

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IX, No. 161, 15th Waning of Tawthalin 1384 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Saturday, 24 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.

The State-owned media must release business information, prices of commodities and monetary data as a separate sector on time: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses the meeting 1/2022 of the MSME Development Central Committee in Nay Pyi Taw on 23 September 2022.

MICRO, small and medium scale enterprises-MSME is a main driving force for enhancing the State economy and economic growth of a country, said Chairman of the MSME Development Central Committee Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting 1/2022 of the central committee at the office of SAC Chairman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

More than 90 per cent of MSMEs are being operated in the economic sector of developed and developing countries. MSME is capable of promptly responding to market demand, rather than that of heavy enterprises. Myanmar is rich in underground and aboveground natural resources. If these natural resources can be operated by MSME, it will be beneficial to the State.

The private sector and individual role are the main driv-

The business policy of the government is to encourage domestic business and manufacturing. Hence, beneficial and effective businesses must be implemented with internal strength.

ing force for the State in the market economic system. The government needs to handle the large invested businesses and the businesses with the weak investment of the private sector not to face loss in their operations. According to the condition of Myanmar, the government needs to take part in the necessary role of the business sector.

SEE PAGE-3

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

MoI closes documentary video editing, photo shooting and news writing training

PAGE-3

NATIONAL

MoIC Union Minister attends 92nd National Day of Saudi Arabia

PAGE-4

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Survey respondents see Myanmar tourism potential

PAGE-6



LOCAL BUSINESS

Gold coins available now in Yangon, Mandalay regions

PAGE-7

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 border 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*




300 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 23 September, total figure rises to 620,744

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **620,744** after **300** new cases were reported on 23 September 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **596,506** recovered from disease. Death toll reaches **19,453** with **one** death.

Myanmar reported 138 COVID-19 deaths between 28-1-2022 and 19-9-2022. Of them, 97 deaths (70 per cent) had underlying chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, liver, kidney, lung and cancer.

According to the analysis of the COVID-19 vaccination rate of deaths with underlying chronic diseases, 79.4 per cent have received no vaccination at all and have not been fully inoculated, 18.6 per cent have received full vaccination and two per cent has received booster shots.

COVID-19 vaccination rate of deaths with underlying chronic diseases

Out of COVID-19 deaths with underlying chronic disease		
79.4 per cent	18.6 per cent	2 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 rate of deaths with underlying chronic diseases, it causes fewer deaths obviously among those who are fully vaccinated and those who receive the booster shots. The people who are suffering from chronic diseases should follow the COVID-19 health rules, wear face masks and contact the nearest health departments, and village/ward administrative offices to receive the vaccines and booster shots.

More detailed information about COVID-19 can be found on the website of the Ministry of Health: moh.gov.mm. — MNA

Objectives of 23rd Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2022

- (a) To uplift national prestige and integrity and to preserve the cultural heritage and national characteristics
- (b) To discover, preserve and uplift the traditional cultural heritage of performing arts of ethnic nationals and national cultural characteristics
- (c) To preserve traditional cultural performing arts in order to further revitalize adoration of the State and hand it down to new generation youths
- (d) To contribute much to the restoration of perpetual peace

Eggs, chicken, honey, dairy products, fish, fish-paste, dried fish sold at fairer prices in Nay Pyi Taw



Residents are pictured buying chicken from the mobile truck.

VEGETABLES and fruits produced from model fields of research farms under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, basic foodstuffs from growers and producers, chicken eggs, duck eggs, chicken, honey and dairy products from the Myanmar Livestock Federation, fish, fish-paste and dried fish from Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Fish-Paste and Dried Fish Entrepreneurs Association are sold by the mobile market truck at the car park of Myoma Market designated by the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee for government employees and residents at fairer prices. The mo-

bile market truck offered these products at Office No 27 of the Ministry of Electric Power yesterday evening.

Under the arrangement of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the growers and producers sell vegetables, meat and fish which are fresh, hygienic, cheap and nutritious and attract large numbers of buyers to the mobile market truck.

Similarly, foodstuffs are being stored at the cold storage near the Myoma Market in Zabuthiri Township to be sold at reasonable prices at ministries, organizations, staff housing and to locals. — MNA

Need to preserve languages and cultures of ethnic people

THE Senior General urged relevant ministries to provide education, health, economic and transport facilities for ethnic people. Hence, relevant ministries need to cooperate with each other in work processes. It is necessary to preserve the languages and cultures of ethnic people as well as Myanmar literature, language and culture.

[Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the third-day coordination meeting held on 10 August 2022 in regard to matters relating to the activities being carried out by the Union Government].

The State-owned media must release business information, prices of commodities and monetary data as a separate sector on time: Senior General

FROM PAGE-1

Myanmar has enacted the SME Law at the Hluttaw in 2015 by adopting the policies and rules. The business policy of the government is to encourage domestic business and manufacturing. Hence, beneficial and effective businesses must be implemented with internal strength. So, it is necessary to cement the existing sound foundations to have progress and success.

As the country has extended the formation of new districts, it is necessary to establish industrial zones and industrial wards in the significant zones in order to develop the manufacturing of domestic products. So also, MSME-based industries must be set up in respective regions for the creation of job opportunities so as to reduce the number of job seekers abroad.

Different levels of hydro-power projects must be implemented for electrifying MSMEs. A plan is underway to loan the MSME businesses and development of livestock sector through the remaining fund from the State economic promotion fund. The government is ready to disburse loans to MSMEs under the scheming rules and regulations.

More than 40,000 MSMEs are being operated across the nation. To have the success of these businesses, their products need to secure the market shares to do service and trading. The index of ASEAN for Myanmar's MSME stays at the lower level and some indexes at the middle level. The trading and service based on manufacturing stand at 25 per cent and 16 per cent respectively and manufacturing 39 per cent. Only when

manufacturing increases will the trading develop. As such, it is necessary to strive for manufacturing the products as quality marketable goods.

Central Committee Secretary Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than reported on interrelations among the provisions of the Constitution for the development of MSME, industrial policy and SME development policy, issuance of SME development law, policy and rules, formation of SME development units, participation of ministries in SME development, the constitution of the central committee and work committee for MSME and their duty and functions.

Members of the Central Committee discussed various kinds of topics including the setting up of the MSME fund, plans to improve transport in-

frastructures and communication networks, presentation of business information for the development of MSME through State-owned media, needs to amend the facts in the SME law, the need of MSME to the foreign direct investment, insertion of MSME topics in economic subjects of universities, norms and standards for MSME, legal requirements and monetary needs.

In his response to the discussions, the Senior General said that the State-owned media must release business information, prices of commodities and monetary data as a separate sector on time. The government, the Tatmadaw and the private sector must disseminate information to the people in a quick and correct process. The relevant ministry needs to electrify MSME industries through

small-scale power generation systems but the national grid. Locally used MSME products must have equal terms of standards and export quality must meet international standards. The Senior General stressed the need for UMFCCI and associates to participate in the implementation of MSME projects.

The Vice-Chairman of the SAC Deputy Prime Minister reported on future plans of the working committee.

In conclusion, the Senior General pledged to narrow the development gap among all regions and states. It is necessary to consider manufacturing based on raw materials produced from regions and states, and developing human resources. The government and the businesspersons are to join hands in seeking the capital for projects.— MNA

MoI closes documentary video editing, photo shooting and news writing training

THE Ministry of Information held the closing ceremony of the training course 1/2022 on documentary video editing, photo shooting and news writing at the ministry's assembly hall in Nay Pyi Taw on 23 September.

Union Information Minister U Maung Maung Ohn, Deputy Minister U Ye Tint, the permanent secretary, heads of departments, officials and trainees attended the ceremony.

Firstly, the Union minister said that trainees need to speed up their knowledge in the media sector through continuous learning and the importance of following the rapid evolvement of the media

along with the advancement of technology, posing new updated articles in positive ways for public knowledge.

He urged trainees to make efforts for the development of the ministry and the State by extending their knowledge for which the media sector stands a major role.

Then, the Union minister and the deputy minister presented training certificates to representatives of the trainees.

Afterwards, a trainee on behalf of the trainees gave words of thanks, and the Union minister and officials posed for documentary photos together with the trainees.

The documentary video



The winding up ceremony of the MoI media training is in progress.

editing, photo shooting and news writing training course

1/2022 was attended by 48 trainees from 12 ministries and

lasted from 5 to 23 September, it is learnt. — MNA

MoIC Union Minister attends 92nd National Day of Saudi Arabia



U Ko Ko Hlaing, Union Minister for International Cooperation attended the reception to mark the 92nd National Day of Saudi Arabia at Wyndham Grand Yangon Hotel in Yangon yesterday evening.

