

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## 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.

## SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives China's Special Envoy for Asian Affairs



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Mr Deng Xijun, Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China in Nay Pyi Taw on 6 March 2023.

**S**TATE Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China Mr Deng Xijun at the

parlour of the SAC Chairman Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They cordially discussed the holding of peace talks with ethnic armed organization to ensure peace in border and in-

terior areas, the participation of China in peace processes, bilateral cooperation in combatting drugs, the facility to streamline the bilateral trade and border peace, enhancement of bilateral relations and cooperation,

further cooperation in economic growth and various sectors between the two countries, political situation of Myanmar, international cooperation and regional peace and stability.

Also present at the meeting

were SAC Joint Secretary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe and officials. The Special Envoy was accompanied by officials of the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar. —MNA/KTZH

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## Objectives of 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armed Forces Day

- To serve primary duties of Tatmadaw for successfully safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes, and protecting the State Constitution and shielding the genuine disciplined multiparty democratic system
- To emphasize agreements in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) as much as possible for the restoration of the durable and perpetual peace across the nation as ceasing of armed conflicts is an actual requirement for realizing the multiparty democratic system
- To safeguard the national interest of the State, lives and property of people, and to put a strenuous effort on respective corners in times of natural disasters.
- To provide the necessary assistance by Tatmadaw for holding a free and fair multiparty democratic general election upon completion of undertakings in accord with the provisions of the state of emergency for the emergence of the Union based on democracy and federalism.

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Law Amending the Printing and Publishing Law State Administration Council Law No 17/2023

1<sup>st</sup> Waning of Tabaung 1384 ME  
6 March 2023

THE State Administration Council has enacted this law under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

1. This law shall be called the Law Amending the Printing and Publishing Law.
2. Section 6 of the Printing and Publishing Law shall be substituted as follows: -  
“6. The Ministry can withdraw the recognition certificate or suspend it under a limited period if it is implicated with any following points: -  
(b) applying for the recognition certificate by those certificate holders in a dishonest way or a contorted manner  
(c) finding on implication after conducting an investigation if the report is received that the publication suspected to be implicated with any point of disciplines of Section 8 was printed and published with firm evidence or knowing it in person”
3. Section 9 of the Printing and Publishing Law shall be substituted as follows: -  
“9. The Ministry can announce the notification that the publication complicated with any point of disciplines in Section 8 was an illegal publication in the State Gazette.”
4. Section 10 of the Printing and Publishing Law shall be substituted as follows: -  
“10. As soon as the notification is issued that it was the illegal publication, a police officer or any person authorized by the ministry for this case shall confiscate these illegal publications under the Law of Criminal Procedure.”
5. The word “the printer must send any publication published by him” mentioned in Sub-Section (b) of Section 11 of the Printing and Publishing Law shall be substituted with the word “the publisher must send any publication published by him”.

I hereby signed this law under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Sd/Min Aung Hlaing  
Senior General  
Chairman  
State Administration Council

### Judgements passed on 2 special civil appeals; 1 special criminal appeal case, 1 special civil appeal case heard

A special appeal tribunal consisting of Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo and Judges of the Supreme Court U Myo Tint, Daw Khin May Yi, U Thaug Naing and U Thein Ko Ko was convened yesterday morning at the Supreme Court of the Union and passed judgements on two special civil appeal cases – No 22/2022 (Bago) and No 24/2022 (Mandalay).

In addition, a total of two special appeal cases – special criminal appeal case No 12/2022 (Kachin); and special civil appeal case No 53/2022 (Mon) – were heard following COVID-19 prevention and control guidelines. — MNA

### 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 schoolteachers, 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.

## 1 new case of COVID-19 reported on 6 March, total figure rises to 633,947

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **633,947** after **one** new case was reported on 6 March 2023 according to the Ministry of Health.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **614,411**, including **one** new recovery.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country remained unchanged at **19,490** on 6-3-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. — GNLM

## Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

## Tourism revival can drive great progress in State economy

THE tourism sector that contributes to the economy of the country through various ways and means. Business activities and transport operations in a region thanks to domestic and foreign tourists can accelerate money circulation. Foreign tourist arrivals can increase foreign exchange earnings. The government is striving for more arrivals of international tourists to the nation. If inbound and outbound tourism can be enhanced, the State economy will achieve great progress.

*(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting 8/2022 of the State Administration Council on 27 September 2022.)*

## Only when commanders in individuals have good leadership and capacity will military units as well as the whole Tatmadaw have higher capacities: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets senior officer instructors and senior officer trainees from the Command and General Staff College at Kalaw Station on 6 March 2023.

COMMANDERS are required to consider ways and means for fulfilling the needs of subordinates, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with senior officer instructors and senior officer trainees at the Command and General Staff College at the hall of Kalaw Station yesterday afternoon.

### Continuous endeavours for missions and visions

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General said that senior officer trainees are to culture a good practice to write down notes on the proper tasks to be undertaken when they serve the one step higher po-

sition and they have to adjust the notes with actual situations to overcome difficulties. They need to consider how to solve the possible problems.

### Need to effectively apply experiences in training

The trainees have to consider how to improve their regiments and units when they have completed the course. If they systematically conduct management of a regiment, they will have invaluable management experiences which can be applied in other arenas.

The Command and General Staff College trains physically and mentally capable senior officers to be good tactical operation commanders and good staff officers. They have to efficiently apply military tactics.

They must have the leadership capacity to gather the strength of subordinates. They have to consider how to deploy the strength of the military unit.

### Systematic building of military units based on training, administration, welfare, moral

Each Tatmadaw member must be positioned in the right place. Commanders need to lead their subordinates in training. Own military units must be built with training, administration, welfare and morals to be systematic military units.

Commanders are to supervise the entitlements of Tatmadaw members and families and arrange to give these entitlements to them. For doing welfare, agricultural and live-

stock farms must be operated with systematic processes of spending the fund under the disciplines. An emphasis must be placed on the welfare of Tatmadaw members in operating the military own agriculture and livestock farms.

They all have to control indulgence as much as possible. The indulgence may harm their capacity and that of their units. If everybody controls the implementation of their missions and visions with conscience, they will achieve success.

### Improving Tatmadaw members based on man matters most

Everybody needs to be keen to dutifully serve the assignments. Hence, it is necessary to improve the morals

of Tatmadaw members. If the right man can be deployed in right place depending on their capacity and if the Tatmadaw members are trained to be fit for duty, all duties and functions will have success. Commanders are required to consider ways and means for fulfilling the needs of subordinates. Only when commanders in individuals have good leadership and capacity will military units as well as the whole Tatmadaw have higher capacities.

The Senior General cordially greeted senior officer instructors and senior officer trainees.

In the afternoon, the Senior General had lunch together with senior officer instructors and senior officer trainees. — MNA/TTA

# As Tatmadaw follows good discipline with obedience and military disciplines, it becomes a firm institution: Senior General

ONLY when individual Tatmadaw member has high capacity will the whole military unit have higher capacity and will the State have higher defence capability, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with officers, other ranks and families of Kalaw Station of the Eastern Command at the station hall yesterday afternoon.

## Needs to have physical and mental health and fitness

In his speech, the Senior General said that the Tatmadaw is to discharge duties of State security and defence and protection of life and property of the people. To do so, all Tatmadaw members at different levels are required to have physical and mental health and fitness.



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Tatmadaw members and families from Kalaw station yesterday.



The Senior General comforts the patients at the local military hospital in Aungban.

Actively serving the duties will contribute much to the improvement of their lives. They have to emphasize proper lifestyle to have good health conditions. Tatmadaw successfully produces agricultural and livestock products including tissue bananas for Tatmadaw members and their families to eat nutritionally.

## Following disciplines with good morals

Tatmadaw members are assigned duties at different levels. All Tatmadaw members have to attend the training courses depending on qualifications, service terms and outstanding per-

formances. These training courses are important for Tatmadaw members to dutifully serve the assignments. Disciplines in civilian and military sectors aim to be systematic for all. Officials need to supervise all to have a system for every sector. As Tatmadaw follows good discipline with obedience and military discipline, it becomes a firm institution.

Tatmadaw members strive to enhance the capacity of Tatmadaw. All Tatmadaw members must have good and firm morals. Only when an individual Tatmadaw member has high capacity will the whole military unit have higher capacity and will the State have higher defence capability.

