

## NATIONAL

Pure gold bullion and ingot weighing 3 visses each to be sold through tender

PAGE-3

## NATIONAL

SPTT continues 2<sup>nd</sup>-day meeting with UWSP, NDAA and SSPP delegation

PAGE-5

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

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

## Industrial zones based on manufacturing will be beneficial for the people: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks into the edible oil manufactured by the industrial zone in Meiktila on 28 September 2022.

**E**stablishment of industrial zones needs to be undertaken on a wider scale not only for relevant regions but for the State economy, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing together with SAC

Joint-Secretary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo, Union ministers U Tin Htut Oo, U Hla Moe and Dr Charlie Than, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Maung Ko and officials in a meeting with MSME business persons from Meiktila District at the hall of Meiktila Industrial Zone yesterday af-

ternoon.

### Development of MSME

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General said that industrial zones need to have greater development than now. Currently, micro-, small- and medium-scale enterprises are

of importance not only in Myanmar but in the international community. The State Administration Council could not focus on the economic development of the nation due to political conflicts and the outbreak of Covid-19.

**SEE PAGE-3**

### INSIDE TODAY

#### NATIONAL

New five-storey building at Monywa General Hospital (500-bed) commissioned into service in hailing Diamond Jubilee Independence Day

**PAGE-4**

#### NATIONAL

Military doctors continues second day of first liver transplant marking Diamond Jubilee Medical Corps Day

**PAGE-5**

#### NATIONAL

Travel companies, hotels and lodges receive K21.4 billion loan

**PAGE-5**

#### CURRENT AFFAIRS

Bothtaung Pagoda to receive donations from well-wishers via mobile pay

**PAGE-6**

#### LOCAL BUSINESS

Abundant supply of peanut drives oil price down to K11,000 per viss

**PAGE-7**





## Statement on systematic purchase and registration of SIM cards

1. According to the investigation of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Transport and Communications, some SIM card users are using the SIM cards without filling up the correct user names and Citizenship Scrutiny Card numbers.
2. Currently, the Ministry of Immigration and Population builds a National Database listing over 52 million people, holders of any cards of citizens, associate citizens, naturalized citizens and any IDs through the e-ID Biographic Registration Software. Therefore, the user names and CSC numbers used in SIM card registration will be checked with the National Database of the Ministry of Immigration and Population, and the users should buy and use the SIM cards after registering with CSC (original) for names and card numbers, and if it is found the data of currently using SIM cards are completed incorrectly, they will be cancelled for good and the balances will be nationalized.
3. The operators and SIM card sellers should follow the instructions in selling the SIM cards and registration processes, and if they fail to do so, action will be taken against them under the procedures. The operators must send SMS to SIM card users.
4. Therefore, the users should fill in the correct data when they buy SIM cards and check whether the currently used SIM cards are registered correctly. If they are not, the users should register with correct data through the Online services of respective mobile operators, at sale counters and mobile shops in time to avert cancellation.

*Posts and Telecommunications Department*

## Notification for public awareness

THE people are informed that they can solve the difficulties on citizenship scrutiny cards and household registration form-66/6 (AHtaSa) at relevant township immigration offices.

1. Citizenship scrutiny card
  - (a) Those who lost CSC or have damaged CSC must report it to relevant township immigration offices.
  - (b) Those who do not take CSC after turning 10 can apply for the cards at relevant immigration offices or join for the cards in the implementation of the Pankhinn project.
  - (c) Despite having made the CSC for 10 years old, they have to change new cards in respective age-wise terms.
  - (d) If they face some different facts in CSC, they have to amend these wrong facts at relevant township immigration offices.
  - (e) No one is to hold more than one CSC. If so, they have to hand over extra cards to relevant township immigration offices as quickly as possible. If they do not hand over the additional cards by 1 November 2022, the latest CSC will be approved, and the remaining ones will be inserted into the list of revocation.
  - (f) Those who hold the national registration cards must change their cards to the CSC at the relevant township immigration office (only for eligible persons).
  - (g) If the persons suspect somebody of holding their CSC, they have to report it to relevant township immigration offices.
2. Form-66/6 household registration (AHtaSa)
  - (a) Those who lost or have damaged Form-66/6 (AHtaSa) must report it to relevant township immigration offices for solving the problems.
  - (b) If members of the family mentioned in Form-66/6 (AHtaSa) receive CSC, they have to fill CSC number at relevant township immigration offices without fail.
  - (c) If facts and data at Form-66/6 (AHtaSa) are different from CSC, they have to amend them at relevant township immigration offices. (For example CSC number, name, date of birth, father's name and mother's name)
  - (d) Those holding more than one Form-66/6 (AHtaSa) must report it to relevant township immigration offices as quickly as possible. (For example: although they have made household registration in Patheingyi, they made one more registration again in Yangon.) If they do not hand over the additional registration till 1 November 2022, the latest registration will be approved and previous Forms-66/6 (AHtaSa) will be cancelled.
  - (e) Whenever they have changes of data for Form-66/6 (AHtaSa) for moving in and out, giving birth or death, they have to amend new information at relevant township immigration offices.
  - (f) Those who do not have any household registration form-66/6 (AHtaSa) in any area must contact nearby township immigration offices for receiving scrutiny under the Pankhinn project.
3. As the Ministry of Immigration and Population has listed more than 52 million people holding any cards of citizens, associate citizens, naturalized citizens and any IDs through e-ID biographic registration software, the people need to contact nearby township immigration offices for solving the problems of CSC and other IDs, additional IDs, differences in Form-66/6 (AHtaSa) and additional registration. Action will be taken against the overdue measures.

*Ministry of Immigration and Population*

## Public Notice

THE Central Bank of Myanmar makes efforts for the emergence of a secure and quality national payment system, as the technologies are well developed, the money transfer services can be made easily through mobile payment.

Meanwhile, unscrupulous persons do not fill in the correct data to commit illegal money transfers and swindling of money using mobile payments. Solving such frauds can be done only when people fill in their personal data correctly. Moreover, it should follow the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism procedures in making cross-border payments.

Currently, the Ministry of Immigration and Population builds a National Database listing over 52 million people, holders of any cards of citizens, associate citizens, naturalized citizens and any IDs through the e-ID Biographic Registration Software.

According to the international standards for the Electronic – Know Your Customer (e-KYC) processes, the user names, citizenship scrutiny card numbers and SIM-card numbers filled in mobile payment accounts will be checked with the National Database of the Ministry of Immigration and Population and SIM Registration Database of the Posts and Telecommunications Department.

Therefore, the users need to fill up the correct data for KYC. The mobile payment accounts will be cancelled for good if the users fail to fill up the data within the fixed duration.

The users of bank-led mobile payment, banks and enterprises allowed for mobile banking, mobile banking services and merchant acquiring operating under the permission of CBM should go to the nearest Agents/banks to make Level 2 upgrade in time. The service providers must send SMS to the Level 1 customers to upgrade it to Level 2 of KYC. Those who do not want to upgrade it to Level-2 can contact the banks and mobile banking service counters to ensure the proper ways to use the remaining balance.

*Central Bank of Myanmar*

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*News and Periodicals Enterprise*

# Our government is working towards the welfare of the people and the future of the Union

TODAY, the Tatmadaw is taking on national responsibility 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.

*(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting (2/2022) of the National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 31 July 2022)*

## The industrial zones based on manufacturing will be beneficial ...

### FROM PAGE-1

#### Need to strive for manufacturing thread and textiles for local demand

At present, as the country has returned into normalcy with controlling Covid-19 to some extent, the government is striving for the improvement of the State economy. The State economic promotion fund shares capital with the agriculture sector. A plan is underway to hand over the capital funds to MSME industries as well as cotton growers. On the other hand, Tatmadaw textile factories need to meet the local demand.

#### Increasing per-acre yield of cotton and oil crops to help develop industries

Mandalay Region places more than 36,000 acres of land under long and short-staple cotton plants. Boosting per-acre yield will help develop industries related to the cotton crop. Efforts must be made to raise the per-acre yield of cotton in the Meiktila District.

#### Concerted efforts for the



SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets MSME business people in Meiktila District on 28 September 2022.

#### emergence of an industrial zone based on manufacturing

Meiktila District is capable of successfully operating the livestock sector: The livestock sector can supply raw materials for MSMEs to produce value-added products to be exported abroad. It is necessary to generate electricity through solar power for

electrifying Meiktila Industrial Zone. The establishment of industrial zones needs to be undertaken on a wider scale not only for relevant regions but for the State economy. The industrial zones based on manufacturing will be beneficial for the people.

Before the speech of the Senior General, responsible persons at different levels re-

ported on approval for industrial zone rule, expansion of oil crops acreage, prices of machinery and devices used at the rice mills, production of quality cotton seeds, technical assistance for systematic disposal of waste from industrial zones.

After the meeting, the Senior General viewed round textile products manufactured by indus-

trial zones, oil crops and other products. Officials conducted them round the booths.

The Senior General and party visited Thein Gabar Kyaw gram crushing mills and industries. Businessperson U Maung Maung explained the operation of the gram crushing mill. Later, the Senior General asked things what he wanted to know. — MNA

## Pure gold bullion and ingot weighing 3 visses each to be sold through tender

PURE gold bullion weighing three visses and pure gold ingot weighing three visses will be sold through a tender system at the Myanmar Gems Museum on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and at the Star Mart at the corner of 26<sup>th</sup> and 66<sup>th</sup> streets in Mandalay from 1 pm to 3 pm on 29 September, it is reported.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation will sell pure

gold bullion and pure gold ingot through the tender system and detailed information is available at the Myanmar Gems Enterprise Head Office (Nay Pyi Taw), the Myanmar Gems Museum in Yangon and the Myanmar Gems Enterprise (Mandalay).

