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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.

Myanmar, Thailand and Laos hold tripartite coordination meeting on transborder smog issue

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha and Lao Prime Minister Sonexay Siphandone and officials held a tripartite coordination meeting on transboundary haze pollution issue through videoconferencing yesterday morning.

Discussions of Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha

At the meeting, the Thai Prime Minister expressed his firm belief that the meeting would solve the smog pollution issue through trust and understanding. The issue harmed the social and economic sectors of the peoples from three countries. Hence, they all needed to so seek the best solution and share information. Hence, solving the problem was an effort for owned peoples.

An official from the Pollution Control Department of the Thai Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment reported on the impacts of the transboundary smog issue and the potential for solving the issue through concerted efforts of three countries.



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha and Lao Prime Minister Sonexay Siphandone are pictured holding the tripartite coordination meeting on transboundary haze pollution issue online yesterday.

Discussions of Lao Prime Minister Sonexay Siphandone

In his discussions, the Lao Prime Minister highlighted that the Lao government has been implementing plans to prevent air pollution under the 2023-24 ASEAN Agreement on Trans-

boundary Haze Pollution. Lao DPR has been implementing the plans as much as possible with the assistance of the international community. Moreover, Lao conducts the measuring the air pollution and shares information. Any country needed to prevent forest fires and air

pollution with farsightedness. Lao follows the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution.

Discussions of Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

The Senior General noted that the transboundary smog problem often happens in Thailand, Laos and Myanmar. The forest fire which started in December 2022 has been worsening smog problems in GMS countries.

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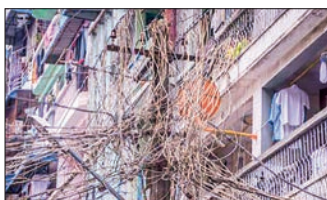
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Utmost efforts needed to cease internal armed conflicts

I would like to urge all stakeholders to make utmost efforts for ceasing the internal armed conflicts starting from this very Diamond Jubilee of Independence so that our next generation will inherit peace.

(Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing on 75th Anniversary (Diamond Jubilee) Independence Day ceremony on 4 January 2023)

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Appointment of Heads of Service Organizations confirmed

THE State Administration Council has confirmed the appointment of the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against each of their names after the one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Soe Myint	Director-General Minister's Office Ministry of Electrical Power
(2) U Myo Myint	Director-General Department of Buildings Ministry of Construction



Certificates of commission being presented to graduate cadets.

Appointment ceremony held for graduate cadets

A ceremony to commission graduate cadets from the 126th Intake of the Tatmadaw (Army) Officer Training School into the armed forces took place at the convocation hall of the OTS yesterday morning, attended by Military Appointment-General Lt-Gen

Lin Aung of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Myo Thant, OTS Commandant Brig-Gen Myo Zaw Win and graduate cadets. Military Appointment-General Lt-Gen Lin Aung present-

ed certificates of commission to graduate cadets individually and delivered a speech before concluding the ceremony. Soldiers from the army and civilian graduates totalling 162 passed the 126th Intake. — MNA/KZW

White elephant “Rattha Nandaka” lives happily and healthily with mother mammal

A 33-year-old female elephant called Zar Nan Hla kept by the Myanma Timber Enterprise in Taungup Township of Rakhine State gave birth to one white male elephant at 6:30 am on 23 July 2022. When it was born, the baby elephant was two feet and five inches in height and three feet and one inch in girth and weighed 180 pounds.

The white elephant's name is “Rattha Nandaka”. It has pearl-coloured eyes, a plantain branch-shaped back, white hair, a distinctive tail with a tuft of hair at its end, auspicious plot signs

on the skin, reddish-brown or pinkish skin, five claws on the front legs, four claws on the back legs and big ears. Therefore, these features conform with seven out of eight characteristics.

At eight and half months old, the baby white elephant is three feet and four inches in height, six inches in girth and weighs about 450 pounds. He stays healthy and happy under the peace human and elephant interaction training with his mother elephant, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. — MNA/KZW



Electric vehicles arrive in Yangon

A total of 50 Honda ENS1 electric vehicles imported by Earth Renewable Energy Co Ltd arrived at Yangon port on 7 April and were allowed to claim them under Customs procedures. The importation of battery electric vehicles (BEVs) is allowed with an exemption of Customs tariffs for the development of the domestic electric vehicle sector. — MNA/KZW



Two new cases of COVID-19 reported on 7 April, total figure registers 634,094

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases registered 634,094 after two new cases were reported on 7 April 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached 614,596, including 17 new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country remained unchanged at 19,490 on 7-4-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. — GNLM

Myanmar, Thailand and Laos hold tripartite coordination meeting on transborder smog issue

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The Senior General recounted that ASEAN Specialized Meteorological Centre (ASMC) stated the density of smog triggered by forest fire slightly happened in eastern Myanmar on 1 April 2023 and it worsened in northern Thailand and southern Laos. On 2 April, such an event slightly occurred in eastern Myanmar and northern Thailand but worsened in southern Laos. On 3 April, smog density lessened but its density was high in southern Laos. On 4 April, a high density of smog happened in eastern Myanmar, northern Thailand and southern Laos.

ASEAN Specialized Meteorological Centre (ASMC) predicted that the hot and dry climatic conditions may cause in May this year in GMS countries, with high air pollution along borders.

Currently, Myanmar is striving for reducing the fire hotspot measures in regions and states, especially in Shan State sharing borders with Thailand and Laos. In comparison with the areas of countries, some 56 fire hotspots happened in 1,000 square metres of area in Myanmar in 2022, 171 in Laos and 11 in Thailand.

In March 2023, Myanmar faced 32 fire hotspots in 1,000 square metres of area, Laos 117 and Thailand nine. Myanmar is cooperating with GMS countries to reduce 20 per cent of hotspots in 2022 as the Tenth Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution in the Mekong Sub-Region set 167,500 hotspots as a basic factor. So, Myanmar faced 37,977 hotspots in 2022, reducing 33 per cent rather than 56,419 in 2020.

The neighbouring countries

will cooperate with each other in controlling the Transboundary Haze Pollution. The Senior General thanked Thailand for its cooperation in the air quality management enhancement project of Myanmar to reduce the content of PM2.5 in the atmosphere.

The ASEAN has adopted the Roadmap on ASEAN Cooperation towards Transboundary Haze Pollution Control. Hence, cooperation in management and development for controlling Transboundary Haze Pollution will be a key role in the future. Hence, Myanmar pledged to reduce the number of hotspots and conduct surveys on hotspots in line with the ASMC, take fire preventive measures and rehabilitation, raise the awareness for reduction of forest fire danger and cooperate with regional countries in transboundary haze pollution measures.

Further discussions with the Thai Prime Minister

As it is necessary to raise cooperation in observing the content of PM2.5 in the atmosphere, Thailand cooperates with Myanmar and Laos in solving the issue. So, Thailand is striving to reduce air pollution. He expressed his belief that those three countries would enhance cooperation with ASEAN countries in solving the transborder air pollution issue. Production of biogas and recycled clothes through recycling the waste will benefit the people.

New Year wish for the Myanmar Thingyan festival

The Thai Prime Minister expressed his wish for the Senior General and people healthy and happy as well as for the Lao Prime Minister and people successful in their work.

Additional discussions of the Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

The Senior General said he would like to express two proposed points. The first one is to reduce hill-side cultivation at the border of three countries. Meanwhile, it is necessary to implement highland farmlands and produce fertilizers. The second one is to systematically dispose of waste through modern technology. The Senior General said he agreed with the discussions of the Thai Prime Minister for solving the transboundary air pollution issues. The Senior General expressed his best wishes for Thai and Lao Prime Ministers and their peoples to have physical and mental well-being during the Thingyan period of the New Year occasion. — MNA/TTA

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation issues press release on transboundary haze pollution

Nay Pyi Taw
7-4-2023

THE ASEAN Specialized Meteorological Centre (ASMC) issued a statement regarding the conditions that may cause cross-border smog.

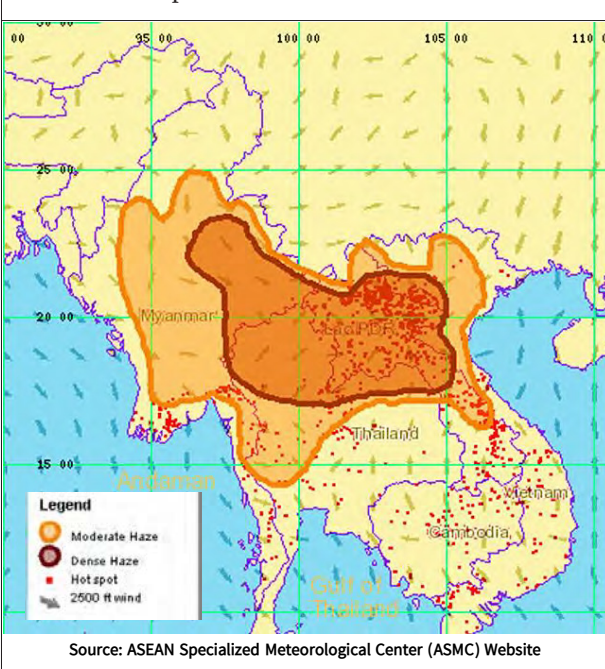
- In December 2022, fires and smog occurrences increased in the Mekong sub-region countries, and since 23 March 2023, it was observed that transboundary haze pollution occurred in northern Thailand and southern Laos, which are connected to the eastern border areas of Myanmar.
- It is predicted that hot and dry weather will occur in the Mekong sub-region until May 2023, and the occurrence of fire hotspots will increase, and it is estimated that cross-border smog pollution will occur until May 2023.

