

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IX, No. 155, 9th Waning of Tawthalin 1384 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Sunday, 18 September 2022

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.

Public rental housing project nears completion in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay



A construction status of the public rental housing project is seen in Mandalay.

THE first phase of the public rental housing construction was completed in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay with 100 per cent, 69 per cent and 95 per cent respectively, according to

the Yangon City Development Committee.

The housing project was implemented in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay with the aim to provide accommodation

for civil servants, retired employees and low-income people. As a first phase for implementing a 10,000 public rental housing project, 28 buildings in Nay Pyi Taw, 194 buildings in Yan-

gon and 91 buildings in Mandalay were being constructed with the 2022-2023 Union fund.

SEE PAGE-2

ARTICLE

Grim Fate of NUG Terrorist Group

By Min Khant

PAGE-6-7

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

Trade continues despite lockdown in Shweli

PAGE-2

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Mixed cropping likely to prosper this year amid high agricultural input costs

PAGE-5



PYIN DO LWIN PWE GAUK (B.E FALLS) RESORT

Special arrangements are made for Package Tours and group Pilgrimages.



- 5D-LED Modern digital glass bridge,
- Jumping cloud,
- Children play ground,
- Jungle foopath,
- Suspension bridge,
- Souvenir shop,
- Food court

Those wishing to enter the legal fold can contact respective townships' Red Cross Society, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Social Welfare Office and social welfare organizations authorized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in addition to reception centres in border areas, Tatmadaw units and police stations

THE Information Team of the State Administration Council has released statements inviting CDM staff, students and youths, who are in border areas and ethnic armed groups, they can contact the nearest reception centres in border areas, Tatmadaw units and police stations if they want to enter the legal fold and the government will guarantee their lives following the rules and regulations.

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. Meanwhile, 3,156 education workers, who were absent from their duties, another 1,009 people, who want to withdraw the cases that were opened against them, and 231 PDF members have contacted and returned to the legal fold. Then, they were given back to their parents systematically and the numbers of people who enter the legal fold and those who wish to are rising. Therefore, the government is making efforts to accept more numbers of those people.

The government opens reception centres in bor-

der areas for those who would like to return to the legal fold. Moreover, those wishing to return home can contact respective townships' Red Cross Society, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Social Welfare Office and social welfare organizations authorized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. It is guaranteed that they will be able to lead their daily lives peacefully.

*Information Team
State Administration Council*

361 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 17 September, total figure rises to 618,664





MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **618,664** after **361** new cases were reported on 17 September 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **595,166** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll stands at **19,444** without casualties.

Preliminary analysis of COVID-19 vaccination of positive patients and deaths




ACCORDING to the analysis of the COVID-19 vaccination rate of positive patients between 28-1-2022 and 7-9-2022, 80 per cent of patients have not been vaccinated at all while 15.9 per cent are inoculated one time, four per cent have been fully administered with vaccines and 0.1 per cent received booster shots.

According to the analysis of the COVID-19 vaccination rate of deaths between 28-1-2022 and 7-9-2022, 84.1 per cent have not been vaccinated at all and have not been fully vaccinated, 14.4 per cent have been fully inoculated and 1.5 per cent received booster shots.

COVID-19 infection rate and vaccination

Out of Laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patients			
80 per cent	15.9 per cent	4 per cent	0.1 per cent
			
have not been vaccinated at all	have been vaccinated one time	have been fully vaccinated	have received booster shots

COVID-19 death toll and vaccination

COVID-19 deaths		
84.1 per cent	14.4 per cent	1.5 per cent
		
have not been vaccinated at all and have not been fully vaccinated	have been fully vaccinated	have received booster shots

Therefore, according to the analysis of the COVID-19 vaccination and COVID-19 cases/deaths in Myanmar, it causes less severe illness and fewer deaths among those who are fully vaccinated and those who receive booster shots. The people should follow COVID-19 health rules, wear face masks and contact the nearest health departments, and village/ward administration offices to receive vaccines and booster shots.

Ministry of Health

Trade continues despite lockdown in Shweli

THE Chinese border town of Shweli has been locked down for five days due to the detection of the COVID-19 virus, but the border trade between Myanmar and China is still open at the Wang Ding-Kyinsankyawt border, a trader said.

China previously imposed a lockdown on only the areas and neighbourhoods where the COVID-19 virus was detected, and from 16 September 2022 at midnight, the entire city of Shweli was placed under lockdown.

"Trading activities have normal entry and exit principles. The lockdown is not related to the trading activities through the Kyinsankyawt-Wang Ding checkpoint," said an entrepreneur based on the Muse border.

According to the businessmen, Kyinsank-

yawt-Wang Ding trade is the main terminal for activities between Myanmar and China with around 100 trucks trading daily.

Lockdown has been imposed only in the Chinese city of Shweli, which borders Myanmar.

Every resident of Shweli City must enter quarantine in his house, and the initial lockdown period is set as five days, every day, everyone must have a throat swab test, and the lockdown period will depend on the number of cases found.

A resident of the border said that it will be reset.

Shweli city lockdown has been announced from 16 to 21 September 2022. Until now, the Kyinsankyawt-Wang Ding border trade is still operating. — TPT/GNLM

Public rental housing project ...

FROM PAGE-1

Rental housing projects in Yangon were built by the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation-MCEF and Myanmar Licensed Contractors Association-MLCA with 97 buildings each, totalling 194 buildings. Forty buildings will be completed at the end of September; 27 buildings by the end of October; 24 buildings in December and 103 buildings by the end of March 2023. Associations invested a lot of capital initially for the construction under the PFI system, and the tender process was carried out in accordance with the procedures along with the regional government's permission.

For the completed buildings in Nay Pyi Taw, project supervision teams will continue proper reception, placement, and preparation for the use of certain ground floors as a clinic, mini-store, commercial area, playground and shops.

A total of 5,008 apartments: 448 apartments in Nay Pyi Taw, 3,104 apartments in Yangon and 1,456 apartments in Mandalay, will be included in the public rental housing project. — TWA/GNLM

“Keep Moving Forward to Achieve Our Goal”

IN line with the theme “Keep Moving Forward to Achieve Our Goal” our government will build a better nation and improve the socio-economic conditions to serve the interests of the State and ethnic national people. In line with the theme “The Strength of the Nation Lies Within”, I would like to conclude by calling for unity and cooperation.

(The excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on the occasion of the Eighteen Months of the Assumption of State Duties by the State Administration Council on 1 August 2022.

Peace talks wrap up third-day meeting with signed agreements

THE State Peace Talks Team met the Karen National Liberation Army (Peace Council) KNU/KNLA (PC) and the Democratic Karen Benevolent Army-DKBA delegations separately at the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre’s reception hall on 17 September morning. Both parties conducted an open discussion regard-

ing the implementation of matters agreed on the first meeting, additional requirements and regional development matters.

Then, the State Peace Talks Team continued its third-day meeting with KNU/KNLA (PC) and DKBA delegations at the meeting hall of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre.

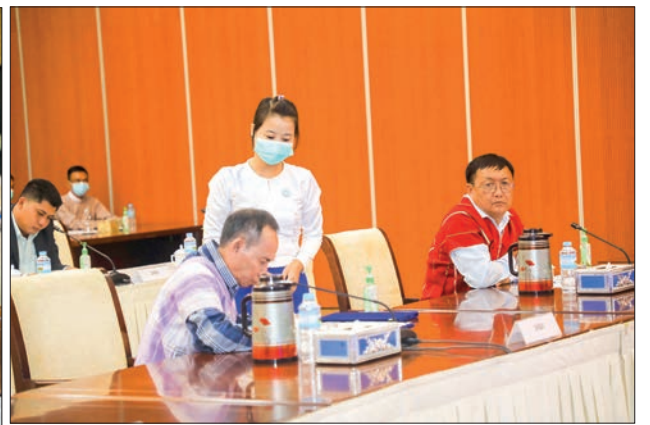
SAC Member Union Minister at the Union Government Office Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee Leader of the State Peace Talks Team Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and members: SAC Member Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun, NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naung and DKBA Chief of

Staff Saw Sein Win, Vice-Chairman of the KNU/KNLA (PC) and General Secretary Saw Kyaw Nyunt.

At the meeting, attendees signed final agreements resulting from the re-discussion of attitudes from both sides according to the three days of negotiations.

Afterwards, DKBA Chief of

Staff Saw Steel on behalf of the ethnic armed organizations-EAOs and SPTT Leader Lt-Gen Yar Pyae made their concluding remarks and presented the record book on the SAC’s endeavours for the benefit of the country published by the Ministry of Information and books, MRTV DTH receiver, two-feet satellite dish and gifts. — MNA



The State Peace Talks Team, the KNU/KNLA (PC) peace delegation and the DKBA peace delegation sign the agreements resulting from the three-day negotiations.

4th Meeting of JSC on Myanmar-India Cooperation in Power Sector held online

DEPUTY Minister for Electric Power Dr Aung Zeya and Secretary (Power) Mr Shri Alok Kumar of India jointly hosted the 4th Meeting of the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) on Myanmar-India Cooperation in the Power Sector virtually yesterday.

