossing the airspace around the state of Sarawak," it said. —AFP

Mountain melt shutter classic Alpine routes



The rapid melting can make glaciers more dangerous. **PHOTO: AFP**

LITTLE snow cover and glaciers melting at an alarming rate amid Europe's sweltering heatwaves have put some of the

most classic Alpine hiking routes off-limits.

Usually at the height of summer, tourists flock to the Alps and

seek out well-trodden paths up to some of Europe's most iconic peaks.

But with warmer temperatures speeding up glacier melt and thawing permafrost — which scientists say are driven by climate change — routes that are usually safe this time of year now face hazards like falling rocks released from the ice.

"Currently in the Alps, there are warnings for around a dozen peaks, including emblematic ones like Matterhorn and Mount Blanc," Pierre Mathey, head of the Swiss mountain guide association, told AFP.

This is happening far earlier in the season than normal, he said. —AFP

Death toll from week-long Iran flooding tops 80

AT least 80 people have been killed and 30 others are missing in floods that have wreaked havoc across Iran for more than a week, state media reported Saturday.

Since the start of the Iranian month of Mordad on 23 July, "59 people died and 30 are still missing in the incidents caused

by recent floods," Yaghoub Soleimani, secretary-general of the Red Crescent Society, was quoted as saying by state news agency IRNA.

That is in addition to flash floods caused by heavy rains in the normally dry southern province of Fars that left at least 22

people dead just before the start of Mordad.

Many of those victims were spending the day by a riverside.

Soleimani noted that 60 cities, 140 towns and more than 500 villages across the country of around 83 million people have been affected by the inundations. —AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Portugal faces worst drought on record

PORTUGAL is experiencing the worst drought as 67.9 per cent of its territory was in severe drought, 28.4 per cent in extreme drought and the remaining 3.7 per cent in moderate drought in June, said the Portuguese Institute for Sea and Atmosphere (IPMA) on Saturday.

This is the driest year since the beginning of droughts registration in the country, which started in 1931, said the institute.

The drought in Portugal began to intensify approximately a year ago, and even in winter, the entire continental territory of the country was in severe drought, according to the IPMA.

It also said that five Portuguese districts are under "orange" alert, the second most serious on a scale of three, until 1 August, due to the persistence of very high temperature. —Xinhua

Yemen's ancient honey production a victim of war, climate change

FOR Yemeni beekeeper Mohammed Saif, honey production used to be a lucrative business but years of war and climate change have taken the buzz out of the family hives.

The business, handed down from father to son, "is slowly disappearing", Saif told AFP. "The bees are being hit by strange phenomena. Is it due to climate change or the effects of war? We really don't know."

Yemen, one of the world's most impoverished countries, has been gripped by a deadly conflict since 2014, pitting the Iran-backed Huthis against government forces supported by a Saudi-led military coalition.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been killed in fighting or through illness and malnutrition over the past eight years, and the country's infrastructure has been devastated. —AFP

COVID-19 SITUATION UPDATE WORLDWIDE

Japanese life expectancy declines for 1st time in decade due to COVID-19

THE average life expectancy of Japanese women and men decreased for the first time in a decade in 2021 as the country struggled with the COVID-19 pandemic, health ministry's statistics showed Friday.

The average life span for Japanese women was 87.57 years, down by 0.14 year compared to a year earlier, while that of men was 81.47 years, down by 0.09 year, according to the health ministry.

It is the first time the figure has declined since 2011, when a massive earthquake and tsunami in northeastern Japan caused meltdowns at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear complex, leaving

more than 15,000 dead and many more unaccounted for.

According to the health ministry, the fall in the average life span was caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. "COVID-19 was behind the decline for most of the men," a ministry official said.

About 16,000 people in Japan died of COVID-19 in 2021, according to the health ministry.