First, the ceremony was opened with the national anthems of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Then, Mr Saud bin Abdullah Al-Subaie, Saudi Arabian

MoIC Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing takes the group photo at the event.

Ambassador to Myanmar extended greetings.

Afterwards, Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing and Ambassador Mr Saud bin Abdullah Al-Subaie cut the cake celebrating the 92nd National Day of Saudi Arabia.

The Union minister, the ambassador and attendees posed for documentary photos.

Next, the ambassador hosted dinner to the guests. The ceremony was also attended by the ambassadors from foreign embassies in Yangon, charge d'affaires of embassies, resident representatives of the United Nations agencies and invitees. — MNA

Myanmar delegation attends 9th Session of Governing Body of International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources (ITPGRFA)

A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Tin Htut Oo attended the opening ceremony of the 9th Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources (ITPGRFA) held in New Delhi of India at the invitation of Indian Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Mr Narendra Singh Tomar.

First, ITPGRFA Chairperson Ms Yasmina El-Bahloul and ITPGRFA Secretary Mr Kent Nnadozie from FAO made greeting speeches.

Then, Indian Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Mr Narendra Singh Tomar delivered an opening speech and the video message of Dr Qu Dongyu, Director-General of FAO was played.

The session of the Governing Body of the International

Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources (ITPGRFA) is held once every two years. Indian government hosted the 9th Session of the Governing Body of ITPGRFA under the theme of Celebrating the Guardians of Crop Diversity: Towards an Inclusive, Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and officials from 149 countries attended the event.

After the opening ceremony, the Myanmar delegation observed the displayed millet and sorghum, proper sorghum received after research, sorghum-based noodle and value-added food products and local fruit research of India, and discussed joint research projects. Year 2023 will be designated as the International Year of Millet.

At noon, Union Minister U Tin Htut Oo-led delegation met with the Indian officials led



MoALI Union Minister U Tin Htut Oo joins the Ninth Session of the Governing Body of International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources-ITPGRFA in India.

by Mr Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister of Indian Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and discussed bilateral relations in technical and research development activities, the invitation to the Indian government and private entrepreneurs in seed production industry of pulses and bean, sunflower and oil crops in Myanmar and cooperation work in crop production

and distribution sectors.

Similarly, the Myanmar delegation discussed with Indian officials led by Mr Ashwani Kumar of National Seed Corporation (NSC) regarding the operation processes of NSC under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and cooperation work to launch research and seed production projects to ensure the good-quality seeds

needed in expanding of beans and pulses, sunflower and oil crops plantation in Myanmar.

In the evening, the Myanmar delegation attended the dinner party and traditional variety show hosted by Indian Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Mr Narendra Singh Tomar together with the other participants from the meeting of ITPGRFA. — MNA

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanmar 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.

News and Periodicals Enterprise

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.gnlm.com.mm
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com



CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 454237515

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

gnlmnews@gmail.com
www.gnlm.com.mm

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aunghuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Myanmar, Russia ink bilateral cooperation in aquatic products sector

THE delegation led by Deputy Minister Dr Aung Gyi of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation is currently attending the Global Fisheries Forum and Seafood Expo Russia forum at the St Petersburg Exhibition and Convention Centre in St Petersburg, Russia, at the invitation of Mr Llya Shestakov, Head of the Federal Agency for Fisheries.

Deputy Minister Dr Aung Gyi signed the bilateral cooperation in the sectors that will benefit the production of aquatic products for both countries with Mr Llya Shestakov, Head of the Federal Agency for Fisheries, at the Global Fishery Forum & Seafood Expo Russia Forum on 22 September.

Director-General U Wai Lin Maung of the Fisheries Department accompanied by the

MoALI deputy minister, senior vice-president of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation Dr Toe Nandar Tin, Chairman U Hla Than of the Taninthayi Region Fisheries Federation and representatives attended the event.

The bilateral agreement emphasizes assessing the existence of marine fish resources between the two countries, conservation of fish resources, fish farming in cages in the sea, management of seawater resources, combatting illegal fishing, exchange of information on fisheries and aquaculture, strengthening cooperation between research organizations on aquaculture, providing training and discussions in fishing, and cooperation for the long-term development in areas of mutual interest in the fishery sector. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/GNLM



MoALI Deputy Minister Dr Aung Gyi and Mr Llya Shestakov, Head of the Federal Agency for Fisheries, sign bilateral cooperation at the Global Fishery Forum & Seafood Expo Russia in St Petersburg on 22 September. PHOTO: AGRI/LIVESTOCK INFORMATION

Educational knowledge exchange workshop held



The workshop to exchange knowledge on education is underway at Dagon University in Yangon yesterday.

THE Dagon University of Higher Education Department under the Ministry of Education and the Embassy of Thailand to Myanmar jointly held a workshop to exchange knowledge on education at Dagon University's convocation hall in Yangon on 22 September morning.

Officials from the Thai Embassy to Myanmar, professors from Thailand's Srinakharinwirot University, Chiang Rai Rajabhat University and Chu-

lalangkorn University, rector, pro-rectors, professors, lecturers and students from Dagon University, and students from Yangon University, Eastern Yangon University, Western Yangon University, University of Distance Education and Foreign Languages University attended the workshop.

First, Dagon University Rector Dr Thar Tun Maung, and professors from Thai universities gave speeches.

The workshop titled Learner Analysis Lesson Planning, Time and Material Management, Active Learning Activities and Assessment and Evaluation of Student Learning was held for two days until 23 September.

The workshop was conducted according to the subject-wise area of the higher education sector to provide reformative approaches to qualified teachers. — MNA

Delegation of MoHS to attend biosecurity workshop in Vladivostok of Russia

WITH the Ministry of Health strengthening cooperation and exchange of healthcare, medical research and training with Russia, two specialist (microbiology) and two medical technicians from the Ministry of Health will attend the workshop on "Using modern molecular genetic technologies in ensuring biological safety" to be held in Vladivostok of Russia from 26 September to 7 October.

The microbiologists from Laos, Viet Nam, Myanmar

and Russia will participate in the workshop and the Myanmar delegation, which will attend the workshop, were seen off at Yangon International Airport yesterday evening.

As the Ministry of Health is implementing cooperation with the international community in the medical field, the Ministry of Health have plans to send more representatives to Russia to attend workshops and training courses in the future. — MNA



Medical specialists and medical technology professionals are seen before leaving to attend the biosecurity workshop in Vladivostok, Russia.

သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစာရေးများကို နှင်ထောက်အံ့ချိန်စီ ပုံနှိပ်ပို့ပါက ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်
01 860 4530

Advertise
with us/ Hot Line
: 09974424848

CURRENT AFFAIRS

YRTC educate 100 truck and YBS bus drivers on road safety

THE Yangon Region Private Transport Regulatory Committee (YRTC) conducted a traffic safety talk for 100 truck and YBS bus drivers on 22 September.

“In public transport, cargo truck drivers and YBS bus drivers must be prepared to comply with the road safety precautions for passengers who are on the move every day.”

“The main cause of accidents is the recklessness of drivers. According to WHO's declaration, there is a high daily death rate due to traffic accidents worldwide,” said U Chit Ko Ko, YRTC vice-chair.

With the highest number of traffic accidents occurring in Yangon, the National Road Safety Council NRSC, and YRTC are continuously working on awareness and education activities to reduce road accidents by 50 per cent by 2030.

U Chit Ko Ko said that drivers need to cooperate to reduce road accidents to 50 per cent by 2030 by following traffic rules and road rules properly and driving with caution, without harming the lives of passengers.

Next, the Myanmar Traffic Police gave a clear presentation about the causes of traffic accidents and the sections of the Penal Code that drivers should know.

Afterwards, the Department of Road Transport Administration clarified the points that should be followed under the Motor Vehicle Act.

On behalf of the Myanmar Organization for Road Safety (MORS), YRTC's joint secretary U Lian Cin Mang explained the importance of morale for drivers. — TWA/GNLM

Survey respondents see Myanmar tourism potential



Tourists are pictured visiting Myanmar's Inlay Lake.

UNION Minister Dr Htay Aung for Hotels and Tourism addressed at the meeting on the awareness of ASEAN MICE Standards on 22 September that Myanmar has great tourism potential depending on the survey respondents on natural wonders in Asia.

The global MICE (Meeting, Incentive, Convention, Exhibition) industry garnered \$334 billion in 2019 and is expected to generate a revenue of US\$1,619.3 billion by 2028, the Union Minister said.

The MICE tourism industry created 4.7 million job op-

portunities in 2019. MICE tourism should be supported as it contributes to the economic growth of the country. Government and private tourism operators involved in MICE activities should recognize and comply with ASEAN tourism standards.