Gold coins will go on sale as usual, according to the report. — MNA

## Daily imports of essential Anti-Covid-19 equipment conducted in smooth process

MINISTRY of Commerce supervises the import of essential medical supplies and anti-Covid devices as well as Covid-19 prevention, control and treatment activities through border trade posts, international airports and seaports.

A company imported 7.44 tonnes of disposable face masks by vehicle from the Chinshwehaw border trade camp.

Officials from relevant departments provided necessary facilities in order to beef up the standard operating procedures-SOP for the import process.

The public can browse the ministry's website — [www.commerce.gov.mm](http://www.commerce.gov.mm) — for notifications on the importation of medicines and related accessories. — MNA



# SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits Meiktila textile factory



SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing hears the report on the history and production of the Meiktila Textile Factory yesterday.

briefed the Senior General on the implementation of the instructions given by the latter during his visit to the factory in December 2021, a brief history of the factory, production of various types of textile, welfare of the employees and trial production of 2/80 yarn with homegrown cotton.

After hearing the reports, the Senior General advised the personnel concerned to produce high-quality textiles and fabrics from homegrown cotton and to upgrade the machinery currently in use at the factory and he asked them all he wanted to know in detail and gave necessary instructions.

Then, the Senior General examined the quality of textiles and fabrics to be used for the uniform and gave cash awards to the employees. — MNA

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by SAC

Joint Secretary Lt Gen Ye Win Oo, Union Ministers U Tin Htut Oo, U Hla Moe and Dr Charlie Than, Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Maung Ko, Chief of

the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Maung Maung Aye and commander of the Central Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko Oo, went on an inspection tour

of the Tatmadaw textile factory (Meiktila) yesterday morning. At the meeting hall of the factory, Director of the Ordnance Maj-Gen Win Lwin

# New five-storey building at Monywa General Hospital (500-bed) commissioned into service in hailing Diamond Jubilee Independence Day

AS a gestures of hailing the Diamond Jubilee Independence Day, State Administration Council Member Union Minister for Defence General Mya Tun Oo attended the opening ceremony of a new five-storey building at Monywa General Hospital (500-bed) in Sagaing Region together with Region Chief Minister U Myat Kyaw, North-West Command Commander Brig-Gen Than Htike and relevant officials yesterday.

First, the Sagaing Region chief minister, the North-West Command commander, the deputy minister for Health and the deputy minister for Construction cut the ribbon to launch the ceremony and Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo unveiled the signboard of the new five-storey building.

The new five-storey building at Monywa General Hospital

was constructed by the Building Special Task Force-10 of the Ministry of Construction spending K9,180.439 million and the construction was completed in the 2021-2022FY. It will provide the needy healthcare services to locals and support learning activities of the trainees of nursing/midwifery training schools in the region and x-ray/medical technician training conducted at the hospital. It is a modern building with two elevators, containing emergency and outpatient departments, a pathological department, an X-ray department, five operation theatres, intensive care unit and so on.

Then, the Union minister and party inspected the hospital compound and provided cash awards and foodstuffs. Then, the medical superintendent of the hospital expressed thanks.

They then attended the exhi-



Union Defence Minister General Mya Tun Oo encourages and provides nutritious food to the patient.

hibition to promote agriculture and livestock products and a ceremony to provide seeds and inputs. During the visit, the Union minister and officials met relevant

officials and provided the seeds, pesticides, Gypsum powder and fertilizers.

At noon, the officials went to the local military hospital in

Monywa and comforted the military personnel, families, police and residents who are under treatment and provided nutritious food. — MNA

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# SPTT continues 2<sup>nd</sup>-day meeting with UWSP, NDAA and SSPP delegation

THE State Peace Talks Team-SPTT conducted the second-day meeting with the delegation led by the vice-chairman of the United Wa State Party-UWSP, the vice-chairman of the National Democratic Alliance Army-NDAA and the vice-chairman-2 of the Shan State Progress Party-SSPP at the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre on 28 September morning.

The meeting was attended by State Administration Council Member Union Minister at the Government Office Chairman of National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee-NSPNC Peace Talks Team Leader Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, SAC Member Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun, NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min

Naung and NSPNC members Lt-Gen Min Naing, Lt-Gen Win Bo Shein and Lt-Gen Aye Win and UWSP Vice-Chairman U Lau Yaku, Head of Political Department of UWSP U Aik Nap Ling, NDAA Vice-Chairman U San Pae, General Secretary U Kyi Myint, SSPP Vice-Chairman-2 Sao Khun Seng and SSPP Secretary-2 Sao Seng Hsu.

During the second-day meeting, NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naung explained the stage-by-stage implementation of the post-2020 stage-wise procedures and implementations (Table 2) agreed to discuss with ethnic armed organizations that have signed the NCA, and the participants exchanged their views.



The State Peace Talks Team hold the second-day meeting with the delegations from UWSP, NDAA and SSPP yesterday.

Afterwards, the SPTT discussed with the SSPP delegation the points to be amended to the

2008 Constitution, and the meeting was closed after attendees exchanged their views and atti-

tudes frankly. It is learnt that the third-day meeting will continue on 29 September. — MNA

# Military doctors continues second day of first liver transplant marking Diamond Jubilee Medical Corps Day



The first-ever liver transplant operation goes into its second day yesterday.

MILITARY doctors performed the second day of the first liver transplant at the special treatment centre of Defence Services General Hospital (1000-bed) in Mingaladon Township of Yangon Region yesterday marking the Diamond Jubilee Medical Corps Day which will fall on 1 October.

The liver transplant was conducted on the recipient Daw

Khin Thuzar Myo and liver donor Daw Kay Thi Myint.

The surgeons took out the liver from the donor at 8 am yesterday and the operation took about 12 hours. The liver donor and the patient are in good condition and under the medical treatment of specialists.

Maj-Gen Ko Ko Lwin, Director of the Directorate of the

Medical Services under the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials of GI and Liver Foundation (Myanmar) watched the liver transplant operation.

The health conditions of two patients who underwent the liver transplant Tuesday are improving under the proper medical treatment of medics. — MNA

# Travel companies, hotels and lodges receive K21.4 billion loan

A K21.4 billion loan was issued by the State to travel companies, hotels, and lodges for the purpose of tourism development, according to Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the World Tourism Day event.

He added that K21.4 billion had already been lent to 244 travel companies and 339 hotels and lodges to date from the amount specified to use three to four per cent of the national budget under the COVID-19 Economic Relief Plan.

In addition, relaxations such as deferring rental for six months for state-owned hotels, offering rental reduction for a total of 21 months from April 2020 to December 2021, and granting exemption of business licence fees for hotels, motels, tourism businesses, and tour guides for one year, were made.

Over 250 million tourists around the world entered the countries between January and May in 2022 whereas

there were 77 million in the same period of the previous year. About 173 million more tourists, 225 per cent in terms of percentage, came in this year, according to statistics from the World Tourism Organization.

There is a growth in domestic tourism in Myanmar as the epidemic situation of the COVID-19 disease has decreased since October 2021. International airlines have also been re-opened starting from 17 April 2022.

The World Tour e-Visa has been issued on 20 May 2022 since great potential is seen in the tourism industry. The Prime Minister added that it is expected that domestic and foreign tourism in Myanmar will further improve in the open season and bring benefits to all business sectors.

In addition to providing employment opportunities for people in urban and rural areas, ethnic traditions, cultural heritage, natural resources and beauty can be displayed as well. — TWA/GNLM

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## CURRENT AFFAIRS

### Botahtaung Pagoda to receive donations from well-wishers via mobile pay

ACCORDING to the board of trustees of the Botahtaung Pagoda, well-wishers can make donations through mobile pay.

The board of trustees is currently receiving donations via KBZ pay and AYA pay, and planning to use CB pay for the convenience of donors from

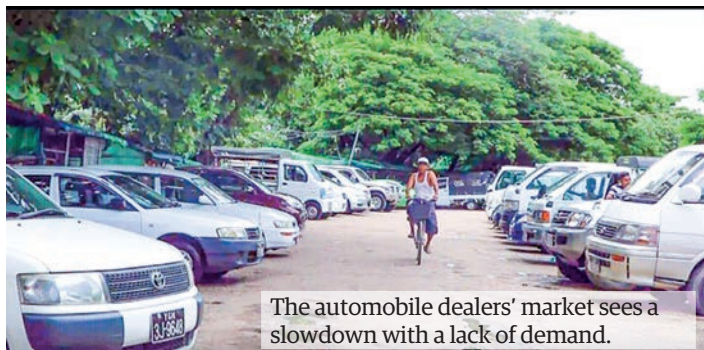
other regions and foreign countries. A QR code is mentioned on the Botahtaung Pagoda Facebook Page for donors who

will be using online payments. Well-wishers can make donations through KBZ Pay or AYA Pay by scanning the QR code.

Donors need to notify the

treasurer from the board of trustees of the amount of their donations and the purpose for the donation.

The board of trustees will check the information and post it on the Facebook Page for the public to know. — TWA/GNLM



The automobile dealers' market sees a slowdown with a lack of demand.

### Automobile market sees weaker demand

THE demand for cars is still slowing down in the automobile market yet the sellers outnumber the buyers, Ko Sein Tun, a dealer, told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

"The demand for cars is dropping at present. Cars worth K20 to 30 million are transacted only. Nowadays, sellers and buyers are engaged in digital marketplaces. Some want to resell their cars but they are not in a position to buy another after selling their cars," Ko Sein Tun stressed.

