

# 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 Vice-Chair DPM Vice-Senior General Soe Win oversees rehabilitation efforts, meets frontline personnel in storm-hit Rakhine State



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win inspects the ongoing rehabilitation processes along the ring road of Sittway Beach in Rakhine State on 14 June 2023.

**V**ICE-SENIOR General Soe Win, Deputy Prime Minister and Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council, who also serves as the Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee, led a delegation that included SAC Members Admiral Tin Aung San and Dr Aung Kyaw Min, Union Ministers U Ko Ko

Hlaing, U Maung Maung Ohn, Dr Myo Thein Kyaw, and Dr Thet Khaing Win, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, deputy ministers, and other relevant officials. They arrived at Sittway Airport yesterday to assess the ongoing rehabilitation processes and express their gratitude to the departmental staff, res-

cue teams, and Parahita organizations involved in the cleanup efforts following the devastation caused by Cyclone Mocha in Rakhine State.

The Vice-Senior General and party first visited the Kaladan Multi-Modal Port of Sittway, where they inspected the arrival of cargo ships carrying relief items and rehabil-

itation materials intended for the storm-affected population. They also observed the transport of these essential supplies to support the rescue teams on the ground.

At Sittway University, Rector Dr Khin Maung Zaw and officials explained the Vice-Senior General on the progress made in repairing the convocation

hall, as well as the resumption of third- and fourth-year courses, and first and second-year honours. In response, the Vice-Senior General emphasized the importance of completing the roof repairs within one month while maintaining the university's unique characteristics.

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MYANMAR GAZETTE

Head of Service Organization confirmed

THE State Administration Council has confirmed the appointment of Dr Khin Thant Sin, Rector of Mandalay University of Distance Education of the Department of Higher Education under the Ministry of Education, on the expiry of the one-year probationary period.

New Ambassador of Russian Federation agreed on

THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the proposed appointment of Mr Iskander Azizov as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in succession to Dr Nikolay Listopadov.

Mr Iskander Azizov was born in 1956. He graduated from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations in 1978. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in 1978 and held various diplomatic positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Embassy of the USSR in Singapore, the Embassy of the

USSR in Malaysia and the Embassy of the Russian Federation in the United States of America. He served as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to Mongolia from 2013 to 2023.

Mr Iskander Azizov speaks Chinese, English and French languages. He is married and has a son. — MNA

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52 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 14 June, total figure registers 639,792

MYANMAR'S COVID-19-positive cases rose to 639,792 after 52 new cases were reported on 14 June 2023 according to the Ministry of Health.

Therefore, a total of 10,754,828 laboratory samples were examined and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached 639,792.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached 618,789 including 51 new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered 19,494 on 14-6-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. COVID-19 information can be browsed on the internet page moh.gov.mm of the Ministry of Health. — GNLM

Announcement for local and foreign well-wishers to donate cash to cyclonic storm Mocha victims

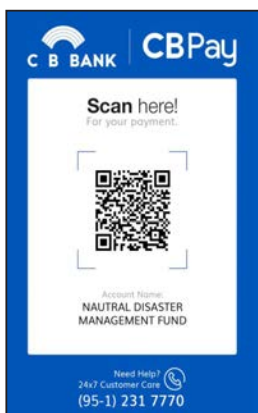
1. AN announcement has been issued that well-wishers wishing to make donations for people who fell victim to the extremely severe cyclonic storm Mocha which hit Myanmar on 14-5-2023 can donate cash to Myanmar account OA-011834 and foreign account 1DA-0300086.
2. In this announcement, it is duly mentioned that our commitment to receiving donations extends to additional electronic payment systems and mobile payment systems. Further updates and notifications will be made in due course.
3. It has been announced that dona-

tions can be made to the previously announced phone number and to the account that was opened, and since it can be confusing to donate with a phone number, we have already made it possible to donate with a QR code instead of the phone number.

4. Donations can be made through KBZ Pay or Wave Money. If you wish to donate, please scan the QR codes provided by both KBZ Pay and Wave Money. To contribute, enter the code included within the respective QR codes.
5. People make donations through CB Pay, AYA Pay, OK \$, UAB pay and

Citizens Pay which are widely used to enhance convenience for donors. To donate, please scan the QR code

and enter the code provided within it. 6. The well-wishers can contact the following persons for further information: -



Nay Pyi Taw	Yangon	Mandalay
Daw Lei Lei Aye Director-General Department of Disaster Management 067-3404050 09-2021491	U Than Soe Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Yangon Region Department 09-250123885	U Aye Min Thu Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Mandalay Region Department 09-420708827
U Win Shwe Deputy Director-General Department of Disaster Management 067-3404048 09-254170011	Daw Than Than Win Deputy Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Yangon Region Department 09-420740160	
Daw Phyu Phyu Win Director Department of Disaster Management 067-3404316 09-43054844		

National Disaster Management Committee

## Tatmadaw—guardian of the nation

The Tatmadaw will always be the guardian to the nation in any era or any time of a government.

*(Excerpts from the discussion by State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at a meeting with officers, other ranks and family members of Myitkyina Station held on 13 December 2022)*

## SAC Vice-Chair DPM Vice-Senior General Soe Win oversees ...

### FROM PAGE-1

He also interacted with master's students and inspected the relief operations being carried out within the university premises.

Continuing their assessment, the Vice-Senior General and his delegation inspected the ring road of Sittway Beach (Shukhintha road) and the maintenance work being done on the 12,900-foot-long road from post office junction to Sittway Hotel. During a briefing at the hall, Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant provided an update on the progress of road maintenance, and the Vice-Senior General offered appropriate instructions.

Next, they proceeded to Sittway General Hospital (500-bed) where Medical Superintendent Dr Kyi Lwin reported on the

damage sustained by hospital buildings and staff housing due to Cyclone Mocha. The Vice-Senior General provided necessary directives in response to the situation. During their visit, they also paid respects to Done Pike Sayadaw Bhaddanta Wunna, a 105-year-old monk with 85 vasa, receiving medical treatment at the hospital, and enquired about his well-being. Furthermore, they offered comfort to the local patients and inspected the hemodialysis unit.

Their itinerary then took them to No 1 BEHS Sittway, where they met with students and acknowledged their dedication amidst the challenging circumstances.

Finally, the Vice-Senior General attended a ceremony held at Sasana Beikman of Lawkananda Pagoda to honour the depart-



The Vice-Senior General presents alms donations to the Nanda Rama Pariyatti Buddhist Learning Centre Sayadaw.

mental staff, relief teams, and Parahita organizations involved in the cleanup efforts following

Cyclone Mocha. During the event, the Vice-Senior General expressed the government's

appreciation for the Myanmar Police Force, Red Cross Parahita, Fire Brigade, and Parahita organizations that participated in the rescue operations, highlighting their invaluable contributions. He mentioned that international countries, including ASEAN, anticipated significant losses, but the proactive measures and establishment of the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) on 8 May, based on lessons learned from the Nargis storm, helped mitigate the impact. The Vice-Senior General stressed the importance of continued cooperation and unity in the rehabilitation process, emphasizing that the strength of the nation lies within its collective efforts.

As a gesture of recognition, the Vice-Senior General, along with SAC Member Dr Aung Kyaw Min, presented awards to the departmental staff, relief teams, and Parahita organizations for their exceptional efforts in clearing the storm debris caused by Cyclone Mocha.

Lastly, the Vice-Senior General and his delegation paid homage to Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Bhaddanta Nanda Siri of Nanda Rama Pariyatti Buddhist Learning Centre in Magyeemyaing Ward of Sittway, making donations as an act of reverence. — MNA/KTZH



The Vice-Senior General attends the honouring ceremony for frontline personnel in Sittway yesterday.



At the Kaladan Multi-Modal Port of Sittway.



At the Sittway General Hospital.

# SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets departmental personnel, relief teams, voluntary teams in Maungtaw, Buthidaung townships

CHAIRMAN of the National Disaster Management Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win made an inspection tour of Maungtaw and Buthidaung to view round rehabilitation tasks yesterday afternoon and met departmental personnel, relief teams and voluntary teams in district and township administrative offices separately.

Senior military officers were assigned in Maungtaw and Buthidaung townships to supervise rehabilitation tasks and local authorities reported on the progress of rehabilitation tasks, provisions of construction materials for damaged buildings, management

for ration supply, and rapid repairing of damaged schools.

In his speech, the Vice-Senior General clarified the functioning of the disaster management centre for rehabilitation in the aftermath of Cyclone Mocha, repairing of buildings and offices on priority, evacuation of people to shelters, distribution of seeds of crops for cultivation in monsoon, the opening of schools on 1 June, management for students to learn education in repairing period, 99 per cent completion of communication measures in townships, storage of 10,000 tonnes of reserved rice (200,000 bags) before the storm, and fine traditions for soonest rehabilitation in unison and cooperation



Vice-Senior General Soe Win presents alms offerings to members of the Sangha in Maungtaw yesterday.



The Vice-Senior General views round the hospital in Buthidaung.



(Left & Right): The Vice-Senior General comforts patients at the hospital in Maungtaw Township yesterday.

and attended to the needs of attendees. He then presented foodstuffs to departmental personnel, relief teams and voluntary teams.

The Vice-Senior General and party paid homage to members of the Sangha at monasteries in Maungtaw and Buthidaung and offered rice and alms.

The Vice-Senior General and party viewed repairing the damaged buildings at the public hospitals in Maungtaw

and Buthidaung, comforted patients at these hospitals and presented foodstuffs and cash assistance.

While in Maungtaw and Buthidaung, the Vice-Senior General met with Tatmadaw members and families of local battalions, members of border guard police force and families, fulfilled their needs and presented foodstuffs and cash assistance. — MNA/TTA

# Aid can be donated to Yangon Region DMC for Mocha-hit regions through the Ministry of International Cooperation: Vice-Senior General



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses the meeting on Rakhine State recovery measures in Sittway yesterday.

THE state government and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation have to join hands in manufacturing foodstuffs without raising commodity prices in the region for food sufficiency of locals, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the coordination meeting on Rakhine State rehabilitation at the Rakhine State government office yesterday afternoon.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin reported to the Vice-Senior General on the accomplishment of the guidance of the SAC Chairman Prime Minister, repairing of cable networks in Sittway, efforts for electrification as quickly as possible, water supply, education, health, road/bridge, agriculture/livestock and irrigation sectors, rehabilitation tasks and distribution of relief aid.

Union ministers, deputy

ministers and officials discussed requirements for taking relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation measures in Rakhine State.

In his address, the Vice-Senior General who is also Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee said progress of rehabilitation can be seen in Maungtaw and Buthidaung thanks to departmental officials and locals.

The Vice-Senior General disclosed the Department of Agricultural Mechanization arranged to operate 85 tractors for agricultural tasks in necessary townships of Rakhine State. Arrangements are being made to send more power-tillers to the disaster-hit state.

In accordance with the policy of the Prime Minister, the Vice-Senior General stressed the need to follow the guidance in repairing the ministerial buildings and it needs to strive for securing development more than the original status.

The Vice-Senior General

stated that the state government and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation have to join hands in manufacturing foodstuffs without raising commodity prices in the region for the food sufficiency of locals. Efforts must be made for ensuring the sufficiency of meat, fish, egg and vegetables in the region as part of implementing the cash-for-work programme.

A total of 892 of 1,233 radio stations have been repaired, Electricity is being supplied to Sittway 66 kV sub-power station 1 through Satyoekya sub-power station 2 from Ponnagyun-Sittway No 1 power cable on 6 June. Thirty-three wards in Sittway are electrified by 245 transformers. A total of 29 transformers feed electricity to all urban areas in Ponnagyun from 7 June. The Vice-Senior General called for the timely completion of electrifying the remaining townships in the first week of July.

Some 32,000 gallons of

water is being supplied to Sittway, Minbya and Rathedaung on a daily basis. Moreover, 210 life straws and mobile pumps must be distributed as quickly as possible.

Government Technical High School, Sittway University, Technological University and University of Computer Studies in Sittway Township were opened on 1 June, and basic education schools started teaching on 1 June with an attendance of more than 492,000 students.

From 16 May to date, medic teams have given treatment to 17,239 outpatients and 33,527 inpatients in 17 townships of Rakhine State. Construction task forces under the Ministry of Construction started the reconstruction of roads and bridges damaged by the disaster on 18 May.

The Vice-Senior General stressed the need to seek permission from the Rakhine State government for providing aid to IDPs and Bengalis un-

der the rules and regulations. Aid can be donated to Yangon Region DMC to Mocha-hit regions through the Ministry of International Cooperation. The government connects with Humanitarian Country Team, approved the plans of the Secretary-General of ASEAN as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (SG-AHAC) for viewing damaged conditions and formed the On-Site Operation Coordination Centre for systematic measures related to international aid.

The Vice-Senior General also called for harmonious cooperation of officials at different levels with people in undertaking rehabilitation tasks.

In his conclusion, the Vice-Senior General underscored that all have to cooperate with one another in unison to take rehabilitation measures in line with the guidance of the Prime Minister that Rakhine State must be better than usual. — MNA/TTA

## MoC Union Minister attends relevant forums at BIMSTEC Business Conclave



Union Minister U Aung Naing Oo and Myanmar officials seen attending the forum of the BIMSTEC Business Conclave in India yesterday.

UNION Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo participated as the guest of honour in the forums organized by the BIMSTEC Business Conclave in Kolkata, Republic of India yesterday.

The BIMSTEC Agriculture and Food Forum took place in Ballroom One at the Hyatt Regency Kolkata Hotel from 9:45 am to 12:00 pm local time in India. Dr Myo Lwin, Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Beans, Maize, and Sesame Traders Association, and economist Dr Zaw Oo, the Executive Director of the Economic and Social Development Centre, were panelists in the discussion.

Additionally, the Union minister attended the Gem Forum

held in the Guchhi Hall of the Hyatt Regency Kolkata Hotel, where U Myint Han, Chairman of the Myanmar Gems and Jeweller Entrepreneurs Association, participated as a panellist.

Later in the day, the Union minister also attended the BIMSTEC Women's Forum in Ballroom One, as well as the BIMSTEC Education Forum in the Guchhi Hall. In the BIMSTEC Education Forum, Daw Khin Thet Maw, Vice-Chairperson of the Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association, and Daw Win Ei Khaing, founder of the Streamline Training-Learning Centre and an MWEA member, participated as panellists. — MNA/TS

## MoIP Union Minister attends e-ID System Work Committee coordination meeting

THE e-ID System Work Committee held a coordination meeting to develop an e-ID system, a fundamental function for implementing the e-Government system in Myanmar at the Ministry of Immigration and Population in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, Chairman of the e-ID System Work Committee Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing said the e-ID system is essential for the e-Government process as well as a foundation for national development activities.

In implementing the e-ID system, the biographic data and the biometric data of citizens aged 10 years and above residing in the country, associate citizens, naturalized citizens, permanent residence (PR) and permanent tax payment foreigners are collected, put in the database and then set each unique



Union Minister U Myint Kyaing addresses the e-ID System Work Committee coordination meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

ID number including 10 digits.

Among those who have received a UID number, the national ID will be granted to all those who are qualified to be citizens according to the law.

Moreover, over 52 million data in Naing-4 records and over 13 million household registration Form 66/6 are put into Da-

tabase and arrangements are being made to collect biometric data for the e-ID database system of respective regions and states. Such processes were being conducted as Pilot Projects in the ministries of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, governmental organizations, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Bago regions

starting from 14 November 2022.

The ministry also establishes an API platform for checking the SIM cards of the SIM Registration Management System (SRMS), the CSC number in the Aung Bar Lay lottery, personal data of Myanmar citizens residing in foreign countries and passport-related processes with

a database. It will also provide technical assistance to connect with the e-ID system for face ID in the centralized e-Pension system of the Myanmar Economic Bank.