It was joined by Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Shri Vinay Kumar and embassy officials, officials of the central electricity authority, the Ministry of Power and the Ministry of External Affairs of India, high officials of the Ministry of Electric Power, Ministry of Foreign

Affairs, Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Ministry of Industry and Ministry of Science and Technology. The leaders approved the facts discussed at the third and fourth meetings of the JSC on Myanmar-India Cooperation in Power Sector.

Then, they openly discussed the improvement of the country’s power sector, the potential to provide the power needs of the people and bilateral cooperation sectors such as cross-border power lines and the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals, pow-



The fourth meeting of the Joint Steering Committee-JSC on Myanmar-India Cooperation in the Power Sector is in progress online.

er generation from renewable energy, solar power project, energy efficiency, small-scale power distribution system for

rural areas and capacity building procedures.

Then, they also discussed the fifth meeting of the Joint Steering

Committee (JSC) on Myanmar-India Cooperation in the Power Sector and the deputy minister made a concluding remark. — MNA

Daily newspapers available online

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

MWAF, MMCWA and social associations collaborate on Covid awareness talk

MON State Chief Minister U Zaw Lin Tun and state ministers watched and supported the awareness talk programme for the protection and control of COVID-19 disease, and the mask campaign that offered free face masks which were being carried out by state officials, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation-MWAF, the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association-MMCWA and social organizations at the Mawlamyine Railway Station in Myaynigon Ward, Mawlamyine yesterday morning.

Next, the chief minister met officials from Myanmar Railways (Transport Division 8) and gave necessary instruc-



The Mon State chief minister meets the staff of the Myanmar Railways at the Mawlamyine Railway Station yesterday.

tions on providing a smooth travel experience for passen-

gers, ensuring that the stations comply with the COVID-19

health rules, undertaking the processes for the cleanliness

of the station premises inside out, and running the train trips.

Afterwards, the chief minister and party encouraged the collective blood donation event executed by police officers from Mon State Police Force to hail the 58th Myanmar Police Force Day, which will fall on 1 October 2022, at the Mawlamyine People's Hospital. Participating donors then have been provided with tonics, eggs and nutritional supplements.

Similarly, the chief minister comforted patients who receive medical treatments at the Mawlamyine People Hospital and fulfilled their further needs, it is learnt. — MNA

Fuel prices fall again on 17 September



The sign is seen displaying the fuel oil prices at a petrol station in Sangyoung Township.

THE price of 92 Ron motor fuel dropped to K2,180 per litre on 17 September, according to reference retail prices issued by the Fuel Oil Import, Storage and Distribution Supervisory Committee.

Due to the government's measures to reduce the price of fuel, domestic fuel prices are heading towards the downside.

According to the fuel reference prices released yesterday, the retail price of fuel in the

Yangon Region is K2,180 for 92 Ron per litre, K2,270 per litre of 95 Ron and HSD (500 ppm) is set to trade at K2,580 per litre.

HSD (50 ppm) and HSD (10 ppm) are also set to be traded at K2,665 per litre by the Fuel Oil Import, Storage and Distribution Supervisory Committee.

Also, in Bago, the price of 97 Ron per litre dropped to K2,185.

In Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw, Magway, Dawei, Monywa,

Patheingyi, Hpa-An, Mawlamyine, Lashio, Taunggyi, and Loikaw the price of 92 Ron per litre has dropped back to more than K2,200.

It is reported that fuel prices have dropped to over K2,400 in Haka, over K2,300 in Myitkyina and Sittway and over K3,100 in Kengtung.

The wholesale price of motor oil recommended by the Fuel Oil Import, Storage, Distribution and Refining Supervision Committee in the Yangon Region is K2,075 for 92 Ron per litre, 95 Ron is K2,161 per litre, while HSD (500 ppm) is K2,469 per litre, and HSD (50 ppm) and HSD (10 ppm) are set at K2,550 per litre.

These prices are calculated based on the "MOPS" price by the Motor Fuel Import, Storage and Distribution Supervisory Committee, and if the motor fuel buyers are not satisfied, they can contact the committee and complain. — TWA/GNLM

Money changer faces 3-month licence suspension for breach of CBM's instructions

THE work licence of Family Moe Paing Money Changer was suspended for three months for violating the Foreign Currency Management Law, according to the statement of the Central Bank of Myanmar.

Moreover, the five exchange counters of Family Moe Paing Company in Bahan and Kyauktada townships were also suspended from selling and exchanging foreign currencies, it said.

The company received the work licence in August 2013 and

was suspended for three months starting 19 September 2022 under Section 35 for breaching the Foreign Exchange Management Law Section 22.

The Foreign Exchange Management Law Section 22 stated that the authorized person to deal in foreign exchange licence shall comply with provisions of this law and rules, regulations, by-laws, notifications, orders, directives and procedures and instructions of the licence issued by this law. — TWA/GNLM



Central Bank of Myanmar.(Yangon Branch)

Mixed cropping likely to prosper this year amid high agricultural input costs



A farmer is seen applying fertilizers to the paddy field.

THE prices of agricultural inputs (fertilizer and fuel oil prices) are edging up this year, pushing up the production cost. However, mixed cropping will cover the cultivation cost as the prices of crops in mixed cropping are significantly rising. The growers will prosper, the traders said.

The price of fertilizer climbed up to K100,000 per bag. Therefore, growers substitute natural fertilizer for it, reducing the agrochemical use significantly. The harvest season of monsoon paddy commences in various regions in recent days.

As the price for the paddy was extremely low after 2010, the government's leading committee for the Protection and

Promotion of the Rights and Interests of Farmers set the floor price for paddy at K320,000 per 100 baskets (one basket is equivalent to 46 pounds) in the years of 2012 and 2013. There was a narrow gap between the reference price and the market price.

A basket of paddy was measured at 50 pounds in the market. If there is higher moisture content, it was measured at 52-55 pounds.

The market prices for paddy hit K500,000-600,000 per 100 baskets in the harvest of monsoon paddy in 2021. In September 2022, the monsoon paddy was transacted at K1 to 1.3 million per 100 baskets (a basket equals 50 pounds) depending on the moisture content.

This year, weather impacts on agriculture are extremely less than that of the previous years. The market observers are still speculating on the yield rate, but there is no official confirmation released yet.

The soaring agricultural inputs drove the production cost of potatoes from K2.5 million to K7 million per acre. Likewise, the costs of summer paddy, chilli pepper and black gram cultivation have risen.

Nonetheless, those crops fetched higher prices in the markets. Therefore, the growers who will be involved in mixed cropping will reap a great profit, Ko San Lwin, a market observer, told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).—TWA/GNLM

Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo: Over 200 Japanese companies to recruit more than 658 Myanmar workers

MORE than 200 Japanese companies will employ over 658 Myanmar workers, the Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo, Japan released a statement.

The statement said Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo is screening the demand letters sent by the Ministry of Labour through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a timely manner.

The Myanmar Embassy is verifying, with a labour inspection company, whether the companies and factories recruiting Myanmar workers are legally established or not. The remarks and findings on those verifications will be returned to the Ministry of Labour.

The Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo verified the demand letters between 1 and 15 September 2022 and the notification for 227 job offer letters was released. A total of 227 Japanese companies have planned to recruit 658 Myanmar workers, according to the notification.

On 6 May, the Union Minister for Labour received Mr

Watanabe Hideo, chairman of the Japan Myanmar Association (JMA) and discussed matters regarding the status of sending Myanmar skilled workers to Japan under the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) signed by Myanmar's Ministry of Labour and Japan's Ministry of Justice along with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, human resource development of Myanmar and providing necessary assistance for Myanmar's skilled workers and trained workers in Japan and bilateral cooperation.

Japan stood among the top foreign investors in Myanmar in the past decade. A total of 126 Japanese enterprises have brought in US\$1.853 billion into Myanmar as of March 2022 and Japan was ranked ninth place.

Between 1 February 2021 and 30 June 2022, 7,558 Myanmar workers holding overseas worker identification cards were sent to Japan.—TWA/GNLM



Myanmar workers are seen leaving for Japan under an MoC system in 2022.

Wholesale prices of onion, palm oil slide in mid-Sept

IN early September, the consumers are facing the mounting burden of living costs owing to the soaring prices of imported goods and related products.

When the Kyat-dollar exchange rate decreased, the edible oil market had a price movement. Moreover, foreign onions are imported at a cheaper rate, which eased the inflation pressures on the consumers.

On 2 September, the price of large-sized onions hit a fresh peak at K3,850 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes). Later, onions were imported from for-

eign markets. The local onion prices declined to K3,100 per viss accordingly on 15 September,



The picture shows onions which are sold in market.

ber, Ko Swe Lin, an onion buyer told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

Chinese onions were sold at K2,750 per viss on 13 September, K2,500 on 14 September and K2,100 on 15 September respectively. A trader named U Aung Win told the GNLM that a truckload of Chinese onions was seen entering Bayint Naung Wholesale Market on 14 September. "I witnessed onion bags unloading from the vehicles at 11 am on 15 September as well," he added.

Chinese onions are a bit larger than the local ones in size. The price is around K1,000 cheaper than the local ones.

Onion traders intentionally

called Chinese onions rotten food. The demand was low among the locals due to the large size. Those onions are primarily used in restaurants.

The wholesale price of local onions was down by K750 per viss in Yangon markets. Onions fetched the highest of K2,675 per viss in the Seikphyu area and K3,200 in the Pakokku area. Only two bags of onions were traded with the high price in those areas. Onions priced at K2,800 are commonly traded in the regions outside Yangon, as per the market data.

