

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VIII, No. 305, 11th Waning of Tabodwe 1384 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Wednesday, 15 February 2023

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council: Five-Point Road Map

1. Priority will be given to fully realizing peace, stability and rule of law throughout the Union to safeguard the socioeconomic life of the people.
2. People-centred development work that enhances socioeconomic well-being will be undertaken to ensure the country's prosperity and food security.
3. Processes will further continue to consolidate a genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system and build a Union based on democracy and federalism.
4. Priority will be accorded to work aligned with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement, in order to achieve enduring peace for the entire nation.
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.

Prices of three main export pulses rally on China's demand

PRICES of three main export pulses indicated an increase of K180,000 per tonne for green gram, K55,000 for pigeon pea (red gram) and K31,000 for black gram RC on 13 February 2023 compared to that of 11 February.

The prices climbed on the back of strong demand from China. The chickpea price remained unchanged.

Between 6 and 10 February 2023, the price of green gram (Shwewah variety) from the Kayan area moved constantly up by K60,000 per day in Yangon markets. On 11 February, the price stayed the same. Yet it indicated a tremendous increase of K180,000 per tonne on 13 February. The figures showed a sharp rise of K540,000 per tonne within seven days.

On 13 February, the price of green gram went up to K225,000-230,000 per three-basket bag from K215,000-220,000 per bag.

The price of pigeon pea (red gram) moved up to K2,067,500 per tonne on 13 February from K2,012,000 per tonne on 11 February. The pigeon pea price hit a record high of K2,175,000 per tonne on 19 September 2022. The prevailing price this year has not reached the record price yet.

Meanwhile, the price of



black gram (RC) increased to K1,871,000 per tonne on 13 February from K1,840,000 on 11 February. The price peaked at K2.1 million per tonne on 31 August 2022.

The prices of those pulses spiked this month.

The black gram and pigeon pea are primarily exported to India, whereas green gram is shipped to European countries,

Myanmar exported 1.75 million tonnes of various pulses worth \$1.324 billion to foreign trade partners in the 2020-2021 financial year. Farm workers are seen picking beans.

China and other external markets.

The growers are receiving a handsome profit from high prices during the harvest time of pulses. High prices will not pose any burden on domestic consumers, unlike rice which is a staple food in the country.

There are 9.63 million acres of various pulses in the country, with an estimated value of 24.16 million baskets. Myanmar exported 1.75 million tonnes of various pulses worth \$1.324 billion to foreign trade partners in the 2020-2021 financial year. — TWA/EM

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No 21/2023

10th Waning of Tabodwe 1384 ME
14 February 2023

Appointment and Duty-Assignment of Deputy Minister

THE State Administration Council has appointed and assigned U Soe Kyi to the duties of Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement under Section 419 of the Constitution.

By Order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Head of Service Organization transferred and appointed

THE State Administration Council has transferred and appointed Dr Thi Thi Myint, Director-General of the Department of Legal Knowledge Dissemination under the Ministry of Legal Affairs, as Director-General of the Minister's Office at the same ministry from the date she assumes charge of her duties.

Public Notice for Elimination of Violence

1. Declaring themselves to be "for the people", the so-called CRPH, NUG and PDF terrorist groups are lawlessly killing Buddhist monks, civil servants including school-teachers, and members of the general public, as well as looting and robbing.
2. Not encouraging, supporting, or assisting "CRPH", "NUG", and "PDF" terrorists, who are intimidating and killing people and committing destructive activities, is to protect the lives and property of the general public.
3. Giving information secretly to the authorities on terrorists and on the possession and transport of weapons/ammunition is tantamount to protecting the lives and property of innocent people.

3 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 14 February, total figure rises to 633,870

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 633,870 after three new cases were reported on 14 February 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached 614,345, including 14 new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country remained unchanged at 19,490 on 14-2-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. — MNA

Local product salerooms, ethnic traditional food booths continue marking 76th Anniversary Union Day

EXHIBITIONS of ministries, regions and states, as well as ethnic traditional food and local products from Nay Pyi Taw (Union Territory), states and regions, which are opened and exhibited at People's Square in Dagon Township, Yangon, continued to commemorate the 76th Anniversary of Union Day 2023.

A total of 385 exhibition rooms including 25 booths for ministries, 15 booths for Nay Pyi Taw Council, regional and state galleries, 15 ethnic traditional food stalls, and product booths

from 29 Yangon Industrial Zones are organized in the event.

The exhibitions were held for five days from 10 to 14 February from 9 am to 10 pm.

Traditional dances are performed by movie artistes, stereo vocalists, and new-generation singers during the event and donors offered foodstuffs to visitors.

Showrooms were crowded with shoppers and visitors every day during exhibition days as the public could visit showrooms for free. — MNA/KZL



(၇၅)နှစ်မြောက် မြန်မာ-ရုရှား သံတမန်ဆက်သွယ်ထူထောင်မှုအထိမ်းအမှတ်
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Forum on Myanmar - Russia Friendship and Cooperation

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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.

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Peace processes unwaveringly base on nationwide ceasefire agreement-NCA and Constitution (2008)

WE would have two basic factors for the continuation of implementing the peace process. These are: to firmly stand for the nationwide ceasefire agreement-NCA and firmly stand for the Constitution (2008).

(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the 7th Anniversary of Signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) on 15 October 2022)

SPTT holds second-day meeting with NMSP peace delegation

THE second-day meeting between the State Peace Talks Team-SPTT and the peace delegation led by the vice-chairman of the New Mon State Party-NMSP was held yesterday morning at the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre in Nay Pyi Taw.

The meeting was attended by the State Peace Talks Team led by SAC Member Union Minister at the Government Office Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee-NSPNC Peace Talks Team Leader Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, SAC Member Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun, NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Win Bo Shein and NSPNC members: Lt-Gen Min Naing and Lt-Gen Aye Win — and NMSP Vice-Chairman Nai Aung Min, Joint General Secretary Nai Win Hla, Central Executive Committee members Nai Banyar Lei and Nai Aung Ma Ngay, and representatives



The second-day meeting between the State Peace Talks Team and the NMSP peace delegation is in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

of the peace talks.

During the second-day meeting, both sides discussed issues that have not been completed on the first day and pro-

posals of both sides to be continued to discuss and negotiate. Afterwards, they negotiated common agreements on peace and development and discussed

drafts to reach agreements according to discussions of both sides and the second-day meeting was adjourned.

The third-day meeting will

be held on 15 February, and both parties will sign mutually agreed points as an agreement.

— MNA/TS

Russia holds ASEAN-Russia Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation (ARMMSTI) virtually



Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Kyaw virtually joins the ASEAN-Russia Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation-ARMMSTI yesterday.

THE ASEAN-Russia Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technolo-

gy and Innovation (ARMMSTI) hosted by the Russian Federa-

tion was held virtually yesterday and Union Minister Dr Myo

Thein Kyaw of the Ministry of Science and Technology joined it from Nay Pyi Taw.

The meeting is a key programme of the ASEAN-Russia Science and Technology Cooperation-2022 and can enhance joint research projects and contribute to cooperation between universities, academic schools and research centres in Russia and ASEAN countries. As the year 2023 marks the fifth anniversary of the ASEAN-Russia strategic partnership, the purpose of the ARMMSTI is to promote cooperation in technology and innovation.

At the meeting, participants shared and exchanged knowledge on priority actions in the field of technology and innovation, and discussed plans to

collaborate on technology and innovation between Russia and ASEAN countries.

Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Kyaw discussed programmes and activities being carried out in the field of technology and innovation.

Also present at the meeting were Mr Valery Falkov, Minister of Science and Higher Education, the Russian Federation and representatives, officials from the ASEAN Secretariat, Science, Technology and Innovation Ministers from ASEAN member countries such as Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam, chairpersons of committees and representatives of respective countries. — MNA/CT

MoI organizes Htamane-making competition, fun fair

THE Ministry of Information conducted a Htamane-making competition and fun fair at the ministry's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Union Information Minister U Maung Maung Ohn and his wife attended the ceremony together with Deputy Minister U Ye Tint and his wife, the permanent secretary and his wife and officials.