## Welfare and education promotion of military families

Military own agriculture and livestock farms are being operated for proper food supply and welfare of Tatmadaw families. On the other hand, they all need to develop manageable-scale agriculture and livestock farms. Tatmadaw members are to arrange for schoolchildren to efficiently use the summer holidays and urge them to widen their general knowledge for their lives.

## Presenting foodstuff and cash awards

The Senior General presented foodstuffs for Tatmad-

aw members and families to the station commander and, the wife of the Senior General, gave foodstuffs for the station maternal and child welfare association to the wife of the station commander.

The Senior General fulfilled the requirements reported by Tatmadaw members and families.

## Cordially conversing with Tatmadaw members, families and people receiving medical treatment at the hospital

At the local military hospital in Aungban, hospital commandant Brig-Gen Saw Yan Naing reported to the Senior General on military building tasks, healthcare services for Tatmadaw members, families and local people, preparations for

prevention, control and treatment of Covid-19, manageable scale agriculture and livestock tasks, and welfare for Tatmadaw members and families. The Senior General gave the necessary instructions.

The Senior General comforted Tatmadaw members and local people's militia troops receiving medical treatment for the injuries they suffer from while serving State defence and security duties and presented foodstuffs to them.

The wife of the Senior General also encouraged families of Tatmadaw members at the infant baby medical ward and presented foodstuffs.

The Senior General visited the radiation medical ward and cancer surgery ward and gave the necessary instructions. — MNA/TTA



The wife of the Senior General provides foodstuffs to the patients at the local military hospital in Aungban.

# DPM Union Transport & Communications Minister chairs coordination meeting on scholarship

DEPUTY Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San presided over the coordination meeting on educational scholarship grants at the ministry yesterday.

Also present at the meeting were Union ministers from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Planning and Finance

and relevant ministries' officials.

First, the Deputy Prime Minister said that providing educational grants by the government was a matter that would be used long-term from the national treasury fund. He called for the presentation of suggestions and discussions on the specified principle, screening and selection process for educational scholarships in the higher education sector, basic education sector and technology and vocational education sector, and the need to be implemented.

Afterwards, there was a round of discussions among the attendees. — MNA/TS



Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister Admiral Tin Aung San presides over the coordination meeting on scholarship yesterday.



## MoFA Union Minister receives Ambassador of India to Myanmar

U Than Swe, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr Vinay Kumar, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of India to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at 1 pm on 6 March 2023 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

At the call, they cordially exchanged views on

matters pertaining to the promotion of the existing friendly bilateral relations, the timely completion of the ongoing development projects including the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project in Myanmar as well as the further enhancement of mutually beneficial cooperation both at the regional and international arena. — MNA

## Chinlone sports referee course opened

THE opening ceremony of the Chinlone (Myanma cane ball) Course jointly conducted by the Asian Sepak Takraw Federation and the Asian Chinlone Federation, led by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, was held at the Multipurpose Hall of Nay Pyi Taw Sports Training Camp (Gold Camp) yesterday.

Firstly, attendees from Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia and Myanmar introduced themselves individually.

Then, Myanmar Olympic

Committee Chair Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Min Thein Zan introduced Chinlone, a traditional Myanmar sport, to the Southeast Asian level, as efforts are being made to rise from the Asian level to the world level.

He said that the referees who will serve in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Southeast Asian Games 2023 to be held in May will be trained in the refresher course, and explained the issues that will be able to support the development of Myanma Chinlone.



Union Minister U Min Thein Zan poses for the documentary group photo at the event.

Then, president of the Asian Sepak Takraw Federation and vice-president of the Asian Chinlone Federation Mr Dato Abdul

Halim Bin Kader explained the opening of the course and concluded the ceremony.

The deputy ministers, direc-

tors-general, deputy permanent secretary, deputy directors-general and officials also attended the ceremony. — MNA/KZL

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.

## SAC Member Union Minister NSPNC Chair receives China's Special Envoy for Asian Affairs



SAC Member Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae receives the delegation led by Mr Deng Xijun, China's Special Envoy for Asian Affairs yesterday.

STATE Administration Council Member Union Minister at the Union Government Office Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee Lt-Gen Yar Pyae received Spe-

cial Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China Mr Deng Xijun and delegation yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed Myan-

mar-China friendly cooperation and exchanged views on the stability and peace of the border region and the implementation of Myanmar's peace processes and exchange gifts. — MNA/TS

## Five sets of EV chargers arrive

ANOTHER five sets of EV chargers for battery electric vehicles arrived at Yangon Thilawa Port on 6 March, according to the Steering Committee on National-Level Development of Electric Vehicles

and Related Industries.

The chargers were imported from China through Earth Renewable Energy Co Ltd. The import of these chargers is exempted from Customs duties. — MNA/KZW



Officials check the new arrival of EV chargers at Yangon Thilawa Port on 6 March 2023.

## MIFER Deputy Minister attends 43<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of High-level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HLTF-EI)

THE delegation led by Myanmar HLTF-EI lead, Deputy Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Wah Wah Maung joined the 43<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the High-level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HLTF-EI) which was held in Belitung, Indonesia on 1-3 March 2023.

At the meeting, HLTF-EI leads noted matters pertaining to the development of the ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision particularly from the perspective of the AEC pillar and the Priority Economic Deliverables under Indonesia's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2023. For ensuring the implementation of ASEAN's sustainability agenda, HLTF-EI leads discussed the matters relating to the implementation of the Framework of Circular Economy Framework for the AEC, the development of the ASEAN Strategy on Carbon Neutrality, acceleration of new and renewable energy transition in the region and also the development of the ASEAN Blue Economy Framework.

HLTF-EI leads exchanged views on the ASEAN's work on Good Regulatory Practices. In addition, the meeting also not-

ed the progress of the implementation of the Consolidated Strategy on the Fourth Industrial Revolution for ASEAN, the implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap on an ASEAN Digital Transformation Agenda to accelerate ASEAN's Economic Recovery and Digital Economy Integration, and the proposal for the establishment of an ASEAN Creative Economy Working Group under the AEC Pillar. Moreover, the meeting discussed the recommendations for the consideration of the 29<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Economic Ministers' Retreat which will be held on 22 March 2023.

The deputy minister discussed to consider the development gap of socioeconomy among ASEAN Member States to consider in developing of ASEAN Economic Community Post 2025 Vision, to strengthen the digital technology transformation which is important for regional development and connecting in the global value chain. She also expressed that investment in the digital sector is important for MSMEs to use broadly in this sector. She also stated that human resource development plays a vital role in the



Deputy Minister Dr Wah Wah Maung takes the documentary group photo at the event in Indonesia, 1-3 March 2023.

digital divide among the ASEAN Member States. The deputy minister discussed that advanced technology leads to increase productivity as well as increased job loss, therefore, it is needed to create new job opportunities and innovation. She welcomed the proposal for the establishment of an ASEAN Creative Economy Working Group under the AEC Pillar and the development of the ASEAN Leaders Declaration on Developing Regional Electric Vehicle Ecosystem. She also explained that Myanmar sets up the electric vehicles policy

in order to be in line with energy transformation and environmental conservation in the country. She expressed that cross-sector cooperation is needed for developing the circular economy, the initiatives of energy transition and carbon neutrality are complementary and interconnected with each other.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Edi Prio Pambudi, Deputy Minister for International Economic Cooperation of the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs of Indonesia and attended by the leads and repre-

sentatives of the High-level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration from the ASEAN Member States, and the officials from the ASEAN Secretariat. Deputy Minister also attended the multi-stakeholders dialogue on the development of the ASEAN Blue Economy Framework and New Regional Economic Potentials.

The High-level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HLTF-EI) is the think tank of the ASEAN Economic Community which is composed of the deputy ministers' level from ASEAN Member States. — MNA

# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Myanmar imports EVs through seaborne, land borders

MYANMAR has been bringing in electric vehicles (EVs) under the customs tariff relaxation through seaborne and border trade routes, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

On 3 March, a fleet of 30 Dongfeng EVs imported by Asia Pacific Automaker Corporation Co Ltd arrived in the Muse 105<sup>th</sup> mile trade zone in northern Shan State. They are allowed to be withdrawn following the rules and regulations. Furthermore, 19 EVs (BYD) imported by Earth Renewable Energy Co Ltd also arrived at the Hteedan port. They were also claimed in line with the procedures.

Chindwin Shan Co Ltd also took out 7 kW GB AC five chargers for EVs on 21 February 2023 from the port terminal. The importation of the EV charger is exempted from Customs tariffs to enhance the EV sector in the domestic auto market.