Myanmar was ranked 41st in the World's 50 Most Beautiful Countries as per Forbes, along with regional countries; Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

According to the survey of respondents on natural wonders for each country, Myanmar's tourism sector sees future prospects, the Union minister added.

The MICE (Meeting Venue) Standard was laid down by Thailand and confirmed in March 2016, focusing on three components; physical setting, technology setting and service setting. Myanmar was awarded ASEAN MICE Venue Award 12 times. ASEAN MICE Exhibition Venue Standards were issued in 2018. It was the first time that the ASEAN MICE Exhibition Venue award was honoured at ASEAN Tourism Forum 2022 and Myanmar won two Exhibition Venue awards, he elaborated. — TWA/GNLM

Hospitals in Waibargi, Mingaladon plan to treat 1,300 to 1,500 COVID-19 patients

HOSPITALS in Waibargi and Mingaladon are planned to treat 1,300 to 1,500 patients suffering from COVID-19 in Yangon Region, an official from the Department of Public Health said.

Starting before the third week of August, the rate of cases of COVID-19 increased again, and the increasing rate is significant in Yangon Region.

According to the inspection report of the Ministry of Health, the daily number of infected patients was around 300 and 500 in the second week of September.

At present, hospitals in Yangon Region and Yoma

Quarantine Center in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township have planned to treat more than 200 people infected with the virus, according to the Yangon Region Department of Public Health.

It is planned to provide treatment at central hospitals, district level hospitals and speciality hospitals in Yangon Region, and plans are being made to treat about 1,300 to 1,500 patients with COVID-19 at Waibargi and Mingaladon hospitals.

According to the Ministry of Health, 12,236 suspected patients were examined

from 8 pm on 21 September to 8 pm on 22 September and 409 confirmed patients were diagnosed.

To date, a total of 8,972,281 laboratory samples have been examined in Myanmar, and a total of 620,444 confirmed patients have been found.

As the COVID-19 infection rate in Myanmar is rising again, disease prevention, treatment, and control activities are being carried out at a rapid pace, and the Ministry of Health has informed and encouraged the public to receive vaccinations and booster doses without fail.

A total of 312 patients from

Tamway Township, Yangon Region, 19,135 patients from 26 Townships of Ayeyawady Region, 1,143 patients from four townships in Rakhine State, 6,397 patients from seven districts of Mandalay Region were treated by medical teams, doctors from public hospitals, concerned health workers, in cooperation with volunteers.

Similarly, 370 students from 26 townships in Ayeyawady Region, 2,017 students from six townships in Rakhine State, and 3,198 students from seven districts in Mandalay Region were vaccinated against COVID-19. — TWA/GNLM



149 Myanmar citizens repatriated from Malaysia's detention centres

THE Embassy of Myanmar in Kuala Lumpur stated that 149 Myanmar detainees from detention centres in Malaysia were sent back on a chartered flight to Myanmar on 22 September.

In cooperation with officials of the Myanmar Embassy to Malaysia and the Malaysian Immigration Department, those Myanmar detainees were sent

back to Myanmar. The first batch was brought back on a chartered flight arranged by the Malaysian government.

Thirty-one persons were repatriated to Myanmar on 1 June, 215 on 9 June, 33 on 15 June, 55 on 16 June, 29 on 22 June and 75 on 29 June, totalling 438 persons.

Often, Myanmar citizens

travelling illegally to Malaysia to work were arrested and detained at KLIA Detention Centre, Bukit Jalil Detention Centre, LangKap Detention Centre and Bidor Detention Centre. Citizens of Myanmar who have completed the documents at these centres will be sent back through the Myanmar Embassy's plan, it is learnt. — TWA/GNLM

LOCAL BUSINESS

Over 230,000-tonne quota set for fuel oil importers in Sept

MORE than 230,000 tonnes of fuel oil were allowed to be imported in September 2022, according to the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

The committee draws up Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on fuel import, storage and distribution and reports fuel import matters to the Foreign Exchange Supervisory Committee.

This month, fuel importers have an import quota of 233,594.60 tonnes, with 80,499 tonnes of gasoline and 153,095.60 tonnes of diesel.

That is why fuel oil is sufficient in the domestic market. Oil tankers are unloading fuel oil at terminals of Thilawa Port; with 51.17 million gallons of diesel and 60.37 million gallons of premium diesel unloaded by MT Yu Dong ship and 42.33 million gallons of Octane 92 and 92.25 million gallons of diesel by MT Yu Hai.

The committee is issuing the daily reference rate for oil to offer a reasonable price to energy consumers. The reference rate is set on the MOPS' price assessment, shipping cost, profit margin, premium insurance and other general costs.

On 23 September, the prices stood at K2,240 per litre for Octane 92, K2,320 for Octane 95, K2,730 for diesel and K2,815 for premium diesel.

However, the market prices are way higher than the reference rates.

The authorities are taking action against those retailers of fuel stations under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law if they are found overcharging.

Additionally, the committee in cooperation with Myanmar Petroleum Trade Association has been distributing fuel oil efficiently to ensure energy sufficiency in each township of the regions and states.

However, armed groups' attacks on fuel oil browsers and barges caused delays in supply to the fuel stations at some townships, according to a statement.

Therefore, to fulfil the energy requirements in some regions and states, the committee is supervising fuel oil import via cross-border areas under the approval of the related state government.

Last April, some petrol stations allegedly suspended fuel sales and set limited sales, sparking consumers' concerns and raising fuel prices. The committee was formed to steer the oil sector effectively not to have a shortage of oil in the domestic market and ensure price stability and quality for energy consumers.

Ninety per cent of fuel oil in Myanmar is imported, while the remaining 10 per cent is produced locally. The domestic fuel price is highly correlated with international prices. The



More than 230,000 tonnes of fuel oil were allowed to be imported in September 2022, according to the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

State is steering the market to mitigate the loss between the importers, sellers and energy consumers. Consequently, the government is trying to distribute the oil at a reasonable price compared to those of regional countries.

Some countries levied higher tax rates and hiked oil prices than Myanmar. How-

ever, Malaysia's oil sector receives government subsidies and the prices are about 60 per cent cheaper than in Myanmar. Every country lays down different patterns of policy to fix the oil prices. Myanmar also poses only a lower tax rate on fuel oil and strives for energy consumers to buy the oil at a cheaper rate. – NN/GNLM

Gold coins available now in Yangon, Mandalay regions



A one-tical (16.4 gramme) gold coin.



THE gold coin sales have expanded to new locations in the Yangon and Mandalay regions in addition to Nay Pyi Taw, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.

The ministry declared the sales of gold coins weighing one tical, 0.5 tical and 0.25 tical through state-run media on 2 September. The gold coins have been on sale at Nay Pyi Taw's Gems Emporium from

5 September.

Gold coins were sold at K2.95 million per tical on 5 September, K2.85 million from 6 to 13 September and K2.8 million from 14 to 16 September respectively. A citizenship scrutiny card and its copy are mandatory in buying gold coins cash down.

The accumulated sales of gold coins stood at 455.75 ticals as of 16 September, according to the Press Conference of the

Information Team of the State Administration Council held on 20 September.

The State's gold coin market has expanded to Yangon and Mandalay regions from 23 September other than Nay Pyi Taw, the ministry announced through the state-run media on 22 September.

The sales price of gold coin for 23 September was not announced yet the pure gold was transacted at K2.8 million per tical in the grey market.

The ministry commenced gold coin sales intending to govern the price hike in the domestic gold market. However, domestic gold prices remain high tracking the soaring US dollar value against the local currency. Kyat is depreciated at K3,200 against the safe-haven US dollar in the black market.

In late August, the dollar hit a tremendous high of over K4,500 in the unofficial markets. Following the depreciation of Kyat, the pure gold price

reached a record-high of K3.7 million per tical.

The governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) and officials of the Monitoring and Steering Committee on the Gold and Currency Market discussed matters regarding the stability of the gold and currency market on the afternoon of 14 September in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, the governor of the CBM remarked the further coordination of the departments concerned, gold bar transactions to be made with the banking system and operations of the banks, further support of the ministries concerned and the CBM to achieve price stability, and further cooperation between gold businesspersons and the officials.

Last 28 September 2021, a dollar value hit a peak of over K3,000 in the black market, pushing the pure gold up to K2.22 million per tical.

Under the guidance of the

Central Committee on Ensuring Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods, the Monitoring and Steering Committee on the Gold and Currency Market was formed on 17 December 2021 as gold and currency market stability plays a crucial role in trade facilitation.

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

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

OPINION

Cooperate in the implementation of a safe monetary system

MYANMAR uses various monetary systems such as mobile monetary services on a wider scale in the era of developing information technology, including banking services. Currently, businesses on monetary remittance services via mobile payment systems are being operated in implementing the safe and capable national payment system.

