

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.

Yangon city map information system OneMap YCDC underway

YANGON City Map Information System OneMap YCDC is being implemented, according to the Yangon City Development Committee.

“As the Urban Planning Department, which is leading the implementation of OneMap YCDC, the maps from the Yangon Map Project are being conducted with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The work process is being undertaken with the use of aerial photos taken by the committee and LiDAR maps in cooperation with the World Bank. In so doing, ArcGIS, produced by Esri, was purchased by Esri Myanmar for geographic information technology (GIS) software. Necessary extensions of ArcGIS Enterprise Software are also purchased and used for the work process of relevant departments.

The software is being applied for inspection of land information from Urban Land Management Department and Urban Planning Department, ground measurement, linking maps, entering and searching information on suitable land for projects.

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Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team stands fourth in 30th ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet



Lt-Gen Than Tun Oo and senior military officers from office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) welcome back Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team at Nay Pyi Taw Airport on 12 November.

THE Myanmar Tatmadaw Shooting Team competed in the 30th ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet (AARM-30) held in Viet Nam from 4 to 11 November 2022.

The 42-member Myanmar team led by Lt-Col Thein Soe Tun comprised shooters, administrator and coaches. The Myanmar

team competed in categories of men’s and women’s pistol, men’s carbine, men’s rifle and men’s machine gun. The Myanmar team swept 6 gold, 6 silver and 4 bronze medals in teamwise tournament and 6 more gold, 6 more silver and 4 more bronze medals in falling plate event. The

Myanmar team stood fourth in the AARM-30 with 12 gold, 12 silver and 8 bronze medals in total. Although Myanmar and Laotian teams secured same numbers of medals in the competition, Myanmar team stood the fourth position due to getting 335.14 points in the rifle event but Laos got 220.05

points this event.

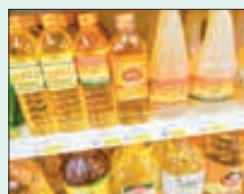
The Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 November by air. They were welcomed back by Lt-Gen Than Tun Oo and senior military officers from the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army).—MNA

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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*

COVID-19 vaccine drive continues in various states, regions



Health staff administer 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 3,266 people from twenty-six townships in Ayeyawady Region, and 2,087 people from seven districts in Mandalay Region, respectively.

Similarly, on that day healthcare officials gave the vaccines to 150 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 military 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 Yamethin Township in Mandalay Region yesterday. — MNA



Local authorities distribute masks to local people in Yamethin.

44 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 13 November, total figure rises to 632,679

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **632,679** after **44** new cases were reported on 13 November 2022 according to the Ministry of Health.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **606,946**, including **20** new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country remained unchanged at **19,486** on 13-11-2022 with no new deaths reported from the pandemic.

The country has vaccinated **30,740,144** people aged 18 and above for COVID-19 vaccines and **6,712,708** people aged under 18 years old till 12 November 2022.

Status of COVID-19 vaccination (as of 12 November 2022)

People aged 18 and above who received vaccines	30,740,144
People under 18 years old who received vaccines	6,712,708

According to the research, it is found that people who have been vaccinated do not suffer severely from the disease, need not to be hospitalized and unlikely to die. If they have received booster shot, the death rates can be reduced more.

As such, the people need to follow the new normal way in living with Covid. Hence, all the people above five have to fully receive Covid-19 vaccination inoculated by the Ministry of Health free of charge. Six months after the vaccination, they have to take booster jabs at relevant health centres and ward/village administration offices without fail.

Moreover, they have to wear masks while in closed chambers and public places. They need to often wash hands with soap and water or the hand gel containing alcohol (at least 60 per cent) for 20 seconds.

People need to follow the social distancing rule and avoid the crowds as much as possible. While not wearing masks, if they cough and sneeze, they need to cover mouth and noses with elbows in line with the personal hygienic ways.

Covid-19 information can be browsed on the internet page moh.gov.mm of the Ministry of Health.—MNA

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.

Cooperate for promotion of socio-economic lives of farmers and the farming sector

THE government has been fulfilling the need for agricultural water supply tasks constantly for the development of the agriculture sector, farmers are required to cooperate for promotion of socio-economic lives of farmers and the farming sector in line with the term participatory irrigation management.

(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting on the enhancement of the agriculture sector and socioeconomic life of farmers by Participatory Irrigation Management on 26 August 2022)

MoTC Union Minister departs for Russian Federation to attend 16th International Forum and exhibitions

AT the invitation of the Transport Minister of Russian Federation Mr Vitaly Saveliev, Member of the State Administration Council Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San left for Moscow of the Russian Federation yesterday afternoon to attend the 16th International Forum and Transport Week 2022 exhibition to be held from 14 to 19 November.

The Union minister was accompanied by the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Transport and Communications and officials.

The Union minister was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Soe Thein, Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Nyunt Win Swe and officials from the ministry.—MNA



Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San being seen off at Yangon International Airport on 13 November.

Myanmar delegation leaves for 18th World Conference of Historical Cities

AT the invitation of the Mayor of Andong, the Republic of Korea, the Myanmar delegation led by Chairman of the Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Bo Htay left Yangon for the Republic of Korea yesterday morning to attend the 18th World Conference of Historical Cities, which will be held from 14 to 16 November at the Andong International Convention Center in Andong, the Republic of Korea.

Vice Mayor U Nyi Nyi, Secretary U Nyunt Pe and committee members saw off the Myanmar delegation at the Yangon International Airport.

The World Historic Cities Conference is jointly organized



YCDC Chairman Mayor U Bo Htay and party leave Yangon International Airport for Republic of Korea on 13 November.

by The League Of Historical Cities-LHC with Andong City.

The LHC is an organization established since 1987 to cre-

ate a picture of peace for future generations and to preserve and

promote human heritage and historical cities.

Yangon is not only rich in ancient heritage, but also in terms of history and culture. As a member city of LHC, Yangon is invited to study and share government policies and preservation of Myanmar's heritage and historical resources due to its unique colonial architecture and many of Southeast Asia's urban heritage buildings.

The Myanmar delegation led by the mayor of Yangon was accompanied by U Nyan Lin Soe, head of the committee office of the YCDC, and U Lin Khaing, director of the engineering department (roads and bridges).—MNA

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Union Commerce Minister as honorary guest attends ICC Annual General Meeting in Kolkata of India



Union Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo speaking at annual general meeting of Indian Chamber of Commerce in Kolkata of India on 11 November.

AT the invitation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Union Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo, as an honorary guest, attended the ICC Annual General Meeting at ITC Sonar Hotel in

Kolkata of India on 11 November.

On the occasion, the Union minister delivered an address at the Special Session on India-Myanmar Trade Relations. He clarified prospects for further promotion of bilateral trade and investment between Myanmar and India, insertion of green gram and other beans in the agreement on trading pigeon and black bean, holding expos between the two countries and projects invested by India in Myanmar.

In the morning, the Union minister at the invitation of Engineering Export Promotion Council-EEPC attended the trade meeting at JW Marriot Hotel. The Union minister explained prospect of trade promotion,

kyat/rupee payment and use of Asian Clearing Union (ACU).

In the afternoon, the Union minister at the invitation of the Federation of Indian Export Organization-FIEO attended the meeting with Indian traders at Bangal Club.

While in Kolkata, the Union minister held talks with Indian Consumer Affairs Federation Mr. Vishal Singh and discussed larger import of Myanmar's beans from India.

On 12 November, the Union minister received Kolkata-based Indian export and import entrepreneurs from 15 companies who are interested in promotion of trade with Myanmar and explained trade and investment measures.—MNA

Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team stands fourth in 30th ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet

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Victorious Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team poses for documentary photo in Viet Nam on 11 November.



Myanmar shooters participate in an event of AARM-30 in Viet Nam on 5 November.



Myanmar shooters take part in shooting event of AARM-30 on 7 November.

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Farmers, businesspeople keen on farming, seed production in Nay Pyi Taw

IN a major need for high yield per acre and the development of good-quality rice production, sufficient use and cultivation of pure and high-quality seeds are carried out by collaborative efforts of government departments, private individuals and farmers. As research activities in regional seed production and the exchange of knowledge and technologies are developing in Myanmar, rice millers and farmers from Pyapon, Bogale, Kyaiklat and Mawlamyinegyun townships in Ayeyawady Region

viewed private seed production fields in Pyinmana township on 11 November.