Types of cars such as Probox, Succeed, AD Van, Toyota Mark II 200 and unmodified Wish 2003 model are popular in the market. The prices of those used cars are between K20 million and 30 million.

Last July, a dollar crunch in the local forex market stopped the imports of auto parts, resulting in a temporary suspension of the operations at the auto factories. The automobile market went into chaos and the prices surged at that time.

At the end of June 2022, the price remarkably went up. Yet, the supply is exceeding the demand for used vehicles in late September. The buyers are seldom found, for now, the dealers said.

The auto factories working

with the semi-knocked down system from Japan, the Republic of Korea and China have grasped market shares.

"The buyers choose cars depending on specification rather than the licence number. Vehicles with engines under 2000 CC are highly demanded. Some dealers who keep three or more vehicles in their hands are expecting buyers. Some transactions occur among the dealers. Supply outperforms demand. The dealers cannot convert them into cash for now. Some even want to resell them with some losses yet there is no buyer in the automobile market," the GNLM quoted Ko Tun Naing, a dealer, as saying.

Earlier, the vehicles with engines under 1300 CC were offered K28 million to 30 million although they were priced at K15 million. At present, auto sales dropped due to the demand pause.

The market prices of the cars are K22 million-45 million for 2008 Honda Fit, K19-28 million for 2007, 2008, 2009 Toyota Vitz, K18-25 million for 2011, 2012 Suzuki Swift, K18-26 million for 2011 Nissan March, K55-90 million for 2006-2008 Mitsubishi Fuso Canter, K18-29 million for 2018, 2019 Suzuki Carry. — TWA/GNLM

## Weekly market update of dry groceries

DURING the week ending 27 September, the prices of onion, Kyukok garlic, potato, chilli pepper, Pawsan rice varieties, black gram and chickpeas have declined.

#### Onion

In the last week of September 2022, the prices of onions were down by K400 per viss. The onions from the Seikphyu area set prices at K2,800-3,200 per viss in the wholesale market on 22 September, whereas the prices dropped to K2,400-2,800 per viss.

The maximum price of onions was K2,550 per viss at Seikphyu commodity depot and K2,725 per viss of onions at Pakokku commodity depot, according to the price data of those two regions.

#### Garlic

On 27 September, the wholesale prices of garlic from Shan State (Aungban area) moved in the range of K2,800-3,800 per viss while Kyukok garlic also fetched K3,800 per viss.

#### Potato

The price of Chinese potatoes decreased to K1,950 on 27 September, whereas local Shan potatoes were priced at K1,450-2,100 per viss depending on quality.

#### Chilli pepper

On 27 September, the chilli pepper prices went down to K15,500-19,000 per viss depending on different varieties (Moehtaung, long red chilli (Panye) and green chilli), whereas the bell pepper is sold at K17,000-19,000 per viss.

#### Palm oil

The wholesale reference price of palm oil in the Yangon Region for a week from 26 September to 2 October declined by K30 per viss compared to the last week's price. The reference price this week was set at K4,660 per viss. Meanwhile, the wholesale price is estimated at K7,700 per viss and K75,000-76,000 per 100-viss jarrycan.

#### Rice

New low-grade rice is flowing into the market. The export

price of broken rice stood at around K41,000-42,000 per bag. The prices of both high-grade and low-grade rice were stable in the markets. The prices of high-grade Pawsan varieties were constant at K92,000 per bag from the Shwebo area, K62,000-63,000 from the Pyapon area, K68,000 from Myaungmya and Patheingyi areas and K63,000 from other areas. Meanwhile, the prices of short-mature rice (90 days) hit K49,000 per bag. The prices of low-grade rice varieties moved in the range of K42,000-45,000 per bag respectively.

#### Pulses

On 27 September, the prices of various pulses stood at over K1,970,000 per tonne of black gram (Fair Average Quality/RC), K2,320,000 per tonne of black gram (Special Quality/RC), K2,130,000 per tonne of pigeon pea (red gram) RC in Yangon markets. The chickpea price decreased from K4,400-4,600 to K4,125-4,400 per viss. —TWA/GNLM



The picture shows a range of dry groceries displayed at a shopping centre.



# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Abundant supply of peanut drives oil price down to K11,000 per viss

THE price of peanut oil dropped to K11,000 per viss on account of a bountiful supply of fresh peanuts in Mandalay market in recent days, traders said.

Those newly harvested peanuts from Nay Pyi Taw, Tatkon, Pyinmana, Magway, Yenangyoung, Chauk, Myaung and Myinmu areas are entering Mandalay market. Last month, the peanut oil fetched up to K16,000 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes). The current market price plunged to

K11,000 per viss. Following the price slide in peanut oil, other edible oil prices also dipped.

“Mandalay market has seen a large supply of fresh peanuts in recent days. The peanut price hit the highest of K6,500-7,500 in September. The abundant supply of fresh peanuts to the Mandalay market resulted in the price drop to K5,300-5,800 per viss. Moreover, a lockdown in Ruli triggered by the COVID-19 impacts suspended the trade.

That being so, the price tends to decline. It is good for the consumers. Furthermore, peanuts from the central region of Myanmar and Shan State will be harvested soon. As a result of this, the oil price is unlikely to rise,” said U Soe Win Myint, an owner of the Soe Win Myint warehouse in Mandalay.

Growers and traders need to maintain the price. Peanut is primarily cultivated in Mandalay, Sagaing, Magway and Bago regions. It is exported



Peanuts are pictured in the market.

to foreign markets beyond Aung (Mandalay Sub-Printing self-sufficiency. — Min Htet House)/GNLM

## High-grade rice prices start declining on supply of low-grade fresh rice

THE harvest of monsoon paddy ended and fresh rice started to enter Yangon markets, Ko Win Aung, a rice trader involved in Bayintnaung Wholesale Market, told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

Broken rice prices touched a high of K41,000-42,000 per bag. The low-grade fresh rice is relatively higher at K42,000-43,000 per bag. The harvest of Pawsan paddy will commence in November and high-grade Pawsan rice will flow into the market at that time, Ko Zaw Lat, a seller of high-grade rice varieties, told the GNLM.

This being so, old high-grade rice will share the market share with new ones in two months. The consumers have purchased an adequate stock of old rice for their households. Compared to the previous years, people have stockpiled rice this year.

Consequently, the sellers have to reduce the price a bit on the low demand.

The sales promotion posts about high-grade Pawsan rice from the Shwebo area at K100,000 per bag are rarely found on social media at present, a consumer said. Shwebo Pawsan rice is priced at around K90,000 per bag. Pawsan rice from Pathein and Myaungmya areas

which were valued at above K70,000 per bag, dipped to K68,000 per bag, while the price of Pawsan rice from the Pyapon area decreased from K67,000 to K63,000-64,000 per bag.

The price of fresh Pawsan rice that will enter the market next month is usually K10,000 lower than the old one. The price difference narrows the options of the consumers as they choose the fairer one.

There is a price gap of K20,000-25,000 per bag between Shwebo Pawsan and Pawsan from delta regions from mid-2022.

However, during the harvest season of high-grade Pawsan in January 2021, Shwebo Pawsan was K2,000 cheaper than those from delta regions, the GNLM quoted Ko Tin Ko, a rice trader, as saying.

The prices stood at K65,000 per bag of Pawsan rice from the Shwebo area and K59,000 from Pathein and Myaungmya area in June-end, 2022. The prices of Pawsan increased to K64,000-70,000 per bag in the third week of July and continued to rise to K70,000-91,000 per bag in August-end. On 28 September, the traders kept the price at K68,000-92,000 per bag. — TWA/GNLM



Various kinds of rice are seen at one rice outlet.

## Domestic pure gold price falls deep into bear market

THE price of yellow metal extends decline to K2.6 million per tical (0.578 ounce or 0.016 kilogramme), according to the domestic gold market.

The downward trend of pure gold in the domestic market is attributed to the fall in gold spot prices in international markets and Kyat's appreciation in the forex market.

The current gold spot price is US\$1,620 per ounce and a dollar is exchanged at around K3,000 in the black market.

The dollar jumped to over K4,500 in the unofficial markets in the last week of August. The soaring dollar pushed up the pure gold price to a record-high of K3.7 million per tical.

The prevailing prices of pure gold are K2.59 million per tical for selling and K2.56 million per tical for buying.

On 27 September, gold price was estimated at K2.7 million per tical. The price, therefore, indicated a sharp drop of K100,000 per tical within one day.

The governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) and officials of the Monitoring and Steering Committee on the Gold and Currency Market discussed matters regarding the stability of the gold and currency market on the afternoon of 14 September in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, the governor of the CBM remarked the further coordination of the departments concerned, gold bar transactions to be made with the banking system and operations of the banks, further support of the ministries concerned and the CBM to achieve price stability, and further cooperation between gold businesspersons and the officials.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation declared the sales of gold coins weighing one tical, 0.5 tical and 0.25 tical through state-run media on 2 September. Gold coins have

been on sale at the Nay Pyi Taw's Gems Emporium from 5 September.

Gold coins were sold at K2.95 million per tical on 5 September, K2.85 million from 6 to 13 September and K2.8 million from 14 to 16 September respectively. The accumulated sales of gold coins stood at 455.75 ticals as of 16 September, according to the statement released by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.

The State's gold coin market has expanded to Yangon and Mandalay regions from 23 September other than Nay Pyi Taw, the ministry issued an announcement through the state-run media on 22 September.

Last 28 September 2021, a dollar value hit a peak of over K3,000 in the black market, pushing the pure gold up to K2.22 million per tical.