It was learnt that some unscrupulous persons committed swindling the remitted money of other persons in dishonest ways through some mobile payment services. Moreover, some persons breached the laws in cross-border payment, money laundering and terrorist financing. As such, it is necessary to combat swindling money, money laundering and terrorist financing through official mobile services and to adopt more disciplines for mobile monetary services.

In fact, mobile monetary service is based on mobile phone communications. Users of mobile phones need to fill in their personal data to take registration for all SIM cards since they started using mobile phones so that public mobile communications are safe and systematic.

However, the majority of people need to take correct registration for SIM cards on their mobile phones. Taking it as an advantage, unscrupulous persons commit malpractices, money laundering and acts of terrorist financing through mobile services. They aim to make money through mobile services in inappropriate ways.

The Ministry of Immigration and Population decided to check names, citizenship scrutiny card numbers and SIM numbers filled in the mobile monetary accounts from the electronically registered database of the ministry and that of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications. Users of mobile monetary services

need to mention their names and CSC numbers to apply the electronic communication system. Hence, the users need to fully fill in their data to apply the mobile monetary services without fail.

On the other hand, mobile monetary services need to abide by the prescribed disciplines for the safer running of businesses. The authorities will totally close the mobile monetary accounts which were able to fill in the correct data on schedules. As such, those who use mobile payment systems need to timely upgrade their data to the second level.

The Central Bank of Myanmar on 16 September 2022 notified the owners of mobile monetary accounts not wishing to upgrade their accounts of seeking the ways and means to use their remaining mobile money in connection with banks and mobile money services in time. That is why all people need to participate in building safer monetary services for national interests and the safety of mobile payment.

“LAW are regulations; however, all the regulations are not the laws. Only the regulations which have legal binding are the laws. It is said, “No one is above the law.” With reference to the said legal maxims, this article is written to enable the readers to have knowledge of the law, the crime and the punishment.

The laws have legal binding, and so, if a person violates a law enacted by the government, he shall have the legal action taken, with a punishment imposed upon him. These days are witnessing terrorists committing crimes of all sorts within the country of Myanmar, and so, the writer has to write this article on terrorism versus punishment.

I believe the people are daily reading the news reporting on the terrorists’ commitment to man slaughter through social media as well as through the state-owned media—print, electronic and internet. Why are these terrorists killing innocent people? Don’t they know that killing people will make them punished? Or are they not just afraid of being punished? The commitment to murder will make the criminal have action taken according to the Penal Code, which was enacted in both Myanmar and India during the reign of the British colonialists. This Penal Code has been in force throughout different periods under successive governments. Until today, the Penal Code is still in force with some amendments made to suit modern-day situations.

If a person kills another person during serving the 20-year imprisonment, he shall have the death sentence imposed under Section 302 (1) (a) of the Penal Code. And under Section 302 (1) (b) of the Penal Code, whoever commits man slaughter intentionally shall have capital punishment imposed. Additionally, if a person commits manslaughter while committing such crimes as rape, burglary at night and robbery/daicoit the commitment of which can have seven-year imprisonment imposed, he shall have the death sentence imposed (be hanged) under Section 302 (1) (c) of the Penal Code. In the event of a person killing not cruelly and unintentionally, he can have 20-year imprisonment imposed under Section 302 (2).

In this regard, it would not be inappropriate to deal with the Counter Terrorism Law as terrorists are rampant these days.

Legal/General Knowledge on Terrorism versus Capital Punishment

By Ko Sai (LL.M.)

Under Section 54 of the Counter Terrorism Law, if a person causes death or grievous hurt to one or more than one person in the commitment to a terrorist act, he shall be given a minimum sentence of ten years with the maximum punishment being either life imprisonment or capital punishment. Under Section 50 of the Counter Terrorism Law, if a person provides encouragement and monetary support to the terrorist, he shall be given a minimum sentence of ten years with the maximum sentence being life imprisonment and he can also be fined.

Judging by the aforesaid provisions enshrined in the respective law, the readers will know that the actions and activities of the PDF terrorists are indicating that they are committing the crimes that deserve the passage of the death sentence according to the existing laws. Additionally, it is prescribed in the respective laws that those who provide encouragement and support and those who conspire shall have the same punishment as the one who commits the crime. Under Section 109 of the Penal Code, if a person provides in some way encouragement and support and conspires to the commitment of a crime, he shall be given the same punishment as the one who commits that crime unless there is no explicit provision for imposition of punishment. There is a saying, “The one who commits a crime and the one who provides support shall have the same penalty given.”

According to the official data released by the government, the cases of terrorism committed by PDF terrorists between 1 February 2021 and 10 September 2022 have caused 3,899 deaths and 3,485 injuries. A total of 103 government employees were killed by the terrorists while 210 others were injured. As for the administration personnel, the persons in charge of 100 households and the persons in charge of 10 households and other responsible personnel were also harassed with 633 killed and 400 others injured. The victims also

included the Buddhist monks and nuns with 53 of them killed and 29, injured while 88 children were put to death with 237 others injured. The innocent civilians were not spared, too; 3,022 civilians were killed while 2,609 others were injured.

Very recently, social media were flooded with the news of the merciless slaughter of two women teachers. The video footage shows the merciless killing of the teachers who were blindfolded by the PDF terrorists. It is heartbreaking to see the teachers asking for sparing their lives. I am

Last but not the least, no one is above the law as the saying goes. Obviously, those who commit the crimes will have punishment meted out, depending on the degree of seriousness. No wonder, those who have committed felonies will have serious punishments imposed according to the law concerned.

quite certain that such ruthless acts cannot be committed by those who were brought up in the Myanmar community. Such inhumane characters are quite contrary to Myanmar culture. From our own experience, such merciless killings can be committed merely by ISIS terrorists.

At 8:40 pm on 15 March 2021, Thar Nge, Wai Yan Win Myint alias Wai Yan and Kyaw Khine and 12 others set fire to the house of U Sein Moe located at No 641, Aung Shwezin Street, Ward 11 in Shwepaukkan Myothit, and the group of 15 accused U Sein Moe of being a spy and forcibly took him out of the house. Then, they tied his legs with a rope and struck him on the street in front of his house with sticks and knives. Maung Aung Moe Hein and Maung Htin Khant Moe Hein, the sons of U Sein Moe, and Pan Thu Kyaw alias Pho La Pyay, the nephew of U Sein Moe, were tied to a tree with the rope. The mob struck them to death with the use of sticks and knives. Then, the dead bodies were thrown into the Nga Moe

Yeik Creek. At 8:30 pm on 29 June 2022, Captain Win Myint Zaw (Retired), the Electrical Manager from Dagon Myothit (South) Township, was shot to death near the Bailey Bridge in Dagon Myothit (North) Township. While he stopped his car at the traffic lights near the bridge, the terrorists who had been shadowing him from behind got off from their car and fired six shots at him, who died on the spot. At about 3 pm on 12 August 2022, a group of terrorists abruptly entered the Thingangyun Township Immigration Department and did the shootings which killed Deputy

about 8:30 am on 23 August 2022, a terrorist group named Tiger Force Mandalay shot fire at U Sithu Ko Ko and Ma Hnin Wai Wai Hlaing who were riding a motorbike on the 30th Street between 56th and 57th Streets in Chanayethazan Township. They have mistakenly killed the victims, it is said. The Tiger Force Mandalay terrorists mistook the man victim for a police major. The couple was survived by an underage daughter. I felt heartbroken, and I hope the readers of this article will feel the same. Such ruthless killings deserve death sentences under Section 302 (1) (b) of the Penal Code. Under Section 54 of the Counter Terrorism Law, too, the maximum punishment is capital punishment.

At about 12:30 pm on 29 March 2021, a police officer from the Aungmyaythazan Township Police Station in Mandalay was arrested near Hninzi Estate at the head of 14th Street in Aungmyaythazan by a group of about 14 people led by Kyaw Tint, the former person in charge of 100 households in Minte/Ekin Ward as well as an NLD organizer, and Thein Tun alias Than Tun alias Thein Tun Oo (Hninzi Estate). The terrorist group put an old car tyre around the body of the police officer and set him on fire in the presence of the people on the scene. Such cruel arson is not common in the Myanmar community. Such kind of killing in public is not a Myanmar style; this manner can be behaved by ISIS who want to have influence over the people by making them scared first.

State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received on 17 August 2022 in Nay Pyi Taw the United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Envoy on Myanmar Ms Noleen Heyzer. During the latter’s courtesy call on the former, the Senior General explained that the government has done nothing beyond the law, that the terrorists have had punishment imposed simply because they have committed serious crimes and that some of the terrorists have killed 4, 5 or

6 even. Then, the Senior General asked the special envoy how she would feel if her relatives and friends were killed. Next, he said that innocent people numbering about 3,500 have been killed so far by the terrorists. Finally, the Senior General asked the special envoy how he could console the bereaved families.

