

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Sunday, 23 October 2022

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

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

## Senior General stresses, "Develop manufacturing based on regional products"

STATE Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday morning met the entrepreneurs of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) within Nay Pyi Taw Council Area at Zabuthiri Hall in the compound of Nay Pyi Taw Council and discussed the development of regional businesses.

Also present at the meeting were: SAC Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, SAC Members, the Secretary and the Joint Secretary, Union Ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chair, the Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) and high-ranking officers from the C-in-C Office, the Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander and responsible departmental personnel.

First, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Tin Oo Lwin submitted matters relating to the development of MSMEs, the agricultural and livestock breeding activities in the Council Area,

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State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views round the value-added products manufactured by the MSMEs in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 22 October 2022.

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WHITENING

**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*

**262 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 22 October, total figure rises to 630,445**

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **630,445** after **262** new cases were reported on 22 October 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **604,067** have recovered from disease. Death toll reaches **19,475** after **two** death.

According to the study of people who had COVID-19 and people who died of COVID-19 from 28-1-2022 to 15-10-2022, it has been found that 90.4 per cent of Covid patients and 80.9 per cent of Covid deaths are not vaccinated at all or fully vaccinated, respectively.

Status of COVID-19 injection	COVID-19 Patient	Death with COVID-19
People have no vaccination and have not been fully inoculated.	90.4%	80.9%

According to the international study, it is found that people who have been vaccinated do not suffer severely from the disease, need not to be hospitalized and are unlikely to die. If they have received booster shots, the death rates can be reduced more. Therefore, it is a must for people aged five and above to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

The Ministry of Health is giving free vaccinations to all people aged five and above. Booster shots of vaccine are being given to students between the ages of 12 and 18 and people aged 18 and over.

Therefore, people should contact local health centres and village/ward administration offices to receive vaccinations. The information about COVID-19 disease can be seen on the Ministry of Health official website [www.moh.gov.mm](http://www.moh.gov.mm). —MNA

**Fourth day of 2022 Mid-Year Gems Emporium proceeds with 55 gem lots sale**

THE 2022 Mid-Year Gems Emporium continued its fourth day at the Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Jade lots, gem lots and uncut jade lots were exhibited in designated areas throughout the emporium, and local and foreign gem traders observed them starting in the morning.

Then, gem dealers evaluated gem lots (from No 1 to No 120) on sale and inserted bids in tender bins.

Then, officials declared the bids at 9 am and that 55 gem lots were sold out.

Jade lots (from No 1 to No 750) will be put on sale on the fifth day of the emporium under an open tender system.

The 2022 Mid-Year Gems Emporium is being held at the Maniradana Jade Hall between 19 and 25 October, and 362 out

of 400 pearl lots and 55 out of 120 gem lots were sold out so far. Two thousand one hundred and fifty lots of jade will be put on the market between 23 and 25 October through the open tender system.

The floor price for gem and jade lots is set in Euro currency and all merchants can make a payment in USD, Euro, Yuan, Baht and Kyat currencies. — MNA



Gem traders are keen on viewing the jade lots at the emporium yesterday.

## 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.)*

## Senior General stresses, “Develop manufacturing based on regional products”



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks into the products exhibited at the event in Nay Pyi Taw on 22 October 2022.

### FROM PAGE-1

the manufacturing of value-added products in the industrial zones and the provision of the technical and monetary assistance inter alia.

Next, U Kyaw Swa Win, the chairman of MSMEs in Nay Pyi Taw, and some manufacturers submitted progress reports on the effectuation of industrial and agricultural development activities. They demanded providing of legal protection and means and instruments of production in addition to the plots of land and the buildings. They also presented the situation on the export of value-added products. They also asked for low-interest loans needed for investment in their businesses.

Then, SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing responded to the presentations. He said, “Arrangements are underway to issue low-interest loans to MSMEs. The plots of land will

also be granted to the Nay Pyi Taw MSMEs Office. Pynmana abounds in bamboo plants, and so, people are felling bamboo plants indiscriminately, causing forest degradation. So, there is an utter need to do reforestation. People are found to be using bamboo more as food than as a product. If we can add value to bamboo products, using modern technologies, we can earn better income.

Afterwards, Union Ministers concerned gave explanations regarding the matters raised by the entrepreneurs. The SAC on its part has been providing necessary assistance.

Then, the Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar discussed the issuance of loans for making investments, repayment of the loans and debt restructuring. Next, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman explained how they are

bringing about economic development amidst the dramatic difficulty.

Then, the SAC Chairman said among other things that if the trade deficit could be reduced, the national economic growth would be achieved, that a developing nation like Myanmar is required to boost investment in addition to the promotion of trade, that SAC is doing its utmost to reduce the foreign debts, that earning of foreign currency can be made through manufacturing and exporting of the agricultural and livestock breeding products and that as the rural people account for over 70 per cent of the country’s population, we are doing chiefly the businesses of agriculture and livestock breeding.

Next, matters concerning the development of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area were discussed. The SAC Chairman emphasized the need to ful-

ly utilize natural resources in an environmental-friendly manner. Next, he explained the reasons for the price hike, saying, “Rise in prices of the commodities can be attributed to higher costs of production. It also happens when the supply and demand are not in equilibrium. It is necessary to be aware that the price hike can adversely affect national security as well as the peace and stability of the State. It need not forget that there have been political uprisings caused by the sky-high prices of commodities.”

If we can boost agricultural production, we can obtain the raw materials for cultivation. And if we can manufacture quality products and use quality packaging, we can boost our export. If we can manufacture personal goods domestically, we need not import them. This is the reason why I am encouraging import

substitution industrialization. Regarding electricity, the Prime Minister said that attention should be paid to the production of solar power; that care is needed to be taken not to waste water; that loans will be issued in accordance with the rules and regulations and that collective effort should be exerted to effectuate the national economic development.

Lastly, the Senior General emphasized the development of human resources before giving good news that Nay Pyi Taw State Academy will be opened in the not-distant future.

Then, SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing accompanied by those attending the ceremony went round the value-added products exhibited by the MSMEs in Nay Pyi Taw Area.—MNA

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## MoC Union Minister inspects fuel storage facilities of MESDP Co Ltd



UNION Minister U Aung Naing Oo at the Ministry of Commerce visited the fuel storage facilities of the Myanmar Energy Sector Development Public Co Ltd (Public), located in the Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region and inspected the implementation of a project yesterday morning.

Firstly, Director-General U Shwe Maung of the Petroleum Products Supervision and Inspection Department under the

Union Minister U Aung Naing Oo inspects fuel storage facilities of MESDP Co Ltd in Mandalay yesterday.

Ministry of Energy, and MESDP Chairman Dr Win Myint discussed the status of fuel distribution and storage in upper regions of Myanmar; and project completion conditions at the briefing hall.

Afterwards, the Union minister checked the fuel transport from foreign countries to upper regions/states of Myanmar, adequate storage, fuel distribution, and the progress for regular distribution with stable prices in upper Myanmar. Then he gave the necessary instructions to the responsible persons, it is learnt. — MNA

## ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management and related meetings held in Thailand

THE government of Thailand hosted the 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM), the 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) and related meetings in Bangkok from 17 to 20 October.

Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Thet Thet Khine attended the 10<sup>th</sup> AMMDM held on 20 October.

On that morning, the leaders discussed the topic of “Stronger Together in Balancing Action to Enhance Localization for Disaster Resilience” and continued the 10<sup>th</sup> AMMDM and its related meeting. The Union Minister and party joined the events together with other ASEAN ministers and representatives.

During the meeting, Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khine

talked about the efforts of respective countries in balancing action to enhance disaster resilience in regional countries, natural disasters occurring in Myanmar for climate changes and global warming, application of effective technology and resources for disaster resilience under the guidance of National Disaster Management Committee Chairman Deputy Prime Minister and humanitarian assistance to the dead and victims in violence.

Then, the ASEAN ministers for natural disaster management held ministerial meetings with ministers from China, Japan and Korea separately and discussed the cooperation work in natural disaster management with ASEAN and a joint statement on natural disaster management.