Firstly, Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn gave a

speech at the competition that the Htamane-making competition is usually held following Myanmar's traditional culture and Htamane is made with collective effort. The Union minister added that the essence of the competition was to do something in unity and cooperation, not just to win or lose.

Afterwards, the Union minister, the deputy minister and officials watched and encouraged five competition teams from the



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn presents the first prize to the Information and Public Relations Department team.



The Htamane-making competition is in progress yesterday.

office of the Ministry of Information, MRTV, the Information and Public Relations Department, the Printing and Publishing Department and the News and Periodicals Enterprise.

Then, the first prize was

presented to the team of the Information and Public Relations Department by Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn, the second prize to the team of the minister's office by Deputy Minister U Ye Tint and the third prize

to the team of the Printing and Publishing Department by the permanent secretary. The special prize went to the team of the News and Periodicals Enterprise for its support and encouragement. — MNA/MKKS

Union Health Minister receives delegation led by Thai Ambassador



Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win receives Mr Mongkol Visitstump, Thai Ambassador, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

UNION Health Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win received the delegation led by Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar Mr Mongkol Visitstump yesterday morning at the Ministry of Health in Nay Pyi Taw.

They frankly exchanged views on matters in connection with the success of cooperation between the two countries in the prevention, control and treatment of the Covid-19 pandemic, speeding up control activities of malaria, tuberculosis and venereal diseases in border areas, the establishment of a high-quality treatment hospital in Dawei, Tanintharyi Region with the support of the Thai-

land International Cooperation Agency (TICA), increasing medical education and signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with medical universities in Thailand and promoting cooperation in the health sector of the two countries.

The meeting was attended by the deputy minister, the director-general (Union Minister's Office), the director-general (Department of Public Health), the director-general (Medical Services Department), the director-general (Human Resources for Health Department) and officials of the Ministry of Health. — MNA/TS

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

MoC Union Minister receives delegation led by Director-General of Commerce Dept of Yunnan Province (PRC)

UNION Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo met the delegation led by Director-General Mr Li Chenyang of the Commerce Department of People's Republic of China (Yunnan Province) at the Ministry of Commerce yesterday morning in Nay Pyi Taw.

Promotion of trade and economic cooperation between Myanmar and China (Yunnan Province), export of Myanmar agricultural produce to China, cooperation on trade-related payments and cross-border trade issues were discussed friendly and openly at the meeting.

The meeting was attended by

the deputy minister of the Ministry of Commerce, the permanent secretary, the directors-general and officials.

The delegation and senior officials from the Ministry of Commerce led by the director-general of the Department of Trade continued to discuss issues related to the promotion of bilateral trade, cooperation on border trade, and financial and agricultural sectors.

— MNA/CT

Union Minister U Aung Naing Oo meets the delegation from the Commerce Department of Yunnan Province yesterday.



27th Myanmar-Thailand Case Management Meeting on Repatriation and Reintegration of Victims of Human Trafficking held in Yangon

THE 27th Myanmar-Thailand Case Management Meeting on Repatriation and Reintegration of Victims of Human Trafficking was held in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Thailand's Ministry of Social Development and Human Security at the Park Royal Hotel, Yangon yesterday. It was hosted by Myanmar.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Thet Thet Khine, Permanent Secretary Dr Ko Ko Naing, Director-General U Aung Kyaw Moe of the Department of Rehabilitation and 30 Myanmar delegation members, and 15 members of the Thai delegation led by Mr Thanasunthorn Sawangsalee, Deputy Permanent Secretary, the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security of Thailand.

At the meeting, Union Min-



Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khine and dignitaries take the documentary group photo at the event yesterday.

ister Dr Thet Thet Khine pointed out that 70 per cent of the victims of human trafficking are women and children, and the number of male victims in human trafficking has also increased signifi-

cantly, according to the rising cases of human trafficking in various countries. Both Myanmar and Thailand have been able to jointly promote the best interests of the victims of human

trafficking in keeping with processes of the standard work plan approved by the two countries, she added. The Union minister thanked Thailand for keeping victims of human trafficking and

job placement for them, as well.

Afterwards, Deputy Permanent Secretary Mr Thanasunthorn Sawangsalee said that it has been over 10 years that Myanmar and Thailand have been working together as model countries to combat human trafficking, and gets many benefits and experiences. The deputy permanent secretary also expressed willingness to continue the cooperation because human trafficking has become a big challenge for those doing anti-trafficking work.

Then, Director-General U Aung Kyaw Moe and Deputy Permanent Secretary Mr Thanasunthorn Sawangsalee continued to hold the meeting and conferred about issues such as protecting Myanmar victims of human trafficking located in Thailand and ensuring their full rights and entitlements for the two countries to cooperate. — MNA/CT

Illegal timbers, foodstuffs, electrical goods, communication devices, car parts and vehicles confiscated

AN on-duty team at the Mingyi Thone Par checkpoint in Yaksawk township in Shan State captured 2,140 bags of black sesame worth K235.4 million without official documents from three tractor heads and three trailers (approximately K320 million) on 12 February. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 13 February, officials

seized 2,200 electric fans worth K17.6 million that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) from a container at the Myanmar International Terminals (Thilawa) and K57,474,585 worth of car parts that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) from a container at the Hteedan Port container checkpoint. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

Similarly, the Illegal Products Prevention Team of Muse District made an unexpected inspection of a vehicle which stopped by the side of the Muse-Namhkam Road in Muse township and confiscated 73 kinds of goods, including 35 pieces of iPad Air & iPad Pro glass defender (Switcheasy), China-made snacks, cosmetics, 7 Wi-Fi repeaters and two jammers,

worth K212,113,600 without official documents from a Dongfeng car (approximately K20 million). The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 12 and 13 February, a total of 27.3372 tonnes of illegal teak and hardwood worth K10,879,184 was seized in Thayawady and Nyaunglebin districts and the action was taken under the For-

est Law. On 13 February, two unregistered trailer jeeps (approximately K5 million) were captured in Monywa township and the action was taken under the Export and Import Law. Therefore, 17 arrests (estimated value of K878,467,369) were made on 12 and 13 February, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

Statement on Attacks and Sabotages Against National Education Sector by NUG/CRPH and PDF who are Committing Violations of International Law

1. NUG, CRPH and their subordinate PDFs, declared as terrorist groups as per existing laws, on the course of the utter devastation of the State to forcibly seize the State's power, are recklessly attacking and sabotaging the education of the youths who are the future of the Nation. During a two-year period from 1 February 2021 to 31 January 2023, the PDF terrorists under the instructions of NUG committed 528 bomb attacks and 123 arson attacks on schools, universities and colleges and also made 115 threats against education staff not to open schools. In the same period, the terrorists also brutally killed 66 teachers and education staff and injured 25 others. According to the findings of ground inspections, besides destroying schools and killing teachers, the terrorists are found to be 'using schools for military purposes' which is legally prohibited by the United Nations and certain international organizations.
2. Resolution 2427 adopted by United Nations Security Council in 2008 reiterates its deep concern at the closure of schools and hospitals in situations of armed conflict as a result of attacks and threats of attacks and also urges all parties to armed conflict to refrain from actions that impede children's access to education and to health services. Moreover, in the "Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use During Armed Conflict" released by Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack-GCPEA, it is clearly stated that 'functioning schools and universities should not be used by the fighting forces of parties to armed conflict in any way in support of the military effort' and it further describes that 'parties to armed conflict should neither use force nor offer incentives to education administrators'.
3. Nonetheless, on the pretext of anti-government sentiment, NUG, CRPH and their subordinate PDFs and insurgent groups are using schools as military bases after forcibly closing them. On 30 January 2023, it was found that KIA insurgents and PDF terrorist groups had built trenches and bunkers fortified with sandbags as a military base in the basic education high school located in Moetarlay village in Katha township of Sagaing region with the intent to attack Tatmadaw military columns, and moreover, villagers of witness also revealed that KIA and PDF groups using arms always bully the unarmed locals and also deploy schools as military bases. The voice of a villager is as follows: -
 "The KIA and PDF group built a bunker in the school where students went to school. After using it as the military base, they stay here occasionally. They are between 50 and 100 strong. They dumped sandbags as protection when they came to our village and set up a military base about 12 months ago. When they come to our village, they often stay at this school. They use the school as protection; we think it's just like that. They built bunkers around the school and forced villagers to build them. We usually have to cook and feed them - three meals from a house. Sometimes they extorted money from us. As for villagers, we do not like KIA/PDFs at all. The village is affected by them almost every month, so we don't accept their group.
 "They have made protection themselves at the school as a military base since around the middle of December 2022. We have to give them food and drink - rice, edible oil etc. I don't like their terror acts at all."
4. Security personnel joining hands together with local villagers demolished the fortifications built by terrorists and also conducted clean-up activities in the village school. Moreover, in conformity with a phrase prescribed in the International Humanitarian Law urging the UN member States' governments to effectively prevent and protect schools from being used by armed groups for military purposes, Government security personnel are taking all necessary security measures to protect the education sector from reckless destructions and sabotages of the terrorists.
5. Even though NUG, CRPH and their subordinate PDF terrorists are violating the provisions of applicable International Law, harassing and attacking the education of children using various means, some countries and organizations are found to be engaging with and supporting the NUG/PDF on media by ignoring their acts of terrorism. Such activities are threatening and destroying the safety and peace of innocent civilians' lives. Besides, it is necessary to heed that supporting the terrorists who are recklessly harassing and destroying the education of the children, the future of the Nation, will surely cause unnecessary delays in the endeavours of Myanmar to return to the path of democracy.
6. Against the backdrop of the situation, the statement is released so that the international community can discern that KIA insurgents and NUG, CRPH and their subordinate PDF terrorist groups are destroying the education of the children who are the future of the country by using schools as covers and fortified bases.