Let the writer conclude by saying that he wants the readers to seek legal/general knowledge because the people will not be granted excuses by the court of law when they happen to commit a crime regardless of whether they know the laws, rules and regulations or not. This is the reason why the writer contributes this article to provide the law knowledge. It must be made known to all that the crimes committed by the terrorists will make the judges pass a sentence the maximum of which can be the death sentence. The writer feels sorry to have mentioned the unpleasant events but his intention is to make the readers notice that such and such crimes committed by terrorists can lead to the passage of capital punishment.

Anyway, the writer believes that the readers will have sympathy for the bereaved families whose relatives were killed mercilessly and intentionally. Additionally, it is also hoped that the readers will be able to understand why capital punishment has been imposed on terrorist criminals.

Last but not the least, no one is above the law as the saying goes. Obviously, those who commit the crimes will have punishment meted out, depending on the degree of seriousness. No wonder, those who have committed felonies will have serious punishments imposed according to the law concerned. Those who do not commit a crime by themselves but provide encouragement and support can also have the same sentence imposed. Let’s protect and preserve our union in order to ensure the prevalence of stability and peace as well as the rule of law.

Translated.

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of Service Organizations transferred and confirmed

1. The State Administration Council has transferred and appointed Dr Sai Kyaw Naing Oo, Director-General of the Department of Technical and Vocational Education and Training of the Ministry of Science and Technology, as Director-General of the Union Minister’s Office of the same ministry from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

2. The State Administration Council has confirmed the appointment of Thura U Aung Myo Myint, Managing Director of Myanmar Railways of the Ministry of Transport and Communications after the one-year probationary period.



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 23 September 2022)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 24 September 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in (Northern and Eastern) Shan, Kayah States, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Magway, Bago Regions and Kachin, Chin, Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavyfalls in Mandalay Region and isolated heavyfalls in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Magway, Taninthayi Regions and Mon State.

Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (5-7) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuations of thundery activities in the Northern Myanmar areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 September 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 September 2022: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 September 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay Region and widespread in Yangon Region.

Flood Warning

(Issued at 10:00 hrs M.S.T on 23-9-2022)

According to the (09:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Maesai River at Tachileik (Loitawkham) is observed as about (1) foot below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next (12) hours.

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the Mae Sai river banks and low lying areas at Tachilek Township to take precaution measure.

SCI/ENVIRON WORLD

After asteroid collision, Europe's Hera will probe 'crime scene'

AFTER NASA deliberately smashes a car-sized spacecraft into an asteroid next week, it will be up to the European Space Agency's Hera mission to investigate the "crime scene" and uncover the secrets of these potentially devastating space rocks.

NASA's Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) aims to collide with the asteroid moonlet Dimorphos on Monday

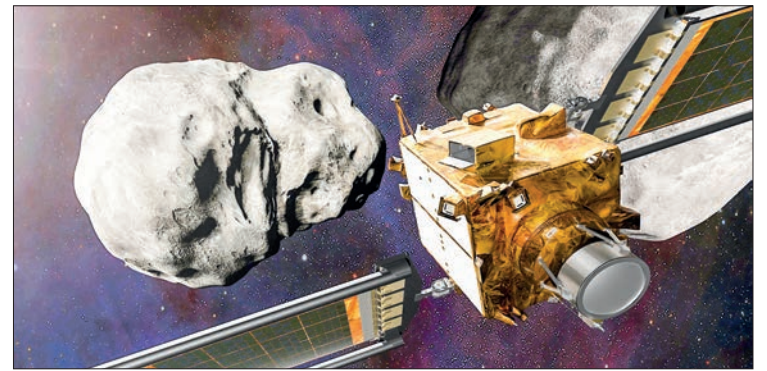
night, hoping to slightly alter its trajectory -- the first time such an operation has been attempted.

While Dimorphos is 11 million kilometres (6.8 million miles) away and poses no threat to Earth, the mission is a test run in case the world someday needs to deflect an asteroid from heading our way.

Astronomers around the world will watch DART's im-

pact, and its effect will be closely followed to see if the mission passed the test.

Then, the European Space Agency's Hera mission, named after the ancient Greek queen of the gods, will follow in its footsteps. The Hera spacecraft is planned to launch in October 2024, aiming to arrive at Dimorphos in 2026 to measure the exact impact DART had on the asteroid.—AFP



A NASA mission to deliberately smash a spacecraft into an asteroid blasts off on Monday. **PHOTO: NASA/AFP/FILE**

Asian coastal cities sinking fast: study

SPRAWLING coastal cities in South and Southeast Asia are sinking faster than elsewhere in the world, leaving tens of millions of people more vulnerable to rising sea levels, a new study says.

Rapid urbanization has seen these cities draw heavily on groundwater to service their burgeoning populations, according to research by Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU), published in the journal Nature Sustainability last week. "This puts cities experiencing rapid local land subsidence at greater risk of coastal hazards than already present due to climate-driven sea-level rise," the study says.



More than one billion people will live in coastal cities at risk of rising sea levels by 2050, according to UN. **PHOTO: AFP**

Vietnam's most-populous urban centre and main business hub, Ho Chi Minh City, was sinking an average of 16.2 millimetres (0.6 inches) annually, topping the study's survey of satellite data from 48 large coastal cities around the world.—AFP

Australian rescuers race to save stranded pilot whales

AUSTRALIAN rescuers battled Friday to refloat the last surviving pilot whales from a mass stranding that killed nearly 200 of the animals on a beach in Tasmania.

Fewer than 10 of the shiny black mammals were still alive on Ocean Beach, in remote western Tasmania, state wildlife services said.

About 30 of the animals were released into the ocean on Thursday, but some had beached themselves again, said Brendon Clark, incident controller with the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service.

Under drizzle, marine wildlife experts began wrapping up a days-long rescue operation that started after a large pod of the animals, which are part of the



Fewer than 10 of the pilot whales are still alive on Ocean Beach, in remote western Tasmania. **PHOTO: AFP**

dolphin family, stranded on the beach.

Three pilot whales had yet to be reached because of their remote location on the shore and the difficult tidal conditions,

Clark told reporters at the scene.

"The priority still is the rescue and release of those remaining animals and any others that we identify that re-strand," he said.—AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

North America's leading clean energy show to foster greener future

NORTH America's leading clean energy show is held at the Anaheim Convention Centre in Southern California this week, focusing on innovative ways and business opportunities to move the clean energy industry forward.

The show, named "RE+ 2022", brings together clean energy industry experts, leaders and professionals across the United States and overseas to expand business prospects and share best practices. The events focus on sustainable solutions in such areas as solar and wind power, energy storage, green hydrogen, electric vehicles, microgrids and more, to promote business opportunities among participants and identify ways to facilitate the clean energy industry.

Mission Solar, an American company headquartered in San Antonio, Texas, exhibited their solar energy modules at the show.

Jae Y. Yang, president and CEO of Mission Solar, told Xinhua that climate change poses increasing challenges to the whole world. Texas has seen severe heat wave and drought this year. Extreme weather has happened more frequently than before.—Xinhua

Who wants to go to the moon? Europe names astronaut candidates

THE European Space Agency announced a team of seven astronauts on Wednesday to train for NASA's Artemis mission to the moon -- but only one will have the chance to become the first European to walk on the lunar surface.

The candidates -- France's Thomas Pesquet, Britain's Tim Peake, Germany's Alexander Gerst and Matthias Maurer, Italy's Luca Parmitano and Samantha Cristoforetti, and Denmark's Andreas Mogensen -- have all completed at least one mission on board the International Space Station.

Between them, the team has the equivalent of 4.5 years in orbit and 98 hours of spacewalking, ESA communications head Philippe Willekens told journalists at the International Astronautical Congress in Paris. Three of the astronauts will be selected to go to the Lunar Gateway, a planned station that will orbit the moon.

But only one will set foot on the moon by the end of the decade. At some point, the ESA will have to decide which of the seven candidates will get to go.

"We're all candidates and what matters is to go there as a team," Pesquet told reporters at the event in Paris.

"Look, we're all wearing the same shirt," he added. Pesquet, Gerst, Maurer and Parmitano all attended wearing a navy blue polo shirt with ESA and Artemis logos.—AFP

HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

UK announces plan to boost ailing health service

THE UK government announced Thursday measures to shore up the crisis-hit NHS state-funded health service by recruiting volunteers and retired staff as well as giving a greater role to pharmacists.

While admired by many, the institution created in 1948 is creaking: struggling to timely schedule general outpatient appointments and operations, and to send out ambulances quickly.