Myanmar was able to sign the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) in order to control transboundary haze pollution.

As the implementation of the 2017 Chiang Rai Action Plan, reducing fire hotspots by 33 per cent by 2022 and implementing the Roadmap on ASEAN Cooperation towards Transboundary Haze Pollution Control with ASEAN member countries are a special focus.

Regarding the cross-border smog pollution that is currently occurring along the borders of Myanmar, Thailand, and Laos, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, in cooperation with the relevant ministries, conducted a field survey of

A map shows occurrences of fire hotspots and transboundary haze pollution in Myanmar, Laos and Thailand on 6 April 2023.



the Fire Hotspots obtained by the ASEAN Specialized Meteorological Centre (ASMC).

Analyzing the causes, carrying out fire prevention, extinguishing and restoration works, and continuous

Ambient air quality index (AQI) status according to air quality measurement using Haze Scanner -EPAZ from 6-4-2023 (7 am) to 7-4-2023 (7 am) in Tachilek Township.

No	Parameters measured	Concentration	AQI	AQI Category
1	(Particulate matter PM ₁₀) (24 hr avg)	262.8 µg/m ³	154	A level that can affect health (Unhealthy)
2	Sulphur Dioxide SO ₂ (1hr avg)	0 ppb	0	Good Level (Good)
3	Nitrogen Dioxide NO ₂ (1 hr avg)	16.5 ppb	15	Good Level (Good)
4	Carbon Monoxide CO (8 hr avg)	0 ppm	0	Good Level (Good)

monitoring of Fire Hotspot risk information are being conducted.

In order to reduce the risk of Fire Hotspots, officials continue to work together with the Nay Pyi Taw Council and relevant regional and state governments to develop plans and carry out awareness activities.

The three countries will cooperate to solve the cross-border smog pollution issue that is currently occurring along the borders of Myanmar, Thailand, and Laos.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

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 Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends final match and awarding for men's football tournament of inter-university under Ministry of Science and Technology



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and dignitaries watch the final football match in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended to watch the final match of the men's football tournament of inter-university under the Ministry of Science and Technology and awarded prizes to the relevant teams at the prize awarding ceremony at Wunna Theikdi Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Senior General and party watched the final match between the University of Computer Studies (Lower Myanmar) team A and Technological University (Upper Myanmar) team A in the men's football tournament.

As it was the final match, both teams posed pressure on each other starting from the match.

The player of the Technological University (Upper Myanmar) team A scored an opening goal by showing off his brilliant skills to his team in the leading role in the seventh minute.

At the final whistle, the Technological University (Up-



The Senior General presents the championship trophy.

per Myanmar) team A clinched the title with a 4-1 win over the University of Computer Studies (Lower Myanmar) team A.

Next, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and U

Win Shein, SAC Members U Yan Kyaw, U Shwe Kyein, Dr Kyaw Tun and Dr Aung Kyaw Min presented prizes to the best players.

SAC Member Dr Hmu Htan

presented individual medals, prizes and cash awards to the fourth-prize-winning University of Computer Studies (Upper Myanmar) team B while member Daw Dwe Bu to the

third-prize-winning Technological University (Lower Myanmar) team A and member Admiral Tin Aung San to the second-prize-winning University of Computer Studies (Lower Myanmar) team A.

Then, SAC Joint Secretary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo presented individual medals to the players of the first-prize-winning Technological University (Upper Myanmar) team A.

The Senior General presented cash awards and the championship trophy to the first-prize-winning Technological University (Upper Myanmar) team A.

After the prize-awarding ceremony, the Senior General cordially greeted the athletes.

The football tournament of inter-university under the Ministry of Science and Technology was held with 14 teams by four groups starting on 28 March aiming to develop Myanmar sports and produce outstanding selected athletes through the sports festivals. —MNA/KTZH

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Passing out parade of Intake 126th of Tatmadaw (Army) Officer Training School (Bahtoo), Thura Company, held

THE passing out parade of Intake 126th of Tatmadaw (Army) Officer Training School (Bahtoo), Thura Company, took place at the parade ground of the Tatmadaw (Army) OTS (Bahtoo) in Bahtoo yesterday morning, with an address by State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win, on behalf of SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing.

The Vice-Senior General took salute of the cadet companies and inspected them. The Vice-Senior General took the slow-march past and quick-march past of graduate companies.

The Vice-Senior General presented the silver sword award to the best cadet award winner cadet Maung Maung



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services C-in-C (Army) Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win returns the salute of the cadet companies yesterday.



The Vice-Senior General meets outstanding cadets yesterday.

Myint Myat.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Senior General delivered a concluding speech, saying that those who will be military leaders in the future have to strictly follow the rules, disciplines, orders and directives issued by the Tatmadaw. All have to avoid indulgence and drinking which may harm health and fitness to enjoy the valuable soldier life as well as adjust income and spending. All servicemen have to totally avoid cigarettes, betel quids, liquor and narcotic drugs and follow religious and social advice for the improvement of morality.

The Vice-Senior General

continued to say that Tatmadaw is an institution to follow civil and military laws as well as war laws including Geneva Convention. Training on legal affairs is being given to all levels of Tatmadaw members. Action is taken against offenders in a transparent manner. Moreover, officers and other ranks need to understand and follow the Rules Of Engagement-ROE.

With regard to training measures, the Senior General gave guidance at the 78th Anniversary Armed Forces Day parade. He said: "All Tatmadaw members at different levels are to take continuous training for skilfully handling

the modern arms and equipment and for having skills in relevant arenas. In so doing, the training sessions will comprise individuals and units in line with the training policies. Every Tatmadaw member is to correctly serve daily duties as part of taking the training. The qualification of the Tatmadaw depends on individual Tatmadaw members with the power of military equipment. So, everybody needs to emphasise the enhancement of their capacity."

In the organizational measure, the Senior General delivered an address at the central leading committee meeting 1/2023 of the Tatmad-

aw Organizing Central Leading Committee. He said: "Organizing is persuading other people to cooperate in any measures of their own accord. Organizational measures have two portions. The first one is to organize the Tatmadaw members and the second is related to the country. The organizational issue comprises individual organizing matters. Self-control can be defined as self-organizing to improve themselves in mental and disciplinary measures. If everybody does bad manners, they will face difficulties in all measures. A family without self-control will face lesser good chances for their life. If so, family life will be

unhappy. So, everybody needs to improve themselves to be better."

The Vice-Senior General urged them to understand the political system being exercised in the nation as they will serve the State duties in the future. Internal peace plays a key role in the democratic system based on the people. Hence, all citizens are to participate in ceasing the armed conflict.

The Vice-Senior General urged all to strictly follow the conventional military tactics, four military sectors and special military tactics in serving the military operations and security duties in assigned regiments and units. Moreover, they have to explain their assignments to the relevant units and abide by the war rules.

The Vice-Senior General took the salute of the cadet companies and left the parade ground.

After the parade, the Vice-Senior General together with Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Maung Maung Aye, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and the commander of Eastern Command met outstanding cadets and spoke words of honour. — MNA/TTA

Tatmadaw members and families should read books and publications for having strong spirit and knowledge to analyze right and wrong: Vice-Senior General

SUCCESSFUL military own and manageable scale agriculture and livestock farming tasks contribute to effective welfare for all Tatmadaw members and families, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the separate meetings with Tatmadaw members and families in local battalions in Naungwoe and Kengkham stations yesterday morning.

At the meetings, the Vice-Senior General urged Tatmadaw members to protect valuable forest resources of the State while serving military operations and security duties.

The Vice-Senior General said that as Tatmadaw members



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services C-in-C (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets Tatmadaw members and families in Naungwoe station yesterday.



The Vice-Senior General inspects the breeding of DLY pigs and raising of layers at the local battalion yesterday.

and families implemented the military own and manageable scale agriculture and livestock farming policies, products from agriculture and livestock farms could help solve the food supplies of the people in various areas during the Covid-19 period. Hence, they all have to successfully strive for agriculture and livestock farms.

Successful military own and manageable-scale agriculture and livestock farming tasks

contribute to effective welfare for all Tatmadaw members and families. It is important to operate general staff, adjutant and quartermaster measures for military operations and security duties. The Vice-Senior General stressed the need to fully implement four military-building tasks to improve the capability of the relevant military units to serve the State's defence duties.

