

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## The Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council: Five-Point Road Map

1. Priority will be given to fully realizing peace, stability and rule of law throughout the Union to safeguard the socioeconomic life of the people.
2. People-centred development work that enhances socioeconomic well-being will be undertaken to ensure the country's prosperity and food security.
3. Processes will further continue to consolidate a genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system and build a Union based on democracy and federalism.
4. Priority will be accorded to work aligned with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement, in order to achieve enduring peace for the entire nation.
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.

## SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing discusses regional development measures in Pa-O Self-Administered Zone

**C**HAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla and officials, went to Kyauktalongyi of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone yesterday morning to talk about regional development tasks.

The Senior General and party were welcomed by U Khun Myint Aung, U Khun Aung Hkam, U Khun Nay Win Tun and officials from Pa-O National Organization (PNO) in Kyauktalongyi together with local Pa-O ethnic people.

At the residence of PNO Patron U Aung Hkam Hti, the Senior General and party asked about the health conditions of U Aung Hkam Hti and spoke words of encouragement.

Officials reported on undertakings for regional development, peace and stability of the region and requirements.

In his response, the Senior General stressed the need to prioritize manufacturing products which can benefit the region and local people. In arranging agriculture and livestock farms and industries, it is necessary to ensure the development of the socioeconomic life of all people in the region. Pigs, cows and chickens are to be successfully bred. The Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets U Aung Hkam Hti, Patron of the Pa-O National Organization-PNO, at the latter's residence in Kyauktalongyi of the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone on 7 March 2023.

urged all to enhance the cultivation of quality avocado plants in the Pa-O region. Likewise, it is necessary to consider the production of value-added products from onion, potato and tea in the region. The Senior General stressed the need to avoid doing easy tasks such as extraction of underground and aboveground

natural resources but focus on the long-term beneficial tasks. The Senior General also urged all to encourage the operation of the highland farmlands system instead of the slash and burn system so as to conserve the forests of the region. The government and Tatmadaw are providing assistance for the development

of the Pa-O region with more provision plans.

The Senior General presented foodstuffs and gifts to PNO Patron U Aung Hkam Hti who returned domestic gifts and Dhamma gifts.

The Senior General and party paid homage to Maha Wuntha Buddhagaya Pagoda on Bopanta

Hillock in Kyauktalongyi.

Chairman of the pagoda board of trustees U Khun Nyunt Maung and party presented Dhamma gifts to the Senior General who made cash donations for the pagoda. The Senior General gave instructions on long term existence and preservation for the pagoda. — MNA/TTA

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Hotels, guesthouses in Ngapali beach fully booked for Thingyan holidays

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Students receiving medical treatment can contact nearest centre as Yangon Region set 4 hospital exam centres: MoE

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## Objectives of 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armed Forces Day

- To serve primary duties of Tatmadaw for successfully safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes, and protecting the State Constitution and shielding the genuine disciplined multiparty democratic system
- To emphasize agreements in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) as much as possible for the restoration of the durable and perpetual peace across the nation as ceasing of armed conflicts is an actual requirement for realizing the multiparty democratic system
- To safeguard the national interest of the State, lives and property of people, and to put a strenuous effort on respective corners in times of natural disasters.
- To provide the necessary assistance by Tatmadaw for holding a free and fair multiparty democratic general election upon completion of undertakings in accord with the provisions of the state of emergency for the emergence of the Union based on democracy and federalism.

### MYANMAR GAZETTE

## Appointment of Head of Service Organization

THE State Administration Council has appointed U Myat Tun, Deputy Director-General of the State Administration Council Office, as Director-General of the Division of Administration and Finance of the State Administration Council Office on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

## Application for registration, political party establishment rights ongoing

UNDER Article 3 of the Political Parties Registration Law, Wunthanu Party and Democratic Party, which are desirous of organizing a political party and under Section 25 of the Political Parties Registration Law, Kachin State People's Party (KSPP), which is desirous of continuing to exist as a political party yesterday applied to Union Election Commission for permissions to establish political parties under the law and rules.

To date, six parties have applied under Section 3 of the Political Parties Registration Law, and 11 parties have applied under Section 25 of the Political Parties Registration Law, totalling 17 parties.

Among these 17 parties, five parties will organize the entire union and 12 parties only within a region or state.

Union Election Commission continues to verify the right to establish and register these parties. — MNA/KZL

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## Diplomatic relations established between Republic of Union of Myanmar and Republic of Guinea-Bissau

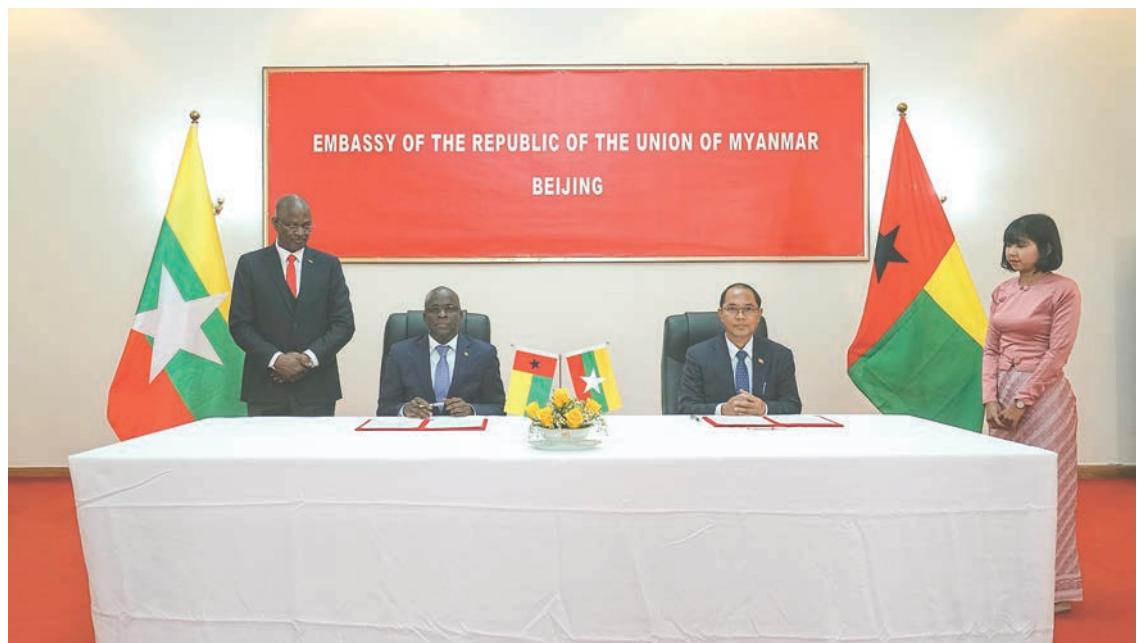
THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau desirous of establishing friendly ties and cooperation guided by the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of International Law in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations have established diplomatic relations at the level of Ambassadors with effect from 6 March 2023.

The Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations was signed by U Tin Maung Swe, Ambassador of the

Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the People's Republic of China and Mr António Serifo Embaló, Ambassador of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau to the People's Republic of China, on 6 March 2023 at the Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Beijing.

The Republic of Guinea-Bissau is the 126<sup>th</sup> country with which Myanmar has established diplomatic relations. — MNA

The signing ceremony for the establishment of diplomatic ties between Myanmar and Guinea-Bissau is in progress in Beijing on 6 March 2023.



## 2 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 7 March, total figure rises to 633,949

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **633,949** after **two** new cases were reported on 7 March 2023 according to the Ministry of Health.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **614,416**, including **five** new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country remained unchanged at **19,490** on 7-3-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. — GNLM

## 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](http://www.moi.gov.mm/mal), [www.moi.gov.mm/km](http://www.moi.gov.mm/km), [www.moi.gov.mm/nlm](http://www.moi.gov.mm/nlm) and [www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper](http://www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper).

News and Periodicals Enterprise

The people are urged to receive vaccination of Covid-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of Covid-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increasing of death rate based on the disease.



# Using raw materials from agriculture and livestock farms will benefit relevant regions: Senior General

SHAN State must strive for boosting the per-acre yield of crops to improve the economy, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with MSME businesspersons at the city hall in Taunggyi yesterday afternoon.

