

# 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.

## Natural disaster management measures cannot be taken by a single person or organization but through collaborative efforts: Vice-Senior General



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win chairs the meeting 1/2022 of the Natural Disaster Management Committee in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 July 2022.

FIRM organizational setup, proper work system and harmonious coordination are essential in natural disaster management, said Chairman of the National Natural Disaster Management Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the meet-

ing 1/2022 of the management committee at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement yesterday afternoon. Speaking at the meeting, the Vice-Senior General stressed the need to make preparations with the best arrangement to respond to natural disasters with the strength of

**SEE PAGE-3**

The standing order on natural disaster management for 2022 was drafted with remarks from relevant committees and the ministry. Work committees and management committees are to scrutinize natural disaster prevention plans in line with the 2022 standing order.

### INSIDE TODAY

**NATIONAL**  
Agri Dept initiates training on packaging of fruits, vegetables  
**PAGE-2**

**NATIONAL**  
Myanmar joins 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN SCC, 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 APTCCN meetings  
**PAGE-3**

**CURRENT AFFAIRS**  
Over 37,000 candidates eligible for Korean Employment Exam in August  
**PAGE-5**



**LOCAL BUSINESS**  
Corn prices down by over 37% in nearly two months  
**PAGE-7**



# 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

enduring 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 home 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*

## Agri Dept initiates training on packaging of fruits, vegetables

THE Department of Agriculture is conducting a course on the packaging of fruits and vegetables in Wetwun Zaygon village in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Region, from 25 July to 27 July 2022.

The training course supported by the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Special Fund aims to increase knowledge on packaging fruits and vegeta-

bles and packaging technology, physiology of perishable crops, packaging and labelling, systematic transport and applications of research findings. These topics are taught by agriculturists to local farmers.

The Post-harvest Technology Training Centre under the Department of Horticulture and Biotechnology, Department of Agriculture is imple-

menting the project: "Packaging of fruits and vegetables to maintain the quality and extend the shelf life" in order to improve the situation and reduce post-harvest losses.

As a consequence, the programme can help farmers understand the suitable packaging of fruits and vegetables and the ways to pack products safely. — GNLM



The training on the packaging of fruits and vegetables is in action.

## COVID-19 vaccine drive continues in various states, regions



DOCTORS and nurses from public hospitals, Tatmadaw medical teams, healthcare workers and volunteers are working hard to give COVID-19 vaccines in different states and regions as the vaccination programme is one of the most important activities in the prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19 disease.

COVID-19 vaccine is administered daily to target groups regardless of race or religion, including Buddhist monks and nuns, local people over the age of 40, students, religious leaders, prisoners, people with disabilities, ethnic armed groups, people with chronic diseases, people in IDP camps and over 12-year-old students, respectively.

Yesterday, doctors and nurses from public hospitals,

medical teams from the Tatmadaw, relevant healthcare workers in collaboration with volunteers gave COVID-19 vaccines to 246 people from Tamway and Cocogyun Townships in Yangon Region, 4,716 people from twenty-six townships in Ayeyawady Region, 9,723 people from thirteen townships in Rakhine and Chin States, and 210 from Toungoo in Bago Region, respectively.

Similarly on that day, healthcare officials gave the vaccines to 2,001 students from twenty-six townships in Ayeyawady Region and 1,823 students from five townships in Rakhine and Chin States.

It is reported that officials from the respective Military Commands visited the site and coordinated the necessary work. — MNA

# 18 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 28 July, total figure rises to 614,009

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 614,009 after 18 new cases were reported on 28 July 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 592,865 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.)*

# Natural disaster management measures cannot be taken by a single person or organization but through collaborative efforts: Vice-Senior General

### FROM PAGE-1

human resources by forecasting the possibilities of disasters depending on seasons and regions.

A firm organizational set-up, proper work system and harmonious coordination are essential in natural disaster management. Different levels of the management systems must be set up with policies, action plans and SOP.

Preparations must be made for management committees, people and charity organiza-

tions to cooperate with each other in overcoming the challenges of natural disasters. Officials need to arrange the readiness of the forces to respond to natural disasters with the fulfilment of needs, and arrangements must be made for effectively applying the man and material powers.

The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is observed on 13 October every year for raising public awareness of minimizing loss and damage in natural disasters.

The Vice-Senior General called for public participation in the disaster risk reduction measures by successfully holding the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The standing order 2009 was issued for natural disaster management based on experiences in the 2008 Nargis cyclonic storm. Now, the order was revised in line with the management system and technological development.

The standing order on nat-

ural disaster management for 2022 was drafted with remarks from relevant committees and the ministry. Work committees and management committees are to scrutinize natural disaster prevention plans in line with the 2022 standing order.

As measures on natural disaster management cannot be taken by a single person or organization but through collaborative efforts, all need to connect with one another for duty assignments and cooper-

ation.

Vice-Chairman of the management committee Union Ministers Lt-Gen Soe Htut and Dr Thet Thet Khine and officials explained measures on disaster risk reduction management, the accomplishment of the meeting minutes and compilation of the draft standard order, and spending of the management fund.

The meeting concluded with remarks by the Vice-Senior General. —MNA

## MoI Deputy Minister inspects Bahan Community Centre in Yangon



MoI Deputy Minister U Ye Tint meets IPRD officials and staff members at Bahan Community Centre.

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Ye Tint met officials from the Department of Information and Public Relations at the Community Centre on Shwegondine Road in Bahan Township, East Yangon District, at 9 am on 28 July.

First, the deputy minister inspected the Children's Reading Room, the Gym, the Library, the Computer Training Hall, the Small Museum and the Multi-purpose Hall

of the Community Centre.

Afterwards, the deputy minister urged the director-general of the Department of Information and Public Relations, the regional director and officials to collaborate with respective departments in fulfilling the targeted tasks through informational awareness activities, carry out their duties with minimal supervision and enrich the youth with knowledge. — MNA

## Myanmar joins 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN SCC, 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 APTCCN meetings

THE meetings of the 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Sub-Committee on Culture (SCC) and the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Cultural Cooperation Network-APTCCN were held in Kuching, Malaysia on 27 and 28 July.

Myanmar acted as alternate vice-chairman of these meetings and SOM-CA Leader U Aung Myint, Director-General of the Department of Historical Research and National Library and representatives

attended the meetings.

During the meetings, ASEAN member countries and ASEAN plus three countries conferred their opinions concerning over 50 projects that will be executed through the collaboration between ASEAN's tradition and arts traditional food, archaeological museum and libraries, ensuring mutual respect for culture, history, religions and social progress of

ASEAN countries, the mutual recognition of diversity among those countries in order to strengthen unity and make people realize ASEAN's awareness.

Myanmar will hold the upcoming meeting of the 24<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Sub-Committee on Culture (SCC) and the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Cultural Cooperation Network-APTCCN as a host in 2023. — MNA



The 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN SCC and the eleventh ASEAN+3 APTCCN meetings are underway.

## ARTICLE

# Behind the Capital Punishment

By Ah-Hman-Taya-Bat-Taw-Tha

THOSE who suddenly see or who do not understand the real situation might think that four pro-democratic activists have died. However, they were executed not for carrying out activities for democracy peacefully, but for brutally killing of many people, that act is strongly condemned by international countries, and any country or organization never discussed such situations. No one discussed why they were executed.

Phyo Zeyar Thaw (aka) Maung Kyaw was arrested together with 169 arms and ammunition, 231 homemade guns, six homemade mortars, 18,810 rounds of ammunition, 43 40-mm grenades, 175 homemade grenades/rockets, 48 grenades, 16 various types of mines, 1,099 homemade mines and other related materials.

He organized the southern terrorist groups according to the instructions of CRPH and NUG terrorist groups and committed bombing attacks, killed innocent civilians, government employees and security force members in Yangon aiming to affect the military, political and administrative mechanisms of the government, and conducted

However, they were executed not for carrying out activities for democracy peacefully, but for brutally killings of many people, that act is strongly condemned by international countries, and any country or organization never discussed such situations.

bombing attacks on the public areas, administrative offices, economic building and schools. He upgraded the actions under the name of the Pyan Hlwar Aung operation and attacked the military targets and weak security outposts, and robbed the arms and ammunition. He drafted the Hanthawady operation to conduct acts of terrorism in Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady regions.