The Vice-Senior General underscored that unity is cru-

cial in deciding the success and loss of the military units. Although those wishing to destroy the State are attempting to disintegrate the Tatmadaw, the Tatmadaw is safeguarding the nation as a strong institution due to the comprehensive unity of the Tatmadaw members and families.

The Vice-Senior General stressed that Tatmadaw members and families should read books and publications for hav-

ing a strong spirit and knowledge to analyse right and wrong. The Vice-Senior General then coordinated with officials over the reports of officers, other ranks and families of individuals.

After the meetings, the Vice-Senior General presented foodstuffs produced by Tatmadaw factories to officers, other ranks and families of relevant military stations to officials. Likewise, Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of the Vice-Senior General,

gave domestic foodstuffs and cash assistance to maternal and child welfare association to officials.

Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Maung Maung Aye and his wife presented foodstuffs to officials.

The Vice-Senior General and party inspected the raising of layers and breeding of DLY pigs at the local battalion and gave necessary instructions. — MNA/TTA



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Graduation dinner of Thura Company of 126th Intake held at Tatmadaw (Army) Officer Training School (Bahtoo)



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services C-in-C (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win attends the graduation dinner of the Thura Company of the 126th Intake yesterday.

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, on behalf of State Administration

Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, attended the graduation dinner of the Thura Company of the 126th Intake of Officer Training Course

of Tatmadaw (Army) Officer Training School (Bahtoo) held at the Military Appointments Hall of the OTS yesterday.

First, the Vice-Senior General and party cordially greeted graduate officers and then

had dinner together.

After the dinner, the Vice-Senior General and party enjoyed the music of the military band of the OTS (Bahtoo) and presented cash prizes to the band players.

Then, they also enjoyed the entertainment of the Mobile Relations Unit under the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare with graduate officers. — MNA/KTZH

MoPF holds Thingyan Group Dance competition

DEPUTY Prime Minister Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein, Deputy Ministers U Maung Maung Win and Daw Than Than Lin enjoyed the Thingyan choral dance competition held yesterday at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw to commemorate the Myanmar Traditional Thingyan Festival.

A total of 20 Thingyan choral dance troupes representing the Union Minister's Office and relevant departments under the Ministry of Planning and Finance participated in the competition. Prizes are awarded to the Customs Department which won the first prize,

to the Department of Internal Revenue which won the second prize, to the Union Minister's Office which won the third prize, to the Department of Budget which won the fourth prize, and to the Project Appraisal and Progress Reporting Department which won the fifth prize. The rest of other departments won consolation prizes.

In addition, the Union Minister's Office and relevant departments under the ministry set up pavilions and served refreshments. The Deputy Prime Minister, deputy ministers, heads of the departments and staff enjoyed the event.—MNA/TS



Deputy Prime Minister MoPF Union Minister U Win Shein presents the prizes to the winning dance groups.



Handover ceremony for shuttle bus donated by Chinese Embassy to MIFER held

A handover ceremony for a shuttle bus donated by the Chinese Embassy to the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations was held with the presence of Dr Kan

Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw receives the shuttle bus model from the Chinese ambassador.

Zaw, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, and Mr Chen Hai, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Chinese ambassador presented the shuttle bus model to the Union minister. Then, the Union minister presented a Certificate of Appreciation and gift to the Chinese ambassador.

The ceremony was also attend-

ed by the deputy minister, directors-general and senior officials from the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, and the delegation from the Chinese Embassy.

After the ceremony, the Union minister and the Chinese ambassador discussed the matters on bilateral economic cooperation in future. — MNA

OPINION

Efficiently spend allotted funds without losing capital

THE State economic promotion fund was separately set up with K400 billion from the national natural disaster management fund to lend loans to local businesspersons at the soft interest rate in order to operate agriculture and livestock farms which can secure a quick win for the State.

As part of the development of the economy in relevant regions and states, some amounts of the State economic promotion fund were allotted to relevant ministries and regions and states. In this regard, K230 billion was allotted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, K10 billion each to Kayah, Chin and Rakhine states, K8 billion each to Kachin, Kayin, Mon and Shan states and Taninthayi Region and K5 billion each to five self-administered zones and one self-administered division, totalling K330 billion.

They all have to emphasize the efficient use of cultivable lands, cultivation of crops under double cropping or mixed cropping patterns, operating agriculture and livestock farms together, and manufacturing value-added products with the use of domestic raw materials in the establishment of industries based on agriculture and livestock farming businesses. If so, these businesses will bring quick wins to businesspersons as well as the State.

agriculture and livestock farms together, and manufacturing value-added products with the use of domestic raw materials in the establishment of industries based on agriculture and livestock farming businesses. If so, these businesses will bring quick wins to businesspersons as well as the State.

Hence, local authorities and all businesspersons have to strive to secure greater processes in the manufacturing of quality processes not only for local consumption but for export purposes. Consequently, they can earn foreign exchange as income whereas the government can earn revenue from its earnings.

The funds without losing capital will benefit micro, small and medium-sized enterprises to boost their quality production in relevant regions and states. As such, those organizations and businesses need to spend the allotted funds under the financial rules and regulations for achieving success in their products under the economic objectives adopted by the State.

The Union government has informed region and state, self-administered division and zone administration bodies about financial rules and regulations related to the capital from the State economic promotion fund to do economic processes under the prescribed rules and regulations.

In recent years, the economic status of the nation was seen a downtrend. The country's GDP plunged to the minus position. As such, the government set up a separate fund for providing capital to manufacturing industries based on agriculture and livestock farms, and local businesses which can create job opportunities for the people by boosting production. Hence, these relevant businesses need to strive for having greater success in their processes and agriculture and livestock farms spending the allotted capital.

They all have to emphasize the efficient use of cultivable lands, cultivation of crops under double cropping or mixed cropping patterns, operating

The Language of Writing Systems

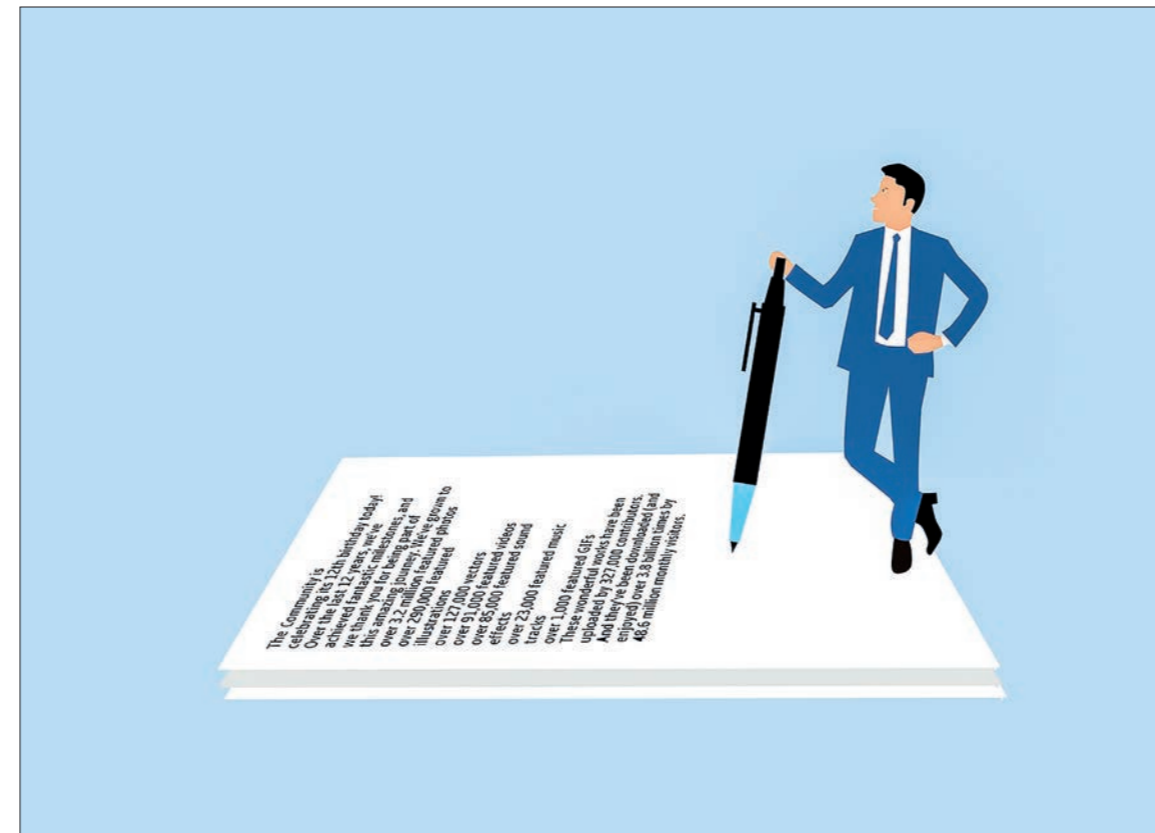
By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

WE will all have heard it said that one's food is another's poison by Lucretius, the Roman philosopher. So far as I am concerned, this saying may tell us that someone's ease is likely to be someone else's difficulty pretty often. Similarly, one of the four language skills really might be hard for anyone if he has no mastery of that skill. The listening skill can be termed a mixture of hearing something well and paying attention to it while the speaking skill is the ability to speak out what we want with fluency and accuracy or not. The reading skill is known as the competency in absorbing knowledge and information from books, and even audio or videos, as a receptive skill whereas the writing skill, will be a sort of linguistic skill that proves a learner's greatest potential capacity for studying language and literature. Although the first three skills of language would be constantly coming and going to learners, the writing skill will always have provided the proof of the pudding on their written papers as a productive skill. In other words, it is quite easy to establish the rights or wrongs of subject matter and spelling from their writing by having a look at it for a long time. Thus, personally speaking, listening is the most difficult skill in a language. Here, I shall cite facts and figures about several writing systems possibly arising in the language – report writing, persuasive writing, narrative writing, expository writing, descriptive writing, and creative writing – by quoting from Longman Advanced American Dictionary.