The Union minister also highlighted the formation of an e-ID system tender committee under the permission of the State Administration Council to purchase the needed hardware and software, completed tender processes for the 2022-2023 FY and also discussed the progress of the e-ID system and future programmes.

Then, attendees reported on the ongoing e-ID system, plans for tender bidding, the need for technical devices and other work procedures.

The Union minister made proper instructions and concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH

## 15 electric vehicles arrive at Yangon Port

A total of 15 electric vehicles (two Dongfeng Honda ENS1 models and 13 Faw Toyota BZ4X models) imported by Amazing Auto Co Ltd arrived at Yangon Port and they were allowed to be claimed

under Customs procedures on 14 June.

The import of battery electric vehicles (BEVs) is exempted from Customs duties. — MNA/MKKS



Officials check the newly-arrived battery electric vehicles (BEVs) at Yangon Port yesterday.

## Tatmadaw (Navy) transports supplies to people in Mocha-hit Rakhine State

A 29-metre landing craft from Tatmadaw (Navy) transported 1,928 pieces of timbers in various sizes weighing 40 tonnes from Sittway to Minbya yesterday morning.

Another landing craft shipped 716 pieces of small logs weighing 18 tonnes from Sittway Port to Buthidaung Port yesterday afternoon. — MNA/KZW



The unloading of timbers in progress yesterday.



Relief supplies are seen being unloaded from the Tatmadaw aircraft yesterday.

## Tatmadaw (Air) continues delivering foodstuffs, aid to Rakhine State

RELIEF aid and food items contributed by the families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and well-wishers, and relief supplies provided by the National Disaster Management Committee for local communities affected by Cyclone Mocha in Rakhine State are being transported by Tatmadaw aircraft

and helicopter.

A total of 21.3 tonnes of onions, garlic, fish, eggs, vegetables, household wares and medicines donated by the families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and well-wishers were delivered from Yangon International Airport to Sittway Airport by plane of Tatmadaw (Air).

A total of 3,315 Tatmadaw members and departmental staff who will help in rehabilitation work and 525.3 tonnes of supplies were helicoptered to the storm-battered areas.

Officials in the respective areas received relief items and will distribute them to storm victims. — MNA/KZW

## Tatmadaw senior officers oversee rehabilitation efforts in cyclone-affected Rakhine State

THE State Administration Council has issued announcements regarding the areas affected by Cyclone Mocha, invoking Section 11 of the Disaster Management Law. As part of the restoration efforts in these areas, senior military officers were assigned to oversee the rehabilitation work. Accompanied by officials,

Lt-Gen Lu Aye arrived in Kyaukpyu where he witnessed the growing of coconut plants during the rainy season coconut tree planting festival held on the beach. Subsequently, they observed a mobile medical team providing healthcare services to residents at Gonechwain Monastery in

Gonechwain Ward. Additionally, foodstuffs were distributed to support the affected individuals. — MNA/KZL

Lt-Gen Lu Aye views the plantation of coconut trees in Kyaukpyu yesterday.



## Affordable prices for essential goods, commodities in Mocha-affected Sittway

TATMADAW Members of the local battalions under the Western Command, along with officials, sell essential foodstuffs at reduced prices, for the convenience of residents and departmental staff affected by Cyclone Mocha in Sittway.

A wide range of foodstuffs, including rice, edible oil, salt, meat, fish, eggs, dairy products, vegetables, onions, and garlic, as well as products from Tatmadaw factories and MEC such as instant noodles, biscuits, and canned food, were available for purchase at lower prices compared to the prevailing market rates. Additionally, electric devices and construction materi-

als from private entrepreneurs were also offered at discounted prices at U Ottama Park in Sittway.

Locals and families of de-

partmental staff expressed their gratitude for being able to buy essential foodstuffs at affordable prices during such difficult times. — MNA/KZW



Sittway residents are seen buying foodstuffs yesterday.

## Tatmadaw relief teams exert rehabilitation efforts

TO facilitate relief and rehabilitation activities in areas affected by natural disasters, the Tatmadaw has deployed relief teams consisting of local security forces. In cooperation with social relief organizations, they are actively assisting in the affected areas.

Relief teams in Kyaukpyu cleaned trees and bushes around the government guest house.

Similarly, relief troops in Ponnagyun cleaned fallen trees in Ywama monastery in Thazi village and they provided healthcare services and distributed purified drinking water to the locals.

Relief teams in Kyaukpyu are cooperating with the mobile medical teams to give healthcare services to locals in Ooyintha village, and they cleaned fallen trees around the Yangon-Sittway Highway near Padalate village and they cooperated with Myanmar Police Force and Fire Brigade members to clean fallen trees in Yaychanpyin village.

Relief teams in Buthidaung cooperated with departmental staff to clear up trees and bushes in South Myothit ward and provided healthcare services to locals. — MNA/KZW

# OPINION

## Clean up the environment to be free from DHF infection

**D**ENGUE haemorrhagic fever generally breaks out in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayin and Mon states, a special emphasis must be placed on controlling DHF in rural and urban areas, especially at basic education schools for schoolchildren.

As primary students under nine years old are immature to resist the impacts of DHF, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education have to jointly establish mosquito-free schools with momentum. It aims to improve the school health measures as well as contribute to healthy and happy learning of schoolchildren.

In this regard, not only parents and guardians but also teachers and officials of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education are responsible for implementing the aim to shape mosquito-free schools. Moreover, local authorities at different levels are to urge the residents to actively participate in mosquito-free measures as part of efforts to strictly control the outbreak of dengue haemorrhagic fever at home and schools.

Actually, there is no specific medicine to be used in treating DHF patients. But, preventive measures against the disease are the best treatment for monitoring the situation of the disease. As such, public awareness about the danger and symptoms of DHF must be staged on a wider scale. Officials from relevant departments and social organizations have to participate in the activities of combatting mosquitoes. As a nature, the Aedes mosquito hatches eggs in clean water and bites humans in the daytime to cause infection. Such a mosquito-borne disease infects humans one after another mostly under 15

years of age but all persons of all ages can also suffer from such disease. Symptoms of the disease appear in humans after having been bitten for four to six days on average.

Generally, the patients will vomit coffee-coloured ones and excrete black ones. Red spots will appear on the skin of patients with low temperature and blood pressure and suffer from pain in the stomach. If so, patients have to receive medical treatments at nearby hospitals and clinics in time. Moreover, people living nearby the patients have to clean up their residences and take care of their health conditions.

Combatting mosquito is a primary task for taking preventive measures of DHF. As such, all the people have to join the campaigns of shaping public residences and schools to be free from Aedes mosquitoes and larvae by cleaning up waste and unnecessary storage of water around the society. If so, the outbreak of DHF in society can be controlled to some extent.

### EV is constantly evolving

Today, electric vehicles (EVs) continue to evolve, with advancements in battery technology, charging infrastructure, and autonomous driving systems. The push for electric mobility is driven by the goal of achieving sustainable transportation and reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

The term "EV revolution" captures the profound changes that electric vehicles (EVs) are bringing to the automotive industry and society at large. It signifies a fundamental shift away from traditional internal combustion engine vehicles towards electric propulsion.

Sustainable transportation aims to meet current needs without compromising future generations. It refers to low- and zero-emission, energy-efficient, affordable modes of transport, including electric and alternative-fuel vehicles, as well as domestic fuels. Reducing dependence on fossil fuels is essential for climate change and sustainable development.

We need to find better ways to use energy system that doesn't hurt the environment. To do this, we need new technology advancements, supportive policies, public awareness, and collaboration among governments, industries, and individuals.

EVs generate considerably lower emissions over their lifetime than vehicles running on fossil fuels, irrespective of the source that generates the electricity. ICE vehicles ignite and combust fuel within an internal combustion engine (ICE). EVs are powered by electricity from a rechargeable battery instead.