Therefore, he received such punishment under the Counter-Terrorism Law Section 49 (a), 50 (i) and 50 (j) as he rented firearms to kill the administrators and those who were accused of being informants 35 times, and he

committed 11 murders, bombing attacks on government-owned buildings 30 times while 32 times on township administration offices, nine times near EPC offices, nine times near RTAD office, 60 times on CCTV Control boxes and at public areas and three times on schools, and also charged under Section 50 (j) for collecting donated cash to buy firearms, unlicensed vehicles and providing cash assistance.

Kyaw Min Yu (aka) Jimmy was arrested in Panglong Housing Estate in Dagon Myothit (North) Township in October last year. Together with him, six AK-47s, eight M-16s two 12-bolt guns, one

local-made gun, and 18 magazines. The Moon Light Operation group led by Jimmy drafted eight major missions to launch in Yangon Region after NUG announced D-Day on 7 September 2021. He testified that he committed terrorist acts in Twantay as Mission 1 while Mission 2 in Insein and Mission 3 in Hlegu in October.

The suspect Kyaw Min Yu (aka) Jimmy who committed terrorist acts, brutal killings of innocent people in Yangon Region, closely planning and directing terrorist attacks by the NUG/CRPH/NUCC, was charged under the 2014 Counter-Terrorism Law, Penal Code Section 124, Unlawful Association Act, Arms Act, Explosive Substances Act in addition to the Penal Code Section 505-a, and was found guilty of committing such attacks and

so he received the death penalty.

Ma Win Thandar Swe who lived in Aung Myitta street in No 7 ward of Hlinethaya Township was accused of being an informant for not participating in Than-Bone-Tee (banging pots and pans) Strike and other strikes. Then, the 31-year-old lady was stabbed to death by unscrupulous people. Before she died, she was mentally tortured. The trials of two suspects Hla Myo Aung (aka) Ko Myo (aka) Wattgyi and Aung Thura Zaw (aka) Katone (aka) Thura who brutally killed the innocent woman by recognizing her as an informant were conducted at the military tribunal under the Martial Law and they were found guilty and executed last week.

Violence and democracy go in opposite directions. No country in the world accepts or forgives the violence. In international countries, they manage their internal terrorism criminal cases with their own law. Now, the punishments are done as per the law for the ones who deserve it, and it is fair for the innocent civilians who were killed for no reason.

*Translated*

Violence and democracy go in opposite directions. No country in the world accepts or forgives the violence. In international countries, they manage their internal terrorism criminal cases with their own law.

## Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was reconstituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

The following telephone numbers, fax and email address can be reached to safely report information in connection with illegal trade.

Auto telephone number - 067 409 883  
Mobile phone - 09 404339969  
Fax - 067 409 886  
Email address - [antiillegaltradeinfo@gmail.com](mailto:antiillegaltradeinfo@gmail.com)  
*Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee*

## Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was reconstituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

Regarding the "request for money from departmental organizations in conducting trade", the following numbers can be reached to safely report such information.

Auto telephone number - 067 409 881  
Mobile phone - 09 699611116  
Fax - 067 409 887  
Email address - [antiillegaltradeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:antiillegaltradeoffice@gmail.com)  
*Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee*

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## Trade via land borders earns \$20.662 mln in first week of July 2022

FROM 2 to 8 July, a trade volume worth US\$20.662 million was conducted from the Muse 105<sup>th</sup>-mile trade zone on the Myanmar-China border and the Kawthoung trade post on the Myanmar-Thailand border.

The 105<sup>th</sup>-mile Muse trade zone on the Myanmar-China border has been able to export goods worth \$12.065 million and import goods worth \$5.467 million. Compared to the previous week, the volume of trade in the Muse 105<sup>th</sup>-mile trade zone decreased by \$3.923 million in exports and \$2.672 million in imports, and the trade volume decreased by \$6.595 million.

The export this week included crab, eel, white sesame, pulp paper, dried chillies (stemless), turmeric (Shan), and arena nut (with shell) among others and the main exports such as rice, broken rice and beans decreased.

As imports, more dry batteries, bicycle spare parts, medicines, and furniture were im-



Export cargoes are loaded at the Kawthoung trade post.

ported. Import value decreased because fewer corrugated iron sheets, kitchen appliances, tractors, light bulbs, and lamps were imported.

Similarly, the Kawthoung trade post on the Myanmar-Thailand border was able to export goods worth \$2.802 million from 2 to 8 July. It is reported that the import value was \$0.328 million

and the trade volume was \$3.13 million.

In terms of exports, compared to the previous week, the main export items were various kinds of seafood and \$0.202 million were earned more than the previous week.

In terms of imports, compared to the previous week, although there were more imports

of machinery and equipment, due to the decrease in the import of chemicals, plastic raw materials, detergents and other products, there was a decrease of \$0.237 million.

Compared to the previous week, the amount of trade decreased by \$0.135 million, according to the Kawthoung trading post. — TWA/GNLM

## Over 37,000 candidates eligible for Korean Employment Exam in August



The photo shows some MoU workers who are going to work in South Korea.

MORE than 37,000 candidates have been eligible to sit for Korean Employment Exam to be held in August, according to the statement of the government's foreign employment agency POEA-EPS.

As of July 27, more than 37,000 eligible candidate names

have been released, and the application for taking the exam has been accepted from 7 and 23 July. The remaining candidate names will continue to be released, and those who are eligible to take the exam must submit US\$24 for registration fees, which can also be paid in Myanmar Kyats,

the statement says.

The exam which will be held from 16 August to 15 October will be for manufacturing and construction workers, and the results will be released on 22 October. The exam for the agriculture and livestock workers will be held from 21 October to 23

December, with the result coming out on 31 December.

The EPS-TOPIK qualification test which will allow working in the Republic of Korea through the Employment Permit System (EPS) has been held 13 times in Myanmar. It is reported that workers who passed the exam are being sent to the Republic of Korea according to the schedule. They must pay K85,000 for the suits and service fees, along with K1,500,000 as a deposit.

Of 3,900 qualified workers who have passed the exam, about a quarter was sent to the Republic during the post-COVID-19 period, from 1 January to 30 May 2022. Over the past year, 42,832 people who passed the EPS-TOPIK exam have been officially sent to South Korea, and about 27,000 Myanmar workers are working legally in the country. According to the Ministry of Labour, more people are willing to work in South Korea due to a minimum wage of up to 9,000 won per hour and clear laws for workers. — TWA/GNLM

## Pansodan-Dala ferry fares to increase from 1 August

FARES for the Pansodan-Dala ferry will be increased from K100 to K200 per person starting from 1 August, according to the statement of the Inland Water Transport. More than 1,000 passengers are commuted by three ferries every day from the Pansodan jetty to Dala and vice versa.

"Dala ferry fare and circular railway fare are the cheapest ones in transportation charges. "Thank you for charging the passengers at such a low rate. It should be also raised at a time when oil prices are high. The ferry fare is much cheaper than the boats, and it is also safer," said U Thein Lwin, a resident in Dala.

Loading fees for bicycles and vehicles will not be changed at the moment, but the previous rates, K100 for a bicycle, K200 per rickshaw, and K800 per motorcycle will be charged.

Dala Township is located at a central point to go to the townships in the Yangon South District, Twantay, Kawhmu, Kungyangon, and the townships in Ayeyawady Region such as Pyapon, Dedaye, Bogale, Kyaiklat, and Maubin.

Cherry ferries from Pansodan-Dala jetties provide shuttle service to the public every day from 5:30 am to 9 pm every 20 minutes. — TWA/GNLM



The Pansodan-Dala ferry "Cherry".

# CRIME NEWS

## Illegal timbers, consumer goods, electronics, industrial materials and vehicles confiscated

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

Under the instructions of the Chairman of the Anti-Illicit Trade Task Force, an on-duty team at the 16<sup>th</sup>-mile Kyauk-chaw checkpoint conducted inspections on 25 July.

Officials captured 70 bags of fertilizers worth K3.6 million, 6,500 cartons of cigarettes worth K19,500,000, various consumer goods worth K1,475,000 and 598 DLNA Chinese branded fixed phones worth K23,920,000 from a passenger bus (approximately K17 million). The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Similarly, a combined team made inspections under the supervision of the Taninthayi Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force.

They confiscated a total of 5.2302 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K784,530 from a wooden boat and related things (approximately K650,000) southeast of Tartakyi island in Kyunsu township on 26 July. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

In addition, on 27 July, a combined team consisting of the security forces, Myanmar Police Force and departmen-



Mandalay

tal officials captured 310 kilogrammes of mixed lead (metal) worth K5.7 million that were illegally carried by a vehicle heading from Pacari village, Lakekyatpyoung village-tract to Dawei township. The action was taken under the Mining Law.