New Prime Minister Liz Truss stressed that the NHS was one of her priorities during her campaign to lead the Conservative Party, along with boosting economic growth and helping people deal with soaring energy prices.

Health Minister Therese Coffey unveiled to lawmakers a "Plan for Patients" which aims to improve access to care, especially in winter, cutting the waiting time for non-urgent appointments with general practitioners to under two weeks and offering same-day appointments



People wearing PPE (personal protective equipment) as a precautionary measure against COVID-19, walk past a mural of an NHS worker in central London as Britain remains under lockdown during the coronavirus crisis on 22 April 2020. **PHOTO: TOLGA AKMEN / AFP/ FILE**

in emergencies.

Other measures include facilitating the recruitment of medical support staff, modernising the phone system to book appointments and allowing pharmacists to sell some medicines over-the-counter without a prescription.

She also announced the

creation of a \$500 million fund to broaden access to at-home care and free up hospital beds. Recruitment of care staff — hit by Brexit — will be stepped up.

Coffey, who is also deputy prime minister, wants a "national effort" on a similar scale to the rollout of covid vaccines.—AFP

Uganda confirms six more cases of Ebola: WHO

SIX new cases of Ebola have been found in Uganda, the World Health Organization said Thursday, after the country reported its first fatality from the highly contagious virus since 2019.

Uganda's health ministry declared an Ebola outbreak in the central district of Mubende on Tuesday, announcing the death of a 24-year-old man.

"So far, seven cases, including one death, have been confirmed to have contracted the Sudan ebolavirus," the WHO said in a statement, refer-

ring to a relatively rare strain of the virus.

"Forty-three contacts have been identified and 10 people suspected to have caught the virus are receiving treatment at the regional referral hospital in Mubende," it said. "Our experts are already on the ground working with Uganda's experienced Ebola control teams to reinforce surveillance, diagnosis, treatment and preventive measures," said Abdou Salam Gueye, regional emergency director with the WHO Regional Office for Africa. —AFP



The DRC last month recorded a new case in its violence-wracked east, less than six weeks after an epidemic in the country's northwest was declared over. **PHOTO: AFRO/WHO**

Hong Kong arrests doctors, patients for vaccine exemption 'fraud'



People wearing face masks walk on a street in south China's Hong Kong, 5 March 2022. **PHOTO: XINHUA/LO PING FAI**

SEVERAL Hong Kong doctors and more than 20 patients have been arrested over allegedly fraudulent vaccine exemption certificates, police announced Thursday.

Coronavirus vaccines are not mandatory in Hong Kong but the Chinese city uses a QR

healthcode system that denies unvaccinated people access to most public premises.

Only those with an exemption certificate issued by a doctor can still access such venues.

Police announced that five doctors, three assistants and 22 patients were arrested this

month on charges of "conspiracy to defraud" after tip-offs.

The offence carries up to 14 years in jail.

The five doctors are accused of having issued nearly 24,000 exemptions, with prices ranging from HK\$350 to over HK\$5,000 (\$44-\$640).

Police said the doctors had issued a suspiciously large number of certificates and allegedly ignored guidelines for who could be exempted.

"Citizens who avoid vaccination by making false statements are endangering public security and public health," acting senior superintendent Cheung Man-Chun told reporters.

Hong Kong has pursued a version of China's zero-Covid model throughout the pandemic with strict social distancing curbs and mandatory quarantine, even as rivals reopen.—AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Chile to offer annual COVID-19 vaccine to groups at risk

CHILE will offer the population at risk an annual vaccine against COVID-19 starting in October, Chilean Health Minister Ximena Aguilera said Thursday.

The vaccine will be available much like the annual flu shot, she said. "An annual vaccine aimed at vulnerable groups is being incorporated in a manner similar to the influenza vaccination programme and is entering the National Immunization Programme," the official said in an interview with local radio Cooperativa.

"We are not ruling out that in the future there will be greater availability for the rest of the population to be vaccinated voluntarily," she said, adding that a bivalent vaccine will be used in the annual inoculation plan against COVID-19.—Xinhua

Malawi first in southern Africa to eliminate blinding disease

MALAWI has become the first country in southern Africa to eliminate trachoma, an eye disease responsible for blinding or visually impairing nearly two million people worldwide, a global charity said Thursday. Malawi is now ranked fifth in Africa after Ghana, Morocco, The Gambia and Togo to "eliminate trachoma as a public health problem", Sightsavers, an NGO helping to put an end to avoidable blindness, said in a statement.

Only seven years ago, trachoma affected over a third of the population in the impoverished country of 20 million people.—AFP

ECONOMY

WORLD/AD

Europe throws billions at energy crisis



Russia, the main supplier of gas to many European countries, has decided to cut gas supplies to several nations in retaliation for supporting Ukraine and for not paying for gas in roubles. **PHOTO: JOE KLAMAR/AFP**

ALMOST every week now, European governments are announcing emergency measures to protect households and businesses from the energy crisis stemming from Russia's war in Ukraine.

Hundreds of billions of euros — and counting — have been shelled out so far since Russia invaded its pro-Western neighbour in late February.

Governments have gone all out: from cap-

ping gas and electricity prices to rescuing struggling energy companies and providing direct aid to household to fill up their cars. The public spending has continued even though European

Union countries already accumulated mountains of new debt to save their economies from the fallout of the Covid pandemic in 2020.

But some leaders have taken pride at their use of the public purse to battle this new crisis, which has sent inflation soaring, raised the cost of living and sparked fears of recession.

After announcing 14 billion euros (\$13.9 billion) in new measures last week, Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi boasted that this put Italy "among the countries that have spent the most in Europe".

The Bruegel institute, a Brussels-based think tank tracking energy crisis spending by EU government, ranks Italy as the second-biggest spender in Europe after Germany.—AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dollar breaks 145 yen after Bank of Japan keeps loose policy

THE US dollar hit a fresh 24-year high against the Japanese yen on Thursday, breaking through the 145 level after Japan's central bank left its ultra-loose monetary policy unchanged.

News of the Bank of Japan's decision sent the dollar surging to as much as 145.28 yen, before easing back slightly.

That call widens the gulf between Japan and other major economies, where central banks — particularly the US Federal Reserve — are hiking rates to tackle inflation. —AFP

Belgium's unions stage national strike against rising cost of living

BELGIUM'S three largest trade unions took joint action on Wednesday to demand solutions to the purchasing power crisis and to the rising energy costs affecting citizens. The three unions included the Socialist General Labour Federation (FGTB), the Confederation of Christian Trade Unions (CSC) and the General Confederation of Liberal Trade Unions (CGSLB). Around 10,000 people took part in a "national day of action" here on Wednesday, according to the FGTB, calling on the government to freeze energy prices and redistribute the energy companies' excess profits.—Xinhua

Türkiye cuts interest rate for 2nd month despite raging inflation

THE Turkish central bank on Thursday cut its benchmark rate for the second month in a row from 13 per cent to 12 per cent despite inflation running at a two-decade high.

Financial conditions remain supportive to preserve the growth momentum in industrial production and the positive trend in employment in a period of increasing uncertainties regarding global growth as well as escalating geopolitical



Tourists shop inside spice bazaar at Eminonu district in Istanbul on 16 Dec 2021. **PHOTO: OZAN KOSE/AFP**

risk, the central bank's Monetary Policy Committee said in a statement. In the aftermath of the central bank's rate-cut decision, the Turkish lira fell to a new record low of 18.42 against the US dollar. Türkiye's annual inflation hit 80.21 per cent in August, the highest in 24 years.—Xinhua

IMF condemns Lebanon 'very slow progress' on reforms

THE International Monetary Fund on Wednesday condemned Lebanon's "very slow" progress on implementing reforms needed to unlock a \$3-bil-

lion-dollar loan crucial to revive its battered economy.

Lebanon and the IMF reached a conditional agreement on the loan in

April to help the country stem its worst-ever economic crisis, which the World Bank has branded one of the planet's worst in modern times.—AFP

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **Pilarquim (Shanghai) Co.,Ltd** has registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "**MARGA MIN CO.,LTD**", to new distributor name "**NAWARAT MYAY CO.,LTD**". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. **MARGA MIN CO.,LTD**. Ph-09401646617.

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Pilar-Combine	Azoxystrobin 10.5% + Propiconazole 17.5% SE	P2022-4700

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **Jiangsu Mindleader Crop Science Co.,Ltd** has registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "**Myanmar Nicely Crop Science Co.,Ltd**", to new distributor name "**NAWARAT MYAY CO.,LTD**". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. **Myanmar Nicely Crop Science Co.,Ltd**. Ph-09401646617.

