

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

1. The Union Election Commission will be reconstituted and its mandated tasks, including the scrutiny of voter lists, shall be implemented in accordance with the law.
2. Effective measures will be taken with added momentum to prevent and manage the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Actions will be taken to ensure the speedy recovery of businesses from the impact of COVID-19.
4. Emphasis will be placed on achieving enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement.
5. Upon accomplishing the provisions of the state of emergency, free and fair multiparty democratic elections will be held in line with the 2008 Constitution, and further work will be undertaken to hand over State duties to the winning party in accordance with democratic standards.



OUR TRIBUTE TO MARTYRS ON 75TH MARTYRS' DAY

Spread democracy!

We must spread democracy and must try to build an independent Myanmar through this system. Only democracy is suitable for independence as it is the only system that supports peace. So, democracy must be our goal!

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Bogyoke Aung San at the fourth State leaders meeting in August 1945)



Announcement for opening reception centres to receive CDM staff, students and youths

THE State Administration Council has been striving for the all-round development of the country including economic, social, education and health sectors. In addition, security forces are performing their duties day and night so that the entire mass of national people in various regions across the Union should be able to lead their lives and earn their living in the peace of mind. The State Administration Council gives priority to achieving genuine and perpetual peace, building up the united strength of the national brethren.

In order to prevent the unnecessary loss of human resources, the State Administration Council has publicly invited the basic education staff who are absent from duty to resume their duties and those who take part in armed resistance under various names of groups, including PDFs, to return to the legal fold if they wish to, and is systematically receiving the returnees.

It is found that, due to the persuasion, instigation and coercion of CRPH and NUG terrorist groups, some CDM staff, students and youths went to the strongholds of some ethnic armed organizations and received training in arms, ammunition and explosives.

It is known that some of those who have completed the training no longer want to be involved in terrorist attacks and so they fled to the regions within and without the country and are working there for their living. When they see terrorist attacks with their own eyes, they cannot accept such terrible acts at all. On the other hand, they have come to believe in the government's five-point roadmap and its endeavour for durable peace. Moreover, they want to live peacefully in their hometowns again with their parents and relatives. Nevertheless, they cannot do so because of the coercion and intimidation by CRPH and NUG terrorist groups and their subordinates, it is learnt.

Therefore, the government is taking measures to be able to open reception centres in border areas for those who would like to return homes to their respective regions. Moreover, those wishing to return home can contact Tatmadaw units and police stations. It is guaranteed that they will be able to lead their daily lives peacefully.

Information Team
State Administration Council

18th SOMTC working group meeting on trafficking in persons held

THE 18th SOMTC Working Group Meeting on Trafficking in Persons was held yesterday afternoon through videoconferencing at the Office of the Anti-Human Trafficking Police Force.

The meeting was attended by Myanmar representatives led by Commander of the Anti-Human Trafficking Police Force Police Brig-Gen Myint Htoo and representatives from the ASEAN member countries and the ASEAN Secretariat.

In a discussion about the exchange of ideas on opportunities to solve human trafficking, Police Brig-Gen Myint Htoo said the situation of human trafficking in Myanmar is

on average 19.68 per cent within the country, and 80.32 per cent of the cases are abroad.

Myanmar participated in Phase I of Operation Storm Markers, a process of combatting human trafficking and human smuggling in March under the plan of Interpol, and the investigation was carried out, with a developed national plan, to prevent the torture, exploitation and trafficking of labour on fishing boats.

Action plans are developed to reduce human trafficking according to regions/states where human trafficking is common and prevent trafficking and forced labour from occurring. He discussed the new

trends and forms of human trafficking, human traffickers' finding targets with the use of social media, the benefits of amended procedures in investigating and taking action against human trafficking.

After that, the ASEAN member countries discussed the country-wise anti-human trafficking efforts, the development of the Boho Human Trafficking Action Plan (2.0), duties and powers of national representatives for the implementation of the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons, particularly women and children, and issues related to let Indonesia as the host country. — MNA



The 18th SOMTC Working Group on Trafficking in persons meeting is in progress online on 18 July.

22 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 18 July, total figure rises to 613,838

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **613,838** after **22** new cases were reported on 18 July 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **592,744** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll still stands at **19,434** without more casualties.—MNA

Further invitation to remnant groups to hold talks

DEMOCRACY as well as federalism requires equal rights. Talks will continue with the ethnic armed organizations to restore peace.

Good results came out from the talks with EAOs. Efforts will continue to restore peace by holding better talks.

Some EAOs cannot participate in the talks for various reasons. In line with the firm implementation of two political visions, the government further invites remnant groups to hold talks.

(The excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in meeting with ministers of Yangon Region government on 9 June 2022.)

MoFA Union Minister opens inauguration ceremony of Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies-MISIS (2022-2026)

UNION Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs delivered the opening remarks at the “Inauguration Ceremony of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies-MISIS (2022-2026)”, held at the Winzinzinmyarzar Hall, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Yangon, 18 July 2022.

In his opening remarks, U Wunna Maung Lwin stated that Track-II Diplomacy has been remarkably significant in current international relations and diplomacy and, accordingly, the role and networks of think tanks become more comprehensive and deeper than ever. He shed the light on how strategically importance of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies-MISIS is encountering challenges in current international relations. He asked MISIS to develop ideas and policy recommendations and suggestions which would be beneficial to the people and the nation through close collaboration with academicians, think

tanks and organizations from the domestic and abroad. Furthermore, he instructed MISIS for assisting in terms of intellectual knowledge of the various layers of diplomatic training courses of the Strategic Studies and Training Department for officials and staff from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Furthermore, U Ko Ko Hlaing, Union Minister for International Cooperation, distributed the welcoming speech at this ceremony. In his welcoming speech, U Ko Ko Hlaing urged the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies-MISIS to be continued their efforts in order to penetrate the development of Myanmar in various subject ranges such as International Relations, Defence, Security, Legal affairs, economic Affairs and Foreign Affairs.

Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (2022-2026) is firmly set up with former deputy ministers, retired Ambassadors, professionals, academicians and experts



The documentary group photo of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies-MISIS was taken at the front of its office yesterday.

from various arenas especially in the fields of foreign affairs, international relations, defence, security, law and economics.

The purpose of the organization is to study, observe and making research on regional and international issues in view of developing innovative ideas and making policy suggestions, through effective use of the Track II channel and friendly and close collaboration with

think tanks in domestic and abroad, those which have mutual interests and concerned.

The Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies-MISIS has been established and renamed in 2013, which was initiated under the name of the Myanmar Strategic and International Studies Division in 1992. Since its laying the foundation, MISIS, an affiliated organization to the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs stands as a successive and ongoing Myanmar think tank with 4 years-term for each board.

The members of the Advisory Board, the Chairman and the members of the Executive Board, the permanent secretary from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the directors-general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and responsible personnel were present at the event. — MNA

MoRAC Union Minister inspects special exhibitions of 75th Martyrs' Day



UNION Minister U Ko Ko of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Deputy Minister Dr Moe Zaw Tun, Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Yangon Mayor U Bo Htay and officials arrived at the Ministers' Office (Secretariat) at 9 am yesterday morning. Then, they inspected the parliamentary building, the site where the State Flag Hoisting Ceremony takes place, the meeting hall where Bogoyoke Aung San and his cabinet members were assassinated and exhibits put on display.

Afterwards, the Union minister and party visited the Bogoyoke Aung San Museum (Yangon) and inspected the layout plan of special exhibitions for 75th Martyrs' Day, preparations for greening the museum, and the complete summary of Bogoyoke Aung San's speeches displayed on a 32 inches touch screen, rare photos including the funeral ceremony of Bogoyoke Aung San, which are put on display for public by using digital museum technology and the land preparations. He left necessary instructions to responsible personnel. — MNA

Union Information Minister inspects shooting of TV programmes at MRTV

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn inspected the shooting of TV programmes of the MRTV on Pyay Road in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

First, the Union minister enjoyed Htoo Pyae Aung and Pwint Nadi Maung's Health TV programme and Thutawaipya Thirigayha (75), in which comedians and their families take part, in Studio 1.

Then, he viewed the programme of Myanmar Pyi Thein Tan's Song Diary (3) and the recording of songs by Myanmar Pyi Thein Tan, Saw Daniel, Ei Ei Hlaing, Cho Mi Mi Zaw and Regina, which will be broadcast

on Friday Night Live Show, in Studio D on 22 July.