On 26 July, 100 gallons of illegal crude oil and related drilling materials worth K1,192,000 were confiscated in Thayet township. The action was taken under the Oilfield Act.

Afterwards, a total of 0.5680 tonne of illegal teak and teak furniture worth K374,880 from a Toyota Probox (approximately K13 million) in Hlegu township in Yangon North District, and



Mandalay

the action was taken under the Forest Law.

In addition, a patrol inspection team made inspections on the way out of Kengtung to Taunggyi and seized 65 cartons



Taninthayi

of engine oil worth K4,550,000 in Kengphone village. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

On 28 July, a total of 10.1182 tonnes of illegal teak worth

K5,076,852 were captured in Bago and Toungoo districts and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

Similarly, K1,350,000 worth of construction materials that did not declare in the Import Declaration (ID) from a Cheng Long truck (approximately K60 million) heading from Myawady to Bago township and K43,706,250 worth of fabric and consumer goods from a Mitsubishi Fuso 12-wheel truck (approximately K25 million) were confiscated near Phayagyi Toll-gate. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Therefore, 17 arrests (approximately K226,879,512) were made on four consecutive days from 25 to 28 July, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA

## K280 mln worth of heroin seized in Kunhing township of Shan State

SEVENTYTWO heroin blocks worth K280 million were confiscated in Kunhing township of Shan State, Myanmar Police

Force stated.

A combined team consisting of members of the Anti-Drug Police Force searched

a Crown Royal saloon driven by Chein Hoke accompanied by Ma Shein Hwal heading from Karli to Mongpyin township at the Tarkaw bridge combined checkpoint of Kunhing township and seized 23.98 kilogrammes of 72 heroin blocks at 9:30 am on 24 July.

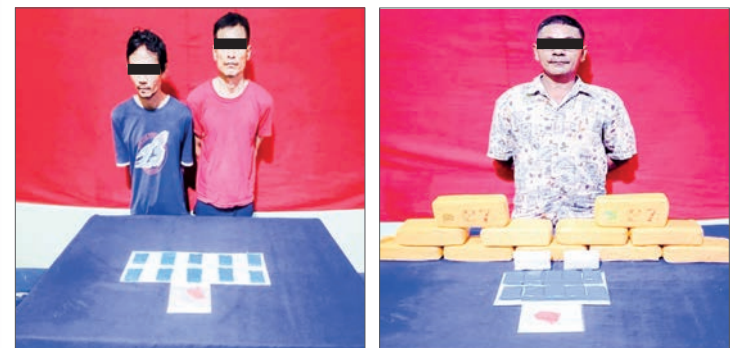
According to the investigation, the suspect admitted that the seized drugs were to be carried from Namsang township to Kengtung township.

The suspects have been prosecuted under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law and Police is carrying out investigations to capture traffickers, it is learnt. — MNA



Two arrestees are pictured along with seized heroin and a saloon.

## Drugs seized in Myeik township



Three arrestees are seen along with seized stimulant pills.

A combined team consisting of members of the Anti-Drug Police Force searched a house of Han Lin Aung (aka) Han Lin in Alalkyun Ward of Myeik township and captured 2,000 stimulant tablets from Han Lin Aung (aka) Han Lin and Toe Aung at 6:30 pm on 27 July.

In addition, 116,000 stimulant tablets from the house of Myint Lwin (aka) Hsaing Boke in Kanphya Ward of Myeik township at 7:30 pm.

The suspects have been prosecuted under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, it is learnt. — MNA

# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Corn prices down by over 37% in nearly two months

THE prices of corn are down by over 37 per cent compared to the rate recorded last month, corn traders said.

In early June, the corns were priced at K1,120 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes) depending on the quality. The market price plunged around K700 per viss in the last week of July. The price reflects a decrease of K420 per viss in nearly two months.

Corn trade is falling through seaborne international trade and border posts this month, traders shared their opinions.

The drop in prices is attributed to the transaction policy changes. Earlier, export earnings for beans were allowed to be made with Yuan-Kyat or Baht-Kyat direct payment. Starting from 30 June, transactions for rice, corn, oil crops and beans and pulses are instructed to be paid in US dollars.



At present, corn is cultivated in Shan, Kachin, Kayah and Kayin states and Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. The country produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corn every year.

Additionally, the foreign currency earnings are set to be converted into local currency at K1,850. The US dollar is valued at over K2,500 in unauthorized exchanges. The large gap between the official and unofficial

exchange rates can be seen vividly, traders aired their opinions.

As a result of this, corn exports nearly came to a halt at the moment. Earlier, approximately 200-300 truckloads of corn were delivered daily to

Thailand.

Thailand gives green light to corn imports under zero tariff (with Form-D), between 1 February and 31 August. However, Thailand imposed a maximum tax rate of 73 per cent on corn

imports to protect the rights of their growers if the corn is imported during the corn season of Thailand.

Therefore, only one month (August) is remaining for corn exports under Form D exemption.

In the 2021-2022 corn season, Myanmar targets to export 1.5 million tonnes of corn. Myanmar exported 2.3 million tonnes of corn to foreign trade partners in the 2020-2021 corn season. The majority of them were sent to Thailand and the remaining were shipped to China, India and Viet Nam, according to the association.

At present, corn is cultivated in Shan, Kachin, Kayah and Kayin states and Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. Myanmar has three corn seasons: winter, summer and monsoon. The country produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corn every year. — GNLM

## Muse border sees daily exports of over 10,000 rice bags to China



Myanmar daily conveys approximately 10,000 bags of rice and broken rice to China through the Muse border.

MORE than 10,000 bags of rice and broken rice are daily conveyed to China through the Muse border post, U Min Thein, vice-chair of the Muse Rice Wholesale Centre said.

The Foreign Exchange Supervisory Committee notified the traders of the dollar payment for agricultural exports such as rice, corn, oil crops, beans and pulses.

Nonetheless, rice and broken rice exports via Muse border post are excluded from this directive at present and Yuan

payment is available as before. This being so, there is a steady flow of rice exports to China through the Muse border.

“At present, rice and broken rice are daily flowing into Muse market and they are exported to China regularly. There is no need for rice transactions to be paid in US dollars,” U Min Thein highlighted.

Additionally, the prices remain unchanged at 120 Yuan per 50-kilo bag of broken rice and 140-150 Yuan per bag of rice.

On 14 December 2021, the

Central Bank of Myanmar released a notification that the use of Yuan or Kyat in the bilateral transaction was officially allowed in the border areas between Myanmar and China to boost the bilateral cross-border trade, facilitate the trading and bilateral transaction, increase the use of domestic currency, as per the objectives of the ASEAN Financial Integration.

After export earnings on agricultural produce were earlier set to be paid in dollars instead of Yuan, the official exchange rate against the US dollar was set at K1,850.

At present, the dollar was valued at over K2,500 in the informal FX market, indicating a large gap in the exchange rate. Consequently, it dealt a huge blow to the agricultural produce and exports drastically fell, traders said.

Myanmar daily conveys approximately 10,000 bags of rice and broken rice to China through the Muse border. Other beans and pulses, rubber, food commodities, fishery products and mango are also delivered to China. — NN/GNLM

## Onion prices soar to over K2,000 per viss

THE prices of onion climbed to over K2,000 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes), according to Yangon Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Bayintnaung Wholesale Centre).

On 1 July, the prices moved in the range of K1,200 to K1,700 per viss depending on varieties, whereas onion prices reached the highest of K1,400 to K2,100 per viss on 28 July.

The figures reflected an increase of K300 to K400 per viss in one month.

The low stock and high demand pushed up the prices in the domestic market. The stock is getting smaller yet growers are happy with the current market price. Monsoon onion

season has not arrived yet. The onions are likely to receive a higher price. Last year, growers did not even cover the cultivation cost. The market fallouts happened when China, the leading buyer of Myanmar's onion, shut down the border amid the COVID-19 restrictions and trade completely halted.

According to 2018-2019 FY's data from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, there were over 170,000 acres of onion plantations. The per-acre yield is estimated at over 3,600 visses per acre. Mandalay Region constitutes 36 per cent of overall production, followed by Sagaing Region with 32 per cent and Magway Region with 26 per cent. — NN/GNLM



According to 2018-2019 FY's data from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, there were over 170,000 acres of onion plantations.

