

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IX, No. 142, 11th Waxing of Tawthalin 1384 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Monday, 5 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.

Myanmar high-level delegation led by SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing arrives in Russia to attend 7th Eastern Economic Forum-2022

AT the invitation of the Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) of the Government of the Russian Federation, the Myanmar high-level delegation led by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing left Nay Pyi Taw Military Airport by the special flight of Myanmar Airways International yesterday morning to attend the 7th Eastern Economic Forum-2022.

The Senior General and party were seen off by SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, SAC members, the SAC secretary, Union Ministers, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of the Russian Federation to Myanmar Mr Pavel A Klabukov, Russian Military Attaché to Myanmar Colonel Sergei Kurchenko and officials at the airport.

The Senior General is accompanied by SAC members U Moungh Har and U Saw Daniel, Council Joint-Secretary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo and Union-level officials, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Deputy Ministers from the Ministry of



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing being seen off by Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of the Russian Federation to Myanmar Mr Pavel A Klabukov, Russian Military Attaché to Myanmar Colonel Sergei Kurchenko and officials at Nay Pyi Taw Military Airport on 4 September.

Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Information, and military and civil officials.

During the trip, the Senior General and officials will attend the 7th Eastern Economic Forum, meet with officials of the government of the Russian Federation, and visit landmarks

in the Russian Federation, universities and factories. Union ministers, deputy ministers and officials will hold working discussions and meetings in respective sectors in order to further cement cooperation in friendly relations, economic and other sectors between gov-

ernments and peoples of both countries.

On arrival at Vladivostok International Airport in the Russian Federation in the afternoon local standard time, the Myanmar high-level delegation led by the Senior General was welcomed by Deputy Governor

of Vladivostok Mr Stegny Daria and officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Russia U Lwin Oo and Myanmar Military Attaché to Russia (Army, Navy and Air) Brig-Gen Moe Kyaw, the Director General and officials of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—MNA

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

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

In order to prevent the unnecessary loss of human resources, the State Administration Council has publicly invited the basic education staff who are absent from duty to resume their duties and those who take

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

The government opens reception centres in bor-

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

*Information Team
State Administration Council*

All media persons need to uphold the national interests of the nation



MPC Chairman U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe) recounts experiences in cooperation with international press councils on 3 September.

THE Myanmar Press Council recounted its experiences on cooperation with international media councils in its third term, at the hall of Printing and Publishing Department on Theinbyu Road in Yangon on 3 September.

On the occasion, Chairman of the council U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe) said that currently, occurrence of evil events across the nation was based on fake news and false information. Hence, me-

dia and news agencies need to strive for rebutting fake news and fabricated news and disseminating true news not only to the people but also to the international community. MPC frequently held discussions and exchanged information with media councils from ASEAN states and other international media councils. All media persons need to uphold the national interests of the nation.

The chairman explained participation of the MPC per-

sonnel in the World Association of Press Councils held in Nairobi of Kenya from 2 to 8 May 2022, and Secretary U Aye Chan the Dili Dialogue Forum in Timor-Leste on 25 and 26 August.

The chairman gave a concluding remark, saying that all media personnel need to review internal and international affairs. As some political measures are sensitive, media persons have to enhance their capacity with political outlook in creation of information.—MNA

Public Notification

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

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

- Auto telephone number - 067 409 883
- Mobile phone - 09 404339969
- Fax - 067 409 886
- Email address - antiillegaltradeinfo@gmail.com

Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee

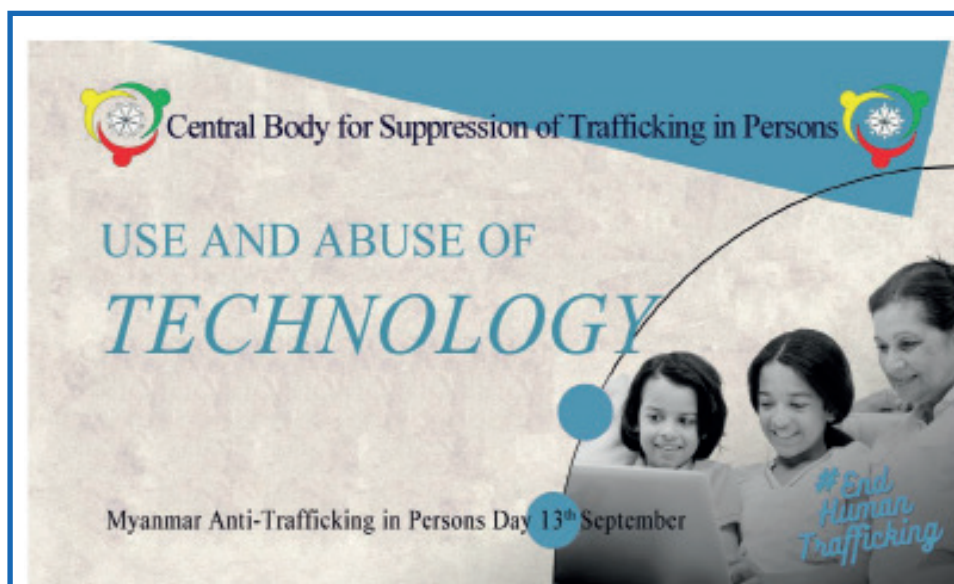
Public Notification

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

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

- Auto telephone number - 067 409 881
- Mobile phone - 09 699611116
- Fax - 067 409 887
- Email address - antiillegaltradeoffice@gmail.com

Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee



2022 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Days' Objectives

- * To mobilize the participation of all citizens in combatting human trafficking as a national duty;
- * To have the public instilled with awareness about and knowledge of trafficking in persons;
- * To protect and care trafficked victims with empathy; and
- * To strengthen cooperation and coordination among all counter trafficking stakeholders government agencies, civil society organizations, UN agencies, international organizations and general public.

Create chances for youth for pursuing higher education

REGARDING the pursuit of higher education, matriculates are needed to be encouraged to go more to technological universities and computer universities. Arrangements are being made to open more agricultural institutes, livestock breeding institutes and technical high schools to enable the production of human resources required for agriculture, livestock breeding and technical businesses.

(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)

Deputy Information Minister inspects information services in Ayeyawady Region



DEPUTY Minister for Information U Ye Tint met heads and staff of the Maubin District and Pantanaw and Nyaungdon Township Information and Public Relations Departments at Maubin District office in Ayeyawady region on 3 September. And then, he also met with heads and staff of Pyapon district and Dedaye and Kyaiklat Township IPRDs at Pyapon district IPRD office in the evening.

He toured offices of Bogale and Mawlamyinegyun township IPRDs yesterday morning and that of Wakema, Einme, Kyaunggon and Danubyu township

IPRDs in the afternoon.

While in meetings, he urged staff to follow the health protocols of the COVID-19 issued by the Ministry of Health due to still infection of virus, dutifully serve the assigned tasks as good civil servants and collaborate with relevant departments to educate young people for having correct attitude and cooperate in regional development activities.

He inspected TV retransmission stations in Bogale and Kyaunggon townships and instructed officials to maintain machines and take care of security. —Township IPRD/GNLM

Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Tint meets officials of IPRD in districts and townships of Ayeyawady Region on 4 September.

Mobile market vehicle sells foodstuff to city dwellers in Yangon

THE Yangon City Development Committee sold goods through the mobile market system yesterday so that people can shop easily.

Mingala Toungnyunt, Thakayta, Latha, Dagon Myothit (South), and Botahtaung townships were included in the programme.