Nay Pyi Taw Council Area is embodied with agricultural universities, research institutes and experts as well as good climate, water and soil resources. In addition, building a developing model city is also underway based on the agricultural and livestock sector. Farmers and business persons from different regions and states are increasingly making investments in the agricultural sector including



Farmers from Pyapon, Bogale, Kyaiklat and Mawlamyinegyun townships seen in field trip to paddy seed production field in Pyinmana Township on 11 November.

seed production.

Forty rice millers and farmers made a field study on the seed production processes of high-yielding rice GW-11 at Great

World Tomorrow Seed Production Company Limited. Seed production experts and officials explained the characteristics of high-quality seed, the needs and

experiences of seed production and the prospects of the seed market. They also discussed queries raised by the field study members. — MNA

Illegal timbers, foodstuffs, construction materials, raw chemicals, electronic accessories and vehicles seized



Cartons of electric rice cookers and bags of high density polypropylene siezed in Kayin State on 12 November.

SUPERVISED by the Illegal Trade task Force of Mandalay Region, an on-duty team searched a vehicle at 16th-mile Kyaukchaw checkpoint on 10 November. They found 0.934 tonne of illegal sawn teak timbers estimated at K1,027,400 and Isuzu light truck, estimated K11 million. This action was taken under the Forest Law.

A combined team led by Mandalay Region Customs department nabbed 1,057 cartons of various kinds of fruits without official documents estimated K 15.22 million from two vehicles carrying the fruits estimated at K115 million at 22nd- mile and three furlongs and 21st-mile and one furlong posts of PyinOoLwin-Mandalay road on 11 November. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures. Total worth of seizure amounted to K142, 247,400.

Similarly, an on-duty team under the supervision of Shan State Customs Department, searched a vehicle which is

driven from Laukkai to Lashio at Yaypu checkpoint on 11 November. They found Wifi routers and mobile phones without official documents estimated at K73,635,000 and a Nissan AD worth K14 million. Total amount to K 87,635,000 were seized and the action was taken under the Customs Procedure.

Furthermore, a combined team under the supervision of Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force of Sagaing Region investigated at Alon ward in Monywa Township. They found 7.3506 tonnes of illegal teak estimated at K1,102,590 and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

Afterward, an on-duty team under the supervision of Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force of Bago Region searched at Shwe Than Lwin toll gate. They found 7,000 kilogrammes of carrot estimated at K5.6 million which is not declare in Import Declaration from a Nissan vehicle estimated at K 40 million driven from Myawady to Yangon. Then, they found con-

struction materials estimated at K2,580,480 not declared in Import Declaration from a Hino truck estimated at K7 million which is carrying the goods. Total amount to K118,180,480 were seized and the actions were taken under the Customs Procedures.

Similarly, an on-duty team under the supervision of Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force of Kayin State searched a vehicle at Myawady OSS trade zone on 12 November. They found 4,000 kilos of High Density Polypropylene estimated at K6.72 million from a vehicle. An on-duty combination team found 100 of electric rice cookers estimated at K2 million at Kawkareik (Tadakyo) combined checkpoint on 13 November. Total amounted to K8.72 million and the actions were taken under the Customs Procedures.

Therefore, 19 arrests at an estimated value of K 357,885,470 were made on four consecutive days from 10 to 13 November, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee.—MNA

Drug impounded in some townships

A combined team consisting of Anti-Drug Police Force searched an Isuzu 12-wheel truck driven by Aung Thant Zin (aka) Aung Ko accompanied by Wai Naing Htoo and Ma Ei Sandar Aung (aka) Ei Ei near Latpya village in Kyaukto Township on 12 November. The officials found 13,266 kilogrammes of Ammonium Nitrate and K 650,000 from them. Similarly, a combined team consisting of Anti-Drug Police Force investigated suspects Nay Nyein Zaw (aka) Bu Maung and Maung Maung Oo (aka) Maung at the corner of Thunandar and Bonmar roads, J ward in North Oakkalapa Township. They found 30,000 stimulant pills from them.

A combined team consisting of Anti-Drug Police Force searched a Toyota Alphard driven by Kyin Haw at Tangyan-Lashio road, near Khashi village, Lashio Township on 10 November. The officials found 2.2 kilogrammes

of heroin from him. And then, a combined team consisting of Anti-Drug Police Force searched FUSO 12-wheel truck driven by Naing Win Tun and Nissan 12-wheel truck driven by Sai Myo at Yaksawk-Kyaukgu road, near Nyaungbintha village in Yaksawk Township on 10 November. They found 2,700 litres of Toluene, 3,120 litres of Ethyl acetate, 2,475 litres of Calcium Carbonate from a Fuso vehicle and 750 litres of Toluene, 4,800 litres of Chloroform and 2,500 litres of Calcium Carbonate from a Nissan vehicle. As an interrogation result, persons who make carried prohibited chemicals Than Lin (aka) Ashay Gyi and Hnin Ko Ko were arrested with a Toyota Surf at the hotel in Bogyoke street, Taunggyi at the night. They are taken action under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law according to the Myanmar Police Force.—MNA



Aung Thant Zin (aka) Aung Ko, Wai Naing Htoo and Ma Ei Sandar Aung (aka) Ei Ei arrested together with seized Ammonium Nitrate bags on 12 November.

CURRENT AFFAIRS



Donation ceremony of MPT at home for the aged. PHOTO: THITSA (MNA)

MPT donates cash and kind to monasteries, nunneries, homes for the aged, orphanages

THE MPT, a telecommunications operator donated cash and kind worth K 5.5 million to monasteries, nunneries, homes for the aged and orphanages in 24 areas of regions and states on 11 November.

MPT cooperates with education and health departments and small enterprises. In September, the telecom operator donated a non-contact Tonometer (NCT) Ct-800 glaucoma measuring device worth US\$4,800 used

to the Myanmar Railways Hospital (Insein) as an aid of providing public medical treatment.

It also donated K50 million to the Myanmar Red Cross Society to perform charity affairs. In November's Tazaungdaing festival, over K 55 million worth of foodstuff, caps, towels and face masks were donated to monasteries, nunneries, homes for the aged and orphanages.—Thitsa (MNA)/GNLM

Yangon's edible oil market sees price movement, not like flat rate before

THE prices of edible oil market go up and down in early November 2022 depending on the supply and demand unlike the flat rate in the previous months.

The price of peanuts is declining so the peanut oil price has fallen. The wholesale price of peanut oil was K9,000-K9,500 per viss, yet the price hit over K10,000 per viss in the retail market. The popular branded peanut oil is still priced at K15,000 per viss. The price of palm oil changes depending on the demand. When the demand decreases, the price dips. Otherwise, the price increases on the back of high demand, U Aye Thaung, a palm oil buyer from Pabedan Township, told the GNLM.

The market price of palm oil frequently reached above K9,500 per viss in mid-2022. The prices were volatile then. In early November, the price remained un-

changed at K6,000 per viss.

Earlier, one particular seller opened the palm oil price at above K9,000 per viss and the rest followed the price. This month, that particular shop does not set the price. It follows others.

On 12 November, the opening price of palm oil was K6,200 per viss in the wholesale market and then, the price went down to K6,100-K6,150 per viss.

A buyer Ko Thet told the GNLM that dealers sell a small quantity of palm oil at lower price than the market price. Then, they bought them at a fairer rate again. The dealers brought down the palm oil in the markets because of the large inflow of imported palm oil.

Nonetheless, large supply, possible freezing status in winter, quality edible oil found in the market are the contributing factors to the low demand of palm oil. There is a gap of K2,000 per viss between the market price and the reference price.

The wholesale ref-

erence price of palm oil was K4,140 in mid-August, whereas the market price touched a high of K9,500 per viss at the end of August and in early September. Those who purchased withdrawal permit bills at K7,000 per viss waited for two months to withdraw the palm oil while the wholesale reference price was only K4,000 per viss. They lost a chance to resell them at a higher price. When the palm oil is in their hands, the price was only K6,500 per viss. That being so, they do not reap any profit, Daw Aye Yee, who purchased that bill, told the GNLM.

On 14 November, the demand was still weak in the markets. Yangon markets usually see panic buying for concerns of high price and the low demand when the price plummeted, said Ko Phyo, a dealer who sends palm oil to regions outside Yangon, said.

There is a mobile market scheme at K4,450 per viss to offer the cheaper price to the consumers. The quality palm oil can be purchased at K5,300 per viss on the mobile market trucks.