Despite the decline, 88.3 per cent of Japanese women who were born in 2021 are expected to live until 75 years old, while that of the men born last year is predicted to be 76.0 per cent, according to the health ministry's estimate. —Kyodo



The average life expectancy of Japanese women and men decreased for the first time in a decade in 2021 as the country struggled with the COVID-19 pandemic. PHOTO: KYODO

Singapore reports 6,558 new COVID-19 cases

SINGAPORE reported 6,558 new cases of COVID-19 on Saturday, bringing the total tally to 1,708,950.

Of the new cases, 586 cases were detected through PCR (polymerase chain reaction) tests and 5,972 through ART (antigen rapid test) tests, according to

statistics released by the Ministry of Health. Among the PCR cases, 554 were local transmissions and 32 were imported cases. Among the ART cases with mild symptoms and assessed to be of low risk, there were 5,743 local transmissions and 229 imported cases. —Xinhua

Biden tests positive for COVID-19 again, shows no symptoms

US President Joe Biden tested positive for COVID-19 again on Saturday in what his doctor described as a "rebound" case after taking antiviral medication, the White House said.

Biden "has experienced no

re-emergence of symptoms and continues to feel quite well," the White House physician Kevin O'Connor said in a letter released by the White House.

He had been taking the COVID-19 treatment Paxlovid

after testing positive on 21 July and experiencing mild symptoms. Some COVID-19 patients treated with the pill are known to show rebound positivity once they cease taking the medication. —Kyodo

2022 MONKEYPOX OUTBREAK

New York declares state disaster emergency over monkeypox



People sit in the sun at Bryant Park in midtown Manhattan on 17 May 2021 in New York City. PHOTO: ANGELA WEISS / AFP/FILE

NEW York Governor Kathy Hochul declared a state disaster emergency late Friday night due to the growing monkeypox cases in the state.

"I am declaring a State Disaster Emergency to strengthen our aggressive ongoing efforts to confront this outbreak," Hochul said in a statement.

New York is experiencing the highest rates of monkeypox transmission in the country, with 1,383 reported cases as of Friday, showed the state data.

"More than one in four monkeypox cases in this country are in New York State, and we need to utilize every tool in our arsenal as we respond," said Hochul.

The announcement came a day after the New York state commissioner of health declared monkeypox an "imminent threat to public health." More than 5,100 monkeypox cases had been reported across the United States as of Friday, with New York recording the most cases, followed by California, according to the latest data from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. —Xinhua

Canada confirms 803 monkeypox cases

THE Public Health Agency of Canada confirmed 803 cases of monkeypox in the country as of Friday.

The health agency said that of the confirmed cases, 367 cases are from Ontario, 359 from Quebec, 61 from British Columbia, 13 from Alberta, two from

Saskatchewan and one from the Yukon. Theresa Tam, former Chief Public Health Officer of Canada, said the government has deployed over 70,000 doses of Imvamune vaccines and continues to work actively with jurisdictions to manage public health responses. —Xinhua

Spain confirms 2nd Monkeypox death

THE Spanish Ministry of Health on Saturday confirmed the country's second death from the Monkeypox virus.

The news comes less than 24 hours after the first death from the disease was reported by the ministry on Friday evening.

It's also the second death reported in Europe.

The identity of the victims has not been released. The first victim was resident in the Comunidad Valenciana in eastern Spain and died as the result of encephalitis associated with the infection. —Xinhua

ECONOMY WORLD

NEWS IN BRIEF

New freight train service links eastern Chinese city, Vietnam

A freight train left the city of Xuzhou in east China's Jiangsu Province on Friday for Vietnam's Hanoi, marking the launch of a new freight train route between China and Vietnam.

The freight train, loading 72 TEUs of glass bottles, plastic products, and maternal and childcare facilities, is expected to arrive in Hanoi within seven days after a journey of about 2,985 km, nearly half the time of traditional waterway transportation.

As an important country along the Belt and Road and a member of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Vietnam is the third country to which Xuzhou opened international freight train services this year, following Belarus and Mongolia.