SEE PAGE-10

Grim Fate of NUG Terrorist Group

By Min Khant

NUG is an illegal organization declared as a terrorist group by the State Administration Council-SAC under the existing laws. Why NUG is regarded as a terrorist group? The simple answer is that they are brutally killing innocent civilians in the course of terrorism they are upholding.

We all witness that the NUG group with the dogma of “everyone who differs from my attitude is my enemy” is committing the targeted killings of unarmed innocent civilians who are on their hit list by the cold-blood murderers of so-called PDFs. The primary reason for such acts is to provoke terror in the general public and the premeditated plan of the NUG group to achieve their political objective by using violent means.

The root causes leading to the current political unrest are the electoral fraud that occurred in the 2020 general elections. The NLD party that cunningly cheated and frauded the votes in the election are committing acts of terrorism by applying the armed approach after forming the NUG group that comprised extremists of NLD party members, and NLD party supporters without facing the legal consequences for their electoral fraud. In other words, they are materializing their policy of utter devastation of the State with the theme of ‘Spring Revolution’ under the arrangement of manipulators behind.

Reviewing their activities under the course NUG’s utter devastation, they are found out as follows –

- Organizing PDF groups by exploiting apolitical youths and sending them to EAO areas to materialize their armed revolution.
- Killings of innocent civilians daily who do not support them on the pretext of being ‘Informers/ dalans.
- Burning down the villages that do not support them.
- Threatening and killing civil servants under the name of Social Punishment.
- Setting fire to schools, threatening and killing teachers to attack against education sector towards the destruction of the future



The mourning daughter in grief for her deceased parents mistakenly killed by PDFs.



A civilian in trouble due to the arson attack of PDFs.

- of the State.
- Committing war crimes such as launching violent attacks against the health sector such as conducting harassing attacks against COVID-19 control and treatment activities besides bombing attacks on ambulances.
- Carry out activities together with some EAOs to disrupt the peace processes under the implementation of the Tatmadaw.
- Collecting donation money using various reasons and projects to illegally purchase weapons and ammunitions to carry out acts of terrorism under the name of spring revolution.
- Making attempts to disintegrate the Tatmadaw as well as to disunite the people by creating fake news and disinformation.

The above-mentioned activities are acts of terrorism committed by the aboveground and underground terrorists with the manipulation, encouragement and support of the NUG group. They are doing such activities by taking advantage of the unaware moment of security forces.

During a period from 1 February 2021 to 31 August 2022, the terrorists of so-called CRPH/NUG/PDF committed a total of 9,479 acts of terrorism such as terrorist attacks, bombing attacks and arsons at crowded public places across the country leaving 4,061 people in total dead (3,542 civilians and 519 security personnel) and 4,121 injured. A total of 268 schools and education offices were burnt down by the terrorists. Moreover, a total of 587 communication towers were also destroyed in their acts of vandalism.

The terrorists with the dogma of ‘everyone who differs from my attitude if my enemy’ brutally killed over three thousand innocent civilians including 48 teachers, 12 health staff, a nun, 82 children and 485 administrators after accusing them of ‘Informants/ dalans’. The evidence and other detailed information about such violent acts have already been sent to international counter-terrorism organizations including United Nations.

What actually happens and what we witness daily proved whether the facts and figures are merely propaganda or reality. The unlawful violent acts such as killing innocent civilians so as to control them by fear, attacking non-military targets at surprise, and threatening peaceful people via online social media are not possible to be denoted as the NUG’s area-dominance attempts. They

or administration. Any criminal can commit crimes of murder and bombing attacks. As a significant instance, they cannot capture even a basic unit of the Tatmadaw deploying across the country.

There is not even a single base rather than the Headquarters of NUG and PDF in Myanmar and no office or department either. They can merely release ineffective statements and orders brazenly via online media. The individuals of so-called NUG members also dare not live or perform activities in public. Although the online fake news and disinformation depict a condition as if they have the full support of people, in reality, we can see that more NUG affiliates and PDF terrorists have been arrested and taken action due to the cooperation of people who want peace and stability.



Attacks against the education sector by PDFs.



Terrorist attacks against the health sector by PDFs.

are merely acts of terrorism committed by the NUG group threatening the living condition of people and harassing the stability and peace of the State.

Despite the acts of terrorism committed by NUG and its stooges of PDFs, no part of the country falls under their control

In fact, the locations related to health and education must be avoided and protected even during wartime. Despite that, NUG/PDFs are carrying out violent attacks on such locations and places. That is the evidence proving that they are obviously committing war crimes and

they continue such acts of violent extremism. Therefore, the State Administration Council declared these groups terrorist groups and has conducted counter-insurgency operations and counter-terrorism operations.

In this regard, during the period from 1 February 2021 to 31 August 2022, 106 heavy weapons and 1,901 small arms, 4,938 hunting rifles/homemade/air-pressured guns, 388,028 rounds of ammunition, 12,231 bombs/mines were confiscated.

During the same period, there are a total of 15,096 opened cases under counter-terrorism law and 11,093 arrested suspects were taken actions. Regarding the riotous protests, there are a total of 15,419 cases and 28,112 arrested offenders were taken action under Section 505-A of the Penal Code.

At present, the whole country is stable and peaceful while counter-insurgency operations and counter-terrorism operations are being conducted in some townships of Sagaing and Magway regions and other areas of some EAOs that stooges of external elements by using the minimum level of necessary force and action in line with international and domestic laws.

The Tatmadaw is now implementing the “People-Centred Security System”, therefore, it is found out that the terrorists continue targeted

assassinations and extrajudicial killings of innocent civilians who do not support them. What they are doing are acts of terrorism no country and law can tolerate.

Although the terrorist acts of the NUG group are obviously
SEE PAGE-7

FROM PAGE-6
undeniable, it is also observed that Special Advisory Council for Myanmar (SAC-M) organized and led by Yanghee Lee, the former UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar is encouraging and supporting NUG terrorist group using the financial assistance of Western bloc. The SAC-M is now making jokes by claiming that only 72 out of 330 townships, below 50 per cent of the entire territory of Myanmar are under the control of the SAC government. In reality, the SAC-M is lobbying and swindling international financial assistance by lobbying the NUG and it is not even recognized by any individual or organization. The group stating itself as an independent group of international experts is merely disseminating subversive fake news and disinformation through social media networks.

Such acts are lobbying attempts in hurry to secure the recognition of fugitive Kyaw Moe Tun supporting the NUG group at the 77th session of the UN General Assembly. A person representing a country certainly requires the mandates to actually exercise the powers of the executive, legislature, and judiciary as well as the ownership of a territory. Therefore, it is ridiculous for a Myanmar citizen to see the absolute difference between the reality on the ground and what they are saying because the SAC-M is creating and disseminating misinformation as if over half of the country has already fallen under the control of NUG and moreover, the executive, legislature, education and health-related elements have already been established so as to make the international community presume that the terrorist group NUG and its representative Kyaw Moe Tun represents Myanmar.

In fact, the information taken as references by the NUG/PDF terrorist groups and their lobbyists of international organizations is just fake news and disinformation spreading on online social networks. Such fake news and disinformation are just being applied to trick the international community.

Not only Myanmar people but also the international community know that the NUG group of terrorist fugitives on the run leaving Myanmar and surviving with the donation money are just organizing a virtual government in the air by holding meetings and releasing statements on Facebook. Nevertheless, some organizations of opportunists are just playing the fool, using the NUG group, and abusing the stability and peace of Myanmar people for good measure in order to swindle money from the international community.

In order to claim that over

50 per cent of Myanmar territory is under their control, on social networks, the NUG is highlighting the use of hit-and-run tactics on small sentry outposts; taking photos of frightening children under threats to prove they are opening schools and teaching children, and sneakily killing people and doing explosions to provoke terror into public. However, that move actually publicizes to the world that they are upholding and practising terrorism. For that reason, the international community and organizations should pay serious attention to it because supporting such terrorists will definitely deteriorate the murders, violent acts and crimes and also increase the number of IDPs in Myanmar. Furthermore, it also required to take heed of the fact that the majority of Myanmar nationals are disgusted by the NUG/PDFs.

To sum up, despite the nefarious attempts of disseminat-

ing propaganda using misinformation by the CRPH/NUG/PDF terrorists, their acts of terrorism on ground reality are undeniable and strong evidence. Any country, organization or individual supporting the terrorists will be presumed as the terrorists in the international arena.

To get the point, NUG is certainly an organization like NCGUB, which once emerged in the following years of 1988, formed virtually in the air and disappeared in the air. However, the history pages of the NLD party and their ordinary party members were stained with dirty spots as a result of the terrorist acts committed by the NUG. I here would like to denote the grim fate of NUG stating that NUG/PDFs are now facing the hatred of people for their acts of terrorism and will soon face the neglect and actions of other world countries for good measure.

AA, ARSA attack border guard police outposts between Myanmar and Bangladesh, mortar shells exploded in Bangladesh

THE State Administration Council emphasizes State development by adopting the Five-Point Road Map and Nine Objectives and invites ethnic armed organizations to the talks for eternal peace. Meanwhile, the Arakan Army (AA) ignored the invitation to peace talks and attacked the border police outposts near Myanmar-Bangladesh border posts with excessive force.