Myanmar Investment Commission also released a statement on 15 February that electric vehicles and related businesses will be promoted as the priority sector as per its notification dated 15 February.

In the exercise of the power



Electric vehicles (EVs) imported from China are pictured being transformed into taxis for passengers in Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon.

conferred by Sections 43 and 100 (B) of the Myanmar Investment Law, the MIC issued this statement with the approval of the Union government.

Enterprises executing installation, manufacturing and restoration services of the EVs, renewable electricity generation, EVs charging service businesses, electric vehicle battery production, EV battery and related service business, electric bus operation services, electric

taxi and transportation service businesses and scientific research development business are included in those priority sectors.

During the establishment and ideation phase for incorporation and operations, those businesses can seek a permit from the MIC to enjoy tariff relief or zero-Customs tariff status and the exemption for other taxes levied in the country under Section 77 (A) of the Myanmar

Investment Law and income tax exemption under Section 75 (C) of the Myanmar Investment Law for the importations of machinery, essential equipment and accessories, spare parts and construction raw materials that cannot be found in domestic markets.

Electric vehicles (EVs) are entitled to zero-Customs tariff status, according to the notification released in early November 2022 by the Ministry of Planning

and Finance.

To encourage the number of EV users and improve the related business, tariffs of battery electric vehicles (BEVs) imported under Completely Built Up (CBU), Completely Knocked Down (CKD) and Semi-Knocked Down (SKD) in Customs Tariff of Myanmar 2022 were reduced to zero per cent in line with the decision of the Union Government.

Types of BEVs include road tractors for semi-trailers, buses or motor vans for the transport of ten or more people including the driver, truck, motor vehicle for personal use, three-wheeled vehicles for the transport of persons, three-wheeled vehicles for the transport of goods, electric motorcycles, electric bicycles, ambulances, prison vans and hearses.

According to this directive, the imports of spare parts (for instance, charging station equipment and device) with the recommendation of the Ministry of Electric Power and the Ministry of Energy and the spare parts with the recommendation of the Department of Industry can be done between 2 November 2022 and 31 March 2023. — NN/EM

## Palm oil reference price for Yangon remains unchanged at K4,600 per viss

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market stayed the same at K4,600 per viss for two consecutive weeks, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The reference price stood at K4,600 per viss in the week from 27 February to 5 March. For the week ending 12 March, the price remains unchanged.

The Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia including transport costs, tariffs and banking services, and issuing the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil every week.

Despite the reference rate, the market price of palm oil is high at K6,000-K7,000 per viss.

If those edible oil retailers and wholesalers are found overcharging, storing inventory intentionally and attempting unscrupulous action to manipulate the market, they will face legal action under the Special Goods Tax Law, MoC released a statement.

The Ministry of Commerce is striving for consumers not to worry over the supply of edible oil. The ministry is also trying to secure edible oil sufficiency, supervise the market to offer reasonable prices to consumers and maintain price stability.

At present, mobile market trucks operated by oil importing

companies, in coordination with Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association, were back to business in some townships on 17 July to offer palm oil at a subsidized rate. They sell palm oil at K4,800 per viss to consumers directly. However, there are limited sources of supply although they directly sell palm oil at a reference rate depending on the volume quota.

The domestic consumption of edible oil is estimated at 1 million tonnes per year. The local cooking oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. To meet the oil sufficiency in the domestic market, about 700,000 tonnes of cooking oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia. — NN/EM

## Prices of fuel oil, gold and dollar on 6 March 2023

### Fuel Oil Price (Yangon)

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Octane 92      | K2,145 |
| Octane 95      | K2,215 |
| Diesel         | K2,245 |
| Premium Diesel | K2,325 |

All of the prices are based on per litre.

### Gold Price

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| The reference price of high-purity gold set by YGEA | K2,186,600 per tical |
| High-purity gold in the gold market                 | K2,841,000 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                | K2,855 to K2,870 |

The above prices may change from time to time.

# OPINION

## Protect the natural shield ozone layer for all living beings

As endeavours of human beings in preventing damage to the ozone layer achieved success as expected, it is potential for recovering the ozone layer in coming decades, according to recent press releases of the United Nations.

An international convention signed by global countries in 1987 to stop the use of chemicals harming the ozone layer became one of the factors to recover the ozone layer, according to the analyses.

Naturally, the ozone layer can absorb 97-99 per cent of ultraviolet rays from the sunray which can harm all living beings including humans. As it naturally prevents the dangerous impacts of ultraviolet rays, the ozone layer is invaluable for all living beings inhabiting throughout the world.

Ozone layer depletion based on various reasons will be weak to absorb the ultraviolet ray. If so, such a dangerous ray will fall on the world without any hindrances. In consequence, all human beings will face pandemic impacts. Skins of human beings will suffer from blisters and subsequent diseases. The withering of various plants may cause disconnection of food supply chains, and it will happen starvation and famine. As such, it would not be easy for the standing of human beings across the world, according to the predictions of scientists.

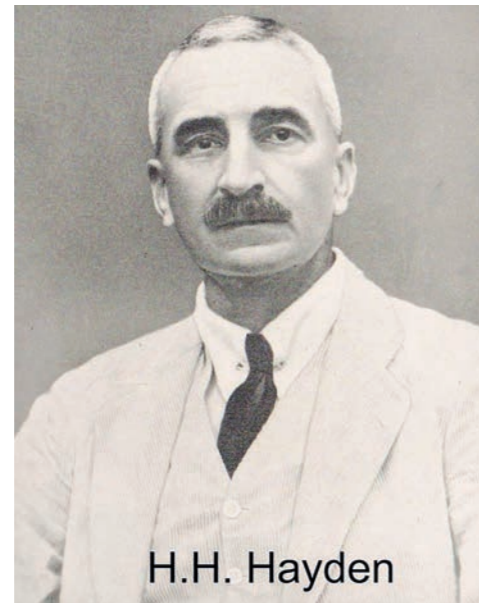
In this regard, all global countries are responsible for the prevention of damage to the ozone layer in the stratosphere which is located from 12 miles to 19 miles above the world. Currently, ozone layer depletion becomes a main problem related to the environment similar to problems of climate change, air, water, and soil pollution, soil degradation, deforestation, desertification, and disappearance

of biodiversity.

Scientists have noticed that chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) and hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) are harming the ozone layer since the 1970s. Hence, the United Nations led the promulgation of international conventions as the ozone layer depletion based on refrigeration facilities in the majority of global countries becomes a primary challenge for current environmental conservation.

Thanks to following the 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the 1983 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, the thin ozone layer could be thick. So, scientists predicted that the situation of the ozone layer in 2050 would be similar to that of 1980.

As the ozone layer will not exit the world, human beings are not easy to stand alive. So, relevant governments are to continue control of manufacturing elements that can cause damage to the ozone layer. If not, the thinning layer of ozone will lead to the depletion of all human beings.



H.H. Hayden

### Episode: 7

SIR Henry Hubert Hayden (25th July 1869 - 28th August 1923) was a geologist who worked in the Geological Survey of India and a mountaineer. Hayden was born in Derry and studied at Hilton College in South Africa and then geology at Trinity College, Dublin. He joined the Geological Survey of India on 3rd January 1895. He studied stratigraphy in various parts of the Himalayas, especially the Spiti area, during the course of his work which included being a geologist in the Tirah Expedition Force, 1897-98 and with the Tibet Frontier Commission of 1903 along with Francis Younghusband. H. H. Hayden succeeded Holland as Director in December 1910. Hayden became well-known for his interest in mountain climbing and exploration of unknown regions, and his work on Himalayan, Tibetan, and Afghan geology. Hayden followed Holland's policy of systematic mapping for mineral development and detailed his officers to various parts of India and Burma for the purpose.

### World War I

During the first World War (1914-18), the Survey was disorganised by the loss of several officers who joined the Forces, but the situation was retrieved by recalling the officers later for investigation of minerals required for war purposes, especially tin, and tungsten. Coggin Brown and H. H. Heron made extensive tours in the Tavoy district in Burma and the specimens were chemically analysed in the field by Mahadeo Ram. A useful account of tin-tungsten mineralisation together with a description of the geology and ore deposits of that district was given in a joint contribution by

Brown and Heron.

After keeping the vacancies in abeyance for some time, two of them were filled by the promotion of Sethu Rama Rau and Vinayak Rao to the senior grade in September 1919. The expansion of the Geological Survey of India sanctioned earlier was implemented in 1920, and in the same year H. Crookshank, C. T. Teychenne, and E. L. G. Clegg were appointed. During his Directorship, Hayden succeeded in effecting an increase in the cadre of the Geological Survey of India and an improvement in the emoluments of the various posts. He retired from the Survey in June 1921, after nominating E. H. Pascoe as his successor as Director. Hayden was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1915 and died in 1923 from a rock fall while climbing on the Finsteraarhorn in Switzerland.