You Xingjun, deputy head of Xuzhou Customs, said that local customs authorities will give full play to the logistics advantages of such trains, and promote stability and quality of foreign trade. —Xinhua

Moroccan economy grows 7.9% in 2021: central bank

MOROCCO'S economy grew by 7.9 per cent in 2021, the country's central bank said Saturday.

The "outstanding (economic) performance" was achieved thanks to the vaccination campaign and the government's economic recovery program, Abdelatif Jouahri, the central bank's governor, was quoted as saying in the bank's annual report presented to the Moroccan king.

The annual inflation rate rose to 1.4 per cent in 2021 from 0.7 per cent the previous year, while the fiscal deficit stood at 5.9 per cent of GDP, according to the report. The report urged the authorities to boost private investment and take into account the impact of climate change on economy. —Xinhua

RCEP deepens industrial chain cooperation between China, ASEAN

AT a leading paper factory in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, a production line was running at full steam as orders from ASEAN countries surge this year.

"Nearly 90 containers filled with white cardboard produced by the factory are shipped through Qinzhou port every day to ASEAN markets and the number keeps increasing," said Zhou Ju, logistics department director of Guangxi Jingui Pulp & Paper Co., Ltd., owned by Indonesia's Asia Pulp & Paper Sinar Mas.

Since the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) entered into force in January, trade costs have been further reduced among member countries and related companies have seen tangible benefits.

Customs data shows that, in the first half of this year, China's trade with ASEAN countries reached 2.95 trillion yuan (about 437.8 billion US dollars), a year-on-year increase of 10.6 per cent.

Zhou said that the raw materials like wood chips, wood pulp, and starch imported from ASEAN



Photo taken on 11 September 2021 shows exhibitors from Thailand at the 18th China-ASEAN Expo in Nanning, capital of south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. PHOTO: XINHUA/XU JIAYI

countries now enjoy preferential tariffs thanks to the RCEP agreements, and that has greatly saved the cost of the company.

The Indonesian company

also established a branch in January in Nanning, capital of Guangxi, to manage the forestry affairs of the group in China, Laos, and Cambodia, and seek to

expand industrial chains as the company eyes the giant economic cooperation potential among China and ASEAN countries. —Xinhua

Lebanese face long 'insulting' queues to buy bread

IN bankrupt Lebanon, Khalil Mansour has to queue for hours every day just to buy bread for his family and some days he can't afford any.

In a country which once boasted the nickname "Switzerland of the Middle East" for its thriving banking sector before financial crisis hit in 2019, the

chronic shortage of the staple of the Lebanese diet has been hard to take. Lebanon defaulted on its national debt in 2020 and its currency has lost around 90 percent of its black market value.

The World Bank has branded the financial crisis one of the worst since the 19th century while the United Nations now considers

four out five Lebanese to be living under the poverty line.

Faced with demands from international creditors for painful reforms in return for the release of new aid, the embattled government has been forced to end subsidies on most essential goods — although not so far on wheat.

The price of subsidised bread has gone up, although by less than if there were no subsidy, but bakeries have started rationing the staple.

A bag of flat Arabic pitta-like bread now officially sells for 13,000 Lebanese pounds (43 US cents). On the black market it costs more than 30,000. —AFP

Eurozone economy resilient in face of record inflation



People with FFP2 protective face masks wait in front of a pharmacy in the well-known shopping street Mariahilferstrasse in Vienna on 8 February 2021 for a free antigen quick test. PHOTO: ALEX HALADA / AFP

THE economy in Europe is proving surprisingly resilient against soaring energy and food prices, official data showed on Friday, as tourism boosted France and Spain, but export powerhouse Germany stalled, keeping recession fears alive.

The EU's official data agency said that gross domestic product in the 19-country eurozone grew by 0.7 per cent in the second quarter, far stronger than expected by analysts.

The war in Ukraine has seen the price of natural gas and gro-

cery items skyrocket, with inflation in the single-currency area inching up to yet another new record of 8.9 per cent in July.