The MoSWRR Union Minister poses for the group photo at the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management in Bangkok, Thailand on 20 October 2022.

The associate meetings such as the 41<sup>st</sup> ACDM and its related meetings were held from 17 to 19 October, and the delegation led by Director-General

Dr Ko Ko Naing of the Disaster Management Department attended the events and discussed disaster management of Myanmar, the government's

financial assistance to victims of natural disasters and man-made disasters using the budget and other work plans with ASEAN. — MNA

## Trade Training Institute opens International Trade Basic Course 6/2022

THE opening ceremony of the International Trade Basic Course Batch 6 (Weekend course) was held at the Yangon office of the Department of Trade under the Ministry of Commerce yesterday morning.

Deputy Minister U Nyunt Aung was present at the ceremony and gave an opening speech.

The ceremony was attended by Secretary U Moe Myint of the

Central Committee on Ensuring Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods, senior officials from respective departments under the MoC, Vice-president Dr Myo Thet from the Republic of the Union of My-

anmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and officials, former trainees from the international trade basic courses (Batch 1 to 12), training instructors and trainees of the

International Trade Basic Course Batch 6 (Weekend course).

It is reported that the course will last around four months and a total of 75 trainees will participate in it. — MNA

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# MoHT Union Minister meets civil servants who studied in Russia

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism met the government employees who studied in Russian Federation via videoconferencing yesterday.

The event was attended by the directors-general of the ministry and department heads, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Science and Technology, officials of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Hotels and Tourism who completed scholarship programmes in Russia while the rectors, department heads and tutors/demonstrators of universities/colleges joined online.

Speaking at the event, the Union minister said the government is making efforts to promote the bilateral relationship between Myanmar and Russia.

The tourism sector is one of the eight sectors of bilateral trade cooperation discussed at the seventh Eastern Economic Forum held in Russia soon. As long as there are human beings, there would be the tourism industry and the industry is connecting with the trade and investment sectors in other countries. The government also emphasizes the hotels and tourism development and instructs to hold discussions with the government employees who studied in Russia to facilitate Russian tourists in promoting bilateral relationships.

He then called for cooperation work in inviting Russians for study tours and promoting the tourism market of Russia.

Then, the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Science and Technology and participants



The videoconference between the MoHT Union Minister and civil servants who studied in the Russian Federation is in progress.

reported on the traditions of Russians, proper measures to attract Russian tourists and the opening

of Russian language courses. Afterwards, officials suggested information exchanges

and communications, and the Union minister concluded the event.—MNA

# Illegal timbers, gold jewellery, construction materials and vehicles confiscated



Officials check confiscated goods in Yangon Region.



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

On 20 October, a combined team captured a total of 1.8064 tonnes of illegal teak floor and timbers in a warehouse of the furniture factory in South Dagon Industrial Zone 2, according to information. The action was

taken under the Forest Law.

On 21 October, an on-duty team under the management of the Customs Department stopped and examined a vehicle on Myawady- Hpa-an-Yangon Road.

Officials confiscated K24,898,560 worth of nine goods and 5.932 tonnes of steel pipes that exceeded the Imported Declaration (ID) from a Howo

Sino Tractor Head with a trailer (estimated value of 40 million). The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Afterwards, on 22 October, a combined team under the supervision of the Rakhine State Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force seized K256,800,000 worth of illegal gold jewellery which was covered by black plastic bags on a wood-boat at an entrance of the creek in Maungtau township, according to information. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

A total of 41.252 tonnes of illegal teak worth K13,613,160 was nabbed in the Toungoo district and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

Therefore, six arrests (estimated value of K336,503,944) were made on three consecutive days from 20 to 22 October, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA



Officials measure confiscated illegal teak logs in Bago Region.

## Public Notice

1. The Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to effectively curb corruption.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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*

**The people are urged to receive vaccination of Covid-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of Covid-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increasing of death rate based on the disease.**

## Over 10 mln gallons of fuel oil unloaded at terminals of Thilawa Port



The picture shows a jetty of Thilawa Port where oil tankers unload their cargoes - fuel oil.

OIL tankers carrying over 10 million gallons of fuel oil docked at Thilawa Port and the fuel oil unloading process is being undertaken, according to the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

Over 2.34 million gallons of Octane 92, nearly 5 million gallons of diesel and over 3.6 million gallons of premium diesel were unloaded from the ships at the terminals of Thilawa Port.

As of 16 October, there is self-sufficiency of fuel oil depending on the inventory at Thilawa's oil tanks and distri-

bution conditions. The prices of fuel oil are stable this week while the global oil prices slide, according to the association.

On 20 October, the oil prices stood at K1,935 per litre of Octane 92, K2,000 per litre of Octane 95, K2,600 per litre of diesel and K2,685 per litre of premium diesel.

On 17 October, 0.44 million gallons of gasoline and 5.5 million gallons of diesel were removed from two ships. Furthermore, the oil tanker carrying nearly six million gallons docked at the terminal of Thilawa Port, as per the committee's statement. — TWA/GNLM

## Drugs seized in different townships

A combined team consisting of members of the Anti-Narcotics Task Force Police searched the house of Win Maung in Sian village of Bhamo township at 4:45 pm on 21 October and seized 1,950 stimulant tablets.

In addition, at 12:30 pm on the same day, a combined team including the Anti-Narcotics Task Force Police examined suspected Tun Soe Pyae Oo (aka) So Pyae Oo in the Aungmingala Express Bus Terminal of Mingaladon township and captured 9,000 stimulant tablets.

Similarly, at 12:25 pm on this day, police captured traffickers: Ma Thandar Oo (aka) Bokepwa and Ma Naw Yin Yin

Htoo (aka) Yin Htoo in Aungmingala Express Bus Terminal of Mingaladon, according to the investigation.

At 6:30 pm on the same day, a combined team consisting of the Anti-Narcotics Task Force Police searched a Mark-II car on the Loilem-Taunggyi Road in Loilem township and captured two kilogrammes of Ice and 90,000 stimulant tablets.

According to the investigation, police examined the house of Ma Nan Aye U (aka) Nan Kam Luu in Panglong township and seized 14,000 stimulant tablets.

The suspects are prosecuted under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA

## COVID-19 vaccine drive continues in various states, regions



A health staff administers Covid vaccines to locals in Kangyidaunt Township.

VACCINATION is being carried out in full swing in various regions and states as the vaccination programmes are one of the most important activities in the prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19 disease.

Yesterday, doctors and nurses from public hospitals, medical teams from the Tatmadaw, and relevant healthcare workers in collaboration with volunteers gave COVID-19 vaccines to 2,653 people from twenty-six townships in Ay-

eyawady Region, 368 people from Kyaukpyu and Yanbye townships in Rakhine State and 7,565 people from seven districts in Mandalay Region, respectively.

Similarly, on that day healthcare officials gave the vaccines to 179 students from seven districts in Mandalay Region.

In addition, to assist in the control and prevention of the COVID-19 disease, military officials from various

regional commands in collaboration with district and township administrative officials, departmental personnel and members of civil society organizations (CSOs) conducted educational campaigns such as prevention of COVID-19, wearing of masks in public places and distribution of masks to the locals at schools, markets, streets, city entry points and crowded areas in 44 townships in Yangon Region yesterday. — MNA



Four arrestees are seen along with seized drugs and a saloon.

## Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

## 3,394 tonnes of GM bananas exported to China during April-September

ACCORDING to statistics from the Ministry of Economy and Commerce, 3,394 tonnes of Genetically Modified (GM) bananas were exported to China from April to September.

The GM bananas are cultivated locally and exported to China every year, and from April to September of the financial year 2022-2023, 15,138 tonnes worth US\$5.868 million were exported and sold.

According to the statistics, 3,394 tonnes worth \$1.146 million were exported and sold more than the previous year.

GM bananas are mostly cultivated in Waingmaw, Momauk, Wunmaw, Shwegu and Mansi near Myitkyina, Kachin State and Ngao in Sagaing Region starting from 2006, and exported to China through the Lweje Trading Zone.