Prior to the language of six writing systems, let me describe the foundational structure of text organization. Many texts in a language usually follow a predictable format of organization, even though the length and style differ depending on the purpose of the text. Their basic organizational structure is comprised of four main parts: 1) title, 2) introduction, 3) body, and 4) conclusion. Firstly, the title points out the topic of the text and it is sometimes stated in a clever or unusual way in order to draw the reader's attention. Secondly, the introduction sets up the topic of the text in a

way that makes the reader want to continue reading, especially beginning with a hook that could be an anecdote, a question or series of questions, a quotation, a vivid description, or a surprising statement. After the hook, either in the same paragraph or in a new one, the writer tends to introduce the general topic of the text and gives some background information. At the beginning, middle or end of the introduction, he likes to give the central idea which includes the topic of the text as well as the controlling idea, that is, the writer's purpose, point of view, opinion, or attitude concerning the topic. Thirdly, the body supports the central idea in body paragraphs, where some topics are developed in only one paragraph, but other topics call for two or more paragraphs. The opening sentence(s) of each body paragraph refers to information from the previous paragraph, and initiates the new topic; this is called a transition. The transition might be one or more sentences, relying on how complex the topics are. The sentence or part of the sentence that starts off the new topic is often called the topic sentence of the paragraph. Also, details such as facts, examples, descriptions, anecdotes, reasons, steps in a process, or references to authoritative sources develop and support the topics in the body paragraphs. Fourthly, the conclusion says the reviewer's recommendation whether it is directly stated or implied. The central idea is usually restated in the conclusion by using synonyms to rephrase it and by changing the sentence structure. A satisfactory ending is founded on the central idea and purpose, especially ending with a call for future action in which the writer wants the reader to do something, an unanswered question that the writer wishes the reader to think about, or a prediction for the future.

A piece of writing is unified when all of the sentences in the text are connected with the central idea. Cohesion happens when the relationship among ideas is clear and unambiguous, and the sentences in the text flow critically or logically. Then, cohesion is accomplished through the use of grammatical patterns



Good readers turn out to be great writers. PHOTO: ILLUSTRATION: FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY/PIKABAY

and vocabulary. There are many good ways to achieve cohesion. Repeating key terms, the most important words in essays, make the reader give attention to the main theme. It also helps link different parts of an essay together. And also, repeating grammatical patterns, which means using a similar sentence structure and word choice in essays, particularly at the beginning of a body paragraph, helps relate different parts of an essay together so that it is more cohesive. Next, the second time we mention a noun in a sentence, it is better to use a pronoun to replace it. Substituting a pronoun for a full noun or phrase like this avoids repetition, which can make our writing sound boring and stiff. And again, linking words and expressions help us to join ideas, sentences, and paragraphs together in an explicit way. We can use them to show what order something happens in, for giving reasons, for adding information and so on. Last but not least, using a synonym adds variety and interest to our writing. It helps to attach sentences or ideas together by saying the same thing in a different way, too.

When we first learn a language, we normally learn the basic words and phrases that occur most frequently in speech

and writing. Due to their broad meaning and usage, words such as 'be', 'have', and 'do' are extremely useful. However, once these keywords are learned, vocabulary acquisition typically slows down. That is because we can express most of what we want to say, although perhaps not very precisely. If we want to go on making progress, mainly if we have academic or professional goals that require a high level of proficiency, we must learn more formal and precise ways of expressing our ideas. This is when a thesaurus can be very helpful. It will almost certainly have a more limited usage than the simpler word we are replacing. When reading, we had better get into the habit of noticing words that express simple ideas in a more formal, precise manner. What is more, linking words of time or sequence helps us join ideas, sentences, and paragraphs together in a clear way as well.

The purpose of an informative essay is to pass on information to the reader. Regardless of the subject, the essay needs to present factual information on a topic that is certain to be unfamiliar to the reader. Informative essays have i) the introduction with the central idea or topic, the controlling idea, a hook, and background information about

the topic, ii) the body with details about the topic, transitions from old information to new information, words that let the reader know when the writer is certain and when he is hedging, and use of specific tenses – the present simple, the present perfect, the past simple, and the past perfect, and iii) the conclusion with a restatement of the central idea or topic, and a satisfactory ending. In academic writing, it is important not to overstate a point or make an absolute claim that we cannot support. Hence, it is of great consequence to be able to express degrees of uncertainty as well as certainty. When writers are not sure about some information, they hedge. Writers hedge to qualify what they are writing, to avert making statements that are overly broad or making assertions that have not been completely proven or cannot be verified.

A review is a particular type of persuasive writing, which is also a report on a book, short story, poem, movie, play, piece of music or art, or exhibition. The purpose of a review is to introduce the reader to the piece, express the reviewer's opinion about it, and finally persuade the reader that the piece is or is probably not worth reading, seeing, or hearing. Amongst various types of reports,

book reviews are one genre of persuasive writing that usually contains a brief overview of the content of the book, followed by a commentary on its strengths and weaknesses. These book reviews can be of fiction or non-fiction books. On the first hand, reviews of fiction books, such as a novel, commonly have an overview that contains some basic information about the plot (basic story), the setting (physical environment, period of time), and the characters (people, animals), without revealing information that tells the end of the story and spoils the reader's enjoyment. On the other hand, reviews of non-fiction books, such as popular science books, have an overview that generally contains an outline of the basic theories, concepts, or arguments presented in the book. In both fiction and non-fiction reviews, the reviewer, in the main, uses descriptive language and provides short excerpts, quotations, and/or specific examples from the book. Those support the reviewer's opinion of the book and give the reader an idea about the content of the book. The introduction of a book review must contain the author's full name, his personal profile, the title of the book, the genre of writing, the audience, themes, and the indication of the reviewer's opinion. The first time the author's name is mentioned, the reviewer uses his or her full name, but later, only the last name is used. When reporting what an author has written, reviewers use a variety of reporting verbs and expressions like 'say', 'write', 'argue', 'believe', and 'think'.

The general purpose of persuasive writing, too, is to convince the reader to agree with the writer's opinion on an issue. Effective persuasive writing certainly contains vivid, persuasive language. There are still other types of persuasive writing: editorials, op-ed articles, letters to the editor, persuasive essays, and persuasive speeches. In the introduction of these persuasive types are a clear description of the issue and why it is important, and a thesis statement that clearly states the writer's opinion on the issue; in their body are i) factual evidence to support the writer's opinion, particularly data such as percent-

ages, statistics, and clear comparisons, ii) references to opinions from experts on the issue, iii) arguments that support the writer's opinion, iv) a presentation of the arguments of the opposing side, and v) counter-arguments that respond to the opposing side's arguments; in their conclusion are a forceful restatement of the writer's opinion, and an appeal to action, requesting that the reader do something. In good persuasive writing, the writer must not only present his own strongest arguments but also try to imagine all arguments on the opposing side, present them, and then demonstrate that they are wrong. Often the writer's argument will seem more persuasive if he makes a concession before demonstrating why he disagrees with the opposing side. When making a concession, the writer agrees that some part of the opposing argument is correct, while still arguing that the opposing argument is mostly wrong.

A letter to the editor is a specific type of persuasive writing in direct response to a newspaper op-ed or editorial. The writer gives his own opinion or perspective on the issue addressed in the op-ed or editorial, agreeing or disagreeing with it. Letters to the editor are usually short and direct. The introduction is generally a simple statement of agreement or disagreement, along with a reference to the original article and its writer in parentheses. This is the letter writer's 'thesis statement'. The body of the letter is also brief, usually just one or two paragraphs. In the body of the letter, the writer presents the reasons for his opinion. These can be based on both the writer's personal experience and factual evidence. In the conclusion of the letter, the writer often includes a request that the reader takes action. This request is the writer's 'call to action'. It either contradicts or supports the original writer's call to action.