Under the guidance of the Central Committee on Ensuring Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods, the Monitoring and Steering Committee on the Gold and Currency Market was formed on 17 December 2021 as gold and currency market stability plays a crucial role in trade facilitation.

The objectives of the committee are inspecting and prosecuting market manipulation, checking if there is compliance with payment rules in the domestic market, and proceeding against those unscrupulous traders who intend to interfere with the free and fair operation of the market under the existing laws, by-laws and regulations in line with the official directives, illegal foreign currency holding, illegal trade and taking legal actions against price manipulators.

Furthermore, the officials concerned will crack down on those people involved in charging a percentage for money withdrawals at the banks as shadow money. — NN/GNLM



# OPINION

## Be healthy heart for all living beings

EVERYBODY needs to exercise good-natured practice with a good heart not only upon themselves but on any other in relations. Moreover, they have to exercise dispersing Metta (compassion) for all others as an act of serving their interests.

“World Heart Day” was founded in 2000 to inform people around the globe that cardiovascular disease and stroke are the world’s leading causes of death. World Heart Day is celebrated every year on 29 September for enabling the global people to notice the danger of heart disease in various forms.

Generally, cardiologists advise people to follow the dos and don’ts to be free from the bad impacts of heart diseases. Actually, nobody wishes to suffer from heart disease. But, heart diseases unexpectedly fall upon them. In fact, it is possible that everybody may face heart disease regardless of age and gender. Hence, all need to strive for overcoming these challenges of heart disease. How can they do so?

Such a way does not cost any coin. Medical and mental treatment affects not only heart patients but for those from environs. Dispersing compassion reflects all dimensions of the objects or living beings. If so, the best therapy will be essential for all patients with heart disease.

Medical experts such as cardiologists disseminate the people information about the danger of heart diseases. On the other hand, people should notice some points of advice based on religion. It is just a practice of dispersing compassion for all living beings. Practically, while dispersing compassion, the physical and mental situations of the person are in peace. At a moment, the nature of the mental situation will be in good condition for those persons. Dispersing compassion can be said as treating themselves by stabilizing the heart with regular blood circulation in the body through a healthy heart.

Such a way does not cost any coin. Medical and mental treatment affects not only heart patients but for those

from environs. Dispersing compassion reflects all dimensions of the objects or living beings. If so, the best therapy will be essential for all patients with heart disease.

World Heart Day aims to spread awareness about the importance of keeping the heart fit as it’s one of the most important organs that deliver oxygen and nutrients to cells and also removes waste products. Any sign of heart trouble should be taken seriously as it is linked to one’s longevity and survival.

As the theme of World Heart Day this year, “USE HEART FOR EVERY BEAT”, medical expert stress that there is no cause-effect relationship between cardiac ailments like myocarditis or inflammation of the heart and Covid-19 vaccine or booster shots. Hence, the people need to take Covid-19 vaccination safely while dispersing compassion for all living beings without fail for having their good health as well as for serving the interests of all.

CAPITAL punishment means the execution of the convict upon whom the death sentence is imposed according to the law for his commitment to a crime. The word capital has its Latin root, ‘capitalis’, suggesting the head. In those days, those who had a death sentence imposed were beheaded or decapitated in other words.

Under the Babylonian Code of Hammurabi, there is a provision, “An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth”. This provision is enshrined in this code based on the tit-for-tat policy.

Matter-of-factly, the passage of the death sentence has its beginning since time immemorial. The historical records reveal that the ancient tribes and clans have had capital punishment enshrined in their legal systems throughout the different ages in history. This legal practice is still being adopted in 58 nations around the world. Nonetheless, a total of 97 nations have already abolished the passage of the death sentence. Although more nations have abolished capital punishment, 60 per cent of the world’s people are residing in the nations where the

# Why Is Capital Punishment Meted Out?

By Min Khant Kyaw (Law)

death sentence is still being given. The People’s Republic of China, the United States of America, India and Indonesia where sixty per cent of the people of the world are living are still imposing capital punishment.

The judicial authorities are used to giving the death sentence for the commitment of such felonies as murder, espionage, high treason and military crimes. There are also certain countries which give capital punishment for such crimes as rape, adultery and unnatural sexual intercourse. Additionally, there are also certain nations which mete out the death sentence for cases of drug trafficking. China would mete out the death sentence for cases of trafficking in person and of serious corruption committed by the politicians. The military tribunals around the world also mete out the death sentence for such cases as cowardice, absconding from

the military, disobedience of the commands and mutiny.

In this regard, it is worth recalling that Plato once said that capital punishment should be meted out only for irreparable cases. If that is so, I would like to ask a question as to whether intentional man slaughter is reparable or not. It is needed to consider the losses of the bereaved family. The legal imposition of the death sentence is one thing and the lawless, unjust killing of people is another thing. Those who are in favour of giving the death sentence believe that there should be atonement for one’s sins—i.e., if one kills another, the killer should also be killed for the sake of justification. In fact, the imposition of capital punishment is meant not only to please the bereaved family but also to make the law-abiding citizens convinced that those who commit the crimes have due punishment meted out. Those who are in support of the

imposition of the death sentence are saying that mere imprisonment is not enough to deter terrorists.

Singapore is a strong case study, too. Singaporeans are of the opinion that imposition of the capital punishment is more effective than the passage of life imprisonment to prevent felonies from being committed. As for the commitment to drug trafficking, the Singaporean government metes out capital punishment. There are movements calling on the governments to abolish the rule requiring the passage of the death sentence. Yet many nations are continuing to mete out the death sentence. Additionally, some are even extending capital punishment to other serious crimes. There are now 30 nations which mete out capital punishments for the commitment to drug trafficking. Iran, Singapore, Malaysia and the Philippines are practising the mandatory

death sentence for having even a small amount of narcotic drugs in possession. In Singapore, 75 per cent of drug-related cases have a death sentence imposed. In the 30 nations that continue to impose capital punishment, the convicts are executed. Sixty per cent of the states in the United States and the Federal Government are continuing to impose capital punishment. Commencing in from 1976, Texas, Virginia, Florida, Missouri, Louisiana and Oklahoma States have been executing two-thirds of the convicts upon whom the death sentence has been imposed.

Although the number of cases of execution is changing year by year, Belarus, Congo, Iran, Jordan, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Viet Nam and Yemen and some others are continuing to execute the convicts while Japan and India are also doing the executions from time to time. In the interviews with the

Russian News Agencies during his visit to Russia, State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said no one is above the law when asked why his government has imposed capital punishment. He explained that the four convicts who were executed can be divided into two groups depending on the nature of their crimes, that one group included two NLD hard cores, that they were involved in the terrorist activities and that they went so far as to use the mines to kill the people. What is worse is that they killed people not out of uncontrollable wrath arising abruptly but they did so intentionally. The killings were well planned with some pre-meditations. They not only abetted the terrorists to kill the people but also ordered them to do so. Because of the convicts’ encouragement and support, many people were killed, and the victims included civil service personnel,

innocent people, school teachers and health personnel. Even the Buddhist monks and nuns were not spared. Such miserable events have occurred merely because of their plans and provisions and arrangements. This being so, those who commit the crimes will have legal action taken. Another group is not concerned with the political party. They were merciless killers. I will tell you one thing. When one kills another, one may use a gun. And if he fires only one shot, the victim may die or not. But if he fires more than one shot, say he fires two, three, four or even five, it is quite clear that he has the intention to kill the victim. The two guys who were executed were well-intentioned to slaughter the victims ruthlessly. They not only used guns but also used knives to kill their targets. Such guys deserve the execution. How can you forgive such merciless murderers? You can imagine how their bereaved

families would feel. I have to give justice to the bereaved families. This being so, we have meted out capital punishment unavoidably. Previously, we have the death sentence imposed on the convicts but never granted the execution order. I have no heart to grant the execution order but they have killed the victims so ruthlessly that I was forced to give the execution order.