To fully leverage their environmental advantages, it is essential to adopt a comprehensive approach that encompasses clean energy production, sustainable materials, streamlined manufacturing processes, and the establishment of supportive infrastructure.

### Lithium-ion batteries power EVs

William Morrison, from Des Moines, Iowa, creates the first successful electric vehicle in the U.S. His car is little more than an electrified wagon, but it sparks an interest in electric vehicles. 1896 advertisement shows how many early electric vehicles were not much different than carriages.

The basic process for convert-

ing a car to electric power involves removing the combustion engine, along with the gearbox, exhaust, and various other components. These are then replaced with batteries and one or more electric motors.

Lithium plays a vital role in the composition of EV batteries. Lithium-ion batteries, which are utilized in the majority of EVs, rely on five essential minerals: lithium, nickel, cobalt, manganese, and graphite. However, the extraction and processing of these minerals can have significant environmental and social consequences.

The manufacturing of lithium-ion batteries generates toxic waste alongside other forms of waste. Although there are attempts to reduce and handle waste responsibly, it is possible for toxic

to maximize EV's environmental benefits can be implemented.

Global electric vehicle sales surged despite the COVID-19 pandemic, exceeding three million units in 2020, as reported by the International Energy Agency (IEA). IEA's Global Electric Vehicle Outlook reports over 10 million electric car sales in 2022, with an estimated 35 per cent growth to 14 million in 2023 worldwide.

Global governments have implemented policies like financial incentives, subsidies, tax exemptions, and stricter emissions regulations to promote electric vehicle adoption, driving sales and innovation.

Battery technology advancements, such as increased energy density, cost reduction, and improved performance, have pro-



The revolution encompasses advancements in EV technology, increased EV adoption, the development of charging infrastructure, and the potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and dependence on fossil fuels. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/RICS ORG

waste to be produced during the battery manufacturing process.

Proper disposal of used batteries is vital to reduce environmental and health risks from hazardous waste in EVs. Strategies to maximize EV's environmental benefits can be implemented.

### Rapid growth of EV market

The global EV market has experienced impressive growth, reflecting a substantial transition to sustainable transportation. Industry reports and projections indicate that this growth trend will persist in the future.

Proper disposal of used batteries is vital to reduce environmental and health risks from hazardous waste in EVs. Strategies

to enhance driving range, reducing charging times, and increasing competitiveness with traditional vehicles.

The expansion of the EV market includes various vehicle segments like buses, trucks, and two-wheelers, driven by emission reduction, air quality improvement, and cost reduction goals.

To drive electric vehicle (EV) adoption, investments in charging infrastructure expansion are being made by governments and private companies. This addresses range anxiety and enhance convenience in urban areas and on highways. Major automakers are committing to EVs, phasing out internal combustion engines and investing

in development. Global collaborations and initiatives like EVI and EV30@30 are accelerating EV adoption and promoting charging infrastructure development.

## The EV Revolution

By AUGUSTIN

Global electric vehicle sales surged despite the COVID-19 pandemic, exceeding three million units in 2020, as reported by the International Energy Agency (IEA). IEA's Global Electric Vehicle Outlook reports over 10 million electric car sales in 2022, with an estimated 35 per cent growth to 14 million in 2023 worldwide.

### Global EV manufacturing

Market growth and adoption of electric vehicles vary by region and country due to factors like regulations, infrastructure, consumer preferences, and economic conditions.

China holds the title of the largest global electric vehicle (EV) market, leading in sales and adoption. This achievement is attributed to the Chinese government's implementation of ambitious policies and incentives to drive EV

in India.

Hero Electric specializes in electric two-wheelers, while Bajaj Auto has entered the EV market with the Chetak Electric scooter.

Ather Energy is an Indian startup known for advanced electric scooters like the Ather 450X.

Japan has been a significant player in the manufacturing and development of electric vehicles (EVs). Japanese automakers have made notable contributions to the EV industry and have been actively involved in the production of electric vehicles.

Japan aims to make more than two million EVs a year by 2030. In Japan, where EV demand is picking up gradually, an EV based on the tiny N-ONE model goes on sale in 2025. Two more EV models are planned for the following year.

Asian nations, including South Korea, China, Japan, and others, have actively participated in electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing. Companies like Hyundai, Kia, BYD, and NIO have made significant contributions to the EV industry. These nations have invested in EV production, battery technology, and infrastructure, shaping the global EV market.

Whereas, the United States is an active participant in electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing. Tesla, along with traditional automakers like GM and Ford, plays a significant role. Startups such as Rivian and Lucid Motors also contribute to innovation. Battery manufacturing and government support, including incentives and infrastructure development, further bolster the US EV industry.

In addition, Norway offers lucrative EV incentives, including tax exemptions. The country will end the sales of internal combustion engine cars in 2025. Norway's experience suggests that electric vehicles bring benefits without the dire consequences predicted by some critics.

Popular and affordable EV models include the Nissan Leaf, Renault Zoe, Hyundai Ioniq Electric, Chevrolet Bolt EV, and Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range).

These are just a few examples, and the global EV market

is continually evolving with new models being introduced regularly. While the EV market has been growing globally, its penetration in individual countries can vary significantly.

### EV adoption in Myanmar

EV adoption in Myanmar is influenced by infrastructure, government policies, market demand, and economic conditions.

To promote the development of EVs and related industries in Myanmar, companies interested in importing EVs engaged with the Steering Committee on National-level Development of Electric Vehicles and Related Industries.

Upon receiving approval from the committee, the importation of EVs took place.

The construction of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in Myanmar has already commenced. Pilot projects for EV charging stations are underway in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw. Local news sources report that models of EV charging stations have been sent to the Ministry of Electrical Power in Nay Pyi Taw.

The committee has approved the importation and utilization of electric vehicles in Myanmar as a pilot project, commencing from 1 January to 31 December of this year. This initiative aims to promote the widespread use of electric vehicles locally.

Challenges to the EV Revolution

### Challenges to the EV Revolution

The lack of charging infrastructure and high capital expenditure costs are hindering the EV revolution, but stakeholders are taking action to overcome these challenges.

Expanding charging networks, improving battery technology, and educating consumers is crucial.

Addressing upfront costs and ensuring a sustainable supply chain is important for wider adoption.

Grid management and consumer awareness also need attention.

Collaboration between governments, industry, and consumers is key for a successful transition to electric mobility. Continued investment and support are vital for a sustainable EV revolution.

Everyone faces challenges in life. It's a matter of how you learn to overcome them and use them to your advantage.

## Study discovers long Covid patients suffer from persistent inflammation



Researchers conducted a study where they analyzed proteins in the blood of individuals affected by extended COVID. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ AFP

A recent study from the Allen Institute and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Centre suggested that the cause of many protracted COVID cases may be an excessive inflammatory response.

When researchers examined proteins in the blood, they discovered a group of chemicals linked to inflammation that were only detectable in a small subgroup of patients with extended COVID and were not present in those who recovered from their condition. Today, the scientists wrote a paper for the journal Nature Communications outlining their findings.

About two-thirds of the 55 patients with extended COVID exhibited chronically elevated levels of certain inflammation-related markers. Additionally, the researchers examined blood samples from 25 COVID-positive individuals who recovered and from 25 healthy participants. People lacking lengthy COVID did not exhibit the same blood inflammatory symptoms.

The patient volunteers in the new analysis are part of a larger, ongoing study based at Fred Hutch, the Seattle COVID Cohort Study, which is led by Julie McElrath, MD, PhD, Senior Vice-President and Director of Fred Hutch's Vaccine and Infectious Disease Division, and Julie Czartoski, ARNP, Research Clinician at the Hutch.

Scientists have seen previous links between inflammation and long COVID, but the new study is the first to trace the persistence of these inflammatory

markers over time in the same patients.