The advantage and weaknesses of growing GM bananas

have been previously considered by various relevant departments.

Officials proposed the potential side effects of the fertilizers used with GM banana cultivation on the land, water and atmosphere and their effects on consumers during the meeting of the National Assembly held on 12 December 2019.

Side effects of mandatory herbicides were also discussed as many acres of soil and land will be destroyed on the land that will be left at the end of a year.

Acres of land that will be needed in the future and lands that can be damaged and the needs of land for the future were also discussed according to the parliamentary records.

GM bananas were mainly exported from Kachin State's Kampaiti border trade post to China during the rainy season, from 1 April to 17 June 2022, and



GM bananas are grown on the local farm.

\$31.196 million were exported and \$2.304 were imported, according to the Ministry of Com-

merce.

According to the list released by the Kachin state government,

there are more than 60,000 acres GM banana plantations in the entire state. — TWA/GNLM

## Line-up of cars waiting at filling stations cause heavy traffic jams



Cars are pictured queuing for fuel oil at the petrol station in Sangyoung Township.

THE cars have been queuing at petrol stations as people think local fuel prices will be higher, and such cases caused traffic jams near fuel stations on 22 October.

Regarding financial rumours on 21 October night, the exchange rate became unstable and people worry over the higher

prices of foreign products including fuel prices.

Commencing on 22 October, there were line-ups of cars waiting at fuel stations causing heavy traffic jams and it also ran out of fuel stocks at petrol stations.

The Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and

Distribution of Fuel, Ministry of Commerce and MPTA officials conducted a coordination meeting regarding that case.

The six oil tankers unloaded 15.78 million gallons of 92 Ron, 4.15 million gallons of 95 Ron, 3.54 million gallons of Diesel and 5.26 million gallons of Premium Diesel at Thilawa Port on 22 October. Fuel oil tankers also get into Thilawa Port in October and the country has sufficient fuel oil until the end of November, officials announced.

On 22 October, it was K1,985 per litre of 92 Ron, K2,075 per litre of 95 Ron, K2,580 per litre of diesel and K2,665 per litre of premium diesel. — TWA/GNLM

## Illegal meat sellers arrested in Tamway Township

TWO illegal meat sellers were arrested on Hinthta street, Tamway township on 21 October morning, according to the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC). A combined team consisting of officials from the Veterinary and Production Department of YCDC checked

the car which was carrying the illegal meat.

They found illegal beef and beef organs from Khayan Township in the car. They arrested the transporters-cum-sellers and made them sign the pledge for no such doings in the future.

The Veterinary and Pro-

duction Department of YCDC is taking inspection and arresting measures against the unauthorized importation and sale of fish and meat to be consumed by the people within city limits under Sections 210, 211 and 226 (e) of the Yangon City Municipal Law. — TWA/GNLM

## PHOTO NEWS

### Lorries are seen as a normal flow of traffic is re-allowed on the Myawady-Kawkareik Road.



According to the residents, vehicles stuck on the Myawady-Kawkareik Road have been allowed to travel since the evening of 22 October. PHOTO: KO HTIKE (PALE PHYU SOCIAL ORGANIZATION)

# OPINION

# ARTICLE BOOKRACK

## Analyze true and false information for every event

**I**N THE information age, most people are always of hunger for catching news and information benefiting them and for improving their lives and environs. It is the nature of the information technology age.

But there is an important factor that true information can benefit society as well as build a better world whereas misinformation intends to destroy society, bringing disadvantages to the world. As such, all news hunters need to choose and analyze the information whenever they have.

Misinformation, disinformation, false news, fake news, fabricated news and extorted information never bring advantages to society but accumulate the society with disadvantages. Various items of information including both true and false ones are manipulated by the media. In this regard, the role of media is of importance. It is because powerful media can monopolize the circulation of information and situations based on true and false.

As such, information users need to analyze whenever they see any item of information. So also, people need to notice the nature of media which produce the information. Some media and news agencies are righteous in releasing information and news without bias but some media outlets issue news items based on correct and wrong facts as they like with attention to manipulate the media arena for the sake of their interests.

Currently, most of the various types of media outlets located across the world as well as in Myanmar are attempting to

seek benefits for their businesses. Although the incident is correct as released by the government, merged media outlets can change the situation with their influential power in the media arena by shifting the true information with the fabricated ones. So, it is noticeable that the nature of media outlets is always shaking the information arena based on their techniques and partners.

Hence, news users need to notice the information and its sources. Only when people can carefully analyze the news items based on every event can they approve the information about what event is right and what is wrong. In this regard, people can gradually find what media outlets release information without bias, what news agencies try to attempt to monopolize the media arena with the use of various ways and means and what media agencies issue the correct information mixed with false news.

Practically, people can understand the nature of information what is a universal truth, and what is based on pretending the world. Whatever it may be, truth and correctness are universal truths. Misinformation and false and fake news cannot influence true news forever.

# 90,000 Brahminy ducks perished because of cannibalism

By Win Myint Han

(First National Insurance General Co)

**L**ONG ago 90,000 golden Brahminy ducks (တောင်ကလေး) were living in a golden cave in the Satetakote mountain. They did not go out during the four rainy months. If they did, they would fall into the sea, as they could not fly with their rain-laden wings. Whenever a rainy season drew near, they collected Salay paddies growing naturally uncultivated near the Zartasara lake and stored them in the cave to their capacity, feeding on them throughout the wet season. A spider who was as big as a cartwheel and named Ohnnanabi, wove one

layer of cobweb per rainy month across the mouth of the golden cave to seal it. A viscous thread of the web was as thick as a tether used for tying bullocks. The ducks offered double helpings of food to a strong one to breach the cobweb barrier. When the wet season ended, that hero preceding all the other ducks formed a passage through the four layers of the web by biting them open and going out, followed by the others.

One particular rainy season lasted five months. When no more food was left four months later, having discussed amongst

themselves what they should do, the grown-up and strong ducks started eating the eggs, meaning, "As long as we are alive, we could have eggs". Then they ate the young and tender ducks, finishing with the old and frail ones. When the rain stopped at the end of the fifth month, five layers of the web had been already spun by the spider. The surviving ducks were getting weak because of having eaten the flesh of their own species. The leading duck who got double quotas of the food ration succeeded in biting open the four layers of web only, failing to pierce the fifth one where it got entangled. And the blood-thirsty spider sucked the blood of the duck after beheading it. The spider drank the blood of all the remaining ducks too, as

they were incapable of holding layer five and stuck fast thereto. In that way, the entire colony of the Brahminy ducks of the Duttarahta species was exterminated. (Extracted and translated from volume 5 (page 714) of the illustrated 550 stories translated and compiled by venerable Mingala Bonkyaw Nyaunkan Sayadaw)

### The analytical evaluation of the story mentioned above

Almost all Myanmarers having come of age might have heard the saying, "Don't rejoice, if a pimple grows at the tip of or under the (your) chin." It is a warning for one not to feel glad if what is afore-mentioned happens to one. But at the same time, the saying purportedly implies that

one should rejoice, if a pimple grows anywhere other than on one's chin, making it very funny. Who would really feel happy, if a pimple sprouts wherever on his/her body? It could cause even death in a worst-case scenario if tetanus germs enter the wound after it is squeezed excessively and treated carelessly. That is why every saying, dictum and the like even though surviving now after passing through many ages should not be taken for granted.

Accordingly, what one has to bear in mind is that even an ancient dictum should be considered and reasoned critically whether it is logical, reasonable and still applicable to the present time and conditions, by making use of one's own common sense etc.

The Lord Buddha, the sui generis whom all 3 kinds of man: human beings, celestials (နတ်) and super-celestials (ဗြဟ္မာ) worship and rely on, had expounded as follows once and for all in His Kaysamoatti Discourse (ကောသမုတ္တိတရား) to the Kalama princes (ကာလမဇ်းသားများ).