## Individual reports on MSME processes

Chief Minister of Shan State U Aung Zaw Aye reported on efforts for the development of MSME in Shan State, local and foreign investments, implementation of projects in industrial zones, conducting manufacturing courses, manufacture of value-added products, implementation of one village, one product project, and disbursement of loans for MSME industries.

Local MSME businesspersons reported on the selling of traditional foodstuffs as value-added products, expansion of plots for the cultivation of avocado, the need for capital for extending agricultural tasks, the need for the G-to-G process for exporting avocado to foreign markets, assistance of government for doing research on livestock breeding tasks, requirements for manufacturing roads and power supply, assistance for the development of potato cultivation in Naungtaya region, development of rice mills, and production of bio-fertilizers in Inlay region. The Senior General responded to the reports.

## Discussions of Union ministers in relevant sectors

Union ministers and deputy ministers discussed plans of relevant ministries to distribute quality strains of potatoes for local farmers, systematically apply



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing speaks on the meeting with MSME businesspeople from Shan State in Taunggyi yesterday.

for loans under the law and regulations, formation of cooperative societies and provide necessary agricultural machinery and capital, techniques and machinery for building gasifier generators, and issuance of FDA certificates to foodstuffs. The Shan State Chief Minister pledged to provide assistance to local businesspersons in connection with relevant ministries.

## Instructions for food security

In his speech, the Senior General said that an emphasis must be placed on food security as foreign foodstuffs flow into the country in addition to domestic foodstuffs. Food must be qualified for FDA disciplines and permission. Businesspersons need to accept the inspection of their foodstuffs systematically before distributing them into the market.

## Encouraging local manufacturing industries based on

## local products

The Senior General explained that Myanmar had to borrow foreign loans continuously. Now, the country needs to pay back the loans. In its tenure, the government pays back loans as much as possible. The government encourages agricultural and livestock-based manufacturing industries. Manufacturing based on agriculture and livestock farms is a firm and assured business. Using raw materials from agriculture and livestock farms will benefit the relevant regions.

## Livestock breeding

Myanmar imports milk and dairy products yearly, and if dairy cow farming is successfully operated at home, the import volume of dairy products and foreign exchange can be reduced. If Shan State successfully operates dairy cow farming tasks, it will be a

state which will produce the largest volume of dairy products.

The Senior General expressed thanks for the Ayethaya industrial zone of Shan State (South) which distributed eggs to the whole country so as to contribute to the food supply of the people. Meat production can lead to the manufacturing of industrial products. Systematic livestock breeding tasks can benefit the region. Currently, the country can reduce a certain amount of trade deficit. So, efforts must be made for earning foreign exchange from the manufacturing industries.

## Agriculture

The Senior General pointed out that Shan State must strive for boosting the per-acre yield of crops to improve the economy. Agricultural farms should use bio-fertilizers which come out from the local livestock farms to benefit the region on one hand. The Senior General instructed officials to expand the cultivation of tea and coffee and use paddy strains of good eating quality.

## Contribution to the power supply on the one hand

Generating electricity in relevant regions will contribute to the power requirement of manufacturing industries. Encouraging MSME industries aim to enhance the State economy, substitute imported goods and export domestic products to foreign countries. The Senior General stressed the need to strive for supplying inputs to the agriculture and livestock farms.

## Cooperative system

Exercising the cooperative system can help develop businesses, and all need to exercise the combined cooperative system. The government disburses development loans as capital for businesses through developing and commercial loans. Businesspersons need to borrow loans just enough for their requirements under the disciplines. **Encouraging education for turning out qualified human resources**

The government is responsible for the development of a region, and the socioeconomic life development of individuals is concerned with those persons only. Only when it encourages education will the human resources of the country improve. It is necessary to arrange systematic measures for private learning institutions.

## Development of the tourism industry

Hot-air balloon festival in Taunggyi attracts people at home and abroad. Likewise, the Inlay region is enchanting to local and foreign travellers. Hence, it is necessary to arrange better production of domestic foods to attract travellers and beautify the region. The government has set a plan to implement Kalaw and Aungban regions as health-care regions. The Senior General viewed round the domestic products, foodstuffs, personal goods, industrial products, traditional products, clothes and others put on display and asked about market sharing of these products.

— MNA/TTA



The Senior General looks into the products displayed at the event.



## Development of MSMEs will revitalize State economy

THE economy of our country is based on agriculture and livestock. Both developed and developing countries mainly carry out SME industries. Hence, efforts are being made for the development of MSMEs so as to resurge State economy.

*(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with entrepreneurs from UMFCCI and MSMEs in Yangon Region on 3 October 2022)*

## SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing pays homage to Mwedaw Kakku, Shwephonepwint pagodas in Taunggyi



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing pays homage to Shwephonepwint Pagoda in Taunggyi on 7 March 2023.



CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday morning paid homage to ancient Mwedaw Kakku Pagoda in Taunggyi Township of Shan State (South).

The Senior General presented cash to the all-round development fund of the pagoda

The Senior General and his wife donate cash for Mwedaw Kakku Pagoda in Taunggyi yesterday.

to the pagoda board of trustees chair U Khun Kyaw Hsan and officials.

The Senior General cordially greeted the local pilgrims and left instructions on the systematic maintenance of the pagoda for long-term existence, and beautifying tasks.

Yesterday evening, the Sen-

ior General, his wife and party paid homage to Shwephonepwint Pagoda in Taunggyi and offered flowers, water and oil lights to the pagoda.

After enjoying the natural beauties of Taunggyi from the viewpoint of the pagoda, the Senior General instructed officials to conserve natural resources in Taunggyi.

The Senior General and his wife donated cash to the fund of the pagoda through the pagoda board of trustees. — MNA/TTA



# SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects progress of Shwenyaung-Taunggyi railway upgrading project

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday morning inspected the progress in the implementation of the Shwenyaung-Taunggyi railway upgrading project in Shan State (South).

Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San reported on filling earth, land preparations, quality control measures, the progress of work sections, placing of rail tracts, construction of the railway similar to the famous Bawa Thantaya railway bridge in Shan State and future plans.

After hearing the reports,



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing hears the reports on the implementation progress of the Shwenyaung-Taunggyi railway upgrading project in Shan State (South).



the Senior General said the Shwenyaung-Taunggyi railway

upgrading project aims to benefit the local people, further

develop trading of commodities, transport domestic min-

erals and products and attract travellers. In the future, the railway will be extended to the Pa-O region. The railway must be built systematically similar to the Bawa Thantaya railway. Guard rails must be placed along the railways near the motor roads for ensuring safety. Moreover, the railway must be facilitated with toe walls, retaining walls, conduits and drains.

The Senior General inspected the project area and left instructions over the reports of the officials. — MNA/TTA



The Senior General inspects the project site.

# Chinese Ambassador calls on UEC Chair

CHAIRMAN of the Union Election Commission U Thein Soe received Ambassador Mr Chen Hai of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar and the delegation at the Union Election Commission office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Chinese ambassador asked about matters related to preparations to hold the election in accordance with the SAC Five-Point Road Map, the status of political parties and the holding of a free and fair election in peace and stability.

The UEC chairman expressed that the commission is preparing to hold the election, the promulgation of the Political

Parties Registration Law and Rules, the verification process of the right to establishing political parties and applications for registration, the use of electronic voting machines in the upcoming elections, the implementation of the proportional representation (PR) system, the holding of fair and just elections that are accepted by voters and contesting political parties, and the voting process for eligible voters under the law.

The meeting was attended by members of the Union Election Commission and officials from the commission office. — MNA/TS



Union Election Commission Chair U Thein Soe receives Chinese Ambassador Mr Chen Hai in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.



# SAC Vice-Chair DPM Vice-Senior General Soe Win receives Ambassador of India to Myanmar

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Vinay Kumar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed cooperation in peace and tranquillity at the border region of both countries, further promotion of cooperation, bilateral trade and development programmes including the Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project.

Also present at the event together with the Vice-Senior General were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Myo Htut and Director-General U Aung Ko. The Indian ambassador was accompanied by deputy secretary Ms Reeta Meena. — MNA/KTZH



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win receives Mr Vinay Kumar, Ambassador of India to Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw on 7 March 2023.