In Master Control Room, he observed the rehearsal of the Myanmar Traditional Orchestra and MRTV Orchestra at Studio B, which will be broadcast on Friday Night Live Show on 5 August. In addition, he inspected radio programmes, remaking the recording process and recording radio programmes in Studio C. He warmly greeted the artistes and provided cash assistance to the staff. —MNA

MoI Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn views the playing of the MRTV Orchestra in Studio B.



Online application, registration fees for 2022 EPS-TOPIK exam be submitted by 23 July



MoL Union Minister U Myint Kyaing inspects the signing of employment contracts.

THE application submission for the 2022 EPS-TOPIK exam will be accepted through the

online system between 7 and 23 July, and exam registration fees can be paid between 14

and 23 July at Panglong Hall in Dagon Myothit (North) Township.

TOPIK (Test of Proficiency in Korean) is for the purpose of non-Koreans. The TOPIK test was launched in 1997, with 2,274 first takers. According to Wikipedia, since 2012, the number of TOPIK respondents has increased by hundreds of thousands every year.

Korean language learners all over the world, those who will study in Korea, those who want to go to work, those who want to change from a work visa to an entrepreneur visa, and those who want to settle down in South Korea often take the test. It is also a qualification test to be able to go to work in South Korea under the EPS system.

Union Minister of Labour U Myint Kyaing visited the Skill Training School in Dagon Myothit (North) Township

yesterday and inspected the issuance of the Overseas Worker Identification Card (OWIC), signing of employment contracts for sending workers to foreign countries and the examination and registration of workers going to work in the Republic of Korea through the EPS system.

Between 25 March and 30 June, the Ministry of Labour signed employment contracts with a total of 39,939 workers who will go to work abroad.

From 1 February 2021 to 30 June 2022, OWIC cards were issued to a total of 36,365 workers who will go to 57 foreign countries, including 2,083 to the Republic of Korea, 11,123 to Thailand, 10,561 to Singapore, 7,558 to Japan and 3,286 to Malaysia, respectively. — Htun Htun/GNLM

Daily newspapers available online

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SAC information team leader responds to Kaung for You case

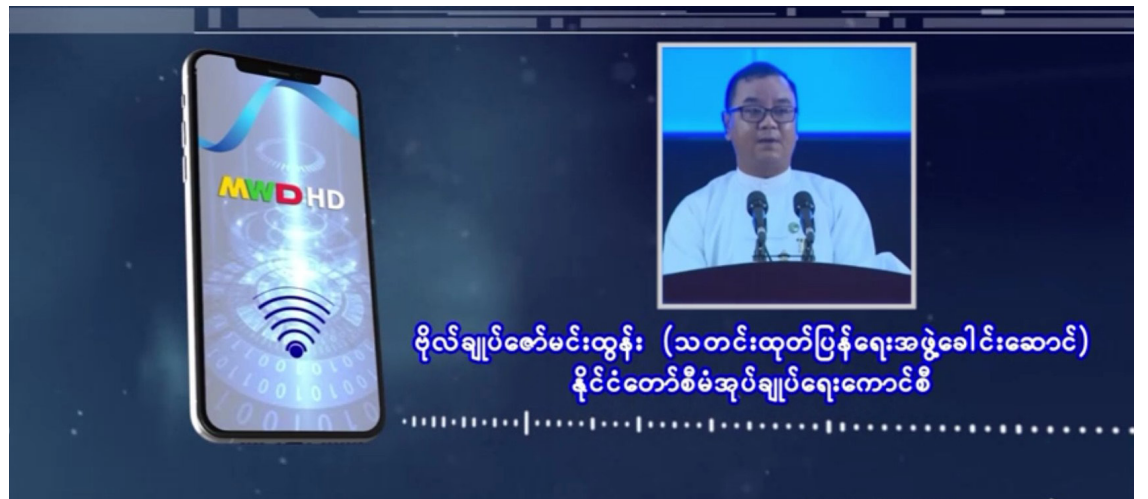
Q: I would like to ask about the issue of Kaung For You School, which was planned by the NUG terrorist group and said to be teaching online. When the security forces arrested and detained the person in charge of the “Kaung For You” illegal school and his two companions, it is seen that the staff and parents of students are currently being harassed to flee from various places. I would like you to answer the circumstances that will be carried out regarding this matter.

A: Our government has worked hard to open all schools with a free education system. Schools were also opened during the outbreak of COVID-19 and efforts were made to promote the education sector. We all know that the state has planned all that is necessary so that the public can continue to study with the free education system. Textbooks and notebooks and teaching materials were distributed free of charge. At the time of doing this, due to the instigation of the so-called terrorist group NUG, some teachers participated in the CDM campaign. However, the government reinstated the CDM teachers in line with the

civil service regulations to ensure that students’ education is not affected. Despite this, some of them have been doing things like online education from the outside until now. When we checked for this, we found that the money was collected. They even threatened the students and parents that they have their information in order to force them to pay even if they couldn’t afford to pay.

Regarding this process, the first thing I would like to say seriously and clearly is that no action will be taken against the students who had to go to school and their parents who had to register because of these incitements and intimidations.

We only pointed to an organization that we caught. A group called Kaung For You collects money from students’ parents. We found out what they do with the collected money when we arrested them in Aungban, southern Shan State. We have also reported the case of the arrest. It was found that the money collected from the parents of the students was paid and used to have fun with women. We have also described this issue with



SAC Information Team Leader Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun.

photographs as evidence. This is what the subversive media are writing about them as heroes, and parents and students continue to be incited. What’s worse is that they are inciting that the government will arrest the parents and students. The EAOs who were waiting to take advantage of that got worse. So-called PDF terrorists are also seen inviting them and asking them to take shelter. As for why they are doing this, the number 1 thing is that we have been able to identify what they are doing and prove it with evidence, so they want to redeem themselves. Number two is that

they are underpowered. There are breakdowns. After the people found out that they were doing something wrong, the people started to oppose them. This is done to avoid such situations. As for us, we have been readmitting those who have been charged under Section 505, so-called PDF groups, who have not committed any crime. Up to the present situation, we have accepted nearly 250 young people in the PDF group who have not committed any crime and returned them to their parents. The Tatmadaw has firmly guaranteed a multi-party democratic system and a union

based on democracy and federalism. Regarding these, there are things that we accept to work together for nation-building. So, if I have to talk about this issue, I would like to say that there is no action to be taken against the parents and students who are being tempted, except for those who are involved in this process, those who are leading it, and the people who are pushing the young people to go down the wrong path in this process. As students and parents, I would like to notify them that their children’s education should be done in the right way.

Yangon-Mawlamyine-Yangon, Yangon-Pyay up/down trains to resume in July



The Yangon-Mawlamyine-Yangon train.

THE Myanmar Railways will start resuming the Yangon-Mawlamyine-Yangon daily route on 25 July.

At the Yangon-Mawlamyine route, the departure time of the No 81 up train is 8 pm from Yangon and will arrive in Mawlamyine at 6 am the next day. The No 82 down train

from Mawlamyine will leave at 8 pm and arrive in Yangon at 6:15 am.

As an expanding plan of two trains at the Yangon-Pyay daily route will operate on 20 August. The departure time of the No 61 up train is 8:30 am from Yangon and will arrive in Pyay at 5:15 am the next

day. The No 62 down train from Pyay will leave at 7:45 am and arrive in Yangon at 4:30 pm.

As the Myanmar Railways plans for the convenience of passengers and smooth delivery of goods, more routes will be operated depending on the number of passengers and goods. — TWA/GNLM

Public Notice

1. The Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to effectively curb corruption.
2. The ACC used SMS on the mobile phone to ask the public who seek services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via Short Code No “1111” for feedbacks, including the Public Feedback Programme-PFP.
3. According to the PFP, the right replies of the citizens via Short Code No “1111” will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.
4. Therefore, the public should make a reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at Short Code No “1111” and such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

*Anti-Corruption Commission
Answer “1111” to fight against corruption
Answer “1111” to improve services
Let’s work together to eliminate corruption towards prosperity*

CBM Governor calls for regular meetings with Myanmar Banks Association to strive for stable development of banking sector

THE Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar called for regular meetings between the CBM and the Myanmar Banks Association and to strive for the stable development of the banking sector in line with the discussion and recommendations of the bank presidents.