Information Team
State Administration Council



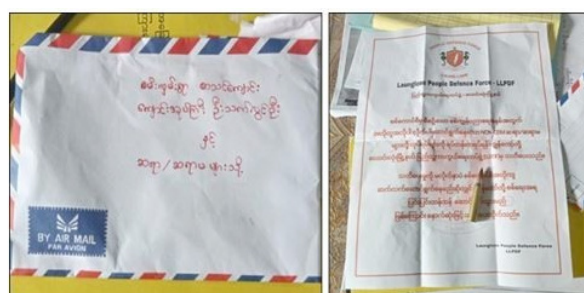
Bunkers and trenches built by KIA group and PDF terrorists as a fortified base in Basic Education High School (Moetarlay) of Katha Township



Bunkers fortified with sandbags found in the high school which was used by KIA group and PDF terrorists as a fortified camp.



Teachers violently killed by PDF terrorists Daw Lae Lae, headmistress of the sub-high school in Htam Ma Kout Village of Seikphyu Township brutally killed by PDFs for not joining CDM



Sending a threat letter with LLPDF logo and a bullet to teachers in Longlon Township of Taninthayi Region



A message left on the wall of the classroom at a Basic Education Sub-Middle School in Mohnyin Township of Kachin State, threatening that the school would be blown up if it is not closed



Basic Education High School (Alaekyun Village) on fire due to arson attack of KIA group and PDF terrorists

LOCAL BUSINESS

Broken rice price surges to K43,000 per bag

THE price of broken rice jumped to K43,000 per 108-pound bag, according to the Wahdan Rice Wholesale Centre.

The price of broken rice was K40,000 per 108-pound bag on 10 February 2023. The price regained to K43,000 per bag on 14 February 2023, reflecting a significant increase of K3,000 per bag within a few days.

The rice demand of exporters pushed up the price of bro-

ken rice, traders said.

Additionally, the prices of various rice varieties also moved up in the domestic markets. The prices of new high-grade Pawsan rice were around K72,000-87,000 per bag, while old 90-day short-mature rice fetched K61,000 and new one was valued at K56,000. New Khuni rice was worth K63,000 per bag.

Myanmar Rice Federation, Myanmar Rice and Paddy Trad-

ers Association, Myanmar Rice Millers Association, traders involved in rice wholesale centres (Wahdan and Bayint Naung) have offered rice at a cheaper rate from 3 August 2022 every day between 9 am and 3 pm except for office holidays.

Ayeyawady Pawsan, Shwabo Pawsan, Pawkywe and short-mature rice varieties (90 days) will be sold at a cheaper price between K35,000 and



Rice bags are stacked in a warehouse.

K77,000 per bag.

Each household is entitled to buy one rice bag only and

those resellers, traders and retailers are excluded from this scheme. — NN/EM

YGEA reference price moves down as gold spot price dips

YANGON Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association's reference price slid to K2,188,000 per tical (0.578 ounce or 0.016 kilogramme) tracking the decrease in gold spot prices.

On 2 February, gold spot prices hit US\$1,955 per ounce and YGEA's price was K2,303,200 per tical. As the gold price declined to \$1,858 in the international market, the reference price was reduced to K2,188,900 per tical on 14 February.

The figures indicated a drop of \$97 per ounce and over 114,000

per tical within two weeks.

Despite the YGEA's refer-

ence price, the pure gold spiked at K2,869,000 per tical in the un-



official market, showing a large gap of K680,000 per tical.

YGEA calculated the price depending on the Central Bank of Myanmar's reference exchange rate of K2,100, with some addition, while the US dollar is exchanged at K2,860 in the unofficial forex market.

The price of gold in the domestic market is highly correlated with the gold spot prices and dollar exchange rate.

The soaring dollar exchange at over K4,500 drove the pure gold price up to a record-high

of K3.7 million per tical in late August 2022.

For the gold price to decline, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has been selling gold ingots under the competitive bidding system in Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw.

With an aim of reducing gold prices, the YGEA and Mandalay Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association sold gold bullion supplied by the executive members and the members as well. — NN/EM

Notice released for registration of cottage industries including traditional medicine manufacturing industries, SMEs

THE Small-Scale Industries Department has issued a notification for cottage industries including small- and medium-sized enterprises and traditional medicine manufacturing industries in Yangon Region to register.

It has been announced that all cottage industries and maintenance services that have from three to nine employees have to register at the Small Scale Industries Department.

The application must be made according to each type

of relevant business with necessary documents such as laboratory test results for a food business, and a license or registration issued by the relevant Department of Traditional Medicine for the traditional medicine industry. Along with the documents, a letter of recommendation from the relevant ward where the business is located, three sets of application forms, five license photos, three copies of the Citizenship Scrutiny Card and the business registration fee of K10,000 will need to be submitted for application.

It is reported that the registration of cottage industries can be done at the Small Scale Industries Department, No 137, Thudama Road, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region. — TWA/CT



The picture shows a small-scale business.

Prices of fuel oil, gold and dollar on 14 February 2023

Fuel Oil Price (Yangon)

Octane 92	K2,180
Octane 95	K2,250
Diesel	K2,215
Premium Diesel	K2,295

All of the prices are based on per litre.

Gold Price

The reference price of high-purity gold set by YGEA	K2,188,900 per tical
High-purity gold in the gold market	K2,869,000 per tical

US Dollar Vs Kyat

A US dollar set by the Central Bank of Myanmar	K2,100
A US dollar in the forex market	K2,845 to K2,860

The above prices may change from time to time.

OPINION

ARTICLE WEATHER REPORT

Look at the secular world from a correct perspective

IN THE secular world, everybody is trying to do the best as they expect but the best works done may not be right by a cent per cent. It is because no one is perfect in life. All the works done by anyone cannot always be right as they do not have supernatural power to consider things that are the best for the life.

Hence, anyone should consider they themselves may do wrong things unexpectedly. These actions may be done unintentionally but wrong things are unchangeable. As such, everybody needs to consider that as all human beings are ordinary, they may unintentionally commit wrong things as well as misdeeds. So, if possible, those persons doing wrong things have the chance to enjoy the pardon for their unconsciousness.

That is why all human beings should criticize themselves first and then consider everything and the root causes of every event before criticizing others. If so, they can clearly overview the secular world and the actual lives of human beings. Only when can they discard wrong attitudes and opinions from their concepts, will an equality, liberty and justice secular world welcome all.

Moreover, anyone does not have the right to criticize others who are clever or who are naughty. Practically, they should build themselves to be able to do the right things and to be free from sins. If those who do wrong things criticize others, the nature of society will never be in proper balance for all human beings.