# MoBA Union Minister receives Ambassador of India to Myanmar



UNION Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung received Indian Ambassador Mr Vinay Kumar at 1 pm yesterday in the Ministry of Border Affairs.

During the meeting, both sides frankly discussed and exchanged views on stability, peace and development of border areas of the two countries, the implementation and successful results

Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung receives Indian Ambassador Mr Vinay Kumar yesterday.

of development projects in Chin State and Naga Self-Administered Zone with assistance funds by India under the MoU signed by the two countries, the negotiating status to sign a new MoU for the border region development project, and further cooperation programmes.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Phyo Thant, the director-general, the deputy permanent secretary and officials from the Ministry of Border Affairs. — MNA/TS

# 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of ASEAN SLC on Financial Integration held virtually

THE 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior-Level Committee-SLC on Financial Integration meeting was held in a hybrid format yesterday, and Deputy Governor Dr Linn Aung of the Central Bank of Myanmar participated in the meeting.

First, the deputy managing director from the Monetary Authority of Singapore and deputy governor of the Bank of the Lao PDR co-chaired the meeting and gave opening speeches. Then, they presented the current macroeconomic conditions of the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office – AMRO and the Asian Development Bank-ADB, and the development of the global and regional financial state.

Then, relevant working committees clarified the progress



The 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior-Level Committee-SLC on Financial Integration meeting is in progress online yesterday.

regarding the ASEAN Interoperable Data Framework and the ASEAN Multilateral Payments Connectivity Initiative Plan while the representative from the ASEAN secretariat conferred on prioritized subjects and their growth for the financial integration, and processes of the ASEAN Eco-

nomic Community-AEC.

At noon, the final progress of the ASEAN Banking Integration Framework- ABIF, the Capital Account Liberalization-CAL, the Capital Market Development-CMD, the Financial Inclusion-FINC, the Financial Services Liberalization-FSL, the Payment

and Settlement System-PSS and the Steering Committee on Capacity Building – SCCB, was explained by respective working committees, and deputy governors gave their guidance.

Next, the co-chairs of the Senior-Level Committee Working Group explained Sustainable

Finance while the Central Bank of Indonesia about the ASEAN Cybersecurity Resilience and Information Sharing Platform-CRISP and the Central Bank of the Philippines about the brief of the second meeting of ASEAN Swap Arrangement Working Committee held in Indonesia on 5 February 2023.

Officials from the Monetary Authority of Singapore clarified the Terms of Reference TOR and the Central Bank of Indonesia discussed the holding of the second meeting of ASEAN Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors and the integration of ASEAN working groups. Finally, the co-chairs of the meeting made conclusion remarks. — MNA/KTZH



# MoRAC Union Minister offers Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita title; title recipient Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kuthala donates cash to Maravijaya Buddha Image



UNION Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Ko Ko attended the ceremony to offer Maha Gandhavacaka Pandita title for 2023 to Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kuthala of Lin JuuTaung Buddhist Missionary in Hong Kong, the People's Republic of China, and for the Sayadaw to donate cash for the construction of the Maravijaya Buddha Image in Dekkhina Thiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, and Alaetawya Dhamma Vijaya Temple.

The ceremony was held at the Ministry of Religious Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning and was attended by Deputy Minister U Aye Htun,

the permanent secretary, the directors-general and officials.

At the ceremony, Maha Gandhavacaka Pandita title was offered to the Presiding Sayadaw of Lin JuuTaung Buddhist Missionary in Hong Kong. And then, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kuthala donated US\$20,000 for the construction of the Maravijaya Buddha Image and the layperson of the Sayadaw donated K5 million. Cash was also donated for Alaetawya Dhamma Vijaya Temple constructed by the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture and the Union Minister accepted the donation and gave in turn a certificate of honour. — MNA/MKKS

# Myanmar delegation joins seminar on Negative Effects of Corruption on Successful Implementation of UN Sustainable Development Goals

MYANMAR delegation led by Anti-Corruption Commission Chair Dr Htay Aung joined a seminar on “The Negative Effects of Corruption on the Successful Implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals” organized by the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) through a hybrid format on 6 March.



A total of 122 representatives including Anti-Corruption Experts in the respective fields and alumni who attended the Anti-Corruption Master Programme and training courses

opened by IACA attended the event.

The meeting discussed the 17 goals of UN SDGs and 169

targets, the need for strong governments to implement that case which is public policy, various forms of corruption in

the developed countries which are also obstacles to implementing the SDGs successfully and the need for resources.

Concerning the discussion of the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission of Myanmar on the situation where the implementation of the SDG goals may be convenient for developed countries but there may be obstacles for developing countries due to technical and human resources, Mr Jerrery D Sachs responded that better plans are drafted to implement the SDGs and it also needs allocation of the adequate fund, advice of experts and cooperation in respective sectors. — MNA/KTZH

## Public Notice for Elimination of Violence

1. Declaring themselves to be “for the people”, the so-called CRPH, NUG and PDF terrorist groups are lawlessly killing Buddhist monks, civil servants including schoolteachers, and members of the general public, as well as looting and robbing.
2. Not encouraging, supporting, or assisting “CRPH”, “NUG”, and “PDF” terrorists, who are intimidating and killing people and committing destructive activities, is to protect the lives and property of the general public.
3. Giving information secretly to the authorities on terrorists and on the possession and transport of weapons/ammunition is tantamount to protecting the lives and property of innocent people.

## 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*



## OPINION

### Avoid gender discrimination against women

ALL human beings must have a chance to show off their capacity in all arenas. No one has the right to block or ban anyone to show off their capacity. So also, every female and male person has the chance to keep abreast of others in all aspects. Life and status of global people are different from each other. But it is not defined as their capacity and qualification. So, anyone should assess others based on life positions and statuses but on capacity and qualification. Hence, all females and males should not be discriminated against in all measures including gender.

As a result, every female has the chance to join the learning as well as workplaces similar to males. Those females have the chance to taste technologies and any professions. As such, the International Women's Day organizing committee of the United Nations set a theme: DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality.

The theme of the United Nations recognizes and celebrates the women and girls who are championing the advancement of transformative technology and digital education. The observance will explore the impact of the digital gender gap on widening economic and social inequalities, and it will also spotlight the importance of protecting the rights of women and girls in digital spaces and addressing online and ICT-facilitated gender-based violence.

If women are unable to access the Internet and do not feel safe online, they are unable to develop the necessary digital skills to engage in digital spaces, which diminishes their opportunities to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) related fields. By 2050, seventy-five per cent of jobs will be related to the science, technology, engineering and mathematics arenas. Yet today, women hold just 22 per cent of positions in artificial intelligence, to name just one.

To be able to express their capacity, females have to learn and study technologies in all sectors. They have to fulfil the global requirements in all aspects while serving the assignments shoulder to shoulder with males. Only when they are qualified with technologies and skills in all professions can they be free from the impacts of gender discrimination. As such, they have to follow and take lessons from the endeavours of female idols of the world.

Indeed, females including women and girls cannot be set aside from all measures in the world. It is because they all are useful in relevant sectors similar to male persons. Female and male persons must stand tall together in the secular world without the absence of anyone to beautify society.

Indeed, females including women and girls cannot be set aside from all measures in the world. It is because they all are useful in relevant sectors similar to male persons. Female and male persons must stand tall together in the secular world without the absence of anyone to beautify society.

## Tribute to the hands that rock the cradles

(In commemoration of International Women's Day, 8 March 2023)

By Chit Ko Pe

RECENTLY, there was a special occasion in our college to celebrate Knowledge Management Day. It saw the exhibitors from each department of faculties sharing their in-depth knowledge with the attendees.

A particular topic – Enhancing Technology-based Active Learning through Nearpod for Post-Pandemic Education – drew my ardent attention. It focused on the use of tools like Nearpod as part of instructional delivery methods as well as technology-based active learning during/post unprecedented times of the Covid-19 pandemic. The topic does reflect the theme for

this year's International Women's Day (IWD) that falls on 8 March 2023 "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality".

The women and girls who champion the advancement of transformative technology and digital education are well recognized and celebrated worldwide under the United Nations' observance on this very day. Their involvement plays a vital role in being able to bring economic and social equality. But the reality is otherwise with gender inequality. Though the knowledge workers are of a diverse set irrespective of race, religion and region, the inclusion of women and girls is

far less compared to men.