Europe's industrial powerhouse Germany continued to be the worst affected by the war, which added to the country's woes from the continued Covid restrictions in China, a crucial market. Stagnant German growth in the second quarter has led analysts across the board to predict a recession there that would spill over to the continent as a whole. —AFP

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Cathay Financial Holding Co., Ltd., a company incorporated and existing under the laws of Taiwan, and having its principal office at No. 296 Jen-Ai Road, Section 4, Taipei, Taiwan, hereby declares that the Company is the Owner and Sole proprietor of the following Trademarks:

Cathay

國泰

Reg No: IV/4332/2022, IV/4333/2022,
IV/4334/2022

Reg No: IV/4331/2022, IV/4329/2022,
IV/4330/2022

The above Trademarks are used in respect of " Electronic blackboard; electronic notice boards; liquid crystal display; computer host; data storage device; read only storage; USB flash drives; data reading machine; random access storage; diskette recorded with computer program; monitors [computer programs]; cell phone application; mobile phone application; computer software; computer software applications, downloadable; flash memory; coded magnetic card; network firewall; computer workstation; electronic publications, downloadable; network server; network card; floating-point arithmetic chip; image capture card; graphic card; expansion card; optical discs; card reader; bar code film; barcode scanner; barcode readers; touch-sensitive input device for computer; scanners; password generator; electronic book; personal digital assistant; electronic data integrator; carry bag for portable computer; credit card transaction processor; fingerprint reader; mouse pads; music downloaded from the Internet; video downloaded from the Internet; books downloaded from the Internet; image downloaded from the Internet; electronic manual; portable flash memory; electronic tags for goods; carry bag for tablet computer; debit card POS; automated teller machines [ATM]; image receiver; portable media players; battery for mobile phone; mobile power unit; TV film; image recording apparatus; incoming call reminder; internet telephony; VoIP phones; Internet device; cell phone straps; cell phone shell; satellite signal communication processor; computer controller; encoded key cards; identity cards, magnetic; credit card; telephone card; debit card; integrated circuit cards [smart cards]; computer identification card; chip pre-paid card; magnetic strip pre-paid card; magnetic pre-paid cards; Smart cards [integrated circuit cards]; magnetic strip card; encoded identification bracelets, magnetic; downloadable e-wallets; decorative magnets; solar batteries; uninterruptible power supply; distribution consoles; electrical control panel; solar energy receiver for power generation; solar collector panels for power conversion; solar energy collector panels for production of electricity; power control equipment and control instruments; energy controller, electric; energy regulators, electric; power controller; thermal energy meter; power supply device; downloadable computer software for managing cryptocurrency transactions using blockchain technology; downloadable computer software or application software for financial transactions and related life services using blockchain technology." in **Class 9**.

"Provide news information by Internet; transmission of news; telecommunication transmission of value-added network; providing access to databases; providing transmission services of global network; telecommunication transmission services, in the field of banking, financial, finance, investment and insurance business; electronic transmission services of audios, data, multimedia, graphics, images, photos, and related information." in **Class 38**.