The Yangon mayor and officials inspected the sale of foodstuffs to the residents on Zabuthiri Road, Thakayta Township and distributed masks to the sellers and buyers.

They also observed sell-

ing of palm oil to local people at K5,100 per viss, and 0.5 viss of oil each was sold per household and 10 eggs each were available per household at K175 per egg.

At Hanthawady tax-free market in Kamayut Township, the mayor inspected sanitation at the market and selling of goods in the market under the guidelines of the Ministry of Health regarding the prevention and control of the COVID-19 disease.

He also visited Hanthawady golf training ground and Hanthawady nursery, and No



Mayor U Bo Htay visits Hanthawady tax-free market in Kamayut Township on 4 September.

1 Transit Centre where preparations are being made to ac-

commodate contestants to the Myanmar Traditional Cultur-

al Performing Arts Competitions.—MNA

70 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 4 September, total figure rises to 615,559

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **615,559** after **70** new cases were reported on 4 September 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **593,794** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll still stands at **19,440** after one patient died.

COVID-19 vaccine is being injected to those of priority groups in regions and states for prevention and control of the disease. Up to 3-9-2022, a total of **30,399,600** people above 18 have been vaccinated. A total of **6,430,146** people under 18 have been vaccinated. —MNA

CRIME NEWS

Illegal teak, consumer goods, personal goods, medical accessories, household electronic devices, industrial materials, vehicles seized

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

An on-duty inspection team under the supervision of the Customs Department inspected at the airport cargo garage at the Yangon International Airport on 1 September. Officials found 200 cans of Leica Paraplast Plus at an estimated value of K3.5 million and the action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Similarly, a combined team under the supervision of the Anti-Illegal trade task force of



Undeclared Industrial materials seized at Myanmar industrial port Container Inspection Camp on 3 September.

Sagaing Region, led by Myanmar Police Force searched a Yamaha

motorcycle without licence estimated K700,000 in Shwebo and the action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

A combined team comprising official of the Customs department conducted inspection at the Asia World Container Inspection Camp on 2 September. They seized household electronic devices estimated K1,445,000 from a container, not declared at the ID and the action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Furthermore, an on-duty inspection team under the supervision of the Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force of Shan State performed

inspection at Mehan checkpoint on Lashio detour. They found cartons of Dali Beers and Loutus flower detergents without official documents, estimated at K12.11 million and a Nissan 12-wheel truck, estimated at K20 million. The total worth of the seizures amounted to K32.11 million and the action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

At Myanmar Industrial Port container inspection camp, a combined team from officials of various departments found indus-

partment served inspection at Khabaung forest reserve in Otwin Township of Toungoo District. They found 3.7596 tonnes of illegal teak estimated at K1,843,776 and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

A combined team under the supervision of Customs Department of Shan State conducted inspection at Yaypu checkpoint on 3 September. They found a Suzuki swift estimated at K6 million near the Yaypu checkpoint and the action was taken under the



Dali Beer cartons and Loutus flower detergent bags seized at Mehan Checkpoint in Lashio on 2 September.

trial materials, which were not included in ID from a container estimated at K11.76 million and the action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Similarly, a combined team led by Bago Region Forest De-

partments.

Therefore, nine cases at estimated value of K57,358,776 were taken action from 1 to 3 September, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA



Illegal household goods seized at Asia World Container Inspection Camp on 2 September.

Drugs seized in some townships

A combined team consisting of members of the Taninthayi Region Police Force examined a motorbike driven by Saw Aye accompanied by Kyaw San Lin near Yengangyi village in Bokpyin Township at 5 pm on 1 September and seized 2,000 stimulant tablets.

In addition, at 10:50 pm on 2 September, a combined team including the Anti-Narcotic Task Force Police searched an express bus near Wetwun Village of Py-

inOoLwin Township and captured 29,250 stimulant tablets.

Similarly, at 6 pm on the same day, Police searched a motorbike driven by Tu Ja on Lashio-Muse Union Highway near Oriental tollgate in Muse township and seized 1,800 stimulant tablets.

The suspects are prosecuted under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, according to the MPF. — MNA



Kyaw San Lin and Saw Aye nabbed with stimulant tablets in Bokpyin Township on 1 September.

Daily newspapers available online

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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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.

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Region Advocate-General instructs district law officers to give advices for cases under the law

U Htay Aung, the Advocate-General of Yangon Region on 3 September stressed the need for district law officers to correctly advise the cases under the law at the coordination meeting among law officers from 14 district law offices newly established in Yangon Region.

“District law offices are newly opened, so they may face many difficulties, but these difficulties must be successfully overcome. Special attention needs to be paid to ensuring that cases should be advised correctly in accordance with the law. Those law officers need to cooperate with relevant departments at the district level,”

said the Region Advocate-General.

The four district courts are revoked, and new 14 district courts are formed on 17 August by the statement of Chief Justice of the Union.

With the approval of the Union Government Meeting No 5/2022 held on 29 July 2022, the organizational setups of the District Courts were confirmed in order to carry out judicial activities in the districts. —TWA/GNLM

Photo shows Dekkhina District Court in Nay Pyi Taw.



COVID-19 vaccine drive continues in various states, regions

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

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

On 3 and 4 September, doctors and nurses from public hospitals, medical teams from the Tatmadaw, relevant healthcare workers in collaboration with



A student in Mandalay Region gets COVID-19 vaccine shot yesterday.

volunteers gave COVID-19 vaccines to 6,673 people from twenty-six townships in Ayeyawady Region, 1,763 people from four townships in Rakhine and Chin states and 17,119 from seven districts in Mandalay Region, respectively.

Similarly on that day, healthcare officials gave the

vaccines to 1,005 students from three townships in Rakhine State and 638 students from seven districts in Mandalay Region.

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

Reference wholesale price set as K5,220 per viss of palm oil

IT was announced yesterday that it would take action under the Important Goods and Services Act if the persons raise prices, illegally store goods and commit scams in the domestic market.

The Committee for the Supervision of the Import and Distribution of Edible Oils under the Ministry of Commerce has issued a statement in a bid to manage the domestic palm oil prices.

Depending on the daily monitoring of FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, transportation costs, bank expenses, and basic wholesales reference price to be traded in the local market are taken into account, including taxes for setting the proper prices.

According to market and price in the world's palm oil exporters this week, the committee has announced the basic Yangon Reference Wholesale Price of palm oil is K5,220 per viss within 5 and 11 September.

It has also been notified that any illegal activities, such as stocking to raise prices and selling in the domestic market, will be prosecuted under the Important Goods and Services Act.

These basic wholesale quotes are available on the Department of Consumer Affairs website: www.doca.gov.mm and on the Facebook page of the Myanmar Oil Traders and Oil Entrepreneurs Association. —MNA

Public Notice

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

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

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Plan underway to reopen Covid-19 treatment centre at Yoma Yeiktha

YOMA Yeiktha Covid-19 treatment centre in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township will be reopened on 5 September due to growing number of infected persons.

On his inspection tour of the Yeiktha, the Yangon Region Chief Minister fulfilled the needs of the centre. The Yeiktha has been facilitated with beds, mosquito nets and personal goods to accommodate 300 patients in addition to oxygen cylinders and tanks.

Currently, Yoma Yeiktha provides quarantine facilities with healthcare services to the persons who came back to Myanmar from abroad via relief flight and maritime route.

The centre plans to reopen three treatment buildings where sanitation and maintenance of the buildings and oxygen plant are being carried out. The centre was used as healthcare service centre for suspect patients and approved ones in 2020 when the Covid-19 pandemic broke out.