Around 7:30 pm on 16 September, the AA launched attacks cooperating with ARSA from a certain distance of the Taungpyo (left) police outpost near BP-31 between Myanmar and Bangladesh and the shells fell into the Bangladesh side and three exploded.

At about 8:10 pm on the same day and on the morning of

17 September, they also attacked the Taungpyo (right) Wal police outpost near BP-34 using heavy weapons and six shells fell and exploded in Bangladesh.

While the government is endeavouring for eternal peace, the attacks by the AA with ARSA on border guard police, who are conducting security measures in order to maintain peace, stability and the rule of law along the border, near the Myanmar-Bangladesh border fencing were launched intentionally to affect the bilateral relation of two countries. Some people near the Bangladesh border area were injured after the explosion of mortar shells.

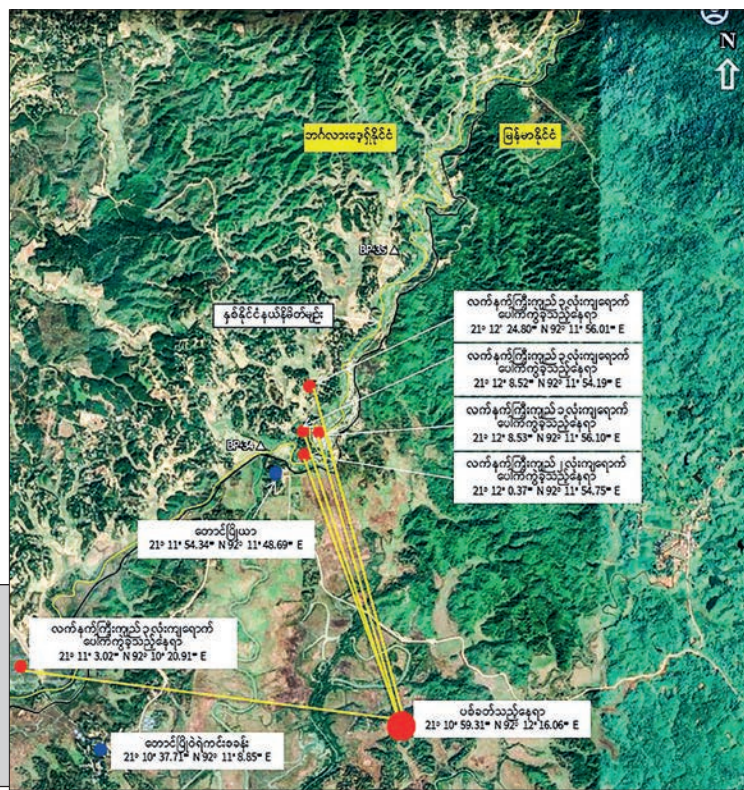
Similarly, AA committed ambush attacks on the border police, and blocked and cut com-

munication channels. On 31 August morning, they attacked the border guard police outpost at BP-40 with excessive force. The outpost was lost, and some border guard members sacrificed their lives in the attack.

For the above cases, the letters were sent to Cox's Bazar-based No 34 Border Guards Bangladesh via the Myanmar Border Guard Police Force Unit and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported to officials concerned as per the procedures.

— MNA

A site map of the explosions triggered by the Arakan Army-AA and ARSA.



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

3. 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

4. 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*

OPINION

ARTICLE BOOKRACK

Compile brilliant history with fruits of peace and prosperity

THE five-point roadmap of the government mentions that perpetual peace will be restored around the nation in conformity with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) as much as possible. Currently, the year 2022 is set as the year of peace so as to ensure the whole nation is peaceful.

Peace and democracy are inseparable. The democratization process needs the restoration of peace. Reciprocally, the restoration of peace depends on the flourishing of democracy. Any country will face various challenges in cementing democracy without restoration of peace. If so, those wishing to restore peace can be identified as the persons anticipating the democratization process. Those who aspire to the flourishing of democracy can be seen as peacemakers.

In doing so, all the ethnic people need to forge unity among them in building a democratic nation. They have to solve all the problems with patience bringing no suffering to any ethnic people. If they keep unity in their minds, their efforts for the restoration of perpetual peace will automatically be achieved. If so, joining hands among them will be more firm.

forces with the genuine anticipation of all citizens. They all must have a willingness to actively build a peaceful nation. If they cooperate with each other in building a peaceful nation honestly, all the people can practically enjoy the fruits of perpetual peace which is ensured to strengthen in a long-term existence. If the nation restores the perpetual peace, the democratization process will achieve success automatically.

In doing so, all the ethnic people need to forge unity among them in building a democratic nation. They have to solve all the problems with patience bringing no suffering to any ethnic people. If they keep unity in their minds, their efforts for the restoration of perpetual peace will automatically be achieved. If so, joining hands among them will be more firm.

Myanmar can see the dawn of peace and democracy. All the people need to march toward the goal together. They have to overcome all the challenges along their route. As peace and democracy are reachable, all the people should compile their brilliant history endowed with fruits of peace and prosperity.

If democracy is strengthening in its process, the country can be shaped in stability. As such, perpetual peace plays a key role in strengthening democracy. Peace will bring tranquillity to the region, the prevalence of law and order, good transportation, learning opportunity and the development of human resources to the society.

Thanks to utilizing human resources, nation-building bodies will be powerful whereas societies will be strengthened. The check and balance system based on democracy will help a peaceful society alive. As a result, the paradigm of the country goes forward to the goal as usual.

A keen effort will shape everything to come true. As such, if everybody aspires to peace restoration, they will have the capacity to blossom peacefully flowery plants. The peacemaking process must be implemented among political

Significant terms and their meanings in international law and diplomacy

U Khin Maung (A retired diplomat)

Series Two (Alphabetical Order)
adjourn: (v)

Adjourn as a transitive verb means to suspend until a later stated time. Adjourn as an intransitive verb means to suspend proceedings to another time or place.

Adjourn also means moving from one place to another.

E.g., After the meal, we adjourned to the living room.

ad lib (ad-lib') (Lat): (v, n & adj)
Ad lib means "to improvise

and deliver extemporaneously" (vi)

Ad lib means "to engage in improvisation, as during delivery of a speech" (n)

Ad lib means "words, music, or actions uttered, performed, or carried out in an extemporaneous manner" (adj)

Ad lib as an adjective means "uttered, performed, or carried out spontaneously"

ad nauseam (ad n6 z6-em)

(Lat): (adv)
Ad nauseam means "to a disgusting or ridiculous degree; to the point of nausea"
[Latin ad, to + nauseam, accusative of nausea, sickness]

ad referendum: (adj)
Ad referendum means that when a negotiator adopts a proposal of the other party

Ad referendum simply means that he accepts it "subject to the approval of his government to which he refers the matter.

The signing of a treaty is ad referendum if ratification by the head of government and/or a legislative body is required.

ad valorem (ad've-l6r'em, -lor) (Lat): (adj)

Ad valorem means "in proportion to the value": e.g., ad valorem duties on imported goods.

[Latin ad, to + valorem, value]

a fortiori (Lat): (adv)

A fortiori is an argumentative term meaning "by the even greater force of logic", for a still stronger reason; all the more. It is used as a conclusion that is logically more certain than another.

For examples:

(1) "If an act is not a civil wrong, it cannot, a fortiori, be criminal."

(2) "If a person who deliberately and advisedly rejects all belief in God and a future state is a competent witness, a fortiori, a child who has received no instructions on the subject must be competent also."

(3) "The courts of this country could not interfere before condemnation: nor, a fortiori can they interfere after condemnation and sale."

[Latin: à, ab, from + fortiori, ablative of fortior; stronger.]

agent provocateur (à-zhāN-pr6-v6-kā-toer) (Fr): (n)

Agent provocateur is used to

referring to a person employed to associate with suspected individuals or groups with the purpose of inciting them to commit acts that will make them liable to punishment.

The plural of agent provocateur agents provocateurs. [French: agent, agent + provocateur, instigator]

agreation; agrément(Fr): (n)

The first is a process, and the second is the usual result of the process.

Agreation means a diplomatic procedure whereby receiving state makes a prior determination

whether a proposed envoy will be acceptable.

Agrément means the approval of a diplomatic representative by the receiving state.

aid (e)-de-camp (Fr): (n)

Aid (e)- de-camp (meaning military aide) is borrowed from the French and should retain the spelling -aide - especially considering that aide is itself now an English word (meaning staff member under one's authority

The plural is aides-de-camp. aide-mémoire (ad' mām-wār', èd- (Fr): (n)

Aide- mémoire is a memorandum setting forth the major

points of a proposed discussion or agreement, used especially in diplomatic communications. It is also called a position paper.

Aide-mémoire means "something, such as a mnemonic device, that serves as an aid to memory."

The plural of aide-mémoire is aide-mémoire or aide-memoires.