"Never accept the sermon learnt from hearsay as absolutely true. Never accept the sermon in question as absolutely true, only because it has been accepted and passed down as true from generation to generation by your ancestor. Never accept the sermon in question as absolutely true, only because it conforms and agrees to one of the scriptures studied and accepted by you as true. Never treat the sermon in question as

absolutely untrue, only because it does not tally with and agree to the opinion finally held by you after careful consideration and criticism thereof by making use of all available methods and norms. And so on and so forth ... Only if you yourselves vividly come to discover that Greed, Anger and Ignorance inherent in you are duly reduced in consequence of your meditation pursuant to that sermon, accept it as absolutely true and keep meditating". (The full text is not cited to avoid lengthiness)

As such we have to find out, what no one had ever attempted before, whether the Claim that cannibalism had resulted in the total extinction of all the 90,000 hapless ducks is correct,

logical, reasonable and acceptable, ..... by making use of our own common sense, general knowledge, experience, logical and reasoning powers etc., based on the above principles clarified by the Awakened One in so far as they were applicable. Up to date we have been hearing that Duttarahta species (those 90,000 ducks) had ceased to exist owing to cannibalism, quoted every now and then in books, conversations and media etc. Let's consider the pros and cons.

As the story goes, the Brahminy ducks had to stay inside the cave throughout one entire rainy season, as they could not fly outside with their rain-soaked wings.

SEE PAGE-10 >>



Title	-	Lunge Myar Tho Mingalaba
Writer	-	Aung Thin
Publishing House	-	Zun Pwint
Publishing Date	-	May 2022 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition)
Price	-	K5,000

### Lunge Myar Tho Mingalaba

**I**F one asks who have *cetana* (goodwill) towards young people, the answer will be unanimous: it is the parents followed by the teachers and the writers who have devoted their lives to cultivating the youth, putting the latter onto the correct path. The writer of this book is a teacher known as Saya Aung Thin.

Saya U Aung Thin has devoted his life to cultivating the youth. He spent most of his time on youth, organizing the development of the youth reading associations, giving lectures and educational talks and writing books on ethics and culture as

well as on education. Additionally, he has relentlessly conducted talks and also written a lot consistently with a view to developing the lives of the youth by promoting their personality. This book is also aimed at the youth.

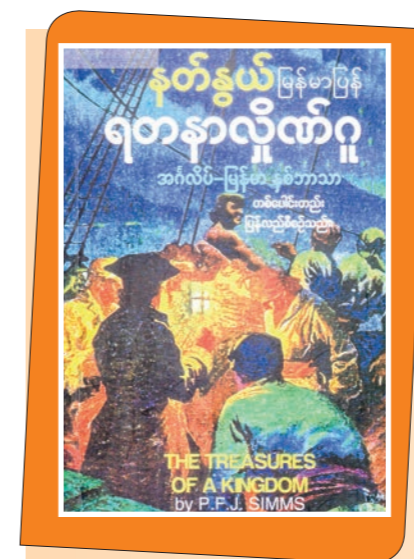
The book deals with Mangala Sutta. However, he wrote in a reader-friendly style so that young people will have no difficulty understanding the preaching of Buddha. Although this book is dedicated to the younger generation, it is also useful for the rather mature people who may have missed some important points because there are always things

which may seem easy upon superficial observation but are really difficult to get the point.

He said, "Our Buddhists have all started to say prayers since childhood. We would say Okasa, Okasa, Okasa every day. Well, if one asks what Okasa means, there will be only a handful of Buddhists who know what it implies. The same goes for Mangala.

"You've all started with Okasa first before you began to recite Mangala Sutta. How can you understand Mangala Sutta even when you do not know what Okasa suggests?"

"Not only Mangala Sutta but also Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta are not understood well by the Buddhists. Matter-of-factly, Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta is the summary of All Dhammas which will lead the listeners and/or readers into the attainment of Nibbana. Most of our Buddhists are contented with reciting the Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta, not trying to contemplate the very essence of Buddha Teachings. Saya U Aung Thin has exerted his effort, trying to explain the in-depth meaning of the difficult Pali words embedded in Mangala Sutta. In the section that deals with Puja ca pujaniyanam i.e., paying homage to those who deserve homage, he said, "In this regard, I'd like to put one point I want you to be aware of. The word 'Sangha' does not refer to a particular monk; this word is a collective noun, referring to the entire mass of monks, who are abiding by the disciplinary rules of Buddha. So, if you happen to see a monk who fails to stick to the Vinaya Rules, you ought to blame that particular monk only. As he is not representing the entire mass of Sangha, you should not have disrespect for Sangha. Please try to differentiate between Sangha and monk."



Title	-	Yadana Laing Gu
Writer	-	Nat Nwe
Publishing House	-	Seikku Cho Cho
Publishing Date	-	September 2022
Price	-	K5,000

### Yadana Laing Gu by Nat Nwe

I would like to introduce a book published by the Publishing House called Seikku Cho Cho. This book is nothing but a textbook once prescribed for matriculation students. The title of the book is, "The Treasure of a Kingdom" written by P. F. J. Simms. Saya Nat Nwe seems to have thrown an arrow at three birds simultaneously. First, he aims to help the matriculates understand the prescribed text thoroughly. Secondly, he wants the general readers to be familiar with the prescribed texts. In third place, he wants to enable those who want to study translation methods to learn how to translate English into Myanmar.

This bilingual book includes 17 chap-

ters with the Myanmar text coming first followed by the English version in the second part.

The chapters are: The manuscript; Death comes quickly; I am in danger; A way to escape; Dr Vong visits my rooms; We study the clues; The manuscript is stolen; Who is Dr Vong; The search begins; Pridiyakorn makes a final decision; The gully; We are the quarry; We find the cave; Trapped; Ordeal by water; The fight with Vong; and Return to safety.

At the commencement of Chapter 1, the writer introduced his main character as follows: My name is Prasert. A year ago, I left Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok and went to London to continue

my studies and take a Ph. D in History. I found very pleasant rooms near Bedford Square. My teacher was Philip Martin, who is a great friend of my family and about my age. The winter passed uneventfully.

In the title chapter i.e. We find the cave, he wrote: So, we started up the ravine. We understood then about the darkness. For the sides pressed in upon us, sometimes almost seeming to touch each other, and the air felt cold and wet above us. In my opinion, the book will benefit both the students and those learning how to translate English into Myanmar.



# ARTICLE/SCI/ENVIRON WORLD

## 90,000 Brahminy ducks perished because of cannibalism

>> FROM PAGE-9

They usually collected and stored enough food for each four month wet season. But that particular rainy season extended to the fifth month and all the stored food had been already eaten up after four months. In order to remain alive, the grown-up and strong ducks ate up the eggs first, then the young and the old later. (given)

We believe that those cannibals had taken a very right, resourceful and decisive measure by devouring their fellow ducks. Why? Because they had no other alternative. Unless they ate up their own brethren, all the 90,000 ducks without any exception would surely die of starvation, as there was totally no food left inside the cave on the one hand and they could not venture out on the other. The kind of death facing all the 90,000 ducks if the stronger ones were saintly by not resorting to cannibalism, was a very slow and painful one. First and foremost, without food intake they all would become weaker and weaker, thinner and thinner, suffering the unbearable sensation of overpowering hunger cou-

pled with diminishing strength and they all would eventually die woefully.

Out of the 90,000 ducks, the cannibals might be at least one-third i.e. about 30,000. Therefore, when the rainy season ended after the fifth month, the said 30,000 ducks would remain alive, hale and hearty. If they were too good to practise cannibalism, there shall be absolutely no survivors at that time. Even if all those survivors (cannibals) were finally killed by the spider, as the story goes (which is very illogical and unreasonable), the cannibalism at worst had enabled them to stay for some more days up to the end of the month 5 well-fed. As there were practically no other means of preserving their dear lives, the cannibals deserved not to be condemned as too selfish, too cruel, too ruthless and so on for what they had done. Because even the human mother mostly cited as the champion of parental love has no choice but to stand on her own son, since she can no longer tolerate the heat, when the earth itself is burning (ကမ္ဘာမီးလောင်သားကောင်ချင်နင်း), as the famous proverb indicates.