Construction and design of blockchain system; construction and design of data platform; computer animation design; computer programming; computer software design; updating of computer software; maintenance of computer software; rental of computer software; consultancy on computer software design; computer software consultancy; computer system analysis; computer system design; installation of computer software; duplication of computer programs; computer virus protection services; rental of computer hardware; provide service for temporary use of non-downloadable computer software; processing of computer data; recovery of computer data; conversion of data or documents from physical to electronic media; digitization of documents [scanning]; conversion of computer programs and data, other than physical conversion; rental of network server space; rental of network server space; planning and construction of web site; providing search engines for the internet; network certification service; network safety administration service; network web page design; web site hosting; production or maintenance of web pages for others; monitoring of computer systems by remote access; cloud computing; software as a service [SaaS]; design of product appearance; packaging design services; graphic arts designing; consultancy on solar energy engineering; technology inspection and test of the equipment design and operation for electric power plant; design and development of computer software for control, manage and monitor solar energy systems; engineering drawing for solar energy construction; planning and design of solar energy construction engineering; consultancy on solar energy construction engineering; consultancy on planning and design of solar energy electromechanical and monitoring engineering; planning and design of solar energy equipment system engineering; design of solar energy engineering construction drawing; inspection and test of product quality of solar panels, solar modules, solar cells, and solar cell modules; computer system remote monitoring service for solar power generation equipment; design, plan and maintain of computer program for collect, control, and analysis of solar power generation; technological research and development, technical design, and technical consulting in the field of solar batteries, solar power module, solar power equipment and solar power plant (station); research and development, in the field of set up, operation and maintenance of solar power module, solar power equipment and solar power plant (station); providing computer hardware for operating solar power equipment and solar power plant (station); research and development on bracket of solar power module and installation technology thereof; research and development on the technical materials and related equipment in the field of solar power generation technology; research and development on recycling technology of solar power plant (station) ; research on energy consumption of buildings; platform as a service [PaaS]; development of computer platforms; research and development of new products for others; research in the field of blockchain technology; research in the field of artificial intelligence technology." in **Class 42**.

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the above Trademarks or other infringements whatsoever thereto will be dealt with according to law.

Daw Aye Tha Zin Myo (H.G.P)
For **Cathay Financial Holding Co., Ltd.**,
c/o **Baker & McKenzie Limited**
Suite 28, Level 14, Junction City Tower,
No.3/A Bogyoke Aung San Road,
Pabedan Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Dated: 1st August 2022

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Thai Lee Agriculture Co., Ltd., a company incorporated and existing under the laws of Thailand and having its registered office at 110 Narathiwatratthanakharin Road, Chongnonsee Sub-district, Yannawa District, Bangkok, Thailand is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:



Reg.No.4/18249/2014 (5.12.2014)

In respect of "Meat, fish, poultry and game; meat extracts; preserved, frozen, dried and cooked fruits and vegetables; jellies, jams, compotes; eggs; milk and milk products; edible oils and fats" in **Class 29**;

"Coffee, tea, cocoa and artificial coffee; rice; tapioca and sago; flour and preparations made from cereals; bread, pastry and confectionery; ices; sugar, honey, treacle; yeast, baking-powder; salt; mustard; vinegar, sauces (condiments); spices; ice" in **Class 30**; and

"Beer; mineral and aerated waters and other non-alcoholic beverages; fruit beverages and fruit juices; syrups and other preparations for making beverages" in **Class 32**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Mark shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw La Min May, H.G.P
For **Thai Lee Agriculture Co., Ltd.**,
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**,
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road & Thein Phyu Road,
Botataung Tsp, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated 1st August 2022 lmm@kcyangon.com

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V VENUS C VOY.NO. (2220S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V VENUS C VOY.NO. (2220S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-8-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V X-PRESS MEGHNA VOY.NO. (22013S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V X-PRESS MEGHNA VOY.NO. (22013S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-8-2022** 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 X-PRESS FEEDERS LINES

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Ageing pope admits he must slow down, or quit

POPE Francis admitted Saturday he needs to slow down, telling reporters after a six-day trip to Canada that he cannot maintain his pace of international travel — and may have to think about retiring.

“I don’t think I can go at the same pace as I used to travel,” said the 85-year-old pope, who suffers pain in his knee that has seen him increasingly reliant on a wheelchair.

“I think that at my age and with this limitation, I have to save myself a little bit to be able to serve the Church. Or, alternatively, to think about the

possibility of stepping aside.”

It is not the first time Francis has raised the possibility of following the example set by his predecessor, Benedict XVI, who quit over his own failing health in 2013, and is now living quietly in Vatican City.

In 2014, a year into his papacy, Francis told reporters that if his health got in the way of his functions as pope, he would consider stepping down.

In May, as reported in the Italian media, Francis joked about his knee during a closed-door meeting with bishops, saying: “Rather than operate,



Pope Francis said surgery on his knee was not an option, adding that he was still feeling the effects of six hours spent under anaesthetic last summer. **PHOTO: POOL/AFP**

I’ll resign.”