Yoma Yeiktha treatment centre in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township in 2020.

At 8 pm on 3 September, 90 persons in 8,323 laboratory tests were found virus, accounting for 1.08 per cent. A total of 55 persons were discharged from hospitals and kept home, accounting for 96.47 per cent. On that day, no one was dead. Since the outbreak of disease, a total of

615,489 persons were infected, 593,745 persons of whom were discharged from hospital, leaving 19,439 persons dead, accounting for 3.16 per cent dead rate with eight per cent of foreign transmission and 92 per cent of local ones, according to the Ministry of Health.—TWA/GNLM

CBM to provide more US dollars for fuel and cooking oil importers if necessary



The jetty of Thilawa Port arranged to admit handling of fuel loading and unloading in July.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar plans to provide more US dollars for importers of fuel and cooking oil if necessary, according to the CBM. The CBM released a press release, saying that it has arranged to loan US\$200 million to those importers in the early September.

The CBM will provide Trading Finance if necessary, according to the statement of 3

September. In addition, as the CBM is making arrangements for financial ease in the foreign exchange market, AD banks and exporters and importers are instructed by the CBM to follow the arrangements of the CBM.

It is also stated that effective measures will be taken as the media reports about the current foreign currency prices

in the market cause public concern. In addition, companies operating in the export sector are instructed to transfer the income from the export sector to the foreign exchange market within 30 days. AD licensed banks also urged to re-introduce the purchased foreign currency into the foreign currency market to support the country's economy.—TWA/GNLM

Consumption of breakfast costs higher

AT present, people unavoidably spend higher costs on consumption of breakfast. Prices of noodle meal and Monhinga are increased by K200 by restaurants and around K100 by vendor shops. The restaurants sell K1,200/K1,400 per dish of noodle meal and Monhinga without fritters and vendor shops K600/K700 per dish.

Prices of noodle salad and noodle meal sold at K1,000 per dish in the past was risen by K100 or K200 depending on the decoration of shops, Ko Kyaw Kyaw of Lanmadaw Township told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

Due to rising the prices of condensed milk and sugar, teashops rise prices of tea by K100/K200 per cup, said Ko Hla Oo told the GNLM.

Famous teashops sell cups of tea at the prices ranging from K700 to K1,000 whereas ordinary shops rise price of tea to K600 per cup, up from K500. Likewise, snacks such as Indian flat bread, deep-fried dough sticks and Chinese dumpling were also raised by K100 each this month, fetching K350 per piece of Indian flat bread and K250/K300 per piece of deep-fried dough sticks.

Breakfast shops sell K700 per dish of fried rice, up from K500. So, people need to spend K200/K300 more cost on

breakfast per day.

Moreover, household consumption rate also rises, said house wife Daw Myint Khaing. Grocery shops sell K200 per sachet of coffee mix, K2,000 per tinned condensed milk and K6,000 per bag of milk powder, Ma Than Win told the GNLM.

A viss of flour noodle is priced at K4,000 this month, up from K3,600, said Ko Than Win from Lanmadaw.

Likewise, vendors sell a piece of bread at K600 and three pieces K1,500 this month, up from K400 per piece of bread and K1,000 per three pieces of bread last year.

As prices of flour and other materials rise, various kinds of Chinese snacks get good prices at K300 per piece this month, up from K100 per piece last year, said Ko Hla of Latha Township.

Currently, vendors also sell boiled chickpea at K700 per viss, K500 per packet of steamed glutinous rice and K400 per piece of Myanmar pancake.

Hence, most of the people criticize that as cost of breakfast is some K200 higher on a daily basis depending on rising prices of materials, a family needs to spend K500 to K1,000 more cost on daily breakfast rather than the past.—TWA/GNLM



Some dishes of breakfast displayed to attract consumers at higher prices.

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LOCAL BUSINESS

Trade worth \$ 50.438 million handled at two trade zones

ACCORDING to the statistics of the Ministry of Commerce, the trade volume worth US\$ 50.438 million was handled at Myawady and 105th-mile Muse trade zones.

During the period from 13 to 19 August, Myawady trade zone exported goods worth of \$11.008 million and imported \$26.932 million worth of goods, with a total trade volume of \$37.940 million.

Compared to the previous week's operations, export volume increased by \$0.675 million and imports by \$2.594 million, resulting in an increase in the \$1.269 million worth trade volume.

In the group of agricultural produce, the export value of rice powder, chilli pepper, and cabbage decreased by \$0.159 million, while the export value of aquatic products, including variety of fish, shrimp, crab, and eel exports decreased by \$0.78 million.

In the animal products group, the value of live cattle exports decreased by \$0.327 million.

In export of other goods,

the cost of goods decreased by \$0.079 million, but the finished industrial goods increased by \$0.844 million.

As for imports this week, the value of the investment group decreased by \$0.337 million and the value of the industrial raw materials group decreased by \$0.357 million, while the value of the consumer goods group increased by \$1.288 million.

To meet and exceed the trade volume target from the Myawady Trade Zone, officials are coordinating with relevant departments and organizations to promote trade in a timely manner.

Similarly, exports from the Muse 105th-mile trade zone on the Myanmar-China border from 13 to 18 August amounted to \$7.206 million. Imports reached \$5.292 million and total trade volume reached \$12.498 million.

Compared to the operation of the previous week, the export value increased by \$0.543 million and the import value decreased by \$0.143 million, so the trade vol-



Muse 105th-mile trade zone.

ume increased by \$0.40 million.

The export value was higher than the activity of the previous week because more rice, green beans, ginger and rubber were exported this week.

Import value decreased due to very few amount of steel and related machines, farming ma-

chines and chemicals are being imported but more motorcycle spare parts, corrugated iron sheets, paper, bulbs and lamps, agricultural trailers, other vehicles, and petroleum products were imported in a mass number.

This week, Mandalay-Muse

freight rates for rice, green beans, and rubber is 200 kyats per Kg. According to the Muse 105th-Mile Trade Zone, one bag of imported humus is K4,900-K5,000, and the transportation charges have not changed as per the previous week.—TWA/GNLM

Mung bean growing acreage can decline in next season: MTPO

THE mung bean growing acreage can decline in the next bean cultivation season, according to Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization. Despite the price of mung bean being high in the market currently, the higher costs of fuel oil, bean seeds and other inputs can cause a decline in bean cultivation acreage, it is learnt. Additionally, the yield per acre can also decline.

According to the review of the Ayeya Trade Centre, the price hike of the mung beans is not natural: it is merely the result of an unnatural hike in the exchange rate of Myanmar Kyat versus the US dollar. On 31 August, the exchange rate rose to around K4,500 per one US dollar, causing the mung bean price to rise to K2.1 million per tonne in the domestic market. Similarly, the price of pigeon peas rose to K21,20,000 per tonne on 31 August, which is a record high.

Furthermore, the price hike can also be attributed to the soaring price in Chennai and Mumbai markets at the end of August as



Farming workers are sorting mung bean seeds in winnowing process.

well as to the decline in the bean export from Myanmar. As there is low supply with high demand, the price has soared. According to NAFED, the mung bean in the Indian market is short of supply, requiring the purchase of 50,000 tonnes of mung bean, and currently, they are procuring 2,000 tonnes per day, it is learnt.

India is the major importer of Myanmar beans and pulses,

and their demand has enabled the signing of an MoU with Myanmar according to which Myanmar has to export 0.25 million tonnes of mung beans and 0.1 million tonnes of pigeon peas annually from 2021-2022 to 2025-2026 financial years.