There's an obvious implication to these findings, said Troy Torgerson, MD, PhD, Director of Experimental Immunology at the Allen Institute for Immunology, a division of the Allen Institute: Certain kinds of anti-inflammatory drugs might alleviate symptoms for some long COVID patients. But physicians need a way of telling which long COVID patients might benefit from which treatment — a form of precision medicine for a disease that so far remains maddeningly mysterious.

"The big question was, can we define which long COVID patients have persistent inflammation versus those that don't? That would be useful in terms of clinical trial planning and in terms of helping clinicians figure out targeted treatments for their patients," said Torgerson, who led the Nature Communications publication along with McElrath, Aarthi Talla, Senior Bioinformatician at the Allen Institute for Immunology, Suhas Vasaiyar, Ph.D., former Senior Bioinformatics Scientist (now a Principal Scientist at Seagen), and Tom Bumol, Ph.D., former Executive Vice President and Director. Specifically, the blood markers uncovered in this subset of patients with "inflammatory long COVID," as the scientists call it, point to a flavour of inflammation similar to that seen in autoimmune diseases like rheumatoid arthritis.

SOURCE: ANI



# CURRENT AFFAIRS

## MoC aims to implement Industrial Design Property Law by end of 2023

DURING the launch ceremony of the Intellectual Property Department's lower Myanmar Branch Office in Yangon, the Union Minister for Commerce (MoC) announced that the MoC is undertaking steps to enforce the Industrial Design Property Law by the end of this year.

The Ministry has outlined a vision for the development of the copyright system and has already commenced official trademark registrations through application centres in Nay Pyi Taw,

Yangon, and Mandalay, with the latest registration taking place on 26 April 2023.

Among the four property rights laws, the Trademark Law has already been put into effect. The Ministry of Commerce is actively working towards implementing the Industrial Design Property Law and the Literature and Art Property Law by the end of 2023, followed by the Intellectual Property Law in 2024. — TWA/MKKS



## MADB to provide maximum loan of K70 mln to individual farmers



The Myanmar Agriculture Development Bank in Yangon.

THE Myanmar Agriculture Development Bank (MADB) made an announcement on 14 June stating that it will offer loans of up to K70 million to individual farmers who require financial support for agricultural and rural development purposes.

The loan amount has been capped at a maximum of K70 million per farmer, with an additional provision that each group of farmers can receive a maximum loan of K500 million.

These two-step loans, issued by MADB, come with an annual interest rate of five per cent and are intended to facilitate plantation activities and rural development.

The loans will be disbursed to farmers for the purchase of various types of farming machinery and agricultural equipment, as well as for the construction and maintenance of factories and warehouses.

Repayment terms require farmers to pay back the loan

three times over a span of three years for tractors and hand tractors, while for other equipment, repayment is set at five times over a period of five years.

Interested farmers can obtain detailed information regarding the loan terms, conditions, and the necessary guarantee requirements by contacting the nearest Myanmar Agriculture Development Banks or regional banks. — TWA/CT

## Potato prices surge in Yangon market



Bags of potatoes arrive at the Bayintnaung market in early June.

THE wholesale prices of Heho potatoes witnessed a significant surge this year in the Yangon market. On 13 and 14 June 2023, the prices per viss (approximately 3.6 pounds) reached K2,250 for A1 type, K2,550 for OK and S1 types, and K2,450 for S2 type.

Within a span of 15 days starting on 25 May 2023, potato prices escalated by around K600 per viss, depending on the types. Comparatively, the prices on 13 and 14 June 2023,

rose by approximately K1,000 per viss in the Yangon market compared to the same period last year.

Despite record-high prices for onions and garlic in both 2022 and 2023, the cost of potatoes remained consistently high, as confirmed by Ko Aung, a regular customer.

While some large-sized potatoes are as big as a lemon, it is the OK and S1 types that are particularly sought after and command a higher

price in the market. Unlike onions and garlic, which can be stored for months, potatoes require cold storage facilities, compelling dealers to sell them quickly in the market.

Brokerage houses carefully filter the potatoes, including Chinese varieties, before placing them for sale. Consequently, traders must exercise caution when purchasing potatoes, unlike onions. — TWA/CT

## One killed in truck accident on Nawngkhio-Yaksawk Road

A truck overturned on the Nawngkhio-Yaksawk Road near Thayetgon Village in Shan State on the afternoon of 14 June, resulting in one death, according to the Fire Services Department.

Search and rescue personnel from Nawngkhio Township Fire Station carried out rescue operations after receiving the report that the driver was trapped in the front seat at the scene of the accident. The ambulance of the Phusin Myitta Social Association rushed the driver (the deceased) and the conductor (not critically injured) to the Nawngkhio People's Hospital. — TWA/CT



An overturned truck on the Nawngkhio-Yaksawk Road. Firefighters are seen performing rescue operations.

# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Rubber price rebounds, surpasses K1,400 per pound

THE rubber market in Mon State has witnessed a rebound in prices, surpassing K1,400 per pound, driven by the upward trend in international prices. Currently, the prices of sundried Local 3 rubber stand at approximately K1,405 per pound, while Ribbed Smoked Sheet Rubber is priced at around K1,425 per pound.

The price condition of rubber in Myanmar is influenced by global demand, rubber production in Southeast Asian countries, and market supply. This correlation holds true for Mon State, which is a significant rubber production hub within My-

anmar, as explained by traders.

Myanmar's annual rubber production is estimated to be around 300,000 tonnes, with China being the primary destination for 70% of the country's rubber exports. Additionally, Myanmar exports rubber to countries such as Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Viet Nam, South Korea, India, Japan, and others.

The Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association aims to export approximately 300,000 tonnes of rubber to foreign markets during the current financial year 2023-2024. In the previous financial year



The Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association aims to export approximately 300,000 tonnes of rubber to foreign markets during the current financial year 2023-2024. Photo shows the rubber plantation.



Sundried rubber.

2022-2023, rubber production exceeded 360,000 tonnes, with over 200,000 tonnes shipped to foreign trade partners.

Rubber cultivation is widespread in Mon and Kayin states, as well as in the Taninthayi,

Bago, and Yangon regions of Myanmar. As of the 2018-2019 rubber season, Myanmar boasts over 1.628 million acres of rubber plantations, with Mon State accounting for 497,153 acres, followed by Taninthayi Region

with 348,344 acres and Kayin State with 270,760 acres.

In the previous financial year 2020-2021, Myanmar generated revenue of over US\$449 million from rubber exports. — NN/EM

## Sharp increase in price of Pawsan Rice: Up by K7,000 per bag in two weeks

THE Myanmar Rice Wholesale Centre (Wahdan) reported a significant surge in the price of high-grade Shwebo Pawsan rice, with an increase of K7,000 per bag within a span of two weeks. On 1 June, the price of Shwebo Pawsan rice stood at K105,000 per bag, but by 14 June, it had soared to K112,000 per bag. The soaring cost of Shwebo Pawsan paddy, which exceeded K3 million per 100 baskets, is a key contributing factor to the elevated price of Shwebo Pawsan rice. Likewise, the prices of other rice varieties have also experienced an upward trend. The cost of old Pawsan rice ranged from K87,000 to K95,000 per bag, depending on the producing areas (Myaungmya, Patheingyi, Pyaw, Dedaye, and other regions). The prices of Khunni, Ngasein, short-matured



Rice bags are seen being well organized at the warehouse.

rice (90-day), Emahta, Pawkywe, intercropped rice, and new Pawsan rice variety were recorded at K80,000, K58,000, K74,000, K62,500, K80,000, K63,000, and K88,000 per bag, respectively,

as per the data released by Myanmar Rice Wholesale Centre (Wahdan). The prices of locally consumed rice varieties continue to rise steadily. The Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) is

committed to stabilizing the rice market and ensuring fair prices and quality products. The MRF will collaborate with rice millers, traders, and companies, urging them to strike a balance between

short-term and long-term trading benefits, as stated in the MRF's notification dated 24 April. Individuals and family entities can approach rice wholesale centres to obtain fair prices and quality products. In case of any difficulties, they can contact the MRF office, as per the provided statement. Furthermore, the MRF has encouraged the reporting of manipulators who spread malicious rumours on digital platforms to manipulate consumer concerns and raise rice prices. Such reports aim to protect the long-term interests of the rice industry, and the MRF will take appropriate action by forwarding the information to the relevant authorities if persuasion fails. It emphasizes the need for collaborative efforts from all stakeholders in the supply chain. — NN/EM

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 increase of death rate due to the disease.