The directors-general, the chairman and the executive members, and presidents of the state-owned banks and private banks were urged to do so at the meeting between the CBM Governor and the executive members of the Myanmar Banks Association through video-conferencing yesterday morning.

The financial and monetary policies for development are being implemented in a balanced manner to develop the banking sector stably, and as a result of all the banks working together to provide services, the use of banks has increased among the people and the confidence in the



The meeting between the CBM Governor and the executive members of the Myanmar Banks Association is in progress virtually.

banking system has improved, the Governor said.

When banks were facing

difficulties, the CBM provided liquidity support, relaxed set ratios to be followed, and provided

necessary support to each bank, he said. He added that it is necessary for the banks to continue

to follow the guidelines of the central bank for the success of their business.

Afterwards, U Win Thaw, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, said that the banks are continuously being provided with the necessary liquidity support, and it is necessary to continue to follow the methods to be carried out.

As the central bank, the monetary policy methods that will be flexible to develop the financial sector according to the global economic and national economic conditions and the methods and relaxation that will solve the challenges faced by the banks are being implemented.

Deputy Governor of the CBM Daw Than Than Swe also added that all banks are required to strictly comply with the regulations, directives, rules and procedures issued by the CBM. — MNA

CRIME NEWS

Stimulant tablets seized in certain townships

A motorcycle driven by Naing Win Tun (aka) Phoe Khwar, along with Ma Kaing Lain (aka) Se Daw on board was paused and examined by a combined team consisting of members of the Anti-Drug Police Force, on the Bhamo-Mansi Road in Hante Ward, Bhamo Township at 5:30 pm on 17 July. The team confiscated 11,000 stimulant pills from the suspects.

On the same day, a combined team of Anti-Drug Police Force searched room No 7 of the guesthouse in the Thantadar Village of Thandaypin Village-tract, Hmawby Township as reported

and seized 9,000 psychotropic tablets at 10 am.

Similarly, Wanna Tun (aka) Jay Jay and Pyae Sone Oo (aka) Phoe Pyae were found suspicious while a combined task force conducted inspections at the Khaingshwewah Street of Ward 7 in Hlinethaya (East) Township. The team searched the suspects and then impounded 2,440 stimulant tablets from them.

According to the Myanmar Police Force, the suspects were prosecuted under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA



Three arrestees are seen along with seized stimulant pills and motorbikes.

Illegal consumer goods, cosmetics, vehicles seized

SUPERVISED by the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, effective action is being taken to prevent illicit trade under the law.

Under the instructions of the Chairman of the Anti-Illicit Trade Task Force, an on-duty inspection team conducted inspections at the Yepu Permanent Checkpoint in Shan State on 14 and 17 July.

Officials confiscated K15 million worth of two vehicles which were carrying restricted goods. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

In addition, on 17 July, an on-duty inspection team made inspections at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) Combined Checkpoint.

They captured K2 million worth of 400 Yiluxieye brand sandals and K4.8 million worth of cosmetics that showed no official documents from two vehicles heading from Myawady to Yangon. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

On 18 July, a Customs mobile inspection team by the



Confiscated illegal commodities in Mon State.

Mawlamyine Customs Department Head Office made inspections under the Mon State Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force.

They captured a total of K3.9 million worth of masks without official documents from a Mitsubishi K74 pickup car (approximately K26 million) near the Hline area traffic

light of Mawlamyine detour heading from Phayathonzu, and the action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Therefore, six arrests (approximately K51.7 million) were made on 14, 17 and 18 July, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA

LOCAL BUSINESS

Kyat depreciates at unauthorized K2,300 despite CBM reference rate of K1,850

THE unofficial exchange rate against the US dollar hit a high of K2,300 on the over-the-counter market although the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) set the reference exchange rate at K1,850, according to local forex traders.

To strengthen the Kyat value in the local forex market, the CBM set the exchange rate margin within 0.5 per cent of the reference rate for the transaction, selling or buying, according to a notification issued by the CBM on 9 November.

Consequently, financial institutions including banks and informal money exchanges set a dollar value at K1,850 for buying and K1,855-1,859 for selling.

Starting from 15 July, Kyat weakened above K2,000. On 18 July, the selling price of a dollar was K2,300, while the buying price was 2,280 in the unofficial financial market.

The CBM sold dollars at its auction market for the sectors in need, to govern the market volatility. A total of \$443.8 million were sold at an auction in 2021 as well.

In September 2021, a dollar value hit an all-time high of over K3,000 in the black market and consequently, pure gold reached a record high of K2.22 million per tical (0.578 ounce, or 0.016 kilogramme) in history.

Under the guidance of the Central Committee on Ensuring Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods,



The unofficial exchange rate against the US dollar hit a high of K2,300 on the over-the-counter market although the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) set the reference exchange rate at K1,850, according to local forex traders.

the Monitoring and Steering Committee on Gold and Currency Market was formed on 17 Decem-

ber 2021 as gold and currency market stability play a crucial role in trade facilitation.

The objectives of the committee are inspecting and prosecuting market manipulation, checking if there is compliance with payment rules in the domestic market, and proceeding against those unscrupulous traders who intend to interfere with the free and fair operation of the market under the existing laws, by-laws and regulations in line with the official directives, illegal foreign currency holding, illegal trade and taking legal actions against price manipulators.

Furthermore, the officials concerned will crack down on those people involved in charging a percentage for money withdrawals at banks as shadow money.— NN/GNLM

Myanmar coffee beans fetch \$5,000 per tonne



There are 40,000 acres of highland coffee (Arabica) plantations and about 10,000 acres under lowland coffee (Robusta) in Myanmar, totalling 50,000 acres.

ROBUST domestic and foreign demand for Myanmar's coffee beans pushed the price to US\$5,000 per tonne, according to the Myanmar Coffee Association.

"Over 9,000 tonnes of coffee beans are yearly exported to external markets. The prevailing prices of coffee beans are \$4,500-5,000 per tonne," said an official of the association.

Myanmar's speciality coffee beans are highly demanded due to their high quality and organic production. Speciality coffee fetches a good price as well. Myanmar ships coffee beans to the external market without affecting domestic consumption, according to the Myanmar Coffee Association.

Myanmar's coffee has already earned a good reputation. It has penetrated markets in Switzerland, China Taipei (Taiwan), Thailand, UAE, the

UK, Hong Kong SAR, China, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, England, Germany, Australia, Canada and the US.

Myanmar's coffee export dropped by half last year on the weak demand triggered by the coronavirus. At present, the market has returned to normality.

"Coffee exports are quite early this year. Normally, transactions happen in June after taking samples. Traders have been buying coffee beans since December 2021. This year, both the yield and exports increased," said an official of the Coffee Research, Information, Extension and Training Centre in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Region.

About 500 tonnes of speciality quality Arabica coffee produced in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Region, are conveyed to eight foreign countries this year.

Myanmar's coffee has

grabbed a market share in the US, with the support of USAID and Winrock International NGO.

At present, efforts are being exerted to form a coffee central group including the related departments and region and state governments with an aim to penetrate the international market and improve the whole supply chain, value chain and distribution channels (production, packaging, trading, attracting investment and building foreign market connection). The chair of the Myanmar Coffee Association, the Coffee Producers and Exporters Association, coffee growers' groups and representatives from the private sector are included in the central committee. The central committee targets to achieve those goals, increasing coffee plantation acres, utilizing the quality coffee seeds, improving the yield, producing speciality coffee, and foreign market expansion.

There are 40,000 acres of highland coffee (Arabica) plantations and about 10,000 acres under lowland coffee (Robusta) in Myanmar, totalling 50,000 acres. Shan State is the main producer of coffee beans. The annual yield is estimated at over 9,000 tonnes of coffee beans. Coffee beans are harvested between December and February. They are distributed and exported throughout the year after harvest time.— KK/GNLM

Broken rice prices fall again

THE prices of broken rice are moving downwards in the domestic market, according to the Wadan Rice Wholesale Centre.

The price of broken rice reached the maximum of K35,000 per 108-pound bag between 11 and 15 July. The price slid to K28,000 per bag on 18 July, reflecting a significant drop of K7,000 per bag within three days.

Despite the price slump in broken rice, the price of rice is stable with the slow-moving market, the Wadan Rice Wholesale Centre reported.

The current prices of rice move in the range between K31,200 and K55,000 per bag depending on the variety.