This 21<sup>st</sup> century regards the knowledge workers and their productivity as the most valuable assets in both business and non-business unlike in the 20<sup>th</sup> century whereby production equipment was a prime domain as remarkably noted by Peter Drucker, a well-known and influential thinker on management. According to his view, knowledge workers hold high-level potential with theoretical and analytical knowledge to get products and services developed at all times.

In ancient times, knowledge retention was carried out through oral expression passed down to the generations. Later

it evolved with the long-lasting way of knowledge retention on rock surfaces where the words were engraved. In this modern internet age, it is widely digitalized, too. Likewise, the transfer of knowledge is virtually carried out via all sorts of online media enabling the connection between the trainers and trainees with interactive lessons, quizzes and real-time feedback.

From the feminine perspective, their own creative ideas, solutions and contributions that have never existed can be produced to the benefit of the whole society. Take a look at the world's population. According to the 2021 statistics of the UN, the ratio of

men to women in the world is 101 to 100. On this point, we can simply say that we lose out on about 50 per cent of opportunities to have unparalleled innovations in all aspects.

The UN Women's Gender Snapshot 2022 report mentions that there was a loss of \$1 trillion from the gross domestic product of low- and middle-income countries in the last decade as a result of women's exclusion from the digital world, and the loss figure would reach to US\$1.5 trillion by 2025 without action. The burden falls on technologists, innovators, entrepreneurs, and gender equality activists to tackle this issue.

Women and girls shall not be left behind to advance the digital technology that offers immense opportunities. It is time we need to address the humanitarian challenges with action towards gender equality.

The hands of women were, in the past, seen rocking the cradles and manning nanny chores. The present still sees this trend in many parts of the world. With our transformative action giving them unhindered access to technology, their hands can change the world with digital skills in the future.

Reference: <https://www.unwomen.org/>

## Union Health Minister unveils 'India's Vaccine Growth Story' at World Book Fair 2023

UNION Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya released the book 'India's Vaccine Growth Story - From Cowpox to Vaccine Maitri' authored by Additional Secretary, Sajjan Singh at the World Book fair 2023, at Pragati Maidan on Saturday, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare informed in a press release.

As per the Ministry, the book elaborates on India's impressive achievement in developing, producing and distributing COVID-19 vaccines. Rajesh Bhushan, the Union Health Secretary and other senior officers were also present on the occasion.

**Narendra Modi's faith in the Indian scientific community**

Addressing the event, Mandaviya praised Prime Minister, Narendra Modi's faith in the Indian scientific community and the stellar healthcare professionals across the country. He said, "This combination led India to conquer unsurmountable challenges to achieve a feat no country has before, catering not just to its own nation, but supplying life-saving vaccines worldwide, all in due time."



The Health Minister encouraged writers to inculcate research-based documentation that would lend a voice to India's treasure of traditions and heritage that lay dormant and forgotten, and bring them to light. PHOTO: PIB.GOV.IN

Lauding the unwavering dedication of healthcare professionals, Dr Mandaviya stated that "India administered 2.2 billion doses as a part of the world's largest COVID vaccination drive without any shortages across the nation resulting in saving 3.4 million lives." The minister also highlighted that when other countries were struggling

with vaccine hesitancy, India set an exemplary pro-vaccination Covid management model.

"It gives me immense pleasure to see research, manufacturing and vaccine drive has been portrayed in a comprehensive fashion that recounts not just the pandemic crisis but also delves into vaccine history, that can be

traced 2500 years back," he said.

Urging writers to come to the fore, the Health Minister said, "Research-based documentation is a medium that can bring to light India's heritage, illustrating to the world possibilities and solutions, as India's Covid-19 trajectory has done, leaning on our traditional roots and heritage".

**Our heritage reflects our knowledge and science** He further elaborated "our heritage reflects our knowledge and science that have stood the test of time, and proven exemplary in times of crisis".

Citing the example of our traditional greeting 'Namaste', which became a global way of greeting through the pandemic crisis, the Health Minister stated that "Our people must search within our heritage, they will find a deep repository of traditions based on scientific processes that have held India in good stead, and widely acknowledged by the world."

The Health Minister encouraged writers to inculcate research-based documentation that would lend a voice to India's treasure of traditions and heritage that lay dormant and forgotten, and bring them to light. Rajesh Bhushan, the Health Secretary also addressed the event stating that there are 12 kinds of diseases that can be prevented with vaccines known as vaccine-preventable diseases are a part of India's universal vaccination group, and the government of India provides

these vaccines free of cost to expecting mothers, young and neonates.

**India's Vaccine Growth Story**

"The book entitled 'India's Vaccine Growth Story - From Cowpox to Vaccine Maitri' presents the world's largest vaccination drive for COVID-19 conducted by India is elaborate. Tough and multifaceted challenges overcome in the process like vaccine hesitancy, eagerness, availability, transportation, equitable access, effective communication and expectation management, cold chain dynamics, and vaccine centres logistics have been explained too. The author has also delved into future challenges that may emerge for vaccinology and new vistas for the growth of the Indian vaccine industry in a candid manner. It also digs deep into India's impressive achievement in developing, producing and distributing COVID-19 vaccines," the Ministry stated. Lok Ranjan, Additional Secretary, Govind Prasad Sharma, Chairman of National Book Trust and other senior government officials were also present at the event.

SOURCE: ANI

## Social workers experienced depression during pandemic, finds study

CONCERNING rates of depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and anxiety among social workers have been uncovered in a new study published in the journal International Social Work.

Stressors related to COVID-19 were the strongest factors associated with negative mental health outcomes. Those who experienced a higher number of pandemic-related stressors — such as health concerns, increased caregiving responsibilities, violence in the home, family stress due to confinement, and stress associated with work-life balance — experienced mental health problems at a higher rate compared with those who were not as impacted by pandemic-related hardships.

"Like physicians, nurses and other allied healthcare providers, social workers are feeling the impact of the pandemic, and it is showing up in their mental health," says lead author Ramona Alaggia, a professor at the University of Toronto's Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work (FIFSW) and the Margaret and Wallace McCain Chair in Child and Family. "As we celebrate Social Work Week in Ontario 6 - 12 March and National Social Work Month in March, it is important to recognize the stressors that affect social workers and the well-being of those working in this essential field."

An alarming 40 per cent of the sample reported depression — which is four times higher than the general population.

The rate of reported depression among social workers is also substantially higher than other healthcare professionals working in COVID-19-related conditions, where the prevalence rate of depression has been found to be 24 per cent. In total, one-fifth of the sample reported PTSD while 15 per cent reported anxiety.

"As personal stressors among social workers have increased, so too have the needs of those they serve," says co-author Esme Fuller-Thomson, FIFSW professor and director of the Institute for Life Course and Ageing at the University of Toronto. "With rising rates of domestic violence, child abuse, mental health illnesses and addictions, death rates in long-term care systems, and homelessness, social workers' jobs have become more demanding than ever."

The majority of survey respondents were from Ontario and married or in common law unions. Half of the respondents had children under the age of 18, and 85 per cent were women, which is consistent with the number of women working in the social work field.

SOURCE: ANI



In Panama, a patient with a confirmed case of COVID-19, is surrounded by a medical team at the intensive care unit of Paitilla Hospital in Panama City, 6 May 2020. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ AFP/FILE



## Hotels, guesthouses in Ngapali beach fully booked for Thingyan holidays



Beachgoers were seen on Ngapali beach in 2022. PHOTO: KANU

A large number of domestic visitors and tourists are booking rooms for trips during the Thingyan holidays at hotels and guesthouses of the famous Ngapali beach.

Hotels and guesthouses were full due to the unexpected influx of visitors during the last year's Thingyan period and they stayed at the houses in Thandwe township.

The Ngapali beach is expected to be crowded with visitors during this year's 10-day Thingyan holiday, according to hotels and guesthouses.

"At the beginning of this month, bookings for rooms in Ngapali to stay during the Thingyan period started to increase. This year, it is expected that the hotel business will be better than last year as

more visitors are likely to come here on holidays. Tourism visas are also given to tourists, so there are likely to be more tourists here than last year. I would also like to advise local travellers to keep the natural environment of Ngapali beach clean," said Rakhine State Hotel and Tourism Department Director U Tin Htut. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/MKKS

## ToT second batch for EVs opens at GTI (Insein)

THE opening ceremony of the second batch of training of trainers for EVs was held yesterday at Government Technical Institute (Insein) under the Department of Technical, Vocational Education and Training, Ministry of Science and Technology.