“The door is open, it’s one of the normal options, but up

until now I haven’t knocked on this door,” he said Saturday.

“But that doesn’t mean

the day after tomorrow I don’t start thinking, right? But right now I honestly don’t. —AFP

RUSSIA - UKRAINE CONFLICT

Zelensky urges evacuation of Ukraine’s frontline Donetsk



A Ukrainian serviceman looks into a crater and a destroyed home are pictured in the village of Yatskivka, eastern Ukraine on 16 April 2022. **PHOTO: RONALDO SCHEMIDT / AFP**

UKRAINE’S president urged civilians on Saturday to evacuate the frontline Donetsk region, the scene of fierce clashes with the Russian military, as Kyiv called on the Red Cross and UN to gain

access to its soldiers being held by Moscow’s forces.

The eastern Donetsk region has faced the brunt of Russia’s offensive since its assault on Kyiv failed weeks into the invasion

launched on 24 February.

President Volodymyr Zelensky warned in his daily address that thousands of people, including children, were still in the region’s battleground areas, with six civilians killed and 15 wounded on Friday, according to the Donetsk governor.

“There’s already a governmental decision about obligatory evacuation from Donetsk,” Zelensky said, underscoring authorities’ calls to leave the besieged region in recent weeks.

“Leave, we will help,” Zelensky said. “At this stage of the war, terror is the main weapon of Russia.” Official Ukrainian estimates put the number of civilians still living in the unoccupied area of Donetsk at between 200,000 and 220,000. —AFP

Cyprus tourism rebounds despite sanctions-hit Russia plunge

BESIDE sparkling Mediterranean waters at the Cypriot resort town of Ayia Napa, the bars are bouncing with foam dance parties as tourist numbers rebound following two tough years of pandemic.

But one key nationality is effectively missing: Russian visitors, as the once lucrative market has been hit by European Union sanctions imposed after Moscow invaded Ukraine.

“This year, we expected 800,000 Russian tourists,” said Haris Loizides, head of the Cyprus Hotel Association.

The Russian market “was wiped out from one day to the next,” said Christos Angelides, head of the Pancyprian Associ-

ation of Hotel Managers. “Nobody was prepared for this huge change.”

The key tourism sector, which had contributed 2.68 billion euros (\$2.72 billion) in 2019, 15 per cent of GDP, is still counting the cost of the disastrous years of Covid travel chaos.

In 2019, before the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, a fifth of tourists were Russian — 782,000 out of 3.9 million — making it the holiday island’s second largest market after Britain. Last year, despite tough Covid travel restrictions, that share rose to more than 25 per cent, with arrivals from Russia totalling nearly 520,000 out of 1.93 million. —AFP

Russia invites UN, Red Cross to probe shelling of Olenivka pre-trial detention centre

RUSSIA has invited experts from the United Nations and the Red Cross to participate in the investigation into the Ukrainian military attack on a pre-trial detention centre near Olenivka in the Donbas region with HIMARS rocket systems which killed 53 Ukrainian prisoners of war, the Russian Defense Ministry said

on Sunday.

“In order to conduct an objective investigation of the attack on the pre-trial detention centre in Yelenovka, which led to the death of a large number of Ukrainian prisoners of war, the Russian Federation has officially invited experts from the UN and the International Committee of

the Red Cross,” Sputnik reported citing the Russian defence ministry.

The Olenivka detention centre, hosting Ukrainian prisoners of war, was shelled by Ukrainian troops with US-supplied High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS) on Friday morning. —ANI



An aerial picture shows a view of the Napa Mermaid Hotel in the Cypriot resort town of Ayia Napa, one of the Mediterranean island’s top tourist destinations, on 21 July 2022. **PHOTO: ETIENNE TORBEY / AFP**

Sri Lanka president seeks unity government to save economy

SRI Lanka's new president Ranil Wickremesinghe has formally invited MPs to join an all-party unity government to revive the bankrupt economy by undertaking painful reforms, his office said Sunday.