Hence which is better and more desirable: either the demise by starvation of all the 90,000 ducks together or the preservation of about 30,000 lives for some more days by cannibalism?

As the story unfolds, if the leading cannibalistic duck could have penetrated the four layers of the web, then only layer five remained intact by the time it was killed. Consequently, the other ducks following the leader must be able to easily hole the remaining layer, because they still had fully conserved their strength, as they need not make any physical exertion in easily passing through the four layers already breached open by the leading martyr. It is relevant, reasonable and undeniable that if the leading duck could have pierced the four layers – alone, then the remaining birds about 29,999 strong each with full conserved energy and advancing one after another must be able to force an opening in the sole remaining layer; the fifth (which was by no means different from four others) easily. Even if each bird could bite only a little bit, the combined efforts of the first 20, 25 birds would have, penetrated

layer five eventually, let alone the remaining more than 29,000.

It is learnt that the spider was as big as a cartwheel and could produce a viscous thread as thick as a rope used for tying bullocks. (given) Accordingly, it can be safely deduced that its body needed daily a big amount of food which was hardly available even in fine weather let alone in rainy seasons. It could not also go outside to find food, as the rain could kill it. It is also amazing how that predator had survived that long, as it could not have caught even a single duck during the many past four-month rainy seasons in the first place. (No argument against the assertion that the spider drank the blood of about 30,000 ducks combined in one sitting only, is made not to lengthen this text.)

Finally, it was alleged that the cannibals were getting weak as a result of the cannibalism which we find most sceptical. In the animal world snake eats a snake, fish eats fish, a bird eats a bird and so on and so forth. As far as human beings are concerned cannibalism was never cited as a cause which makes the eat-

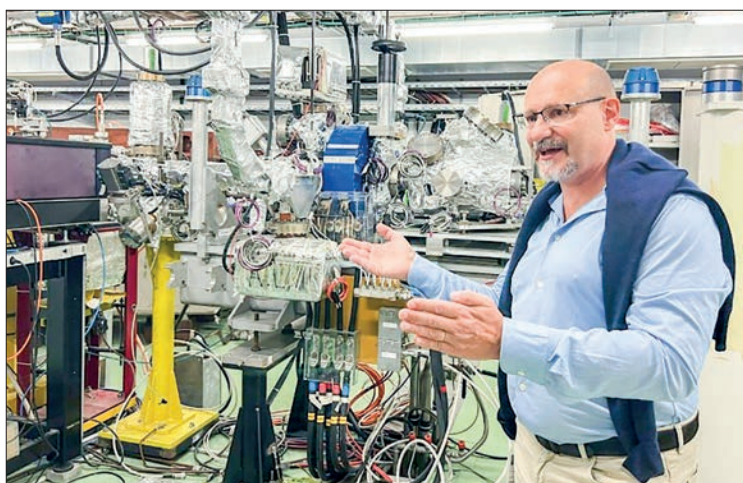
ers weak. Consider Pawrisara (ပေါရိသာရာ). We have never come across any one statement which says so, based on modern science.

In the Darrana Sutta (တရုဏဝရိတ်) the Lord Buddha was described and characterized twice as always guided invariably in all His deeds physical, verbal and mental by His intellect, having nothing to do with cracking a joke, uttering and doing something carelessly, preaching a sermon without careful reasoning and above all no deed was ever done without being duly deliberated and mulled over by His intellect.

Hence it is impossible that the Awakened One is omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent (သဗ္ဗညုတဉာဏ်တော်) and endowed with the unlimited extent of luck and intellect (ကံတော်အနန္တ၊ ဉာဏ်တော်အနန္တ) would cite such a most flawed, unreasonable and illogical tale as the captioned one (as pointed out above).

Accordingly, the extermination of the 90,000 Brahminy ducks was not caused by cannibalism. ■

## Particle physics pushing cancer treatment boundaries



Facility coordinator Roberto Corsini shows off a 40-metre linear particle accelerator at CERN which could push the boundaries of cancer treatment. **PHOTO: AFP**

RESEARCHERS at Europe's science lab CERN, who regularly use particle physics to challenge our understanding of the universe, are also applying their craft to upend the limits to cancer treatment.

The physicists here are working with giant particle accelerators in search of ways to expand the reach of cancer radiation therapy, and take on hard-to-reach tumours that would otherwise have been fatal.

In one CERN lab, called CLEAR, facility coordinator Roberto Corsini stands next to a large, linear particle accelerator consisting of a 40-metre metal beam with tubes packed in aluminium foil at one end, and a vast array of measurement instruments and protruding colourful wires and cables.

The research here, he told AFP during a recent visit, is aimed at creating very high energy beams of electrons — the negatively charged particles in the nucleus of an atom — that eventually could help to combat cancerous cells more effectively.

They are researching a “technology to accelerate electrons to the energies that are needed to treat deep-seated tumours, which is above 100 million electron volts” (MeV), Corsini explained.—AFP

## Sharks can help large ocean fishes scratch itches: Aussie study

SHARKS are the preferred scraping surface for large pelagic fishes, with a positive impact on teleost fitness by reducing parasite loads, according to a study published Wednesday in the journal PLOS One.

By analyzing video records of over 100,000 individuals across the Pacific, Indian and Atlantic Oceans, Christopher D H Thompson and Jessica Meeuwig from the University of Western Australia found that big fishes living in the open

ocean, like tunas, prefer to scrape on sharks, rather than on other fish species.

“Tunas were quite orderly, lining up behind the shark and taking turns to brush against the tail. Rainbow runners were unruly, forming a school around the back half of the shark and darting out in turns to bump against its body,” the researchers said, when detailing different scraping behaviours between various fish species.—Xinhua



Big fishes living in the open ocean, like tunas, prefer to scrape on sharks, rather than on other fish species. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/OCEANRAMSEY/ONEOCEANDIVING.COM/AFP**

# HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### US CDC concerned for new Omicron subvariants

THE US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely tracking a wide range of Omicron sublineages, including three drawing recent attention, the agency said on Friday.

The three new subvariants are BQ.1, BQ.1.1 and XBB. BQ.1 and BQ.1.1 are offshoots of the BA.5 subvariant, which has been dominant in the United States for months, according to the CDC.

CDC data show that BQ.1 and BQ.1.1 seem to be spreading relatively quickly so far, but they are still a small proportion of overall variants. The CDC is also keeping a close eye on XBB based on international reports, although it is still very rare in the United States. —Xinhua

### Singapore reports 7,247 new COVID-19 cases

SINGAPORE reported 7,247 new cases of COVID-19 on Friday, bringing the country's total tally to 2,053,370.

Of the new cases, 639 were detected through PCR (polymerase chain reaction) tests and 6,608 through ARTs (antigen rapid test), according to statistics released by the Ministry of Health.

Among the PCR cases, 624 were local transmissions and 15 were imported cases. Among the ART cases with mild symptoms and assessed to be of low risk, there were 6,361 local transmissions and 247 imported cases. —Xinhua

## Over 1 mln children in Philippines unprotected by routine vaccine: UNICEF



UNICEF said nearly 1.5 million Filipino children have yet to receive or complete their polio vaccine, making 67 provinces in the country at high risk for polio infections. **PHOTO: UNICEF/FILE**

MORE than one million children in the Philippines have yet received a single dose of routine vaccine, the United Nations children's fund (UNICEF) said on Friday.

UNICEF said nearly 1.5 mil-

lion Filipino children have yet to receive or complete their polio vaccine, making 67 provinces in the country at high risk for polio infections.

Polio is a highly infectious disease that can cause paralysis

or death. Complete vaccination for polio according to schedule is the most effective way to protect children from this disease.

Meanwhile, all regions in the Philippines are also at high-risk for a measles outbreak, said the UN agency, citing a 2022 World Health Organization Risk Assessment.