### Burma

During Hayden's Directorship, G. de P. Cotter was able to make an important contribution to the history of Tertiary sedimentation in Burma and to prove that a typical geosynclinal lay between the Shan Plateau and the Arakan Yoma in Tertiary times and that fluvial sediments and deltaic deposits led to retreat the sea while at the same time, the area of subsidence kept shifting to the south. Cotter will be remembered for his work on the geotectonics of the Tertiary Irrawaddy basin and the Pegu and Eocene succession in the Minbu district, where he laid the foundation for all subsequent stratigraphical work on the rocks of the main Tertiary basin of Burma. Sethu Rama Rau worked indefatigably for several years to unravel the geology of the Mergui district in Burma, and an account of this was published in 1930 after

# The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

By THAN HTUN (GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

H. H. Hayden (1869-1923), Source: GSI

his death in 1929 while he was still in active service. The geology of the northern portion of the Mergui Archipelago was described by Coggin Brown and A. M. Heron in 1923.

Between 1905-15 Pascoe was engaged in a survey of the oil resources of Burma, Assam, Punjab, and the North-West Frontier Province. In 1913 he was sent to the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Coast, and West Persia and accompanied the Slade Oilfields Commission in the Persian Gulf in 1913-14. Pascoe soon became a recognised authority on the geology of petroleum. His research on the petroleum occurrences of Burma, India, and Mesopotamia was the subject of four comprehensive memoirs, in which he discussed the genesis and mode of occurrence of oil along with a detailed description of the geology of the oilfields and their structural features, and in twelve other papers in the Records of the Geological Survey of India. In one of the latter Pascoe directs attention to a structural feature of fundamental importance to the study of the oilfield in which the folding is asymmetrical, and also to the estimation of the value and prospects of an oilfield.

### Tungsten and Tin

H. H. Hayden reported for the year 1918 in Vol. L (1919) including "the Distribution of Ores of Tungsten and Tin in Burma" by Brown and Heron. The significant points of their report could be extracted as follows:-

Since the commencement of the war, the demand for tungsten has resulted in the increased exploitation of the wolfram deposits of Burma, and in extended prospecting for new occurrences of the same mineral. Cassiterite is intimately associated with wolfram and as a consequence has shared in the same activity. We propose to limit our observations strictly to and to give a general idea of the situations, salient characteristics, and mineral associations of the wolfram and cassiterite loads. We

hope that these notes will prove helpful to the mining industry and at the same time be useful to geologists who need facts on which to base their speculations on the origin of these ores.

The descriptions represent the state of our knowledge today and are given without prejudice the interpretation of new phenomena, which will doubtless come to light as deeper mining progresses.

### Yamethin District

The wolfram-bearing area is situated close to the summit of the peak Byingyi 6,254 feet above the sea, on the borders of the Yamethin district and Loi Long State, Southern Shan States. This occurrence is the most recently discovered in Burma, and, so far as prospecting up to date goes, appears to be of a small extent, though the loads are numerous and carry good values.

### Bawlake State, Karenni

This well-known mine, Mawchi, is situated in the southern portion of Bawlake State, Karenni. It has not been examined by either of us. There are at least ten important lodes varying from 2.5 to five feet in thickness. The general strike is N.N.E.-W.S.W. and the dip is either vertical or at high angles to the W.N.W. All the loads are in granite and the capping of the granite hill in which they occur is composed of limestone. The vein stuff in all the lodes is drusy and carries cassiterite, wolfram, arsenical pyrites, pyrite, chalcocopyrite, and black tourmaline. Cassiterite and wolfram occur as intimate mixtures and also separately. The country enclosed by the lease is deeply dissected and varies from 1,400 to 4,000 feet above sea level. The lodes are worked by modern methods and successful exploration has been carried out to a greater depth than on any other deposit of the same kind in Burma. The concentrates are recovered in an up-to-date mill.

### Amherst (Moulmein) District

Specimens of wolfram have been procured from the neighbourhood of Ye, near the boundary between the Tavoy and Amherst districts, and it is also said to occur in the Dorna range, on the Siam frontier, but no exploration has taken place.

Alluvial cassiterite has been worked in Belugyun Island and the Seludaung Range, which divides the coastal plain of the Amherst district from the valley of the Win-yaw, a tributary of the Atran. The deposits are on the lower slopes of the ridges of argillaceous quartzite and grey slate, which form the backbone of the island. These rocks are penetrated by veins of (a) coarse pegmatite consisting of quartz, feldspar, and tourmaline, with a little muscovite and garnet, (b) fine-grained and foliated tourmaline-granite and (c) drusy white quartz.

### Tavoy District

The Tavoy district has an area of 5,308 square miles. The official lists of the year 1917 show that mixed concentrates were exported from 132 concessions.

The Coastal Range: The greater part of the Tavoyan coastline is formed by a high granite ridge that rises from the sea a few miles to the north of Ye in the Amherst district. The wolfram mine of Medaw Kanbay is situated on its eastern flank a few miles north of the point where it is breached by the narrow tideway known as the Heinze Basin. Medaw Kanbay yields a concentrate particularly free from the tin. Granite occurs in the high range to the westward.

The Kanbauk Mines: The Kanbauk (Burma) Wolfram Mines, Limited, lie in a narrow valley in the Mergui sediments filled in with thick alluvial and detrital deposits. The valley, which leads into the main channel of the Heinze Basin from the south, is surrounded on the east, south and west by high granite walls. At Kanbauk proper, the main lode series strikes approximately E. and W. and dips

about 60° to the south. The concentrates from Kanbauk contain a high proportion of cassiterite, while sulphides of iron, copper, lead, and zinc occur in the deeper parts of the lodes; pyrite is very common. Native bismuth has also been found in situ. Placer deposits of cassiterite occur on the flatter ground near the shores of the Heinze Basin. The Kechaung and Pachaung mines produce a clean wolfram concentrate.

The Frontier Range: The range which divides the Tavoy district from Siam and which rises to heights of over 3,000 feet in the latitude of the Heinze Basin consists of intrusive granite of ordinary type. Zimba mine has several lodes in granite near its contact with sedimentary rocks of the Mergui Series.

The Bolintaung Baukchaung Range: This is a band of intrusive granite from one to three miles wide which runs in a north-westerly direction for seven miles from the Bolintaung peak before it joins the main Sinbo-Sinna massif. The Kalonta mine lies on a small granite boss of its own, two miles up the Talaingya chaung from the main intrusion. The concentrate carries a little more tin than the Byaukchaung materials and it is interesting to note that bismuthinite has been found in situ.

Kyaukanya Peneichaung Ridge: About halfway miles from Kyaukanya and Peneichaung the well-known Kadando lode crosses the Maungmeshauung valley close to a small granite exposure in the stream itself. It contains wolfram with large quantities of pyrite, chalcocopyrite, and pyrrhotite, and yields beautiful specimens showing wolfram cut by the two latter sulphides. The Pagaye mine has a large number of wolfram-bearing pegmatites and associated quartz lodes strike approximately N.35°W.-S.35°E. with a vertical dip, in argillites of the Mergui series.

Hermyingyi mine: The Hermyingyi mine is situated on the southernmost of the Central Range. In 1917 Hermyingyi pro-

duced 1051 tons of ore and in 1916 that was 765 tons of concentrates. The actual geological conditions, rock compositions, and mineral associations of Hermyingyi are much the same as those of the other larger mines in a similar situation. We regard the Hermyingyi occurrence as a small granite boss, which has not suffered extensive denudation and is probably connected underground with the main intrusion to the south.

The Central Range: This intrusion commences as a rounded mass of granite, three-quarters of a mile in diameter about a mile to the S.S.E. of Hermyingyi. The intrusion forms the high ridge visible from Tavoy and contains the peaks Pya Taung (3,575 feet), Khat Taung (3,545 feet), Nwalabo (5,063 feet) and the high massif of Southern Paungdaw, which has one peak of 5,133 feet above sea level. Both sides of the intrusion are steep. The Wagon mine is situated South of the Taungpila group. The Thingandon concession contains a number of lodes and patches of detrital ground. The workings on the lode main granite

are known as the Heinda Mines.