The consumers in Yangon city are closely observing the market to get the fair price.—TWA/GNLM



Edible oil displayed at a shopping centre is seen.

Yangon city map information system OneMap YCDC underway



The aerial photo of the Yangon City.

FROM PAGE-1

Measuring the elevation models of Engineering Department (Building), Department of Engineering (Water Manage-

ment), Department of Engineering (Water and Sanitation), Urban Land Management Department and the Urban Planning Department are being underway with

the use of ArcGIS 3D Analyst Extension.

Analyzing the condition of the underground aquifers, studying the effects of soil conditions

on public health, and calculating the water flow of rivers and creeks under contour lines are also implemented. The Department of Urban Land Management and the Department of Urban Planning are implementing the integration of maps and aerial photographs with the use of ArcGIS Image Analyst. Applying the ArcGIS Geo-statistical Analyst, relevant departments analyze the water and soil conditions to be able to achieve better results.

All the departments that will use ArcGIS Software with ArcGIS Publisher will be able to share maps and information made with ArcGIS technology. Using ArcGIS Network Analyst, the Department of Engineering (Roads and Bridges) and the Urban Planning Department reviewed the state of public trans-

portation routes on the map and designed better public transportation routes while solving traffic congestion.

Since post-independence era, Myanmar's biggest reform has been the development and change of Yangon, but it has not been systematically developed. Due to the internal peace restoration and various changes in the governance systems, it is necessary to implement OneMap YCDC to achieve systematic and sustainable development, said YCDC member Dr Zaw Win.

As an e-Government work committee is cooperating in technological measures for the Web Map Server and the information technology branch gives services for other departments, said U Nyan Lin Soe, head of office of the e-Government work committee of YCDC.—TWA/GNLM

LOCAL BUSINESS

Paddy floor price set at K630,000 per 100 baskets, exceeding K90,000 against last year's rate

THE floor price for 2022 monsoon paddy and 2023 summer paddy was set at K630,000 per 100-baskets, according to the leading committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Interests of Farmers.

The committee set the floor price for paddy at K540,000 per 100 baskets for 2021 monsoon paddy and 2022 summer paddy. The price this year increased by K90,000 per 100 baskets.

According to notification No 1/2022 dated 11 November 2022, the committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Interests of Farmers, in accordance with the provisions of Law of Protection of the Farmer Rights and Enhancement of their Benefits, set the floor price of the paddy which meets the prescribed criteria: 14-per-cent moisture content and a fixed



Farmers join winnowing of paddy at the plain of field.

percentage of impurities such as sand, weed, and small stones is set at K630,000 per 100 baskets (one basket is equivalent to 46 pounds) in order to ensure fair market and fair price for the

growers.

The traders are notified of purchasing the paddy at K630,000 if the market price falls below the floor price.

Those who face difficulties

selling them at the floor price in minimum can contact the Myanmar Rice Federation through 01-2301128 and 01-218266.

Myanmar's paddy acres totalled 15.37 million acres of mon-

soon paddy and 2.45 of summer paddy in the 2015-2016 FY, 15.24 million acres of monsoon paddy and 2.46 million acres of summer one in the 2016-2017 FY, 15.22 million acres of monsoon paddy and 2.71 million acres of summer paddy in the 2017-2018 FY, 15.08 million acres of monsoon paddy and 2.78 million acres of summer paddy in the 2018-2019 FY, and 14.98 million acres of monsoon paddy and 2.33 million acres of summer paddy in the 2019-2020 FY, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

There are nearly 18 million acres of monsoon and summer paddy in Myanmar every year. In the 2019-2020 FY, the paddy sown acreage plunged into the lowest of 17.31 million acres within five years, according to the ministry.—NN/GNLM

Chicken prices climb to K12,000-K14,000 per viss



A picture shows a chicken seller in the market of a ward in Yangon city.

THE prices of chicken surged to K12,000-K14,000 per viss in the domestic markets from early November following the increase in the prices of feedstuff and baby chicks, said a seller.

"The chicken depot raised the price to K11,000 per viss on account of rise in feedstuff price. We have to add K1,500-K2,000 per viss for transportation and profit. The demand is low. Earlier, a chicken breast was priced at K3,000. Now, we can sell them by measuring the weight by scales,"

Ma Kay Thi, a chicken seller from South Okkalapa Township, told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

The rocketing prices are attributed to the high feedstuff cost, strong baby chick price and power cut problem, farm owners stressed.

From August, the prices of chicken in the farm were around K5,900-K6,000 per viss. Tracking the Kyat depreciation in the forex market, the feedstuff price doubled. Since early November,

the prices of CP chicken have increased to K8,900-K9,500 per viss in the farms. The price continued to rise to K13,000-K14,000 per viss.

"The consumers hesitate to buy them due to the high price. The demand is pretty low. We can give a decent portion of a chicken for K3,000. Now, all we can provide is just a bone and only a small quantity," said Ma Ohnma, a seller.

The CP chicken prices stand at K12,000-K14,000 per viss in the retail markets, while local chicken was priced at K11,000-K12,000 per viss.

"Power cut results in extra cost as the poultry chickens are given warmth by running a generator in the farm amid the increase in feedstuff and chick prices. Electric outage problem forced some farms to shut down the operations amid the high fuel oil prices," the GNLM quoted a poultry farm owner Ko Win Aung, as saying.—TWA/GNLM

Yangon market sees bulk supply of old tamarind stock amid harvest of fresh tamarind

EXCESSIVE supply of tamarind is expected at the end of the year when newly harvested ones flood the market, the sellers guessed.

The traders in the producing areas expected the price increase in 2022, yet the guess turns out to be wrong. The tamarind output in the upcoming season is expected to increase. As a result of this, the traders who keep the stocks in hand deliver their goods to Yangon markets these days, Ko Hla Han, a seller on Seinpan Street, told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

The yield this year is expected to increase compared to last year's output. The dealers usually make them an outright purchase and the price varies depending on the number of tamarinds and location of the plant, Ko Htay Win, told the GNLM.

Tamarind near the fences have losses despite the same yield. Therefore, the tamarind fruit buyers offer low prices for them. A tamarind plant is worth K50,000-K100,000 for harvesting the fruits.

The seed-removed tamarind is shipped to external markets and the price of tamarind depends on the quality and seed.

Tamarind was mostly used in the soft drink factories and places where cheroots are made. Now it is rarely used. The market relies on exports only. When the price is high in the domestic market, export volume drops accordingly. Those tamarinds produced in 2021 are still found in the markets, according to the tamarind market.

The prices of tamarind moved in the range of K2,100-K2,200 per viss. The seed-moved one fetched K2,800-K4,000 per viss in the first half of 2022. The price of seed-moved tamarind declined to K2,800-K3,700 per viss. The new tamarind is expected to enter the market in the upcoming Christmas. The opening price of raw tamarind stood at K2,500 in early 2020, K2,300 in 2021 and K2,000 in 2022.

The prices of edible oil, rice, chili pepper, onion, potato, sugar, jaggery and bean this year inched higher than those of the previous years. The price is still stable at present. It is hard to forecast the 2023 tamarind market as the supply of new tamarind is likely to flood the market in the upcoming season.—TWA/GNLM

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OPINION

Enhance manufacturing value-added products at home

THE high capacity of the economic driving force of the State is based on the productivity of manufacturing domestic products. Emphasizing the manufacturing of value-added products with the use of raw materials produced at home can reduce the import volume and increase the export of products so as to strengthen an economic driving force to prosper.

Most of the industrialized countries and economically powerful countries encourage manufacturing measures at home as part of a basic step for the economic development of the nations. Despite the lack of natural resources including basic needs for agriculture and livestock farms, some countries utilize human resources in order to operate finished goods for ensuring economic growth.

In Myanmar, domestic manufacturing activities did not have the encouragement of the authorities. As such, businesses and industries missed the chance to recruit qualified and experienced human resources. In consequence, their productivity declines. As the country imports basic foodstuffs and personal goods, the trade deficit comes out. As such, local employees lose

Not only the government but local businesspersons and people need to encourage the operation of MSME industries in order to enhance domestic production in all aspects with the aim of strengthening the economic power of the State. If so, jobs can be created for the workable forces of the country without the need to seek employment abroad.

their job opportunities. That is why valuable workable forces move to other countries for seeking and working jobs. At the same time, the country loses valuable human resources to the State.