A narrative is a story about events that had happened. It is chronologically told in the order in which the events occurred. By and large, writers compose narratives when they write about historical events or true stories about people's lives – biographies,

ARTICLE

autobiographies, and memoirs. The fundamental structure of a historical narrative is i) the introduction to the characters, setting, background information or interesting details that the reader needs to follow the story, information about why this event is significant or this person is important, and description of the significant problem or conflict, ii) the body with the story, describing what happened and answering the questions who, what, when, where, why, and how, paragraphs or sections organized by time periods and including interesting details, many time words and expressions, a chronological order, or a pattern which clearly signals any shifts in time in order that readers can tell the story is moving forwards or backwards from the 'now', details or descriptive language to bring the story alive, and iii) the conclusion with the description of the end of the story that solves the problem or conflict in a satisfactory way and a comment on the significance or importance of the subject.

An expository essay is an essay in which the writer shares information with the reader, supporting the main points with factual information. Noticeably enough, the writer's personal experience or point of view is not usually included in an expository essay, except maybe as a hook to get the reader interested in the essay. Several types of expository essays involve cause and effect, compare and contrast, classification, and problem and solution. Sometimes, the writer of an expository essay will use more than one pattern of organization in the essay, and the choice of organizational pattern is dependent on the writer's topic and audience. A compare and contrast essay is a kind of expository writing whose purpose is to point out the similarities and/or differences between two things. In some compare and contrast essays, there is a focus on similarities; in others, the focus is more on the differences. In others, the similarities and differences are discussed evenly. The compare and contrast organizational patterns are used in many disciplines or areas of

MoI Union Minister meets members of film, video censor boards



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn sprinkles water on artistes and staff of MRTV in Yangon yesterday.

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn met members of the motion picture censorship board and video

censorship board in Yangon yesterday.

During the meeting, the Union minister said the meeting

intends to discuss cordially with censorship members to broadcast Myanmar movies, international dramas, films, movies

with Myanmar subtitles and series in line with the Motion Picture Law and Television and Video Law.

The arts for movies need critical thinking and extreme creation can cause toxicity to the public and the creation may be weak if there is strict restriction.

Therefore, the creators should initiate proper entertainment and the censorship members should censor following the six regulations based on the stipulations of Motion Picture Law and Television and Video Law. The censorship board censored the movies in detail and gave suggestions not to be toxic movies for the public.

The Union minister then appreciated the efforts of censorship members who censored 20 episodes of Myanmar series, nine Myanmar movies, 38 international movies, 10 Myanmar videos, one Karaoke, 776

international dramas (Myanmar subtitle) that were broadcast via TV channels, 57 international dramas (Myanmar subtitle, voice-dubbing in the Myanmar Language), 35 Myanmar dramas, 23 documentaries and five Myanmar movies.

Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization U Kyi Soe Tun, Myanmar Broadcasters Association Chairman U Ye Naing Soe, and MRTV Director-General U Ye Naing reported on the measures for censorship, broadcasting programmes and supervision of online media.

Then, other attendees coordinated the discussion and the Union minister concluded the meeting.

The Union minister enjoyed Myanmar traditional Thingyan festival at MRTV on Pyay Road in Yangon and sprayed artistes, staff of MRTV and guests each other. — MNA/KTZH

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study, for example, science, literature, social studies, and history. It is of the essence that the writer's main points are easy to follow. In this connection, the use of clear signal words indicating whether the writer is addressing a similarity or a difference is an essential feature of compare and contrast essays. It is also vital that the supporting evidence be well-researched, relevant, and clearly presented. When writing a compare and contrast essay, the writer cannot simply state that two things are similar or different; he must impart those statements with details, facts, observations, and examples.

A cause-and-effect essay is another kind of expository essay that explains the causes or reasons for an event or natural phenomenon. Writers must take care of only facts and make sure that there is a clear relationship between causes and effects or reasons and results. If the relationships between events or phenomena are not absolutely certain, it is of great magnitude to apply appropriate hedging language. There are scores of ways of expressing cause-and-effect relationships. Some state the cause-and-effect

relationship directly – for instance, the words ‘because’ and ‘so’ clearly mark the cause and effect in a sentence. Other ways of expressing cause and effect are less direct, and the cause-and-effect relationship is merely implied rather than stated directly – by way of illustration, the time word ‘when’ is sometimes used to suggest that one thing leads to another. Writers might use less direct ways of expressing cause and effect if the facts suggest but do not prove a clear cause-and-effect relationship.

It can be seen that in descriptive writing, writers use vivid, descriptive details to make sights, sounds, smells, tastes, textures, and feelings come alive for readers. As we probably know, descriptive writing is used in many types of writing, including expository, narrative, and persuasive. Poets are writers that use a lot of description, and in all types of poetry, these persons choose their words carefully, communicating a lot of meaning in very few words. A thesaurus can be particularly helpful when they select words to communicate the exact meaning. In addition, prose poems look like regular text (prose) that we might find

in a story or essay, which has a theme or main idea of what the writer is describing. They consist of full sentences but use poetic techniques – similes, metaphors, sensory descriptions, strongly evocative, vivid language, and sound devices – to bring a person, place, thing, or event alive. Usually, they are short, most notably in one paragraph, though there is no exact limit on how long a prose poem can be. As always, the topic or theme is set in the first sentence.

A literary analysis, a form of creative writing, is an essay in which the writer responds to a literary work – a poem, short story, or novel. In the response, the writer closely examines one or more literary elements as well as literary devices, involving protagonists, settings, narratives, plots, conflicts, perspectives, themes, interpretations, similes, metaphors, and meters. The writer even comments on the quality and significance of the work and provides his own interpretation of the meaning of the work. The elementary structure of the literary analysis is arranged in the order of i) the introduction with identification of the work or works being discussed, the writer's general

opinion of the author, and the thesis statement that, as usual, includes the general opinion of the work, ii) the body with the retelling of relevant parts of the plot, interpretations of the work, support for the writer's interpretation through clear examples and quotations from the work whether interpretations can come before or after the examples and quotations, precise, descriptive language describing opinions or judgments, based on a close examination of one or more of the literary elements, and clear and effective organization, and iii) conclusion with a summary of the writer's overall opinion of the work and the author.

To put it in a nutshell, writing is the most difficult. If and when anyone ever thinks that writing is just a piece of cake, I myself can say only ‘Try it’. Of course, the art of writing is a grand strategy that has been passed through different golden ages until now, viz. the first golden age of poetry, the second golden age of drama, and the third golden age of short stories, to the best of my knowledge. The very first step towards writing is none but a future writer's reading and then his tremendous drive to write.

Good readers turn out to be great writers. A writer must have got the habit of searching multilingual dictionaries for vocabulary, a good command of essential grammar of the language in his use and enough study on language, literature or sample writing besides watching modern, current or trendy usages in the papers, journals or magazines. Should anyone write an essay, he needs to have studied as many modelled essays by essayists to the core as he can afford so as to imitate their thinking process of subject matter in the essay. Without any example reading such as great works of literature or classics, writers will lose or meet an auto-stop in the sequence of thoughts in a piece of writing for sure. In general, there can be found five categories of writing in terms of subject matter – descriptive, narrative, expository, reflexive, and imaginative. Every writer can get started with their journey to successful writing by having a bash at what writing style they like. Never must the writer forget to take hold of discontinuous diligence to write and give adequate time for writing, under any circumstances.

Upgrading KBZ core banking system halts some services

SOME KBZ banking services are unavailable as KBZ Bank is upgrading the core banking system between 7 and 12 April.

The available services are credit cards (POS payment, e-Commerce payment), other KBZ Pay services (top-up, transfer, KBZ Pay Market, scan payment with QR code, gift cards, mini-apps, etc.) and KBZ Pay MPU Cash in (other bank cards).

During that period, the services of KBZ mobile bank-

ing and i-banking, debit cards (POS payment, e-commerce payment), credit cards repayment, ATM withdrawal (KBZ bank card), KBZ Pay Bank Transfer (cash in/cash out), KBZ Pay Bill Payment and others are unavailable.

The upgrading work will last from 11:45 pm on 7 April to 11 am on 12 April, the upgrading work. Upon completion of the upgrade, KBZ Bank will keep the customers posted and respond to them in a timely manner.—TWA/EM



The photo shows general view of the office building of the Union Civil Service Board.

199 job vacancies announced for four ministries including MoH

THE Civil Service Selection and Training Department of the Union Civil Service Board reportedly invited applications for 199 job positions in four ministries including the Ministry of Health.

A total of 199 job vacancies will be recruited by the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the Ministry of Electric Power and the Ministry of Industry.

The applications can be purchased and applied to the Union Civil Service Board (Nay Pyi Taw), the Union Civil Service Board (Yangon) and the Region/State government offices.

The applicants will apply to the Union Civil Service Board, No 17, Nay Pyi Taw either in person or by mail and by the e-Recruitment and Selection System (e-RSS) (UCSBe-RSS

Mobile Application and UCS-Be-RSS Web Based) not later than 10 May.