That is why all human beings should criticize themselves first and then consider everything and the root causes of every event before criticizing others. If so, they can clearly overview the secular world and the actual lives of human beings. Only when can they discard wrong attitudes and opinions from their concepts, will an equality, liberty and justice secular world welcome all.

IS MOTHER earth healthy? Nope. She had been sick for a long time: even for centuries. Her temperature has been rising in accordance with time since the industrial revolution. The revolution started in the 19th century, and then coal usage as a fuel increased. After Ford T-model cars were introduced in the first quarter of the twentieth century, oil usage increased further. Fossil fuels – coal, oil, and gas are by far the largest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. It accounts for 75 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions and nearly half of all carbon dioxide emissions. As those gases blanket the earth, they trap the sun's heat. These lead to global warming and climate change.

Carbon dioxide is not the only greenhouse gas, methane and nitrous oxide trap heat, too. Burning fossil fuel not only emits carbon dioxide but releases particles small enough to float in the air as well as carbon dioxide, these aerosols warm the atmosphere.

The problem is that carbon stored up in the crust over hundreds of millions of years is being released in a few generations. Naturally, the greenhouse effect makes the earth a comfortable place to live. But human activities are changing Earth's natural greenhouse effect. Burning fossil

fuels put more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Too much of these greenhouse gases can cause Earth's atmosphere to trap more and more heat.

In the early 19th century, Joseph Fourier, a French pioneer in the study of heat warned that the Earth is warmer than it would be. Since the industrial revolution, coal has been used as fuel and it might warm the planet.

In the 1900s, coal produced about two billion tonnes of carbon dioxide. By 1950 industrial emissions were three times that much. Today they are close to 20 times that much because of industries and private cars.

The world is now warming faster than at any point in recorded history. Warmer temperatures over time are changing weather patterns and disrupting the usual balance of nature. Every decade since the 1970s has been warmer than the one before, which rules out natural variations. If nothing were done, temperature and sea levels would rise to an extent with no historic parallel.

This poses many risks to human beings and all other



Global warming is a hot topic (no pun intended). The Earth is warming up. While that may be hard to believe in the middle of a Wisconsin winter, if it's true it could mean big changes for our planet. PHOTO-EEK

living things on earth. Climate change impacts life on earth in various ways: by making extreme temperatures in hot and cold seasons, by making poor air quality in the environment, by increasing natural disasters

of extreme events, by promoting vector-borne diseases and by changing the nature of fresh and marine water resources. Climate change and its related health problems are not only governmental issues but with

their citizens. Blaming related governments and international organizations doesn't work. To solve the problem, each and every earth dweller should contribute their efforts to save the planet task force. How? By the

Save our planet for a better future

By Saya Norm

way, as mentioned below.

Use less energy

Most greenhouse gases are emitted by power plants, industry, and traffic. By using energy efficiently, we can save fossil fuels and reduce climate change. That is why switch lights and appliances off when they are not in use. Make the buildings to be well-insulated not to waste energy on heating and cooling.

Use clean energy

Electricity shouldn't have to come from fossil fuel-using power plants. Alternatives like solar and wind are cheaper and cleaner except for initial investment. Using renewable energy isn't very hard technically.

Reduce fossil fuel for transport

Travelling by bike, bus or train saves a lot of carbon dioxide. Taxi sharing like Grab service is a good way. Compared to a private car, a bus is five times more climate-friendly, and (if available) an electric train is 15

times more climate-friendly. EV may be the answer in the future.

Eat less meat

Methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, is generated in the stomach of cows, sheep, and goats. By eating less meat, we can lessen methane production. On the other hand, large-scale livestock farming and meat consumption use a large number of resources including water and land to grow feed. Even rainforests are ever cut down to grow soy for feeding cows.

Eat organic

Although organic foods are still high priced, it is deserved to eat far fewer greenhouse gases. The gases were generated in power plants and engines but mostly by artificial fertilizers in industrial agriculture. Moving the path to ecologically oriented farming, less greenhouse gas may be emitted. And it helps to protect the climate.

Use sustainable materials

The large volume of car-

bon dioxides emitted from the production of steel and cement. Wood and bamboo bind carbon dioxide. Cautiously choosing products made from sustainable materials helps the climate.

Recycle

Manufacturing plants emit a large volume of greenhouse gases per year. Although it is unavoidable in the production of goods that we use on regular basis, a cleaner alternative would be recycling. Recycling is a cost-effective and eco-friendly process that eliminates waste. And also, it doesn't emit many greenhouse gases into the environment. Collect discarded paper, glass, plastics and electronics and try to reuse them in recycling. Any respective government should have collaborated with nongovernmental organizations or people.

The above actions may reduce carbon emissions to an extent. But lowering annual emissions merely slows the rate at which the sky's heating effects get stronger. Surface warming does not come to an end until the greenhouse-gas level is no longer increasing at all. And most of the benefits will be accrued not today, but in 50 to 100 years.

Anyhow, don't lose your heart and carry on.

China's adjustment of COVID-19 response to boost global growth in 2023: Goldman Sachs



This aerial photo taken on 17 January 2023 shows export vehicles waiting for shipment at Yantai Port, east China's Shandong Province. PHOTO: TANG KE/XINHUA

On top of that, global GDP could be raised by one per cent by the end of 2023 due to China's adjustment, it said.

CHINA'S adjustment of its COVID-19 pandemic response will not only speed up its own economic recovery, but also boost global economic growth, said a report issued by Goldman Sachs Research on Friday.

"Our economists now forecast China's GDP (gross domestic product) to grow by 6.5 per cent in 2023 on a Q4/Q4 basis," up from the previous forecast of 5.5 per cent made at the end of last November, according to the report.

On top of that, global GDP could be raised by 1 per cent by the end of 2023 due to China's adjustment, it said.

"The global growth backdrop has brightened," Goldman economists Joseph Briggs and Devesh Kodnani were quoted as saying by the report. The two economists have viewed "the more rapid pace of China's reopening along with a waning drag from global financial conditions and lower European gas prices" as good news for the world.

China's adjustment will

impact global growth through "three direct channels", including increased domestic demand in China, and higher demand for international travel and commodities from China, said the report.

Domestic demand in China in 2023 is likely to increase by up to five per cent, and the return in goods demand could provide a moderate boost of around 0.4 per cent to GDP in most Asia-Pacific economies, it said, adding that a normalization in travel patterns should lead

China's travel trade deficit to increase and boost foreign GDP. The report also said China's recovery will likely boost commodities demand and prices.

Briggs and Kodnani "anticipate the broader spillover effects from Chinese growth — including more favourable global financial conditions and increased trade with other countries — to be larger", it added.

SOURCE: Xinhua



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 14 February 2023)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is generally fair over the North Bay of Bengal and a few cloud to partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 15 February 2023: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Taninthayi Region. Degree of certainty is (60%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing, Yangon, and Ayeyawady regions and Kachin, Kayin and Mon states and generally fair in the remaining regions and states.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3 - 6) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15 February 2023: Generally fair weather.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Gold robes to be offered to Mahavijaya Pagoda's 24 surrounding pagodas

GOLD robes will be offered to Mahavijaya Pagoda's 24 satellite pagodas and all-round comprehensive renovation work done before the start of April, according to the board of trustees of the pagoda.

Changing water from the lake of the pagoda and planting trees and flowers will be carried out with the support of the Yangon City Development Committee to make the temple premises green and pleasant.

In the last 2021-2022 financial year, the main pagoda was offered gold robes at a cost of over K800 million. —TWA/KZW

The Mahavijaya Pagoda in Yangon.



Online stay extension, re-entry visa allowed for e-Visa (Business) holders

THE Ministry of Immigration and Population announced that foreigners who are residing and working with e-Visa (Business) in Myanmar can apply for stay extension and re-entry visa online.

The e-stay extension was launched on 1 February and foreigners, who are residing and working with e-Visa (Business) in Myanmar, can apply for the stay extension and re-entry visa online.

Myanmar has issued Tourist e-Visas and Business e-Visas electronically since 1 September 2014. —TWA/MKKS



A sample of the US passport.

232 mln gallons of water distributed daily for Yangon Region



The Ngamoeyeik (Nyaunghnapin) water treatment plant.

A total of 232 million gallons of water are being distributed daily for Yangon Region, according to the Engineering Department (water and sanitation) of YCDC.