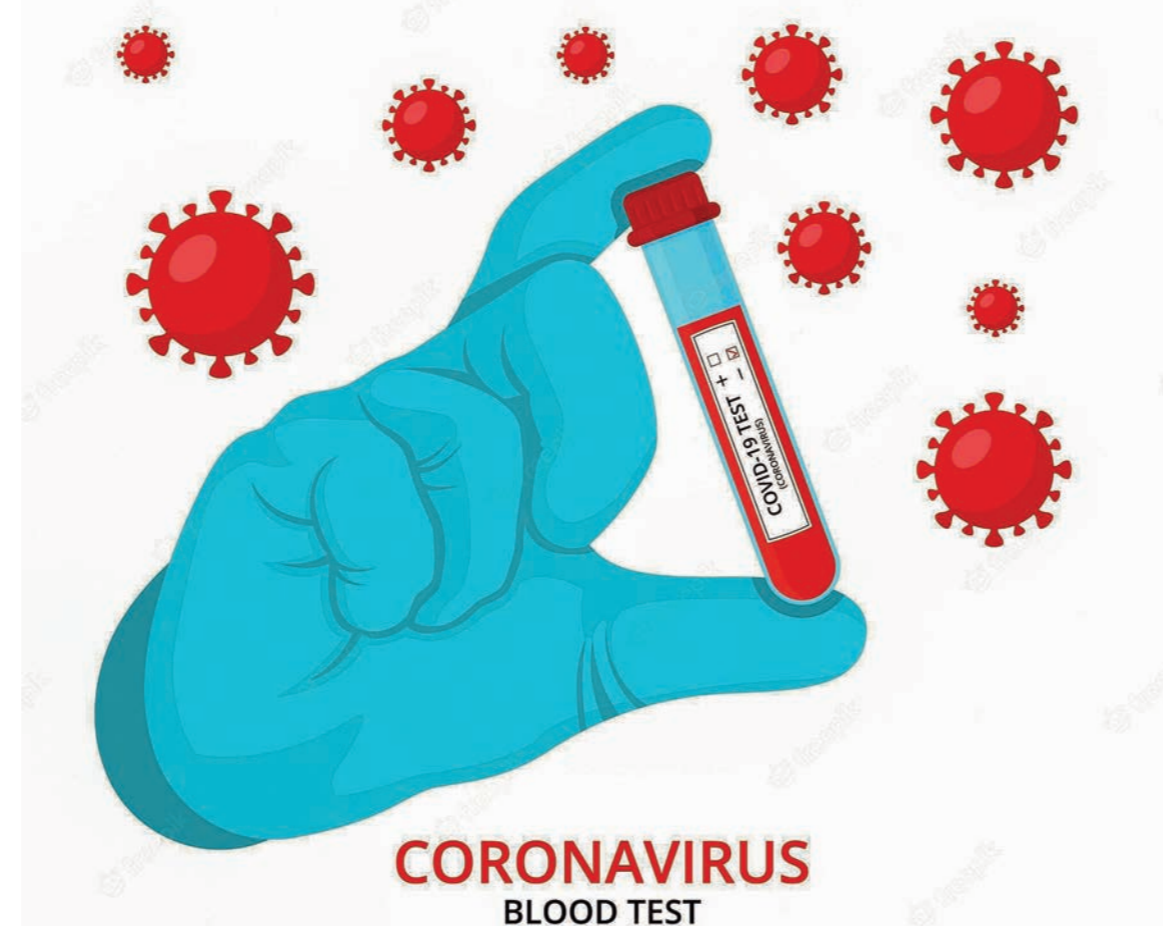
International Law has no provision that prohibits the passage of the death sentence in a fair manner and under national laws. Every sovereign nation is vested with the right to impose capital punishment under its criminal law. According to the Penal Code, intentional killing deserves the death sentence. If the government pardons the murderers who have killed people mercilessly, who have arranged the killing of people *en masse* and who have pulled the string from behind the massacre, the most serious felonies, how can the bereaved families of the victims find justice for the late relatives. Execution has been done as a deterrent punishment. I would like to urge the readers to have an objective view in this regard.

Translated.

## Blood tests may help detect who is likely to get long Covid: Study

A BLOOD test taken at the time of Covid-19 infection can help determine whether a person is likely to develop long-term Covid, according to new research. The study, published in the Lancet eBioMedicine journal, analysed proteins in the blood of healthcare workers infected with SARS-CoV-2 and compared them to samples collected from healthcare workers who had not been infected.

**A dramatic difference in levels**  
Usually, protein levels in the body are stable. But the researchers found a dramatic difference in levels of some of the proteins up to six weeks following infection, suggesting disruption to a number of important biological processes. Using an artificial intelligence (AI) algorithm, they identified a “signature” in the abundance of different proteins that successfully predicted whether or not the person would go on to report persistent symptoms a year after infection. The researchers say that



A blood test taken at the time of Covid-19 infection can help determine whether a person is likely to develop long-term Covid. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF FREEPIK

if these findings are repeated in a larger, independent group of patients, a test could potentially be offered alongside a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test that could predict people’s likelihood of developing long Covid. The study’s lead author Dr Gaby Captur (MRC Unit for Lifelong Health and Ageing at UCL) said, “Our study shows that even mild or asymptomatic Covid-19 disrupts the profile of proteins in our blood plasma.

This means that even mild Covid-19 affects normal biological processes in a dramatic way, up to at least six weeks after infection. “Our tool predicting long Covid still needs to be validated in an independent, larger group of patients. However, using our approach, a test that predicts long Covid at the time of initial infection could be rolled out quickly and in a cost-effective way.

### The method of analysis

“The method of analysis we used is readily available in hospitals and is high-throughput, mean-

ing it can analyse thousands of samples in an afternoon.” Senior author Dr Wendy Heywood (UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health and Great Ormond Street Hospital) said, “If we can identify people who are likely to develop long Covid, this opens the door to trialling treatments such as anti-virals at this earlier, initial infection stage, to see if it can reduce the risk of later long Covid.” For the study, researchers analysed blood plasma samples from 54 healthcare workers who had PCR, or antibody-confirmed infection, taken every week for six weeks in spring 2020, comparing them to samples taken over the same period from 102 healthcare workers who were not infected. They used targeted mass spectrometry, a form of analysis that is extremely sensitive to tiny changes in the number of proteins in blood plasma, to look at how Covid-19 affected these proteins over the course of six weeks.

SOURCE: ANI

## Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 28 September 2022)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is moderate over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weak elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal. **SPECIAL FEATURES:** According to the observations at (18:30)hrs MST today, the Tropical Storm “Noru” over Southern Laos reached to the border areas of Laos and Thailand and continue to move Westwards and it is likely reach over Thailand in the morning of (29.9.2022) and weaken gradually into a Land Depression.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 29 September 2022:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Sagaing Region and Kachin, (Northern and Eastern) Shan States, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway Regions and Southern Shan, Chin States, fairly widespread in Bago Region and Rakhine, Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30-35) mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (7-9) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (4-6) feet off and along Rakhine Coast.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of withdrawal of Southwest monsoon from Central Myanmar areas. **FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 September 2022:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).



**Those wishing to enter the legal fold can contact respective townships' Red Cross Society, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Social Welfare Office and social welfare organizations authorized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in addition to reception centres in border areas, Tatmadaw units and police stations**

THE Information Team of the State Administration Council has released statements inviting CDM staff, students and youths, who are in border areas and ethnic armed groups, they can contact the nearest reception centres in border areas, Tatmadaw units and police stations if they want to enter the legal fold and the government will guarantee their lives following the rules and regulations.

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. Meanwhile, 3,156 education workers, who were absent from their duties, another 1,009 people, who want to withdraw the cases that were opened against them, and 231 PDF members have contacted and returned to the legal fold. Then, they were given back to their parents systematically and the numbers of people who enter the legal fold and those who wish to are rising. Therefore, the government is making efforts to accept more numbers of those people.

The government opens reception centres in border areas for those who would like to return to the legal fold. Moreover, those wishing to return home can contact respective townships' Red Cross Society, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Social Welfare Office and social welfare organizations authorized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. It is guaranteed that they will be able to lead their daily lives peacefully.

*Information Team  
State Administration Council*

**381 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 28 September, total figure rises to 622,423**

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **622,423** after **381** new cases were reported on 28 September 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **597,671** have been recovered from disease. Death toll reaches **19,457** with **two** deaths.

COVID-19 vaccine is being injected to those of priority groups in regions and states for prevention and control of the disease. Up to 27-9-2022, a total of **30,559,307** people above 18 and a total of **6,612,389** people under 18 have been vaccinated.

Myanmar reported 145 COVID-19 deaths between 28-1-2022 and 26-9-2022. Of them, 102 deaths (70 per cent) had underlying chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, liver, kidney, lung and cancer.

According to the analysis of the COVID-19 vaccination rate of deaths with underlying chronic diseases, 81.4 per cent have received no vaccination at all and have not been fully inoculated, 17.2 per cent have received full vaccination and 1.4 per cent has received booster shots.

COVID-19 vaccination rate of deaths with underlying chronic diseases

Out of COVID-19 deaths with underlying chronic disease		
81.4 per cent	17.2 per cent	1.4 per cent
have not been vaccinated at all and have not been fully vaccinated	have been fully vaccinated	have received booster shots

Therefore, according to the analysis of the COVID-19 vaccination rate of deaths with underlying chronic diseases, it causes fewer deaths obviously among those who are fully vaccinated and those who receive the booster shots. The people who are suffering from chronic diseases should follow the COVID-19 health rules, wear face masks and contact the nearest health departments, and village/ward administrative offices to receive the vaccines and booster shots.

More detailed information about COVID-19 can be found on the website of the Ministry of Health: moh.gov.mm. — MNA

**Public Notice**

- The Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to effectively curb corruption.
- The ACC used SMS on the mobile phone to ask the public who seek services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via Short Code No "1111" for feedbacks, including the Public Feedback Programme-PFP.
- According to the PFP, the right replies of the citizens via Short Code No "1111" will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.
- Therefore, the public should make a reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at Short Code No "1111" and such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

*Anti-Corruption Commission  
Answer "1111" to fight against corruption  
Answer "1111" to improve services  
Let's work together to eliminate corruption towards prosperity*

**CRIME NEWS**

**Illegal timbers, foodstuffs, consumer goods, motorbike parts and vehicles confiscated**

SUPERVISED by the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, effective action is being taken to prevent illegal trade under the law. The on-duty team under the supervision of the Customs Department made inspections at the Port Container Checkpoints of Yangon Region on 26 September.

Officials confiscated K2,561,580 worth of consumer goods that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) at the Hteedan Container Checkpoint, K5,383,665 worth of cosmetics that expired the date the FDA had approved at the Asia World Container Terminal Checkpoint, K100,383,660 worth of motorbike parts, consumer goods and edible oil that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) at the Myanmar Industrial Port Container Checkpoint and K11,340,000 worth of 10,800 pairs of sandal that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) at the Myanmar Thilawa International Port. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

In addition, an inspection team led by the Forest Department under the management of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Territory Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force captured a total of 0.9836 tonne of illegal timbers worth K201,712 in Lewe and Ottathiri townships. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

On 27 September, a combined on-duty team conducted inspections at the Kyweye Com-

bined Checkpoint of Monywa township and seized an unregistered Toyota Mark II car (approximately K4 million). The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

Similarly, an on-duty team under the supervision of the Taninthayi Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force at the Pauktine Bridge Checkpoint seized a vehicle that carried illegal goods (approximately K50 million) and the action was taken under the Law.