## OPINION

### Don't underestimate infection of communicable diseases

**T**HE covid-19 pandemic is still spreading across the world while new infectious diseases with different titles are trying to take a stronghold in the world to attack the global peoples. Hence, all the peoples need to take care of the possible danger to be triggered by dreadful diseases.

Currently, global people should not dive in a breath because not only new variants of Covid-19 but also monkeypox are taking a position in global countries. Likewise, the people of Myanmar should take care of spreading rapid infection of new variants.

The relevant ministries have eased restrictions on Covid-19 for the people to live in society freely. Taking this advantage, as new viruses are possible to still attack society, the people should not set aside physical and mental restrictions with underestimation over the diseases. In fact, no country across the world can control the current pandemic as well as monkeypox until today.

At present, the government has allowed the running of international flights in the country in April 2022. But it is necessary to take care of infection of diseases because some passengers may be virus carriers who will start infection of virus in the nation. Hence, authorities, as well as the people, should take the infectious possibility while observing the symptoms of communicable diseases to be able to take preventive measures in advance.

country in April 2022. But it is necessary to take care of infection of diseases because some passengers may be virus carriers who will start infection of virus in the nation. Hence, authorities, as well as the people, should take the infectious possibility while observing the symptoms of communicable diseases to be able to take preventive measures in advance.

People need to take the necessary vaccines for infectious diseases in time. It is necessary to take innovative measures for coming out the vaccines for new diseases. It needs to take adequate time. More than that, they all should follow the basic preventive measures without forgetting the important words: wearing, washing and avoiding.

**I**HATED some things when I was a child. Among them, coffee is included. I did not want to wash dishes, do housework, run errands, etc. I had so many complaints about the food. Although I liked drinking milk, my family members especially my dad liked coffee and toasted bread. I hate those food most. My dad and mom did not notice it at first and always urged me to take coffee every breakfast. However, I gradually happened to take notice of some information associated with coffee later.

One day, a piece of news said that Coffee is good for us. There was a time when medical professionals nixed it, believing it to be a carcinogen. But they now conclude that its mix of chemicals, including antioxidants alongside renowned caffeine, blocks or blunts an array of afflictions: heart failure, heart disease, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and colon cancer. Coffee strengthens the liver. "Research", the paper of record concluded, "Found that those who drank moderate amounts of coffee, even with a little sugar, were up to 30 per cent less likely to die during the study period." If we can just knock out that remaining 70 per cent, we'll have something.

The praise of the white coats is fine but needless, for we city-dwellers would drink the black god anyway. If science reverted to its censorious past and worse, and told us that coffee was fatal, we would shrug and say, "Fine," so long as we could have a

cup first. As mentioned earlier, as a child I disliked it. When my parents let me sip what they drank, I did not ask again. It looked like cocoa but wasn't. When I first began to take it in college, I would always add sugar, not a little but many spoonful — a farewell nod to my childish tastes. Only after I came to the city did I appreciate the real thing

Diner coffee came in China mugs, Deli coffee in blue-and-white paper cups with Parthenon imagery, and a proclamation in a Pseudo-Greek font, Happy to Serve You. Old coffeehouses served espresso, actual Greek restaurants served Greek coffee, and bistros served au lait in fat little bowls with lion heads for handles. Late in the day came the conglomerate, hip, and un-ionized. Forget all these styles and stylings, savor with me the thing itself.

It is hot. Why does heat console? Do we remember blankets, warm embraces? What is the temperature of mother's milk? Even as heat soothes, it fortifies. When the after-midnight room begins to chill on all-nighters, coffee won't. Strong in the morning, and strong in the evening, coffee is the original geother-

mal heat source. It is black. Warmth may summon breasts and motherhood; blackness is night and Old Nick. Wild dogs roam there, galaxies keep indifferent watch, and only 24-hour gas stations are open. Coffee is the colour of adulthood, of no longer having to obey a curfew. What else are the nighthawks drinking? Club soda?

Coffee gives that jolt. This is the caffeine speaking, not the antioxidant first-aid squad. Do you want to read that last report, finish writing that scene, make the point that you know will win the bull session, or prolong the date one more inning? Coffee will carry you. You need to pry open those

eyes on the commuter-train platform, step into the rig to cross another state, greet the dawn wind and the pelicans with brightness equal to their own? Coffee is there. Is it better at these tasks than cigarettes or fortified soft drinks? We haven't run a test, but coffee is still legal and hallowed by tradition. On your mark.

All these advantages are half mental, the residue of associations (though no less real for that). The hard-boiled detective asked for coffee, made this year; the hard-boiled diplomat wanted his black as the devil, hot as hell,

pure as an angel, sweet as love. In my daily life, I have put coffee into routines that ritualize its consumption and its effects. Between showering and shaving, and my wife seeing her first patient, we walk two and a half blocks along the still-shaded street, step down into the converted basement of the walk-up, take our place in line behind the other morning

drinkers, and tell the youngsters born in the downtown what we are having. Every ten punches in our frequent-flyer card get us a free coffee; we collect them often. As we sit on our heart back wrought-iron chairs and drink, we comment on the ambient scene: obnoxious voices, dogs of noble breed, and noteworthy fashion choices. Midafternoon we make the same visit. We would do it at night if the place still kept its pre-Covid hours as if with the mind of a considerate attendant, coffee stimulates but never seems to deprive us of sleep.

Speaking of youngsters, I notice my fellow drinkers preferring other brews. Tea, our forefathers would be interested to know, has made a big comeback. Youth drinks fermented tea, ground tea leaves, and

# As A Life Elixir

By Yar Zar Myint Zan



"Research", the paper of record concluded, "Found that those who drank moderate amounts of coffee, even with a little sugar, were up to 30 per cent less likely to die during the study period." If we can just knock out that remaining 70 per cent, we'll have something. ILLUSTRATION: FREEPIK

## WHO says all theories still on table after studies point to natural Covid origin

**T**HE World Health Organization on Wednesday welcomed new studies concluding that Covid-19 first emerged at an animal market in China's Wuhan, but insisted it was too early to rule out other theories.

"All hypotheses remain on the table," WHO emergencies director Michael Ryan told reporters from the UN health agency's Geneva headquarters.

Solving the mystery of where the SARS CoV-2 virus came from and how it began spreading among humans is viewed as vital to averting future pandemics.

The two main theories that have been hotly debated since

Covid first surfaced in China in late 2019 have centred on the virus naturally spilling over from bats to an intermediary animal and into humans or escaping due to a lab accident.

Two peer-reviewed studies published in Science Tuesday claimed to have tipped the balance in the debate about the virus's origins, concluding it must have been introduced naturally through the wildlife trade at the Wuhan market.

The first paper analyzed the geographic pattern of Covid cases in the outbreak's first month, December 2019, showing the first cases were tightly clustered around Wuhan's Huanan Seafood

Wholesale Market.

The second examined genomic data from the earliest cases to study the virus' early evolution, concluding it was unlikely the coronavirus circulated widely in humans prior to November 2019.

Ryan welcomed the studies. "This is a scientific detective story that goes on. Each new piece of information adds to the overall assessment," he said, stressing though that "all hypotheses remain on the table until you can prove that one hypothesis is the explanatory hypothesis."

Maria Van Kerkhove, WHO's technical lead for Covid-19, welcomed the studies, as well as

another one published this week looking at environmental samples.

WHO experts, she said, had already evaluated the studies, which were previously posted as "preprints" before being vetted by scientific peer review.

"These are good analyses," she told reporters, but stressed that more studies on the ground in China and beyond were needed before any final conclusions could be drawn.

"What is really critical ... is looking further within China, further within Wuhan, and in the markets within Wuhan" with further studies to "look at where the animals who were sold at those

markets came from... and looking at the people who worked at those source farms", she said.

"So for us this does provide more information around what was happening early days, but unfortunately, it's not enough.

"We need more studies to be done in China and elsewhere to really understand the earliest stages."

Without more studies, "there are still open questions for us", she said.

The goal, she stressed, "is not just to figure out how this pandemic began, it is to learn how we better prepare for the future."

SOURCE: AFP

After brewing, the water is removed from the extract to make dry fragments or powder, both of which dissolve when added to water.

There are two main ways to make instant coffee:

(1) Spray-drying. Coffee extract is sprayed into hot air, which quickly dries the droplets and turns them into fine powder or small pieces.

(2) Freeze-drying. The coffee extract is frozen and cuts into small fragments, which are dried at a low temperature under vacuum conditions.