In the past, YCDC provided 205 million gallons of water daily to Yangon residents through water sources such as Ngamoeyeik, Phugyi, Gyophyu, and Hlawga reservoirs. With the completion of the Lagunpyin and Hlaing river-Hlawga water supply projects, the wa-

ter supply increased from 210 million gallons in May 2021 to 232 million gallons in December 2022.

Water from the above sources is being pumped from the Yegu water pumping plant in Mayangon Township to all townships in Yangon.

Bala creek, Nyaunghnapin water treatment plant and Aungdagun Water treatment plant are also providing daily water supply to Yangon's growing population. —TWA/KZW

Licences temporarily revoked from 7 overseas recruitment agencies

THE Ministry of Labour announced that the licences of seven overseas recruitment agencies were revoked for six months or a year.

The agencies whose licences were revoked are Labour King company (from 14 September 2022 to 13 September 2023), Shwe Phyo Thar company (from 9 November 2022 to 8 November 2023), Myanmar Shwe Yanant company (from 9 November 2022 to 8 May 2023), Royal ANS Co Ltd (from 10 January 2023 from

9 January 2024), Top Choice Manpower Co Ltd (from 31 January 2023 to 30 January 2024) and Myit Myat Tan Khon Co Ltd (from 31 January 2023 to 30 July 2023).

There are more than 300 licenced overseas recruitment agencies and these agencies despatched employees overseas starting in early 2022. Overseas recruitment agencies can apply for licences under rules and regulations, according to the Ministry of Labour. —TWA/MKKS



Migrant workers are seen arriving in Thailand, despatched by overseas recruitment agencies.

HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

WHO to hold emergency meeting on E Guinea Marburg outbreak

THE UN health agency said it would hold an emergency meeting Tuesday after at least nine people in Equatorial Guinea died from Marburg haemorrhagic fever, a cousin of the Ebola virus.

The World Health Organization “will convene an urgent meeting of the Marburg virus vaccine consortium (MARVAC)” at 3 pm (1400 GMT), the WHO said.

MARVAC includes representatives from the field of vaccine research and development, working to develop vaccines against the Marburg virus.

The Marburg virus is a highly dangerous pathogen that causes severe fever, often accompanied by bleeding and organ failure.

It is part of the so-called filo-

virus family that also includes the Ebola virus, which has wreaked havoc in several previous outbreaks in Africa.

There are currently no vaccines or antiviral treatments approved to treat Marburg, but potential treatments, including blood products, immune therapies and drug therapies, as well as early candidate vaccines are being evaluated, WHO said.

Tuesday’s announcement came after Equatorial Guinea’s health minister, Mitoha Ondo’o Ayekaba, said late Monday that nine people had died in the country’s first outbreak of the disease.

He said a health alert had been declared in Kie-Ntem province and in the neighbour-



Medical staff clean their protection suits as part of the fight against the Ebola virus on 8 March 2015 at the Donka hospital in Conakry.

PHOTO: AFP

ing district of Mongomo, with a “lockdown plan implemented” after consulting with the WHO.

The lockdown is affecting 4,325 people in Kie-Ntem, he said. The government had an-

nounced last week that it was investigating the cause of suspect cases of haemorrhagic fever in a densely forested eastern region near the borders of Gabon and Cameroon on Africa’s central western coast.

But it said only three people had shown “light symptoms”.

The nine deaths occurred between 7 January and 7 February, the minister added, with testing still to be carried out on a “suspicious” death in hospital on 10 February.

The WHO said in a statement Monday that in addition to the nine deaths, 16 other people in Kie-Ntem had shown suspect symptoms including fever and vomiting blood. — AFP

California COVID-19 cases top 12 million: report



A pharmacist holds up a phial of the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine, Bivalent, at AltaMed Medical clinic in Los Angeles, California, on 6 October 2022.

PHOTO: AFP

THE total number of COVID-19 cases reported in California, the most populous state in the United States, has topped 12 million, the Los Angeles Times reported on Monday. That milestone was

hit last week in the state, home to around 40 million residents, according to data compiled by the biggest newspaper on US West Coast. The statewide tally — just under 12.02 million cases

as of Friday, according to The Times’ tracker — is undoubtedly an undercount, because of both limited access to testing in the pandemic’s early days and the fact that many people now self-diagnose using at-home tests, the report noted, adding that “even so, the figure constitutes a population larger than that of all but six states.” The report pointed out that California is seeing increased circulation of the Omicron subvariant XBB.1.5, which has been described as perhaps the most infectious strain of the coronavirus.

XBB.1.5 accounts for an estimated 56.9 per cent of new cases in the Western region of the country. Despite its infectiousness, XBB.1.5 has not spawned a major spike in hospitalizations, according to the report. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sweden’s king to undergo surgery next week

SWEDEN’S King Carl XVI Gustaf is set to undergo a “surgical procedure” next week and will therefore postpone engagements scheduled for the second half of February, the Swedish Royal Court said Tuesday.

The procedure, in the “heart area”, would be done through “so called keyhole surgery”, the court said in a statement without providing further details.

It added that it had been decided on the advice of the 76-year-old king’s physician. — AFP

UK Queen Consort Camilla tests positive for Covid again

BRITAIN’S Queen Consort Camilla, the wife of King Charles III, has tested positive for coronavirus, Buckingham Palace said Monday, the second time she has caught the disease.

“After suffering the symptoms of a cold, Her Majesty The Queen Consort has tested positive for the Covid virus,” said a statement from the palace.

As a result, she has cancelled all public engagements for this week. — AFP

US teen girls engulfed by ‘sadness, violence, trauma’: report

US health authorities sounded the alarm Monday about a mental health crisis among American high school students, particularly teenage girls suffering from sadness, violence and trauma.

The Youth Risk Behaviour Survey published by the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) looked at health behaviours and experiences among high school students

from 2011 to 2021.

“These data show a distressing picture,” CDC chief medical officer Debra Houry told reporters. “America’s teen girls are engulfed in a growing wave of sadness, violence and trauma.”

“Over the past decade teens, especially girls, have experienced dramatic increases in experiences of violence and poor mental health and suicide risk,”

Houry said. The CDC said several areas of adolescent health and well-being are improving, including risky sexual behaviour, alcohol and substance use, and the level of bullying at school.

But mental health among high school students — who are generally between 15 and 18 years old in the United States — continued to worsen overall. Nearly three in five teenage

American girls — 57 per cent — felt persistently sad or hopeless in 2021 — double that of boys, the report said.

The was a nearly 60 per cent increase since 2011 and the highest level reported over the past decade.

Nearly one in three teen girls — 30 per cent — seriously considered attempting suicide, up nearly 60 per cent from a dec-

ade ago, and more than twice the number of boys.

Nearly one in five teen girls — 18 per cent — experienced sexual violence in the past year, up 20 per cent since 2017, when CDC started monitoring this measure.

And 14 per cent of teen girls had been forced to have sex — up 27 per cent since 2019. —AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Japan GDP up 0.6% in Oct-Dec on pent-up demand but inflation bites

JAPAN'S economy grew at an annualized real 0.6 per cent in October-December, helped by a sustained recovery in private consumption in the aftermath of antivirus curbs, but the first expansion in two quarters was far weaker than expected, government data showed Tuesday.

Adjusted for inflation, real gross domestic product increased 0.2 per cent from the previous quarter, according to the Cabinet Office's preliminary data.

The average market forecast was for a 1.7 per cent annualized expansion in a Kyodo News survey.

Japan's economic growth was also limited by a drop in private inventories, a negative for

GDP which is the measure of the total value of goods and services produced in a country.

Accelerating inflation in Japan has already begun to dent consumer sentiment with more price hikes expected in the current quarter to March. But pent-up demand for services has supported consumption as the economy has emerged from coronavirus restrictions. "We expected a rebound in October-December after an unexpected contraction in the previous quarter but growth is not robust. Still, the data is consistent with the view that the economy is recovering moderately," said Shinichiro Kobayashi, a senior economist at Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting. — Kyodo



(FILES) In this file photo taken on 17 January 2023 people look at the Keihin Industrial Zone from the observation deck of Kawasaki Marien in Kawasaki. Japan's economy expanded just 0.2 per cent in the last quarter of 2022, a smaller rebound than expected despite the long-awaited reopening of the country to tourists, government data showed Tuesday. **PHOTO: AFP**

S Korea's ICT products export keeps falling for 7th month in January

SOUTH Korea's export of the information and communications technology (ICT) products kept falling for the seventh consecutive month in January due to global economic slump, government data showed Tuesday.