Myanmar has shipped over 550,000 tonnes of rice and broken rice to foreign markets in Q1 (April-June) of the current financial year 2022-2023, with over 510,000 tonnes via seaborne trade and over 33,000 tonnes via cross-border trade.

Myanmar exported rice to around 20 foreign markets, mostly to the Philippines (65,990 MT) and China (54,635 MT).

Additionally, Myanmar primarily conveyed 66,853 MT of broken rice to Belgium, over 66,846 MT to China and 27,500 MT to Spain.

Myanmar also generated an income of US\$700 million from export of two million tonnes of rice to foreign countries in the past 2020-2021 financial year.— NN/GNLM



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OPINION

Pay back a debt of gratitude to martyrs

“UNITY must have a common interest, a common sense of working together and a common objective, for the independence of the whole country and the interests of the world populace. Unity must work for the people so that they can enjoy shared well-being and shared cause in working together. It is not enough just to say that we want to be united. Labour must be shared. And interests must be shared. Our objective must be the same. Only this kind of effort is worth calling ‘Unity’, General Aung San was quoted as saying at the AFPFL Conference on 23 January 1946.

During Myanmar’s independence struggling period, General Aung San often highlighted measures of fighting against colonialists, national unity and rehabilitation of the nation, adding that only when all the people strive for building an independent nation with a firm conscience will they achieve the goal.

If the people wish to pay back a debt of gratitude to the martyrs who sacrificed life for the entire nationality and the nation to be able to escape from the colonial yoke, all the people are to work in concert to ensure the perpetual existence of the independence and sovereignty of the nation and to ensure peace and prosperity of the nation with loyalty and adorability to the State and the citizens.

All the people under the colonial rule were burdened with sufferings such as various atrocities, exploitation and instigation in political, economic and social arenas. These bitter experiences became root causes for them to fight back against the colonialists and fascists for the entire people with sacrifices of life and blood to escape from slavery lives in various ways and means.

Unexpectedly, national leader General Aung San and other leaders of the nation lost their lives in an assassination brutally committed by the national traitor.

Lackeys of colonialists destroyed the independence struggle of the entire nation but the situation did not change as they expected. New leaders came out again to fight against the colonialists so as to demand the independence of the nation repeatedly.

New leaders of the State have been holding up the guidance of the national martyrs in successive eras in nation-building tasks since the time when the nation regained independence. Now is the best time for all national people to enjoy shared well-being and shared cause in working together. All the public desires must be implemented. If so, their endeavours will be the acts to pay back a debt of gratitude to the martyrs.

New leaders of the State have been holding up the guidance of the national martyrs in successive eras in nation-building tasks since the time when the nation regained independence. Now is the best time for all national people to enjoy shared well-being and shared cause in working together. All the public desires must be implemented. If so, their endeavours will be the acts to pay back a debt of gratitude to the martyrs.



A 13-day-old baby receives the polio vaccine in Gadab town, Karachi Sindh Province, Pakistan. PHOTO: UNICEF/ASAD ZAIDI

COVID-19 fuels slowest rate of childhood vaccination in three decades, leaving millions at risk

OFFICIAL data published by UN agencies on Friday shows the largest sustained decline in childhood

vaccination rates in approximately 30 years, with 25 million infants missing out on lifesaving shots. The figures released by

the World Health Organization (WHO) and UN Children’s Fund UNICEF, show the percentage of children who received three doses

of the vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP3) – a marker for immunization coverage within and across countries

– fell five points between 2019 and 2021, to 81 per cent.

The 25 million children who missed out on doses of DTP through routine immunization services last year, is two million more than in 2020, and six million more than in 2019, “highlighting the growing number of children at risk from devastating but preventable diseases”, said a press release issued by the UN agencies.

‘Red alert for health’

The decline was due to many factors including an increased number of children living in conflict and fragile settings where immunization access is often challenging.

Increased misinformation on social media and COVID-19 related issues such as service and supply chain disruptions, resources being diverted, and containment measures that limited access to jabs, also played a part.

“This is a red alert for child health. We are witnessing the largest sustained drop in childhood immunization in a generation. The consequences will be measured in lives,” said Catherine Russell, UNICEF Executive Director.

“While a pandemic hangover was expected last year as a result

of COVID-19 disruptions and lockdowns, what we are seeing now is a continued decline.

COVID is no excuse

“COVID-19 is not an excuse. We need immunization catch-ups for the missing millions, or we will inevitably witness more outbreaks, more sick children and greater pressure on already strained health systems.”

Some 18 million of the 25 million children missing out, did not receive a single dose of DTP during the year, the vast majority of whom live in low and middle-income countries, with India, Nigeria, Indonesia, Ethiopia and the Philippines recording the highest numbers, the agencies note.

Myanmar and Mozambique are among the countries with the largest relative increases in children who did not receive a single vaccine between 2019 and 2021.

Grave consequences

Globally, over a quarter of the coverage of HPV vaccines that was achieved in 2019 has been lost.

This has grave consequences for the health of women and girls, as global coverage of the first dose of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is only 15 per cent, despite

the availability of a vaccine for the past 15 years on the global market.

The agencies said they had hoped 2021 “would be a year of recovery during which strained immunization programmes would rebuild” following the first year of the pandemic, but instead, DTP3 coverage was set back to its lowest level since 2008 which, along with declines in coverage for other basic vaccines, pushed the world off-track to meet global goals, including the immunization indicator for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Rising malnutrition

The decline in immunization is happening against a backdrop of rapidly rising rates of severe acute malnutrition.

“A malnourished child already has weakened immunity and missed vaccinations can mean common childhood illnesses quickly become lethal to them. The convergence of a hunger crisis with a growing immunization gap threatens to create the conditions for a child survival crisis.”

Regional picture

Vaccine coverage dropped in every region, with the East Asia and Pacific recording the steepest

decline, down nine per cent in just two years.

“Planning and tackling COVID-19 should also go hand-in-hand with vaccinating for killer diseases like measles, pneumonia and diarrhoea,” said Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. “It’s not a question of either/or, it’s possible to do both”.

Some countries successfully maintained a high rate of coverage in routine immunizations, such as Uganda, which managed to roll out a targeted COVID-19 vaccination programme to protect priority populations, including health workers.

Pakistan returned to pre-pandemic levels of coverage thanks to high-level government commitment and significant catch-up immunization efforts.

Monumental efforts will be required to reach universal levels of coverage and to prevent outbreaks, the WHO and UNICEF warned.

Inadequate coverage levels have already resulted in avoidable outbreaks of measles and polio in the past 12 months, underscoring the vital role of immunization in keeping children, adolescents, adults, and societies healthy.

Source : UN News

Dark-skinned patients get less ICU oxygen due to flawed device: study

RACIAL minorities receive less oxygen in the intensive care unit than white patients because of a flaw in a medical device found in hospitals across the world, a US study said Monday.

The pulse oximeter, first developed in the 1970s, clips to a patient’s finger and uses red and infrared light absorption to assess haemoglobin. But it is known to generate falsely elevated readings in people with darker skin.

In new research published in JAMA Internal Medicine, Eric Raphael Gottlieb and colleagues looked back at records of 3,069 patients at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Centre in Boston who spent at least 12 hours in the hospital’s ICU.

They compared oxygen sat-

uration estimates on the pulse ox devices to more accurate direct readings taken of haemoglobin oxygen saturation.

After controlling for other variables, they found that Black, Asian and Hispanic patients were given 0.2 to 0.4 litre minute less oxygen than their white counterparts.

“Our findings present a unique and compelling opportunity to improve equity through device reengineering and by reevaluating how data are interpreted,” the team wrote.

Another recent study on the same topic showed that measurement biases in oxygen saturation levels was associated with a time delay in eligibility for Covid-19 treatment for Black and Hispanic patients.

Source : AFP

After controlling for other variables, they found that Black, Asian and Hispanic patients were given 0.2 to 0.4 litre per minute less oxygen than their white counterparts. PHOTO: MARIO TAMA/GETTY/AFP



MYANMAR Daily Weather Report
(ISSUED at 7:00 pm Monday 18 July 2022)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is weak to moderate over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 19 July 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Magway Region and Kayah State, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, and Bago regions and Northern Shan, Kayin and Mon states, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi regions and (Southern and Eastern) Shan State and widespread in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar Waters. Wave height will be about (5-8) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Taninthayi Region.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19 July 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19 July 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19 July 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Gold price reaches K2,060,000



Gold bars are seen in the gold market.