Therefore, it is required to observe the rise and fall of the mung bean market and the price is related to the demand of India,

the price of the fuel oil and the exchange rate of Myanmar Kyats versus USD.

In September of last year, the exchange rate of USD against Myanmar Kyat rose to K3,000 per dollar, resulting in a sharp rise in the prices of the beans and pulses; the domestic bean market saw the mung beans selling for a record high price of K2 million per tonne. And this year is seeing

a record-breaking price in the market.

For the 2022-2023 financial year, between 1 April and 26 August, 519,868.963 tonnes were exported via sea for US\$418.152 million while 140,937.537 tonnes of rice were exported via border trade for \$95.195 million. Therefore, the total tonnes exported are 660,806.500 which is worth \$513.347 million.

In the 2020-2021 financial year, the export via sea was 1,242,775.231 tonnes for \$966.407 million whereas the export via border trade was 786,920.651 tonnes for \$604.300 million, bringing the total tonnes to 2,029,695.882 for \$1,570.707 million.

Myanmar yields 0.4 million tonnes of mung bean per annum whereas the annual yield of pigeon peas is 50,000 tonnes, it is learnt. Mung bean which is chiefly imported by India is grown mainly in Myanmar while pigeon peas, green peas and garden peas are also cultivated in Africa and Australia in addition to Myanmar.— NN/GNLM

OPINION

Forge a noble charitable spirit for serving national interests

A Pali word Parahita – a similar meaning to volunteerism or charity or philanthropy primarily emphasizes all the works prioritizing the interests of others. Generally, most people keep their self-interests at the fore. Only when the global peoples ease their selfishness but prioritize charity affairs, will they build a pleasant, prosperous and peaceful society.

As a nature of humans, many people give the first priority to themselves and then their families in all measures. Even though, some people work in concert for serving the interests of other people. Currently, a large number of persons engaging in the volunteering process as well as charity measures can be seen across the nation. They all work with utmost effort for making the sacrifice for public interests.

How wonderful it is!

In fact, the concept of charity or volunteerism is a noble spirit. To forge this noble spirit, the people need to choose the options in serving their interests. If they need to choose one of two interests for the majority of a crowd and the people, they should choose the interests of the people. Again, if they face the situation to select the interests of the people and the nation, they need to choose the interests of the nation. So also, they have to choose the interests of the more valuable sector.

Truly, charity can alleviate the worst effects of humanitarian crises, and supplement public services in health care, education, housing and child protection. Charity can ease all tensions and hindrances to improving society as well as nation-building endeavours. As such, their hearts should be honoured.

The International Day of Charity was established with the objective of sensitizing and mobilizing people, non-governmental organizations, and stakeholders all around the world to help others through volunteer and philanthropic activities.

The General Assembly of the United Nations designated the 5th of September, the anniversary of the death of the renowned nun and missionary Mother Teresa, as the International Day of Charity.

The International Day of Charity aims to alleviate humanitarian crises and ease human suffering within and among nations, as well as raise the efforts of charitable organizations and individuals. Hence, whenever the country, Myanmar faces unavoidable events such as natural disasters, pandemics called Covid-19 and monkeypox and the most important national causes, all the people should not turn a blind eye to serving the public and national interests with the nobly charitable spirit by sacrificing their interests, if necessary they sacrifice life and limbs for the sake of the nation and the nationals.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, images of the coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, have been seared in our minds. But the way we picture the virus, typically as a sphere with spikes, is not strictly accurate. Microscope images of infected tissues have revealed that coronavirus particles are actually ellipsoidal, displaying a wide variety of squashed and elongated shapes.

Now, a global research team, including scientists from Queen's University, Canada, and the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology (OIST), Japan, have modeled how the different elliptical shapes affect the way these viral particles rotate within fluids, impacting how easily the virus can be transmitted. The study was published recently in *Physics of Fluids*.

Coronavirus particles are inhaled

“When coronavirus particles are inhaled, these particles move around within the passageways in the nose and lungs,” said Professor Eliot Fried, who leads the Mechanics and Materials Unit at OIST. “We are interested in studying to what extent they are mobile in these environments.”

The specific type of movement that the scientists modeled is known as rotational diffusivity, which determines the rate at

The shape of coronavirus affects its transmission, finds study

The scientists modelled the spike proteins in a simpler way – with each spike protein represented by a single sphere on the surface of the ellipsoids.



A near-deserted Naha Airport is seen on 8 January amid a coronavirus outbreak in Japan's Okinawa Prefecture. PHOTO: KYODO

which the particles rotate as they move through fluid (in the coronavirus' case, droplets of saliva). Particles which are smoother and more hydrodynamic encounter less drag resistance from the fluid and rotate faster. For coronavirus particles, this rotational speed affects how well the virus can attach to and infect cells.

“If the particles rotate too much, they might not spend enough time interacting with the cell to infect it, and if they rotate too little, they might not be able to interact in the necessary way,” explained Prof. Fried.

In the study, the scientists modeled both prolate and oblate ellipsoids of revolution. These shapes differ from spheres (which have three axes of identical length) in just one of their axes, with prolate shapes having one longer axis, whilst oblate shapes have one shorter axis. Taken to the extreme, prolate shapes elongate into rod-like shapes, whilst oblate shapes squash into coin-like shapes. But for coronavirus particles, the differences are more subtle.

The model the most realistic yet

The scientists also made the model the most realistic yet, by adding the spike proteins onto the surface of the ellipsoids. Previous research from Queen's Univer-

sity and OIST showed that the presence of triangular-shaped spike proteins lowers the speed at which the coronavirus particles rotate, potentially increasing their ability to infect cells.

Here, the scientists modelled the spike proteins in a simpler way – with each spike protein represented by a single sphere on the surface of the ellipsoids.

“We then figured out the arrangement of the spikes on the surface of each ellipsoidal shape by assuming that they all contain the same charge,” explained Dr. Vikash Chaurasia, a postdoctoral researcher in the OIST Mechanics and Materials Unit. “Spikes with identical charges repel each other and prefer to be as far from each other as possible. They therefore end up evenly distributed across the particle in a way that minimizes this repulsion.”

In their model, the researchers found that the more a particle differs from a spherical shape, the slower it rotates. This could mean that the particles are better able to align and attach to cells.

The model is still simplistic, the researchers acknowledge, but it brings us one step closer to understanding the transport properties of the coronavirus and could help pin down one of the factors key to its infective success.

SOURCE: ANI

At least 30 children test positive for monkeypox in US: Reports



High school students learn art in a room at a closed Macy's department store in Burlington, Vermont, on 30 March 2021. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ JOSEPH PREZIOSO/AFF

More than 30 children in the United States have tested positive for monkeypox, according to local media citing officials.

Fox News reported that at least 31 children are positive for the virus, with 11 states and jurisdictions reporting pediatric cases.

Data from the Texas Department of State Health Services shows that there are nine pediatric cases in the state, it added.

Data from the agency shows 18,989 monkeypox and orthopoxvirus cases across the country. Meanwhile, the first death of a person diagnosed with monkeypox was reported in Texas.

In a statement on Tuesday (local time), the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) said that the patient was an adult living in Harris

County.

Monkeypox is a serious disease

“Monkeypox is a serious disease, particularly for those with weakened immune systems,” John Hellerstedt, DSHS Commissioner said in the statement on Tuesday.

“We continue to urge people to seek treatment if they have been exposed to monkeypox or have symptoms consistent with the disease,” he added.