The ICT products shipment tumbled 33.2 per cent from a year earlier to 13.1 billion US dollars in January, continuing to slide since last July, according to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy.

It was attributed to global economic slowdown and weaker demand for locally-made chips.

Semiconductor export plunged 43.5 per cent over the year to 6.15 billion dollars in January on the back of increased inventory and lower product prices.

Mobile phone shipment expanded 24.4 per cent to 1.41 billion dollars, but display panel export dropped 37.7 per cent to 1.46 billion dollars. The ICT products export to Viet Nam, the United States, the European Union (EU) and Japan all sank in double digits to 2.31 billion dollars, 1.68 billion dollars, 0.88 billion dollars and 0.31 billion dollars, respectively.

Import for ICT products shed 1.1 per cent over the year to 12.21 billion dollars in January, sending the trade surplus in the ICT industry to 0.89 billion dollars. — Xinhua



A man walks past an advertisement for the Samsung Galaxy Z Flip4 smartphone at the company's Seocho building in Seoul on 31 January 2023. **PHOTO:AFP**

Clean water supply to reduce Tanzania's economic losses by US\$1.9 bln by 2030: report

PROVIDING universal access to clean water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) could reduce Tanzania's economic losses by 1.9 billion US dollars annually by 2030, according to a new World Bank report released Monday.

The report released in Tanzania's port city of Dar es Salaam

said the East African nation could potentially generate more than 2.4 billion US dollars each year in savings on excess medical costs and lost productivity due to inadequate access to the clean water supply.

The 18th edition of the Tanzania Economic Update entitled:

Clean Water, Bright Future: The Transformative Impact of Investing in WASH shows that while the country has made significant progress in recent years in improving access to WASH services, only 61 per cent of households have access to the basic water supply.—Xinhua

Oil prices rise modestly as traders assess Russian output cut

OIL prices eked out modest gains on Monday as market participants weighed Russia's plan to cut its oil production.

The West Texas Intermediate (WTI) for March delivery rose 42 cents, or 0.53 per cent, to settle at 80.14 US dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Brent crude for April delivery added 22 cents, or 0.25 per cent, to close at 86.61 dollars a barrel on the London ICE Futures Exchange.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak on Friday announced that the country plans to cut its oil production by 500,000 barrels per day in March.

Novak said the aim of the cut is to improve the market situation, reiterating the country will not comply with any Western price cap. Traders also awaited US inflation data as the US consumer price index for January is set for release on Tuesday. — Xinhua

Ethiopia earns around US\$ 1 bln from agricultural export in first half of FY 2022/23

THE Ethiopian government on Monday announced that it generated around one billion US dollars from the export of agricultural products during the first half of the current Ethiopian 2022/23 fiscal year that started on 8 July.

The export revenue of the East African country mostly comes from coffee, tea, spices, horticultural products, as well as meat and dairy products, state-affiliated Fana Broad-

casting Corporate (FBC) quoted officials at the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture as saying Monday. The export of coffee, tea and spices contributed the largest earnings, accounting for 664 million US dollars in revenue, and flower and other horticultural products generated 356 million US dollars while the export of meat and dairy products generated around 52 million US dollars, the ministry said. — Xinhua

Boeing delivers last 747, Japan airline joins event as largest user

BOEING Co delivered the last unit of its decades-long staple 747 model recently, with representatives of a major Japanese airline attending a farewell event as the operator of the most “jumbo jet” planes worldwide.

The US aircraft giant handed over the final 747 unit — the 1,574th since production began in 1967 — to US cargo airline Atlas Air Inc at a factory in Washington state on 31 January, packed with

thousands of participants.

The airplane “shrank the world, and revolutionized travel and air cargo as the first widebody,” Stan Deal, chief of Boeing’s commercial airplane business, said. The plane can accommodate more than 500 seats and was the first passenger airplane to have two aisles.

Among the guests on stage was Yuji Akasaka, president of Japan Airlines Co, the Tokyo-based airline has operated a cumulative



Screenshot shows Japan Airlines Co President Yuji Akasaka (L) taking part in a ceremony along with Carolyn Corvi, a former senior official of Boeing Co, in Washington state on 31 January 2023 to mark the delivery of the US company’s last 747 airplane. **PHOTO: KYODO**

total of over 110 passenger 747s, more than any other airline in the world.

“Over the years, Boeing and Japan Airlines have continued to work together through the ups and downs of the airline business, partnering through hardship and celebrating success together,” Carolyn Corvi, a former senior official of Boeing, told the event. JAL began flying B-747s from Haneda airport in Tokyo to Honolulu in 1970. All Nippon Airways

Co, another major airline in Japan, began using the model in 1979 for some domestic flights.

The Japanese airline giants introduced the double-decker plane to carry passengers, including businesspeople and tourists, more effectively in the 1970s as the country’s economy was rapidly growing while arrival and departure slots were limited at major airports in and near Tokyo. — Kyodo

Ford to build new US electric battery plant with Chinese partner



Ford Motor Company’s electric F-150 Lightning on the production line at their Rouge Electric Vehicle Centre in Dearborn, Michigan on 8 September 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

US auto manufacturer Ford announced Monday that it will build a new \$3.5 billion battery plant in Michigan, diversifying its battery offerings with technology from a Chinese company as it boosts electric vehicle production.

Ford Chairman Bill Ford and other company brass joined Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer at an event to tout the venture, which involves a partnership with Chinese firm Contemporary Amperex Technology Co.

Whitmer, a Democrat, touted the announcement as “another win for Michigan”, citing the addition of 2,500 new manufacturing jobs. Ford had previously considered siting the factory in Virginia, but the idea was nixed by Republican Governor Glenn Youngkin in a move that was seen as a sign of Youngkin’s ambitions to enter the 2024 Republican presidential race.

Ford said the Marshall, Michigan project — located about 100 miles west of Detroit — will diversify the company’s battery profile away from its current exclusive use of nickel cobalt manganese

(NCM), which are costly to produce because of raw material scarcity. At Marshall, Ford will manufacture lithium iron phosphate batteries beginning in 2026. The technology involves less expensive raw materials and can tolerate more frequent and faster charging than NCM batteries, the company said. Under the relationship with Contemporary Amperex, a wholly-owned Ford subsidiary would manufacture the battery cells using lithium iron phosphate battery cell knowledge and services provided by Contemporary Amperex, Ford said. — AFP

Asian markets mixed in nervous trade ahead of US inflation data

ASIAN equities were mixed Tuesday as investors geared up for the release of crucial US inflation data later in the day.

After a bright January, traders have endured a shaky couple of weeks as they contemplate the prospect of more Federal Reserve interest rate hikes aimed at cooling a still-robust US economy.

The main blow came from a blockbuster jobs report earlier in the month that led several central bank officials to insist they will keep tightening monetary policy until they have brought prices under control.

The consumer price index is forecast to have dipped to 6.2 per cent last month from 6.5 per cent in December, according to Bloomberg.

That is still well above the Fed’s target of two per cent, and analysts said a higher read on the CPI could spark a hefty sell-off on markets, with traders already worried the United States could tip into recession. “I would expect to see a little more apprehension, even anxiety, in the run-up to the release after the jobs report left investors on edge,” said OANDA’s Craig Erlam. — AFP

The Global New Light of Myanmar
www.gnlm.com.mm

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V RICH SEAWAY VOY.NO. (046N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RICH SEAWAY VOY.NO. (046N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-2-2023** 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY.NO. (304W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY.NO. (304W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-2-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE., LTD.

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

First UN team since quake crosses into rebel-held Syria

THE first UN delegation to visit rebel-held northwestern Syria since last week's earthquake crossed over from Türkiye Tuesday, an AFP correspondent reported, as anger simmers at the world body's slow response.

More than 35,000 people were killed when the quake devastated swathes of Syria and neighbouring Türkiye on 6 February, at least 3,600 of them in Syria, according to government officials and emergency services in rebel areas.