First, GTI (Insein) Principal U Myat Ko delivered a greeting speech and explained the progress of the training, the provision of teaching aids at the workshop and the subjects to be taught.

The subjects – Electronic Power Train, Electrical Power System, Practical Approach to

Electronics in EV, Sensor and Networking Technology, Automotive Material and Theory of Automobile – will be taught in the ToT second batch.

Five trainees from the Advanced Science and Technology Department and ten trainees from the Department of Technical, Vocational Education and Training under the Ministry of Science and Technology, six trainees from the Directorate of Industrial Collaboration under the Ministry of Industry, totalling 21 trainees, will attend the training. — MNA/KZW



A practical session of the training of trainers for EVs is pictured at GTI (Insein) yesterday.

## Daily trade value via Wang Ding border worth over 24 mln Chinese yuan

CHINA announced that the average daily trade value through the Wang Ding border is 24.23 million yuan and that in 2022, more than one billion was traded.

Therefore, the daily trade value of the China-Myanmar

border is US\$3.5 million.

The Shweli (Ruili) border is the largest inland port important for trade between China and Myanmar, with automatic inspection lanes (16). There are reportedly 44 manual inspection routes and 22 vehicle inspection

routes.

According to Chinese statistics, the Wang Ding-Manman crossing on the border of Myanmar traded more than 7,000 tonnes of goods in 2023, and about 500 vehicles pass through it every day.

According to China's accounting records, from 2022 to 7 February 2023, the amount of cross-border freight was 0.637 million tonnes, and the total number of incoming and outgoing vehicles was 44,874.

The main force in exports

and imports with household electrical appliances, machinery, daily items rubber including fruits, etc., it is stated that it is worth 1.65 billion Chinese yuan.

According to these factors, trade increased more in 2023 than in 2022. — TPT/GNLM

## Acidification status of rainwater that fell in February 2023

THE Department of Meteorology and Hydrology under the Ministry of Transport and Communications became a member of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia-EANET in November 2005. Since that time, it has been collecting the

rainwater and measuring the pH values of the rainwater monthly to find out the state of acid development in the rainwater at 41 stations in 41 cities of Regions and States.

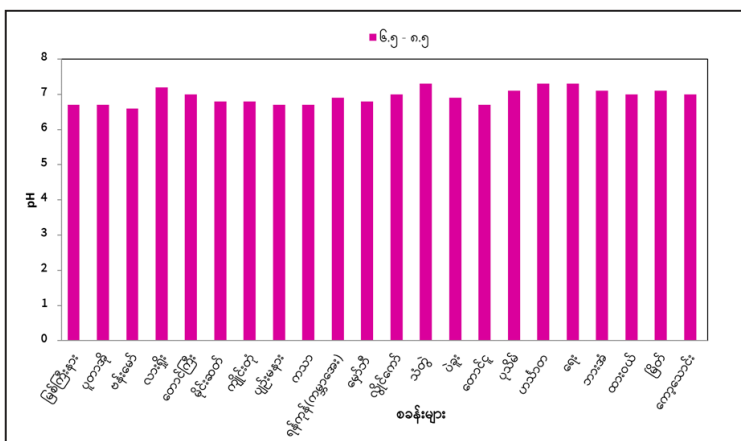
In February 2023, it rained in Myitkyina, PutaO, Bhamo,

Lashio, Taunggyi, Monghsat, Kengtung, Pyinmana, Katha, Yangon (Kaba Aye), Hmawbi, Loikaw, Thandwe, Bago, Toun-

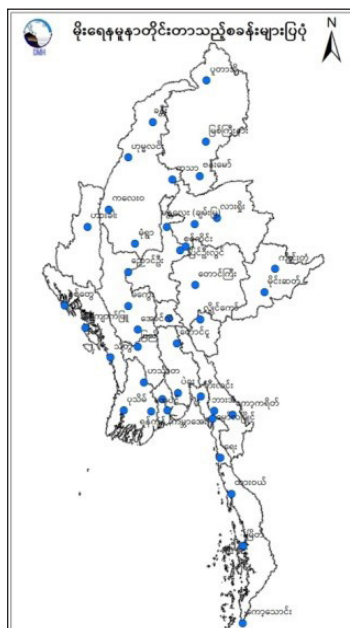
goo, Pathein, Hinthada, Ye, Hpa-an, Dawei, Myeik and Kawthoung. The pH value of the rainwater was measured to be within (6.5-8.5), the pH value for drinking water specified by the World Health Organization (WHO) and

the Ministry of Health.

Rainwater is acidic only when its pH value is below 5.6. It was found that there was no acidification in the rainwater collected at 22 stations in February 2023. — MNA/KZW



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No	Station Name	pH
1.	Myitkyina	6.7
2.	Putao	6.7
3.	Bhamo	6.6
4.	Lashio	7.2
5.	Taunggyi	7.0
6.	Monghsat	6.8
7.	Kengtung	6.8
8.	Pyinmana	6.7
9.	Katha	6.7
10.	Yangon (Kaba Aye)	6.9
11.	Hmawby	6.8

No	Station Name	pH
12.	Loikaw	7.0
13.	Thandwe	7.3
14.	Bago	6.9
15.	Toungoo	6.7
16.	Pathein	7.1
17.	Hinthada	7.3
18.	Ye	7.3
19.	Hpa-an	7.1
20.	Dawei	7.0
21.	Myeik	7.1
22.	Kawthoung	7.0



## Highway bus lines disallowed to increase ticket prices during Thingyan holidays: YRTC

ACCORDING to the Yangon Region Public Transport Committee-YRTC, express bus lines have been instructed not to raise the bus fares during the Thingyan holidays.

The bus lines have been notified not to collect more charges on bus fares and sell tickets to passengers with no Citizenship Scrutiny Card. It is also instructed to ensure that there are enough buses for passengers who will return to their hometowns, and make sure that occupants wear seat belts while the bus was running.

“The bus lines charge more fares on tickets as the holiday approaches. Such things usually happen due to the

lack of effective screening measures,” Ko Aye Win, a worker from Nyaung-U, told the GNLM.

A total of 660 buses from 212 highway bus lines in Yangon carry 11,840 passengers daily. It is difficult to buy express bus tickets due to the large number of people travelling from Yangon back to their hometowns during the Thingyan holidays. The illegal sale of highway bus tickets annually occurs due to the inconveniences in the pre-purchase process as well.

Passengers are also informed that they can complain to YRTC if there are bus lines that sell tickets with higher prices. — TWA/CT



Certain highway bus lines at the Aung Mingala Highway Bus Terminal.



The shipwreck of the Hong Kong-flagged vessel.

## ME in Tokyo provides assistance in cremation of 2 Myanmar crew killed in shipwreck

MYANMAR Embassy in Tokyo, Japan, said that it helped for the cremation of two Myanmar crew who died in the shipwreck of an HK-flagged vessel.

The Myanmar Embassy coordinated with the shipping agent for the cremation of U Phyo Min Hein and U Zeyya Nyein according to the wishes of their families.

One of them was alive at the time when he was found and died only after reaching Japan, so there was no difficulty in cremating him in Japan. However, the other one had already died when he was found in international waters and Japanese authorities replied to Myanmar authorities that they could not allow him to be cremated in Japan according to Japanese law.

However, the Myanmar Embassy coordinated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan to consider and allow the cremation of the two on humanitarian grounds.

According to the statement of the Myanmar Embassy, the permit for the cremation of those Myanmar crew according to the wishes of their families was obtained on 17 February and the bodies of the Myanmar crew were properly cremated at 1 pm on 2 March. — TWA/MKKS

## Students receiving medical treatment can contact nearest centre as Yangon Region set 4 hospital exam centres: MoE

THE Ministry of Education has announced that there will be four hospital examination centres in Yangon Region, and students who are receiving medical treatment can contact the nearest centre. The announcement says that it is planned to open four hospital examination centres in Yangon Region for students who are receiving medical treatment during the matriculation examination.