Currently, the government is encouraging domestic manufacturing businesses to have improvement. Myanmar is capable of extending the production of an abundance of industrial raw crops such as rubber, cotton, maize, pulses and beans in addition to products of agriculture and livestock farms. In order to manufacture value-added products and quality finished goods, strenuous efforts are being made to operate micro, small and medium-scale enterprises across the nation.

In fact, MSME industries are being operated with competitiveness not only in industrialized countries but in other different countries. As such, it is necessary to manage the development of MSMEs at home to be able to increase the domestic products and finished goods and manufacture value-added basic foodstuffs in competitiveness so as to create employment opportunities for the local people. Consequently, as efforts are being made to have import-substitute products, the country will have a trade surplus.

Actually, the development of the State economy is concerned with the government as well as the people from all walks of life. Not only the government but local businesspersons and people need to encourage the operation of MSME industries in order to enhance domestic production in all aspects with the aim of strengthening the economic power of the State. If so, jobs can be created for the workable forces of the country without the need to seek employment abroad.

New theory explains recovery delays in COVID-19 and cardiac patients

COVID-19 patients placed on ventilators can take a long time to regain consciousness. New research is now illustrating that these delays may serve a purpose: protecting the brain from oxygen deprivation.

The existence of such a brain-preserving state could explain why some patients wake up days or even weeks after they stop receiving ventilation, and it suggests that physicians should take these lengthy recovery times into account when determining a patient's prognosis.

In a study published 7 November in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, the investigators connect the pattern seen among those who have survived severe COVID-19 with similar delays known to occur in a small fraction of cardiac arrest patients.

A mechanism to explain
"The delayed recoveries in COVID-19 patients are very much like the rare cases we've documented in previous research. In this new paper, we describe a mechanism to explain

what we're seeing in both types of patients," said study co-senior author Dr. Nicholas D. Schiff, the Jerold B. Katz Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience in the Feil Family Brain and Mind Research Institute and co-director of the Consortium for the Advanced Study of Brain Injury (CASBI) at Weill Cornell Medicine.

He found evidence for this explanation — that patients' brains are protecting themselves — in animals, most notably painted turtles, that can tolerate extended periods without oxygen.

More than a decade ago, Dr. Schiff and his colleagues first observed these delays among comatose cardiac arrest patients who received cooling therapy to reduce brain damage caused by a loss of blood flow. In one such case, a 71-year-old patient took 37 days to awaken, before ultimately making a near-complete recovery.

Neurology consultations
During the pandemic, Dr. Schiff, who is also a neurologist at NewYork-Presbyterian/



The medical devices can be life-saving for patients with severe COVID-19 cases. PHOTO: AXEL HEIMKEN/POOL/AFP

Weill Cornell Medical Centre, performed neurology consultations for COVID-19 patients, and he soon began seeing similar,

delayed awakenings occurring when patients were taken off ventilators and stopped receiving the sedatives given to them

to reduce their movement.

In a separate analysis of a large cohort of Covid-19 patients from Weill Cornell Medicine and

two other major US medical centres, Dr. Schiff and his colleagues, including co-author of the current paper, Dr. Emery N.

Brown, professor of anesthesia at Harvard Medical School, Edward Hood Taplin Professor of Medical Engineering and Computational Neuroscience in The Picower Institute for Learning and Memory at MIT and an anesthesiologist at Massachusetts General Hospital, found that a quarter of patients who survived ventilation took 10 days or longer to recover consciousness. The more oxygen deprivation they suffered while on the ventilator, the longer that delay.

A distinctive pattern

In the prior study of cardiac patients, the researchers recorded a distinctive pattern in brain activity, one also seen in patients under deep anesthesia. (Recordings from COVID-19 patients are extremely limited.) Dr. Schiff read that a similar pattern had been seen in the brains of painted turtles, which can withstand up to five months without oxygen under ice in the winter. To do so, they activate the same inhibitory system within the brain targeted by anesthetics given to human cardiac and COVID-19 patients

but in novel ways developed by evolutionary specializations.

Dr. Schiff and Dr. Brown propose that, by chance, the same protective response emerges in the patients.

"It is our theory that oxygen deprivation as well as practices in the ICU, including commonly used anesthetics, expose elements of strategies that animals use to survive in extreme conditions," Dr. Schiff said.

New insights into the mechanisms

"These observations may offer new insights into the mechanisms of how certain anesthetics produce unconsciousness and new approaches for ICU sedation and for fostering recovery from disorders of consciousness," Dr. Brown added.

When patients fail to regain consciousness for an extended time, physicians may recommend withdrawing life-supporting care. This threshold is typically set at 14 days or less for cardiac patients, while no such guidelines exist for COVID-19.

SOURCE: ANI

As pandemic eases, more Filipino nurses set to seek work abroad

MORE Filipino nurses, attracted by higher salaries abroad, are set to leave their country as coronavirus border controls ease and hiring becomes more aggressive, putting the Philippines in a tight spot in dealing with its own shortage of health care workers.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. in September said he wants to increase the cap on the number of nurses allowed to go abroad annually from the current 7,500, but that the government at the same time must strive "to improve opportunities domestically."

The cap is a policy the Philippines implemented in 2020 to retain enough nurses to fight the pandemic at home. It has since been eased in stages.

Philippine nurses fluent in English are in high demand over-

seas. As of the end of 2021, over 310,000 of more than 910,000 registered nurses in the Philippines were working abroad, according to an advocacy group called Filipino Nurses United and the Health Department.

To more developed countries

Between 13,000 and 22,000 nurses had previously migrated annually to more developed countries, such as Australia, Britain, Germany, Japan, Saudi Arabia and the United States, where they could earn significantly more.

In 2020 and 2021, following the introduction of the cap, the combined number of nurses who sought employment abroad decreased to 16,391. And yet, the Health Department said in September that the Philippines still lacked over 100,000 nurses.

Philippine Nurses Association president Melvin Miranda said low salary and poor working conditions had been an issue for so long but became more apparent during the pandemic as hospitals saw a high turnover of nurses.

Miranda said Filipino nurses continue to be the lowest paid with a monthly salary of \$687, compared with their peers in other Southeast Asian countries like Vietnam (\$1,083) and Singapore (\$4,058) based on a 2020 study by data aggregator iPrice Group.

The nurses association is pushing to amend the 20-year-old nursing law and standardize nurses' wages and benefits, like overtime and hazard pay. Miranda said the Philippines might not be able to match the rates in Singapore or in the United States, but it somehow needs to catch up.

To dialysis nurse Kristine Joyce Barruga, 31, a salary "four to five times higher" and better working conditions were her reasons for leaving Manila in October.

16 hours straight wearing the PPE

"The pandemic was one of the reasons I felt strongly about going to the U.K.," she said. "We worked 16 hours straight wearing the PPE because we were understaffed. There was no public transportation (so) some of us had to stay in the hospital for weeks. I love what I do but that was just exhausting."

Filipino nurses are in demand in countries with an aging workforce, said Elnora Villafana, a service recruiter in Manila. She said they expect the nurse outflow to increase, as she also observes hospitals, specifically in the United

States, becoming more competitive by paying for the licensing exams of the nurses and by dangling immigrant visas.

Nurses in the United States can make \$70,000 per year.

In countries like Japan and Germany, an additional year of language training discourages some nurse applicants, another recruiter Marivic Ochoa said.

But not Jan Yago, a junior nursing student and an anime fan. He plans on moving to Japan right after gaining two years of clinical work experience, which is a requirement in every foreign country. "The pay (in the Philippines) is quite dismal," Yago said. "I'd like to go to Japan, but once I have enough savings to support myself and my family, I'll come back to the Philippines," he said.

SOURCE: Kyodo



Nurses wearing protective masks take a group photo during an event named "nurses community pantry" inside a hospital in Manila, the Philippines on 12 May 2021. PHOTO: XINHUA/ROUELLE UMALI

SCI/ENVIRON WORLD

GMO skeptics still distrust big agriculture's climate pitch



Agrochemical companies have long developed seeds designed to thrive in particular local conditions. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

As a changing climate intensifies extreme weather, agricultural multinationals are hyping the ability of genetically modified crops to boost yields when facing drought, heat or even heavy rainfall.

But skeptics of engineered foods, or genetically modified organisms (GMOs), still aren't buying it.

"I don't see why we should evolve our views when they're still doing the same things," said Bill Freese, science director at the non-profit Centre for Food

Safety, criticizing the "dramatically increased toxic herbicide use" following the proliferation of GMOs.