For more detailed information, they can contact 067-34090 52/067-3409430/09-424408954/09-4207 06605/09-420706606/09-797727696/09-441937343 and 09-262502988 of the Staff Selection Department, the Civil Service Selection and Training Department of Union Civil Service Board. — TWA/MKKS

Core banking စနစ် နည်းပညာမြှင့်တင်ခြင်းကို မကြာမီအချိန်တွင် ဆောင်ရွက်သွားမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

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A notice is seen for the upgrading KBZ core banking system

Call Center : 09951018555 www.kbzbank.com

Nay Pyi Taw to hold Thingyan celebrations including Walking Thingyan

THINGYAN celebrations will be held at the Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha Thingyan pavilion and the Water Fountain Park with Walking Thingyan in order to make Nay Pyi Taw Thingyan Festival more alive with people, according to Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Organizing Committee.

The opening ceremony of the Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha Thingyan pavilion and Nay Pyi Taw Walking Thingyan will be launched on the morning of 13 April (the eve of Thingyan), said Nay Pyi Taw Mayor U Tin Oo Lwin at the meeting of the Maha Thingyan Organizing Leading

Committee on 5 April.

During the Thingyan Festival, Nay Pyi Taw Mayor U Tin Oo Lwin instructed officials to ensure security issues so that the public can enjoy water splashing in a peaceful manner and ongoing working plans of subcommittees. — TWA/MKKS



Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal was seen being packed with people in 2022.

YESC to take action against illegal users of electricity



Power cables are pictured running from a post in a neighbourhood in Yangon.

ACTION will be taken against illegal power consumers under the Electricity Law 2014, according to the Yangon Electricity Supply Corporation (YESC).

Due to the existence of illegal power consumption through fraudulent methods, power outages, voltage drops, damages to transformers due to load failures, electrocution hazards and fire hazards have occurred currently, and are causing a decrease in revenue of the country's electricity sector and disrupting legitimate

users.

Illegal power consumption will be inspected by the electrical staff, and if illegal power consumption is detected, the power will be cut off for those who conspired with the illegal user and the compensation will be calculated according to the installed load. Illegal power consumers will be punished with a fine and imprisonment from a minimum of five years to a maximum of 10 years under Section 52 of the Electricity Law of 2014, the YESC announced. — TWA/CT

LOCAL BUSINESS

Myanmar bags over \$1.4 bln from pulses exports in past FY2022-2023

MYANMAR brought in over US\$1.4 billion from over 1.9 million tonnes of various pulses exports in the past financial year 2022-2023, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics indicated.

The country shipped over 1,640,777.167 tonnes of pulses and beans valued at \$1.26 billion to foreign markets by sea, and over 278,378.933 tonnes valued at \$208.788 million were sent to the neighbouring countries through land borders, totalling 1,919,156.1 tonnes worth \$1.47 billion last FY.

Myanmar exported over 2 million tonnes of various pulses worth US\$1.57 billion to foreign trade partners in FY2020-2021. The country shipped 1.24 million tonnes of pulses and beans worth \$966.4 million to foreign markets through the sea route,



Myanmar is the top producer of the black gram that is primarily demanded by India. Pictures show varieties of beans and pulses – Myanmar's major export items.

and 786,920 tonnes worth \$604.3 million were sent to the neighbouring countries through land borders.

Myanmar primarily exports

black gram, green gram and pigeon peas to foreign markets. Of them, black gram and pigeon peas are mostly sent to India while green grams are shipped

to China and Europe.

India has growing demand and consumption requirements for black grams and pigeon peas. According to a Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and India signed on 18 June 2022, India will import 250,000 tonnes of black gram and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas (tur) from Myanmar for five consecutive years from 2021-2022 financial year to 2025-2026 FY. This G-to-G pact will not affect the pulses' annual quota set by India. Myanmar's exporters are also entitled to deliver the pulses to India under that annual quota.

The prevailing price of black gram is K2,055,000 per tonne, while pigeon peas fetch K2,380,000 per tonne and green gram is priced at K2,416,000 per

tonne, according to Yangon Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Bayintnaung Commodity Centre).

On 18 March, the pigeon pea price hit a record high of K2.4 million per tonne, according to the Yangon Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Bayintnaung Commodity Centre).

Myanmar yearly produces approximately 400,000 tonnes of black gram and about 50,000 tonnes of pigeon peas.

Black grams that India primarily purchases are commonly found only in Myanmar, whereas pigeon peas, green gram and chickpeas are grown in African countries and Australia, the Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association stated. — NN/EM

MRF aims to achieve rice export target of 2.5 mln tonnes in FY2023-2024



Myanmar bagged over \$809.135 million from 2,164,681 tonnes of rice export in the 2021-2022 FY. Export rice bags are seen being stacked up at the warehouse.

MYANMAR Rice Federation (MRF) aimed to meet rice export targets of 2.5 million tonnes and generate an income of US\$1,000 million in the 2023-2024 financial year.

Last FY2022-2023 (April-March), Myanmar exported 2,261,203 tonnes of rice and broken rice worth \$853.472 million.

The export values were recorded at \$82 million from 250,947 tonnes in April 2022, \$51 million from 153,507 tonnes in May, \$50 million from 146,094 tonnes in June, \$66 million

from 182,550 tonnes in July, \$53 million from 156,893 tonnes in August, \$37 million from 93,792 tonnes in September, \$65 million from 163,189 tonnes in October, \$106 million from 264,038 tonnes in December, \$107 million from 268,835 tonnes in January 2023, \$76 million from 191,404 tonnes in February and \$65 million from 161,509 tonnes in March.

Myanmar primarily sent rice and broken rice to China (over 775,000 tonnes), followed

by Belgium (323,000 tonnes), Bangladesh (239,000 tonnes) and the Philippines (202,000 tonnes).

Myanmar has been exerting concerted efforts to grow 10 per cent yearly in the rice export sector. To raise foreign income, it has been prioritizing the exportation of high-grade rice and boosting export volume, MRF stated.

Myanmar bagged over \$809.135 million from 2,164,681 tonnes of rice export in the 2021-2022 FY. — NN/EM

Prices of fuel oil, gold and dollar on 7 April 2023

Fuel Oil Price (Yangon)

Octane 92	K2,250
Octane 95	K2,315
Diesel	K2,150
Premium Diesel	K2,230

All of the prices are based on per litre.

Gold Price

The reference price of high-purity gold set by YGEA	K2,364,500 per tical
High-purity gold in the gold market	K2,958,000 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.

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သတင်းစာ ဂျပန် စာစောင်များကို နိုင်ငံတကာစံချိန်စီ ပုံနှိပ်လိုပါက ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်

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Airbus to open 2nd plane assembly line in China, double output

EUROPEAN planemaker Airbus said Thursday that it will double its production capacity in China, as it seeks to bolster its footprint in a crucial market and sidestep potential geopolitical risks.

Asia and China in particular are key targets for both Airbus and its American rival Boeing, which are looking to capitalize on surging demand for air travel by a rapidly expanding middle class.

"It makes a lot of sense for us, as the Chinese market keeps growing, to be serving local for the Chinese airlines, and probably some other customers in the region," Guillaume Faury said during a trip to China, where



Airbus aims to double its production capacity in China. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

he is accompanying French President Emmanuel Macron. Faury later signed a framework agreement to build a second

final assembly line (FAL) at its factory in Tianjin, northeast China, for Airbus's hugely popular A320 family of

medium-haul jets, at a ceremony attended by Macron and Chinese President Xi Jinping. — AFP

Samsung expects first quarter profit to plunge 95%

SAMSUNG Electronics said Friday it expected first-quarter operating profits to plunge more than 95 per cent on-year to a 14-year low, as memory chip sales were hammered by a global downturn.

Weak demand and steep profit fall also led the tech titan to announce it will scale back memory chip production in a "meaningful" manner.

The firm said in a regulatory filing that January-March operating profits were expected to drop 95.7 per cent to 600 billion

won (\$455 million), their lowest level since the first quarter of 2009.

The anticipated drop in profits was because of "continuing weak demand for IT products that have aggravated the performances of all sectors", Samsung said in the statement.

"We are cutting memory chips production to a meaningful level," it added, saying the company had "stockpiled enough supplies of certain memory chips products to meet changing market demand down the road". — AFP



The decision to cut chip output sent Samsung's shares up more than four per cent Friday on hopes prices will bounce back down the line. PHOTO: AFP

Vietnamese garment industry suffers in Q1 as retailers cut orders

VIETNAMESE garment makers felt the impact of a global slowdown dampening demand in their key markets as the industry's exports dropped 17.4 per cent to 7.2 billion US dollars in the first quarter from a year earlier, according to the country's General Statistics Office.

Textiles and garments, Viet Nam's second-largest export earner after smartphones and electronics, have been hit as consumers in the US, Europe and other big markets cut spending on clothing, said Cao Huu Hieu, chief executive of the country's top textile and garment maker Vinatex.