Both methods preserve the quality, aroma, and flavour of the coffee. The most common way to prepare instant coffee is to add one teaspoon of powder to a cup of hot water. The strength of the coffee can easily be adjusted by adding more or less powder to your cup. Instant coffee also contains antioxidants, some nutrients, and slightly less caffeine, but more acrylamide. However, low-cost instant coffee cannot be genuine coffee these days as in the time everything is expensive, the manufacturers cannot afford to use genuine quality raw material in the instant coffee packs which will be sold at low prices such as a hundred kyat per pack. To sum up my account, my dear readers might agree with the title of this article. It will be according to your wish. But coffee has been consumed worldwide since the middle of the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.



A staff member collects sample to check the condition of Vero cell culture at the COVID-19 vaccine stock solution workshop in trial operation at Sinovac Life Sciences Co., Ltd. in Beijing, capital of China, 15 July 2020. PHOTO: XINHUA/ZHANG YUWEI



# SCI/ENVIRON WORLD

## NASA details plans to bring back Mars rock samples

NASA plans to bring 30 Martian rock samples back to Earth in 2033, the agency said Wednesday -- and is sending two small helicopters to help the mission.

The Perseverance rover, which landed on Mars in February 2021, has so far collected 11 samples as part of its hunt for signatures of ancient life.

But bringing them back for detailed lab study on Earth is proving to be a highly complex task.

Up until now, NASA was planning on sending another



In this illustration, NASA's Mars 2020 rover uses its drill to core a rock sample on Mars. **PHOTO: NASA/JPL-CALTECH/AFP**

rover to Mars to pick up the samples from Perseverance then bring them to a robotic lander equipped with its own rocket, called the Mars Ascent Vehicle.

This in turn would fire the samples into orbit where they would be collected by a European spaceship.

Now, however, the second "Sample Fetch Rover" has been scrapped and Perseverance itself will deliver the precious cargo directly to the lander, which will use a robot arm to

extract it.

But since NASA always plans for contingencies, it has a backup plan in case Perseverance becomes immobilized.

The lander, which should launch from Earth in 2028 and land on Mars in mid-2030, will also carry two mini helicopters.

Perseverance brought with it its own helicopter, called Ingenuity, which carried out the first powered flight on another world, and has now made a total of 29 sorties.—AFP

## Hundreds of aftershocks shake earthquake-hit northern Philippines

ANXIOUS residents slept outside after hundreds of aftershocks rattled the earthquake-hit northern Philippines, locals said Thursday, as President Ferdinand Marcos Jr inspected damage in the region.

Five people were killed and more than 150 injured when a 7.0-magnitude quake struck the lightly populated province of Abra on Wednesday morning, authorities said. The death toll rose to six on Thursday when a 59-year-old man was hit by a landslide caused by an aftershock, a local disaster official said.

The powerful quake rippled across the mountainous area, toppling buildings, triggering landslides and shaking high-rise



Five people were killed and more than 150 injured in the Philippines when a powerful quake struck Abra province. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF ABRA REPRESENTATIVE CHING BERNOS/AFP**

towers hundreds of kilometres away in the capital Manila.

"Aftershocks happen almost every 20 minutes, 15 minutes

since yesterday," said Reggi Tolentino, a restaurant owner in Abra's provincial capital Bangued.—AFP

## UK sea levels rising quicker than century ago: study



A person watches from the promenade as waves in break in a stormy sea alongside the lighthouse in New Brighton, north west England, on 8 December 2021, as Storm Barra swept over the country. **PHOTO: PAUL ELLIS / AFP**

SEA levels are increasing around Britain at a far faster

rate than a century ago while the country is warming slightly more

than the global average, leading meteorologists said Thursday.

The annual study — the State of the UK Climate 2021 — found recent decades have been "warmer, wetter and sunnier" than the 20th century.

It comes hot on the heels of temperatures topping 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) in England last week for the first time, setting a record at 40.3C.

"This year's report continues to show the impact of global temperature rises on the climate in the UK," the Met Office, the country's meteorological authority, said in a summary.—AFP

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Eye-popping: Saudi prince unveils mirrored skyscraper eco-city

A futuristic Saudi megacity is to feature two skyscrapers extending across a swathe of desert and mountain terrain, according to the latest disclosures on the project by the kingdom's de facto ruler.

The parallel structures of mirror-encased skyscrapers extending over 170 kilometres (more than 100 miles), known collectively as The Line, form the heart of the Red Sea megacity NEOM, a plank of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's bid to diversify the Gulf state's oil-dependent economy.

First announced in 2017, NEOM has consistently raised eyebrows for proposed flourishes like flying taxis and robot maids, even as architects and economists have questioned its feasibility.

In a presentation Monday night, Prince Mohammed sketched out an even more ambitious vision, describing a car-free utopia that would become the planet's most liveable city "by far".

Analysts noted, though, that plans for NEOM have changed course over the years, fuelling doubts about whether The Line will ever become reality.—AFP

#### Bacteria behind rare disease found in US soil and water samples

THE Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Wednesday issued a health advisory to clinicians after discovering the bacteria behind a rare but serious disease for the first time in the continental United States.

Burkholderia pseudomallei (B. pseudomallei) was detected in soil and puddle water samples in the Gulf Coast region of southern Mississippi during an investigation of two human melioidosis cases.

The two unrelated people lived in close geographic proximity and became sick with the disease two years apart — in 2020 and in 2022 — prompting health authorities to investigate household products and the environment around their homes.

Melioidosis causes nonspecific symptoms such as fever, joint pain, and headaches, but can also cause pneumonia, abscess formation, and blood infections.

There are about 12 cases in the US per year on average, mostly related to travel to tropical and subtropical regions, where the bacteria is endemic.

A 2021 cluster that included four people across four states was linked to imported contaminated aromatherapy spray.—AFP

# HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

## COVID-19 SITUATION UPDATE WORLDWIDE

### Belarus first European nation to approve Cuban covid vaccine



Soberana Plus is one of three covid vaccines developed in Cuba, none of which have yet been approved by the World Health Organization. **PHOTO: EMBASSY OF CUBA/FACEBOOK/XINHUA**

BELARUS has become the first European country to approve the emergency use of a Cuban-made Covid-19 vaccine, the centre that produces the jab said on Wednesday.

Belarus “approved today the use of Soberana Plus,” said the Finlay Vaccine Institute on Twitter.

Soberana Plus is one of three covid vaccines developed

in Cuba, none of which have yet been approved by the World Health Organization.

The vaccine is administered with a single dose to adult patients recovering from the virus or as a booster following two doses of Cuba’s Soberana 02 vaccine.

Cuba has also developed a third vaccine called Abdala and is working on two more, including one taken as a nasal spray.

Cuban scientists say their vaccines are 90 per cent effective.

They have been purchased by several countries including Venezuela, Nicaragua, Iran and Vietnam.

Cuba, which has been under US sanctions since 1962, began producing its own vaccines in the 1980s and developed the first against Meningitis B.—Xinhua

### Tokyo’s daily COVID-19 cases top 40,000 for 1st time amid 7<sup>th</sup> wave

TOKYO reported a record 40,406 coronavirus cases Thursday, topping 40,000 for the first time as Japan battles its seventh wave of the COVID-19 pandemic driven by the highly transmissible BA.5 Omicron subvariant.

The logging of record infections in many other areas other than Tokyo comes after the World Health Organization said Japan had reported the world’s highest number of new coronavirus cases in the week to Sunday with more than 969,000.

Tokyo’s new all-time high, which exceeded its previous record of 34,995 reported on Friday, is believed to have included around 5,000 to 6,000 cases from Wednesday that were unable to

be logged due to a system error.

With the majority of infections among those in their 20s, the capital’s seven-day rolling average of new cases stood at 31,318.1 per day, up 66.4 per cent from the previous week.

The bed occupancy rate has topped 50 per cent, meaning its bed provisions are also under pressure.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a press conference Wednesday that the pandemic is far from over.

According to the UN organization, there were over 6.6 million new cases globally in the week to Sunday, up about 300,000 from the previous week.—Kyodo

## 2022 MONKEYPOX OUTBREAK

### Australia declares monkeypox disease of national significance

THE Australian government on Thursday declared monkeypox a communicable disease incident of national significance.

The move, which comes days after the World Health Organization declared it a public health emergency of international concern, means the federal government must implement national policy, in-

terventions and public messaging to prevent the spread of the virus.