# ECONOMY WORLD

## EU lawmakers to back world's first AI rules



The EU's proposed high-risk list includes AI in critical infrastructure, education, human resources, public order and migration management. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ AFP**

EUROPEAN Parliament lawmakers will vote Wednesday to kickstart talks to approve the world's first sweeping rules on artificial intelligence systems like ChatGPT, aiming to curb potential harms while nurturing innovation.

Although the EU's plans date back to 2021, the draft rules took on greater urgency when ChatGPT exploded onto the scene last year, showing off AI's dizzying development and the possible risks.

There is also growing clam-

our to regulate AI across the Atlantic, as pressure grows on Western governments to act fast in what some describe as a battle to protect humanity.

While AI proponents hail the technology for how it will transform society, including work, healthcare and creative pursuits, others are terrified by its potential to undermine democracy.

Once adopted by the EU parliament, officials say negotiations for a final law with the bloc's 27 member states will be-

gin almost immediately, starting later Wednesday.

The race is on to strike an agreement on final legislation by the end of the year.

Even if that ambitious target is achieved, the law would not come into force until 2026 at the earliest, forcing the EU to push for a voluntary interim pact with tech companies.

Brussels and the United States agreed last month to release a common code of conduct on AI to develop standards among democracies.

Lawmakers have hailed the draft law as "historic" and pushed back against critics who say the EU's plans could harm rather than encourage innovation.

"Is this the right time for Europe to regulate AI? My answer is resolutely yes — it is the right time because of the profound impact AI has," MEP Dragos Tudorache said during Tuesday's parliamentary debate in Strasbourg.

"What we can do here is to create trust, legal certainty, to enable AI to develop in a positive manner," European Commission Vice-President Margrethe Vestager said. — AFP

## China, Viet Nam witness cross-border travel boom



Vietnamese staff members, bouquets in arm, welcome Chinese tourists at the Huu Nghi International Border Post in northern Vietnamese Lang Son province, on 15 March 2023. **PHOTO: HU JIALI/XINHUA**

IT has been three years since Liu Fengjiao last traveled abroad, so when she recently embarked on a trip to Viet Nam she was brimming with excitement.

Despite the brevity of the trip, Liu, a resident from central China's Hunan Province, was filled with delight at the prospect of the outing. Upon reach-

ing the Youyiguan border post following her one-day tour in Viet Nam, she eagerly retrieved her camera and promptly captured a photograph of her tour group before exchanging goodbyes.

"The anticipation of this trip had filled me with exhilaration, as I had eagerly awaited it for so long.

Visiting Viet Nam after three years was a dream come true for me," Liu said. The Youyiguan border gate in the city of Pingxiang in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region has lately seen a cross-border travel boom, with the number of Chinese and Vietnamese tourists traveling to both sides increasing remarkably. — Xinhua

## Dutch firm wants Amsterdam-Paris-Berlin rail link

DUTCH rail transporter Qbuzz has asked national competition authorities for permission to run rail services between Amsterdam, Paris and Berlin from 2027, adding another competitor on the lucrative routes.

Based in Amersfoort in central Netherlands, Qbuzz submitted plans to the Dutch Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM) for three railway connections, based on European "open access" rules, it said. "Qbuzz wants to show its ambition and has put in a request for three rail connections," the company said in a statement.

"This concerns Amsterdam to Eindhoven, Amsterdam to Berlin and Amsterdam to Paris, which Qbuzz would like

to operate starting January 2027," it said on Monday.

Qbuzz, a subsidiary of Italy's state-owned railway holding, Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane, said it aimed to run seven daily trains between the Dutch, French and German capitals.

Several other Dutch rail operators have already applied for similar permission from the ACM, including Arriva, the Dutch arm of German-based DB Regio. Arriva filed similar plans before the competition watchdog on 15 June to operate a service between the northern Dutch Groningen province and Paris, with in-between stops including at Amsterdam, Schiphol airport, Antwerp and Brussels. — AFP



15 May 2023, Berlin: "Do not board" is written on a train of the railroad company Abellio in Erfurt's main station. **PHOTO: MARTIN SCHUTT/PICTURE ALLIANCE VIA AFP**

## Ukrainian farmers mourn animals and crops lost in flood

YURIY, a 56-year-old Ukrainian farmer, stands chest-deep in water in his village of Afanasiyivka, gazing around in bewilderment.

A week ago, he was growing vegetables and fruit and grazing his cows. Now his land in the Mykolaiv region is deep under murky green water.

The destruction of the Kakhovka hydroelectric dam has caused massive flooding in the regions of Kherson and Mykolaiv.

The flooding was yet another crippling blow to farmers

in the regions, who were already struggling to plant crops due to heavy shelling and the need to de-mine their land.

According to Ukraine's ministry of agricultural policy, several million tonnes of crops could be lost due to the flooding.

On the right bank of the Dnipro River in Kherson region, 10,000 hectares of agricultural land were flooded, while the flooded area on the Russian-controlled left bank is several times larger; the ministry estimated. — AFP

# PBOC cuts rates to boost growth



The People's Bank of China lowered interest rates for seven-day reverse repurchase agreements to 1.9 per cent from two per cent on Tuesday, after it injected two billion yuan (\$279.73 million) via the short-term liquidity instrument. **PHOTO: CAI YANG/XINHUA**

CHINA'S central bank cut its short-term lending rate, the first such move since August 2022, as the country stepped up measures to consolidate economic recovery and re-

store market confidence amid downward pressure, analysts said on Tuesday.

Thanks to Tuesday's policy interest rate cut, the country's key benchmark lending rates for medi-

um-term lending facility operations and loan prime rates are likely to see reductions over the following days, which will help prop up credit demand and boost investor sentiment.

The People's Bank of China lowered interest rates for seven-day reverse repurchase agreements to 1.9 per cent from two per cent on Tuesday, after it injected two billion yuan (\$279.73 million) via the short-term liquidity instrument.

"This means the PBOC will almost surely deliver a 10 basis point, one-year MLF rate cut on 15 June and a similarly sized cut to the LPR on 20 June," said Lu Ting, chief China economist at Nomura.

Meanwhile, Lu said his team believes the impact of a moderate cut to benchmark lending rates will be quite small, and the country still has to do more over the rest of this year. — Xinhua

# With Berlusconi gone, business empire faces succession question

WITH Silvio Berlusconi gone, the spotlight turns to a potential succession drama as his heirs inherit the controlling stake of the late Italian mogul's vast business empire.

Fininvest, the Berlusconi family trust, controls a myriad of companies in sectors ranging from television to film to publishing and football.

The Berlusconi fortune was recently estimated to be worth around \$7 billion. Since his death on Monday, speculation has swirled about the future of Italy's third largest fortune — from the possibility that its companies could be broken up to whether his

children and his girlfriend might fight for the spoils.

The family patriarch held onto his 61-percent stake of the group until the end. How it will be divided up among his children is unknown as the contents of his will have not been made public. The idea of a breakup seems appealing to investors as shares of Berlusconi's TV group, MediaForEurope, surged by 13 percent on such speculation on Tuesday.

Fininvest, however, sought to quash all speculation, issuing a statement saying that its business activities "will continue in a line of absolute continuity in every respect". — AFP

# US wholesale price inflation declined in May

US wholesale prices shrank more than expected in May, according to data released Wednesday by the Labor Department, due largely to a steep drop-off in energy demand.