"A multi-agency mission has gone this morning from the Türkiye side across the border cross-

ing... It's largely an assessment mission," the World Food Programme's Syria director, Kenn Crossley, told AFP in Geneva.

The delegation comprised deputy regional humanitarian coordinator David Carden and Sanjana Quazi, who heads the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Türkiye.

Activists and emergency teams in the northwest have decried the UN's slow response to the quake in rebel-held areas, contrasting it with the plane-loads of humanitarian aid that have been delivered to government-controlled airports.

"I don't want to sit here and give excuses, but I wanted to share that we are all collectively in the same place," Quazi told reporters in the rebel-held town of Sarmada, close to the border.

"I think we also know that it is not enough," she said, adding that the UN was doing its best to provide aid to the northwest.

They visited a WFP centre in Sarmada and held a 40-minute meeting with officials at the Bab al-Hawa crossing — the only transit point on the Turkish border for UN aid deliveries to rebel-held areas. —AFP



This aerial view shows rescuers searching for survivors amidst the rubble of collapsed buildings in the town of Harim in Syria's rebel-held northwestern Idlib province on the border with Türkiye, on 11 February 2023 days after a deadly earthquake that hit Türkiye and Syria. **PHOTO:AFP**

105 Ukrainian soldiers undergo Leopard 2 tank training in Poland

A total of 105 Ukrainian soldiers undergo training in Poland to learn how to use the Leopard 2 tanks, the Ukrainian govern-

ment-run Ukrinform news agency reported Monday, citing Polish military official.

Twenty-one tank crews to-

gether with technical personnel and tank maintenance teams began their training in Poland a week ago, said Krzysztof Sieradzki, head of the 10th Armoured Brigade's training group.

The Ukrainian forces train between 10 hours and 12 hours a day using the Polish Leopard 2 tanks and the same model supplied by Canada, Sieradzki said.

According to him, the training will last for about a month.

Sieradzki did not rule out that a new group of Ukrainian military personnel would later arrive in Poland for training.

Last month, the German government decided to supply its Leopard 2 tanks to Ukraine and green-lighted requests by other countries to do so. — Xinhua



Polish and Ukrainian soldiers are seen on a Leopard 2 A4 tank during a training at the Swietoszw Military Base in Swietoszw, western Poland on 13 February 2023. **PHOTO:AFP**

Iran welcomes Iraq's help in reviving nuclear talks: spokesman

IRAN said on Monday that it welcomes the Iraqi government's efforts to help with the talks on the revival of a 2015 nuclear deal. Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani made the remarks at a weekly press conference following Iraqi Foreign Minister Fuad Hussein's separate consultations with his Iranian counterpart Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and US Special Envoy for Iran Robert Malley about the nuclear talks, Iran's official news agency IRNA reported.

Some governments had previously made efforts to revive the nuclear talks with goodwill, said Kanaani, noting that some other governments

are currently willing to play a role in this regard by using their relations with both Iran and the United States. Iran will seriously consider Iraq's efforts if the Iraqi government seeks to play a role in helping the nuclear talks bear fruit, Kanaani noted.

He reaffirmed Tehran's commitment to talks to lay the groundwork for all parties' return to the nuclear deal, with its priority being the removal of all sanctions imposed on the Iranian government and people. It is hoped that the other parties, in particular the US government, would practically honour their obligations in line with their claims of willingness to return to the deal, he added. — Xinhua

Germany faces teacher shortage due to ageing population

IN the 2021-2022 school year, the part-time employment rate of teachers in Germany's schools of general education reached its highest level in the past decade, the German Federal Statistical Office (Destatis) said on Monday.

Of the 709,000 teachers employed in said school year, almost 41 per cent worked part-time, and more than one-third were aged 50 and over.

Germany's education sys-

tem is facing the "biggest shortage of teachers in 50 years", the association of the country's teachers warned at the end of January, pointing to failures in the government's education policy over the past 15 years.

Currently, there are 12,000 vacant teaching positions in Germany, according to a recent survey of the federal states' ministries of education and cultural affairs conducted by Redaktion-Netzwerk Deutschland (RND).

According to the teachers' association, however, the actual figure could be as high as 40,000.

The country's shortage of teachers is mostly caused by demographic change and is "part of the general shortage of skilled workers", the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Laender (KMK) said in a statement. It would "hardly be possible to train enough teachers in the future". — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

S Africa floods kill 12, affect Kruger National Park

FLOODS triggered by heavy rains have killed at least 12 people in South Africa, authorities said Tuesday, after the presidency declared a national state of disaster.

The bad weather — which is expected to last for the rest of the week — struck the east, north and south, claiming lives in four of South Africa's nine provinces, said the department in charge of disaster management, COGTA.

The famed Kruger National Park, a tourist magnet bordering Mozambique and the largest reserve in South Africa, was badly affected, COGTA spokesman Lungi Mtshali told AFP.

Mpumalanga province, in northeast South Africa, "seems to be hardest hit so far. Kruger is really bad", said Mtshali. — AFP

Anti-nuke group urges Kishida to lead on nuclear disarmament at G-7

A group against atomic and hydrogen bombs urged Prime Minister Fumio Kishida on Tuesday to use the upcoming summit of the Group of Seven nations in the western Japanese city of Hiroshima to take the lead in realizing nuclear disarmament.

The group, a local unit of the Japan Congress against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, submitted an open letter to the Cabinet Office addressed to the prime minister, stating that as a first step, nations possessing nuclear weapons must declare they will not use or threaten to use the devices.

“The historical significance of the leaders of three nuclear weapon states gathering in Hiroshima to attend the summit should be no other than this declaration,” the statement said.

Former Hiroshima Mayor Tadatashi Akiba, who represents the group, said in a press conference in Tokyo that such a declaration would be “effective in stopping Russian President (Vladimir) Putin from making nuclear threats”.

The request comes as the country prepares for the May summit in the city that suffered an atomic bombing in 1945, to

be attended by heads of the G-7 countries of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States, plus the European Union.

Kishida, who is from Hiroshima and represents a constituency in the prefecture, plans to use the summit as an opportunity to pitch his vision of a world without nuclear weapons amid concern that Russia could use one in its war against Ukraine.

Akiba was the Mayor of Hiroshima from 1999 to 2011 and also serves as an advisor to the anti-nuclear organization. — Kyodo



Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida meets the press after the conclusion of the two-day inaugural meeting of the International Group of Eminent Persons for a World without Nuclear Weapons in Hiroshima, western Japan, on 11 December 2022 alongside Hiroshima Gov Hidehiko Yuzaki. PHOTO: POOL PHOTO/KYODO

China’s Xi hails Iran ‘solidarity’ during ‘complex’ world situation: state media



This handout picture provided by the Iranian presidency shows Chinese President Xi Jinping welcoming the Islamic Republic’s President Ebrahim Raisi (L) during his visit in Beijing on 14 February 2023. PHOTO: IRANIAN PRESIDENCY / AFP

CHINESE President Xi Jinping hailed Beijing’s “solidarity” with Iran on Tuesday, state media reported, as he hosted the Islamic Republic’s President Ebrahim Raisi at the start of a three-day visit.

“In the face of the current complex changes in the world, times, and history, China and Iran have supported each other (and) worked together in solidarity and cooperation,” Xi said, according to state broadcaster CCTV.

In the first state visit by an Iranian president to China in more than 20 years, Raisi has brought a large trade and finance delegation to Beijing

and was greeted by Xi on a red carpet earlier Tuesday.

Beijing and Tehran have strong economic ties and in 2021 signed a 25-year “strategic cooperation pact”.

Both countries face pressure from Western nations over their positions on Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, while Iran is already under strict US sanctions due to its nuclear programme.

China “supports Iran in safeguarding national sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national dignity... and in resisting unilateralism and hegemonism,” CCTV reported Xi as saying.— AFP

Thailand woos foreign film production to promote growth, cultural soft power

THAILAND is promoting its film industry as a shooting location for foreign films in an effort to boost the economy and improve the kingdom’s image through cultural soft power, a government spokesman said on Monday.