Afterwards, a combined team led by the Myanmar Navy captured a total of 40.3848 tonnes of illegal sawn teak worth K26,653,968 from two boats two miles off the coast of Magyisin village of Pathein township. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

An on-duty team made inspections and confiscated a total of 0.4150 tonne of illegal sawn ironwood worth K207,500 from a vehicle near the 94/1 Milepost on the Yangon-Mawlamyine Road in Kyaikto township. The action was taken under the Forest Law. In addition, on 28 September, a total of 10.6778 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K4,804,228 was captured in Bago, Toungoo and Thayawady districts and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

Therefore, 16 arrests estimated at K205,536,313 were made on three consecutive days from 26 to 28 September, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA



# HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

## Biden to urge better diet for Americans in food summit

PRESIDENT Joe Biden wants Americans to change the menu, telling a food conference Wednesday that it's time to end hunger while at the same time improving diets to address the country's crisis of obesity and other diet-related diseases.

The Democrat will be addressing the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health, the first gathering of its kind in more than half a century, with government leaders, academics and activists plotting a healthier, leaner America, a senior administration official

said.

The plan, according to the White House, will be "to achieve the goal of ending hunger and reducing diet-related diseases in the United States by 2030".

The Biden plan — partly relying on executive orders and partly requiring Congressional approval — is "ambitious but achievable", said the senior official, who spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity.

More than 50 years since then-president Richard Nixon held a similar diet summit, "the US has yet to end hunger and is

facing an urgent, nutrition-related health crisis," the White House said.

This includes rising cases of diet-related diseases like type 2 diabetes, obesity, hypertension, and certain cancers. "The consequences of food insecurity and diet-related diseases are significant, far reaching, and disproportionately impact historically underserved communities," the White House said in a statement.

"There is no silver bullet to address these complex issues, and there is no overnight fix," the statement warned.— AFP



A healthy eating pattern is one that provides enough of each essential nutrient from nutrient-dense foods, contains a variety of foods from all of the basic food groups, and focuses on balancing calories consumed with calories expended to help you achieve and sustain a healthy weight. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/AFP

## Thailand to legalize abortion up to 20 weeks



This photo taken on 17 November 2020 shows human rights activist Chonticha "Lookate" Jangrew (2nd R), a co-founder and chief negotiator of the Democracy Restoration Group (DRG), during a protest rally in Bangkok, denouncing sexual violence, demanding abortion reform and destigmatizing sex work. PHOTO: MLADEN ANTONOV / AFP

THAILAND will legalize abortion up to 20 weeks, the government said Tuesday, relaxing pregnant people's access to the previously restricted medical procedure.

Terminations remained illegal in the kingdom — except under incidents of rape or threat

to the mother's life — until February last year when it was lifted for women up to 12 weeks pregnant.

However, there remains intense stigma around the procedure in the Buddhist-majority country, scarred by a 2010 case when around 2,000 illegally

aborted fetuses were discovered in a temple.

Terminations of up to 20 weeks would now be permitted, a government statement said Tuesday, adding "the termination will not count as crime".

Previously, abortion was punishable by either a fine of up to 10,000 baht (\$263) or six months in prison — or both.

A notice in the Royal Gazette Monday specified that women over 12 weeks pregnant but under 20 weeks seeking a legal abortion must fulfil certain criteria.

The government statement specified that people in this category must "consult with medical consultants so that the woman has all of the information before she decides to terminate the pregnancy".

Despite the law change in February last year, abortion access across the kingdom remains limited and heavily stigmatised.—AFP

## University of Coimbra creates ultrasonic nebulization system against infection

RESEARCHERS at the University of Coimbra (UC) in Portugal developed a disinfection system using ultrasonic nebulization to control the spread of infections. According to a UC statement released on Monday, the new technology called "NovirBox" uses the disinfectant VIRCOV

BAC 360 in an "innovative, fast, and easy to use" way to disinfect fabrics, clothing, and footwear.

The system was developed by researchers of the UC and Dynasys, an electronics engineering and telecommunications company.

The NovirBox's ultrason-

ic nebulization technology makes it possible "to generate an aerosol of the disinfectant with extremely small droplets, which allows it to penetrate the pores of the clothing fabrics and reach all areas of the footwear," said the statement.—Xinhua

## Dengue fever cases continue to surge in Pakistan

THE number of dengue fever cases is continuing to rise in Pakistan amid an outbreak blamed largely on floods triggered by heavy monsoon rains in the South Asian country.

In the last 24 hours, 436 new infections were reported across the southern Sindh province, said the provincial health department on Tuesday night. The worst-hit area was Karachi, the provincial capital, which reported 254 new cases.

With the newly reported dengue cases, the September figure to date for the province has risen to 6,216, bringing the local total tally to 8,785 this year.

In the last 24 hours, 392 more people were diagnosed with the disease in the north-western Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, the provincial health

department reported on Tuesday night. The number of active cases in the province currently stands at 1,478 and the total number of cases this year has reached 7,350.

The eastern Punjab province reported 373 new cases in the last 24 hours, the provincial health authorities said on Tuesday morning. Punjab's capital Lahore reported 192 new cases, followed by its Rawalpindi city with 101 cases. The total number of dengue cases in Punjab this year has now gone up to 5,413.

The national capital Islamabad reported 90 new dengue cases in the last 24 hours, the health authorities said on Tuesday night. The city's total tally has risen to 2,162 this year.—Xinhua



A patient affected with dengue fever is treated inside mosquito nets at a hospital in Islamabad, capital of Pakistan on Sept. 15, 2022. PHOTO: XINHUA



# ECONOMY WORLD

## China offers US\$ 9 bln USD to businesses to maintain jobs

CHINA has stepped up efforts to save jobs this year, with some 64.63 billion yuan (9.19 billion US dollars) having already been offered to businesses this year.

Unemployment insurance refunds totaling 44.84 billion yuan were given to some 7.21 million enterprises, or more than half of all employers covered by the social security net, in the first eight months of the year, according to the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security.

The amount of money and number of beneficiaries were respectively 1.9 and 1.8 times their levels reported for the whole of 2021.

Approximately 19.68 billion

yuan in one-time training subsidies was paid to 3.96 million companies in regions impacted by COVID-19 outbreaks and in the five hardest-hit industries, including the catering sector.

To help college and university graduates as they seek employment, the government has also provided grants totaling 110 million yuan to 33,000 companies, benefiting some 103,000 graduates.

China's 160-million-plus market entities, offering 600 million jobs, form the cornerstone of the economy and are crucial to the stability of employment, according to Zhang Chenggang from the Capital University of Economics and Business.—Xinhua



Employees work at a workshop of Skyworth in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong province, 10 Feb 2020. PHOTO: DENG HUA / XINHUA/FILE

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Harris calls for Japan chip firms' cooperation to boost supply chain

US Vice-President Kamala Harris on Wednesday called for increased cooperation from Japanese semiconductor companies as chips become more important in ensuring economic growth and security. "No one country can satisfy the globe's demand," Harris told Japanese corporate executives in a meeting held at the US ambassador's residence in Tokyo. "Japan and the United States share a commitment to work on resilient supply chains and to invest in forward-looking innovation."

Harris urged Japanese companies to join US efforts to promote investment in research and production of chips, explaining the details of the CHIPS and Science Act that US President Joe Biden signed into law in August. Top brass from about a dozen leading firms in Japan, including Tokyo Electron Ltd., Nikon Corp. and Fujitsu Ltd., attended the meeting, organized a day after Harris represented the United States at the state funeral for slain former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.—Kyodo

## ADB to provide US\$14 bln to ease food crisis in Asia-Pacific

THE Asian Development Bank said Tuesday it will provide \$14 billion to countries in the Asia-Pacific region through 2025 to help ease their food crisis amid the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine that has disrupted supplies of food and fertilizers.

ADB President Masatsugu Asakawa said at the Manila-based bank's annual meeting started the previous day that the assistance is an urgently needed response to the crisis, which is "leaving too many poor families in Asia hungry and in deeper poverty".

Nearly 1.1 billion people lack healthy diets due to poverty and soaring food prices, the bank said in a statement, adding a global food system had already been weakened by climate change and the coronavirus pandemic before being further strained by



UN Volunteer Mojisola Akinsanya, conducting needs assessment at a market in Port Moresby, Capital of Papua New Guinea. PHOTO: FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY/UNV

the Russian War in Ukraine.

Last week, the ADB revised down its growth forecast from 5.2 per cent to 4.3 per cent for 2022 and 5.3 per cent to 4.9 per cent for 2023 for developing economies in the Asia-Pacific region.

Asakawa told reporters Tuesday that "growing challeng-

es" resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine, aggressive monetary tightening in advanced economies and currency depreciation, among others, are reasons for the downgraded forecast. The five-day meeting is being held in a hybrid in-person and virtual format.—Kyodo

## In Spain, politicians wage tax war ahead of elections

WITH elections a year away, the battle lines have been drawn between Spain's left-wing government and its right-wing regions who are tripping over themselves to unveil lower tax policies. On the back burner for months, the tax issue hit the headlines last week after the leader of the southern Andalusia region decided to axe wealth tax

and lower income tax in a bid to attract wealthy taxpayers.

"We were a tax hellhole but now we're the region with the second lowest taxes in Spain," boasted Juanma Moreno of the right-wing opposition Popular Party (PP) -- his region trailing only Madrid, which is also held by the PP.