[French: aide, aid + memoire, memory]

à la carte (also a la carte) (à' lekārt', à l' e) (Fr): (adj & adv)

À la carte means "with a separate price for each item on the menu"

SEE PAGE-10



Book Title - Hninzi Kyemon (Long Stories from the Magazines)
Author - San San Nwet (Thayawady)
Printing House - Zalat Ni
Publishing Date - August 2022 (1st Edition)
Price - K7,500

Hninzi Kyemon (Long Stories from the Magazines)

THIS book was published in 2022 when the writer of this book celebrated her 77th Anniversary Birthday. The publisher remarked that this book was published to mark the birthday anniversary of Thayawady San San Nwet and that the long stories in Hninzi Kyemon were never included in other collections of her long stories from the magazines. The stories included in this collection were published in such magazines as Thabin, Pe Phoo Hlwa, Sarpay Loktha, Kahlya, Yoke Shin Aung Lan and Thaug Pyaung Htwelar magazines, which were quite popular among the magazine readers.

The writer of this collection was the only lady reporter

among the men who attended the short-term reporter course opened by the All-Burma Reporters Association on Kaba Aye Hillock in Yangon in 1962. She has lived a colourful life, trying her pen in composing poems, writing short stories, long stories and novels, doing the editing job, serving with a government department, and being engaged in politics. She had also spent both national and international literary and non-literary awards. Most of her stories short and long as well as the novels have a social background, depicting the woes and miseries of the people from the low stratum.

The story titled, "Pansodan

Hmar Shi Nay Mae" depicts the life of a roadside vendor who sells old books on Pansodan Street. The main character of the story is a bibliophile in addition to his being a bookworm. Although he is a mechanic previously, he has retired from service on medical grounds. First, he tries to seek a place in the newspaper field. His attempts have come to no avail, leaving him unemployed. When his better half delivers the first baby, he is short of money. To pay the delivery expenses, he has to sell his old, rare books on which he sets a high value in the roadside book stalls. The vendors pay him very low prices for his precious books. But when he passes by the roadside stalls the

next morning, he sees his books being sold for much higher prices. This makes him feel sad, driving him to the life of a roadside book vendor. And when he becomes a bookseller, he never offers low prices for good books. He wrote, "They are selling their hearts to me. You see I have no heart to pay low prices for the books they cherish as if the books were their own heart. Those who come to me to dispose of their books are my fellow poets and writers. As I have been living the same life as them, I can understand their feeling and have sympathy for them."

The title story, "Hninzi Kyemon" is about the world's outlooks changing with the passage of time. Aung Way, a poet, named his son La Yaung Way and his daughter Hninzi Way. When he told the writer these names, the writer said that people should not be away from La Yaung, the moonlight, and Hninzi, the rose. Hearing her remarks, the poet felt ashamed at his being too much proud when he was young. He admitted that he had formed an extreme attachment to one poem he composed in his youth. From then on, the poet reflected on his poems, finding his mistakes in the composition of his poems. The writer of this book concluded her story, saying she can understand and forget certain things while learning lessons, too.



Book Title - Nyin Hso Thu Ye Mee Go Myar
Author - Linn Khar
Printing House - Ngadoe Sarpay
Publishing Date - August 2022 (1st Edition)
Price - K4,500

Nyin Hso Thu Ye Mee Go Myar

THIS book is a collection of 25 essays. First, I would like to deal with "La Phet Yay Hsai"—the Teashop. Although the teashop culture does not fade away, the display of the teashops has undergone significant changes with their cultural customs and mores being changed, too. In the 1970s and 1980s, the teashops were the places where the customers listened to music, puffing cheroots or cigarettes, sipping tea. The teashops were also the places where the youngsters tried to catch the eyes of the shop owner's daughters sitting at the cash counter, vying with one another to draw the attraction of the owner's daughter. These days, the layout of the teashops has been changed with the young and attractive waiters

and waitresses wearing smart uniforms serving the foods and drinks. Not only the people have been changed but also the tables, the chairs, the kettles and the cups have all been changed. The culture of listening to music has disappeared; people would not listen to music any longer. They would make noises. Few customers would sip the tea, taking a long time, to enjoy the taste of the tea. And the tables are set close to one another. Most youngsters would play video games or surf the internet or browse it. The people of an older age would watch the TV hung on the wall with some watching the soccer matches whereas others paying attention to the international news and views. The writer said that although

he does not like the close-door period, he really misses the teashops in those days.

Another essay I would like to deal with is the essay titled, "Reading the Novels". In fact, the novels are imaginary. They are the creations of the writers. Some novels are written to depict the ruthlessness and atrocity of the people. Nonetheless, what happens in the actual world is crueller and much more merciless than the characters from the novel, which does not exist in the real world. According to the writer, living a life can be likened to reading novels. He concluded his essay by saying that we have to read novels endlessly. His essay is about insane people who are walking on the streets aimlessly.

The writer said that women with insanity are vulnerable to being raped by crooked guys who are left unpunished. As a consequence, there has arisen the problem of the emergence of unwanted children, who are not welcomed by the earth. We have no culprit to blame or hold him accountable for what he has done. At last, it is the innocent children who suffer from irresponsible rapists. According to the writer, many have gone mad because of abject poverty. This reminds me of a poet known as Hla Than who once wrote in his poem titled, "Ar Sha Taik Ei Ta Nay Yar" — A Place in Asia that lacking money exposes people to fatal danger.

The title essay, "Nyin Hso Thu Ye Mee Go Myar" is composed to depict the people's forgetfulness of death. In fact, people know they will die someday; they are intentionally ignorant of death. The essayist quoted Saya Nat Nwe, the great writer, as saying, "It was 18th July in 1967. An author in the name of Moe Wai tried his luck in a lottery, writing on the lottery ticket that Life Begins at Forty. This is an English saying which is to the taste of the writer. Unfortunately, however, Moe Wai died 28 days after 40, which he said is the age when life begins.

Significant terms and their meanings in ...

FROM PAGE-9

[French: à, in + la, thet carte, menu]
à la mode (à' la mode, à l'e)
(Fr): (adj)
À la mode means "according to the prevailing style or fashion"
À la mode also means

"served with ice cream: e.g., apple pie à la mode"
[French: à, in + la, the + mode, fashion]
alias (â' lê-es, âl' yes) (Lat): (n & adv)
(n)
Alias means an assured name: e.g., The swindler worked

under various aliases.
Alias also means electronics. It is used to refer to a false signal in telecommunication links from beats between signal frequency and sampling frequency.
(adv)
Alias means "also known as; otherwise": e.g., Johnson, alias

johns.
[Latin, otherwise, from alias, other.]
Reference:
(1) Black's Law Dictionary by Bryan A. Garner
(2) အသက်တစ်ရာ မနေရ/ အမှုတစ်ရာမက တွေ့ရတတ်သည်။

(3) Law and custom in Burma and the Burmese Family.
Dr Maung Maung, B.L (Rangoon), J.S.D (Yale), LL.D (Utrecht), of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-law.

Wholesale prices of onion, palm oil...

FROM PAGE-5

Although there was speculation about onion wholesale price reaching up to K4,000 per viss, the actual market price decreased below K3,000. The traders gave a reason for the low yield for the price rise. We will know if the reason is valid or not in the coming two months, the GNLM quoted Ko Naing Myint, a buyer, as saying.

In addition to onion, the palm oil wholesale price fell to K7,600 per viss on 14 September. Palm oil was priced at K8,000 that evening at the Bayintnaung Wholesale Market.

The wholesale price on 1 September hit a high of K9,700 per viss. The wholesale price was down by K2,000 per viss in 15 days in Yangon markets.

The price of palm oil stood at K8,000-8,200 per viss in the retail market on the evening of 14 September, the deep-frying businesspersons said.

On 29 August, the CIF price of palm oil was US\$1,088 per metric tonne. As it was calculated on the foreign exchange rate of K2,550, the original price of palm oil was only K4,814 per viss. On 12 September, the CIF price of palm oil was US\$989 per met-

ric tonne. If it is calculated on the foreign exchange rate of K2,703, the original price of palm oil is only K4,639 per viss, according to the non-governmental edible oil dealers' association.

The prices of chilli pepper bounced back to K19,000-19,500 per viss in recent days for the second time in 2022. Nonetheless, the transaction is rarely seen at the Bayintnaung and Nyaungpinlay wholesale markets, Ko Hla Oo, who lives in Latha Township and is working in the Bayintnaung Wholesale Market, told the GNLM.— TWA/ GNLM



The picture shows palm oil which are sold in market.

CRIME NEWS

Illegal timbers, consumer goods, industrial materials, bicycle parts 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 Customs Department, the on-duty teams made inspections on 15 September.

Official confiscated K3,948,000 worth of bicycle parts that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) at the Hteedan container checkpoint, K106,967,600 worth of optical fibre cable and fabric that were not matched the Import Declaration (ID) from two containers at the Myanmar Industrial Port Container Checkpoint and K35,380,000 worth of lawn mower parts from a vehicle and a trailer (approximately K45 million) near the Shwethanlwin Tollgate on the Myawady-Hpan-Yangon Road. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

On 17 September, a combined inspection team led by the Bago Region Forest Department captured a total of 5.8450 tonnes of illegal teak in the Bago and



Seized illegal commodities at the Shwethanlwin Tollgate.



Nattalin districts. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

Similarly, an inspection team led by the Myanmar Police Force seized an unregistered Toyota Passo car (approximately K3 million) on Bayintnaung road of Pyay

township and the action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

Therefore, nine arrests (approximately K196,801,620) were made on 15 and 17 September, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA

Mobile money transfer accounts will be cancelled unless they are Level 2: CBM

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on Friday that the mobile money transfer accounts will be cancelled if they are not upgraded to Level 2.