THE closing price of gold in Yangon last week was K15,000 higher than the opening price this week, and the price is K2,060,000, according to Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

On 18 July, the closing price of academy gold was K2,060,000 while the global gold price was \$1,718 per ounce and K1,850 per

dollar.

“The opening price is K2,060,000 today. The price was K2,045,000 last Friday and it rose by K15,000. Some are waiting for the time to get a good price for selling their gold. The wholesale price is different,” said goldsmith Ko Khine Htut Win.

On 16 July, the closing price

of academy gold was K2,045,000 while the global gold price was \$1,707 per ounce and K1,850 per dollar.

“The gold price is stable on the religious significant days. The global gold price dropped. The exchange rate was high and the gold price is rising,” said YGEA Chair U Myo Myint.

As the production costs are high in gold mining industries and the gold price is still up.

In Tanai and Chipwe gold mines, the gold price was about K1.3 million per tical in the past and now it is K1.9 million. In the production sector, the price of diesel was K300,000 per barrel and now jumped up to K700,000 per barrel.

Although the gold production in the gold mining industry is low, there may not be a shortage of raw gold for sellers. Moreover, the gold import will not affect the local gold market.

— TWA/GNLM

Palm oil prices decline by K985 per viss

THE palm oil price dropped by K985 per viss during one week, according to reference prices. The prices in foreign countries also drastically declined and the local prices dropped.

The authorities announced the basic reference at K3,665 per viss in Yangon between 18 and 24 July. The price was K4,650 per viss 11-17 July, K5,815 per viss 20-30 June, and K5,645 per viss 13-19 June. The prices were not announced from 1 to 10 July. The prices dropped K985 per viss and to K2,150 in mid-month.

Indonesia has cut the export levy to zero from \$200 for all palm oil products until 31 August. They will continue collecting a \$288 tax for CPOs. The remaining amount of palm in that country is 7.23

million tonnes in May. The foreign palm oil price was \$1438.39 per metric ton on 9 June, \$980.31 on 5 July and \$901.95 on 13 July.

On 16 July, the price was about K7,000 per viss outside Yangon. The outside wholesale prices are higher and the retailers have to buy at high prices, said the buyers.

The oil import companies cooperated with the relevant organizations and sold oil at K4,750 per viss in 11 townships of Yangon Region using 16 trucks on 17 July.

They will sell the oil as per the reference prices.

The country imported 563,293 tonnes of palm oil in the 2015-2016FY, over 600,000 tonnes in 2016-2017FY and only 800,000 tonnes in the 2020-2021FY. — TWA/GNLM

MoH urges people to get booster shots

THE BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants of the Covid-19 pandemic cases are high in the world and people should get vaccinated against COVID-19, the Ministry of Health urged.

Moreover, the ministry accelerated the health awareness programmes for the returnees via border points including the Thai border. On 15 June, the three procedures for border, airlines and relief flights respectively were also released.

The country reported seven new Covid-19 cases on 17 July, bringing the total cases in the country to 613,816. The health authorities tested 4,507 people for COVID-19 and the positive cases were 0.16 per cent. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 reached 592,744 including eight new recoveries. The number of COVID-19 deaths has reached 19,434 as of Sunday, the ministry said. The BA.4 and BA.5 cases are currently high in Thailand, Japan, India and Singapore and the death toll is also on the rise. — TWA/GNLM

PHOTO NEWS

Let's Have a Book @ Book fair held at Junction Square



Let's Have a Book @ Book fair is being held at Junction Square promotion area from 18 July to 24 July. Innwa bookshop, Hsu Paing bookshop, Khit Sarpay, Twin Brother bookstore, Saw Oo Sarpay,



Thukhabon bookstore, Kaungsutha bookstore, Yetagon bookstore and Baby bookstore retail books at the fair, as well as the café shops are open in that area. (PHOTO: HTUN HTUN)

Gas used in homes shortages in Yangon market

THE Yangon market is facing a gas shortage and the remaining gas cylinder transaction is made at K7,800, according to restaurant owners and housewives.

“The small gas bottle is priced at K1,200 which was about K600 before. The price rose and we cannot buy easily. The shop where I always make orders shut down their shop and powered off their phones now,” said Daw Wah Wah Oo from South Okkalapa.

The country faces a gas shortage this week and the housewives and restaurant own-

ers face a shortage.

“There is a gas shortage even in the market. All the shops told us they don't have products. Some shops sell at high prices. We faced an oxygen shortage last year and now we face the gas shortage and have to buy at the highest prices this year,” said Ko Aung Thu Myint, a restaurant owner in Mingala Taung Nyunt.

The gas price was about K1,800 per viss in the market and it became over K3,000 per viss starting last year and K4,600 per viss until end-June this year. The price was between K5,600-

8,000 in early July.

“We cannot use the locally produced gas for many hours. The gas we use now is imported from Thailand and the UAE. The current problem seems to link with the foreign currency. If the fuel prices are high continuously and also the gas, it will affect the people. The officials should manage that situation,” U Lu Tun, a retired employee told the GNLM.

The housewives have been using gas for nearly 20 years as the electricity bill is high. In the past, people bought gas with a

licence book at the government's shop. The use of gas became widespread later.

“We don't have exact shops to buy the gas. We bought at K5,600 per viss yesterday. Today, the shop said the price is nearly K8,000 per viss. We use gas to fry. We face difficulties as we can't buy gas and can't use firewood and charcoal. The shop where we always buy gas does not answer our phone calls and it shuts down. We think turning to use charcoal during these days,” said Ko Win Thein, restaurant owner. — TWA/GNLM

Japan walks tightrope between no COVID restrictions, hospital strain

THE Japanese government currently has no plans to impose restrictions amid the seventh wave of coronavirus infections, but it remains to be seen whether the medical system will be able to endure the cost of this decision.

Over 105,500 new infections were reported nationwide Sunday, almost double from a week earlier and topping 100,000 for the third straight day. Among the surge, partly driven by the highly transmissible BA.5 Omicron subvariant, the number of severe cases rose by 15 from a day earlier to 129.

“If the number of serious cases continues to increase, hospital bed vacancies may not be able to keep pace,” said Hironori Sagara, director of Showa University Hospital in Tokyo.

The hospital, which has been accepting patients with relatively severe COVID-19 symptoms, had admitted less than 10 in the first

half of June, but the number has risen to around 20 in July. Daily infections in Japan had been steadily declining since reaching a peak of about 104,000 infections on 3 Feb, but a resurgence has been seen since late June.

While the system of transferring patients to hotels or facilities once their symptoms subside has been operating smoothly, it only worked because most patients had mild to moderate symptoms, according to Sagara. “The situation will change in the future when people with underlying illnesses are hospitalized for longer periods. In order to manage this, we must make efficient use of the beds,” he said.

Hospital bed occupancy rates in Tokyo, which reported 17,790 new infections Sunday, have surpassed 30 per cent, with over 2,000 people hospitalized as of 12 July. Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike has ordered measures to reduce



The Okinawa Medical Association holds an emergency press conference on 15 July 2022, in Haeburu, Okinawa Prefecture, to address the surge in COVID patients. **PHOTO: KYODO**

the number of deaths and severe cases, including increasing the number of rooms available at treatment facilities from 9,000 to

12,000 while maintaining socio-economic activities. The situation is even more serious in Okinawa, with the island prefecture report-

ing a record 4,165 new infections Sunday and a hospital bed occupancy rate of around 60 per cent. —Kyodo

India's COVID-19 daily caseload comes down to 16,935

AFTER four straight days of reporting over 20,000 new cases a day, India's COVID-19 daily caseload on Monday came down to 16,935, officials said.

According to health ministry data released on Monday morning, 16,935 new cases of COVID-19 were reported during the past 24 hours, taking the total tally to 43,767,534 in the country, and the active caseload currently stands at 144,264.

India also logged 51 COVID-19-related deaths during this period, which has pushed the overall death toll to 525,760 since the beginning of the pandemic, the ministry said.

With the increase in cases, the daily positivity rate stood at 6.48 per cent and the weekly positivity rate was recorded 4.58 per cent, the ministry data showed.

The ministry said 43,097,510 people have been successfully cured and discharged from hospitals, of whom 16,069 were discharged during the past 24 hours.