Wickremesinghe took office earlier this month after public anger over the island nation's worst economic crisis forced his predecessor Gotabaya Rajapaksa to flee the country and quit.

In a meeting Saturday with the influential monks of the



Sri Lanka's new president Ranil Wickremesinghe has written to all lawmakers asking them to join a unity government. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Temple of the Tooth in Kandy, one of Buddhism's most sacred shrines, Wickremesinghe outlined his plans.

"As the president, I wish to start a new journey," Wickremesinghe was quoted as telling the monks in his first meeting with the powerful Buddhist clergy since taking office.

"I would like to get all the parties together and go on that journey as well as to form an all-party government."

He has written to all law-

makers asking them to join a unity government.

A former opposition MP, Wickremesinghe, 73, took up the premiership for the sixth time in May after Rajapaksa's elder brother Mahinda resigned and there were no other takers for the job.

Wickremesinghe went onto become the president after Gotabaya escaped on 9 July when tens of thousands of protesters angry at the economic crisis stormed the presidential palace. —AFP

China's national archives open in Beijing



Pictured is the headquarters of the China National Archives of Publications and Culture located at the northward central axis of Beijing and at the foot of Yanshan Mountain. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

CHINA National Archives of Publications and Culture, which are headquartered in Beijing, opened on Saturday in the country's capital. Wang Huning, a member of

the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and a member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee, attended and addressed the opening ceremony.

Noting the importance of shouldering the country's cultural mission and promoting mutual learning between civilizations, Wang highlighted the functions of the national archives in collections, exhibitions, research and communication, and their importance in carrying on China's fine traditional culture and presenting its national image.

The project has three branches in the cities of Xi'an, Hangzhou and Guangzhou, and opening activities were also held in these locations on the same day. —Xinhua

Pro-Sadr protesters vow to remain inside Iraq parliament

SUPPORTERS of powerful Iraqi cleric Moqtada Sadr occupied the country's parliament on Saturday with no plan to leave, deepening a months-long political standoff.

It is the second time in days that supporters of the firebrand Shiite cleric have forced their way into the legislative chamber, after October elections failed to lead to the formation of a government.

"The demonstrators an-

nounce a sit-in until further notice," Sadr's movement said in a brief statement to journalists carried by state news agency INA.

In multi-confessional and multi-ethnic Iraq, government formation has involved complex negotiations since the 2003 US-led invasion toppled dictator Saddam Hussein.

Supporters of Sadr, who once led a militia against US and Iraqi government forces,

oppose a rival, pro-Iran Shiite bloc's pick for prime minister — Mohammed Shia al-Sudani.

The post conventionally goes to a figure from Iraq's Shiite majority.

"We don't want Mr Sudani," said one protester, Sattar al-Aliawi, 47.

The civil servant said he was protesting against "a corrupt and incapable government" and would "sleep here" in the gardens of parliament. —AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Grenade blast at Afghan cricket match killed 2 spectators: police

A grenade that exploded during a match at Afghanistan's main cricket stadium killed two spectators, police said Saturday, a day after the blast.

At the time of the explosion, hundreds of people were at the domestic T20 league match at the Kabul International Cricket Stadium.

When contacted after the blast, Kabul police spokesman Khalid Zadran said it was caused by a grenade, but did not offer any details on casualties.

Nasseb Khan, the chief executive of Afghanistan Cricket Board, had tweeted that four spectators were wounded in the explosion.

On Saturday, Zadran said the blast had killed two spectators. "One died on the spot while the other succumbed later to his injuries," he told AFP.

While levels of violence in Afghanistan have fallen since the Taliban's takeover in August last year, the Islamic State group has carried out several bombings and gun attacks in recent months. No group has so far claimed Friday's blast at the stadium.

This year's edition of the Shpageeza Cricket League — its eighth season — is the first such tournament since the Taliban seized power.