The decline in the producer price index (PPI) provides further evidence of slowing inflation, giving the Federal Reserve another data point to mull over as it weighs the pros-

pect of a further interest rate hike.

The US central bank is set to announce later Wednesday if it will move ahead with an 11th straight rate increase to control above-target inflation.

But most analysts expect it to skip a rate hike this time to give policymakers more time to assess the health of the US economy. — AFP



Sixty percent of the decline in final demand goods "can be traced to a 13.8-percent drop in prices for gasoline," the report added. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Ministry of Immigration and Population Department of Population

### Invitation of Proposals for International Consultant

1. Ministry of Immigration and Population (MOIP) intend to implement Mapping and Enumeration Area delineation operation using GIS technology which is one of the major activities of Population and Housing Census. On this regard, Ministry of Immigration and Population is seeking the serving of an international consultant to delineate and produce Enumeration Areas (EAs), update the Geo Database provide technical advice and conduct the capacity enhancement training.

2. The experienced international consultant will be recruited through competitive selection and evaluation processes, and interested candidates are invited and suggested to refer below information to submit the proposal:

- (a) The date and time that the interested candidates can get TOR for international consultant - During 15-6-2023 to 14-7-2023 (during office hours.) TOR can be available from www.dop.gov.mm
- (b) The place which can be submitted the proposal - Department of Population, Ministry of Immigration and Population, Building No (48), Nay Pyi Taw
- (c) Method of submission of proposal - In person or by email: pop.dept.mm@gmail.com
- (d) Deadline for submission of proposal - 14-7-2023 at 16:30 PM MMT. (During office hours.)
- (e) Interview Date and time - The shortlisted candidates will be contacted

3. Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

4. If you want to know more about proposal form and the terms and conditions, you can contact the following phone number and email during office hours:  
Department of Population, Nay Pyi Taw  
Phone No. +9567-431066, +9567-431067  
Email Address. pop.dept.mm@gmail.com

**Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V FILOTIMO VOY.NO. (324W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V FILOTIMO VOY.NO. (324W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-6-2023** 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 AISA PTE LTD**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SOPHIA OCEAN VOY.NO. (23015)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SOPHIA OCEAN VOY.NO. (23015)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-6-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-5** 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

## Italy holds state funeral for ex-PM Silvio Berlusconi



Wreaths of flowers are laid in front of the Duomo cathedral in Milan on 14 June 2023 ahead of the state funeral for Italy's former prime minister and media mogul Silvio Berlusconi. **PHOTO: AFP**

ITALY prepared to say farewell to former prime minister Silvio Berlusconi Wednesday, with thousands of people expected at the billionaire's state funeral in Milan.

The ceremony for Berlusconi, who died Monday aged 86, will be held in the city's Gothic Duomo cathedral and shown live on screens in the square.

Berlusconi, adored and loathed by Italians in equal measure, had been ill for several years, though he remained

the official head of his right-wing Forza Italia party, a member of Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's coalition government.

"Love him or hate him, you have to acknowledge that he was a force of nature," former prime minister Matteo Renzi said Wednesday, adding that "nothing will be the same again".

Italian President Sergio Mattarella, Meloni and fellow coalition partner Matteo Salvini, head of the far-right League, were expected to attend the fu-

neral, while the European Union will be represented by its economy commissioner Paolo Gentiloni.

### 'Great man'

Large wreaths in the colours of the Italian flag stood along the front of the Duomo, where the ceremony was to begin at 3:00 pm (1300 GMT), presided over by Archbishop Mario Delpini.

It was not clear which current or former world leaders would be present. — AFP

## Uruguay finds cocaine in surfboards bound for Europe

POLICE have broken a drug ring that smuggled cocaine hidden in surfboards bound from South America to Europe, Uruguayan officials said on Tuesday.

The capture of the narcotics came after cooperative efforts by anti-drug police in Uruguay, Spain, Portugal and Italy, the officials said.

So far, three Italian citizens have been arrested, two in Portugal and one in Italy, they said.

"Operation Iris is unprecedented in our country because of the scope and significance of international cooperation," National Police Director Jose Manuel Azambuya said in a conference in which authorities from the other countries participated

via video link. Sniffer dogs from an anti-drug unit in Uruguay signaled something suspicious in a

package with the six surfboards on May 23, police said. Cocaine was found in the boards. — AFP



Uruguayan officials have announced the successful dismantling of a drug trafficking operation responsible for smuggling cocaine concealed within surfboards from South America to Europe. **PHOTO: AFP**

## With millions in need, Saudi announces Sudan aid funding conference

SAUDI Arabia on Tuesday announced an international conference next week to gather aid pledges for war-ravaged Sudan, where the United Nations says more than half the population urgently needs assistance and protection.

Many of them are in Sudan's Darfur region, where attacks against civilians could amount to crimes against humanity, the UN's head of mission said.

The pledging conference will be held on 19 June, the official Saudi Press Agency said. It cited the foreign ministry and added that the kingdom would jointly lead the meeting with Qatar, Egypt, Germany and the European Union, as well as UN agencies.

Saudi Arabia and the United States have been mediating

in the eight-week war between Sudanese army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and his former deputy Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, known as Hemeti, who leads the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces.

A record 25 million people — more than half the population — are in need of aid and protection, according to the UN, but as of late May, the world body's needs for \$2.6 million to address the crisis were only 13 per cent funded.

Entire districts of Khartoum no longer have running water; electricity is only available for a few hours a week, most hospitals in combat zones are not functioning, and aid facilities have been looted.

The country's western Darfur region has also been a centre of the fighting. — AFP



A record 25 million people — more than half the population — are in need of aid and protection, according to the UN, but as of late May, the world body's needs for \$2.6 million to address the crisis were only 13 per cent funded. **PHOTO: AFP**

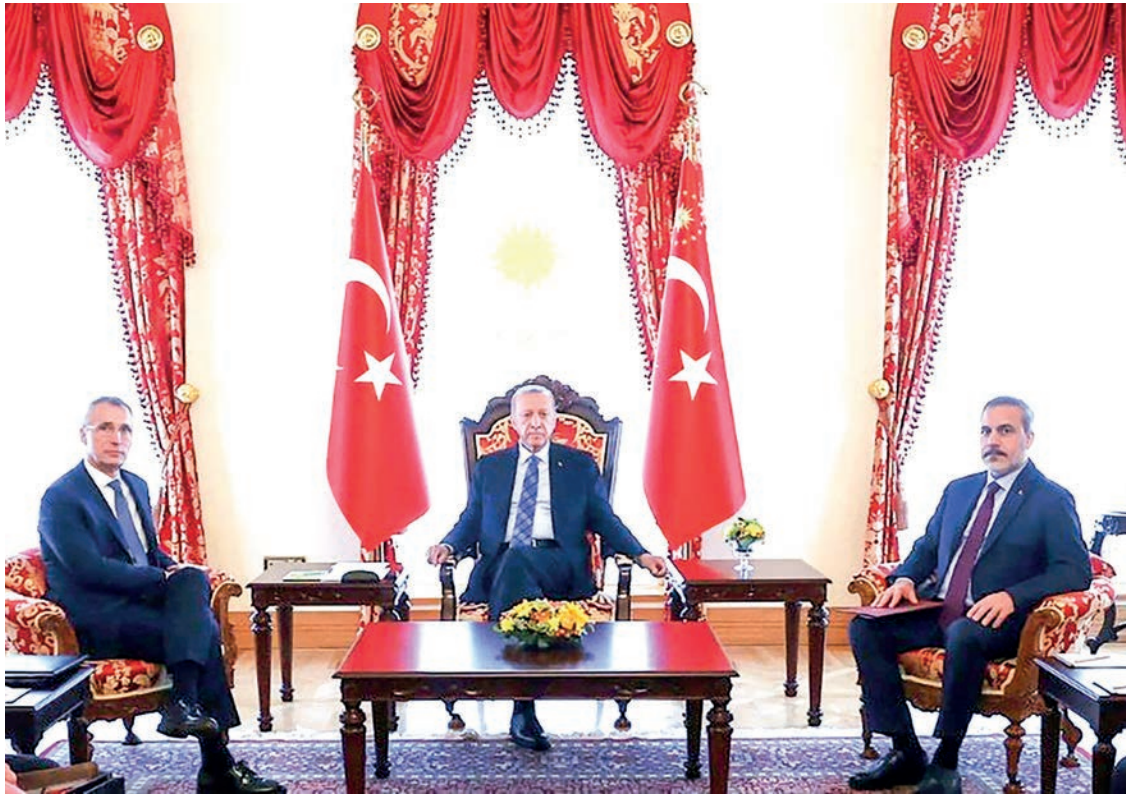
## Recruit fatally shoots 2 SDF instructors, hurts 1 at Japan gun range

A Ground Self-Defence Force recruit shot three instructors, two of whom were killed and another seriously injured, on Wednesday during a live-fire training exercise at the force's firing range in central Japan, the GSDF said.