UNICEF Philippines Representative Oyunsai Khan Dendevnorov told a press conference that the increasing number of children at risk of measles, polio, and other vaccine-preventable diseases "must be treated as a public health emergency that needs urgent action."

She said the COVID-19 pandemic "highlights the need to strengthen primary health care," urging the authorities to prioritize investments and bolster human resources to reach zero-dose children. —Xinhua

## COVID-19 cases bounce back in Finland

THE Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) on Friday reported an increase in the presence of COVID-19 in its wastewater sampling.

According to the THL's monitoring report, the country's current COVID-19 situation is about as bleak as it was at the beginning of this year.

THL leading expert Tarja Pitkanen told national broadcaster Yle that the country is currently on the crest of a wave caused by the Omicron variant of the virus.

Omicron was first detected

in Finland in early 2022. The number of confirmed cases was relatively low in August, but the trend appears to be reversed now, she said.

The coming weeks will show whether the levels of COVID-19 detected in wastewater will exceed those recorded at the beginning of this year, she said. She added that the Omicron subvariant BA.5 has become the dominant strain of the virus in Finland, with subvariants BA.2 and BA.4 also detected in certain parts of the country. —Xinhua



Omicron was first detected in Finland in early 2022. The number of confirmed cases was relatively low in August, but the trend appears to be reversed now. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

## Hong Kong broke law by scrapping vaccine exemptions: court



Coronavirus jabs are not mandatory in Hong Kong, but the Chinese city uses a QR healthcode system that denies unvaccinated people access to many public premises. Passengers boarding a tram in Hong Kong. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ KWANWOO JUN/AFP/FILE**

HONG Kong's government broke the law when it invalidated thousands of certificates exempting people from coronavirus vaccinations, a court ruled Friday, in a rare rebuke of the city's strict pandemic controls.

Coronavirus jabs are not mandatory in Hong Kong, but the Chinese city uses a QR healthcode system that denies unvaccinated people access to many public premises.

Police have accused seven doctors of issuing fraudulent exemptions in recent months in a city where coronavirus vaccine hesitancy is pronounced, especially among the elderly. After arresting the medics, local authorities announced some 20,000 exemption certificates would be declared invalid. But High Court judge Russell Coleman ruled that such a move was not supported by Hong Kong's public health

laws. "A government minister gets his or her legal powers from legislation — and not from an announcement made in a press release," Coleman wrote on Friday.

Hong Kong's unelected government has used emergency powers to pass some of the strictest pandemic rules in the world — including compulsory mask wearing and bans on large outdoor gatherings — which remain in place to this day. —AFP

# ECONOMY WORLD

## EU agrees 'roadmap' to contain energy prices

EU leaders on Friday reached agreement on a "roadmap" aimed at putting in place measures within weeks to shield European consumers from soaring energy prices.

The accord came after 11 hours of wrangling over broad proposals to lower energy bills as gas prices pushed skywards by the war in Ukraine.

The bloc's 27 member states have been squabbling for months over which joint initiatives to adopt, riven by the fact that energy mixes in the countries vary greatly. While the announcement of the summit text made a public show of unity, it was clear that the coming negotiations would remain difficult. One step in that would come next week with a meeting of EU energy ministers in Luxembourg.

The summit agreement set out a "solid roadmap to keep on working on the topic of energy prices", European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen told a media conference.



At least 15 EU countries – more than half the bloc – are pushing for an ambitious cap on prices and are increasingly unsettled by strikes and protests over the cost of living spreading across France, Belgium and other member states. **PHOTO: JOE KLAMAR/AFP**

The published text calls on the European Commission and EU countries in coming weeks to find ways to shield consumers from the high prices "while preserving Europe's global competitiveness... and the integrity of the Single Market".

European Council President Michel said, "the energy crisis represents a threat to the in-

ternal market" of the EU and stressed "maximal coordination" was needed to protect it.

At least 15 EU countries — more than half the bloc — are pushing for an ambitious cap on prices and are increasingly unsettled by strikes and protests over the cost of living spreading across France, Belgium and other member states. — AFP

## Floods to hurt Australian GDP growth forecast, push up vegetable prices: treasurer



A man films flooded streets due to torrential rain in the Camden suburb of Sydney in July. **PHOTO: AFP**

FLOODING in Australia's south-east will harm the country's projected economic growth, the treasurer has confirmed.

Ahead of handing down his first federal budget on Tuesday, Jim Chalmers on Friday said modelling suggests floods in Tasmania, New South Wales and Victoria will wipe 0.25 per

cent off gross domestic product (GDP) growth in the final quarter of 2022. Thousands of homes and businesses have been affected by the floods, with more rain expected over the weekend.

The Treasury forecasts the floods will drive the price of fruit and vegetables up by 8 per cent over the next six months.

However, inflation is still expected to peak at 7.75 per cent. Chalmers said the big ongoing contributor to inflation increasingly will be the impact of these natural disasters and the impact of higher electricity prices.

The Labour government said its first budget since winning May's election will have a focus on addressing the rising cost of living. It will include about 1.5 billion Australian dollars (about 877 million US dollars) in previously announced emergency payments for flood victims and a three billion Australian dollars (1.8 billion US dollars) reserve fund to respond to future disasters.

"We don't know yet whether that three billion Australian dollars will be sufficient but we consider it prudent," Chalmers said in a press conference in Canberra on Friday.—Xinhua

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### UK reports further bleak economic data

UK government borrowing surged and retail sales slumped in September, official data showed Friday, dealing a further economic blow to a country in political crisis.

Public sector net borrowing stood at £20 billion (\$22 billion), the second-largest September level on record, as decades-high inflation sees interest on debt repayments balloon.

Retail sales volumes tumbled 1.4 per cent as sky-high prices curbed consumer purchasing. The figure was better, however, than the 1.7-per-cent slide in August.

The data comes one day after Prime Minister Liz Truss resigned in the wake of markets turmoil triggered by her budget of tax cuts funded by debt.

The public borrowing figure exceeded analysts' consensus of £17.2 billion, which was already far above the government's own prediction.—AFP

#### S.Africa paves way for cryptocurrency regulation

SOUTH Africa's financial watchdog on Thursday declared cryptocurrency a financial product, paving way for the regulation of the assets in the continent's most advanced economy.

The announcement comes in the wake of financial institutions and watchdogs around the world grappling on how to regulate digital currencies.

The decision by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) means financial firms dealing in cryptos will have to apply for licensing next year between 1 June and 20 November.—AFP

## Portugal distributes financial aid amid record inflation

PORTUGAL began on Thursday to pay financial aid of 125 euros (122 US dollars) to each worker in the country to minimize the impact caused strong domestic inflation.

According to the Ministry of Finance, 5.8 million people, or nearly half of the country's population, are set to receive a non-taxable deposit in their bank accounts.

Adults who make less than

2,700 euros (2,639 dollars) per month and are not receiving pensions are entitled to the payments. Families with children, regardless of the monthly income, will have an extra benefit of 50 euros (49 dollars) for each person under 24 years of age.

The measures are part of a state package called "Families First" that focuses on reducing the impact of inflation in Portugal.—Xinhua



Technicians work at the esplanade of the Pena Palace in Sintra, west of Lisbon on 31 March 2021, days before the reopening of museums and monuments following coronavirus restrictions. **PATRICIA DE MELO MOREIRA /AFP**

## Google fined \$162 mln by Indian watchdog over market dominance

GOOGLE has been fined more than US\$160 million by India's anti-trust watchdog after a probe found the tech behemoth was abusing its commanding position in the local smartphone market.

The California-based company's Android mobile operating system is by far the dominant player in India and is run on 95 per cent of all the country's smartphones, according to research agency Counterpoint.

But the Competition

Commission of India (CCI) said Google had configured the platform to unlawfully crowd out rivals to its popular apps, including YouTube and web browser Chrome.