Vietnamese manufacturers are faced with a sharp decline in orders as global demand has shrunk by over 60

per cent, resulting in a contraction of up to more than 63 billion US dollars in the global textile market, Hieu added.

Local companies had to cut about 20 per cent of their production and many had been forced to reduce their workforce, said Nguyen Huu Tuan, a senior executive of listed Thanh Cong Group.

Other firms also reported a drop of more than 20 per cent in both order quantity and value, Pham Xuan Hong, chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City Textile and Garment — Embroidery Association, told local media. The hit to the textile and garment industry puts further pressure on Viet Nam's economy in the first quarter which grew at the second-lowest rate since 2011. — Xinhua

New chief Sato to embark on EV push as Toyota plays catch-up

REVVING up the electric vehicle business is the first priority for Koji Sato as the new chief executive of Toyota Motor Corp strives to sharpen its competitive advantage as the world's No 1 automaker.

The 53-year-old veteran engineer has pledged to address energy security and aims to transform Toyota from a conventional auto manufacturer into a mobility company at the same

time. The world's largest auto seller is the leading maker of gasoline-electric hybrid vehicles but lags behind in pushing all-electric vehicles.

Toyota currently offers several green technology options rather than focusing on EVs under a "multi-pathway strategy" that is sometimes considered a factor behind its relatively slow shift to battery-powered vehicles. — Kyodo



Toyota Motor Corp President Koji Sato speaks at a press conference in Tokyo on 7 April 2023. PHOTO: KYODO

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (0290-745N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (0290-745N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-4-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD.

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Xi, Macron call for early resumption of Ukraine peace talks

CHINESE President Xi Jinping and his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron on Thursday called on the international community to work toward an early resumption of peace talks to end Russia's war in Ukraine, following their talks in Beijing.

The two leaders, who jointly met the press, also shared the view that nuclear weapons shall not be used and a nuclear war shall not be fought in Ukraine.

Xi emphasized the need to stay rational and exercise restraint so that actions that will further aggravate the Ukraine crisis can be avoided. He also said in seeking a political set-



China's President Xi Jinping (C), his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron (L) and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen meet in Beijing on 6 April 2023. **PHOTO: LUDOVIC MARIN / AFP**

tlement of the Ukraine crisis, "the legitimate security concerns of all parties" should be taken into account.

Later Thursday, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen joined Xi and Macron for a three-way summit meeting after holding separate bilateral talks with the Chinese leader.

Von der Leyen said she encouraged Xi to reach out to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and the Chinese leader expressed his willingness to speak with him "when conditions and time are right". She told a press conference this was "a positive element". — Kyodo

White House blames bad intel, Trump for traumatic Afghan exit

THE White House on Thursday released a long-awaited review of the US exit from Afghanistan, laying blame on Donald Trump and a huge intelligence failure, but defending overall US conduct of the traumatic operation.

The classified review was sent to Congress, where the Republican majority in the House of Representatives is investigating what it says is President Joe Biden's failures during the August 2021 withdrawal.

Presenting a declassified summary, National Security Council spokesman John Kirby conceded mistakes had been made in the exit, which saw the Taliban seize control of Afghanistan within weeks, forcing the last American

troops and their allies into a desperate evacuation.

"Ending a war, any war, is not an easy endeavor, certainly not after 20 years," Kirby told reporters. "It doesn't mean it wasn't worth doing — ending that war in Afghanistan."

The White House largely blamed Biden's predecessor Donald Trump for creating the conditions leading to the rout.

But it also acknowledged that US intelligence services had failed to understand the Taliban's strength and the weakness of Afghan government forces that Western countries had spent years propping up.

"Clearly we didn't get things right" on intelligence, Kirby said. — AFP



Families board a US Air Force C-17 during the evacuation of Kabul, Afghanistan, 23 August 2021. **PHOTO: SAMUEL RUIZ, AFP/FILE**

China, Japan to hold high-level maritime dialogue in Tokyo on 10 April

CHINA and Japan will hold high-level dialogue on maritime affairs next Monday in Tokyo, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry, the first in-person bilateral meeting on the topic since May 2019.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning said Friday that officials in charge of foreign affairs, defense, and maritime law enforcement will be among the participants. They will discuss when the two countries will start operating a hotline between their defence authorities, a source familiar with bilateral ties said.

A meeting under the High-level Consultation Mechanism on Maritime Affairs was last held in November



A maritime safety drill is held in March at Hiroshima Port in Hiroshima for a Group of Seven summit meeting scheduled in the city in May. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE / KYODO**

via video link. Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang and his Japanese counterpart Yoshimasa Hayashi welcomed

the resumption of the in-person maritime dialogue when they met in Beijing last Sunday. — Kyodo

Russia's Lavrov arrives in Türkiye: official

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov arrived in Türkiye on Thursday, a Turkish official told AFP, for talks that include the future of a key deal that allows grain exports from Ukrainian ports through a safe corridor in the Black Sea.

Lavrov met with his Turkish counterpart Mevlut Cavusoglu during a fast-breaking dinner in the capital Ankara.

He is due to address a joint news conference with Cavusoglu and meet with President

Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

NATO member Türkiye, which has good ties with its two Black Sea neighbours, is pushing Russia and Ukraine to resume peace talks, hoping to build on past diplomatic endeavours last year.

"Despite the complication of the international situation, the Russian-Turkish political dialogue, primarily at the level of the heads of the two states, continues," the Russian foreign ministry said in a state-

ment ahead of the visit.

Lavrov, who last visited Türkiye in June, will also discuss with Turkish officials the grain deal, which the Russian foreign ministry said was extended "as a gesture of goodwill for another 60 days".

Türkiye has pushed for a 120-day extension in compliance with the original agreement.

Ukraine is one of the world's top grain producers. — AFP

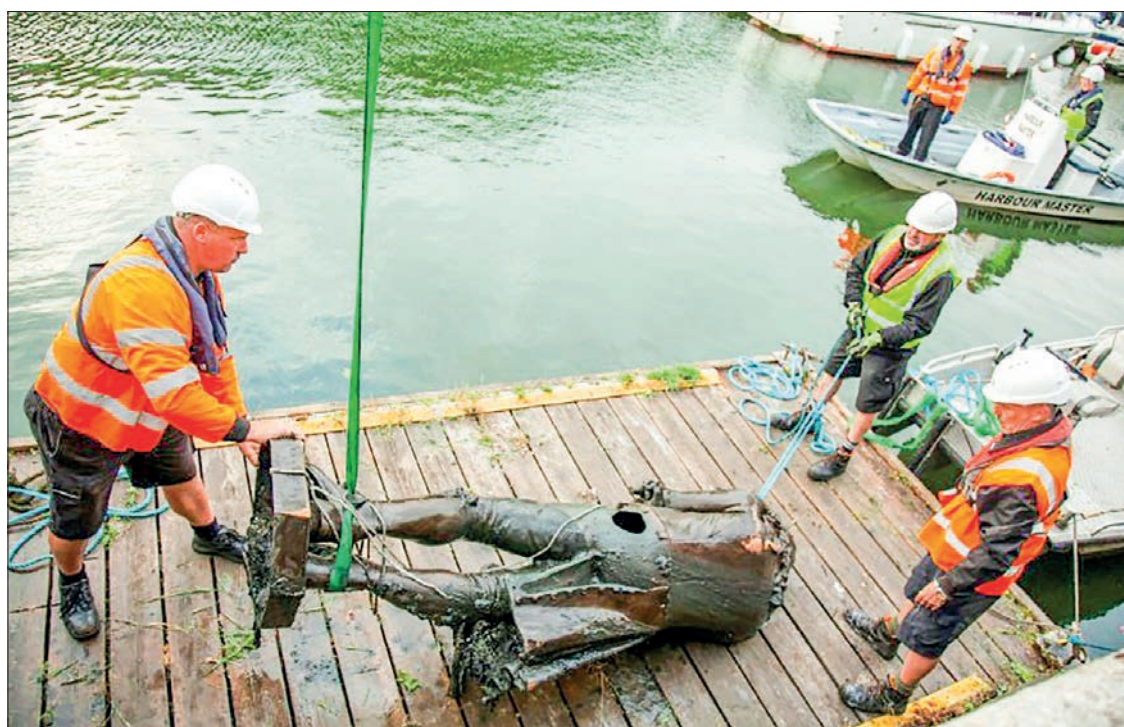
Charles backs probe into UK monarchy's slavery links

BRITAIN'S King Charles III is supporting research into the historical links between the monarchy and the transatlantic slave trade, Buckingham Palace said on Thursday.

A month ahead of his coronation, the palace said that academics will gain greater access to royal archives, and that Charles takes the issue "profoundly seriously".

Charles's 17th century predecessor King James II was the largest investor in the Royal African Company, which became a brutal pioneer of the transatlantic slave trade.

Last year, Charles told a meeting of Commonwealth leaders that in order to "unlock the power of our common future, we must also acknowledge the wrongs which have shaped our



A statue of English slave trader Edward Colston, who had ties to the royal family, was toppled by protesters in 2020. PHOTO: BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL/AFP/FILE

past".