According to The Hill, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had confirmed more than 18,000 cases of the virus across all 50 states as of Monday, but so far officials had not confirmed any deaths.

The virus has mostly spread among men who have sex with men, but anyone can get it through close, direct con-

tact with an infected person. People who are diagnosed with monkeypox should stay home and avoid close contact with others until the rash has fully gone away and a new layer of skin has completely formed, according to the release.

Monkeypox cases reported globally dropped

It is to be noted that the World Health Organization report earlier informed that the number of monkeypox cases reported globally dropped by 21 per cent in the last week.

The UN health agency reported 5,907 new weekly cases and said two countries, Iran and Indonesia, reported their first cases. At present, more than 45,000 cases have been reported in 98 countries since late April, as per CBC.

Cases in the Americas

accounted for 60 per cent of cases in the past month, WHO said, while cases in Europe comprised about 38 per cent. It said infections in the Americas showed “a continuing steep rise.”

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus had also said that most of the monkeypox cases are being reported from Europe and the Americas - among men who have sex with men.

Back in July, Tedros announced that the global monkeypox outbreak represents a public health emergency of international concern.

Most people usually recover from monkeypox

Most people usually recover from monkeypox within a few weeks without treatment. The symptoms are initially flu-

like, such as fever, chills, and swollen lymph nodes, which are then followed by a widespread rash. According to the WHO, the disease can be more severe in young children, pregnant women, and individuals who are immunocompromised.

The monkeypox virus is not easily transmitted and usually spreads through close physical contact, including sexual contact, with an infected individual.

The virus can enter a human body through broken skin, the respiratory tract, eyes, nose and mouth, and via bodily fluids. Monkeypox is a zoonotic disease. It originates in animals like rodents and primates and occurs in remote parts of Central and West Africa.

SOURCE: ANI

SCI/ENVIRON WORLD



A photo shows the Mengtian space lab, the second lab component of China's Tiangong space station, arriving at the Wenchang Space Launch Center in Hainan province. **PHOTO: SINA WEIBO / XINHUA**

Rocket to carry Mengtian space lab module arrives at launch site

A Long March-5B Y4 rocket, tasked with sending China's space station lab module Mengtian into orbit, has been transported to the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in the southern province of Hainan, the China Manned Space Agency said Saturday.

The rocket will undergo final assembly and testing together with the Mengtian

lab module, which arrived earlier.

Preparations for the launch mission scheduled for October are underway at the launch area, according to the space agency.

At present, China's Tiangong space station complex is composed of the Tianhe core module, the Wentian lab module, the Tianzhou-4 cargo

vessel and the Shenzhou-14 crewed spaceship.

Mengtian is the second lab module of the under-construction space station.

Scientific equipment in the lab will be used for studying microgravity and carrying out experiments in fluid physics, materials science, combustion science and fundamental physics, designers said. —Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

NASA postpones rocket launch to moon due to fuel leak

NASA on Saturday scrapped a second attempt to get its new 30-story rocket off the ground and send its uncrewed test capsule toward the Moon after engineers detected a fuel leak.

With millions around the globe and hundreds of thousands on nearby beaches waiting for the historic launch of the massive Space Launch System (SLS), a leak near the base of the rocket was found as ultra-cold liquid hydrogen was being pumped in.

"The launch director waived off today's Artemis I launch," NASA said in a statement. "Multiple troubleshooting efforts to address the area of the leak... did not fix the issue."

Though the area around the launch site was closed to the public, an estimated 400,000 people had gathered nearby to see — and hear — the most powerful vehicle that NASA has ever launched climb into space.

The initial launch attempt on Monday was also halted after engineers detected a fuel leak and a sensor showed that one of the rocket's four main engines was too hot. —AFP

Researchers develop 3D printing sodium-ion micro batteries

CHINESE researchers have developed a prototype of planar and flexible 3D printed sodium-ion micro batteries (NIMBs) with ultra-high areal capacity and boosted rate capability, according to a research article recently published in the journal *Advanced Materials*.

Planar NIMBs are a promising new micro-power source because of their rich sodium resources, low cost, and fast sodium ion transmission. But they are hindered by low areal capacity owing to the thin microelectrodes.

The researchers from the Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences developed 3D printable inks with appropriate viscosities and high conductivity. The material allows the multilayer printing of NIMB microelectrodes to reach a very high thickness of about 1,200 micrometers while maintaining effective ion and electron-transfer pathways.

The 3D-printed NIMBs deliver a superior areal capacity of 4.5mAh per square centimeter at a low current density of 2mA per square centimeter, outperforming the state-of-the-art printed micro batteries, said the research article. —Xinhua

Norway's future CO2 cemetery takes shape

ON the shores of an island off Norway's North Sea coast, engineers are building a burial ground for unwanted greenhouse gas.

The future terminal is to pump tonnes of liquefied carbon dioxide captured from the top of factory chimneys across Europe into cavities deep below the seabed. The project in the western municipality of Oygarden aims to prevent the gas from entering the atmosphere and contributing to global warming.

"It is the world's first open-access transport and storage infrastructure, allowing any



The future terminal in Oygarden is to pump liquefied carbon dioxide into cavities deep below the seabed. **PHOTO: AFP**

emitter that has captured his CO2 emissions to deliver that CO2 for safe handling, transport

and then permanent storage," project manager Sverre Overa told AFP. —AFP

California opens cooling centers



The mercury is rising in California and other parts of the western United States as a heat dome parks itself over the region. **PHOTO: AFP**

IT is too hot in Nelly Amaya's place when the mercury surges into triple digits, driven by the punishing heat wave gripping the western United States.

"We don't have air conditioning at our house, we only have a fan," Amaya, a retiree, told AFP.

"We come here because we can't stay at home."

Amaya is one of hundreds of people in Los Angeles who are making use of the 40 cooling centers set up by the county's emergency department as a fearsome heat dome sends temperatures soaring.

The centers have been established in libraries, recreation and park facilities, and senior living facilities, offering shelter in air-conditioned rooms and cold drinks during the heat of the day.

Forecasters have issued an excessive heat warning for most of California, as well as parts of Nevada and Arizona, with thermometers logging highs over 110 Fahrenheit (43 Celsius) in some places. —AFP

HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

Chinese companies net profit declines amid zero-Covid policy, real estate crisis

MORE than 4,800 Chinese companies listed in Shanghai, Shenzhen and Beijing posted a decline in net profit as the zero-Covid policy and a real estate crisis take a toll on the country's listed companies.

Chinese company profits are collapsing like 2020 again and are suffering one of its worst earnings recessions on record, reported CNN. As per the now released earnings for the first half of the year, it is a bloodbath. As many as 53 per cent posted a decline in net profit, according to data from Wind and Choice, two major financial information services in the country.

China's most prominent

tech companies are among those suffering. The second quarter marked an end to years of explosive growth with Alibaba (BABA) reporting flat revenue for the April-to-June period. Tencent (TCEHY) posted its first quarterly sales decline.

For some other sectors of the economy, this year has already been the worst on record.

Three of China's biggest airlines — Air China (AIRYY), China Southern Airlines (ZNH), and China Eastern Airlines (CEA) — posted record losses, with a combined loss of 50 billion yuan (USD 7.2 billion) for the first half. They all blamed travel disruptions because of Covid



A property construction site in Haikou, Hainan province. PHOTO: XINHUA

curbs and a depreciating yuan, which has plunged 9 per cent against the US dollar this year, reported CNN.