As one of the Western

world's most decentralized nations, Spain is divided into 17 regions, whose governments have considerable autonomy and are responsible for budget management. Moreno's remarks opened the floodgates, with many other PP-run regions announcing cuts, including Murcia, which slashed income tax, and Galicia, which is rolling back its wealth tax—AFP



Demonstrators wave Spanish flags during a nationwide protest called by Spanish far-right Vox party against price hikes, in front of the city hall in Madrid, Spain, 19 March 2022. PHOTO: AFP





## Japan's big mobile carriers say roaming needed during network outages

JAPAN'S major mobile phone carriers agreed at a government panel meeting on Wednesday that they need to introduce roaming capabilities so their customers can use rival networks during service disruptions.

With the carriers warming to the idea following a recent widespread outage affecting one of them, a communications ministry panel of

experts will advance discussions on the issue with a view to implementing the proposal from around 2025.

In early July, KDDI Corp. suffered a network outage that lasted over 60 hours, affecting at least 30.91 million people, with users unable to make emergency calls for an extended period.

While NTT Docomo Inc., SoftBank Corp.,

"au"-brand operator KDDI and Rakuten Mobile Inc. were unanimous at the first expert meeting on the need for a framework for roaming support in emergencies, there was disagreement on what form it should take.

The points of contention include whether the functionality should be limited to using emergency service numbers like 119 or widened to stand-

ard calls and whether it will come at a cost to users.

While KDDI and Rakuten Mobile maintained that standard voice communications should be part of the roaming service, Docomo expressed concern that it would place the onus on the network that is receiving an influx of users to provide a stable service. —Kyodo

In early July, KDDI Corp. suffered a network outage that lasted over 60 hours, affecting at least 30.91 million people, with users unable to make emergency calls for an extended period. **PHOTO: KYODO**

## US manufactured goods orders fall for second straight month

ORDERS for big-ticket US-manufactured goods slipped in August, the second consecutive monthly decline, buffeted by the volatile military and civilian aircraft categories that moved in opposite directions, according to government data released Tuesday. Durable goods orders fell 0.2 per cent to \$272.7 billion last month, after a 0.1 per cent decline

in July, the Commerce Department reported. The result was far better than analysts had expected.

A huge double-digit drop in non-defense aircraft pushed the total down, while a massive 31.2 per cent jump in military aircraft pushed the other way, the data showed. Excluding defense aircraft, total new orders fell 0.9 per cent.—AFP



Soaring US inflation and supply chain snarls have challenged industry and consumers, causing a pullback in spending and investment. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Apple to make iPhone 14 in India

APPLE will manufacture its new flagship smartphone in India, the US tech giant said Monday, as it seeks to diversify production away from a dependence on China.

The iPhone supply chain is based mainly in China but the country's zero-Covid policies and tensions with the United States have hurt production, analysts say.

"We're excited to be manufacturing iPhone 14 in India," Apple said in a brief statement. The California-based firm already makes older iPhone models in India via Taiwanese manufacturers such as Foxconn, which has a factory in the southern state of Tamil Nadu.—AFP

### TRADEMARK CAUTION

**Gedeon Richter Plc**, a company incorporated and having its registered office at 1103 Budapest, Gyömrői út 19-21, Hungary is the current owner of the Trademarks described below, by virtue of the Deed of Assignment (Reg.No.4/4654/2021) (Dated 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021) executed between **Johnson & Johnson** (Assignor), and **Gedeon Richter Plc** (Assignee), whereby Assignor, the original registered owner of the Marks in Myanmar, assigned them to Assignee:

**EVRA**

Reg.No.4/5376/2004 (20 September 2004)

*Evra*

Reg.No.4/4979/2004 (31 August 2004)



Reg.No.4/4978/2004 (31 August 2004)

All in respect of "Pharmaceutical, namely transdermal contraceptives" in **International Class 5**.

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

**Daw La Min May, H.G.P**  
For **Gedeon Richter Plc**,  
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**,  
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),  
Corner of Mahabandoola Road & Thein Phyu Road,  
Botahtaung Tsp, Yangon,  
**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.**  
Dated **29<sup>th</sup> September 2022** lmm@kcyangon.com

### TRADEMARK CAUTIONARY NOTICE

**KABUSHIKI KAISHA DARIYA** (trading as **DARIYA CO., LTD.**), a company incorporated under the laws of Japan, of 3-5-24 Marunouchi, Naka-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi 460-0002 Japan, is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark:-

**Palty**

Reg. No. 4/11214/2018

in respect of **Class 3**: "Cosmetics; hair colorants; hair dyes; hair bleaches; soaps and detergents; shampoos; hair conditioners; hair waving preparations; hair styling agent; hair lotions; cakes of toilet soap; bleaching powder; washing preparations; cleaning preparations; polishing preparations; polishes; grinding preparations; perfumery; essential oils; cosmetics for skin care; dentifrices; bleaching preparations [decolorants] for cosmetic purposes".

Any fraudulent imitation or counterfeit or unauthorized use of the said trademark will be dealt with according to the law.

For **KABUSHIKI KAISHA DARIYA** (trading as **DARIYA CO., LTD.**)

Daw Khin Khin Zaw, LL.B., LL.M., Advocate

**LawPlus Myanmar Ltd.**

khinkhinzaw@lawplusltd.com

Phone:+95 9 43064833 **Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V OS KANO 35

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V OS KANO 35 VOY.NO. (2209)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-9-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIPL** 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: **2301928**

**Shipping Agency Department**  
**Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S ELDER TRIUMPHANT SHIPPING LINES PTE LTD**

သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစောင်များကို နိုင်ငံတကာစံချိန်စီ  
ပုံနှိပ်ပေးပါ။ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

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# GLOBAL AFFAIRS

## Body of missing US ski mountaineer found in Nepal

A search team retrieved the body of top US ski mountaineer Hilaree Nelson from the Himalayas on Wednesday, two days after she disappeared on the slopes of Nepal's Manaslu peak. Nelson slipped and went missing while skiing down the world's eighth-highest mountain, after a successful summit with her partner Jim Morrison on Monday. Morrison led the search operations and had left Wednesday morning on a helicopter to resume efforts to

locate her.

"The search team that left this morning on a helicopter spotted her body and is bringing her back," Jiban Ghimire of Shangri-La Nepal Trek, which organized the expedition, told AFP. Ghimire said that the body was brought to the peak's base camp and will later be flown to Kathmandu.

Nelson, 49, is described by her sponsor, The North Face, as "the most prolific ski mountaineer of her generation".—AFP



US ski mountaineer Hilaree Nelson is described by her sponsor, The North Face, as 'the most prolific ski mountaineer of her generation'. Last week, she had posted on Instagram that her latest climb at Nepal's Manaslu had been deeply challenging due to 'incessant rain' and dangerous conditions. **PHOTO: HILAREE NELSON FACEBOOK /AFP**

## Kishida meets foreign leaders on final day of "condolence diplomacy"

JAPANESE Prime Minister Fumio Kishida met Wednesday with a spate of foreign dignitaries in Tokyo on the final of three days of "condolence diplomacy", a day after the controversial state funeral for slain former leader Shinzo Abe.

During their meeting, Kishida and South Korean Prime Minister Han Duck Soo agreed that the two countries will accelerate communication to restore "sound" bilateral relations and to "further develop" them, according to the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

They shared the views that easing COVID-19 border controls, such as allowing visa-free trips, would facilitate the flow of people and that promoting bilateral and trilateral ties involving the United States is important to counter military threats from North Korea.

Relations between Tokyo and Seoul have recently shown signs of improvement as Yoon Suk Yeol, who has pledged to take a future-oriented approach toward ties with Japan, became South Korean president in May.

Japan-South Korea ties had deteriorated for years over wartime issues under the government of Yoon's predecessor Moon Jae In.

The disputes include South



Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida (R) and South Korean Prime Minister Han Duck Soo shake hands before their talks at the State Guest House in Tokyo on 28 Sept 2022. **PHOTO: POOL /KYODO**

Korean court orders issued under Moon's administration to liquidate local assets seized from two Japanese companies over compensation for alleged forced labour during Japan's 1910-1945

colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula.

A Japanese government official said Kishida and Han "had no in-depth discussion" on the wartime labor issue.—Kyodo

### RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

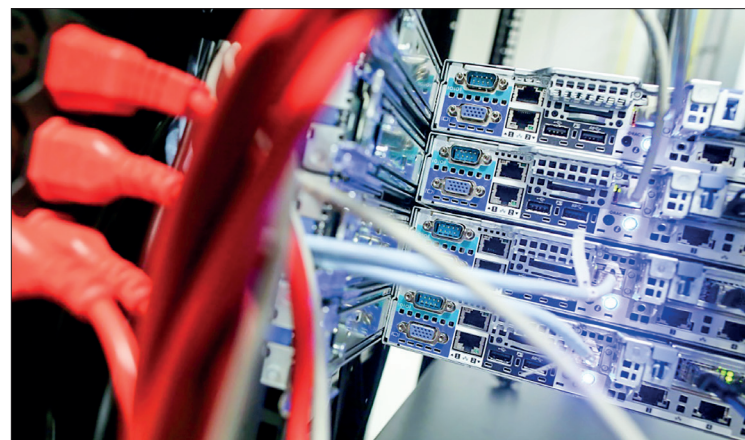
## Cyber warfare rife in Ukraine, but impact stays in shadows

HACKINGS, network sabotage and other cyber warfare campaigns are being intensely deployed by both sides as Russia's invasion of Ukraine grinds on, though the covert operations have not proved decisive on the battlefield — at least so far.