The CBM makes efforts for the emergence of a secure and quality national payment system, as the technologies are well developed, the money transfer services can be made easily through mobile payment.

In the statement of CBM, it said it found that the fraudsters are using some mobile payment methods without correctly filling in the information and doing illegal money transactions and financial swindling fraudulently. In solving such frauds, it can be resolved only when people fill in their personal data correctly.

Moreover, it is necessary to Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism procedures in making cross-border payments, it said.

According to the international standards for the Electronic – Know Your Customer (e-KYC) processes, the user names, citizenship scrutiny card no and sim-card no filled in mobile payment accounts will be checked with the e-ID Database of the Ministry of Immigration and Population and SIM Registration Database of the Posts and Telecommunications Department, it added.

Therefore, the users need to fill up the correct data for KYC. The mobile payment accounts will be cancelled if the users fail to fill up the data during the fixed duration.

The users of bank-led mobile payment, banks and enterprises allowed for mobile banking, mobile banking services and merchant acquiring should go to the nearest Agents/banks to make a Level 2 upgrade in time and those who do not want to upgrade to Level-2 can contact the banks and mobile banking service counters to ensure the proper ways to use the remaining balance, it said. —NN/GNLM

HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

India-Bhutan border to be reopened from 23 September

AS the COVID cases have now subsided, the respective governments have decided to reopen the India-Bhutan border from 23 September.

“Government of Bhutan has officially announced that international border with India will be opened on 23 September as Covid cases have subsided. We prepare to open the border and give visitors a good experience, said Tashi Penjore, the Himalayan kingdom’s Director (law and order) of the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs.

In the regional headquarters of Sashastra Seema Bal located at Chaprakata in the Bongaigaon district of Assam, a general meeting was held between Tashi Panjore, the Director of Law and Order

Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs, along with the Commandant of the 15th Battalion of Sashastra Seema Bal and in-charge of Regional Headquarters Neeraj Chand and all the SSB officials.

During that meeting, the neighbouring country Bhutan closed the India-Bhutan international checkpoint for COVID in 2019. Now, almost four years later the borders will be reopened on 23 September 2022.

Tashi Penjore, Director of Law and Order Department, Ministry of Home Affairs, Bhutan, Deputy Commissioner of Police, and several officers were present at SSB Headquarters today regarding the same subject. —ANI



Bhutan has promised a free COVID-19 vaccination to all of its citizens, both inside and outside the country. It started mass vaccinations on 27 March 2021. Even at Bhutan’s Tiger’s Nest Monastery in the upper Paro valley, vaccines were available. PHOTO: ROBERT HARDING RF / LYNN GAIL / AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ghana declares end of Marburg virus disease

THE Ghana Health Service (GHS) declared an end of the Marburg virus disease (MVD) outbreak in the country Friday.

“Ghana has therefore successfully interrupted the first MVD outbreak and I declare the outbreak officially over,” Patrick Kuma-Aboagye, the Director-General of the GHS, said at a press briefing attended by the World Health Organization (WHO) officials.

Kuma-Aboagye said Ghana had implemented appropriate response actions to MVD in line with WHO recommendations and would take all necessary measures to prevent a recurrence or any future outbreaks.—Xinhua

Bahrain reports 1st monkeypox case

Bahrain’s Health Ministry reported the kingdom’s first monkeypox case on Friday.

The patient, a 29-year-old male expatriate, arrived in the kingdom after recent overseas trips, the ministry said in a statement.

“The patient is exhibiting symptoms and has been isolated while receiving the necessary care based on the adopted protocols,” it added, without elaborating.—Xinhua

Supply of labour falls short in US after COVID-19 pandemic

AS the United States emerges from the pandemic, employers have been desperate to hire. But while demand for goods and services has rebounded, the supply of labour has fallen short, holding back the economy, reported The New York Times early this week.

“More than two years after the COVID-19 recession officially ended, some sectors haven’t found the workers they need to operate at capacity,” said the report.

Only in August did the workforce return to its pre-pandemic size, which is millions short of where it would have been had it continued to grow at its pre-pandemic rate, according to the report.

In simple numbers, some of that gap is due to COVID-19’s death toll: more than a million people, about 260,000 of them short of retirement age, it said.

In addition, a sharp slow-

down in legal immigration has pared the potential workforce by 3.2 million, relative to its trajectory before 2017, the report said, citing calculations by economists at J.P. Morgan.—Xinhua



People shop at a grocery store in Monterey Park, California, on 12 April 2022. PHOTO: FREDERIC J. BROWN / AFP



Paramedics and healthcare workers transfer a patient from Humber River Hospital’s Intensive Care Unit. PHOTO: COLE BURSTON / AFP/FILE

Canada confirms 1,363 monkeypox cases

CANADA has confirmed 1,363 cases of monkeypox, including 38 hospitalizations, the Public Health Agency of Canada said on Friday.

Of the confirmed cases, 656 are from Ontario, 515 from Quebec, 150 from British Columbia, 34 from Alberta, three from Saskatchewan, two from the Yukon and one each from Nova Scotia,

Manitoba and New Brunswick, said the health agency.

Ontario’s chief medical officer of health Dr Kieran Moore said monkeypox risk has diminished dramatically in the province of the largest population, according to local media reports.

The province peaked in total number of active cases in the week of 15 July, when roughly 16

to 18 cases a day were being identified through PCR testing, and the number now is down to about one a day, Moore said, adding that most of those new cases were travel-related. The province is waiting for the National Advisory Committee on Immunization to provide guidance on if and how to start a second-dose strategy, the reports said.—Xinhua

GLOBAL/AD

AFFAIRS

Away game: Qatar World Cup looms as money-spinner for Dubai

THE United Arab Emirates did not qualify for the Qatar World Cup but it will be a winner anyway if an overspill of fans floods its hotels, restaurants and planes.

With little investment the UAE, and in particular Dubai, stands to gain if, as expected, supporters opt to stay in the tourism hotspot instead of tiny Gulf neighbour Qatar during the November-December tournament.

High accommodation prices in the Qatari capital Doha and Dubai's more permissive environment — including a wider availability of alcohol — could entice fans, experts say.

Budget airline flydubai will run at least 30 return flights a day to Doha, just an hour away, part of a daily airlift of 160 shuttle services from cities in the resource-rich Gulf.

Dubai “has relatively relaxed social standards

with respect to certain aspects of culture, such as alcohol consumption and clothing codes”, said James Swanston, a Middle East and North Africa economist at Capital Economics.

Any economic windfall, and reflected glory from the first World Cup on Arab soil, will come less than two years after Doha and the UAE were dagers-drawn over a regional blockade that isolated



The UAE did not qualify for the Qatar World Cup but its hospitality sector will likely still be a winner. **PHOTO: AFP**

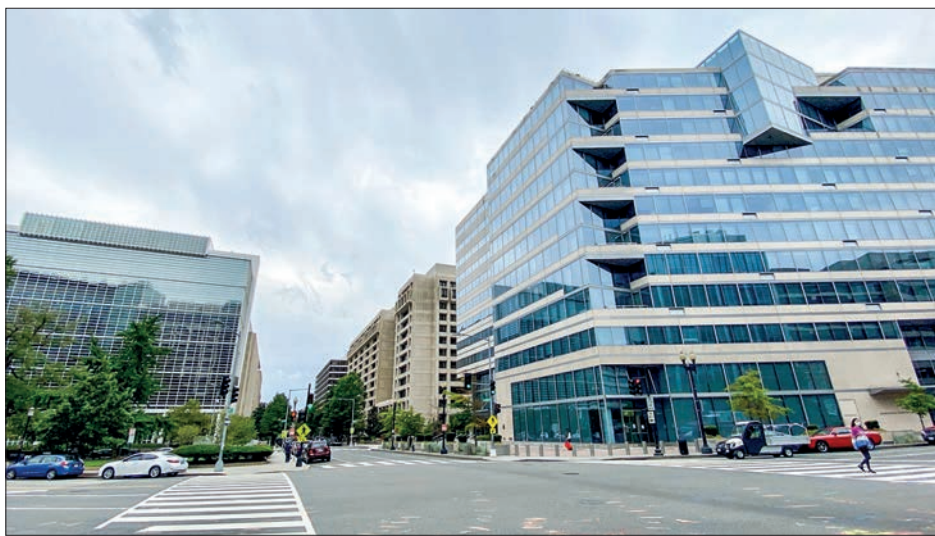
Qatar from its neighbours. Dubai Sports Council has estimated about a million World Cup fans could arrive in the city. Given that Qatar is expecting a

similar number, the prediction may be ambitious.

Nonetheless, Dubai is gearing up with fan zones announced at parks, beaches and in the finan-

cial centre, while hotels are offering special packages. Such deals include shuttle flights and transport to the airport and fan zones.—AFP

World Bank warns recession risk rising amid higher interest rates



In this file photo taken on 25 September 2020, the World Bank Group building (L) and the International Monetary Fund building (R) in Washington, DC. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE threat of a global recession is growing as central banks focus on bringing down soaring inflation rates, the World Bank warned Thursday, calling on governments to help boost supply to ease

the constraints behind rising prices.

Inflation worldwide has been rising at the fastest pace seen in decades, due to supply constraints amid high demand as countries emerged from

the pandemic. It has been exacerbated this year by the Russian invasion of Ukraine and Covid lockdowns in China. Major central banks have responded forcefully, raising borrowing costs to cool demand

and douse red-hot inflation.