Android had a suite of Google apps pre-installed on its phones, including the company's own search engine, "which accorded significant competitive edge to Google's search services over its competitors", a CCI statement said late Thursday. —AFP



The California-based company's Android mobile operating system is by far the dominant player in India and is run on 95 per cent of all the country's smartphones. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

## Kering sales surge on European recovery

FRENCH luxury group Kering said Thursday sales jumped in the third quarter to over five billion euros as activity in Western Europe rebounded. Sales in the July-September period climbed 23 per cent to 5.1 billion euros (\$5.0 billion), or by 14 per cent on a comparable basis. "In an increasingly complex environment, we maintain the required flexibility to support our profitability and sustain our investments in the long-term outlook of all our houses, Gucci first and foremost," said chief executive Francois-Henri Pinault. —AFP

## India's Reliance reports mixed results as taxes hurt oil business

INDIAN conglomerate Reliance Industries reported mixed quarterly results on Friday, with weakness in its core oil-refining business hurting profits even as its retail and telecom arms posted strong earnings.

Reliance, which is owned by Asia's second-richest man Mukesh Ambani, reported a net profit of 136.56 billion rupees (\$1.65 billion) between July and September, 0.2 per cent lower than the same period last year.

From the June quarter, net profit declined 24 per cent from 179.55 billion rupees.

Revenues from operations increased 33.7 per cent on-year to 2.33 trillion rupees, helped by strong contributions from Reliance's newer consumer-facing businesses.



Reliance, which is owned by Asia's second-richest man Mukesh Ambani, reported a net profit of 136.56 billion rupees (\$1.65 billion) between July and September, 0.2 per cent lower than the same period last year. PHOTO: AFP

"I am pleased with the record performance of our consumer businesses which continue to scale new milestones every quar-

ter," chairman and managing director Ambani said in a statement.

But Reliance's legacy oil-to-chemicals business

was hit by "subdued demand" and "the introduction of special additional excise duties during the quarter", he added. —AFP

## L'Oreal confident beauty will beat inflation beast

FRENCH beauty products giant L'Oreal beat third-quarter sales expectations and expressed confidence Thursday about the outlook despite global economic uncertainty and rampant inflation.

Sales at the world's top beauty company shot 19.7 per cent higher in the July

through September period to 9.58 billion euros (\$9.34), beating the analyst consensus of 9.29 billion compiled by Bloomberg.

"In a context of unprecedented volatility, marked by the public health restrictions in China and inflation in the Western world, L'Oreal achieved a

very solid quarter," said chief executive Nicolas Hieronimus. "The global beauty market remained dynamic, and consumers' appetite for beauty products is intact," he added.

Nine-month sales were up 20.5 per cent to 27.94 billion euros at the firm that owns the May-

belline New York and Garnier brands. "Despite the current uncertainties, we remain confident in the outlook for the global beauty market ... and confident in our ability to outperform the market and achieve another year of growth in sales and profits in 2022," Hieronimus added. —AFP

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### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PANJA BHUM VOY.NO. (207W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PANJA BHUM VOY.NO. (207W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **23-10-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.  
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:  
**M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (182N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (182N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **23-10-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.  
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:  
**M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

## 20<sup>th</sup> CPC National Congress concludes in Beijing

THE week-long 20<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) concluded on Saturday in Beijing.

The 20<sup>th</sup> CPC Central Committee and the 20<sup>th</sup> CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) were elected at the closing session, which was presided over by Xi Jinping.

A resolution endorsing the report of the 19<sup>th</sup> CPC Central Committee and a resolution on the work report of the 19<sup>th</sup> CPC CCDI were also adopted.

The 20<sup>th</sup> CPC National Congress also passed a resolution on an amendment to the CPC Constitution.

Meanwhile, members of the Standing Committee of the Political

Bureau of the 20<sup>th</sup> Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee will meet the press on Sunday after they are elected at a plenary meeting on the same day.

The new CPC leadership will be elected at the first plenary session of the 20<sup>th</sup> CPC Central Committee. They will meet Chinese and foreign journalists in Beijing at around 12 pm.

The event will be broadcast live by China Media Group and Xinhuanet. It will also be relayed simultaneously by television and radio stations across China, as well as news websites, new media platforms, large outdoor screens and mobile televisions.—CGTN/Xinhua



Delegates attend the closing session of the 20<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, 22 October 2022. PHOTO: XINHUA/LIU WEIBING

## Guinea junta agrees return to civilian rule in 2 years

GUINEA'S ruling junta has agreed to restore civilian rule in two years, after facing sanctions over its original plan for a three-year transfer of power; the West

African bloc ECOWAS said Friday. West African leaders had last month suspended Guinea from the bloc and imposed sanctions on a number of individuals follow-

ing a military coup.

"In a dynamic compromise, experts from ECOWAS and Guinea have jointly developed a consolidated chronogram (timetable)

for a transition spread over 24 months," ECOWAS said in a report following a technical mission to the country published on social media by the junta. The country's

military leader, Colonel Mamady Doumbouya, said in an address broadcast on state television that the timetable would take effect from 1 January 2023.—AFP

### RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

## Ukraine says threat 'growing' of new offensive from Belarusian territory

KYIV said Thursday increasingly hostile statements from Belarus and Russia and the deployment of a joint force signalled a "growing" threat of an offensive launched by Moscow from Belarus, north of Ukraine.

This comes after the creation of the new force between Minsk and Moscow, tasked with defending the Belarusian borders, was announced last week.

"The aggressive rhetoric of the military-political leadership of Russia and Belarus is intensifying," Deputy Chief of the Ukrainian General Staff Oleksiy Gromov said during a briefing.

"The threat of the resumption of the offensive by the Russian armed forces on the northern front is growing," Gromov said.

An offensive could be launched "to the west of the Be-



Soldiers from Belarus and Russia take part in a joint exercise at a firing range in Belarus on 4 February 2022. PHOTO: RUSSIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY / AFP

larusian border, to cut the main logistical arteries for the supply of weapons and military equipment to Ukraine" from countries west of Ukraine, including from Poland.

Earlier on Thursday Belarusian security services (KGB) said "almost every day we see increasing intelligence activities

from the Ukrainian territory and attempts to violate the Belarusian airspace" in a statement quoted by state-run agency Belta.

On Monday, Minsk said up to 9,000 Russian soldiers and around 170 tanks would be deployed to Belarus as part of the task joint force.—AFP

### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

#### Russia says discussing Red Cross access to bombed Ukraine prison

RUSSIA said Thursday the Red Cross had permission to visit Olenivka prison, where dozens of Ukrainian prisoners of war died in a July bombing strike, but was blocked by the security situation.

Kyiv earlier this week accused the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) of "inaction" over Ukrainian prisoners held by Russia, saying a lack of visits to detained soldiers and civilians left them vulnerable to being tortured. The ICRC meanwhile has said it shares in the frustration, though stressing it could only conduct such visits when it was granted authorization and security guarantees. The organisation has been urging both sides to provide more access to their prisoners of war, and has voiced particular concern about the lack of access to the prison in Kremlin-controlled Olenivka in eastern Ukraine.—AFP

#### US restores defence talks but says no Russian interest in ending war

THE US and Russian defense chiefs spoke Friday for the first time in months but Secretary of State Antony Blinken said he saw no interest from Moscow for broader talks to end the Ukraine war.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin "emphasized the importance of maintaining lines of communication amid the ongoing war against Ukraine" during the call with his Russian counterpart Sergei Shoigu, said a US spokesman, Brigadier-General Pat Ryder.

Russia's defence ministry confirmed the call and said the two discussed Ukraine without further details.

The defense chiefs last spoke on 13 May when Austin urged Moscow to implement an "immediate ceasefire" in Ukraine.—AFP

NEWS IN  
BRIEF

### Explosions rock gov't-controlled oil port in Yemen's Hadramout

TWO loud explosions ripped through a key government-controlled oil port in Yemen's southeastern province of Hadramout on Friday, a security official told Xinhua.

"Initial reports indicate that the Houthis militia launched an attack against Dhabah oil port using explosive-laden drones, causing explosions in the government-controlled area," the local security official said on condition of anonymity.

He clarified that the attack occurred while local authorities were preparing the shipment of crude exports to the global markets.