A weaker currency hurts

China's airline industry because it has to pay for imported aircraft, parts and fuel in dollars. The costs of servicing dollar-denominated debt also increase.

Property developers are also among the worst performers so far this year, as the country's housing market has spiralled downward. —ANI

Russia to toughen anti-COVID measures during Eastern Economic Forum 2022

RUSSIA'S Primorye Territory will step up anti-COVID measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus during the Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) 2022 to be held here from next Monday to Thursday.

In a notice issued on Thursday, the local government of Primorye Territory recommended all organizations and companies

that provide services to the EEF participants and guests to use masks and distribute personal respiratory protective equipment to visitors.

The government also required disinfection at the beginning and end of the day in the premises and vehicles involved in the EEF events.

In addition, the Primorye

government will organize PCR (polymerase chain reaction) tests for employees of educational organizations. Schools are advised to monitor the condition of their staff. A TASS report said that the EEF 2022, to be held on the campus of the Far Eastern Federal University, expects participants and guests from more than 60 countries. —Xinhua

Births hit record low in Japan in 1st half of 2022



A female staffer (R) delivers free diapers to a household with a baby in October 2020 in the western Japan city of Akashi, Hyogo Prefecture, under a program to support childrearing. PHOTO: AKASHI CITY OFFICE/KYODO

THE number of births recorded in Japan between January

and June 2022 fell to 384,942, a decrease of 5 per cent year-on-

year, according to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare.

The figure, according to recent health ministry demographic statistics, fell by 20,087 from the same period last year and was the lowest preliminary figure for the first half of a year since 2000, standing below 400,000 for the first time ever.

In June, the health ministry announced the number of newborns in 2021 had dropped to 811,604, the lowest number since records keeping began in 1899, while the latest data shows the decline is accelerating.

The fallen birthrate significantly impacts the society and economy, Health Minister Katsunobu Kato told local media on Thursday. —Xinhua

Water crisis in US city shows public health failure rooted in racism: SELF

IT'S important to note that more than 80 per cent of the residents in Jackson, a city in the US state of Mississippi, are Black, and the city's ongoing water crisis is "a painfully clear case of environmental racism," website magazine SELF reported on Thursday.

The situation imploded this week when a local river flooded and caused problems at the OB Curtis Water Plant, resulting in a water shortage.

Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves then issued a statement announcing a state of emergency on 30 August.

However, the statement didn't outline plans to restore the water supply to the city's capital, nor did it provide updates on when Jackson's nearly 150,000 residents can expect the shortage to end. Instead, they have been told they'll be without clean water "indefinitely." Some experts are comparing the current situation in Jackson to the 2014 water crisis in Flint, Michigan, during which the city's primarily Black residents didn't have access to clean water due to lead contamination for years, according to the report. —Xinhua



Many residents of Jackson, Mississippi are relying on bottled water. PHOTO: BRAD VEST/AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

IPEF ministers to declare start of economic rules-making talks



On 23 May 2022, Australia joined the United States and 11 other partner countries in launching the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF). This file photo shows a man using a laptop computer on a street in the central business district of Sydney. **PHOTO: PETER PARKS / AFP/FILE**

MINISTERS from 14 member states of the US-led Indo-Pacific economic framework are expect-

ed to declare the start of formal negotiations this week in Los Angeles, informed sources say,

as they work to codify a rules-based economic order in the fast-growing region.

The two-day meeting from Thursday in Los Angeles will be the first in-person ministerial gathering of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity, known as the IPEF, which US President Joe Biden's administration has created as a vehicle to counter China's ascendance in the region.

Unlike a conventional trade agreement, the IPEF does not involve tariff cuts and trade liberalization which are sensitive issues in the United States. Biden's predecessor, Donald Trump, withdrew the world's biggest economy from the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal in 2017 over such concerns.

Instead, the IPEF, which collectively accounts for about

40 per cent of world gross domestic product, focuses on setting high standards in new areas like the digital economy and supply chains for semiconductors and other strategically important materials.

The IPEF, which Biden announced during his trip to Japan in May, is viewed as the United States re-engaging in the Indo-Pacific and offering a Washington-led alternative to Beijing's economic coercion and debt-trap diplomacy. The IPEF consists of four policy pillars it aims to promote – fair trade, supply chain resilience, clean energy together with decarbonization and infrastructure, as well as measures against tax avoidance and corruption. —Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

Foreign trade turnover of Belarus down 6.7 pct in January-July 2022

BELARUSIAN foreign trade turnover of goods decreased 6.7 per cent in the first seven months of 2022 in comparison with the same period of 2021, the National Statistical Committee of Belarus said Friday. The total volume of foreign trade in January-July 2022 amounted to 40.519 billion US dollars. Exports decreased 3.5 percent to reach 20.354 billion dollars, and imports decreased 9.7 per cent to 20.165 billion dollars. —Xinhua

Lebanese currency sinks to new low

THE Lebanese pound on Friday sank to a new low on the parallel market amid the country's protracted financial crisis, local media reported. The exchange rate of the Lebanese pound declined to 35,500 against the US dollar, down from the previous record low of 34,250 against the dollar on 22 August, reported the Elnashra news website. Lebanese economist Elie Yachoui attributed the surge in the price of the U.S. dollar to the shortage of US currency reserves at Banque Du Liban, Lebanon's central bank. —Xinhua

China to launch new index on performance of Beijing bourse



Photo taken on 15 November 2021 shows an exterior view of the office building of the Beijing Stock Exchange, in Beijing, capital of China. **PHOTO: XINHUA/PENG ZIYANG**

THE Beijing Stock Exchange on Friday said it would launch its first benchmark index, a further

step to facilitate the platform serving small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The index, a broad-based index that comprises 50 representative companies listed on the Beijing bourse, is set to reflect the overall performance of the market, according to the bourse.

The Beijing bourse said that it would further enrich the index system, building it into a barometer that measures the overall development of innovative SMEs.

The bourse on Friday also solicited public opinions on the detailed rules of margin trading and securities lending, which is expected to optimize the trading mechanism and improve the pricing function of the market. —Xinhua

Fears of 'massive' bills as energy crisis hits UK schools

RACHAEL Warwick, who oversees three schools in southeast England, has had to sign a new contract to heat and light their buildings at tariffs that she describes as "eye-watering".

The executive head teacher of Ridgeway Education Trust in Oxfordshire calculates that if the schools she runs use the same amount of energy as before, their annual bill will go up from £250,000 to £1.1 million



Students wait to enter a classroom at Park Lane Academy in Halifax, northwest England on 17 March 2021. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ OLI SCARFF / AFP/FILE**

(\$290,000 to \$1.3 million).

"It's massive... We are looking for £900,000 pounds additional, unbudgeted money," she told AFP, saying that paying this would exhaust financial reserves within a year.

The schools in the trust will do "sensible things" to cut energy use but raising such a large amount would require firing 30 teachers, she added.

Publicly funded schools in

England are sounding the alarm as soaring energy prices hit their already tightly constrained budgets. This comes as schools are expanding activities after pandemic curbs.

UK households and businesses are also facing severe financial hits from energy bills that have soared in the post-pandemic era, exacerbated by Russia's war on Ukraine. —AFP

Listed companies' strong performance mirrors China's economic growth

COMPANIES listed on the A-share market reported better-than-expected performance in the first half of the year, a sign that the Chinese economy sustained its development momentum.

During the period, A-share-listed companies reported combined operating revenue of 34.54 trillion yuan (about 5.01 trillion US dollars), climbing 9.24 per cent year on year, data from the China Association for Public Companies showed. Their net profits reached 3.25 trillion yuan, up 3.19 per cent from a year earlier, according to the data.