The new recruit, an 18-year-old male, was arrested at the site following the incident that occurred at around 9:10 am during the indoor exercise in Gifu Prefecture, according to the GSDF. He has admitted to

shooting the victims with a rifle, police said. There were no reports of civilian casualties.

The two who died were aged 52 and 25, according to the police. They and the third SDF member shot, also 25, were taken to hospital, according to local firefighters. "As an organization that handles weapons, such things should never happen," Gen. Yasunori Morishita, chief of staff of the GSDF, told a press conference at the Defence Ministry in Tokyo. — Kyodo



NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg discussed Sweden with Türkiye's Recep Tayyip Erdoğan this month. PHOTO: PRESS OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY OF TURKEY/AFP

## Erdogan dampens hopes of Sweden joining NATO in July

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan on Wednesday rebuffed growing international pressure on Ankara to ratify Sweden's NATO membership bid before the Western defence alliance meets in July.

Western officials had hoped Erdoğan would soften his position on the diplomatically charged issue after he secured a hard-fought re-election last month.

But Erdoğan signalled no major shift in comments that were released by his office while Turkish and Swedish officials held last-minute negotiations in

Ankara.

"Sweden has expectations. It doesn't mean that we will comply with them," Erdoğan was quoted as saying.

"In order for us to meet these expectations, first of all, Sweden must do its part."

Sweden and its Nordic neighbour Finland ended decades of military non-alignment and applied to join the US-led defence bloc in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Türkiye and fellow NATO member Hungary ratified Finland's membership this year. — AFP

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### China tells US to stop meddling in internal affairs

CHINESE Foreign Minister Qin Gang told US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in a phone call Wednesday that Washington should stop interfering in Beijing's internal affairs.

Qin explained China's standpoint on Taiwan, which Beijing regards as a renegade province to be unified with the mainland, by force if necessary, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said.

Blinken is planning to travel to Beijing as early as this weekend to hold talks with senior Chinese officials. — Kyodo

#### Russian missile attack kills three in Ukraine's Odesa

At least three people were killed and 13 wounded in a Russian missile attack on the southern Ukrainian port city of Odesa early Wednesday, authorities said.

Russia fired four Kalibr missiles from a ship in the Black Sea, Serhiy Bratchuk, a spokesman for the region's military administration, said on Telegram. A strike on a retail chain's warehouse killed three employees and wounded seven others, he said. — AFP

## Lebanon MPs set for 12th attempt to elect a president

LAWMAKERS in crisis-hit Lebanon on Wednesday will make a 12th attempt to elect a new president, but bitter divisions between the powerful Iran-backed Hezbollah and its opponents are expected to mar the vote.

Lebanon has been without a head of state for more than seven months, and the last bid to elect a president was held on 19 January.

The vote for the presidency, reserved for a Maronite Christian under Lebanon's delicate sectarian power-sharing system, pits the Hezbollah-backed Sleiman Frangieh against financial official Jihad Azour, who has mainly been endorsed by Christian and independent legislators.



Lebanese MPs attend the 12th parliamentary session to elect a new president. PHOTO: ANWAR AMRO/AFP

With no side appearing to have the numbers to get their candidate across the line, analysts say the vote could further

entrench a political stalemate, dimming hopes of saving the economy after three years of meltdown. — AFP



Along with navy vessels, the operation included an army plane and helicopter as well as six other boats that were in the area. PHOTO: AFP

## 17 migrants dead, 100 rescued as ship sinks off Greece

GREECE'S coastguard said 17 migrants died early Wednesday after their boat capsized and sank off the Peloponnese, while around 100 others were rescued.

The accident occurred in international waters in the Ionian Sea and prompted an extensive rescue operation complicated by strong winds, the coastguard said earlier.

Along with navy vessels, the operation included an army plane and helicopter as well as six other boats that were in the area.

"Since very early Wednesday, an extensive rescue operation is underway off Pylos, after a fishing boat capsized with a large number of migrants onboard," the coastguard said.

Those rescued were being brought to Kalamata, though four in serious condition were transferred by helicopter to the port's hospital.

The coastguard said a surveillance plane with Europe's Frontex agency had spotted the boat Tuesday afternoon, but the passengers "refused any help". — AFP

Erdogan dampens hopes of Sweden joining NATO in July

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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.

## Australia coach wants 'great performance' to stop Messi in Beijing

AUSTRALIA said Wednesday they have maximum respect for Lionel Messi but will do everything they can to stop him when they meet Argentina in a Beijing friendly.

The two sides clash in the Chinese capital on Thursday in a re-run of their last-16 clash at the World Cup, where skipper Messi scored and terrorised the Socceroos in a 2-1 win.

Messi and Argentina went on to win the World Cup.

"Regarding Lionel Messi, how could you not respect someone who's done what he's done in football?" Australia coach Graham Arnold told reporters at the 68,000-capacity Workers' Stadium.



Australia's players take part in a training session ahead of the friendly against Argentina. PHOTO: AFP

"Of course we respect him, but at the same time we're looking to stop him and make sure our focus is on our performance, make sure that we get out there and play right, and put in a great performance against the world champions." — AFP

## Madrid confirm Bellingham arrival from Dortmund

REAL Madrid confirmed the signing of Jude Bellingham from Borussia Dortmund on a six-year deal on Wednesday, with the English international costing over 100 million euros (\$108 million).

German side Dortmund said an agreement for the 19-year-old had been reached last week with Madrid, worth 103 million euros plus up to 30 per cent of that fee

in bonuses.

Bellingham's arrival continues Real Madrid's regeneration of their midfield, joining young French duo Eduardo Camavinga and Aurelien Tchouameni, to help phase out veterans Luka Modric and Toni Kroos.

"Our clubs signs one of the biggest talents in world football, a player who comes from Borussia Dortmund and arrives

at Madrid after being chosen as the best player in the Bundesliga 2022-23 season," Madrid said.

"On top of that, he is only 19 and is already a starter for the England national team."

Bellingham shone for Gareth Southgate's Three Lions at the World Cup last year, with England knocked out in the quarter-finals by runners-up France. — AFP

## MFF finalizes squad for AFC Futsal Asian Cup 2024 qualifiers

MR Bunlert Charawong, head coach of the Myanmar national futsal team, has announced the final list of 25 players for the upcoming AFC Futsal Asian Cup 2024 qualifiers, as

confirmed by the Myanmar Football Federation.

The head coach carefully selected players from the participating teams of the MFF Rhino Futsal

League 2022 and MFF Futsal League II 2022.

Commencing on 19 June, the players, along with ten members of the management, will undergo training

together at the designated dormitory, according to the MFF.

In the AFC Futsal Asian Cup 2024 qualifiers, the Myanmar national futsal team is currently placed in Pot 2.

The MFF has stated that the drawing-lots ceremony for the tournament will take place on 22 June. — KZL



The Myanmar Football Federation select players from teams that competed in the MFF Rhino Futsal League 2022 and MFF Futsal League II 2022. PHOTO: MFF