"Hours before the arrival of an exporting oil tanker to receive the shipment, two simultaneous explosions rocked the vicinity of Dhabah port that's completely secured by government forces," he said.—Xinhua

### AU convenes meeting on Ethiopia peace talks

THE African Union's conflict resolution body was set to convene Friday to discuss the war in northern Ethiopia and looming peace talks aimed at ending nearly two years of bloodshed.

The 15-member Peace and Security Council said it would be briefed during a morning session by AU special envoy Olusegun Obasanjo, who is expected to mediate talks on the Tigray conflict in South Africa slated for Monday. Ethiopia's government said it had been invited to talks on 24 October by the AU and would participate. Tigray's rebel leaders have only reiterated their commitment to the AU-led peace process.—AFP

## Far-right leader Giorgia Meloni becomes Italy's first woman PM



Giorgia Meloni acknowledges the audience after she delivered an address at her party's campaign headquarters overnight on 26 September 2022, in Rome after winning the national election. **PHOTO: ANDREAS SOLARO/AFP**

GIORGIA Meloni, leader of the far-right populist Brothers of Italy (FdI) party, became Italy's first woman prime minister on Friday.

The official announcement came after she met with the country's President, Sergio Mattarella, at the Quirinale

Presidential Palace here in the afternoon.

Meloni received the mandate to form a new cabinet less than a month after her victory in the country's snap election on 25 September.

Her new cabinet, which will include 22 ministers, will

be sworn in on Saturday, Ugo Zampetti, secretary-general of the Presidency of the Republic, told reporters.

Meloni's FdI party won 26 per cent of the vote in September, and she will now lead the country in a right-wing alliance with Matteo Salvini's League party and former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's centre-right Forza Italia, each of which snagged just over 8 per cent.

Next week, the new government will face confidence votes in both houses of Parliament.

Meloni's government is set to command a comfortable majority in both houses of Parliament (Chamber of Deputies and Senate).

The snap election in September was called after Mario Draghi — an economist and former chief of the European Central Bank — resigned as prime minister on 21 July.—Xinhua

## Greek coastguard rescues 75 migrants at sea

GREECE'S coastguard on Friday said it had rescued 75 migrants on board a sailboat caught in stormy seas south of the Peloponnese peninsula.

The 69 men and six women were in good health after the sailboat was safely towed to a local port, the coastguard said in a statement.

Their nationalities were not disclosed. Greece has seen increased migration traffic this year, often carried out under adverse weather conditions.

At least 30 people drowned in two migrant boat sinkings near the Peloponnese and the island of Lesbos earlier this month.

Greece, Italy and Spain are among the first ports of call for people fleeing Africa and the Middle East in search of safety and better lives in the European Union.

The Greek coastguard says it has rescued about 1,500 people in the first eight months of the year, up from less than 600 last year.—AFP



Thousands of migrants heading to the eastern Greek islands are increasingly opting to take larger boats, such as sailboats and yachts. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Erdogan to discuss NATO bid with Swedish PM in Türkiye: report

PRESIDENT Recep Tayyip Erdogan has accepted a request from Sweden's new prime minister to visit Türkiye for talks aimed at overcoming Ankara's objections to Stockholm and Helsinki's bids to join NATO, local media reported on Friday.

"Sweden's new prime minister requested an appointment. I told our friends to 'give an appointment.'... We will discuss these issues with him in our country," Erdogan was quoted as saying by private NTV television on his plane back from Azerbaijan.

Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson said Thursday he was ready to head to Ankara to urge Türkiye to back bids by his country's bid to join the alliance.

Sweden and Finland earlier this year tore up their long-standing policies of non-alignment in the face of Russia's war on Ukraine and launched their bids to join the US-led military alliance.



Soldiers from Gotland's regiment patrol in Visby harbour, Sweden. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/AFP**

The move has received strong backing from the vast majority of the alliance's members but Erdogan has stalled the process over accusations the Nordic neighbours are havens for Kurdish militants hostile to Ankara. Kristersson said he aimed to show the Turkish leader that Sweden and Finland "actually do what we promised" to

fulfil a deal with Ankara to clear their path into NATO.

Erdogan said Ankara's position remained unchanged, calling on Sweden and Finland to deliver "these terrorists" sought by Turkish authorities.

"Unless they are sent back to us, things will not work at the parliamentary stage," he threatened.—AFP



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

### 1. Political affairs

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

### 2. Economic affairs

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

### 3. Social affairs

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

## Press Release by Central Bank of Myanmar on Statement of FATF Chairman T. Raja Kumar

1. The plenary session of Financial Action Task Force-FATF was held on 20 and 21 October in Paris, France. The events were attended by the Myanmar delegation, delegates representing the International Monetary Fund, 106 members of the global network and observer organizations, the United Nations, the World Bank, Interpol and the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units. Chairman of FATF T. Raja Kumar issued statements regarding Myanmar.
2. Although Myanmar was put on high-risk jurisdictions subject to a call for action from jurisdictions under increased monitoring, it is here announced that it is not the jurisdictions subject to an FATF call on its members and other jurisdictions to apply countermeasures faced by North Korea and Iran which are now on the black list.
3. World countries and regions including Myanmar must follow the 40 recommendations of FATF. They include Anti-Money Laundering-AML, Countering the Financing of Terrorism-CFT and Targeted Financial Sanctions of Proliferation. Although Myanmar is not an FATF member country, it is a member of the Asia-Pacific Group on Money Laundering-APG.
4. Myanmar is following FATF recommendations, and although it was not compliant with over 20 standards out of 40 recommendations in the initial stage, it now meets 24 standards.
5. Myanmar was on that list between June 2011 and February 2016, and efforts are now being made to be removed from that list based on experiences, and it has already drafted the Action Plan to be implemented in the coming year.
6. Myanmar will have to face the Enhance Due Diligence-EDD in money transferring processes to foreign countries and the banks concerned can regularly operate their procedures such as making similar enquiries and collecting remittance documents. Despite the high-risk jurisdictions being subject to a call for action, it is not a risk factor for Myanmar so people need not worry about it, and manipulations should not be done in the currency market. Actions will be taken against such doings that do not comply with the rules and regulations of the Central Bank of Myanmar.

## Prices remain stable in Yangon market despite forex fluctuations

THE exchange rate abruptly rose in the market due to the financial announcement on the evening of 21 October.

However, the exchange rate is used in the real situation and it depends on sellers and buyers. During three successive holidays from 22 to 24 October, they are not market prices and so sellers of imported products suspended their operations to know the situation yesterday.

Ma Nyein Aye who runs printing and copying services in Kyauktada told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM) that she could not buy paper at shops near the Sule Pagoda as the products were out of stock. The retail price of paper rose by K500/1,000 than the original prices.

In Thanzay (Iron Bazaar), some Chinese product shops did not sell materials as the exchange was not stable. In the cooking oil market, although companies suspend sales those



Garment shops in the Mingala Mon Market are running as normal on 22 October noon. PHOTO: TUN TUN

who have products sell them by increasing about K1,000 per viss. It is K5,500 per 50-viss bottle of vegetable oil, said a customer.

In the Bayintnaung mar-

ket, sales were increasing than the normal day at retail shops yesterday, said an owner. The products purchased in Yangon were transported to the coun-

tryside before the holidays and so the trucks were needed yesterday, said a business person who operate truck services to delta region.

There was no panic buying of rice and the transactions were normal at the pharmacies and shopping centres yesterday, it is learnt.

In the past, unusual financial cases sparked panic buying of commodities but now it seems like to be a normal case and nothing changes. The palm oil price becomes drastically high and the merchants wait and watch the situation suspending the sale of their imported goods.

“Dollar prices were unstable beginning yesterday. We are worried that imported products prices would be higher. Some buy five-litre oil bottles. Now, prices would not higher during holidays,” Ma Aye Min from Dagon Myothit (South) Township told the GNLM.

Buyers and sellers are waiting for opening prices on 25 October and the real market situation can be known at that time as well as the commodities process, said a market analyst.—TWA/GNLM