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Pilargold	S-Metolachlor 45% CS	P2022-5055

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **Zibo NAB Agrochemicals Limited** has registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "**Topagri Myanmar Co.,Ltd**", to new distributor name "**Golden Lion High Tech Agricultural Resources Co.,Ltd**". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. **Topagri Myanmar Co.,Ltd** Ph-09401646617.

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	NAB-Gibb 20 TB	Gibberellic Acid 20% TB	F2021-3254

Japan to launch domestic travel subsidy programme on 11 Oct

JAPAN will launch a new subsidy programme to boost domestic tourism on 11 Oct, the same day it plans to remove its daily cap for overseas arrivals as part of easing COVID-19 border control measures.

The “National Travel Discount,” which Prime Minister Fumio Kishida announced Thursday in New York, will replace the “Go To Travel” subsidy programme and expand similar existing pro-

grammes operating at the prefectural level.

The scheme is expected to provide the equivalent of up to 11,000 yen (\$77) in coupons per traveller per day which can be used for meals, shopping

and accommodation fees.

The government plans to announce details of the programme as early as Monday, but it has raised doubts about whether it will boost regional economies.—Kyodo



Boeing fined \$200 million by US SEC for misleading investors about safety of 737 MAX. Boeing 737 airplanes are pictured on the company's production line, on 27 March 2019 in Renton, Washington. **PHOTO: STEPHEN BRASHEAR/AFP / FILE**

US charges Boeing with misleading investors on 737 MAX safety, fined \$200 mln

US securities officials over the aviation giant's misleading assurances about the safety of the 737 MAX airplane following two deadly crashes, regulators announced Thursday.

Boeing agreed to the penalty to settle charges it “negligently violated the antifraud

provisions” of US securities laws, the Securities and Exchange Commission said in a statement, saying the company and its leader “put profits over people”.

Boeing's former chief executive, Dennis Muilenburg, also agreed to pay \$1 million to settle the same charges in the civil case.—AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V VASI STAR VOY.NO. (180E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V VASI STAR VOY.NO. (180E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **24-9-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AYIT** 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 VASI SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HENG TAI HONG VOY.NO. (V.303)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HENG TAI HONG VOY.NO. (V.303)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **25-9-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** 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 CHUN AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO LTD

PESTICIDE TRADE NAME CHANGE ADVERTISING

The following two pesticides are distributed by **AGRO GREEN LAND CHEMICAL CO.,LTD** and here we would like to pesticide trade name change advertising. Anyone who would like to object or inquiry about new trade name contact within 14 days to Joint-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon. **AGRO GREEN LAND CHEMICAL CO.,LTD 09-978999155.**

Sr.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Number
1	Mesoatra	Shel Pyaung	Atrazine 50% + Mesotrione 5% SC	E2021-5395

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **Hangzhou Pinli Chemical Co.,Ltd** has registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name “**WAI SHINN YONE KYI LIN CO.,LTD**”, to new distributor name “**Farm Link Co.,Ltd**”. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. **WAI SHINN YONE KYI LIN CO.,LTD. Ph- Ph-09969007222**

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Corn Hope	Atrazine 20% + Mesotrione 5% OD	E2021-5399

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **Pilarquim (Shanghai) Co.,Ltd** has registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name “**Seinn Lae Thwin Co.,Ltd**”, to new distributor name “**Myanmar Golden Sun Crop Science Co.,Ltd**”. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. **Seinn Lae Thwin Co.,Ltd Ph-09401646617.**

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Pilarspirit	Cyhalofop-butyl 15% + Penoxsulam 2% OD	P2021-5433



Announcement to Shareholders

1. We are pleased to announce that 30th Annual General Meeting (2021-2022 FY) of Myanmar Citizens Bank Ltd. is soon to be held. The meeting will be arranged in accord with the bank's Articles of Association and Memorandum of Association. Thus, some directors shall terminate at the end of their terms and new directors shall be elected for their places as per existing Articles of Association.
2. Candidates shall have to submit their applications to the Central Bank of Myanmar in advance before the Meeting. Accordingly any Special Account Holders at Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB) and Security Account Holders at Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) willing to be elected as the directors, among individuals with the shares of MMK 5,000,000 (Five Million Kyats) and above, and companies/associations with MMK 10,000,000 (Ten Million Kyats) and above at the closing on 30.9.2022 as set by MCB Board of Directors, may visit MCB at No-383, Maharbandula Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon and submit your applications by 16:30 on 4.10.2022.
3. Candidates must meet the qualifications stated in sub-clause 1 to 8 of Clause 76 (b) of Section 10, the Financial Institutions Law.
4. Please note to bring NRC (original), 1 photo (license photo size) and proof documents for the ownership of shares along with you at the time of application. We shall announce the time and venue of Annual General Meeting later. For More information, please contact our Administration Department at 01-8386023 and 01-8386029.

Myanmar Citizens Bank Ltd

THE CITIZENS' CHOICE

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

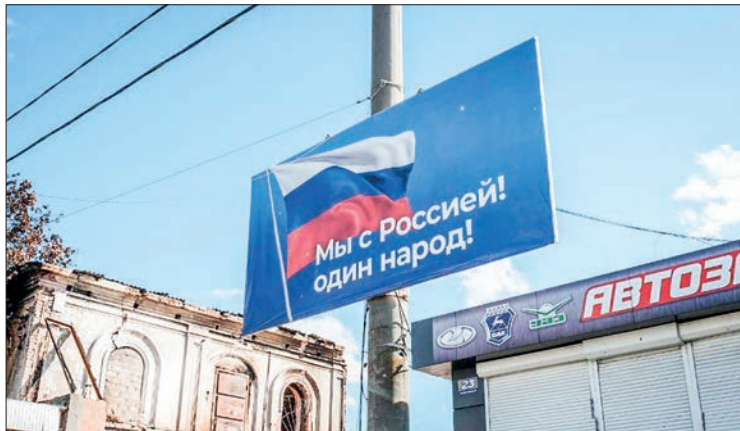
RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Russia holds breakaway polls in Ukraine

MOSCOW-HELD regions of Ukraine began voting Friday on whether to become part of Russia, in referendums that Kyiv and its allies have condemned as an unlawful land grab.

The referendums in eastern Donetsk and Lugansk regions, as well as in the southern Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions have been roundly dismissed as a sham by Kyiv's Western allies.

They come after Putin announced this week a mandatory troop call-up for about 300,000 reservists, which also sparked resounding condemnation in the West. The mobilization comes after Ukrainian forces seized back most of the northeastern Kharkiv region in a huge counter-offensive that has seen Kyiv retaking hundreds of towns and villages under Russian control



A photograph shows a billboard with a message which reads as "We are with Russia, one nation" with a Russian flag waving in Kupiansk, Kharkiv region, on 19 September 2022, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine. **PHOTO: YASUYOSHI CHIBA / AFP**

for months.

The four regions' integration into Russia — which for most observers is already a foregone conclusion — would represent a major new escalation of the conflict.

"We cannot — we will not — allow President Putin to get away with it," US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said in a UN Security Council session on Thursday, lashing out against the referendums as a "sham".—AFP

Erdogan emerges a key mediator in Ukraine war

A mysterious reference on US television to an imminent Russia-Ukraine prisoner swap highlights Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's unique role as mediator and friend of both sides in time of war.

Erdogan flew to New York from a meeting in Uzbekistan with Russian President Vladimir Putin — his third in three months — to tell US viewers on Monday that the Kremlin "is willing to end this (war) as soon as possible".

"Two hundred hostages will be exchanged upon agreement between the parties," Erdogan said in the interview without giving away further details.

Putin's decision to partially call up reservists and raise the threat of nuclear warfare less than two days later appeared to lay Erdogan's best intentions to waste. But an announcement late Wednesday that Russia and Ukraine were exchanging some 200 prisoners helped to validate Erdogan's efforts to walk a fine

line and stay "neutral" in Europe's bloodiest conflict since World War II.

The prisoner swap adds to a growing list of diplomatic successes Erdogan is using to brandish his image as a global statesman nine months before an election that polls show he might conceivably lose.

"Turkish diplomacy has been faultless since the start of the war," France's former US and UN ambassador Gerard Araud remarked.—AFP

Finland set to "limit or stop" entry of Russian tourists

FINLAND said Wednesday it is preparing a national solution to "limit or completely prevent" tourism from Russia following the invasion of Ukraine.

"This national solution may include new legislation, which would be adopted very quickly," Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto told a press conference.