Seeds designed to thrive in specific local conditions have been developed for centuries through conventional breeding, by crossing together plants with relevant characteristics and selecting the desired offspring.

But as more severe weather creates hostile growing conditions for conventional seeds, companies such as Bayer/Monsanto, Corteva and Syngenta

are promoting GMOs as more efficient.

And newer technologies can reduce development times for these heartier varieties "by many years" compared with traditional crop modification techniques, according to a spokesperson for Germany's Bayer.

"Drought tolerance is a complex trait involving many genes," the spokesperson said. "Therefore, the ability to develop drought-tolerant traits through classic breeding methods such as crossbreeding is limited."—AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

China to gradually enhance its ability to control methane emissions: envoy

CHINA will gradually enhance its ability to control methane emissions, Xie Zhenhua, special representative for Chinese President Xi Jinping and China's special envoy for climate change, said on Tuesday.

Xie made the remarks here when attending a high-level event, "It's Time to Sprint: Targeting Methane Emissions," organized by the World Bank, a side event of the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. He said that China attaches great importance to methane emissions control, carrying out a series of measures in the coal, petroleum and natural gas, agriculture and waste disposal sectors. Meanwhile, he added that China has promoted the use of market mechanisms to encourage enterprises to control methane emissions.

"China is willing to strengthen communications and exchanges with other countries for cooperation in policymaking, innovation, and technology application of methane emission control, and make joint contributions to tackling global climate change," he said.—Xinhua

Israel, Germany sign energy cooperation agreement to deal with climate crisis

ISRAEL and Germany on Friday signed an energy cooperation agreement to deal with the global climate crisis, the Israeli Ministry of Energy said in a statement.

Following talks in recent months, the two parties agreed on a joint work plan that will cover areas like energy security, sustainable and renewable energies, and energy efficiency in the urban space. The agreement was signed by Lior Schillat, director general of the Israeli Ministry of Energy, and Birgit Schwenk, director general for Climate Action at the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, during the 27th session of the Conference of Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

"Israel will learn from the German experience in increasing the introduction of renewable energies into the electricity grid, managing the grid, and formulating a hydrogen strategy," Schillat said.

"At the same time, Israel will assist Germany in everything related to the protection of critical and cyber infrastructures and knowledge sharing in the agrivoltaics field," he added.

Schwenk stated that "the partnership provides an effective framework for jointly dealing with the current challenges of the energy transition from fossil energy to renewable energy."—Xinhua

Sharks, turtles, disease on agenda of wildlife trade summit

THE trade in shark fins, turtles, and other threatened species will come under scrutiny at a global wildlife summit in Panama, starting Monday, that will also focus on the spread of diseases such as Covid-19.

Conservation experts and representatives of more than 180 nations will gather to study 52 proposals aimed at modifying protection levels set by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

The CITES delegates will also take stock of the fight against fraud, and vote on new resolutions, such as the increased risk of diseases spreading from animals to humans, which is linked to trafficking and became a major concern after the 2020 outbreak of Covid-19.

CITES, in force since



Human demand for shark fin soup, particularly in East Asia, has threatened shark populations. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

1975, regulates trade in some 36,000 species of plants and animals and provides mechanisms to help crack down on illegal trade. It sanctions countries that break the rules.

The meeting of the parties to the convention takes place every two or three years.

This year it is happening in the shadow of two major United Nations conferences with high stakes for the future of the planet and all of its inhabitants: the COP27 climate meeting currently underway in Egypt, and the COP15 conference on biodiversity in Montreal in December.—AFP

'Voracious' giant snails spark alarm in Venezuela

A "plague" of giant African snails that pose potential health risks to humans is causing alarm in Venezuela where sustained rains have facilitated their proliferation.

The first colonies of the sub-Saharan *Achatina fulica* snail were discovered at the beginning of November on the shores of Lake Maracaibo in

western Venezuela.

Since then, more snails have been found in agricultural areas in the region, as well as in neighbouring Tachira state.

"Specific sites have been verified... where approximately 350 to 400 snails are being collected per day," Rafael Ramirez, the mayor of the city

of Maracaibo, told AFP.

He said authorities were working hard combat the snails.

The giant African snail is considered an invasive species because of its reproductive capacity — up to 600 eggs every two weeks — and its relatively long lifespan of six years on average.—AFP

Researchers find new antiseptics safer than high-use antimicrobial for environment

ACCORDING to a recent study, chemicals used in antiseptics that replaced popular antimicrobials seem to have minimal to no adverse effects on environmental concentrations.

The findings of the study were published in Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry.

There was an intense need for antiseptics during the COVID-19 pandemic, and use of three topical antiseptic compounds — benzalkonium chloride (BAC), benzethonium chloride (BZT), and chloroxylenol (PCMX) — increased before and during the pandemic due to the phase-out of other an-

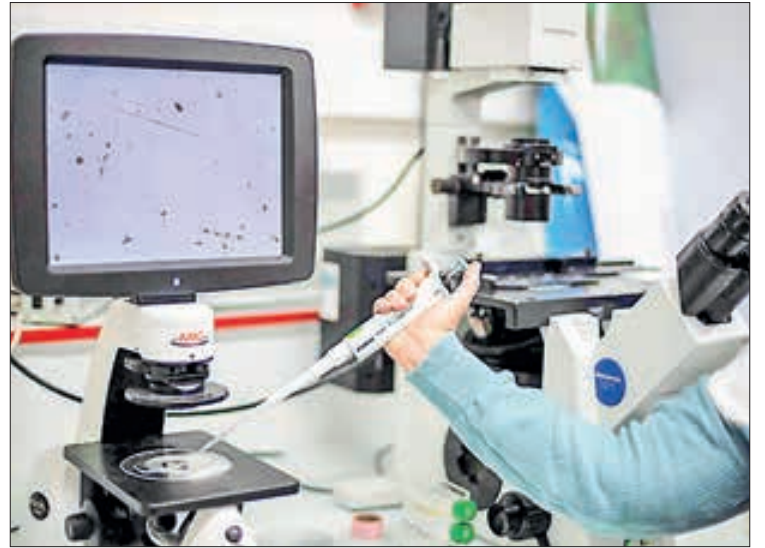
timicrobial ingredients (such as triclosan) in soaps and other disinfecting and sanitizing products.

Researchers assessed the environmental safety of BAC, BZT, and PCMX, focusing on aquatic systems receiving effluent from wastewater treatment plants and land-based systems where wastewater biosolids were applied.

Neither BZT nor PCMX were likely to cause adverse ecological effects, with high margins of safety in the scenarios assessed. Adverse ecological effects were also unlikely for BAC.

“The COVID-19 pandemic was happening in real time as we were doing our research — making the assessment even more relevant but also making it harder to estimate ever-changing environmental concentrations of sanitizer ingredients.

The assessment framework we developed provides a sound basis to interpret environmental data for the ingredients we studied, if their concentrations change in the future,” said corresponding author Phyllis Fuchsman, of the consulting engineering group Ramboll.—ANI



According to a recent study, chemicals used in antiseptics that replaced popular antimicrobials seem to have minimal to no adverse effects on environmental concentrations. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/AFP

Repeat Covid infections increase risk of health problems: study



Test PCR (illustration). PHOTO: LUDOVIC MARIN / AFP

PEOPLE who have had Covid more than once are two or three times more likely to have a range of serious health problems than those who have

only had it once, the first major study on the subject said Thursday.

Multiple infections have surged as the pandemic rum-

bles on and the virus mutates into new strains, but the long-term health effects of reinfection have not been clear.

The US researchers said their new study published in the Nature Medicine journal was the first to look at how reinfection increases the risk of health problems from acute cases as well as long Covid.

The researchers analysed the anonymous medical records of 5.8 million people in the US Department of Veterans Affairs' national healthcare database.

More than 443,000 had tested positive for Covid at least once between 1 March 2020 and April this year.—AFP

In Finnish first, men and women work equal hours

THE total hours that Finns spent on both domestic and paid work were the same for men and women in 2021 for the first time, Statistics Finland said on Thursday.

The total daily working time for the population over the age of 10 — combining both paid employment and domestic work — was nearly identical for women and men. “The time used by men for gainful employment has decreased and time used for domestic work has increased,” the national agency said in a statement.

In the past, the total working time has been higher for women.

Among the working population however, men spent on average half an hour more per day doing paid work than women.