According to the health ministry, the cumulative COV-



A health worker inoculates a man with a booster dose of the Covishield vaccine against the Covid-19 coronavirus at a vaccination camp in New Delhi on 15 July 2022. **PHOTO: PRAKASH SINGH / AFP**

ID-19 vaccination coverage in the country exceeded 2 billion doses as 2,000,461,095 doses have been administered until Monday morning.

The detection of a highly contagious Omicron mutant, BA.2.75, has begun to gain ground in India. There are fears that the new mutant may be able to spread rapidly and get around immunity from vaccines and previous infections.

The Indian government has focused on promoting

booster doses as the uptake for the third dose has been low. The drive to provide free booster doses of COVID-19 vaccine to all adults at government centres began on Friday.

Meanwhile, so far over 869 million COVID-19 tests have been conducted across the country.

Out of these 261,470 tests were conducted during the past 24 hours, the health ministry said. —Xinhua

Understaffing concern escalates in Australian hospitals as COVID-19 outbreak accelerates

COVID-19 outbreak has been accelerating in Australia's most populous states, escalating understaffing issues in the hospital system.

On Monday, nurses in two major hospitals in Sydney walked off the job to highlight their low staffing levels, as emergency departments were overcrowded by COVID patients and non-COVID patients over long periods, which has caused “chronic understaffing”.

The state of New South Wales (NSW) recorded 9,761 new COVID-19 cases and five deaths in the 24 hours to 4:00 pm Sunday. There were 2,169 people in hospital with the virus with 64 in intensive care.

A spokesman for NSW Health told local media that there were 2,719 health workers in isolation across the state. During the peak of the outbreak in January, more than 6,000 staff were forced to isolate on a single day. —Xinhua



Healthcare workers leave Town Hall following their meeting with the New South Wales Ministry of Health to discuss budget, wages and conditions for nurses and midwives, in Sydney on 28 June 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

ECONOMY WORLD



Fruit is sold at a supermarket on 13 July 2022, in New York City. US consumer price inflation surged 9.1 per cent over the past 12 months to June, the fastest increase since November 1981, according to government data released on 13 July. Driven by record-high gasoline prices, the consumer price index jumped 1.3 per cent in June, the Labour Department reported. **PHOTO: AFP**

Markets track Wall St higher on easing recession fears

STOCKS rose Monday following a rally on Wall Street in response to data indicating US consumers remained resilient to surging inflation and higher interest rates, easing concerns about a possible recession.

Still, investors continue to fret over the economic outlook, with Russia's war in Ukraine showing no sign of ending, China locking down cities to fight a new Covid flare-up, and central banks quickly tightening monetary policy.

All three main indexes in New York had raced higher on Friday after June retail sales came in above forecasts and

banking giant Citigroup's April-June results beat expectations.

While a strong set of economic data has of late boosted bets on the US Federal Reserve lifting borrowing costs more, the latest figures were not seen as being big enough to warrant a sharper rate hike next week.

Market analysts widely expect the central bank to announce a 75 basis-point lift, though some have suggested a one percentage-point increase could be on the cards.

Policymakers have made it clear their main goal is bringing inflation down from a four-decade high, even if that stunts

growth or causes a recession.

"Overall the robust US data... eased concerns about an imminent recession but is also unlikely to mount an additional case for a 100 basis point Fed hike," said SPI Asset Management's Stephen Innes.

"And it was about as goldilocks of a mix of headline data risk as one could have expected given the Fed's dilemma of balancing inflation versus growth."

Traders are keeping an eye on the European Central Bank's next policy meeting this week where it is expected to announce its first rate hike in more than a decade. —AFP

New Zealand's annual inflation hits 32-year high over rising construction, petrol prices

NEW Zealand's consumers price index increased 7.3 per cent in the June 2022 quarter year-on-year, a 32-year high due to higher prices for construction and petrol, the country's statistics department Stats NZ said on Monday.

The 7.3-per-cent increase follows an annual increase of 6.9 per cent in the March 2022 quarter, the previous largest annual movement since a 7.6-per-cent increase in the June 1990 quarter that occurred shortly after the introduction of Reserve Bank of New Zealand Act 1989, which was to target the high inflation at that time.

The main driver for the high annual inflation to the June 2022 quarter was the

housing and household utilities group, due to rising prices for construction and rentals for housing, according to Stats NZ.

Prices for the construction of new dwellings increased 18 per cent in the quarter compared with the June 2021 quarter, it said.

"Supply-chain issues, labour costs, and higher demand have continued to push up the cost of building a new house," Stats NZ General Manager Jason Attewell said in a statement.

The 18-per-cent annual increase in the year to the June quarter follows an 18-per-cent jump in March and a 16-per-cent rise in December 2021, Attewell said. —Xinhua



People shop at a supermarket in Wellington, New Zealand, 18 July 2022. New Zealand's consumers price index increased 7.3 per cent in the June 2022 quarter year-on-year, a 32-year high due to higher prices for construction and petrol, the country's statistics department Stats NZ said on Monday. **PHOTO: XINHUA**



An employee of Uniper Energy Storage walks through the above-ground facilities of a natural gas storage facility at the Uniper Energy Storage facility in Bierwang, southern Germany on 10 June 2022. **AFP**

Uniper draws on credit line as rescue talks drag on

STRUGGLING German energy giant Uniper said Monday it had used up a public credit facility, with the group seeking a government bailout as a Russian gas squeeze puts it under huge pressure.

Uniper "drew down 2 billion euros (\$2 billion) under its existing credit facility" from public lender KfW, granted at the turn of the year when tensions with Russia had already begun to drive

up the price for natural gas, the group said in a statement.

The step was taken "in reaction to continuing supply disruptions of Russian gas", Uniper said, adding that the facility had been used "in full".

Russian moves to curtail supplies to Germany have forced Uniper to turn to the more expensive spot market for gas to supply its customers, leaving the company with significant finan-

cial burdens.

One of the biggest importers of Russian gas, Uniper is a key part of Germany's energy infrastructure and its biggest gas storage operator.

The Duesseldorf-based group "cannot endure for long" under the current circumstances, CEO Klaus-Dieter Maubach said in early July, with Uniper hemorrhaging tens of millions of euros a day. —AFP

China urges banks to support property sector after mortgage boycott

CHINA'S banking regulator has urged lenders to extend more credit to real estate developers, as a growing number of homebuyers withhold mortgage payments on unfinished housing projects across 50 cities.

Furious at postponed deliveries of pre-sold homes, unclear delivery times and halted construction, homebuyers were last week reported to have halted payments

for already sold units in at least 100 residential projects, according to data from industry groups and analysts.

The boycott has worsened fears of financial contagion in the country's troubled real estate sector, which is estimated to account for 18-30 per cent of GDP and is a key driver of growth in the world's second-largest economy.

Analysts have called it a "vicious cycle" that

would further dampen consumer confidence, following last week's dismal Q2 growth figures that were the worst since the pandemic.

China's Banking and Regulatory Insurance Commission urged banks to "effectively meet the reasonable financing needs of real estate companies, vigorously support rental housing construction" and support project mergers and acquisitions,



A worker pushes a trolley along a road outside a construction site in the central business district of Beijing on 8 July 2022. PHOTO: AFP

a representative said in a state media interview published Sunday.

They were also asked

to "do a good job in customer service... abide by contracts, fulfil commitments, and protect the

legitimate rights and interests of financial consumers". —AFP

Boeing hopes for clear skies ahead after stormy years

US aerospace firm Boeing hopes the Farnborough airshow this week will mark an end to several turbulent years following 737 MAX crashes and 787 manufacturing problems.

Boeing plans to show off several planes including the MAX 10, the latest version of its flagship model in the key medium-haul segment, and hopes to announce a slew of new orders.

The MAX 10 offers Boeing the opportunity to show off the latest version of the aircraft and seek to recover from the deadly and costly crashes of an earlier model.

The crashes in October 2018 and March 2019 led to the aircraft being grounded for 20 months. Airlines cancelled hundreds of orders and demanded compensation.

"The most difficult of our crises is being managed effectively. It's not done and that's the MAX. But we're still returning aeroplanes to service for our customers," Boeing's CEO Dave Calhoun said in an interview published

in the Financial Times on Monday.

Since the 737 MAX was recertified and took to the skies again, Boeing has sought to make amends with US authorities, acknowledging its partial responsibility for the crashes and forking out over several billion dollars to settle probes.