Its eight teams have many players from the country's national team. —AFP

Senegal elects parliament in test for presidential vote

SENEGALESE voters head to the polls Sunday for parliamentary elections the opposition hopes will force a coalition with President Macky Sall and curb any ambitions he may hold for a third term. Sixty-year-old Sall, who was elected in 2012 for seven years then re-elected in 2019 for another five, has been accused of wanting to break the two-term limit and run again in 2024.

He has remained vague on the subject, but any defeat of his supporters in Sunday's vote could upset such plans.

Polling stations are due to open at 0800 GMT and close at 1800 GMT.

The single-round ballot will decide the 165 seats of the single-chamber parliament — currently controlled by the president's supporters — for the next five years. —AFP

SIC/ENVIRON

Chinese booster rocket makes uncontrolled return to Earth
PAGE-10



SPORT



Australia's Emma McKeon (left) has now won 10 Commonwealth golds. **PHOTO: AFP**

Australian swim star McKeon, New Zealand cyclists dazzle at Commonwealths

EMMA McKeon needs just one more title to break the record for most Australian Commonwealth Games golds after yet another win in the pool on Saturday as New Zealand dominated on the cycling track.

McKeon, 28, swam the anchor leg as Australia won the women's 4x100 metres relay to put her alongside Ian Thorpe, Susie O'Neill and Leisel Jones on 10 gold medals.

"It's nice to do that 10th one in a relay," she told Australia's Channel 7. "It's kind of all a bit of a blur, I guess. It's been over a long time. I mean my first one was 2014 and I was so young."

Scotland's Duncan Scott avenged his Olympic defeat at the hands of his friend Tom Dean.

Scott beat England's Dean in a thrilling men's 200m freestyle duel, pulling away from the Olym-

pic champion in the final 50m to win in a time of 1min 45.02sec.

The 25-year-old returned to the pool to take bronze in the 400m individual medley behind New Zealand gold medallist Lewis Clareburt, who won in a time of 4:08.70.

South Africa's Lara van Niekerk won the women's 50m freestyle while compatriot Pieter Coetzee triumphed in the men's 100m backstroke.—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.

Yangon United draw 0-0 against ISPE in MNL Week-6

THE Myanmar National League Week-6 match played between the Yangon United team and ISPE team, which was played at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre, ended in a goalless draw. Both teams used all-out effort starting from the first minute.

Yangon's Lamin Htwe got a chance to score with an assist from Yan Naing Oo, but his attempt went slid to the goal post. In 35 minutes, Htet Phyto Wai of Yangon United drove to the net but hit the right post and went over after receiving the ball from Zaw Win Thein.

Again Yangon's Zaw Win Thein tried to hit to the net in the later minutes, and was denied by the keeper, and the first half ended with 0-0. In the second half, ISPE attempt-

ed to find a goal, but they could not finish it. At the final whistle, Yangon United drew 0-0 with ISPE. Yangon United Head Coach U Min Tun Lin said, "Today's match was a good game, and we got chances to score in the first half, but we could not turn it into a goal. In the second half, we were a little bit weak. I'm disappointed to share the points." Yangon United stands in third place after 6 plays, and face Shan United on 6 August.—GNLM

Win Thein tried to hit to the net in the later minutes, and was denied by the keeper, and the first half ended with 0-0. In the second half, ISPE attempt-

Yangon United player (green) attempts to pass over the ISPE player (yellow) during their Week-6 Myanmar National League match at Thuwunna YTC in Yangon on 31 July 2022. **PHOTO:MNL**

MRTV to broadcast ISR U-19 Men's Football Semifinals live

THE semifinal matches of the Inter-State/Region U-19 Men's Football of 2022 will be played between the Mandalay Region team and the Kayin State team at 7 am and the Kachin State team and the Mon State team at 3:30 pm at the Wunna Theik-di Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw on 1 August.

One of the fixtures will be broadcast live on MRTV Sports Channel at 6:45 am and will replay on MRTV HD at 1 pm. MRTV HD and MRTV Sports Channel will broadcast another game live at 3:15 pm.—MNA