But in a new paper, World Bank economists warned that the actions may not be enough to bring high prices under control, leading to a need for more interest rate hikes, which in turn will put the brakes on growth. Many countries will not be able to avoid a recession, but the worldwide slowdown and tightening monetary policy “could give rise to significant financial stress and trigger a global recession in 2023”, the paper said.

In that scenario, global GDP growth would slow to 0.5 per cent in 2023 -- a 0.4 per cent contraction in per capita growth, meeting the technical definition of a global recession.—AFP

EU looks at lifting tariffs on scarce fertilizer

EU agriculture ministers on Friday studied ways to fix a critical scarcity of fertilizer in Europe caused by the war in Ukraine and supply gaps from Russia.

Among the measures being looked at was a European Commission proposal to lift import tariffs on ammonia and urea imports to help producers needing those ingredients for nitrogen fertilizer and bring down soaring prices. The price of fertilizers using nitrogen, phosphorous or potassium have tripled over the past year and a half, and with supply cuts from Russia — which used to be world's number one supplier — farmers are struggling.

The situation has worsened as European fertiliser makers shut down ammonia-based production because it uses natural gas, which has now become costly and also in short supply, in large part because of the war.

EU countries will formally decide on the idea of lifting import tariffs at a 26 September meeting in Brussels.

EU agriculture commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski said the commission was also looking to diversify its suppliers, turning notably to Canada, which boasts a large sector in ammonia fertilizer.—AFP



Harvesting wheat in Lincent, Belgium. Farmers do not have enough mineral fertilizer or diesel fuel to maintain food production. **PHOTO: ERIC LALMAND/BELGA MAG/AFP**

Notice for Change of Pesticides Trade Names

The foreign manufacturer AgriGate CropSciences Pte., Ltd will import and distribute the following insecticides registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board Changing trading names.

No.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	A.I	Reg: Type	Reg: No.
1	Awba Sabar Paung Thet Say 20 OD	Mission Complete 20 OD	Bispyribac-sodium 20% OD	Provisional	P2020-5188

It is therefore announced to come and reject within 14 days to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading names of insecticide.

Address - Myanma Awba Group Co., Ltd
No.(95-A), Kyaiik Wine Pagoda Road, 8th mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon Region, The Republic of Union of Myanmar.

London Fashion Week opens in mourning for queen

A scaled-back London Fashion Week opened with catwalk shows on Friday but without after-show parties following the death of Queen Elizabeth II and with a pause planned for her funeral next week.

The twice-yearly event had planned to get fully back on track after two years of Covid disruption that predated virtual shows.

But the death of the queen, aged 96, on 8 September has seen the industry showpiece scaled-back,



Queen Elizabeth II sits next to Vogue editor in chief Anna Wintour at London Fashion Week on 20 February 2018. PHOTO: POOL/AFP/FILE

with high-fashion brands including Burberry and Raf Simons cancelling their shows.

“We are in a period of national mourning,” Caroline Rush, chief executive of the British Fashion Council, which organizes the event, told AFP.

Rush noted the importance of being “very mindful... of what’s happening in the country and of course, recognizing the passing of our monarch, who has been a fantastic champion of our industry for so many years”. Britain will hold a minute’s silence on Sunday at 1900 GMT and LFW plans to take part. —AFP

Chinese EV maker NIO’s new battery plant in Hungary commences operations

CHINESE electric vehicle (EV) maker NIO celebrated here on Friday the shipment of the first battery swap station produced by the NIO Power Europe Plant, the company’s first overseas plant, to Germany.

NIO will supply battery swap stations to its entire European network from the new 10,000 square metre plant located in Biatorbagy, 20 km west of

Budapest.

Qin Lihong, co-founder and president of NIO, said the new world-class facility will support NIO’s commitment to installing 1,000 battery swap stations outside China by 2025. It will also be a pioneering research and development (R&D) centre for NIO Power Europe and will serve as the company’s training, operations and maintenance centre.—Xinhua



A NIO electric car is seen in a battery swap station during a ceremony of the shipment of the first battery swap station produced by the NIO Power Europe Plant in Biatorbagy, Hungary, on 16 September 2022. PHOTO: ATTILA VOLGYI/XINHUA

Enterprises flock to Nanning for China-ASEAN Expo

THE 19th China-ASEAN Expo, scheduled for 16 to 19 September in Nanning, capital of south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, has attracted a total of 1,653 enterprises to its offline event. At the same time, the online expo has attracted the partici-

pation of more than 2,000 enterprises. During the expo, more than 80 investment and trade promotion activities and 21 high-level forums will be held online and offline to deepen China-ASEAN cooperation in economy, trade and other fields, according to a brief-

ing conference held in Nanning on Thursday. The expo will spotlight the theme — “Sharing RCEP New Opportunities, Building a Version 3.0 China-ASEAN Free Trade Area” — to consolidate high-level dialogue platforms, improve professional cooperation

platforms, and promote multi-field cooperation in order to make new contributions to building a closer China-ASEAN community with a shared future, said Wu Zhengping, head of the trade development bureau of China’s Ministry of Commerce.—Xinhua

Young hacker tricks way into Uber’s system: reports

UBER said Friday it was investigating a “cybersecurity incident”, declining to comment on reports a young hacker had gained access to the ride-hailing company’s computer network.

Uber put out word of the breach late Thursday in a tweet, and a hacker claiming to be 18 years old then posted screenshots taken from inside Uber computers.

“He says that he simply — having already determined a valid username and password — tricked an Uber staff member into granting him access to internal systems,” independent cybersecurity analyst Graham Cluley said at his website.

Online comments pur-

ported to be by the hacker indicated he targeted an Uber employee with notifications for more than an hour, then reached out to the worker via WhatsApp claiming to be member of the company’s tech support team.

“Many other companies are probably at risk of falling for a similar trick,” Cluley said.

Uber said Friday that its services were all operational and that it had “no evidence that the incident involved access to sensitive data” such as users’ trip history.

Employee software tools shut down as a precaution were being gradually restarted, the San Francisco based company added.—AFP

Notice for Change of Pesticides Trade Name

The foreign manufacturer Chrysalis Crop Pte., Ltd will import and distribute the following insecticides registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board Changing trading name.

No.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	A.I	Reg: Type	Reg: No.
1	Evo Saha 240 OD	AKONGSHIN 240OD	Cyhalofop-butyl 20% + Penoxsulam 4% OD	Provisional	P2021-5479

It is therefore announced to come and reject within 14 days to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of insecticide.

Address- Evogro Co., Ltd
No.(95-A), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road, 8th mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon Region, The Republic of Union of Myanmar.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V X-PRESS MEGHNA VOY.NO. (22017S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V X-PRESS MEGHNA VOY.NO. (22017S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-9-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S X-PRESS FEEDERS LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CHATTANOOGA VOY.NO. (N053)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CHATTANOOGA VOY.NO. (N053)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-9-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S INTER ASIA LINES

India's Modi tells Putin now is 'not a time for war'



Russian President Vladimir Putin meets with India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) leaders' summit in Samarkand on 16 September 2022. **PHOTO: SERGEI BOBYLYOV / SPUTNIK / AFP**

INDIAN Prime Minister Narendra Modi told Russian President Vladimir Putin that now was "not a time for war" on Friday on the sidelines of a regional summit.

New Delhi and Moscow have longstanding ties dating back to the Cold War, and Russia remains by far India's biggest arms supplier.

But in their first face-to-face meeting since Moscow's forces invaded Ukraine in February, Modi told Putin: "Excelsency, I know today's time is not a time for war."

India has shied away from explicitly condemning Russia for the invasion, which sent the price of oil and other commodities soaring.

But he stressed the importance of "democracy and diplomacy and dialogue" in the meeting on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in the Uzbek city of Samarkand, footage showed on Indian public service broadcaster Doordashan.

They would discuss "how to move forward on the path of peace", Modi added—AFP

Norway trade surplus hits record on Europe gas sales

NORWAY'S trade surplus surged to a new record in August, fuelled by a jump in natural gas prices as the Nordic country is now Europe's biggest supplier after Russia slashed exports.

The data released Thursday comes as the soaring prices have put Oslo in an awkward position with the European Union, with some EU countries seeking a price cap on natural gas.

Norway's trade surplus reached close to 20 billion euros (\$20 billion) last month, according to the country's SSB statistics office.

SSB expert Jan Olav Rorhus said gas prices increased sharply in August in part because Russian deliveries to the EU via the Nord Stream 1 pipeline were reduced.

"This resulted in export volumes of natural gas from Norway, which were already elevated, reaching a record value," he added. Russian energy giant Gazprom has completely stopped deliveries via Nord Stream since 31 August in what has been seen as retaliation to European sanctions against Moscow over the war in Ukraine.—AFP



A file photo of a Norwegian gas platform in the North Sea. **PHOTO: DANIEL SANNUM LAUTEN / AFP**

Erdogan urges end to war in Ukraine 'as soon as possible'

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Friday told a regional summit attended by Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin that he wanted the war in Ukraine to end "as soon as possible". Erdogan has been trying

to use his good working relations with Moscow to try and persuade Putin to hold direct ceasefire talks with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in Türkiye.