Western allies initially feared a tsunami of cyberattacks against Ukraine's military command and critical infrastructure, hindering its ability to resist the Russian forces pouring across its borders.

As of mid-September, the Cyber Peace Institute, an NGO based in Switzerland, counted nearly 450 attacks — roughly 12 a

week — carried out by 57 different entities on either side since the invasion was launched in February.



Western allies initially feared a tsunami of cyberattacks against Ukraine's military command and critical infrastructure. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Yet with European and US help, Kyiv has largely withstood the high-tech onslaught.—AFP

### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

#### Russia expels Japanese diplomat accused of espionage

RUSSIA said Monday it had detained a Japanese diplomat based in the eastern city of Vladivostok for carrying out espionage-related work and declared the official person non grata, news agencies reported.

"A Japanese diplomat was detained red-handed while receiving classified information, in exchange for money, about Russia's cooperation with another country in the Asia-Pacific region," the FSB security service said in a statement, carried by Russian news agencies.

The diplomat had also been soliciting information about "the impact of Western sanctions" on the eastern Primorsky region, the FSB said, according to news agencies.

Russia's foreign ministry said in a statement the diplomat was ordered to leave the country within 48 hours.

The FSB said it had lodged a protest with Tokyo through diplomatic channels and declared the diplomat identified as consulate-general in Vladivostok, Motoki Tatsunori, persona non grata, the news agencies reported.—AFP



## Singapore scrambles fighter jets after false bomb threat on flight SQ33

SINGAPORE scrambled fighter jets to escort a flight on Wednesday after a passenger on board allegedly claimed he had a bomb in his luggage and assaulted the crew, police said in a statement.

Police were notified of a bomb threat on Singapore Airlines flight SQ33 from San Francisco at around 2:40 am Wednesday, the statement said.

The plane landed safely at Changi Airport about three hours later, escorted by fighter jets. "Preliminary investigations indicate that a 37-year-old male passenger had allegedly claimed that there was a bomb

in a hand-carry bag, and had assaulted the crew," the police statement said.

The man was restrained by crew members and later arrested for making false threats of a terrorist act and for suspected drug consumption.

"Singapore Airlines can confirm that an unruly passenger allegedly hit a cabin crew member and made a bomb threat on board flight SQ33," a spokesperson for the airline said. Passengers and crew disembarked normally after security checks of the aircraft were completed, they added.—AFP



A Singapore Airlines plane taxis along the tarmac at a Changi Airport on 11 Sept 2020. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

## In Brazil election run-up, even samba is political

IN Pedra do Sal, the birthplace of samba in Rio de Janeiro, supporters chant "Ole, Ola, Lula" as they sway rhythmically, brandishing flags, T-shirts and caps bearing the likeness of Brazilian presidential candidate Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

In a nod to the symbolism of samba's Afro-Brazilian character in a country of divisive identity politics, the leftist ex-president chose the Portela samba school for one of his final rallies before Sunday's first round of presidential elections.

"Samba is a way to resist oppression, it is the voice of the people. And Lula represents the people," says Karen Gama, a 24-year-old black Brazilian who attended the rally last week with stickers of Lula's Workers Party stuck to her chest and rear.

She was among thousands dressed in red — the colour of Lula's Workers Party — who turned out to listen to the former steelworker who is seeking a third term as president, al-



Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva chose the Portela samba school for one of his final election rallies. PHOTO: AFP

ready having served from 2003 to 2010.

His main rival is far-right incumbent Jair Bolsonaro, whose government is closely

allied to conservative and evangelical movements often hostile to samba and its association with Afro-Brazilian culture and religions.— AFP

## US student debt relief plan estimated to cost US \$400 bln

US President Joe Biden's plan to forgive part of the country's massive student debt burden is estimated to cost the government \$400 billion, the Congressional Budget Office said Monday.

The estimate, requested by conservative lawmakers and issued by an apolitical federal body, is expected to add further

fuel to the heated controversy between Democrats and Republicans over the topic.

"CBO estimates that the cost of student loans will increase by about an additional \$400 billion in present value" as a result of the debt forgiveness, it said.

But a White House official

noted, "CBO called its own estimate 'highly uncertain'. We agree."

Republicans accuse Biden of wasting money on the measure, arguing that public funds could be used more effectively.

Biden announced the plan on 24 August, making good on a campaign promise.

Under the relief plan, \$10,000 will be cut from all loans owed by people earning a salary of less than \$125,000. For former students who went to university with need-based government assistance known as Pell grants, the relief will be \$20,000.

US colleges can often cost anywhere between \$10,000 and \$70,000 a year, leaving graduates with crushing debt as they enter the workforce. According to government estimates, the average debt for US college students when they graduate is \$25,000, a sum many spend years or even decades to pay back.— AFP



On this 11 March 2020 photo, students participate in an activity near Royce Hall (background) on the campus of University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in Los Angeles, California. PHOTO: ROBYN BECK / AFP

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Arafat's nephew blasts 'totalitarian' Palestinian president

A year after fleeing the West Bank, a nephew of late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has returned to Gaza and is challenging his uncle's embattled successor, 86-year-old president Mahmud Abbas.

Nasser al-Kidwa, 69, a former Palestinian foreign minister, branded Abbas's Palestinian Authority as "totalitarian", and said it was acting with disregard for the people it is supposed to serve who are living under Israeli occupation. "He does whatever he wants, without any consideration to anything," Kidwa said of Abbas, whose support among Palestinians has plummeted, according to surveys. "Neither the law, nor the institutions, nor traditions, even family traditions". Kidwa returned to Israeli-blockaded Gaza Strip after a year of self-imposed exile in France, and told AFP from the enclave that returning to the occupied West Bank would not be safe.

Gaza, the Arafat family's ancestral home, has been controlled by the Islamist group Hamas since 2007, bitter rivals of Abbas's secular Fatah movement that Yasser Arafat co-founded in 1959.

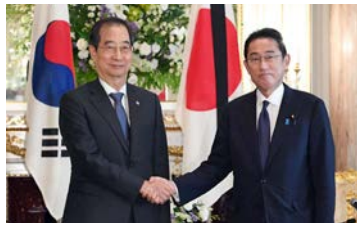
Kidwa was ejected from Fatah last year after trying to form a candidates list to challenge Abbas loyalists in Palestinian legislative polls that had been scheduled for May 2021.—AFP



## GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Kishida meets foreign leaders on final day of "condolence diplomacy"

PAGE-14



29 SEPTEMBER 2022  
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

# SPORT



The Myanmar U-17 football team poses for a group photo at Yangon International Airport yesterday before departure for Saudi Arabia ahead of the AFC U-17 Asian Cup Qualifiers. PHOTO: MFF

## Myanmar team leaves for Saudi Arabia to compete in AFC U-17 Asian Cup Qualifiers

THE Myanmar U-17 team left for Saudi Arabia yesterday evening to participate in the 2023 AFC U-17 Asian Cup Qualifiers for the 2023 AFC U-17 Championship.

The Myanmar U-17 team consists of eight coaching staff members and 23 players.

Team Myanmar is placed

in Group D of the 2023 Asian U-17 Championship Qualifiers against hosts Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, India, and the Maldives.

The qualifiers will be held in Dammam, Saudi Arabia from 1 to 9 October.

The Myanmar U-17 team will play against host Saudi Arabia at 00:30 am Myanmar stand-

ard time on 2 October, Kuwait at 00:30 am MST on 4 October, India at 10:30 pm MST on 7 October, and Kuwait at 00:30 am MST on 10 October.

The Myanmar squad consists of outstanding players from Myanmar football academies and youth stars from various regions and states. —GNLM

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

### 1. Political affairs

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

### 2. Economic affairs

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

### 3. Social affairs

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

## Protests shadow Iran's World Cup push

THE protests that have erupted in Iran are shadowing the national football team's bid for a breakthrough to the World Cup, with rumours of a split in the squad, social media posts that mysteriously disappear and former legends weighing in to support the demonstrations.

Team Melli are preparing to battle in a competitive and also politically loaded Group B

in Qatar, where they will face the United States, England and Wales in a bid to reach the knockout rounds for the first time. But the protests that have shaken Iran since the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini following her arrest by the notorious morality police have raised uncomfortable questions for the team, who are hugely influential in a football-mad country.—AFP



There has been immense scrutiny on the team's star forward Sardar Azmoun. PHOTO: AFP

## Ex-Tokyo Olympic exec, business ally allegedly shared bribe

HARUYUKI Takahashi, a former Tokyo Olympic organizing committee executive at the heart of a widening corruption scandal over games sponsor selection, and one of his closest business partners allegedly shared a bribe from an advertising company, a source close to the matter said Wednesday.

Takahashi and Kazumasa Fukami, both former executives of Japan's largest advertising agency Dentsu Inc., are suspected of using consulting firms that they now head to receive the money.

The two were served with fresh arrest warrants Tuesday for allegedly receiving around 15 million yen (\$103,000) between January 2019 and February 2022 from Daiko Advertising Inc. in return for asking the committee to use the Osaka-based firm as an agent for a major English conversation



International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach (L) waves the Olympic flag during the closing ceremony of the Tokyo Olympics on 8 August 2021, at the National Stadium. Paris will host the next Summer Games in 2024. PHOTO: KYODO

school operator seeking to become a sponsor of the Summer Games.

After looking at records of deposits and withdrawals, Tokyo prosecutors suspect that at least several million yen of the bribe paid by Daiko to Fukami's company was transferred to

Takahashi's firm, the source said.

The two consulting firms, which share the name "Commons," had close business ties, with some of the revenue raised by Fukami's company paid to Takahashi's, according to the source. —Kyodo