As the Ministry of Health will ensure that the rights of the students who are admitted to the hospital receiving medical treatment during the matriculation exam that will be held from 8 to 18 March 2023 are not hampered, it will be planned to open four hospital exam centres through the coordination of the Department of Treatment and the Myanmar Examinations Department.

ment of Treatment and the Myanmar Examinations Department.

The four centres are open at Yangon General Hospital, North Okkalapa General Hospital and Teaching Hospital, Central Women’s Hospital, and Waibargi Speciality Hospital. In addition, students who are admitted to the hospital and want to take the exam can contact the medical and social relations department of these major hospitals, the announcement stated.

More than 180,000 students from all over Myanmar will take part in this year’s matriculation exam, and the Ministry of Education has issued a notification that they should not forget to take their exam cards with them. — TWA/GNLM



The Waibargi Speciality Hospital where the exam centre is open.

# Tamarind sellers doing roaring trade

THE price of tamarinds produced in upper Myanmar regions are expected to increase, traders forecast.

Demand for tamarind strengthens this month. There is a high chance for tamarind to fetch a higher price this year.

The yield of tamarind is pretty good. The price will go up when tamarind exports increase, a seller from Bayint Naung Wholesale Center told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

During the harvest season, tamarind from the Yamethin area was priced at K2,300 per viss in the wholesale market on 14 December 2022. The prices

stayed on the low side at K1,700-1,800 per viss three months later, while the tamarind fresh fetched K2,500-2,900 per viss in the Yangon markets.

In mid-2022, the price hit an unprecedented high in Yangon. Yet, the price did not go up in 2023. The good quality tamarind fresh is worth K3,100 per viss.

Last year, some traders stored them in the hopes of receiving higher prices. However, the price did not rise and there are even tamarinds produced in 2021 stockpiled at the warehouse.

In late 2022, the supplies to the Yangon market increased, said a seller.

Before the 2000s, tamarinds



The picture shows tamarind stored at a warehouse in the Bayintnaung Commodity Centre.

were utilized in the tobacco businesses. Now, the number of those

businesses has declined. So, the demand softens significantly.

They are still used in the tamarind extract business.

The export volume of tamarind last year drastically fell compared to the previous years. The traders offer K50,000-100,000 per tamarind plant depending on the yield and then harvest them. Tamarind is sharing markets with other sour fruits such as mango and lemon in the domestic markets. This month, the traders continue buying them when the price is low.

Tamarind price usually climbs when the prices of other commodities are stable, Ko Phyo Ko, who is involved in tamarind trading on Kayan Street, told the GNLM. — TWA/EM



# ECONOMY WORLD

## Philippines' inflation rate slows to 8.6% in February



A woman buys fresh tomatoes from a stall in the Divisoria district of Manila on 26 January 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

YEAR-ON-YEAR inflation in the Philippines slowed to 8.6 per cent in February 2023 from 8.7 per cent in January after rising for five months straight as the price increase of certain food commodities and energy eased, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) said on Tuesday.

The inflation rate in February 2022 was lower at 3 per cent. The average inflation rate for the first two months of this year stood at 8.6 per cent.

"Among the 13 commodity groups, the transport was the sole driver of the downtrend

of the overall inflation during the month, recording a nine-per-cent inflation rate in February 2023 from 11.1 per cent inflation in January 2023," PSA head Dennis Mapa told a news conference.

In contrast, he said nine commodity groups showed higher inflation rates, including food and non-alcoholic beverages at 10.8 per cent and alcoholic beverages and tobacco at 11 per cent.

Meanwhile, Mapa said the core inflation, which excludes volatile food and energy items in the headline inflation, rose to 7.8

per cent in February 2023 from 7.4 per cent in January 2023. In February 2022, core inflation was lower at 1.9 per cent.

National Economic and Development Authority Secretary Arsenio Balisacan said energy and food inflation remained the top contributors to inflation in February, accounting for 1 and 0.9 percentage points (ppt), respectively, followed by restaurant services contributing 0.8 ppt and house rentals with 0.7 ppt. Meanwhile, he added public transport contributed 0.6 ppt. — Xinhua

## US wants hike in global crude output, including from OPEC: official

THE United States wants to see a hike in oil production, including from OPEC countries, said a senior State Department official Monday.

"As world economies recover, we'll see more consumption. And therefore we'd like to see supply meet demand," said Jose Fernandez, the US Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs, Energy and the Environment, on the sidelines of the CERAWEEK energy conference, in Houston, Texas.

"We would like to see more supply" of crude globally, including from OPEC+ — the 13 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and 11 non-OPEC allied countries — Fernandez said.

OPEC+ decided in early October to cut production by two million barrels per day and has not changed its output level since.

The price of a barrel of West Texas Intermediate (WTI), the benchmark US variety, is now worth about a third less than a year ago, in the early days of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

But it is still more than 40 per cent higher than during the same period in 2019, and up almost 30 per cent compared to 2018.

Between the beginning of September 2021 and the beginning of January 2023, the administration of President Joe Biden drew nearly 250 million barrels from the US strategic reserves, which was then sold on the US market to relieve skyrocketing gas prices.

The US president has regularly called in the last year for an increase in the OPEC+ output, but the cartel has not raised its quotas for six months. — AFP

## US factory orders drop 1.6% in January

NEW orders for US manufactured products slid by 1.6 per cent, or 8.9 billion US dollars, in January, to 542.8 billion dollars.

That came after December's rise of 1.7 per cent, according to data released by the US Census Bureau on Monday.

The numbers were a tad better than analysts' expecta-

tions of a 1.8-per-cent decrease.

January's figures came amid mixed messages for the US economy.

While jobs are plentiful, inflation is surging and the US Federal Reserve continues to implement the most aggressive rate hike cycle in decades. — Xinhua

## Japan commits \$1.6 bln to controversial Australia hydrogen project

JAPAN will spend 220 billion yen (\$1.6 billion) on an ambitious but controversial venture in Australia to produce liquid hydrogen from a type of coal, the project announced on Tuesday.

The Hydrogen Energy Supply Chain (HESC) project is a joint Japanese-Australian undertaking intended to produce plentiful and affordable fuel for Tokyo.

Its backers argue it will help reduce global emissions by producing "clean hydrogen", but researchers say that claim is premised on carbon capture technology that does not exist.

In a statement, HESC said the project has entered its commercial demonstration phase with money from



This picture taken on 4 November 2021 shows a train transporting coal through the valleys of Singleton, some 70km (43 miles) from Newcastle, the world's largest coal exporting port. Australia's conservative leaders have defied calls for urgent climate action, boasting they will sell coal for as long as anyone is buying, but in the country's carbon heartland, locals are already preparing for life beyond fossil fuels. **PHOTO: AFP**

Japan's Green Innovation Fund, which will be used to design and build facilities to

liquefy and ship hydrogen from Australia's Victoria to Japan. — AFP

## Thai shippers' council expects 8% fall in Q1 exports

THAILAND'S export value is expected to shrink eight per cent in the first quarter of 2023 from a year earlier, weighed down by slowing global demand, the country's shippers' council said on Tuesday.

The forecast, downgraded from a projected 3.7-per-cent decline the Thai National Shippers' Council (TNSC) made a month ago, came after a more-than-expected drop in

Thailand's exports in January.

The Southeast Asian country's exports, a key driver of growth, fell for a fourth straight month in January, down 4.5 per cent year on year to 20.24 billion US dollars, as global demand slowed. The reading was worse than a market expectation of a one-per-cent fall.

The global economy remained highly uncertain, leading to a potential slowdown in

the country's manufacturing sector, while the service and tourism sectors are expected to help drive the economic recovery, TNSC said in a written statement on Tuesday.

It urged the government to regulate electricity tariffs in the next revision, as it is one of the main production costs that impact Thai businesses' competitiveness. — Xinhua



## Chinese foreign trade starts new year in a slump

CHINA'S exports and imports fell during the first two months of 2023, according to official data Tuesday, hit by sluggish overseas demand, a massive Covid wave and market concerns over rising US tensions.

The country's exports in January and February tumbled 6.8 per cent on-year, though that was an

improvement on the 9.9 per cent drop in December; customs records showed.

Imports fell 10.2 per cent during the same period — worse than the 7.5 per cent drop recorded in December.