Listed companies in general managed to sustain a growth trend despite unexpected challenges such as sporadic COVID-19 outbreaks at home and high inflation over-



Staff members are seen at Bayer HealthCare Company Limited Qidong Branch in Qidong, east China's Jiangsu Province, 2 December 2020. PHOTO: XINHUA/ZHANG YUWEI

seas, said the association. The quality of listed companies has steadily improved and their structure has been further optimized, according to the association.

Non-financial listed companies posted high-

er-than-average growth in operating revenues and net profits during the period. Their revenues and net profits totaled 29.23 trillion yuan and 1.95 trillion yuan, respectively, increasing 10.89 per cent and 4.55 per cent.

Since the first quarter of 2021, non-financial firms have consistently posted higher growth in operating revenues than financial firms, official data showed, signaling a sound development trajectory of the real economy. —Xinhua

Ford US sales up 27.3% in August

FORD Motor Co. announced on its website Friday that it sold 158,088 vehicles in the United State in August this year, up 27.3 per cent year on year.

To be specific, the US automaker sold 83,347 truck, up 13.2 per cent; 71,201 SUVs, up 47.7 per cent; and 5,897 EVs, up

307.3 per cent. Sales of internal combustion engine vehicles, in the meantime, climbed 24.7 per cent.

With sales of the whole auto industry going up only 4.8 percent over a year ago, Ford has been the best-selling brand in the United States for the second month in a row. And Ford's total

market share increased 2.4 percentage points from August of last year to current level of 13.4 per cent.

Strong demand for Ford vehicles continues, the automaker said in its news release. It had 76,000 retail orders for model year 2023 vehicles in the first eight months, up 41

percent from model year 2022 vehicle orders a year ago. As it is increasingly moving to sell vehicles via orders placed in advance, Ford reported that more than 50 percent of its retail sales came from previously placed orders for the fifth straight month in August. —Xinhua

Germany agrees 65bn-euro inflation relief package

THE German government on Sunday agreed a 65-billion-euro (\$65-billion) plan to ease the pressure on households as Russian gas supplies dwindle and energy bills soar, according to a policy paper seen by AFP.

"Timely and proportionate relief for citizens and businesses is necessary due to the rapidly increasing burden of high energy prices," Germany's coalition partners said in the document, adding that the total package came to "over 65 billion euros".

The measures include a one-off payment of 300 euros to millions of pensioners to help them cover rising energy bills.

The government will also target students with a smaller one-off pay-

ment of 200 euros, and an heating cost payment for people receiving housing benefits.

The announcement follows two previous relief packages totalling 30 billion euros, which included a reduction in the tax on petrol and a popular heavily subsidised public transport ticket.

Under the agreement, the government earmarks 1.5 billion euros for work on a successor to the nine-euro monthly ticket on local and regional transport networks, though the price would likely be higher.

Berlin, for years reliant on Russian energy imports to meet its needs, has been acutely exposed to energy price rises as supplies from Moscow dwindle. —AFP



German inflation rose again to 7.9 per cent in August, after falling for two months under the influence of government relief measures. PHOTO: XINHUA

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (178N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (178N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-9-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3216S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3216S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-9-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Emigre Palestinians hurry back to visit fearful of new Israeli rules

ALL summer, Palestinians from the millions-strong diaspora have been flocking to the West Bank, fearful new Israeli rules expected to take effect next week could make future visits hard if not impossible.

Under the regulations, first published in February to a storm of protest, foreign passport holders — including Palestinians living abroad — will no longer be able to obtain visas on arrival and instead have to apply for them at least 45 days in advance.

The measures will place significant curbs on the ability of foreigners to study, volunteer or work in the West Bank, in a major blow to student exchange programmes operated by the European Union among others.

In most cases foreigners will no longer be able to arrive via



Israel's Ben Gurion International Airport near Tel Aviv. **PHOTO: GIL COHEN-MAGEN /AFP/FILE**

Israel's main airport near Tel Aviv but only through the land crossing between Jordan and the West Bank, which was seized and occupied by Israel in 1967.

The new rulebook drafted by COGAT, the Israeli defence ministry body responsible for Palestinian civil affairs, is expected to come into force on

Monday after being delayed twice by legal challenges.

In the West Bank city of Ramallah, Palestinian lawyer Rasem Kamal said he has been inundated with clients from the diaspora wanting to register power of attorney amid deep uncertainty about arranging their affairs. —AFP

Kishida eyes attending event on Japan-China ties' 50th anniversary

PRIME Minister Fumio Kishida is considering attending a business event to be held on the 50th anniversary of the normalization of ties between Japan and China late this month, in an apparent effort to foster momentum for a summit by the two neighbors, sources close to the matter said Sunday.

The Japan Business Federation, the country's most powerful business lobby better known as Keidanren, and groups dedicated to promoting Japan-China friendship will organize the event on 29 September at a Tokyo hotel.

Kishida aims to hold a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in the future.

Leaders from the two East Asian neighbors have

not held in-person talks since December 2019 as they remain at odds over the Senkaku Islands, a group of East China Sea islets administered by Japan but claimed by China, and tensions have grown over the Taiwan Strait.

Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi and Chinese Ambassador to Japan Kong Xuanyou are also planning to show up at the event, with the organizers requesting messages from Xi or Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, according to the sources.

For fears that a cooling of political relations could negatively affect business ties with China, the largest trading partner of Japan, Japanese business leaders hope that Kishida will meet Xi. —Kyodo

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

European Council calls on EU Commission for speedy proposals on tackling energy prices

EUROPEAN Council President Charles Michel on Friday called on the European Commission to accelerate the process of preparing proposals on tackling skyrocketing energy prices in Europe.

"We did not just discover this issue today," Michel told German newspaper *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, as quoted by Sputnik. He added that Europe "cannot waste a single day, we do not have the luxury of waiting weeks or months longer.

Proposals must be on the table as soon as possible."

Michel noted that the European Council has repeatedly discussed the issue since October 2021; however, the European Union has yet to present any concrete proposals on how to reduce energy prices within the bloc.

He added that the increase in gas and electricity prices is "a catastrophe" for EU citizens, families, households, and businesses. —ANI



In this file photo taken on July 15, pipes and pressure gauges for gas lines are pictured at Open Grid Europe (OGE), one of Europe's largest gas transmission system operators, in Werne, western Germany. **PHOTO: AFP**

Erdogan tells Putin Türkiye can mediate in Ukraine nuclear plant standoff

TÜRKIYE can mediate in a standoff over Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear power station which is occupied by Moscow's troops, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on Saturday.

"President Erdogan stated that Türkiye can play a facilitator role in the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, as they did in the grain deal," the Turkish presidency said, referring to a grain export agreement signed in July by Kyiv and Moscow with the United Nations and Türkiye as guarantors.



There has been growing alarm over Europe's largest nuclear plant, Zaporizhzhia, which is under Russian control. **PHOTO: DIMITAR DILKOFF/AFP**

Last month, Mr Erdogan warned of the danger of a nuclear disaster when he visited

Lviv for talks with his Ukrainian counterpart Mr Volodymyr Zelensky. —AFP

Thousands rally against Czech gov. in Prague

AROUND 70,000 people gathered in Prague's historic centre Saturday to rally against the Czech government, accusing it of paying more attention to war-ravaged Ukraine than to its own citizens.

Called "Czech Republic

in the first place", the protest highlighted growing inflation dragged upwards by a spike in energy prices, Covid-19 vaccination as well as immigrants.