### Mergui District

The chief wolfram deposits of the Mergui district are near Palauk in the north, and at Tagu near the Great Tenasserim River about 70 miles from its mouth. The Palauk concessions lie partly in granite and partly on Mergui sediments, but the lodes worked are all in the latter. The significant concessions are Spider Island, Palauk, Tagu, Wunna, Mawton, Yengan, Maliwun, Karathuri, Thabawleik, Lenya, and Pakchan rivers. The granite is identical to that of Tavoy. Alluvial cassiterite workings are widely distributed over the Mergui district, mostly held under "Native Method" leases. Perhaps the best-known centres are Karathuri on the coast and Thabawleik on the Little Tenasserim river; and there are numerous blocks on the Lenya and Pakchan rivers.

References: J. Coggin Brown & A. M. Heron, 1919: *Distribution of Ores of Tungsten and Tin in Burma*, *Record of Geological Survey of India*, Vol. L.

## Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 6 March 2023)

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

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2023:** Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Upper Saging Region and Kachin and Eastern Shan states. Degree of certainty is (60%). Weather will be generally fair in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Bago regions and Chin and Rakhine states and partly cloudy 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 slight increase of day temperatures in Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions and Kayin State.



# CURRENT AFFAIRS

## Prices of high-grade Pawsan paddy plunge



The picture shows paddy being put into bags after clearing impurities.

THE prices of some low-grade new summer rice and some Pawsan rice dipped in March 2023. Similarly, the prices of Pawsan paddy (Ayeya Padetha variety) and short-mature paddy (90 days) declined.

However, the prices of low-grade paddy (Thuka and Hnanka) increased slightly, according to the price data of Wakema Township.

The prices of paddy stood at K1.93 million per 100 baskets of Pawsan, K1.7 million for Ayeya Padetha, K1.55 million for short-mature paddy (90 days), K1.45 million for Nanka and K1.6 million for Thuka on 13 February

2023.

On 6 March, the prices of paddy were K1.9 million for Pawsan, K1.67 million for Ayeya Padetha, K1.5 million for short-mature paddy, K1.5 million for Hnanka paddy and K1.65 million for Thuka variety respectively.

The figures indicated an increase of K50,000 per 100 baskets for low-grade Hnanka and Thuka varieties. The prices of Pawsan and Ayeya Padetha paddy are down by K30,000 per 100 baskets. The price of short-mature paddy (90 days) dropped by K50,000 per 100 baskets. From late February 2023, the prices

of summer paddy prices fell to K51,000 per bag. Similarly, the price of new Pawsan rice dipped.

Meanwhile, it is hard to buy monsoon paddy for now. They are circulating in the hands of the traders so the price is still strong. As it is the time to harvest the summer paddy, they can be directly purchased from the growers.

There are price speculations of rice circulated on social media. Reliable market data is hardly found. Consumers have concerns over the price changes in mid-2023 when new monsoon paddy is harvested.

Some forecast the prices of rice for the mid-year depending on the paddy prices.

In mid-2022, skyrocketing rice prices raised the income of traders, attracting investors to put investments into this business.

Traders in possession of rice stocks reap handsome profits from price rises rather than growers. Consumers might experience inflation burdens from soaring rice prices in mid-year; some market observers forecast. — TWA/EM

## Over 1,000 Myanmar workers sent to S Korea under EPS within 2 months

A total of 1,040 Myanmar workers have been despatched to the Republic of Korea through the Employment Permit System (EPS) in January and February this year, according to the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul.

Workers include 345 manufacturing workers, 28 CBT manufacturing workers, 236 re-entry manufacturing workers and 374 agriculture and livestock workers and 57 construction workers.

The South Korean government is officially re-accepting Myanmar workers after the Covid-19 pandemic, and 1,293 Myanmar workers were sent in August, 978 in September; 1,169 in October, 728 in November and 599 in December.

An overseas employment recruitment agency saw off Myanmar workers at the Yangon International Airport and the labour attaché of the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul welcomed them at Incheon Airport. — TWA/MKKS



Myanmar workers are seen being despatched to S Korea under EPS in 2022.

## Mandalay Mini Oway taxis to change yellow colour by 30 June

MINI Oway taxis in Mandalay must be changed to yellow colour by 30 June according to the Transport Supervisory Committee of Mandalay Region (downtown).

Therefore, the owners can change their cars to yellow colour by June 30 at the body workshops of their choice. The Department of Road Transport Administration will start recording vehicles, the colour of which has been changed, at the Mandalathiri Stadium in Chanmyathazi Township from 16 March until 30 June. If it is learnt that the licence of the Mini Oway taxis that have not been changed to yellow colour within the specified date will be revoked following the rules and regulations. — TWA/KZW

## Price of newly arrived Shan garlic declines



The picture shows newly-arrived Shan garlic.

NEW Shan garlic entered the Yangon market at the beginning of March and the price has decreased.

As there was little stock of old cloves of garlic in the market before the new ones appeared, the price started to rise from the very middle of December 2022. On 25 January 2023, the wholesale price of Shan garlic (S5) reached K6,300 per viss for a

large size. The new Shan garlic variety (S5) arrived at the Yangon market on 15 February with the wholesale price of K5,500 per viss. The wholesale prices of new garlic from Aungban, Shan State on 6 March were K3,300 per viss for S2, K3,500 per viss for S3, K3,700 per viss for S4 and K3,900 per viss for S5.

Although the price of Shan garlic fluctuated in late 2022 and

early 2023, the wholesale price of a viss of Kyukok garlic is only around K3,600. The garlic prices per viss at the depots in Aungban, Shan State, were K2,400 for S1, K2,600 for S2, K3,000 for S3, K3,900 for S4, K4,000 for S5 and K4,000 for Kyukok garlic.

At the beginning of 2022, the wholesale price of large-size Shan garlic and Kyukok garlic stood at K3,000 and K3,600 per viss respectively and the prices went up to K4,000 and K7,000 per viss on 10 March 2022. Shan garlic 9S5) and Kyukok garlic was priced at K3,100 and K5,000 per viss on 28 March after the arrival of new Shan garlic. Just as the onion price skyrocketed in early H2 of 2022, Kyukok garlic price hit the wholesale rate of K5,000 per viss in early September. However, within a few days, the price went down again.

From October to early March 2023, the wholesale

price of Kyukok garlic was only around K3,500/3,800 per viss. As for Shan garlic, a viss of S5 fetched K4,300 per viss till mid-December of 2022. Shan garlic, which has small cloves and a nice flavour, was used by housewives and easy-to-peel Kyukok garlic was used by restaurants. Thus, these two types of garlic have different market conditions and different prices. The size of Kyukok garlic is a little bigger than the size of large-sized Shan garlic (S5) as well.

This year, the price of Shan white is high, and Bamar garlic from the Pakokku area has entered the Yangon market.

Garlic from the Pakokku area has entered the Yangon market as the price of Shan garlic went up at the beginning of this year. The wholesale price of Pakokku garlic cost K3,900 per viss for S2 and K4,900 per viss for S3. — TWA/CT

## Cambodia restores Naga balustrades on north side of famed Angkor Wat's causeway

A Cambodian authority has recently begun to restore two 50-metre-long sandstone Naga balustrades on the north side of Angkor Wat's causeway in the famed Angkor Archaeological Park in northwest Cambodia, the authority said in a news release on Monday.

Undertaken by stone conservation experts from the Authority for the Protection and

Safeguarding of Angkor and the Region of Angkor (APSARA), or the APSARA National Authority (ANA), the restoration work is expected to be completed before the Khmer New Year in mid-April and they will be open for tourists after that.

The two Naga balustrades are in the Angkor Wat's causeway restoration project and they had been temporarily removed

in the past, An Sopheap, an archaeologist and head of the working group in charge of the Angkor Wat Temple's causeway restoration project, said in the news release.

Currently, as the Angkor Wat's causeway restoration project has been completed, the team has to take those Naga balustrades to restore to their original places, he added. — Xinhua



This undated photo shows staff members working at the restoration site of the Naga balustrades in Angkor Archaeological Park in Siem Reap province, Cambodia. A Cambodian authority has recently begun to restore two 50-metre-long sandstone Naga balustrades on the north side of Angkor Wat's causeway in the famed Angkor Archaeological Park in northwest Cambodia, the authority said in a news release on Monday. **PHOTO: APSARA NATIONAL AUTHORITY/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

## Sri Lanka's intl airport receives over 11,000 tourists in February



Tourists visit the Blackwater pond in Mihintale near Anuradhapura on 11 February 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

SRI Lanka's Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport (MRIA) provided service to over 11,000 tourists in February, the Airport and Aviation Services of Sri Lanka (AASL)

announced on Monday.