"On the MAX, they've turned the corner," said Michel Merluzeau at aviation consultancy AIR.

Nevertheless, Merluzeau believes "there remain quite a few questions to resolve about suppliers". The company, like many manufacturers, faces global supply chain difficulties linked to the pandemic and the war in Ukraine, as well as trouble hiring enough staff.

These disruptions could hinder Boeing as it seeks to boost production.

"We'll be supply chain constrained for a while," Stan Deal, president and chief executive officer of Boeing Commercial Airplanes, told journalists in London on Sunday. — AFP

Cambodia's rice export to China up over 17% in H1

CAMBODIA exported 168,280 tonnes of milled rice to China in the first half of 2022, up 17.4 per cent over the same period last year, said an official report on Monday.

China remained the largest buyer of Cambodi-

an rice during the January-June period this year, said the report from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, adding that the export to China accounted for 51.4 per cent of the country's total exports of the com-

modity.

Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF)'s president Song Saran said China is a huge market for Cambodian rice and the kingdom is expected to export more rice to China after the Regional Comprehensive Eco-

nomical Partnership (RCEP) trade deal took effect on 1 January 2022.

"The RCEP will further ease trade in goods between Cambodia and China as well as other participating countries," he told Xinhua. —Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HANSA HOMBURG VOY.NO. (227W/228E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HANSA HOMBURG VOY.NO. (227W/228E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **19-7-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V RESOLUTION VOY.NO. (2218S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RESOLUTION VOY.NO. (2218S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **19-7-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO. LTD

CHANGING THE NAME OF INSECTICIDE TRADING

The foreign manufacture ANHUI BYTER AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY CO.,LTD will import and distribute the following insecticide registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board changing trading name.

Sr	Old Name	New Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	ByterSlowMotion48SI	EagrowSlowMotion48SI	Glyphosate48%SL	Full	F2022-3682
2	Byter Fast	Eagrow Fast	Paraquat27.6%SL	Full	F2022-3691

It is Therefore announced to come and rejeat within two weeks to Joint Secretary Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein, in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of insecticide.

Address- KESAI EAGROW MYANMAR CO.,LTD Block(58), No(1), Mayflower Street, Nawaday Garden Housing, Hlaing Tharyar Township, Yangong, Myanmar. Ph- 09;768080088/ 09;940585888

Sri Lanka renews state of emergency ahead of key vote



Demonstrators take part in a celebration as Sri Lanka's protest movement reached its 100th day at the Galle face protest area near Presidential secretariat in Colombo on 17 July 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

SRI Lanka's acting president renewed the country's state of emergency Monday ahead of a parliamentary vote to pick a new head of state — a poll in which he is a leading candidate. Ranil Wickremesinghe automatically became acting pres-

ident when Gotabaya Rajapaksa resigned last week after fleeing to Singapore.

A state of emergency allows troops to arrest and detain suspects, and the president to make regulations overriding existing laws to deal with any unrest.

One was already in place but parliament had not met to ratify the declaration as required, and Wickremesinghe extended it from Monday "in the interests of public security", he said.

Police and the military, armed with emergency powers, stepped up security in the capital ahead of Wednesday's election of a new president.

Wickremesinghe, a six-time former prime minister, is being backed for the position by Rajapaksa's party, which remains

the largest in the legislature.

In what was seen as a possible appeal to 14 Catholic legislators for their support, Wickremesinghe said he had asked Britain's help to complete investigations into the 2019 Easter Sunday bombings that killed 279 people.

Sri Lanka's small but influential Catholic minority believes the coordinated suicide attack against three churches and three hotels was a "political plot" to bring Rajapaksa to power, and has long sought an independent investigation.

Wickremesinghe was "requesting the assistance of the UK government and their intelligence services", his office said.

There was no immediate comment from the British High Commission.

The bombings were blamed on local jihadists and 25 men were indicted in October over alleged involvement.

But the Church and opposition parties claim state intelligence officers loyal to Rajapaksa directly or indirectly supported the bombers.

Rajapaksa was forced to flee last week when tens of thousands of protesters stormed his official residence after months of demonstrations across the country demanding his resignation over Sri Lanka's economic crisis.

The nation's 22 million people have been enduring severe shortages of essentials since late last year after the country ran out of foreign exchange to finance even the most vital imports. —AFP

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Russian shelling kills 6 in Donbas as Zelensky replaces security chief

RUSSIAN shelling in battle-scarred east Ukraine on Monday left six dead, Kyiv said, as the country was reeling from President Volodymyr Zelensky's decision to sack two senior law enforcement officials.

EU foreign ministers were convening meanwhile to discuss toughening sanctions against Moscow and the bloc's foreign policy chief warned of the "life and death" consequences of Russia's blockade of Ukrainian Black Sea grain exports.

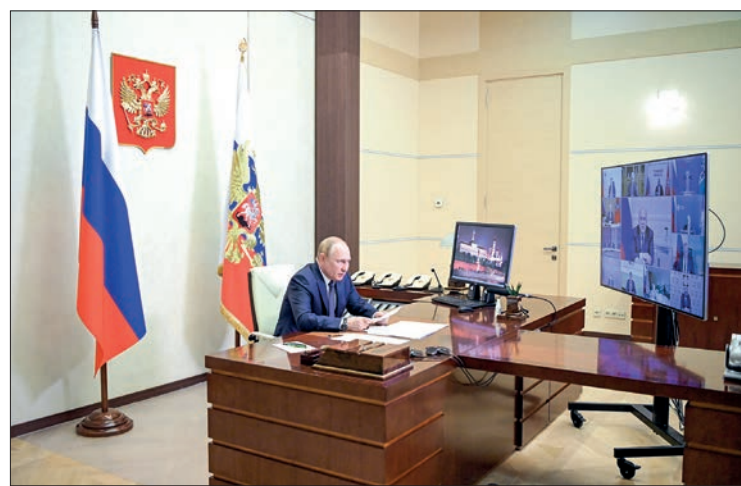
Rescue workers in blue helmets could be seen digging through debris and clearing rubble from the collapsed remains of a two-storey building in Toretsk in the industrial east that was struck by Russian artillery early Monday.

"Rescuers found and recovered the bodies of five dead people in total. Three people were rescued from the rubble and one of them died in hospital," the emergency services said, adding their rescue operations had concluded. —AFP



A photograph shows a building partially destroyed after shelling in the outskirts of the second largest Ukrainian city of Kharkiv on 18 July 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

Putin vows to overcome 'colossal' high-tech problems caused by sanctions



Russian President Vladimir Putin chairs a meeting of the Presidential Council for Strategic Development and National Projects via a video link at the Novo-Ogaryovo state residence, outside Moscow, on 18 July 2022. **PHOTO: PAVEL BYRKIN / SPUTNIK / AFP**

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin on Monday vowed to overcome the "colossal" high-tech problems the country is facing due to the onset of unprecedented Western sanctions over Ukraine.

The Kremlin chief said the

West had deployed sanctions to cut off Russia from high-tech products to contain the country's development. "This is a huge challenge for our country," he told a meeting. "Realizing the colossal amount of difficulties we are facing, we will look

for new solutions in an energetic and competent manner." He said Russia would also use "sovereign" technology and products of domestic innovative companies.

Putin also said that many fast-growing Russian companies such as online retailer Ozon or technology company Yandex have been cut off from Western financing because of the sanctions.

He said Russia must quickly create alternatives so that such companies can attract the necessary financing at home and continue their development. "I very much look forward to detailed proposals from both the finance ministry and the Bank of Russia," Putin added. Many top tech companies including Apple, Microsoft and Intel suspended their operations in Russia, or left the country altogether, after Putin sent troops to Ukraine on 24 February, leaving Russia without any domestic alternatives. —AFP

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India's parliament begins voting for new president

INDIA'S parliament began voting Monday for a new president, with a female politician from the country's marginalized tribal community the favourite for the post.

Droupadi Murmu, from the Santhal tribe, has been nominated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party for the largely ceremonial position.

If elected, she would be India's first tribal president and second female president. The incumbent, Ram Nath Kovind, is the country's second president from the Dalit community, the bottom of the Hindu caste system.

Murmu, 64, began her career

as a schoolteacher in the eastern state of Odisha before going into politics. She has held ministerial positions in the state government, and been governor of the neighbouring state of Jharkhand.

Murmu "has devoted her life to serving society and empowering the poor, downtrodden as well as the marginalized," Modi tweeted after her candidacy was announced.