Thailand’s popularity as a filming destination has grown over the years due to its diverse locations and skilled production crews, which will help the Southeast Asian country become known for its beauty, said Anucha Burapachaisri, deputy secretary-general to the prime minister and government spokesman.

Encouragement of foreign film productions was another cost-effective measure, as it would generate income for businesses and locals near film locations throughout the country, Anucha said.

Last year, a total of 348 movies were filmed in Thailand, generating a record 6.4 billion baht (about 188 million US dollars) in revenue, according to data from the Thailand Film Office (TFO).

That was compared with a revenue from foreign film production of 4.66 billion baht (about 137 million dollars) in 2021 and 1.75 billion baht (about 51 million dollars) in 2020, the

TFO website showed.

Last week, the Thai government approved a plan revising tax incentives and criteria to woo foreign film production in order to compete with other countries that offer more appealing incentives.

After the adjustment, the cash rebate scheme was increased to 20 per cent for every 100 million baht (about three million dollars) spent on the film shoot, with an additional 10 per cent cash rebate offered to productions that hire Thai staff to promote Thai culture, and shoot in second-tier tourism provinces. — Xinhua

India’s tax department raids BBC offices in Delhi, Mumbai

INCOME tax department officials in India Tuesday raided offices of the United Kingdom’s national broadcaster British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in New Delhi and Mumbai, multiple media reports said.

According to the reports, the income tax officials arrived at the BBC offices for searches.

However, some reports quoting their sources said the tax officials carried out a “survey” over allegations of international taxation and transfer pricing irregularities involving the BBC.

“Documents were seized and phones and laptops of journalists were taken away,” a local television news channel NDTV said. “The offices will be sealed for the duration of the survey and employees have been asked not to share details with anyone else.” The NDTV report quoted the tax officials as saying this was a survey, not a search, and that the phones would be returned.

“We needed some clarifications and for that our team is visiting the BBC offices and we are carrying out a survey. Our of-

ficers have gone to check account books, these are not searches,” said NDTV report.

Another local media report quoting officials said they were looking into documents relating to the company’s business operations in India.

The raid came weeks after the BBC aired a two-part documentary series on Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which touched up Modi’s role in the 2002 Gujarat riots, who was the chief minister of the state then. — Xinhua

Anti-nuke group urges Kishida to lead on nuclear disarmament at G-7

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SPORT

Shan State player joins Shan United for new football season



Shan State native player Ye Yint Aung (left) receives the Shan United jersey after signing with the team for new football season. PHOTO: SUFC

SHAN United have signed a Shan State native player named Ye Yint Aung from Taunggyi, city of Shan State according to team officials.

The 23-year-old winger is a graduate from the Myanmar Football Academy Mandalay.

The young player has been

selected multiple times in U-16 and U-19 Myanmar National Teams.

Currently he is a selection for the Myanmar Senior National Team.

“Despite his young age, Ye Yint Aung has an impressive amount of experiences as he

started playing for Myanmar National League matches along with Yadanabon FC since 2019,” team officials said.

Upon his arrival to the Shan United, Ye Yint Aung said, “I got offers but I only want to play in a (Shan) State team. My father really wishes to see me playing for our State team. Well, I do want to show my gratitude to our parents. Another reason is friends. I have so many friends in Shan United. There are not only my classmates from football academy but also my teammates from Phoenix FC as well.

“Very last reason is I want to get a league champions title. I believe in Shan United FC. I can be a champion if I play in this team. I want to be a part of Champions! I want to show what I am capable of. I would like to improve my life and status to next level,” he added.—KZL

Benfica looking within to fill Enzo Fernandez void

BENFICA sold Enzo Fernandez for a British record transfer fee in January but are looking within their ranks to fill the gap in their midfield as the Champions League returns.

The Portuguese side have always shown an impressive capacity for recovery after losing star players and are already finding their feet without the Argentine World Cup winner.

Benfica, five points clear of Porto at the top of the Portuguese league, visit surprise package Club Brugge in the last 16 of Europe’s premier club competition on Wednesday with high hopes despite Fernandez’s departure.

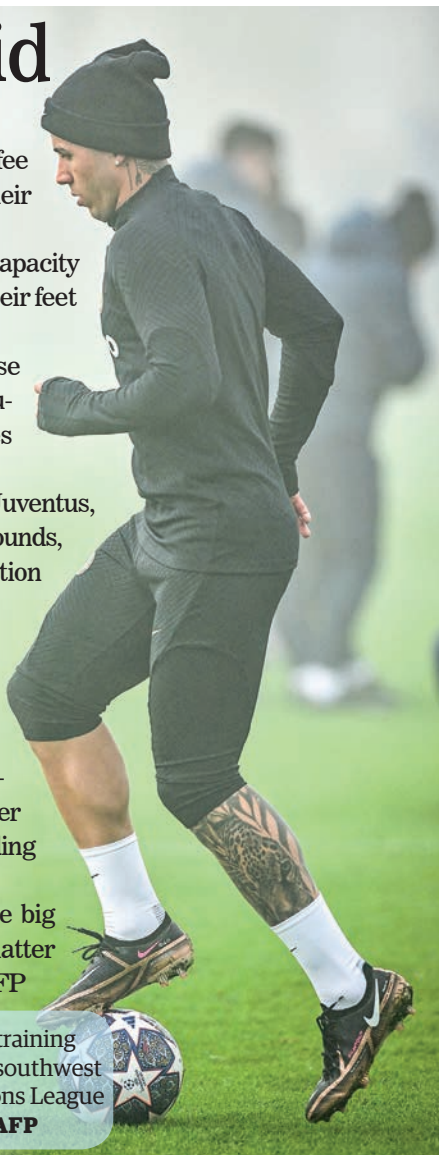
Handed a tough group featuring Paris Saint-Germain and Juventus, Benfica went unbeaten and finished top to reach the knock-out rounds, with the Italian giants — the two-time winners of the competition — eliminated.

Fernandez played a key role in that progress but departed for Stamford Bridge in exchange for a stratospheric fee of 121 million euros (\$129 million) on the last day of the January transfer window, just six months after making his debut for Benfica.

The Lisbon-based side made a huge profit on the 10-million-euro fee they paid Argentinian club River Plate in the summer of 2022, in yet another demonstration of the club’s knack for finding bargains and developing players.

Joao Felix and Darwin Nunez are two other high-profile big money sales Benfica have made in the past few seasons, the latter replacing the former after his departure to Atletico Madrid. — AFP

Chelsea’s Argentinian midfielder Enzo Fernandez attends a team training session at Chelsea’s Cobham training facility in Stoke D’Abernon, southwest of London on 14 February 2023 on the eve of their UEFA Champions League round of 16 football match against Borussia Dortmund. PHOTO: AFP



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council: Twelve 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 prioritize 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.
- (d) To ensure peace, stability, rule of law, and the safe and smooth functioning of transport networks across the Union.

2. Economic affairs

- (a) To enhance development based on agriculture and livestock using modern production techniques and to 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 assure support for the sustainability of Micro-, Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) that prioritize import substitution, export production, and the use of domestically produced raw materials, in order to increase domestic production and generate employment opportunities.
- (d) To advance the socioeconomic life of the people, in order to ensure the country’s prosperity and food security.

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 people and preserve and safeguard their faiths, beliefs, culture, and characteristics of patriotic nationalism.
- (c) To strengthen basic health care in order to achieve the emergence of a health system that enhances the longevity and health of the entire nation.
- (d) To comprehensively promote the education sector to make it capable of producing the human resources necessary for building a modern, developed, and progressive democratic nation.

Liverpool call for UEFA action to guarantee supporter safety

LIVERPOOL called on UEFA to do the “right thing” in implementing a series of recommendations after a damning report found European football’s governing body responsible for the chaos that surrounded last year’s Champions League final in Paris.

The independent report, commissioned by UEFA, found that they bore “primary responsibility for failures which almost led to disaster.” French police and authorities were also criti-

cized for a lack of planning and a heavy-handed response to supporters, based on incorrect assumptions that fans posed a threat to public order.

Real Madrid’s 1-0 win at the Stade de France on 28 May was overshadowed by events surrounding European football’s showpiece event.

Kick-off was delayed by 37 minutes as fans struggled to access the stadium after being funnelled into overcrowded bottlenecks on approach. — AFP