In contrast, women still spend more time on domestic work, doing on average 37 minutes more a day than men. While men's domestic work time has increased, time spent by women on household chores such as cooking, cleaning and childcare, has decreased.

The strongest shift has been in the increase in time fathers have spent looking after their children.

“New generations of fathers spend significantly more time caring for their children than fathers did 20-40 years ago,” the statement said.

Besides the cultural shift between generations, “improved opportunities for paternity and parental leave” also explained the increase, Statistics Finland said. The average time spent on paid work has meanwhile decreased for both genders among the working population: from seven hours and 52 minutes in 2010 to seven hours and 31 minutes per day in 2021.—AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Thousands of Iranians died of COVID-19 due to US sanctions: official

A top Iranian human rights official on Sunday blamed US sanctions that deny Iranians access to essential medicines for thousands of deaths in the country during the first two years of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kazem Gharibabadi, secretary of the Iranian High Council for Human Rights and deputy chief of the Iranian Judiciary for international affairs, made the remarks while speaking to Iranian media in New York, Iran's official news agency IRNA reported. During the visit, he will attend the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee meetings, according to IRNA.

Gharibabadi noted that the sanctions, preventing Iran from transferring money through financial channels, made it difficult for the country to import COVID-19 vaccines and the necessary medicine during that period.—Xinhua

Hospital waiting lists in England hit record highs

THE number of people waiting to receive treatment in England's state-run health service has hit at an all-time high of 7.1 million people, official figures showed Thursday.

Struggling to clear backlogs from the pandemic, the National Health Service (NHS) is recording long waits for tests — including for cancer — and routine and emergency care.

The waiting list for hospital treatment rose by 100,000 to 7.1 million at the end of September — the highest figure since records began in August 2007.

Around one in 18 of those on the list have been waiting more than a year for hospital treatment, although the number of people waiting 18 months for treatment has dropped by almost 60 per cent in a year, said NHS England.

But accident and emergency departments are reporting new highs in the number of people having to wait more than 12 hours for a bed after being determined they need one.—AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Food volume down in low-income countries as global food import rises: FAO

THE global bill for food imports is estimated to come in at 1.94 trillion US dollars this year, according to information released Friday by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The figure is the highest ever recorded for this data point, and around 10 per cent higher than in 2021, the FAO said. However, despite the dramatic rise in the global food import bill, the FAO said the rate of increase is likely to slow down going forward.

This is due to rising glob-



The aggregate food bill for low-income countries was more or less unchanged between 2021 and 2022, said the FAO, although the volume of imports was down by 10 per cent in the same period. **PHOTO: FAO / FOOD OUTLOOK**

al food prices that are making countries more dependent on domestic production, and a

trend that is seeing most currencies depreciating against the US dollar, the baseline currency

for calculations.

The FAO said most of the increase comes from high-income countries, but economically vulnerable countries are hurt more by the trend since they cannot afford to import adequate food due to higher prices.

The aggregate food bill for low-income countries was more or less unchanged between 2021 and 2022, said the FAO, although the volume of imports was down by 10 per cent in the same period.

"These are alarming signs from a food security perspective,

indicating importers are finding it difficult to finance rising international costs, potentially heralding an end of their resilience to higher international prices," according to the FAO Food Outlook report released Friday.

The report breaks down food trade patterns by food groups, and warns that existing differences are likely to become more pronounced, with high-income countries continuing to import across the entire spectrum of food products, while developing regions are increasingly focused on staple foods.—Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pakistan's remittances decrease 9.1 pct in October: central bank

REMITTANCES sent by overseas Pakistani workers decreased 9.1 per cent in October on a month-on-month basis, the State Bank of Pakistan has said.

The workers' remittances recorded an inflow of 2.2 billion US dollars in October as compared to the previous month's figure of 2.4 billion dollars, the central bank said in its official data on Friday, adding that it decreased by 15.7 per cent on a year-on-year basis.—Xinhua

Most EU countries set to slide into recession in Q4

EUROPEAN Commissioner for Economy Paolo Gentiloni warned on Friday that the outlook for next year has "weakened significantly," and that most European Union (EU) countries will be in recession in the fourth quarter of this year.

The EU economy is now "at a turning point," Gentiloni said.

He was addressing a press conference in Brussels shortly after the European Commission announced that it had slashed its forecast for economic growth next year.—Xinhua

Will robots replace humans at Amazon?

AT Amazon's robotics laboratory on the outskirts of Boston, Massachusetts, the company's newest automaton "Sparrow" picks out items to be shipped to customers, displaying human hand-like dexterity.

It is the e-commerce giant's most advanced robot yet and could soon do the job of the hundreds of thousands of Amazon employees who sort and send five billion packages annually.

The development of "Sparrow," and other robots like "Robin" and "Cardinal," are fuelling fears that Amazon's warehouses will one day be run by machines, leading to huge layoffs.

Amazon's robotics chief Tye Brady plays down such concerns, which have been expressed by labour unions.

"It's not machines replac-



The sparrow robot is able to pick up unpackaged items to sort them at Amazon's BOS27 Robotics Innovation Hub in Westborough, Massachusetts on 10 November 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

ing people," he tells journalists during a tour of the laboratory, which opened in Westborough in October last year.

"It's actually machines and people working together in order to collaborate to do

a job."

Equipped with cameras and cylindrical tubes, Sparrow can successfully detect and select an individual item from millions of products of different shapes and sizes.—AFP

Chile inks deals with World Bank, IDB to boost green hydrogen



Green hydrogen, produced using renewable energy, could decarbonize some of the most energy-intensive industries. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ HYUNDAI GROUP**

CHILE has signed agreements with the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to promote green hydrogen production in the country, the Chilean Economic Development Agency (Corfo) said Friday.

Corfo said in a press release that the agreements were reached within the framework of the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate

Change (COP27), being held in Egypt.

The deals "will provide support to develop a green hydrogen strategy," Finance Minister Mario Marcel said in the release.

"These international organizations are going to provide knowledge, resources and also their experience ... so that in the future, private sector participation in the industry can also count on the support of these international organizations,"

Marcel said.

The agreement with the World Bank aims to promote Chile's green hydrogen initiatives as part of the country's "Green Hydrogen Facilitation Project to Support Green, Resilient and Inclusive Economic Development."

Chile will initially receive a 150-million-US-dollar loan in 2023, and 200 million US dollars at a later stage, to develop its green hydrogen industry.—AFP

Oil prices rise amid positive China demand outlook

OIL prices rose noticeably on Friday, bolstered by market optimism in the prospect of energy demand in China.

The West Texas Intermediate (WTI) for December delivery added 2.49 US dollars, or 2.9 per cent, to settle at 88.96 dollars a barrel on the New

York Mercantile Exchange. Brent crude for January delivery added 2.32 dollars, or 2.5 per cent, to close at 95.99 dollars a barrel on the London ICE Futures Exchange.

The rally came as traders bet on a solid demand recovery in China amid the country's efforts to further

optimize the COVID-19 response.

Also lending buoyancy to oil was a weaker U.S. dollar. The dollar index, which measures the greenback against six major peers, fell 1.76 per cent to 106.2950 in late trading on Friday, following a 2.12-per cent dip in the prior session.

Historically, the price of oil is inversely related to the price of the US currency.

Despite Friday's advance, oil prices suffered a loss for the week. The WTI notched a weekly decline of 3.9 per cent, while Brent fell 2.6 per cent, based on the front-month contracts. —Xinhua



A worker checks oil transport facility at the Tarim Basin in Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

US seeks 15-year term for Theranos founder in fraud case



Former Theranos CEO Elizabeth Holmes arrives at court with her partner Billy Evans in October 2022 in San Jose, California. **PHOTO: AFP**

US federal prosecutors are seeking a 15-year jail term for Theranos founder Elizabeth Holmes and want her to pay more than \$800 million to in-

vestors defrauded by her blood-testing startup, according to a court filing.

"The government recommends the Court sentence the defendant

to 180 months in custody and order her to pay \$803,840,309 in restitution," said a court filing submitted Friday by US attorney Stephanie Hinds.

The toughly worded filing said Holmes had been "blinded by... ambition," and that "her reality-distortion field put, and will continue to put, people in harm's way."

Holmes had vowed to revolutionize health diagnostics with self-service machines that could run an array of tests on just a few drops of blood, but the company collapsed following Wall Street Journal reporting

in 2015 that revealed the machines did not work as promised.