Protesters in Prague's iconic Wenceslas Square demanded the resignation of

the centre-right government of Petr Fiala, which had taken office last December.

"The best for Ukrainians and two sweaters for us," read a banner, a reference to concerns over winter heating bills. —AFP

Cambodia sees big jump in number of foreign tourists to famed Angkor

CAMBODIA'S famed Angkor Archaeological Park received 110,570 foreign tourists in the first eight months of 2022, up 17.6 times compared to the same period last year, said a press statement on Saturday.

The ancient park earned 4.44 million U.S. dollars in revenue from ticket sales during the January-August period this year; also up 17 folds year-on-year, said the state-owned Angkor Enterprise's statement.

Located in the north-west Siem Reap province, the 401-square-km Angkor Archaeological Park, inscribed on the World Heritage List of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1992, is the most popular tourist destination in the South-

east Asian country.

The entrance fee for a one-day visit to the park is 37 dollars, a three-day visit costs 62 dollars, and a week-long visit costs 72 dollars.

In a bid to encourage more foreign tourists to the site, the government on Thursday announced that foreign residents of Cambodia who have been living in the kingdom for more than two years could apply for one free admission a year to the Angkor and the Koh Ker Temple, starting from 1 September onwards. Long Kosal, deputy director-general of the Apsara National Authority, predicted that the Angkor will attract more international tourists throughout this year and next year as the COVID-19 pandemic has waned. —Xinhua



Undated photo shows an Apsara carving found recently at the causeway of the Angkor Thom temple's Takav Gate in the Angkor Archaeological Park in Siem Reap province, Cambodia. Archaeologists have discovered pieces of the 12th century Apsara, or fairy carvings, in the Angkor Archaeological Park, the APSARA National Authority (ANA) said in a statement on 2 May 2022. PHOTO: ANA/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA

Erdogan challenges Greece over airspace violations

PRESIDENT Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Saturday warned Greece it would pay a "heavy price" if it kept on harassing Turkish fighter jets over the Aegean and hinted at military action.

The two uneasy NATO neighbours have long-standing sea and air boundary disputes which lead to near-daily air force patrols and interception missions mostly around Greek islands near Türkiye's coastline.

"Hey Greece, take a look at history. If you go further, you will pay a heavy price," Erdogan told a packed rally in the Black Sea city of Samsun.



President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Saturday warned Greece it would pay a "heavy price" if it kept on harassing Turkish fighter jets over the Aegean and hinted at military action. PHOTO: AFP

Greece and Türkiye have a fraught history going back centuries with disputes over maritime borders and the 1974 division of Cyprus.

Türkiye has in recent months complained of what it calls provocative actions by Athens, saying such moves undermine peace efforts. —AFP

Ousted Sri Lanka leader faces arrest calls after return

DEPOSED Sri Lankan president Gotabaya Rajapaksa faced calls for his arrest Saturday after returning home from self-imposed exile under the protection of his successor's government.

Rajapaksa fled the island nation under military escort in July after a huge crowd stormed his official residence following

months of demonstrations sparked by an unprecedented economic crisis.

The 73-year-old announced his resignation from Singapore and spent weeks under virtual house arrest at a Bangkok hotel before his return late on Friday.

Leaders of the protest campaign that toppled his govern-

ment said Rajapaksa, who lost his presidential immunity after leaving office, should now be brought to justice. "Gotabaya returned because no country is willing to accept him, he has no place to hide," Joseph Stalin, the leader of a teachers' trade union that helped mobilise demonstrators, told AFP. —AFP

Hong Kong unveils first anti-Japanese war memorial hall

A new memorial hall on the history of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression was unveiled Saturday in Hong Kong.

Located in Sha Tau Kok of New Territories, the memorial hall, the first of its kind in Hong Kong, is featured with exhibitions on local resistance efforts, including the history of the Hong Kong Independent Battalion of the Dongjiang Column, an anti-Japanese aggression guerrilla force under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) John Lee said that the HKSAR government attaches great importance to commemorating the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, and the public can learn about the role that Hong Kong had played during the war through relevant events.

Lee also said that he hopes the memorial hall will write a new chapter for patriotic education in Hong Kong. —Xinhua



John Lee (fourth left), Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, presides over the opening ceremony of a new memorial hall on the history of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression in Hong Kong on 3 September 2022. PHOTO: CHINANEWS.COM

Cambodia sees big jump in number of foreign tourists to famed Angkor

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SPORT

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs

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

2. Economic affairs

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

3. Social affairs

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

Korean Ambassador's Cup Taekwondo Championship 2022 held in Yangon

THE Korean Ambassador's Cup Taekwondo Championship 2022 co-organized by the Myanmar Taekwondo Federation and the Embassy of Republic of Korea to Myanmar was held at Thuwunna Taekwondo Training Centre, Yangon yesterday.

Firstly, Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kang Kmygu and President of Myanmar Taekwondo Federation U Mya Han extended greetings. Next, they enjoyed men's and women's Poomsae and Kyorugi events at young and junior levels. The Kore-

an ambassador, the president of the federation and officials presented awards to the winning teams.

This Korean Ambassador's Cup was joined over 100 players from clubs.—Bala Soe



Yadanabon FC player (blue) vies for the ball against Rakhine United player during their Myanmar National League Week-10 match at Thuwunna YTC in Yangon on 4 September 2022. PHOTO:MNL

Yadanabon FC smash Rakhine United 4-2 in MNL Week-10

YADANABON FC shaped a win over Rakhine United 4-2 in the Week-10 match of Myanmar National League at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon yesterday.

Both teams used core players from the beginning.

Yadanabon FC attacked frequently but Rakhine stayed at the massive defensive line and relied on their counter attack.

Myo Ko Tun made an ice-

breaker for Yadanabon United at 21st minute. With the first goal, Yadanabon was keen to score more goals but Rakhine made an equalizer at 39th minute and the goal was scored by expatriate player Mamoudou Conde.

The first half was ended at a 1-1 draw. Yadanabon forced to play in the second half and the second goal was scored by Ye Yint Aung at 56th minute.

Again, Yadanabon got the

third goal which was beautifully netted by Myo Ko Tun.

Yadanabon got a penalty kick at 86th minute and the goal was scored by Myint Thein Tun. Rakhine United scored their second goal at 90+2 minute-mark by Mamoudou Conde.

With the win, Yadanabon FC has a better potential to step up in the standing table but Rakhine United is still sitting at the bottom.—GNLM

World Cup fans will only get beer outside stadiums

BEER will not be sold inside stadiums during World Cup matches in Qatar, where alcohol is severely restricted, but FIFA said Saturday that drinking will be allowed in the stadium zone before and after games. The global body gave first details of beer sales after months of sensitive talks with authorities in the conservative Muslim Gulf state. The issue is important for FIFA as beer-maker Budweiser has been a major sponsor for three decades while foreign fans have also questioned what to expect at the 20 November-18 December tournament.

Qatar has predicted more than one million visitors for the



People arrive at the Lusail Stadium on the outskirts of Qatar's capital Doha on 2 September 2022 ahead of the orientation event for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 Volunteers Programme. PHOTO: AFP

World Cup. A source with knowledge of the plans said beer stands would open in zones around stadiums when gates open for a match and close 30 minutes before each game starts. The source said stands would reopen for a short

time after the game.

FIFA did not confirm times but a spokesperson said it had focused on "catering for those who wish to enjoy an alcoholic drink while being respectful towards the local culture". —AFP