Since Russia's Covid-19 re-

strictions expired in July, there has been a boom in Russian travellers and a rising backlash in Europe against allowing in Russian tourists while the war continues. Finland drastically limited tourist visas for Russians in September. But they continue to enter Finland with visas issued by other EU countries in the Schengen borderless travel area.—AFP



Travellers stand in front of a departures board inside Terminal 2 of Helsinki Airport, Vantaa, Finland, 19 August 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

Orban wants EU sanctions on Russia lifted by year end: Report

HUNGARIAN Prime Minister Viktor Orban wants EU sanctions on Russia over its invasion of Ukraine lifted by year end, a pro-government daily newspaper said Thursday.

Orban, who has sought close ties with Russian President Vladimir Putin in recent years, has frequently railed against the sanctions, saying they are hurting Europe more than Russia.

Magyar Nemzet reported that Orban urged members of his Fidesz party at a closed-door gathering late Wednesday to get the sanctions lifted.

"According to our information... Orban called on the members of the Fidesz faction to do their utmost to ensure that Europe lifts these sanctions by the end of the year at the latest," the daily said.—AFP

WORLD: TOP STORY

French police bust major people-smuggling ring

FRENCH police have busted a major people-smuggling ring that has been sending migrants to Britain in dinghies, seizing more than a dozen boats and 700 life jackets in a raid, French officials said Thursday.

The ring, run by Iraqi Kurdish migrants, had a logistics hub in Lille, a northern French city about 100km from the Channel beaches around Calais used for

crossings.

Three Iraqi men have been charged, along with three French suspects after their arrest on Monday.

Police discovered "a real factory supplying nautical equipment" in Lille, Xavier Delrieu, the head of Ocriest, the French agency battling illegal migration, told AFP.

In what was their biggest

ever seizure of equipment, they found 13 inflatable boats, 14 outboard engines, 700 life jackets, 100 pumps and 700 litres of fuel, Delrieu said.

The group is suspected of having organised 80 Channel crossings over the summer, of which 50 succeeded, with the smugglers netting around €80,000 (US\$80,000) for each one.—AFP

Migrants are seen on UK Border Force vessel HMC Speedwell, after they were picked up at sea and brought to the Marina in Dover, southeast England, on 21 December 2021. **PHOTO: BEN STANSALL / AFP**



NEWS IN
BRIEF

China's former senior official Fu Zhenghua sentenced to death with reprieve

FORMER senior official Fu Zhenghua on Thursday was sentenced to death with a two-year reprieve for taking bribes worth more than 117 million yuan (16.76 million US dollars) and bending the law for personal gains.

The Intermediate People's Court of Changchun in northeast China's Jilin Province established that Fu, former deputy head of the Committee on Social and Legal Affairs of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, took bribes by abusing power in various positions he held between 2005 and 2021.

The court also found that Fu, when working as head of the Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau from 2014 to 2015, shielded his younger brother who was suspected of serious crimes from investigation and prosecution.—Xinhua

Israel PM: World must use force if Iran builds nuclear bomb

THE international community should use military force if Iran develops nuclear weapons, Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid told the United Nations on Thursday, as he reiterated support for creation of a "peaceful" Palestinian state.

Israel has been conducting an intense diplomatic offensive in recent months to try to persuade the United States and main European powers such as Britain, France and Germany not to renew the 2015 Iran nuclear deal.—AFP

Japan, Brazil, Germany, India repeat call for UN reform



Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi, for right, and his G-4 counterparts from Brazil, Germany and India are pictured in New York, on 22 September 2022. PHOTO: JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY/KYODO

JAPAN, Brazil, Germany and India on Thursday reiterated their call for United Nations reform given the world body's "inability" to address global conflicts, amid Russia's protracted war in Ukraine.

The foreign ministers of the

Group of Four nations seeking to become permanent members of the UN Security Council said the inability of that body to effectively tackle global challenges demonstrates the "urgent need" for its reform to better reflect realities, according to a joint statement

issued after their meeting in New York.

Calling for reform of the 15-member decision-making organ of the United Nations to make it "more representative, legitimate and effective", the G-4 ministers said they are determined to work towards "commencing text-based negotiations without further delay".

Their call came as the war in Ukraine launched by Russia in late February has put a spotlight on the dysfunction of the Security Council in dealing with conflicts between nations. Russia is one of the five veto-wielding permanent Security Council members, along with Britain, China, France and the United States. All are nuclear powers. On Wednesday, US President Joe Biden called for an expansion of the Security Council, among other reforms, during his speech to the UN General Assembly, citing growing challenges posed by the Russian war.—Kyodo

11 police hurt at Mexico protest over missing students

A protest to demand justice for 43 Mexican students who disappeared in 2014 turned violent on Thursday, leaving 11 police officers injured, authorities said.

A confrontation took place outside the attorney general's office in Mexico City after demonstrators gathered, calling for people linked to the case to be arrested.

"Some protesters physical-

ly assaulted officers and threw explosive devices at them," Mexico City's public security secretariat said in a statement.

"Consequently, 11 police were injured by firecrackers and bruises from blows to different parts of the body," it said.

The officers were taken to hospital for evaluation and were found to be out of danger, the statement said.—AFP



Protesters demanding justice for 43 Mexican students who disappeared in 2014 paint graffiti outside the attorney general's office in Mexico City. PHOTO: AFP

US aircraft carrier arrives in South Korea to 'deter' Pyongyang

A US aircraft carrier arrived in South Korea Friday for the first time in nearly five years, ahead of joint drills in a show of force aimed at the nuclear-armed North.

The nuclear-powered USS Ronald Reagan and vessels from its strike group docked in the southern port city of Busan, part of a push by Seoul and Washington to have more US strategic assets operating in the region.

South Korea's hawkish President Yoon Suk-yeol, who took office in May, has vowed to beef up joint military exercises with the United States, after years of failed diplomacy with North Korea under his predecessor. "The deployment of the carrier USS Ronald Reagan to Busan demonstrates the strength of the South Korea-US alliance," a South Korean defence ministry official told AFP.

The visit aims to "deter North Korea's nuclear and mis-



The USS Ronald Reagan, seen here in 2019, and two other American warships will conduct joint drills with South Korea. PHOTO: CATHERINE LAI/AFP/FILE

sile threats", the official added.

Pyongyang has conducted a record-breaking blitz of weapons tests this year, and earlier this month revised its nuclear law, enshrining a "first strike" doctrine and vowing never to give up its nukes.

The US Navy said the USS Ronald Reagan is accompanied on the South Korea visit by two vessels from its strike group — the USS Chancellorsville, a guided-missile cruiser, and the USS Barry, a guided missile destroyer.—AFP



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 Traditional Chinlone tourney held in Yangon



MYANMAR Traditional Chinlone (Cane Ball) Tournament supervised by the Myanmar Traditional Chinlone Federation was held at National Indoor Stadium-I in Yangon yesterday morning.

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Soe Thein gave an opening speech to the tournament, and President of the Myanmar Traditional Chinlone Federation U Thet Lwin opened the tournament by explaining the purpose for hold-

ing the tournament.

Afterwards, the Yangon Region chief minister and regional ministers, the president of the Myanmar Traditional Chinlone Federation and officials greeted coaches and athletes and watched the first-day competition.

Over 180 athletes from 18 teams participated in the Ten Men's Competition and Six Men's Competition of the traditional tourney. — Bala Soe/ GNLM

Athletes compete in the Myanmar Traditional Chinlone (Cane Ball) Tournament at National Indoor Stadium I in Yangon on 23 September 2022. **PHOTO: BALA SOE**

Brazilian footballer Kaka to make marathon debut in Berlin

FORMER World Cup-winning footballer Kaka will make his debut at the Berlin Marathon on Sunday, saying he was "just as excited as I used to be before football matches". Kaka, who played for Real Madrid and AC Milan before retiring in 2017, said his father's struggle with Covid-19 had inspired him to run the marathon. "He was 45 days in hospital", Kaka said at the Berlin marathon press conference on Friday. "Fortunately, he is with us today." Kaka's father and brother will take part in the "family experience" of the marathon.—AFP

Mbappe revels in greater 'freedom' with France

KYLIAN Mbappe admitted he enjoys having more "freedom" when playing for France than he does with Paris Saint-Germain after his superb goal set the World Cup holders on their way to a 2-0 win over Austria on Thursday.

"I play differently here. I am asked to do different things than with my club. I have much more freedom," Mbappe said after the game at the Stade de France, where victory for Les Bleus allowed them to stave off the threat of relegation from the top tier of the UEFA Nations League.

Mbappe's opener was followed by a second goal from Olivier Giroud for a France side who won despite an ongoing injury crisis.

The 23-year-old PSG superstar has to share the limelight at his club with both Lionel Messi and Neymar, with the Brazilian currently their top scorer.—AFP



Kylian Mbappe scored a stunning opening goal as France shook off injuries to a host of key players and a series of off-field issues to claim a welcome 2-0 win over Austria in the UEFA Nations League in Paris on Thursday. **PHOTO: AFP**