Her main opponent for the presidency is veteran politician Yashwant Sinha, an ex-BJP member and former finance and external affairs minister, who has been backed by opposition parties including Congress.

He is now a vocal critic of Modi's government and tweeted at the weekend: "This year the Presidential election is not a contest between two individuals but two ideologies.

"Only one side wants to protect the provisions & values enshrined in our Constitution."

India's president is chosen by nearly 5,000 elected members of both houses of parliament and regional legislatures across the country.

Each of their votes is weighted according to the size of their constituency, and they rank the candidates in order of preference.

If no-one has more than 50



per cent support, the lowest-scoring candidate is eliminated and their votes redistributed until someone reaches the mark. The result will be announced later this week. —AFP

Japan, S Korea agree to seek early settlement of wartime labour issue

THE foreign ministers of Japan and South Korea agreed Monday they will seek an early settlement of a dispute over the issue of compensation demands from South Koreans about wartime labour that has frayed the bilateral relations.

Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi and his South Korean counterpart Park Jin reached the agreement in a meeting in Tokyo, the first formal sit-down between them since South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol's inauguration on 10 May, according to the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

Park told Hayashi he will make efforts to produce "desirable solutions" before the liquidation of Japanese corporate assets in South Korea that plaintiffs in



Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi (R) and his South Korean counterpart Park Jin meet in the Iikura Guest House in Tokyo on 18 July 2022. PHOTO: KYODO

labour lawsuits have seized, the ministry said.

Hayashi stressed the need for the two neighbours to address

pending issues including the dispute over former civilian workers from the Korean Peninsula. —Kyodo

Iran has 'technical ability' to build nuclear bomb: official

IRAN has the technical capacity to build a nuclear weapon but has not taken a decision to do so, an official told the Al Jazeera broadcaster on Sunday.

Iran "has the technical ability to build a nuclear bomb" said Kamal Kharrazi, who heads an advisory board linked to Iran's leadership.

But Tehran has "not made a decision to build an atomic bomb", he added.

The comments come after US President Joe Biden visited the Middle East this week and signed a security pact with Israel vowing to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

It also comes as efforts to revive a 2015 nuclear deal between Tehran and world powers remain stalled.

Kharrazi, a former foreign minister, also told Al Jazeera that Tehran had carried out extensive

drills to be able to strike deep inside Israel "if sensitive (Iranian) installations are targeted".

He did not specify when the drills took place.

The 2015 nuclear deal offered Iran sanctions relief in exchange for imposing limits on its nuclear programme and sought to guarantee Tehran could not develop a nuclear weapon, something it has always denied wanting to do. —AFP

Iran, Russia, Türkiye presidents to talk Syria war in Tehran

WITH the war in Ukraine still raging, Russian President Vladimir Putin travels Tuesday to Tehran for talks with his Iranian and Turkish counterparts on the Syria conflict.

Russia, Türkiye and Iran have in recent years met to discuss Syria as part of the so-called "Astana peace process" to end more than 11 years of conflict in the Arab country.

All three are involved in Syria, with Russia and Iran supporting the Damascus regime against its opponents, and Türkiye backing rebels.

Tuesday's summit comes as Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has threatened to launch a new offensive in northern Syria against Kurdish militants.

Iran, whose President Ebrahim Raisi is hosting the meeting, has already warned that any Turkish military action in Syria could "destabilize the region".

The Tehran summit will also enable Erdogan to hold his first meeting with Putin since Russia invaded Ukraine in February.

The Turkish president has for months been offering to meet the Russian leader in a

bid to help resolve heightened global tensions since the war began. "The timing of this summit is not a coincidence," Russian analyst Vladimir Sotnikov told AFP.

"Türkiye wants to conduct a 'special operation' in Syria just as Russia is implementing a 'special operation' in Ukraine," he said.

Türkiye has launched waves of attacks on Syria since 2016, targeting Kurdish militias as well as Islamic State group jihadists and forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Green light? Erdogan's planned military offensive targets Kurdish fighters which Ankara regards as "terrorists".

They include the US-backed Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG), which formed a crucial part of an international coalition against the Islamic State group in Syria.

Ankara fears a strong Kurdish presence along its border with Syria will embolden the banned Kurdistan Workers' Party, which for decades has been waging an insurgency against the Turkish state that has claimed tens of thousands of lives. —AFP



Myanmar team fixtures released for ASEAN U-16 Championship 2022

THE group matches of the 2022 ASEAN U-16 tournament, in which the Myanmar team will compete, have been released this week. The tournament will be hosted by Indonesia and will be held from 31 July to 12 August.

In addition to 11 South-east Asian countries, the Australian team, a member of the ASEAN Football Federation, will compete in the tournament, as there are up to 12 teams, and it will be divided into three groups of four teams.

According to the group division, host Indonesia, Viet Nam, Singapore, and the Philippines are included in Group A while Thailand, Timor-Leste, Laos, and Brunei are placed in Group B.

Meanwhile, Myanmar is comprised of Group C with Malaysia, Australia, and Cambodia.

According to the format of the tournament, the top three teams from the three groups, and the best two second-placed teams from groups A and C will qualify for the semi-finals.

Myanmar will take on Australia on 2 August, Malaysia on 5 August, and Cambodia on 8 August.

The group matches of the tourney will run from 31 July to 8 August and the semi-finals will be played on 10 August.

The third place and final matches will be held on 12 August.

Head Coach U Aung Zaw Myo is handling the Myanmar U-16 team that will compete in this tournament and the team has been training with around 30 preliminary players since May. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

Aye Thanda Khaing secures gold medal in Asian Bodybuilding Championship in the Maldives



AYE Thanda Khaing, representing Myanmar, won a gold medal in the Asian Bodybuilding Championship held in the Maldives from 17 to 21 July.

She stood first in the women's above 160-cm event on 18 July. Kyaw Min Than will compete in the men's 55-kilo

event, Ye Tun Naung 70-kilo event and Khin Maung Kyaw 80-kilo event on 19 July. Three male and three female athletes from the Myanmar Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Federation are competing in the championship. — Bala Soe/GNLM

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs

- (a) To build a Union based on democracy and federalism, through a disciplined and genuine multiparty democratic system that is fair and just.
- (b) To emphasize the achievement of enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA).
- (c) To continue implementing the principle of peaceful co-existence among countries through an independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy.

2. Economic affairs

- (a) To enhance production based on agriculture and livestock through modern techniques and strengthen all-round development in other sectors of the economy.
- (b) To develop a stable market economy and promote international investment in order to enhance the economic development of the entire National people.
- (c) To promote and support local businesses to create employment opportunities and increase domestic production.

3. Social affairs

- (a) To ensure a strong and dynamic Union spirit, the genuine spirit of patriotism.
- (b) To respect and promote the customs and traditions of all National peoples and preserve and safeguard their cultural heritage and national characteristics.
- (c) To enhance the health, fitness and education quality of the entire nation.

Defending Champion Shan United make four straight wins in MNL

SHAN United has made four consecutive wins in the Week 4 of the Myanmar National League match after beating ISPE FC 3-2 at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon yesterday. Shan United was able to remain at the top of the standings with a hundred per cent win.

However, due to the struggle and playing style of the ISPE FC, the Shan United team had to play hard and it was a good match with mutual goals. Both teams used key players throughout the match.

The ISPE team did not play defence but performed counter-attacks, so it was a good match and saw mutual goals. In the seventh minute of the match, the Shan United team broke the deadlock and Nanda Kyaw scored through a penalty kick.

After that, ISPE kept pressing to score an equalizer, and due to the good team play, Shan United's defence was difficult to control ISPE strikers.

Near the end of the first half, the ISPE team scored an equalizer and Min Myat Soe scored.

In the second half, both teams were able to dominate each other, and in the 56th minute, Nanda Kyaw scored the second goal for Shan United, but in the 63rd minute, Min Myat Soe scored the equalizing goal for ISPE.

ISPE tried not to concede another goal, but they allowed another goal in the 83rd minute, and striker Sunday Mathew scored the winning goal for Shan United. Shan United team has won all four games and is leading with 12 points. Next, Yangon United will face Ayeyawady United on 20 July and Myawady FC will take on Rakhine United on 21 July. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM



Shan United player Sunday Mathew (red) tries to pass over the ISPE player during their Myanmar National League Week 4 match at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 18 July 2022. PHOTO: MNL