The latest figures come as the threat of recession looms over the US and European economies,

where galloping inflation is contributing to a sag in demand for Chinese products.

Turbulence in China-US relations continued to weigh on trade between the world's two leading economies, with Chinese exports to the United States down 21.8 per cent in January-February. — AFP



Photo taken on 2 March 2022 shows a container terminal of Qinzhou Port in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. PHOTO: XINHUA

## S African economy sinks below pre-pandemic levels

SOUTH Africa's economy tumbled below pre-pandemic levels in the last three months of 2022 as record power shortages hit activity, official data showed Tuesday.

The gross domestic product of Africa's most industrialized country

contracted by 1.3 per cent in the fourth quarter, worse than expected by analysts.

"After rallying in the third quarter of 2022 ... GDP fell below pre-pandemic levels," said the national statistics agency StatsSA.

The economy had expanded by 1.6 per cent in the July-to-September period.

Growth in Africa's most industrialized country was weighed down in the final quarter by unprecedented levels of power outages.

Only two days were spared by the staggered blackouts during the last three months of last year.

Outages cost more than \$50-million in lost output each day, according to estimates by the energy minister.

The blackouts are

blamed on the 100-year-old state energy firm Eskom which produces about 90 per cent of the country's energy needs.

Eskom is saddled with constantly breaking down generating plants and is failing to meet demand.

The trade and finance sectors were the biggest drags to the economy's growth between October and December, with exports decreasing by 4.8 per cent. Mining agriculture and manufacturing also slumped. — AFP

## German industrial orders rise again in January

GERMAN industrial orders climbed for a second straight month in January, official data showed Tuesday, as Europe's top economy weathers the fallout from Russia's war in Ukraine better than expected.

New orders, which provide a foretaste of industrial output, rose 1.0 per cent compared to the previous month, federal statistics agency Destatis said.

The figure surprised analysts, who had predicted a decline in factory orders for January.

Destatis said the increase was driven by large orders in aircraft and spacecraft construction from outside the eurozone.

The manufacturing data added to signs "that the current phase of economic weakness will be

mild", the economy ministry said in a statement, noting the "improved business climate in recent months".

Germany's economy has proved unexpectedly resilient to the shocks from the Ukraine war, partly thanks to government measures to cushion the impact of higher energy costs and efforts to diversify gas supplies.— AFP

### CHANGING THE NAME OF PESTICIDE TRADE NAME

Myanma Shwe Nagar Agricultural Group Co., Ltd brand pesticide which are registered under pesticide registration Board of Myanmar. Myanma Shwe Nagar Agricultural Group Co., Ltd is now would like to change its product trade name as mentioned below. Any objection regarding to this trade name change can notify to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon within period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice.

No.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type And Number
1.	Mect Mect	Indo Star	Emamectin Benzoate 4% + Indoxacarb 16% SC	Experimental E 2021-5234

**Myanma Shwe Nagar Agricultural Group Co., Ltd**  
No-402, U Phoe Hlaing St, Shwe Lin Pan Industrial Zone, Hlaing Thar Yar Tsp, Yangon, Myanmar. Ph- 09 452264311

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CHERRY VOY.NO. (200N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CHERRY VOY. NO. (200N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-3-2023** 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HAIAN BELL VOY.NO. (2306S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HAIAN BELL VOY.NO. (2306S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-3-2023** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR SOLO VOY.NO. (990N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR SOLO VOY.NO. (990N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-3-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE**



# GLOBAL AFFAIRS



Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang attends a press conference on China's foreign policy and foreign relations on the sidelines of the first session of the 14th National People's Congress (NPC) in Beijing, capital of China, 7 March 2023. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

## Imperative for China-Russia ties to advance steadily in unstable world: FM

THE more unstable the world becomes, the more imperative it is for China and Russia to steadily advance their relations, Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang said Tuesday.

China and Russia have found a path of major-country relations featuring strategic mutual trust and good neighbourliness, setting a good example for a new type of international relations, Qin said

at a press conference held on the sidelines of the ongoing annual session of the 14th National People's Congress.

The China-Russia relationship is not a threat to any country, nor is it subject to any interference or discord sown by any third party, Qin said.

With China and Russia working together, the world will have the driving force toward multipo-

larity and greater democracy in international relations, and global strategic balance and stability will be better ensured, he said.

Qin expressed confidence that under the strategic guidance of the presidents of the two countries, the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era will forge ahead at a higher level. — Xinhua

## Iranian, Russian presidents discuss economic cooperation via phone

IRANIAN President Ebrahim Raisi and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on Monday held a phone conversation on the latest developments in bilateral economic cooperation.

The two sides exchanged views on economic cooperation and ways to expand it, particularly in the field of international transportation, according to the website of the Iranian president's office.

The two leaders also reviewed initiatives involving regional transportation devel-

opment, according to Mohammad Jamshidi, deputy chief of staff for political affairs to the Iranian president.

Jamshidi explained in a tweet that the Eurasian integration is the second phase of Raisi's neighbourhood policy which includes the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative and the International North-South Transport Corridor with Russia.

The goal is to strengthen Iran's geoeconomic role, he added.—Xinhua

## Gender equality still '300 years away,' UN chief warns

GLOBAL progress on women's rights is "vanishing before our eyes", UN boss Antonio Guterres warned Monday, saying the increasingly distant goal of gender equality will take another three centuries to achieve.

"Gender equality is growing more distant. On the current track, UN Women puts it 300 years away," the United Nations secretary-general said in a General Assembly speech ahead of International Women's Day on 8 March, as he launched two weeks of discussions led by the Commission on the Status of Women. "Women's rights are being abused, threatened, and violated around the world," he added, as he ticked off a litany of crises: maternal mortality, girls



A cyclist passes street art by member of the WOM collective, 'Inkblot', created for International Women's Day, in east London on 6 March 2023. **PHOTO: ISABEL INFANTES / AFP**

ousted from school, caregivers denied work and children forced into early marriage.

"Progress won over decades is vanishing before our eyes," Guterres said.— AFP

## Türkiye quake damage estimated to exceed \$100 bln: UN

DAMAGE from the catastrophic earthquake that struck Türkiye and Syria last month has been estimated at over \$100 billion for Türkiye alone, the United Nations said Tuesday.

"Already it is clear that just the damages alone will amount to more than \$100 billion," Louisa Vinton of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) told reporters via video link from Gaziantep in Türkiye, adding that the recovery costs "will be on top of that".

The 7.8-magnitude quake that struck on 6 February and its aftershocks have claimed more than 45,000 lives in Türkiye and 5,000 in neighbouring Syria.



A woman stands among the rubble of collapsed buildings in Hatay on 6 March 2023, one month after a massive earthquake struck southeastern Türkiye. **PHOTO: AFP**

The World Bank estimated last week that the devastating quake, which flattened entire cities, had caused damage worth more than \$34 billion in Türkiye, with recovery likely to double that sum.

But Vinton said the Turkish government, with support from UNDP, the World Bank and the European Union, had calculated far higher damage.

While preliminary, "it is clear from the calculations being done to date that the damage figure presented by the government and supported by the three international partners will be in excess of \$100 billion," she said.

Once completed, this estimate will be the basis for a recovery and reconstruction donor conference in Brussels next week, she said.

Recovery costs, including efforts to build improved and more environmentally sustainable infrastructure, "will obviously exceed that amount", she said.

So far, she said, UNDP was "very disappointed and saddened" by the low level of response to funding appeals to date.

A \$1 billion flash appeal made on 16 February is currently funded at just 9.6 per cent of the total, she said. — AFP



## Japan's new flagship H3 rocket launch fails, ordered to self-destruct

JAPAN'S new flagship H3 rocket lifted off Tuesday for the first time but was ordered to self-destruct minutes later after its second-stage engine failed to ignite, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency said.

The launch failure came after a string of delays including one last month in which a launch attempt was aborted moments before blastoff at the Tanegashima Space Centre on Tanegashima Island in the southwestern prefecture of Kagoshima.

The successor to the country's reliable H2A rocket was launched from the centre at

around 10:37 am as scheduled. However, JAXA sent a self-destruct command to the newly developed rocket at 10:51 am after the launch vehicle was deemed unable to complete its intended mission.