But there was no apology from the then-heir to the throne for the royal family's involvement in the transportation and selling of people for profit.

A royal spokesperson said that since inheriting the throne from Queen Elizabeth II, Charles had continued his pledge to deepen his understanding of slavery's impact with "vigour and determination".

James II, who was deposed in 1688, was not the only one of Charles's forebears who was complicit in the slave trade. In 1689, according to a previously unseen document published by The Guardian newspaper, Royal African Company shares worth £1,000 were transferred to King William III from slave trader Edward Colston. — AFP

US Supreme Court justice received lavish trips from billionaire Republican: report

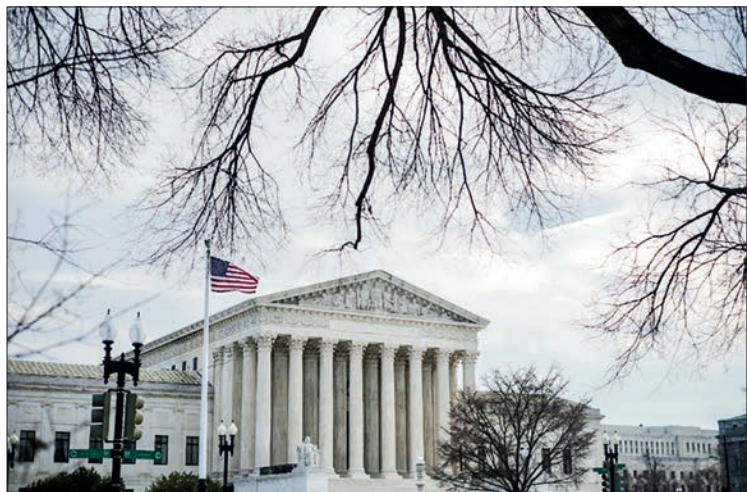
US Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas has accepted years

of luxury travel trips from a billionaire Republican, according

to a report Thursday, including yachting in New Zealand and private jet flights across the globe.

Staunch conservative Thomas, the longest-serving justice on the court, went on one trip to Indonesia that alone was likely worth \$500,000 — paid for by real estate tycoon Harlan Crow, according to the non-profit ProPublica news outlet.

The ProPublica investigation, based on interviews and reviews of photographs and other documents, showed "the Supreme Court is the least accountable part of our government", legal reform action group Fix the Court said. — AFP



The Supreme Court of the United States is the highest court in the federal judiciary of the United States. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

Macron in Guangzhou on final day of China trip

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron was greeted by a huge crowd as he arrived at a university in southern China, as he neared the end of a three-day state visit in which he has repeatedly pushed his counterpart Xi Jinping to help end the Ukraine conflict.

Macron, who landed in the capital Beijing on Wednesday, has said he is seeking to dissuade China from supporting Russia's invasion of its neighbour. — AFP

Gabon cuts presidential term to five years before election

FIVE months before elections, the parliament in Gabon on Thursday voted to reduce the president's term from seven to five years.

The vote amends the Constitution and also turns the presidential election into a single round.

Sections of the opposition criticised the changes, in particular the end of two rounds of voting, as a means of "facilitating the re-election" of Ali Bongo Ondimba. — AFP

Israel strikes Lebanon, Gaza after rocket salvo from Lebanese soil

ISRAEL launched air strikes before dawn on Friday in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon, saying it was targeting Hamas in retaliation for several dozen rockets fired at Israel from both territories.

The strikes were launched around 4:30 am Israeli time (0130 GMT), hitting both the Gaza Strip and southern Lebanon, according to an Israeli army statement.

Explosions were heard by

AFP in Lebanon's Tyre region as well as the Gaza Strip, where Israeli air raids had begun before midnight.

Tensions have soared between Israel and Palestinians during what is both the Jewish Passover and the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, prompting condemnations and calls for restraint from abroad.

The latest flare-up of vio-

lence comes after Israeli police clashed Wednesday with Palestinians inside Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque — Islam's third-holiest site.

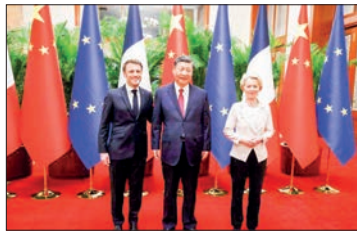
On Thursday, Israel's army said more than 30 rockets had been fired from Lebanese territory into Israel in the largest escalation along the frontier since Israel and Hezbollah fought a 34-day war in 2006. — AFP



Palestinians walk near craters on the ground after Israel launched air strikes on the Palestinian enclave early on Friday. PHOTO: AFP

Xi, Macron call for early resumption of Ukraine peace talks

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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.

Team Myanmar placed in Group A of SEA Games men's football competition



Myanmar national men's football team. PHOTO:MFF

THE drawing-lot ceremony for the 32nd SEA Games National Football Tournament, which will be hosted by Cambodia, was held on 5 April, and Myanmar national men's football team went into Group A.

All 10 Southeast Asian countries will participate in the SEA Games men's football tourney, except for Brunei, and it will be divided into two groups of five teams.

Myanmar is included in the Group A with host Cambodia,

Indonesia, the Philippines, and Timor Leste, while defending champion Viet Nam is placed in Group B with Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and Laos.

Team Myanmar has a better chance to advance to the semi-finals according to the group position, as Myanmar's main competitors are host Cambodia and team Indonesia.

Group B is tighter than Group A as the current champion Viet Nam, ASEAN powerhouse Thai and Malaysian teams

are expected to compete for the semi-finals.

The Myanmar team was eliminated from the group stage in the last Viet Nam SEA Games.

The Myanmar U-22 team has been taking training for the SEA Games since the last week of March, and is preparing for training with 36 preliminary players.

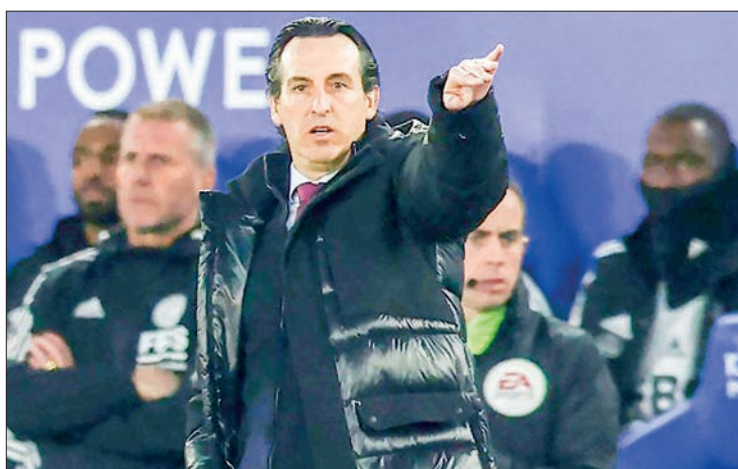
The team is handled by Germany's Michael Feichtenbeiner as the head coach. —Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Villa revival restores Emery's Premier League reputation

UNAI Emery is finally winning admirers in the Premier League after revitalising Aston Villa just five months into his redemptive return to English football.

Villa were languishing just above the relegation zone when Emery was hired following Steven Gerrard's sacking after an underwhelming 11-month spell in charge. Energised by the Spaniard, Villa have climbed to seventh in the table thanks to an impressive run of 10 wins from 16 league games.

Since the 51-year-old's first game in early November, only leaders Arsenal and second-placed Manchester City have earned more than Villa's haul of 32 points. Villa host struggling Nottingham Forest on Saturday



Aston Villa boss Unai Emery. PHOTO: AFP

aiming to move closer to the sixth-place finish that would mean a return to European football for the first time since the 2010/11 season. Emery initially targeted the top 10, but now he is setting his sights higher. "In my mind is

to have always the objective, and one of them is to try and be close and take the option (to get into Europe)," he said. "We are very proud of our work. We are very proud of our supporters. We are very happy.—AFP

Klopp calls for Liverpool reaction against Arsenal

JURGEN Klopp says his struggling Liverpool team must show "reaction after reaction" when they face Premier League leaders Arsenal at Anfield on Sunday.

The Reds are 10 points behind fourth-placed Manchester United and face an uphill task to qualify for next season's Champions League.

Liverpool have taken just one point from their past three games — all away — but have won nine of their 13 league matches at Anfield this season.

"We are at home and still have to show reaction after reaction — we have to — and improvement," Klopp said on Friday.

"That's what we will absolutely try on Sunday."

A much-changed Liverpool side drew 0-0 at Chelsea in midweek after defeats at Bournemouth and Manchester City.

"We have to change, we have to find a basis we can build on," said Klopp, whose side hammered Manchester United 7-0 in their last home game in early March.

"First step: intensity, desire, passion. Good at Chelsea, really, that was good. The rest, not so much. But it's fine — let's go from there."

Klopp, who admitted his team were low on confidence, said the Anfield factor could be crucial. — AFP