Key investors in the startup included the Safeway grocery chain and the Walgreens chain of pharmacies, as well as former US Secretary of State George Shultz.

Holmes' attorneys, in their own filing, insisted that no purpose would be served by her incarceration — saying she posed no danger, readily acknowledged her mistakes and had not materially benefited from the fraud — but that if the court decided on jail time it should not exceed 18 months.—AFP

Marinakis, the fiery Greek mogul at war with the PM

EVANGELOS Marinakis, the shipping tycoon, football boss and media mogul, is not just one of the most powerful and controversial figures in Greece, he is waging open warfare against Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis.

The battle between two of the most powerful men in the country is rooted in stunning allegations of widespread state surveillance, which have rocked the conservative government since the summer.

Marinakis, the 55-year-old owner of English Premier League club Nottingham Forest and Greece's most successful

football club Olympiacos, was named in the media last week as one of the targets of the surveillance.

A weekly newspaper put Marinakis on a list of 33 people, including cabinet ministers, some of their wives and ex-prime minister Antonis Samaras, targeted illegally by spyware known as Predator and technology employed by state intelligence. Mitsotakis and the government swiftly denied the report in the Documento newspaper and have denied for months any involvement in illegal wiretaps.

But an incensed Marinakis has mobilized his media empire — he



File photo taken on 5 September 2022 shows Brazilian player Marcelo (right) holding his t-shirt with the owner of his team, Olympiacos, Evangelos Marinakis (left) during an official presentation at the Georgios Karaiskakis stadium in Athens. **PHOTO: ANGELOS TZORTZINIS AFP/ARCHIVES**

purchased the country's top media group DOL in 2017 and leading channel Mega in 2019 — to hit back hard. Two days after the Documento

report, the Ta Nea daily owned by Marinakis reported that there were allegedly more than 100 people under surveillance.—AFP

Australia minister assures Japan on gas, coal supply ahead of visit

AUSTRALIAN Resources Minister Madeleine King said that the supply of gas and coal to Japan will not be disrupted by government measures to curb rising domestic energy prices, amid concerns such steps would see energy exports from the resource-rich country restricted.

Speaking in a recent interview with Kyodo News ahead of her trip to Japan from Sunday to Thursday, King said that any interventions in the liquefied natural gas market being considered by the government would not affect exports and long-term contracts.

"We're determined and we'll ensure that those solutions will not impact the supply of gas or coal to Japan," King said, adding that Australia is "committed to ensuring that these exports will always remain

on track."

Australia was the world's largest gas exporter in 2021, with Japan depending on Australia for some 40 per cent of its LNG, its largest supplier.

King will meet with a number of government and business representatives during her stay in Japan, including the Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Yasutoshi Nishimura. She will also visit Kobe to see the world's first liquefied hydrogen carrier, the Suiso Frontier.

The reassurances come amid a domestic gas price crisis in Australia, as the country's aging coal-fired plants start going offline and global LNG spot prices have skyrocketed due to impacts of the ongoing war in Ukraine. —Kyodo

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V T12 APPLE VOY.NO. (003E/W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V T12 APPLE VOY.NO. (003E/W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-11-2022** 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 T12 LOGISTICS PTE LTD

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

Leaders of Japan, US, S Korea to discuss N Korea in Cambodia

THE leaders of Japan, the United States and South Korea are set to meet Sunday in Cambodia, with their cooperation in dealing with North Korea's missile and nuclear threats likely to top the agenda.

Ahead of the trilateral talks in Phnom Penh, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and US President Joe Biden held talks bilaterally, according to the Japanese government.

When Kishida and Biden sit with South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol, they are almost certain to affirm the need to strengthen deterrence against North Korea, which has been



A vehicle carrying a PAC-3 missile interceptor arrives at a port on Ishigaki Island, Okinawa prefecture, southwestern Japan Saturday, 6 February, 2016, intended to fend off the threat of North Korea's missile arsenal. **PHOTO: KOJI HARADA/KYODO/FILE**

test-firing ballistic missiles at an unprecedented pace since the beginning of this year, according to Japanese officials.—Kyodo

Two WWII planes collide at Dallas air show: US aviation agency

TWO World-War-II-era airplanes collided Saturday at an air show in Dallas, US authorities said, with social media footage showing the aircraft crashing into each other and hitting the ground with a fiery explosion.

It was not immediately clear how many people were in the two craft, a Boeing B-17 Flying

Fortress and a smaller Bell P-63 Kingcobra, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

Nor was it clear whether anyone survived the early afternoon crash, which occurred during the Wings Over Dallas Airshow at Dallas Executive Airport.

While the number of casual-

ties was not immediately known, "no spectators or others on the ground were reported injured," Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson tweeted.

Multiple videos posted on social media showed dramatic scenes of the smaller plane descending towards the lower-flying B-17, crashing into it.—AFP

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Türkiye works on "peace corridor" between Ukraine, Russia: Erdogan

TÜRKIYE is trying to open a peace dialogue between Russia and Ukraine although the West, particularly the United States,

provokes Moscow, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Saturday.

"The West, especially the

US, is attacking Russia almost without limits. Against all this, of course, Russia is putting up resistance," the semi-official Anadolu Agency quoted Erdogan as saying.

Ankara has been working on the establishment of "a peace corridor" in the same way that it had made it possible for the grain corridor from Ukraine to resume, Erdogan told reporters onboard a flight from Uzbekistan to Türkiye.

"We think the best way to achieve peace is through a path of dialogue. But for now, the most important thing for us is to operate the grain corridor seriously," Erdogan said.—Xinhua



Odessa, Ukraine - 09 August 2021: Loading grain into holds of sea cargo vessel through an automatic line in seaport from silos of grain storage. **PHOTO: ISTOCK/FILE**

Palestine welcomes UN resolution against Israeli settlements

PALESTINE on Friday welcomed the UN General Assembly's adoption of four resolutions in favor of Palestine, including one deeming the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territories illegal.

Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad Al-Maliki said in a press statement that Palestine welcomed the UN vote in favour of the resolution and the international support in this regard.

The positive results "came in light of Israel's systematic violations against our people's rights and its lack of commitment to international

law," he said.

Al-Maliki added that "these decisions affirm the legitimate rights of our Palestinian people, foremost of which is the right to self-determination and the right of Palestinian (refugees) to return to their homes."

On Friday, the UN General Assembly Fourth Committee adopted four resolutions on Israeli-Palestinian issues, with two in favor of extending the mandate of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), and providing assistance to Palestinian refugees.—Xinhua

India's top court frees Rajiv Gandhi's killers



India's former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, depicted here in a mural, was killed by a woman suicide bomber at an election rally in Tamil Nadu in 1991. **PHOTO: ARUN SANKAR/AFP/FILE**

INDIA'S top court Friday ordered the release of six people convicted over the assassination of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Gandhi was 46 when he was killed by a woman suicide bomber at an election rally in the southern state of Tamil Nadu in 1991.

The assassination was carried out by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a Sri Lankan armed separatist group.

India's supreme court said the convicts were being

released based on their "satisfactory conduct" in prison and that they had served over three decades of jail time.

The six — three of whom had been condemned to death before their sentences were commuted — are the last still in prison for the assassination, although two were already out on parole.

"I am very happy... I am very thankful to each and everybody," Nalini Sriharan, one of the two on parole, told broadcaster CNN News18.—AFP

US Democrats maintain Senate majority

PRESIDENT Joe Biden's Democrats retained control of the US Senate on Saturday, a remarkable midterms election result that defied predictions of a Republican win over both houses of Congress.

Midterms traditionally deliver a rejection of the party in power, and with inflation surging and Biden's popularity in the doldrums, Republicans had been expecting to ride a mighty "red wave" and capture the Senate and the House of Representatives.

But the wave never got much beyond a ripple and on Saturday US networks called the key Senate race in Nevada for Democrat incumbent Catherine Cortez Masto, giving the party the 50 seats it needs for an effective majority.

The win clinches Democratic control in the Senate as Vice President Kamala Harris can cast the tie-breaking vote if the upper chamber is evenly split 50-50.

One Senate race remains up in the air — a runoff in

Georgia set for December.

The two parties had been neck-and-neck at 49 seats each after Democrat Mark Kelly was projected to win a tight Senate race in Arizona on Friday evening.