He told a meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organiza-

tion in ex-Soviet Uzbekistan that Türkiye was making diplomatic efforts to end the war.

"We are making efforts to finalize the conflict in Ukraine through diplomacy as soon as possible," Erdogan said.—AFP

TOP NEWS HEADLINE

European police bust gang smuggling migrants on private planes

EUROPEAN police have arrested five members of a gang suspected of smuggling migrants, mostly Kurds, aboard private planes from Türkiye to Europe using fake diplomatic passports, Europol said on Friday.

Authorities seized two aircraft, a luxury car and equipment used to make fake identity documents, in raids in Belgium and Italy on Tuesday, Europe's policing agency said.

"It is believed that between October and December 2020, at least five smuggling operations took place in five different Euro-



The migrants, mainly Kurds from Iran or Iraq, boarded the private aircraft in Türkiye carrying false diplomatic passports. **PHOTO: FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY/CREATIVE COMMONS/WIKIMEDIA**

pean countries," Europol said in a statement. The migrants, mainly Kurds from Iran or Iraq,

boarded the private aircraft in Türkiye carrying false diplomatic passports.—AFP

Several pro-Russian officials killed in occupied Ukraine

A blast in Ukraine's Russian-held city of Lugansk killed the separatist administration's top prosecutor and his deputy on Friday, pro-Moscow authorities said, while other attacks were reported in the south. This is the latest of a series of targeted attacks against pro-Russian officials in occupied areas.

"Today, Prosecutor-General Sergei Gorenko and his deputy Ekaterina Steglenko died as a result of a terrorist act," the press service of the leader of self-proclaimed Lugansk People's Republic, Leonid Pasechnik, said on Telegram. Pasechnik said the attack that targeted the prosecutor's office "showed that Kyiv's regime had crossed all possible limits".

Two other pro-Moscow officials were killed overnight in the southern port city of Berdyansk, the head of the Russian-installed administration in the Zaporizhzhia region Yevgeny Balitsky said on Telegram on Friday. Oleg Boyko was the deputy head of the Russian-installed administration in Berdyansk, while his wife Lyudmyla headed the electoral commission preparing for the referendum on joining Russia, according to Balitsky.—AFP

Leaders of SCO member states sign Samarkand Declaration

LEADERS of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) member states on Friday signed and released here the Samarkand Declaration of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO.

The 22nd meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO also released a number of statements and documents on safeguarding global food security, international energy security, addressing climate change, and maintaining a secure, stable and diversified supply chain.

The world today is undergoing global changes and has entered a new period of rapid development and major transformation, with the trend towards a multi-polar world inten-



Chinese President Xi Jinping poses for a group photo with other leaders and guests ahead of the 22nd meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 16 September 2022. PHOTO: XINHUA/LI TAO

sifying, countries increasingly interdependent, and information and digitalization ac-

celerating, said the declaration.

Meanwhile, the current international challenges and threats are becoming more complex, the international situation is deteriorating, and regional conflicts and crises keep emerging and escalating, it read.

Based on the principles of the Charter of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the member states oppose grouping, and ideological and confrontational approaches to solving international and regional issues, and stick to a coordinated manner to security threats and challenges in traditional and non-traditional fields.

—Xinhua

Fiji PM 'disturbed' by son's Australian assault trial



Fijian Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama (C), pictured on 12 July 2022 at the Pacific Islands Forum in Suva, before the arrest of his son in Australia. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

FIJIAN Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama expressed concern Saturday that his son faces multiple domestic violence charges in Australia.

Ratu Meli Bainimarama, 36,

appeared in court on Thursday to face 17 counts, including assault, choking and distributing intimate images without consent.

"My son is not a member of the Fijian government and this

is not a political or diplomatic matter," the Fijian prime minister said in a statement, but added that he and his wife were "deeply concerned and disturbed about the charges".

"During my service as prime minister I have openly and routinely condemned violence perpetrated against women and children, and that commitment is unwavering," he added.

Bainimarama said it was "not appropriate" to comment further on "any matter before the Australian courts".

Ratu Meli Bainimarama was arrested on 8 September in the state of Queensland and extradited to New South Wales.

An Australian judge initially issued a suppression order on his name, restricting the media from identifying him.—AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kyrgyz, Tajik leaders order forces to 'withdraw' after clashes

THE leaders of ex-Soviet Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan met Friday and ordered their forces to withdraw after deadly clashes along their disputed border raised fears of all-out conflict between the Central Asian nations. Their meeting at a summit of regional leaders in Uzbekistan came as Russia offered to mediate and called for "urgent" measures to halt fighting that left dozens injured and several dead. Fighting regularly flares up between the two countries that share a 970 kilometre-long (600-mile-) border, with around half of the frontier contested. In 2021, unprecedented clashes between the two sides killed 50 people.—AFP

Danish ex-intel chief indicted for leaks

DANISH prosecutors on Friday charged the country's former military intelligence chief with leaking state secrets, following a scandal over Denmark's cooperation with US intelligence.

The prosecution authority said Lars Findsen was accused of "having divulged secrets important to national security on several occasions and... under particularly aggravated circumstances".—AFP

UK to continue suspending N. Ireland border checks despite EU legal action

DESPITE legal action from the European Union (EU), the United Kingdom (UK) said on Thursday that it will continue with its pause on border checks on goods between Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

"I can confirm we have received a reply from the UK. We

will now analyze the reply before deciding on the next steps," European Commission spokesperson for EU-UK affairs Daniel Ferrie said on Thursday.

The Commission launched infringement procedures against the UK in June and July for not complying with the Northern Ire-

land Protocol, the rules governing post-Brexit trading arrangements for Northern Ireland.

Under the protocol, Northern Ireland is part of British customs territory but is subject to the EU's customs code, value-added tax rules and single market rules for goods.—Xinhua



Under the protocol, Northern Ireland is part of British customs territory but is subject to the EU's customs code, value-added tax rules and single market rules for goods. PHOTO: AFP/FILE



SPORT

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.



A Myanmar team player (red) rests his knee on the ground and faces the ball during the U-20 Asian Cup Qualifiers against Saudi Arabia on 17 September 2022. PHOTO: AFC

Team Myanmar face big loss to Saudi Arabia in U-20 Asian Cup Qualifiers

HOST Saudi Arabia beat team Myanmar 5-0 in the Group A of the 2023 AFC U-20 Asian Cup Qualifiers yesterday.

The Myanmar team tried their best for their last hope of qualifying, but they faced a big loss as they had differences with the Asian powerhouse Saudi Arabia.

Myanmar has already lost the chance to qualify, but they still have to play the final match against the Maldives team.

Team Myanmar played with most of their core players, but

they conceded four goals even in the first half.

Winning goals for Saudi were scored by Raddit at 17 and 45+5 minutes, Najadit at 24 minutes, Ora Yari at 35 minutes, and Jiwara at 83 minutes respectively.

The fourth goal scored near the end of the first half was a penalty kick.

Saudi Arabia, China, Myanmar, the Maldives and Uzbekistan are participating in Group A, but Uzbekistan will host the final tournament and will only

count the results of the remaining four teams to qualify as they have already qualified.

After the previous matches, Saudi Arabia and China are competing to win the qualifiers with six points each, and Myanmar and the Maldives, who lost both matches, have lost the right to win the qualifiers.

Myanmar will take on the Maldives whereas host Saudi Arabia will play against China on 19 September for their decisive match. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

Benzema out for Real but Atletico's Oblak returns for Madrid derby



Vinicius Junior's goal celebration against Mallorca provoked criticism that in turn smacked of racism. PHOTO: AFP

REAL Madrid will be without striker Karim Benzema for the Madrid derby clash with rivals Atletico Madrid, coach Carlo Ancelotti confirmed on Saturday.

The French forward has missed the team's last two games with a thigh injury and was hoping to be fit, but did not train with the team on Saturday.

"Benzema will not make the game," Ancelotti told a news conference ahead of Sunday's derby at the Wanda Metropolitano. "He has started to work

individually. He'll stay here during the international break to be ready to return when La Liga is back." The coach did not want to get involved in the controversy in Spain over forward Vinicius Junior's dancing goal celebrations, which some have labelled disrespectful.

"I am not his father, I am not his brother, I am just his coach," said Ancelotti. "He is playing football with the joy that he has, with the happiness that he has."—AFP

Gerrard reveals Prince of Wales sent support of message to Villa

STEVEN Gerrard has revealed the Prince of Wales found time to send a message of support to Aston Villa while he mourns the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

William is preparing for his grandmother's funeral on Monday

after the monarch died aged 96 on 8 September.

But the life-long Villa fan still offered his backing to Gerrard and his struggling team ahead of their vital 1-0 win over Southampton in the Premier League

on Friday.

Boosted by William's message, Jacob Ramsey's first-half goal lifted Villa away from the relegation zone after the stadium paid tribute to the Queen with a minute's silence and a chorus of the national anthem before kick-off.

"He messaged in the week, to the club, and that shows everything about what he thinks of this club. For us to reward that with a result and clean sheet, I'm sure he will be proud," Gerrard said.

"It was along the lines of 'would love to be there'. He is consistently in touch. He is very supportive of the boys individually, he loves them. It's really impressive, his knowledge, and how much he is in to it.—AFP



Aston Villa defeated Southampton 1-0 on Friday. PHOTO: AFP