Tuesday's development marks another blow to JAXA, whose smaller Epsilon-6 rocket was ordered to self-destruct just minutes after liftoff in October last year as it deviated from its intended trajectory.

The latest setback may also lead to calls for an overhaul of Japan's space strategy under which the H3, the first revamp of its main launch vehicle in



Japan's H3 rocket lifts off from the Tanegashima Space Centre in Kagoshima Prefecture on 7 March 2023. PHOTO: KYODO

around 20 years, was expected to give the country a foothold in the increasingly competitive

satellite launching business.

Science minister Keiko Nagaoaka said Tuesday's outcome

was "extremely regrettable" and apologized for "failing to meet the expectations of the public and related parties".

She said a task force established at the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology will work with JAXA to determine what caused the failure "as promptly and thoroughly as possible".

The failed mission, dubbed Test Flight No 1, was supposed to put into orbit the Advanced Land Observing Satellite-3, which was expected to become a key tool for the government when managing disasters. — Kyodo

## Rescuers search for dozens missing after deadly Indonesia landslide

RESCUERS on a remote Indonesian island were searching Tuesday for dozens still missing after a landslide that killed 15 people, a disaster official said.

Poor weather and downed communication lines have complicated rescue efforts on the far-flung island of Serasan, in the Natuna region between Borneo and peninsular Malaysia, home to about 8,000 people.

Pictures provided by Natuna's communication and information agency showed houses reduced to rubble, with fallen trees and torn roofs visible.

Body bags were lined up on top of a blue tarpaulin as officials gathered to pray for

the victims.

Abdul Muhari, spokesman for the national disaster mitigation agency (BNPB), told local broadcaster Metro TV that rescuers had recovered 10 bodies at the scene, while villagers put the death toll at 15.

"Six (bodies) have been identified, while four are still being identified," he said.

Muhari said 42 people were missing. Eight previously missing people had been found alive, though four remained in critical condition.

Rescuers were focusing their efforts along a stretch of road near a cliff where dozens of houses were reportedly buried by the landslide, Muhari

said.

"Along this road, there are around 30 houses that were buried. This is our focal point of the search," he said.

Muhari added that the agency was sending food and tents, as well as satellite communication equipment and two helicopters in a bid to establish communication lines and speed up aid.

Indonesia is prone to landslides during the rainy season, aggravated in some places by deforestation, and prolonged torrential rain has caused flooding in different areas of the archipelago nation.

Experts say the country's weather-related disasters are likely being made worse by climate change.

Floods further south in Banjar district, in the Indonesian part of Borneo, have inundated more than 17,000 houses and disrupted lives for a month.

Neighbouring Malaysia has also been hit with torrential rains and vast floods. At least four people have died and nearly 41,000 were evacuated last week in several states of the country.

In 2020, the Indonesian capital Jakarta and nearby cities saw some of their deadliest floods in years after downpours triggered landslides.

At least 67 people died in that disaster. — AFP



This handout photo taken and released on 7 March 2023 by the Natuna ministry of communication and information local office shows a rescue team inspecting damages and searching for victims following landslides in Natuna islands. PHOTO: HANDOUT / NATUNA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION / AFP

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### China-Europe relations not targeted at, dependent on, subjected to third party: FM

CHINA-EUROPE relations are not targeted at, dependent on, or subjected to a third party, Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang said Tuesday.

No matter how the situation develops, China always regards Europe as a comprehensive strategic partner and supports European integration, Qin said at a press conference.

China hopes Europe truly achieve strategic autonomy and lasting security and stability, Qin said. — Xinhua

#### Sri Lanka president says China agrees to restructure loans

SRI Lanka's president said Tuesday that China had agreed to restructure its loans to the bankrupt island nation, clearing the final obstacle to an International Monetary Fund bailout.

China's state-owned Exim Bank "sent a letter to the IMF" on Monday night expressing Beijing's willingness to "restructure" credit to Sri Lanka, Ranil Wickremesinghe told parliament.

Wickremesinghe added that he expected the first tranche of the IMF package to now be released within the month. — AFP

#### Stampede in New York's Rochester leaves 2 dead, 8 injured

A stampede that took place after a concert in Rochester, New York, on Sunday night caused two deaths and eight injuries, media reports said on Monday.

Local police found three women badly injured in the stampede, two of whom have been announced dead as of late Monday, with the third remaining in critical condition, according to local police.

Besides the three women, seven others went to hospitals with non-life-threatening injuries from the event.

Fear of gunshots caused panic as concertgoers headed to the exits, but local police didn't find "any evidence of gunshots being fired or anyone being shot or stabbed", according to a release by the Rochester Police Department on Monday. — Xinhua



Imperative for China-Russia ties to advance steadily in unstable world: FM

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# SPORT

## The Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council: Twelve 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 prioritize 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.
- (d) To ensure peace, stability, rule of law, and the safe and smooth functioning of transport networks across the Union.

### 2. Economic affairs

- (a) To enhance development based on agriculture and livestock using modern production techniques and to 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 assure support for the sustainability of Micro-, Small- and Medium-Sized

Enterprises (MSMEs) that prioritize import substitution, export production, and the use of domestically produced raw materials, in order to increase domestic production and generate employment opportunities.

- (d) To advance the socioeconomic life of the people, in order to ensure the country's prosperity and food security.

### 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 people and preserve and safeguard their faiths, beliefs, culture, and characteristics of patriotic nationalism.
- (c) To strengthen basic health care in order to achieve the emergence of a health system that enhances the longevity and health of the entire nation.
- (d) To comprehensively promote the education sector to make it capable of producing the human resources necessary for building a modern, developed, and progressive democratic nation.



Japanese boxers, Yudai Shigeoka (R) and his younger brother Ginjiro, pose during a press conference in Tokyo on 7 March 2023. PHOTO: KYODO

## Japan's Shigeokas set for minimum world title doubleheader

JAPANESE boxing brothers Yudai and Ginjiro Shigeoka will feature in a world minimumweight title doubleheader in Tokyo on 16 April, their promoter said Tuesday.

Younger sibling Ginjiro, ranked fourth by the International Boxing Federation, was unable to claim the division title on his debut attempt on 6 January after his fight against

champion Daniel Valladares was declared a no-contest due to an accidental head butt suffered by the Mexican.

The 23-year-old will square off against third-ranked Rene Mark Cuarto of the Philippines for the interim title on the seventh anniversary of the main shock of a series of earthquakes that ravaged his native Kumamoto Prefecture that month.

"It's a chance for me to energize everyone," said Ginjiro, whose family home was damaged during the series of quakes that month. "I'll win it overwhelmingly."

Yudai, ranked fourth by the World Boxing Council, will take on champion Panya Pradabsri of Thailand, also at Yoyogi National 2<sup>nd</sup> Gymnasium, as he makes his world title debut. — Kyodo

## Record-breaking Mbappe determined to carry PSG past Bayern

KYLIAN Mbappe heads to Munich fresh from a record-breaking weekend with Paris Saint-Germain and determined to lead the French giants past Bayern and into the quarter-finals of the Champions League.

PSG trail 1-0 from the first leg of the heavyweight last-16 tie, after injury reduced Mbappe to a cameo appearance off the bench in that match last month.

Yet the 24-year-old France superstar did enough in his short time on the pitch then — including having a goal disallowed for a marginal off-

side — to make it clear that he can swing the tie the Parisians' way. Since that game, the Ligue 1 leaders have recovered from a worrying slump in form to claim three straight domestic wins, scoring 11 goals in the process.

Mbappe has netted five of them, including one in Saturday's 4-2 win over Nantes that saw him overtake Edinson Cavani and become PSG's all-time top scorer, five and a half years after signing from Monaco in

2017.

The player who in December became the first to score a hat-trick in a World Cup final since Geoff Hurst in 1966, boasts the remarkable record of 201 goals from 247 games in a PSG shirt. — AFP



Paris Saint-Germain's French forward Kylian Mbappe cheer supporters at the end of a ceremony after he became Paris Saint-Germain's all-time top scorer with his 201<sup>st</sup> goal for the club in their 4-2 win in the French L1 football match against FC Nantes at The Parc des Princes Stadium in Paris on 4 March 2023. PHOTO: FRANCK FIFE / POOL / AFP