There have been 44 confirmed monkeypox cases in Australia, the majority of which were travellers who recently returned from overseas. Most monkeypox cases in Australia were among people aged 21 to 40 years.—Xinhua

### Japan’s 2<sup>nd</sup> monkeypox case confirmed in Tokyo

JAPAN’S second case of monkeypox has been confirmed in Tokyo, the metropolitan government said Thursday, denying that the patient, a man in his 30s, was a close contact of the first case.

The man’s nationality and his place of residence were not disclosed, with the metropolitan government only saying he lives in North or Central

America and arrived in Japan in late July.

He took a test Wednesday and is currently hospitalized in a stable condition, it said. His symptoms include a rash in the mouth, headaches and sore muscles. The metropolitan government believes he was infected abroad as he started feeling fatigued on 21 July before entering Japan.—Kyodo

### WHO says monkeypox outbreak can be stopped if needed actions taken

THE rapidly spreading monkeypox outbreak can be stopped if countries, communities and individuals take the risks seriously and take needed steps to stop transmission and protect vulnerable groups, World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said on Wednesday.

During the opening remarks at a media briefing, Tedros said that more than 18,000 monkeypox cases have been reported globally, with more than 70 per cent from Europe, and 25 per cent from the Americas. So far, there have been five deaths reported, and about 10 per cent of cases are admitted to hospital for pain management caused by the disease.

The WHO declared monkeypox a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) last Saturday. A PHEIC is the highest level of alert that the United Nations health body can give.

At the moment the outbreak is still mostly concentrated in



Healthcare workers assist people waiting to be vaccinated at a monkeypox vaccination site in New York, the United States, on 14 July 2022. **PHOTO: MICHAEL NAGLE/XINHUA**

groups of men who have sex with men, but that is not the case everywhere, WHO Technical Lead on Monkeypox Rosamund Lewis said.

According to the WHO, monkeypox could cause a range of signs and symptoms, including painful sores. Some people developed serious symptoms that need care in a health facility. Those at higher risk of infection include pregnant women, chil-

dren, and immunocompromised persons. The best way to avoid getting infected is to reduce the risk of exposure.

The WHO is working with member states and the EU on releasing vaccines and with partners to determine a global coordination mechanism. It also recommends targeted vaccination for those exposed to someone with monkeypox, and for those at high risk of exposure.—Xinhua

# ECONOMY WORLD

## Fresh nationwide rail strikes hit UK

AROUND 40,000 British railway workers staged a walkout on Wednesday, a month after the largest strike in 30 years as the UK battles its worst cost-of-living crisis in decades.

The nationwide walkout over pay and conditions brought the rail network to a virtual standstill with only one in five trains running and caused major disruption to rush-hour commuters as many simply stayed at home.

With inflation at a 40-year high and set to worsen, the cost-of-living crisis presents a major challenge to Foreign Secretary Liz Truss and former finance minister Rishi Sunak, who are vying to replace Prime Minister

Boris Johnson in a leadership contest.

London Underground trains and buses ran as normal, but Eurostar reduced the number of trains though the Channel Tunnel as a knock-on effect, despite its staff not joining the walkout.

Mick Lynch, general secretary of the RMT rail union, argues strikes are necessary as wages have failed to keep pace with UK inflation, currently at 9.4 per cent and on course to keep rising.

“Network Rail have not made any improvement on their previous pay offer and the train companies have not offered us anything new,” he said.—AFP



Only one in five trains operated as British railway workers stuck for higher pay and better working conditions. **PHOTO: AFP**

## US Senate passes bill to boost domestic chip manufacturing

THE US Senate passed a bill on Wednesday to boost domestic production of semiconductors, the in-demand microchips that power everything from smartphones to cars to weapons.

Global semiconductor supplies were disrupted by fallout from Covid-19 shutdowns, sparking widespread shortages of the chips -- many of which are made in Asia.

The legislation, which now goes back to the House of Representatives for final passage, provides \$52 billion to increase domestic semiconductor production and more than \$100 billion over five years for research and development.

The CHIPS Act was passed in the Senate by a rare bipar-

tisan vote of 64 to 33, with 17 Republicans joining hands with Democrats.

President Joe Biden welcomed Senate passage of the legislation that he said will “accelerate the manufacturing of semiconductors in America, lowering prices on everything from cars to dishwashers”.

Global chip shortages notably slowed production of new automobiles last year, causing prices to increase.

“It will mean more resilient American supply chains, so we are never so reliant on foreign countries for the critical technologies that we need for American consumers and national security,” Biden said in a statement.—AFP

## Japan to foster startups by sending 1,000 people to Silicon Valley

INDUSTRY minister Koichi Hagiuda said in the United States Wednesday that Japan plans to encourage startup businesses by sending 1,000 people to Silicon Valley over five years to provide them with valuable entrepreneurial experience in the California tech hub.

The government aims to draw up a five-year plan by year-end to target a 10-fold increase in the number of startup companies as part of its push to drive economic growth through innovation and the cultivation of human talent.

Hagiuda told reporters after his visit to the headquarters of technology giant Google LLC that he was very impressed by the mentality there in which there is no fear of failure, and that it is something Japan can learn.

“Struck out swinging is considered (an experience) that can lead (people) to the next stage, here in America,” Hagiuda said.

The plan envisions sending 200 people from Japan to Silicon Valley annually starting in



Koichi Hagiuda, Japan's minister of economy, trade and industry, speaks to the press after inspecting Google LLC's headquarters in Mountain View, California, on 27 July 2022. **PHOTO: KYODO**

the new fiscal year that starts in April. It will expand a similar yet smaller program under which around 20 people have been sent there annually over the past seven years.

Devoting more resources to startups is one of four pillars in the strategy Prime Minister Fumio Kishida has set out in pursuit of a new form of capitalism that focuses on growth through investment.

Hagiuda visited California before going on to join the first US-Japan economic “two-plus-two” dialogue in Washington on Friday involving foreign and industry ministers of the two countries. The meeting is expected to focus on improving economic security.

During his California trip, Hagiuda also visited research facilities and spoke to students at Stanford University.—Kyodo

## Saudi prince to sign deal for ‘cheaper energy’ in Greece

SAUDI Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman announced upcoming bilateral projects on a visit to Greece Tuesday, including for a power cable between both countries to provide Europe with “cheaper renewable energy”.

Prince Mohammed landed in Greece on Tuesday on his first

Europe trip since the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, and is set to head to France later in the week.

“I believe we have... historical opportunities, that we are going to finalize a lot of it today,” Prince Mohammed said at a press conference with Prime

Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis in the capital Athens.

This would include linking electricity grids to “provide Greece and southwest Europe through Greece with... much cheaper renewable energy”, he added. The Greek foreign ministry said agreements on maritime transport, energy and defence technology among other things were due to be signed on Wednesday. Khashoggi's killing and dismemberment by Saudi agents in the kingdom's Istanbul consulate in October 2018 brought the powerful crown prince international condemnation.

Prince Mohammed's trip to Europe comes less than two weeks after US President Joe Biden visited the Saudi city of Jeddah for a summit of Arab leaders and met one-on-one with the prince, greeting him with a fist bump.—AFP



Saudi Arabia aims for 50% renewable energy by 2030. A Saudi man speaks to a journalist at a solar plant in Uyayna, north of Riyadh. **PHOTO: NURELDINE / AFP / FILE**

**Boeing profit falls as 787 deliveries still halted**

BOEING reported a drop in second-quarter profits Wednesday on the continued halt to deliveries of the 787, in results that missed analyst expectations. The aviation giant reported a 67 per cent plunge

in quarterly profits to \$193 million, as revenues declined 1.9 per cent to \$16.7 billion. But shares rose after the report, as Boeing confirmed it still expects to have positive cash flow in 2022. The company said

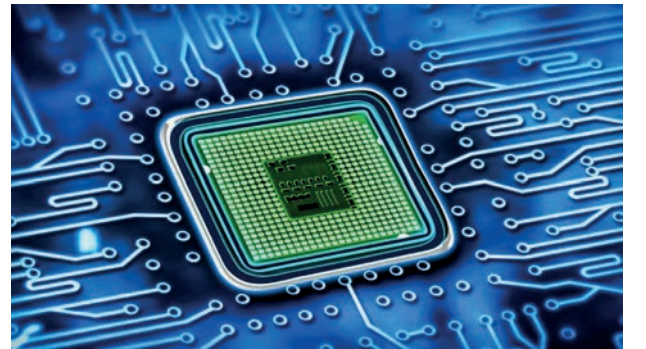
it was working with US air safety officials on "final actions" to resume 787 deliveries. The halt on the widebody plane has been a drag on Boeing's financial performance for more than a year.—AFP

**Samsung Electronics says operating profits up 12.18% in Q2**

SOUTH Korean chip powerhouse Samsung Electronics said Thursday that second-quarter operating profits were up 12.18 per cent, with record profits in its system semiconductor division despite global supply chain woes.