The airport located in the southern town of Mattala handled 6,259 visitor arrivals and 5,667 departures in February, said the AASL.

On Monday, the MRJA received 602 international tourists, who arrived on flights of Kazakhstan-based SCAT Airlines and Russia's Red Wings Airlines, said the AASL, adding that this year would be one of the best recovery years for Sri Lanka's tourism.

A total of 107,639 international tourists arrived in Sri Lanka in February, an increase of 11.5 per cent from a year earlier, according to the tourism authority.

Tourism, one of Sri Lanka's leading foreign exchange earners, has suffered a setback due to the COVID-19 pandemic and economic and political crises in the country.

The South Asian country aims to attract around 1.5 million tourists in 2023 and 3 million in 2024. — Xinhua

## Mongolia holds camel festival to promote tourism

THE 24<sup>th</sup> edition of the camel festival kicked off here on Monday in Mongolia's southern province of Umnugovi, as the country hopes to revive its tourism sector and pass on the camel culture to the next generations.

Hundreds of camel herders and camels across the nomadic country participated in the two-day festival held in

the provincial capital city of Dalanzadgad.

The "Ten Thousand Camel Festival" event includes camel polo, camel racing, camel parade, camel relay races, camel auction and an exhibition of camel products.

The Asian country has planned more than 90 events, including the camel festival, to attract tourists, declaring

2023-2025 as "Years to Visit Mongolia".

Umnugovi has the largest camel population in the country, accounting for over 30 per cent of the national total, official data shows.

The provincial governor's office organized the event with the support of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. — Xinhua

## Roman-era sphinx, stele discovered in southern Egypt

AN Egyptian archaeological mission unveiled a lime-stone sphinx and a stele that dated back to the Roman era in Qena province, southern Egypt, the country's Antiquity Ministry said in a statement on Monday.

The sphinx-shaped statue represents one of the Roman emperors wearing a Nemes headdress, which is the striped head-cloth typically worn by pharaohs, and a cobra on the forehead.

"According to initial examination of its face, the statue most probably was for Claudius, the fourth Roman emperor, ruling from 41 to 54 AD," the statement said.

The statement added

that the archaeological team also found a stele below the statute, which was carved with texts in hieroglyphs and demotics, an ancient Egyptian writing system used from roughly 650 BC to the fifth century AD.

The discoveries were made during the excavation work in the eastern Dendera Temple, located about 60 kilometres north of Luxor city, which was built for Hathor, the ancient Egyptian goddess of love, beauty, music, dancing, fertility, and pleasure.

The statute was found inside a two-level compartment that also contained a Byzantine-era sink for preserving water, it added. — Xinhua



Visitors walk past the ram-headed sphinxes along the Avenue of the Sphinxes (Sphinx dromos) near the Temple of Karnak (background) in Egypt's southern city of Luxor on 26 November 2021. **PHOTO: AFP**

# ECONOMY WORLD

## India's per capita income doubles in 9 years

THE per capita income in India has doubled to 172,000 Indian Rupees (around 2,105 US dollars) over the past nine years, according to the latest figures released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Im-



A fruit vendor counts a wad of Indian Rupee currency notes for payment at his roadside stall in Mumbai on 19 July 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

plementation.

The per capita income in the country was 86,647 Indian Rupees (around 1,060 dollars) during the financial year 2014-15 (April 2014-March 2015).

There has been a rise of nearly 99 per cent in the per capita income in nominal terms (at current prices), said the NSO, adding that the uneven income distribution remained a big challenge.

It also said that in real terms (constant prices), the per capita income in the country had increased by about 35 per cent from 72,805 Indian Rupees (around 891 dollars) in 2014-15 to 98,118 Indian Rupees (around 1,201 dollars) in 2022-23. — Xinhua

## S Korea to suspend WTO dispute with Japan while consultations go on

SOUTH Korea's industry ministry said Monday that it decided to suspend its trade dispute with Japan at the World Trade Organization (WTO) while consultations go on about Tokyo's export curbs on Seoul.

The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy said in a statement that the governments of South Korea and Japan agreed to continue consultations on pending bilateral issues related to Japan's export curbs on South Korea in a bid to return to their previous state before

July 2019.

The South Korean government decided to halt the WTO dispute settlement process while the consultations go on.

The Japanese side decided to hold the export management policy dialogue with South Korea soon, the statement noted.

In July 2019, Japan imposed tighter control over its export to South Korea of three materials, vital to make memory chips and display panels that are the mainstay of South Korea's export. — Xinhua

## Viet Nam's wood, furniture exports plunge in Jan-Feb due to order shortage

VIET Nam's exports wood and wood products slumped 34.8 per cent year-on-year to 1.6 billion US dollars in January and February mainly due to a fall-off in demand, according to the Export and Import Department under Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Viet Nam exported wood and wood products worth 800 million US dollars in February, down 0.7 per cent from January and down 10 per cent from a year earlier. Exports of wood products, including furniture, contributed the most to the decline, posting a revenue of 490

million US dollars, down 29.7 per cent from last year.

Global demand for furniture has dwindled significantly from the heights of the COVID-19 pandemic when people spent their time during lockdowns on home improvements, industry experts said.

Global inflation has dampened demand in the wood industry in the year-end period last year and early this year, local online newspaper VnEconomy cited the chairman of the Viet Nam Timber and Forest Products Association as saying.

Last year, Viet Nam earned

over 16 billion US dollars from exporting wood and wood products, 3.8 per cent above the target, according to the association, despite high inflation, rising material costs and log-jammed supply chains.

The country expects to earn a record high of 18 billion US dollars from exporting wood and wood products this year, with a focus on wood pellets and woodchips, which is forecast to reach one billion US dollars, as the spike in the cost of fuel has raised interest in using these products as alternatives to heating. — Xinhua

## China's land port handles over 500 China-Europe freight trains

ERENHOT Port in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has logged over 500 China-Europe freight trains so far this year, the local railway authorities said on Monday.

Since the beginning of the year, in the face of continuously increasing transportation demand and strong growth in imports and exports, the Erenhot Port has opened a "green channel" for the operation of China-Europe freight trains,

resulting in a 20-per-cent increase in the capacity of container transportation for the service, said Qin Zhicang from the China Railway Hohhot Bureau Group Co Ltd.

The Erenhot Port is the largest land port between China and Mongolia, through which 64 China-Europe freight train routes link China with more than 60 regions of over 10 countries, including Germany, Poland and Mongolia. — Xinhua

## Norway earns record oil, gas revenue after Ukraine war

THE Norwegian state raked in record oil and gas revenues last year after the war in Ukraine sent energy prices soaring, official figures showed Monday.

Norway earned 1.5 trillion kroner (\$140 billion) in revenues from oil and gas, according to estimates by Statistics Norway (SSB).

It was "by far the highest ever recorded in the statistics" and almost three times the 498 billion kroner earned in 2021,

according to SSB.

Norway became Europe's largest supplier of natural gas in 2022 as Russia cut deliveries and the Scandinavian country increased its own exports.

Oslo's income was buoyed by record high European gas prices over the summer which have since subsided.

The exceptional revenues have sometimes earned Norway the label of "war profiteer", a label that Oslo rejects.

Norway has pledged 75 billion kroner in civil and military aid to Ukraine over the next five years (2023-2027), or 15 billion kroner per year.

The Norwegian state earns revenues from the country's oil and gas reserves through taxes imposed on oil companies, its direct holdings in oil and gas fields and infrastructure and dividends paid by the energy giant Equinor, in which it holds a 67 per cent stake. — AFP



A gas compressor station is pictured on the grounds of the Baltic Pipe gas pipeline prior to its opening ceremony in Budno near Goleniow, Poland. A new pipeline to carry Norwegian gas via Denmark was opened in Poland in a move to strengthen Europe's energy security after Russia cut off Warsaw's supplies. The project is part of years-long efforts by Poland to wean itself off its dependence on Russian gas, which once represented two-thirds of its annual consumption. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Japan, S Korea to work to normalize chip-making material trade

JAPAN will hold talks with Seoul on lifting its controls on exports to South Korea of materials for semiconductor manufacturing, the government said Monday, as momentum built towards mending bilateral ties.

A Japanese trade ministry official said it is the right time to resume talks on the export curbs imposed in 2019, while the South Korean government notified Japan the same day it will suspend a dispute process at the World Trade Organization over the controls.