The result in the House of Representatives is also hanging in the balance, and while Republicans are slightly favoured to take control, it would be with a far smaller majority than they had envisaged going into Tuesday's election. —AFP



With two races left to decide, Democrats only need to win one to retain control of the US Senate. The dome of US Capitol building is seen on 8 November 2022, Washington, D.C. PHOTO: AFP

Melania Trump lawyer tipped to become Slovenia's first woman president



Natasa Pirc Musar, backed by the centre-left government, is running against former foreign minister Anze Logar. PHOTO: FADEL SENNA/AFP

SLOVENIANS were voting on Sunday in a run-off poll expected to elect the country's first woman president — a lawyer linked to former US first lady Melania Trump.

Natasa Pirc Musar, backed by the centre-left government, is running against ex-foreign minister Anze Logar, a veteran of conservative politics, in the EU country of two million.

A lawyer, Pirc Musar was hired to protect the interests of Slovenian-born Trump during her husband's presidency, stopping companies attempting to commercialise products with her name.

She is forecast to win just slightly above 50 per cent of the vote ahead of Logar who is on between 44 and 49 per cent, according to the latest polls.

Pirc Musar, who headed the country's data protection authority for a decade, says her victory would make her "the voice of women" in Slovenia and abroad.

Though the president's role is largely ceremonial, the human rights advocate has vowed to be a "moral authority".—AFP

Dutch court to deliver long-awaited MH17 verdict

DUTCH judges will give their verdict on Thursday in the trial of four men accused of downing Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 over Ukraine in 2014, against a backdrop of soaring tensions over Russia's current invasion.

All 298 passengers and crew were killed when the Boeing 777 flying from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur was hit over separatist-held eastern Ukraine by what prosecutors say was a missile supplied by Moscow.

Russians Igor Girkin, Sergei Dubinsky, Oleg Pulatov

and Ukrainian citizen Leonid Kharchenko face a life sentence if convicted on charges of murder and causing an aircraft to crash.

But the four suspects all remain at large and have refused to attend the two-and-a-half-year trial in the Netherlands, which followed an international investigation.

Eight years on from the disaster, the region where MH17 crashed has become one of the key battlegrounds in Russia's nearly nine-month-old war in

Ukraine.

Bereaved families will travel from around the world to the high-security court near Schiphol Airport, near where the doomed plane took off, to hear the three-judge panel's verdict from 1230 GMT on Thursday.

"If they are guilty, the international community should hunt them down," Evert van Zijtveld, who lost his daughter Frederique, 19, his son Robert-Jan, 18, and his parents-in-law, told AFP.—AFP

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

Bahrain heads to polls without opposition candidates

BAHRAINIS head to the polls Saturday but despite a record number of people vying for seats, a ban on opposition candidates means it will bring no meaningful change, rights groups said.

More than 330 candidates, including a record 73 women, are competing to join the 40-seat council of representatives — the lower house of parliament that advises King Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa, who has ruled since his father died in March 1999.

This is up from the 293 people — including 41 women — that ran for parliament in the last election in 2018.

But the country, ruled by a Sunni dynasty, has barred its two main opposition groups from fielding candidates — the Shiite Al-Wefaq and secular Waad parties which were dissolved in 2016 and 2017.

"This election will not introduce any change," said Ali Abd-ulemam, a UK-based Bahraini human rights activist.

"Without the opposition we will not have a healthy country," he told AFP.—AFP

Finland receives record number of international students in 2022

FINLAND has received a record number of international students this year, an increase of approximately 54 per cent compared with the same period last year, the country's immigration service, Migri, said on Friday.

A total of 7,060 applicants from outside the European Union (EU) were granted first-time residence permits for studies between January and October 2022, while the approved number in the same period a year earlier was 4,595, according to Migri.

"The number of new international students has increased significantly, even when comparing to the pre-COVID years," said Elina Immonen, deputy director general of Migri. The number of residence permits granted this year has already surpassed the record-breaking year of 2016 when 6,348 first-time residence permits were granted to students, she added.

Most students come to Finland to study in one of the country's higher education institutions, and apply for a residence permit after enrollment. Up to 95 per cent of students applying for a residence permit receive a positive decision.

The largest numbers of international students arriving in Finland are from Russia and China, with 941 and 610 respectively. This ranking has remained unchanged over the past few years. —Xinhua



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.

Soe Lin Oo to fight against Thway Thit Win Hlaing in Myanmar Boxing Challenge

THE Myanmar Boxing Challenge, organized by the Great Lethwei Chanel+, will be broadcast live at 2 pm on 27 November on CANAL+ Sports 1 channel and CANAL+ application.

Among the eight fights, a bout of Soe Lin Oo vs Thway Thit Win Hlaing is a thriller.

Soe Lin Oo, a first-class boxer in the 67-71 kilos (light middleweight) category has lost only two out of 121 fights, as he attacks unintentionally in addition to a power punch and a killing knee.

Thway Thit Win Hlaing has fought 84 bouts and lost only one.

Thway Thit Win Hlaing is a player only relying on countering rather than attacking, and is a fighter who attacks both physically and mentally. Also, in the 67-71 kilos (light middleweight class), Kyaw Swa Win will fight Min Htet Aung, and in the 63.5-67 kilos (welterweight class) Thway Thit Maung will take on Saw Min Min.



Soe Lin Oo (left) vs Thway Thit Win Hlaing (right). PHOTO: BALA SOE

In the 60-63.5 kilos (light welterweight class), the flights comprise Saw Wah Lu vs Ko Nine, and Moe Hmaung vs Htet Naing Aung in the same class.

In the 57-60 kilos (light weight) class, Zve Marn will face Saw John, and in the 54-57 kilos (featherweight class) Ko Ko will take on Aung Htet Oo as well as Moe Hein will fight Saw Nga Mauk.—Bala Soe/GNLM

Tun Tun Aung and Ye Tun Naung to compete in 13th World Bodybuilding Championship

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Bodybuilding and Fitness Sports Federation, Myanmar bodybuilders will compete in the 13th World Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championship to be held in Phuket of Thailand from 6 to 12 December.

Ye Tun Naung will compete in the men's 65 kg class and Tun Tun Aung in the 60 kg class and the 50-year-old and above class.

"I won gold, silver, and bronze medals in the previous world championships and have won a gold medal in the 1997 SEA Games held in Jakarta, Indonesia. I have experience in competition.

"I expect to win a medal in the 13th World Bodybuilding Championship," said Tun Tun Aung. Selected athlete Ye Tun Naung won a gold medal in the 31st SEA Games



The Myanmar bodybuilders are under training to compete in the 13th World Bodybuilding Championship. PHOTO: BALA SOE

and was the first to compete this world competition. The Myanmar Bodybuilding and Fitness Sports Federation has already selected 19 men and three women for the World Championships, Asian

Championships, and the 32nd SEA Games, and they are under training at the camp of the federation in Mingala Taungnyunt Township Development Committee in Yangon City. — Bala Soe/GNLM

Arteta hopes maturing Arsenal not thrown off course by World Cup

ARSENAL manager Mikel Arteta is hoping a six-week hiatus to the Premier League season does not come at the wrong time for his side after the Gunners moved five points clear at the top on Saturday.

Martin Odegaard scored twice as Arsenal were 2-0 victors at Wolves just hours after Manchester City suffered a shock 2-1 home defeat to Brentford.

Arsenal have not won the league since 2003/04 and have failed to even finish in the top four for the past six seasons.

A return to the Champions League next season ap-

pears a formality with Arteta's men 14 points clear of fifth-placed Manchester United.

And City's unexpected first home defeat since February to Brentford sets up an intriguing title battle when the Premier League returns after the World Cup on Boxing Day.

"We showed another kind of maturity today," said Arteta. "In the first 20-30 minutes we struggled to break them down. We were much better in the second half and we had a bit more courage and took risks but also not allowing them to run." —AFP



Arsenal players celebrate a goal against Wolves. PHOTO: AFP

Nagelsmann lauds 'snake legs' Musiala ahead of World Cup tilt

BAYERN Munich manager Julian Nagelsmann has lauded forward Jamal Musiala's development, saying the teenager can be "even better" for Germany at the World Cup in Qatar.

Musiala, who grew up in England and represented the Three Lions at junior level but switched

allegiance to Germany, set up both of Bayern's goals in their 2-0 win away at Schalke.

Nagelsmann said Musiala, who now has nine goals and six assists in 15 games this season, was committed to developing and improving his game. —AFP