The company's "system semiconductor businesses... achieved a record high quarterly profit", Samsung said in a statement, adding it had both expanded its product line-up and increased the supply of chips to global customers.

"Earnings in the Memory Business improved both year-on-year and quarter-on-quarter as the Company focused on meeting solid demand for servers," Samsung said.



Samsung provides innovative semiconductor solutions, including DRAM, SSD, processors, image sensors with a wide-ranging portfolio of trending technologies. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/AFP

In June, the company became the first chipmaker in the world to mass-produce 3-nanometre microchips as it sought to match and eventually outpace Taiwan's TSMC in the race to manufacture the world's most advanced chips.

The new chips will be smaller, more powerful and efficient, and will be

used in high-performance computing applications before being put into gadgets such as mobile phones.

The vast majority of the world's most advanced microchips are made by just two companies -- Samsung and TSMC -- both of which are running at full capacity to alleviate a global shortage.—AFP

**THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT English Digest**

For Grade-10 and Grade-11

၂၀၂၂-၂၀၂၃ ပညာသင်နှစ်တွင် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာပြဋ္ဌာန်းချက်စာအုပ်သစ်များ သင်ယူလေ့လာနေကြသည့် G-10 နှင့် G-11 ကျောင်းသား ကျောင်းသူများအား အထောက်အကူဖြစ်စေရန် အထူးရည်ရွယ်၍ စနစ်သစ် သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်း မေးခွန်းပုံစံနှင့်အညီ ရေးသားပြုစုထားသည့် Reinforcement Exercises (အားဖြည့်လေ့ကျင့်ခန်းများ) ကို Sunday Supplement အချုပ်ပို့စာစောင်အဖြစ် The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတွင် ဩဂုတ်လ ပထမအပတ်မှ စတင်၍ အပတ်စဉ် တစ်နေ့နေ့တိုင်း ထည့်သွင်း ဖော်ပြသွားမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

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**THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY  
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE  
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)  
(20/2022-2023)**

- Open tenders are invited for supply of the following Service in Myanmar Kyats.
 

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(1)	DMP/L-048(22-23) (Retender)	Electronic Flow Measurement System Revamping, Service and Spares Parts for Yenangyaung, Magway, Kyawswa and Titut Gas Receiving and Metering Station (1) Lot အား Turnkey စနစ်ဖြင့်ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း	Ks
- The open Tender forms including Description of Materials /Qtty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from 29 July 2022 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
- The interested bidder should submit the Technical Specifications and Commercial Quotation with Original Bid Bond in each separate sealed envelopes on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than 12:00 pm on 12, August 2022.
- Tender Closing Date & Time- 12-8-2022, 12:00 pm  
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ph No. +95 67 - 411206

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**  
M.V HONOR WIN VOY.NO. (HY22010)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HONOR WIN VOY.NO. (HY22010)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-7-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.  
Phone No: **2301928**

**Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:  
**M/S UNI SPRING LOGISTICS HOLDINGS PTE LTD**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**  
M.V YONG SHENG VOY.NO. (109W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V YONG SHENG VOY.NO. (109W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-7-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:  
**M/S COSCO SHIPPING LINES**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**  
M.V NORDBORG MAERSK VOY.NO. (227W/230E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NORDBORG MAERSK VOY.NO. (227W/230E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-7-2022** 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 AEGEAN EXPRESS VOY.NO. (239N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AEGEAN EXPRESS VOY.NO. (239N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-7-2022** 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 CONTINENTAL SHIPPING LINES**

# GLOBAL AFFAIRS

## Poland signs weapons contracts with South Korea

POLAND signed Wednesday contracts to purchase South Korean weapons including tanks, artillery and fighter jets as the NATO member bordering Russia and Ukraine boosts its defences.

The amount of the contracts, signed at a ceremony in the Polish capital with representatives of Korea Aerospace Industries and Hyundai, was not provided.

"We're drawing lessons from what's happening in Ukraine," Defence Minister Mariusz Blaszczak told journalists after



The K2 Black Panther main battle tank (MBT) is a completely new tank, developed and manufactured in South Korea. **PHOTO: DEFENCE WIKI/AFP**

the ceremony.

"Time is pressing, we need to equip the Polish military," he added. Defence ministry officials said the first of the 48 FA-50 light combat fighter jets will arrive next year. The aircraft are meant to replace Soviet MiG-29s still in service in the Polish air force, alongside US-made F-16 and eventually F-35 stealth jets.

The head of Korea Aerospace Industries, Ahn Hyunho, said the company plans to progressively transfer production

of the planes to Poland.

Poland will also initially buy 180 K2 "Black Panther" tanks built by Hyundai Rotem before eventually acquiring more than 800 of a special variant to be called K2PL, production of which is start in Poland in 2026.

Delivery of 48 K9 howitzers is expected this year, but the Polish defence ministry said that the acquisition of another approximately 600 of them will begin in 2024, with domestic production slated to start in 2026.—AFP

### RUSSIA - UKRAINE CONFLICT

## Ukraine to increase electricity exports to EU: Zelensky



Ukraine started exporting electricity to the European Union via Romania in early July. **PHOTO: AFP**

PRESIDENT Volodymyr Zelensky said Wednesday Ukraine will up its export of electricity to the European Union as the bloc faces an energy crisis sparked by Russia's invasion.

"We are preparing to increase our electricity exports to consumers in the European

Union," Zelensky said in his daily address to the nation.

"Our exports would not only allow us to increase our income in foreign currency but will also help our partners to resist Russian energy pressure," he said after Russia drastically slashed its gas deliveries to Europe.

"We will gradually make Ukraine one of the guarantors of European energy security," he added.

The Ukrainian electricity grid was connected to the European network in mid-March, helping to keep supplies flowing despite the war.

Ukraine started exporting electricity to the European Union via Romania in early July.

Germany's energy regulator said Russia's state energy giant Gazprom cut gas deliveries to Europe via the Nord Stream pipeline to about 20 per cent of capacity on Wednesday from 40 per cent. EU states have accused Russia of squeezing supplies in retaliation for Western sanctions over Moscow's war in Ukraine, rejecting Moscow's claims of technical issues with the pipeline.—AFP

### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

#### Resuming talks with Russia, Blinken offers 'substantial' deal on prisoners

THE United States has made a "substantial proposal" to Russia to free Americans including basketball star Brittney Griner, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Wednesday, as he announced he will speak to his Moscow counterpart for the first time since the Ukraine war.

Blinken said he expected a telephone call "in the coming days" with Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on the offer to free former Marine Paul Whelan as well as Griner — who told a court earlier Wednesday that she had brought in banned drugs unintentionally. The pair "have been wrongfully detained and must be allowed to come home", Blinken told reporters.—AFP

#### Spain cuts 2023 growth forecast over war in Ukraine

SPAIN on Tuesday slashed its growth forecast for 2023, mainly due to the fallout of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and higher interest rates.

The gross domestic product of the eurozone's fourth-largest economy is now expected to expand by 2.7 per cent instead of the 3.5 per cent previously forecast, Economy Minister Nadia Calvino said. The Ukraine conflict "is having major economic and social consequences at the global level and for this reason all economic bodies and governments are revising down their growth forecasts," she told a news conference. The Spanish economy will also suffer from the "tightening of monetary conditions" linked to the rise in interest rates and the economic slowdown expected in the eurozone which will hurt exports.—AFP

## Kyiv says Russian strikes pummel Ukraine's Black sea coast

UKRAINE said on Tuesday that Russian forces had launched multiple missile strikes at targets on the Black Sea coast near the southern port city of Odessa and in Mykolaiv.

The attacks come days after Russian strikes hit the port of Odessa, calling into question a breakthrough deal to resume

exports of grain from Ukraine, that have been disrupted by Moscow's invasion.

"A massive missile attack, with the use of aircraft, was launched from the Black Sea on the south of Ukraine," the country's southern military command said on Facebook.