The steps were taken in the wake of South Korea's announcement Monday of its plan for settling a wartime labour compen-

sation dispute with Japan.

In July 2019, the Japanese government tightened controls on exports to South Korea of three materials — fluorinated polyimide, resists, and hydrogen fluoride — used for the production of chips and display screens for smartphones. Japan has also revoked South Korea's preferential status as a trade partner for the purchase of goods that can be diverted for military use, often referred to as a "white list country". The removal of South Korea from the list came after the court rulings, which ordered Japanese firms to pay compensation to Korean plaintiffs for forced labour, were delivered.—Kyodo

## Indonesia to provide incentives for EV purchases

THE Indonesian government will provide incentives for purchasing electric vehicles (EVs) starting 20 March, Coordinating Minister for Maritime and Investment Affairs Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan said on Monday.

"We hope that this policy can stimulate the market for EVs, boost the

use of clean energy and decrease reliance on fossil fuels," said Pandjaitan in a press conference.

Pandjaitan stressed his optimism for this programme due to the nation's population dominated by young people, and its rich reserves of nickel, the metal widely used in producing electric batteries. — Xinhua



Mini EV electric car from DFSK (Dongfeng Sokon) is displayed at Indonesia International Motor Show exhibition in Jakarta on 16 February 2023. PHOTO: AFP

## Asian markets broadly positive but China shares muted

ASIAN markets enjoyed healthy gains on Monday over murmurs that the US Federal Reserve may loosen its monetary tightening but stocks in Hong Kong and China were muted after Beijing announced its lowest economic growth target in decades.

Traders in Tokyo appeared bullish about positive news flowing in from the United States, where Wall Street had rallied on Friday. An end-of-week slide in Treasury bond yields fortified beliefs the Federal Reserve was nearing the end of its rate-hiking cycle.

The Nikkei 225 jumped more than one per cent, with similar gains posted in Taipei, Seoul and Sydney.



This photo taken on 5 March 2023 shows people watching live coverage of the opening session of the National People's Congress (NPC) at a shopping mall in Qingzhou, in China's eastern Shandong province. PHOTO: STR / AFP

Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell is set to discuss monetary policy before the House and Senate committees on Tuesday, proceedings that will be scrutinized by investors seeking positive interest rate news.

"Most important will

be whether the Chair takes the opportunity to express a preference for sticking with a 25bp (basis points) hike in March or if he leaves the door ajar for returning to a faster pace this month," said Stephen Innes of SPI Asset Management.

"If Powell does not slam the door shut on the potential for a larger hike, markets could put substantially more weight on a 50bp hike at the March meeting in response to last month's hotter data."

Traders are also awaiting US payroll data on Friday and the Bank of Japan's two-day policy meeting from Thursday, which will be the last for governor Haruhiko Kuroda.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index nudged up after a slow start, finishing the day slightly higher. Shenzhen also recovered to end flat, while Shanghai closed a shade lower after the uninspiring economic news from Beijing. — AFP

## S Korea, Indonesia renew currency swap deal for another 3 years

THE central banks of South Korea and Indonesia on Monday agreed to renew their bilateral currency swap deal for three more years, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK).

The BOK and Bank Indonesia announced the renewal of the bi-

lateral local currency swap agreement which allows for the exchange of domestic currencies between the two central banks of up to 10.7 trillion won (about 8.3 billion US dollars) or 115 trillion rupiah (about 7.5 billion dollars).

The renewed agreement will be effective for three new years until 5 March 2026. The central banks initially signed the swap deal in 2014 and extended it in 2017 and 2020.

The swap deal is aimed to promote bilateral trade and financial

cooperation for economic development of the two countries while supporting the settlement of trade in local currency even in times of financial stress, according to a joint statement. — Xinhua

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC SHENZHEN VOY.NO. (307W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCC SHENZHEN VOY.NO. (307W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-3-2023** 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.**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V DANCEWOOD SW VOY.NO. (2023001)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V DANCEWOOD SW VOY.NO. (2023001)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-3-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **WILMAR** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD**

# GLOBAL AFFAIRS

## Poor nations' leaders unleash anger and despair at UN summit

LEADERS from the world's poorest nations poured out their disappointment and bitterness at a UN summit on Sunday over the treatment of their countries by richer counterparts.

Many made pointed calls for the developed powers to come good with billions of dollars of promised aid to help them escape poverty and battle climate change.

Central African Republic's president told the UN Least Developed Countries meeting in Doha that his resource-rich but impoverished nation was

being "looted" by "Western powers".

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres followed up an attack he made a day earlier on the "predatory" interest rates imposed by international banks on poor states.

He said there could be "no more excuses" for not providing aid.

But the opening day of general debate at the once-in-a-decade summit saw no major announcement of desperately needed cash — apart from \$60 million that host Qatar said it would give to United Nations

programmes.

Leaders of the world's major economies have been markedly absent from debate, which will last five days, on the turmoil in poor nations.

At a meeting with LDC leaders on Saturday Guterres called for \$500 billion to be mobilized for social and economic transformation.

Leaders also used the first day of public debate to renew demands that industrialized governments hand over a promised \$100 billion a year to support their efforts to counter global warming. — AFP



Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN) Antonio Guterres speaks during the 5th Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5) in Doha on 5 March 2023. PHOTO: AFP

## Iran agrees more IAEA's inspections of nuclear sites amid 60% uranium enrichment

IRAN has allowed increased inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of its nuclear sites, the official news agency IRNA reported Sunday, just after the IAEA chief's two-

day visit to Tehran.

In an interview with IRNA published on Sunday, Behrouz Kamalvandi, the spokesman of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), said the IAEA

inspections of Iran's Fordow Fuel Enrichment Plant (FFEP) have now increased to 11 from eight, commenting on the reports of a 50-per-cent rise in the IAEA's inspections of Iranian nuclear sites.

Since uranium enrichment to a 60-per-cent level recently started at FFEP, inspections of the site should increase according to the safeguards agreements, Kamalvandi explained.

"Basically, any rise in the enrichment level at or entry of more sensitive materials into nuclear facilities lead to an increase in the inspections according to what the two sides agreed upon," he said.

However, no agreement was reached between IAEA and AEOI regarding the installation of new surveillance cameras at Iranian nuclear sites, Kamalvandi noted. — Xinhua



General view of the Board of Governors' meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at the agency's headquarters in Vienna, Austria on 6 March 2023. IAEA has been seeking greater cooperation with Iran over its nuclear activities. PHOTO: AFP

## Most French people support strikes against pension reform: poll

A majority of French people support rolling strikes announced against President Emmanuel Macron's pension reform, a poll showed Monday, underlining the unpopularity of changes the government views as essential.

Massive strikes are expected from Tuesday, with unions promising to bring the country "to a standstill" and strikes set to hit many sectors such as transport, energy and oil refining. A total of 56 per cent of respondents said they supported rolling strikes and 59 per cent said they backed the call to bring the country to a standstill, a poll by the Elabe survey group for the BFM news channel showed on Monday.

Two in three people (64 per cent) support the protest movement in general, which is seeking to force the government to abandon its plans to raise the retirement age to 64 from its current level of 62.

"We don't want French people to be, quote, unquote, 'victims' of a long-term blockade," government spokesman Olivier Veran told France 2 on Monday after warning last week that the strikes could lead to an "ecological, agricultural and health catastrophe". "The history of protest movements in France shows that you don't have to block the whole country and cause such major inconveniences for people in their daily lives," he added. — AFP

## Syria condemns US general's visit to Kurdish-held northeast

SYRIA'S foreign ministry on Sunday condemned a surprise visit by the United States' top military officer to an army base in the Kurdish-held northeast, dubbing it "illegal", state media said.

In his snap visit Saturday, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Mark Milley met US troops stationed in areas of war-torn Syria under the control of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF).

About 900 US troops are deployed in several bases and posts across northeastern Syria as part

of the fight against Islamic State group remnants.

Official news agency SANA quoted a foreign ministry official as saying "Syria strongly condemns the illegal visit of the American chairman of the chiefs of staff to an illegal American military base in northeast Syria."

Milley's visit was "a flagrant violation of the sovereignty and integrity" of Syrian territory, the official added according to SANA, calling on "the US administration to immediately cease its systematic and continued violation of

international law and support for separatist armed groups".

President Bashar al-Assad's government views the deployment of US forces in SDF-held territory as "occupation" and accuses US-aligned Kurdish forces of "separatist tendencies".

Kurdish officials deny any separatist aspirations and say they seek to preserve their self-rule, which Damascus does not recognize.

Milley's spokesman, Dave Butler, told AFP the US general "visited northeast Syria Satur-

day... to meet with commanders and troops".

It was Milley's first trip to Syria since assuming the chairmanship in 2019. He visited the country before as an army chief, the spokesman said.

During the visit, Milley "received updates on the counter-ISIS mission", Butler added using an alternative acronym for the IS jihadists.

The general also "inspected force protection measures and asserted repatriation efforts for the Al-Hol refugee camp", home

to more than 50,000 people, including family members of suspected foreign IS militants whose home countries have not taken them back.

The US-led coalition battling IS provides support for SDF, spearheaded by the Syrian Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG).

After the jihadists lost their last territory to SDF-led forces in 2019, SDF has cracked down on remnants of IS, whose members still launch deadly attacks in Syria. — AFP

## Xi stresses high-quality development in China's modernization endeavour

CHINESE President Xi Jinping stressed on Sunday that high-quality development is the first and foremost task in building a modern socialist country in all respects.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks while attending a deliberation with his fellow deputies from the delegation of Jiangsu Province at the first session of the 14th National People's Congress (NPC), China's national legislature.

Efforts should be made to fully and faithfully apply the new development philosophy on all fronts, and better coordinate the effective upgrade in quality with the appropriate expansion in quantity in economic development, Xi said.

The country must unswervingly deepen reform and opening up and transform the development model to accelerate the formation of sustainable institutions and mechanisms for high-quality development, said Xi.

China's development must serve to continuously strength-

en the people's sense of fulfillment, happiness and security, Xi said.

He spoke approvingly of the government work report, and recognized the achievements Jiangsu Province made in various areas including economic and social development and Party building in the past five years.

Speeding up efforts to achieve greater self-reliance and strength in science and technology is the path China must take to advance high-quality development, said Xi. — Xinhua



Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, takes part in a deliberation with his fellow deputies from the delegation of Jiangsu Province, at the first session of the 14th National People's Congress (NPC) in Beijing, capital of China, 5 March 2023. PHOTO: XINHUA

## Japan, S Korea announce steps to resolve wartime labour dispute



A statue symbolizing Korean labourers forcibly taken to Japan during wartime is pictured on 6 March 2023, in Seoul. PHOTO: KYODO

JAPAN and South Korea announced steps Monday to resolve a wartime labour row that has been a major sticking point in bilateral ties, with Seoul offer-

ing to compensate former Korean labourers without requiring direct payments from Japanese companies.

The move could pave the

way for bilateral relations, which had deteriorated over the issue, to significantly improve at a time when strengthening cooperation between the two neighbouring countries is considered vital in facing North Korean nuclear and missile threats, as well as an increasingly assertive China.

Tokyo, in response, said it will uphold past statements that expressed remorse over Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula, and has begun talks with Seoul about lifting restrictions on certain tech exports to South Korea.

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida hailed the plan put forward by South Korea, saying it will help to restore "healthy ties" between Tokyo and Seoul, describing the neighbour as an "important partner". — Kyodo

## Fire danger rises in Aussie state as severe weather conditions take hold

HOT, windy and mostly dry weather conditions over the eastern and northern parts of the Australian state of New South Wales (NSW) have led to rising fire dangers from Monday through Wednesday.

NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) said that as of 6:30 pm local time on Monday, there were 38 bushfires and grass fires.

Total fire bans are now in place for multiple regions across NSW, with three bushfires and one grass fire still yet to be contained, including two at emergency warning levels.

Firefighters and aircraft are working in difficult conditions in the state's central west, where numerous fires are burning, said NSW RFS. According to the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM),

maximum temperatures are forecast to spike six to 12 degrees centigrade above average across eastern parts of NSW. The eastern parts of the state are also likely to see dry thunderstorms on Monday, with the potential for lightning to spark new fires due to a lack of rainfall, while northeast NSW may be affected by severe thunderstorms with damaging winds in the next two days.

"These conditions are being driven by hot and dry continental west-north-westerly winds, bringing the high temperatures to eastern NSW including Sydney," said the BOM.

"It is not unusual to experience heatwaves during early autumn as the weather transitions from the warmer months of summer to the cold of winter." — Xinhua

## UNESCO chief in Iraq to visit war-battered cultural sites

THE head of the UN cultural agency on Monday started a three-day visit to Iraq where many priceless cultural treasures have been damaged or destroyed during decades of conflict.

UNESCO chief Audrey Azoulay was to visit reconstruction projects and meet top officials

including Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani and President Abdel Latif Rachid.

Years of war and insurgency have taken a heavy toll on Iraq's many Mesopotamian, Islamic and Christian treasures including six UNESCO World Heritage sites.

"This visit is dedicated to reconstruction in Iraq," said a spokesman for the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization which funds several projects in Iraq.

Iraq's antiquities have been extensively looted, often by organized crime groups, since the

2003 US-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein.

The national museum in Baghdad, which displayed many ancient relics, was not spared during the invasion when many treasures were stolen.

More damage was done during the brutal rise of the Islamic

State group a decade later and the battle to dislodge it which devastated large areas in the northern city of Mosul.

UNESCO will examine how to help Iraq maintain its ancient heritage and put the spotlight back on its culture, the agency's spokesman told AFP. — AFP

Xi stresses high-quality development in China's modernization endeavour  
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# SPORT

## 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.



Myanmar women's team is seen at the Yangon International Airport on 6 March 2023 as they are leaving for Cambodia for Asian Women's U-20 qualifiers. **PHOTO: MFF**

## Myanmar women's U-20 team leaves for Asian U-20 tournament qualifiers

THE Myanmar women's U-20 team left for Cambodia yesterday morning to compete in the first-round qualifiers of the 2024 Asian Women's U-20 tournament.

Team Administrator Daw Hnin Sanda Oo, Head Coach

Daw San San Thein, and nine coaches along with 23 players are included in the team.

Team Myanmar will play in Group G matches of the Asian Qualifiers 2023 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from 8 to 12 March.

Myanmar is falling in the

same group as host Cambodia and Malaysia.

The Myanmar women's U-20 team will face Cambodia at 3:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 8 March, and the Malaysian team at 3:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 12 March. — KZL

## Man Utd attempt reset after mauling by Liverpool

MANCHESTER United's embarrassing 7-0 mauling by Liverpool was a brutal reality check for Erik ten Hag's improving side but the manager has urged his men to bounce back this week.

Just a week after winning their first silverware for six years, United were put to the sword by Jurgen Klopp's revitalized side on Sunday, collapsing as Liverpool smashed in six goals in the second half at Anfield.

Ten Hag's men had travelled to the home of their biggest rivals with a spring in their step after just one defeat in 22 games

and still on a high after beating Newcastle to win the League Cup at Wembley.

Their impressive run also included a landmark win against Barcelona in the Europa League as they chased success on four fronts.

But they came away from Anfield with their tails between their legs after the joint-heaviest defeat in the storied history of the 20-time English champions.

The humiliation ends fanciful talk of a potential quadruple, leaving third-placed United 14 points behind leaders Arsenal and well adrift of second-placed Manchester City. — AFP

## Djokovic withdraws from Indian Wells Masters: organizers

WORLD number one Novak Djokovic has withdrawn from next week's ATP/WTA Indian Wells Masters event, organizers confirmed on Sunday with the Serb barred from entering the country.

Djokovic is unable to enter the United States because he is unvaccinated against Covid-19, but he had petitioned US authorities for special permission to enter.

The Indian Wells ATP 1000 event begins next week in the California desert and is followed by the prestigious tournament in Miami which Djokovic is now expected to miss unless US authorities have a

change of heart.

The United States still doesn't allow unvaccinated international travellers to enter the country, with the Transpor-

tation Security Administration recently indicating the policy would not change until at least mid-April.

Djokovic's vaccination status saw him deported from Australia shortly before the 2022 Australian Open.

After winning Wimbledon he also missed the US Open last year because of the

travel restriction. He returned to Australia in January, winning the 2023 Australian Open for a record-equalling 22<sup>nd</sup> Grand Slam singles title.

He took his match win streak to 20 in Dubai last week before

falling on Friday to Daniil Medvedev in the semi-finals. — AFP



Serbia's Novak Djokovic hits a return against Russia's Daniil Medvedev (not pictured) during their ATP Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championship semi-final match in Dubai, on 3 March 2023. **PHOTO: KARIM SAHIB / AFP**