Rescuers were working on

the ground near Odessa where "residential buildings" near the coast were hit in the strikes, the military said.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky published a video showing debris scattered around heavily damaged houses in Zatok, a popular resort village to the west of Odessa.—AFP



Ocean Grand cargo ship, carrying two former US Coast Guard patrol boats handed to Ukraine as part of military cooperation between the two countries, arrives at the port of Odessa on 23 November 2021. **PHOTO: STRINGER / AFP/FILE**

## Macron hosts Saudi crown prince despite rights outrage

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron is hosting Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for talks in Paris on Thursday, defying criticism that the invitation is deeply inappropriate barely four years after the murder by Saudi agents of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

The meeting will be seen as the latest step in the readmission of the de-facto ruler of the kingdom into the international fold, after US President Joe Biden met the man universally known as MBS earlier this month.

The topics set to loom over the meeting include energy supply as concern grows over

possible power shortages due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, as well as reining in the nuclear programme of Riyadh's top regional foe Iran. MBS -- who is portrayed at home as a champion of social and economic reform but seen by critics as a murderous tyrant -- arrives in France fresh from a trip to Greece to discuss energy ties. "I feel profoundly troubled by the visit, because of what it means for our world and what it means for Jamal (Khashoggi) and people like him," Amnesty International secretary-general Agnes Callamard told AFP, describing MBS as a man who "does not tolerate any dissent".—AFP



Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (L) receives French President Emmanuel Macron in the Saudi Arabian city of Jeddah in 2021.  
PHOTO: SAUDI ROYAL PALACE/AFP/FILE

## US gun makers grilled over marketing by House committee

US gun makers earned \$1 billion in the past decade from sales of AR-15-style semiautomatic weapons, a House committee said Wednesday as lawmakers grilled firearms manufacturers after a series of grim mass shootings. "The gun industry has flooded our neighbourhoods, our schools and even our churches and synagogues with these deadly weapons and has gotten rich doing it," Democratic Representative Carolyn Maloney said. "They are choosing their bottom line over the lives of their fellow Americans," the New York lawmaker told a tense day-long hearing of the House Oversight and Reform

Committee. "This is beyond irresponsible."

Maloney and other Democrats accused the gun manufacturers of using "dangerous" marketing tactics to sell firearms to young people and of failing to "acknowledge their role in the violence plaguing our nation".

"We know the power of marketing, especially the power of marketing to young people, whether it's cereal or cigarettes, or in this case, guns," said Bradley Schneider, a Democratic congressman who lives in Highland Park, where a young man shot dead seven people during a 4 July parade.—AFP

## Kim says N Korea ready to mobilize nuclear deterrent

NORTH Korean leader Kim Jong Un said Wednesday his country is "fully prepared" to mobilize its nuclear deterrent and deal with "any military clash with the United States", while warning against any attempt by South Korea to launch a pre-emptive strike.

In a speech marking the 69th anniversary of the Korean War armistice, Kim said the South's bid to pre-emptively destroy the North's military power will be "immediately punished by a powerful force, and (President) Yoon Suk Yeol's regime and his army will be annihilated," the official Korean Central News Agency said Thursday.

In the speech, Kim did not touch on the prospects of North Korea carrying out a seventh nuclear test, or its first since 2017. Speculation has been growing that Pyongyang has completed preparations for the test.

The report marked the first time that the North Korean leader has named South Korean leader Yoon, who took office in May. In marked contrast to his predecessor



Photo distributed by the Korean Central News Agency shows North Korean leader Kim Jong Un giving a speech on 27 July 2022, at an event in Pyongyang marking the 69th anniversary of the Korean War armistice. PHOTO: KNS/KYODO

Moon Jae In, Yoon is known for taking a hard-line stance on North Korea.

Kim criticized Yoon and his "military thugs" for "dragging the situation on the Korean Peninsula to the brink of war by engaging in the heinous confrontational policy" that no other conservative South Korean administration has ever implemented.

He warned that if the South continues to "escalate military tensions while threatening our safety, there will be a corresponding price." Kim also criticized the US "imperialists" and said if Washington "continues to seriously infringe on our safety and fundamental interests, it will inevitably face greater anxiety and crisis."—Kyodo

## Pro-Sadr protesters storm Iraqi parliament in fortified Green Zone

HUNDREDS of supporters of powerful Iraqi cleric Moqtada Sadr danced and sang in parliament Wednesday after storming Baghdad's high-security Green Zone in protest at a rival bloc's nomination for prime minister.

Police fired barrages of tear gas in a bid to stop the protesters from breaching the gates of the heavily fortified Green Zone, but the crowds surged forward and entered parliament.

"I am against the corrupt officials who are in power," said protester Mohamed Ali, a 41-year-old day labourer, one of the hundreds who entered the zone that is home to both government buildings and diplomatic missions, before later leaving peacefully.

The protests are the latest challenge for oil-rich Iraq, which remains mired in a political and a socioeconomic crisis despite soaring global energy prices.

Sadr's bloc emerged from elections in October as the biggest parliamentary faction, but was still far short of a majority and, nine months on, deadlock persists over the establishment of a new government.

Crowds wandered around the parliament building waving national flags, taking photo-

graphs, chanting and cheering.

Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhemi called on the protesters to "immediately withdraw", warning that the security forces would ensure "the protection of state institutions and foreign missions, and prevent any harm to security and order".—AFP



Supporters of Iraqi cleric Moqtada Sadr gather inside Iraq's parliament in Baghdad's high-security Green Zone on Wednesday night. PHOTO: AFP

Kim says N Korea ready to mobilize nuclear deterrent

PAGE-15



# SPORT

## Yadanabon FC regain victory in MNL tourney



A Yadanabon FC player (blue) tries to touch the ball into the net during the MNL Week 5 match against Rakhine United at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 28 July 2022. PHOTO: MNL

THE final day of the Week 5 of Myanmar National League 2022 continued on 28 July, and Yadanabon FC defeated the Rakhine United by three goals and regained the victory.

The Yadanabon FC, which had lost three consecutive games since losing the first game of the season, was able to recover in Week 5.

Thanks to this victory, the Yadanabon team was able to move up to the middle of the standings. This season, the Rakhine United team, which has not won yet in

every match, was defeated again in this match and faced a complete defeat. The team Yadanabon made some changes to the starting lineup with key players.

Meanwhile, Rakhine United also used core players, including foreign players.

As both teams wanted points, they started to attack from the beginning of the game, and the Yadanabon team scored two goals in 20 minutes and managed to control the game.

Ye Yint Aung scored two goals at 10<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> minutes

and the second goal was scored through a penalty kick.

Rakhine United team tried to regain the equalizer but failed to score due to poor finishing. Thet Naing scored the third goal in the 54<sup>th</sup> minute which would ensure the victory for the Yadanabon team.

After Week 5, the defending champion Shan United team is leading with 15 points after winning five games, while the Rakhine United team has lost all five games and has yet to get a point. — Ko Nyi Lay/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.

## Myanmar to play Australia today in AFF U-18 Women's Championship

THE final day of the 2022 ASEAN U-18 Women's Championship Group B will continue today and the Myanmar team will play against Australia for the first place in the group.

Among the teams participating in Group B, Myanmar and Australia entered the semi-finals with six points after two games each.

The Myanmar team can win first place in the group only if they win against Australia.

Before the tournament, there were reports that the Australian team would send only the U-15 team, but currently, most of the U-17 players are coming to compete, as confirmed by the head coach himself at the pre-match press conference.

Therefore, it will be difficult for team Myanmar to play against Australia and they have reached the semi-finals,

so they may face Thailand or Viet Nam in the next round, so some core players are likely to be sidelined.

The current head coach of the Myanmar U-18 women's team, Daw Thet Thet Win, managed the Myanmar women's national team, which participated in the ASEAN Women's Championship last July, and at that time, they reached the semi-finals in the last group match against Viet Nam, so she had to leave all the veteran players behind and compete with young players.

In the final group match, the Myanmar team lost to Viet Nam by a goal, but in the third place match, they competed with all the core players and won the third prize by 4-3.

Therefore, in today's game, head coach Daw Thet Thet Win's strategy and pre-game preparations must be



Myanmar U-18 women's players celebrate their victory at the previous group match against the Philippines on 27 July. PHOTO: MFF

watched.

In the same time, the Philippines will take on Malaysia team at 3 pm Myanmar Stand-

ard Time.

The five-team Group A matches will end on 30 July, and the teams that will meet

in the semi-finals will emerge only after the completion of all matches. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM