

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.

As the long time project will cause traffic congestion, efforts must be made for timely completion of the project: Senior General



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects progress of Bago River Bridge (Thanlyin Bridge-3) in Yangon Region on 21 May.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspected progress in implementation of Bago River Bridge (Thanlyin Bridge-3) project and Myanmar-Korea friendship (Dala) bridge project in Yangon Region yesterday morning.

At Bago River Bridge (Thanlyin Bridge-3) project to link Thakayta and Thanlyin townships, Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant re-

ported to the Senior General on implementation of the project in phases, availability of bridge construction techniques and experiences, quality control measures and environmental conservation.

The Senior General stressed the need to systematically carry out the construction tasks to meet the standards with endurance of iron and steel materials against salty water. The Senior General called for timely completion of the project.

The Senior General inspected progress of the project and gave necessary guidance.

Upon completion, the Bago River Bridge (Thanlyin Bridge-3) project can ease traffic congestion from Thanlyin Bridge-1. Thilawa Special Economic Zone will help improve socioeconomic life of the people from Thanlyin, Kyauktan, Kayan and Thongwa regions of Yangon Region due to booming businesses of local and foreign businesspersons. It will

help develop Thilawa SEZ and Thanlyin region and use the East-West economic corridor to link the road to Hpa-an and Myawady. So, it will benefit Mon and Kayin States for their development as well as improve connection with regional countries. As the bridge is under construction with the use of modern technologies, Myanmar engineers will have modern technologies and experiences and help turn out skilled labours. Moreover, it will create

job opportunities for the locals.

On arrival at Myanmar-Korea friendship (Dala) bridge project, the Senior General heard reports on implementation of the guidance of the Senior General on his inspection tour in June 2022, completion of piers of the bridge, quality control measures at the bridge, worksite safety and environmental conservation by Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant.

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Announcement for local and foreign well-wishers to donate cash to cyclonic storm Mocha victims

1. AN announcement has been issued that well-wishers wishing to make donations for people who fell victim to the extremely severe cyclonic storm Mocha which hit Myanmar on 14-5-2023 can donate cash to Myanmar account OA-011834 and foreign

account 1DA-0300086. 2. In this announcement, it is duly mentioned that our commitment to receiving donations extends to additional electronic payment systems and mobile payment systems. Further updates and notifica-

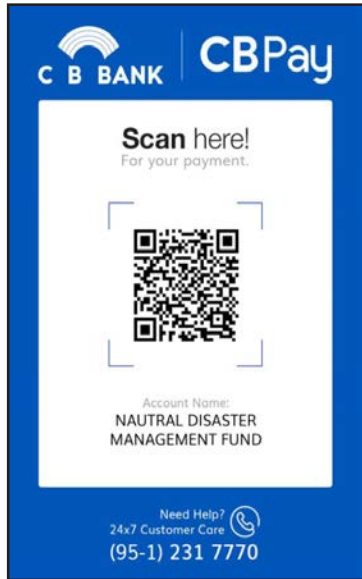
tions will be made in due course. 3. It has been announced that donations can be made to the previously announced phone number and to the account that

was opened, and since it can be confusing to donate with a phone number, we have already made it possible to donate with a QR code instead of the phone

number. 4. Donations can be made through KBZ Pay or Wave Money. If you wish to donate, please scan the QR codes provided by both KBZ Pay and Wave Money. To contribute, enter the code included within the respective QR codes.

5. People make donations through CB Pay, AYA Pay and OK \$, which are widely used to enhance convenience for donors. To donate, please scan the QR code and enter the code provided within it.

6. The well-wishers can contact the following persons for further information: -



Nay Pyi Taw	Yangon	Mandalay
Daw Lei Lei Aye Director-General Department of Disaster Management 067-3404050 09-2021491	U Than Soe Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Yangon Region Department 09-250123885	U Aye Min Thu Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Mandalay Region Department 09-420708827
Nay Pyi Taw	Yangon	
U Win Shwe Deputy Director-General Department of Disaster Management 067-3404048 09-254170011	Daw Than Than Win Deputy Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Yangon Region Department 09-420740160	

National Disaster Management Committee

သယံဇာတနှင့် သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
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ရာပြည်အထိမ်းအမှတ်အခမ်းအနား
၂၀၂၃ ခုနှစ် မေလ ၂၆ ရက်

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတစ်ဝှမ်းအဆင့် သစ်တောပညာကို ၁၉၂၃ ခုနှစ်တွင် ရန်ကုန်တက္ကသိုလ်၌ စတင်ဖွင့်လှစ်ခဲ့ပြီး ၂၀၂၃ ခုနှစ်တွင် နှစ် (၁၀၀) ပြည့်မြောက်သဖြင့် ရာပြည်အထိမ်းအမှတ် အခမ်းအနားအား ၂၀၂၃ ခုနှစ် မေလ ၂၆ ရက်နေ့တွင် သစ်တောနှင့်ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ဆိုင်ရာတက္ကသိုလ်၌ ကျင်းပပါမည်။

80 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 21 May, total figure registers 638,034

MYANMAR'S COVID-19-positive cases rose to **638,034** after **80** new cases were reported on 21 May 2023 according to the Ministry of Health.

Therefore, a total of **10,570,380** laboratory samples were examined and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached **638,034**.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **616,904** including **98** new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered **19,494** on 21-5-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. COVID-19 information can be browsed on the internet page moh.gov.mm of the Ministry of Health. — GNLM

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သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစောင်များကို နှိုင်းတကာစံချိန်စီ ပုံနှိပ်ဖြန့်ဖြူး ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

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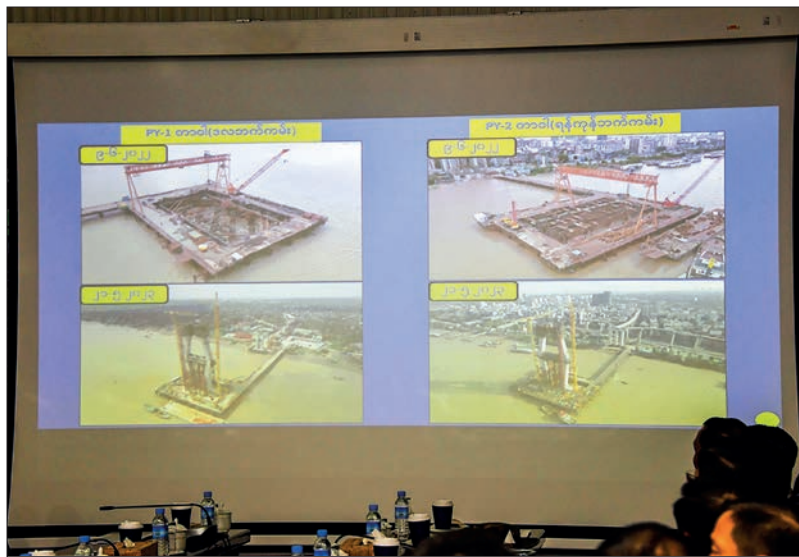
The people are urged to receive vaccination of Covid-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of Covid-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increasing of death rate based on the disease.

MSMEs key to accelerating country's economic growth

- As it is necessary to encourage businesses in which the majority of people are engaged in to achieve economic development of the country, the government has been offering assistance for MSMEs.
- Promoting MSMEs aims to accelerate economic growth of the country, to substitute imports and to export local products.
- It is necessary to encourage manufacturing of products with the use of domestic raw materials.

(Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at a meeting with district and township departmental officials, town elders, MSME businesspersons from Homalin District, Sagaing Region on 15 January 2023)

As the long time project will cause traffic congestion, efforts must be made for timely completion of the project: Senior General



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views progress of implementing Myanmar-Korea friendship (Dala) bridge project on 21 May.

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In his guidance, the Senior General said as the project approach road is close to residential houses, an emphasis must be placed on systematic calculation on endurance against dangers and earthquakes. As the long time project will cause traffic congestion, efforts must be made for timely completion of the project.

The Senior General presented cash awards for engineers from both projects through officials. The Senior General inspected undertakings on the main bridge pylon 2 on Yangon bank.

The project was implemented in 2013 and construction tasks started in 2015. It will be a cable-stayed bridge. Upon completion of the bridge, people from Yangon will have easy access to Dala, Twantay, Kawhmu and Kungyangon townships and to Ayeyawady Region via Dedaye Bridge, lessening traffic congestion in Yangon to some extent. As such, the bridge will be a landmark of Yangon due to development of social, economic, education, health and transport sectors. — MNA/TTA



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks into implementation of Myanmar-Korea friendship (Dala) bridge project site on 21 May.

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views round work progress of Wah Wah Win Agriculture and Livestock Company, Authentic Production Co Ltd



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views presentation on work process of producing pipes at Authentic Production Co Ltd in Mingaladon Township on 21 May.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday afternoon viewed round work progress of Wah Wah Win Agriculture and Livestock Company in Nyaungdon Township of Ayeyawady Region.

At the briefing hall, Chairman of the company U Shwe Kyaing reported on operation of fish farming tasks from 2002 with systematic drainage system, establishment of the hatcheries of the company from 2005 to produce some 10,000 fingerlings and breeding some 15 million pedigree fish at farms, running of aquafeed factory in 2007 by purchasing bran, dried fish dust, prawn dust and fish extraction from local farmers, operation of cold storage to export frozen fish and value-added fish products to foreign market starting from 2022, running of cow farm in 2018 and distribution of milk and dairy products to the market, production of natural fertilizers and creation of job opportunities.

The Senior General gave necessary guidance after asking what he wanted to know.

The Senior General viewed round fish farm, cow farm, pro-



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views products of Authentic Production Co Ltd on 21 May.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits fish and fish product sections of Wah Wah Win Agriculture and Livestock Company on 21 May.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks into products of Wah Wah Win Agriculture and Livestock Company in Nyaungdon Township on 21 May.

duction of milk and dairy products, fish based products and running of cold storage.

The Senior General planted a Gangaw (Mesua ferrea) sapling.

At Authentic Production Co Ltd in Mingaladon Township, the Senior General heard reports by managing director U Aung Myo Hein on production of HDPE, DWC and PVC pipes for local and foreign markets, plumbing equipment for water tanks, septic tanks, road blocks and hotel waste equipment, and use of pipelines from the com-

pany in all projects.

After asking about market of the products, the Senior General said if water pipelines are used for construction tasks and agricultural farms, valuable water resources can be efficiently utilized with minimizing loss and waste.

The Senior General viewed round the products showcased by the company and asked he wanted to know. The Senior General also looked into work progress of Authentic Production Co Ltd and left some guidance.—MNA/TTA

Write for us

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

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

Umbrella, diamond orb, pennant-shaped vane hoisted atop SittantU Aungpweya Pagoda in Myaungmya

A ceremony to hoist an umbrella, a diamond orb and a pennant-shaped vane atop SittantU Aungpweya Pagoda was held in Kontha Village, Myaungmya Township, Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning.

State Administration Council member Mahn Nyein Maung, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win, government officials, and donors attended the ceremony.

During the ceremony, they took the Five Precepts from the

Patron Sayadaw of Zeya Mayadani Buddhist Learning Centre member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Sayadaw Bhaddanta Candavara.

Disciples and officials conveyed tiers of the umbrella, a diamond orb and a pennant-shaped vane and went round the pagoda clockwise. Then, the umbrella was hoisted atop the pagoda.—Myaungmya District IPRD/KZL



SAC member Mahn Nyein Maung offers umbrella for SittantU Aungpweya Pagoda to the Sayadaw in Myaungmya Township on 21 May.

Myanmar delegation led by Union Commerce Minister meets Secretary of CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee, GACC official



Union Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo visits Kunming City of Yunnan Province on 21 May.

MYANMAR delegation led by Union Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo attended a business lunch hosted by Secretary of CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee Mr Wang Ning at the Haigeng Garden Convention Center, Kunming, yesterday afternoon.

At the working lunch, coop-

eration to increase the production of Myanmar agricultural produce and export more to the Chinese market, the production of value-added agricultural produce apart from the cultivation for alternative development, and issues related to cooperation in improving agricultural technol-

ogy and facilitating trade between the two countries were discussed. The secretary of the party disclosed the Yunnan provincial government decided to donate 500,000 Chinese yuan to the storm victims in Myanmar.

Afterwards, the Union minister met General Administration

of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) Member Mr Zhao Zenglian and officials in Kunming and highlighted approval from GACC to export fishery products, agricultural produce, and livestock products from Myanmar to China, reduction of poverty by exporting more agricultural produce, which benefits not only exporters but also farmers, taking measures of border using technology and establishment of a single window system, and the possibility of further cooperation on the upgrading of border trade infrastructure.

The Union minister and the Chinese ambassador to Myanmar inspected implementation of immigration procedures and the entry and exit clearance procedures of export and import vehicles Mang Wein, Nantaw, Siphayu, Hosaung, Kyinsankyawt, and Panseng/Kyukok borders.

Next, he visited the Jade Trading Center in Ruili in manufacturing finished jade products exported from Myanmar and production of a value-added rice product.

Finally, they met the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, CPC Secretary Mr Jiang Shan of Dehong Dai and officials from trade-related departments and had an open discussion on facilitation and development of trade, improvement of infrastructures between borders, carrying out export and import activities by improving the banking system, the implementation of the border economic cooperation zone agreed upon by the two countries, regular holding of Myanmar-China Border Trade Coordinating Committee meetings, reducing and eradication of illegal trade between the two countries, and issues related to tourism development. — MNA/CT

Officials inspect religious buildings, urban development, maintenance of dams in Thandwe

MAJ-GEN Soe Naing Oo, who assists in the rehabilitation of storm-damaged villages in Thandwe Township of Rakhine State inspected religious buildings, urban development and maintenance of dams in Thandwe yesterday morning.

At Alodawpyae monastery in Gyaketaw Ward of Ngapali, Major-Gen Soe Naing Oo inspected situation of the religious build-

ings after offering alms to the Sayadaw.

On arrival at Ngapali and Mahabawdi dams in Ngapali, he looked into saltwater infiltration into the dams in the aftermath of storm Mocha, distribution of clean drinking water, and water sufficiency. After that, Maj-Gen Soe Naing Oo stressed the need to take care of water-borne diarrhea does.

Ngapali Dam supplies water to 1,065 houses and 23 hotels in Myapyin and Lintha wards of Ngapali whereas Mahabawdi Dam distributes water to seven wards in urban area with sufficiency of water.

Next, he also viewed round situation of religious buildings and houses at Shwesandaw Pagoda in Thandwe. —District (IPRD)/KZW



DPM MoTC Union Minister supervises relief and rehabilitation tasks in Rakhine State



SAC member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San offers alms to a Sayadaw in Sittway on 21 May.

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San, Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin, and Deputy Ministers donated offertories to the monasteries in Sittway yesterday morning.

He toured the ruins of the monasteries and instructed officials to repair the buildings

as quickly as possible.

The Admiral unloading of relief supplies from warship Pyi Taw Aye-2 at the multipurpose port in Sittway.

The warship conveyed 12,250 bags of rice and 800 CI sheets and chainsaws. Of them, 2,540 bags of rice were loaded on other vessel for Yathedaung and Maungtau.

The Admiral viewed medical treatment given by specialists from the Tatmadaw and the Ministry of Health to locals

at Myoma Parityatti Buddhist Learning Centre in Ponnagyun and distributed instant noodle to the people.

Next, he viewed damaged buildings at the technical training school for border youths.

Admiral Tin Aung San and Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung met with town elders at State Government guest house and emphasized discussions on rehabilitation tasks for the state and fulfilled the requirements.

In the evening, Admiral



Admiral Tin Aung San views medical treatment for a local on 21 May.



Bags of rice are being unloaded from warship Pyi Taw Aye-2 at Sittway Port on 21 May.

Tin Aung San and Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung attended the rehabilitation meeting held at the Rakhine state government office. — MNA/KZL



Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Aye Kyaw inspects control room of Ponnagyun main station on 21 May.

MoEP Dy Minister inspects replacement of main station, towers damaged by Cyclone Mocha

DEPUTY Minister for Electric Power U Aye Kyaw inspected the replacement and repair work of the 123 kV Ponnagyun main station and substitution of towers in collapsed towers of 230kV An-MraukU-Ponnagyun national grid in Rakhine State yesterday.

First, the Deputy Minister checked the completion work in

the Control Room and Switch yard of the 230 kV Ponnagyun main station, the preparation of the staff housing, and arrival of the tower and accessories to be replaced. After that, he and his team went to Towers No 424 and 425 in Ponnagyun Township and inspected the removal of the damaged towers and the restoration of the damaged

foundations.

The repair works for the 230 kV Ponnagyun main stations are nearing completion, with approximately 90 per cent of the task already finished. The ministry is diligently collaborating with a team of 567 engineers and a skilled workforce to expedite the repair works of the power lines. —MNA/KZW

Relief camps at schools and dispensaries, supply of water, searching and relief measures inspected in Yathedaung

MAJ-GEN Aung Myo Tun, accompanied by U Naing Lin Htet, Chairman of the township administration body, along with other officials, arrived in Yathedaung Township to oversee storm damage restoration efforts.

They inspected supply of purified drinking water pro-

duced by the Tatmadaw water purifier vehicle to the people in the urban area of Yathedaung, and the clean-up of the damage caused by the storm. Subsequently, they viewed round participation of Tatmadaw members, and rescue and relief teams in progress of clearing debris.

They also looked into distribution of relief supplies to the storm-affected families at No 2 Myoma BEHS in Yathedaung and preparations to open high schools in urban areas as well as healthcare services being provided by Tatmadaw medic teams.—Yathedaung IPRD/KZW



Drinking water is being distributed to locals in Yathedaung Township on 21 May.

Ministries send out aid, relief materials to Rakhine State



AS per the guidelines of the National Disaster Management Committee, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the Ministry of Border Affairs, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, the Ministry of Electric Power, and the Myanmar Economic Corporation loaded aid and relief materials, including concrete lamp-posts, transformers, electrical cables, timbers, tents, tarpaulin sheets, corru-

gated iron sheets, nails, cement bags, excavators and commercial vehicles, water purifiers, rice bags and instant noodles at the Myanmar Terminal (TMT), Yangon, under the supervision of the Transport Committee, for use in Rakhine state disaster relief operations.

MV Sunshine and MV Fortune left for Sittway yesterday afternoon and MV Aquarius reportedly left for Sittway on 19 May with aid and relief supplies. — MNA/CT

Sawn timber is being loaded on vessel in the Myanmar Terminal in Yangon on 21 May.



Construction materials, drinking water, bags of cement, tents and tarpaulin sheets and others are aboard the vessels bound for Sittway.

MoH's medical teams provide healthcare services in Cyclone Mocha-hit areas

THE Ministry of Health has been providing health care for the people in areas affected by Cyclone Mocha since 15 May. Emergency response teams and medical teams are working in real time in rural and urban areas.

Ponnagyun Township

A medical team including specialists from Sittway General Hospital, led by the Director General of the Department of Medical Services, went to Ponnagyun yesterday, to provide healthcare to the storm victims.

They gave medical treatment to 322 people at Myoma Monastery in Ponnagyun.

State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minis-

ter Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San, Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin looked around the medical treatments.

Buthidaung Township

Similarly, a team led by a surgeon from Buthidaung Township Hospital visited Tatyar Village of Buthidaung Township yesterday and provided healthcare to 47 local people.

Maungtaw Township

Similarly, a mobile medical team consisting of six specialists from Maungtaw Township Hospital visited Indin, Kyaukpan-du, and Aungthukha villages in



A mobile medical team giving healthcare to locals in Ponnagyun on 21 May.



A specialist giving treatment to a local in Buthidaung on 21 May.

Maungtaw Township yesterday to provide healthcare to the locals.

Sinbyukyun Station of Salin Township

Similarly, under the supervision and support of the Magway Region Public Health and Medical Services Department, medical teams provided medical care to 489 residents at Myoma Basic Education Primary School in Sinbyukyun Station, 129 locals in Kahnyet village and 239 in Thayetchin village, totaling 857

people.

NyaungU Township

A mobile medical team led by Director of Mandalay Region Public Health and Medical Services Department, and Medical Superintendent from NyaungU Hospital gave medical services to 131 people at Nagakyit Home for the Aged, Wetingyi Ward 7, NyaungU Township yesterday.

Likewise, medical teams and emergency response teams, including specialists, will travel to other townships in Cyclone

Mocha-hit Rakhine State and flood-affected areas to provide medical treatment.

In addition, Department of Public Health, the Ministry of Health immediately dispatched engineers from Yangon to repair refrigerators containing vaccines that were damaged by Cyclone Mocha in Sittway, Rakhine State.

Preparations were completed on 20 May, and the vaccines are ready to be redistributed to the required areas without damage.—MNA/KZL

OPINION

Conserve biodiversity species for shaping the perfect environment

THE whole world is constituted of living beings and non-living things which consist of flora and fauna. Fauna is all of the animal life and flora is all the plant life. Only when the world is formed with flora and fauna will it be complete.

The International Day for Biological Diversity will be celebrated on 22 May 2023, under the theme "From Agreement to Action: Build Back Biodiversity", which aims to raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity issues. Only in this way will all global people be able to obtain protected and sustainable biological diversity. That is the main message of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the key international instrument for sustainable development.

The living world will be completed if it is not formed with flora and fauna. Both kinds of diversity benefit each other for their long-term existence. If one of the two faces some problems, the environment of the world will degrade automatically. If so, all living beings and non-living things will face deterioration. Hence, all global peoples have the highest skills of critical thinking to initiate the world and environment to improve biodiversity.

The global people have to renew a sense of hope with the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, which is a historic agreement signed in December 2022 to set goals and concrete measures to cease the loss of nature by 2050. As such, all global people should not level down the efforts to conserve biodiversity.

The implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework will be guided and supported through a comprehensive package that includes a monitoring framework for the global biodiversity framework, an enhanced mechanism for planning, monitoring, reporting and reviewing implementation, the necessary financial resources for implementation, strategic frameworks for capacity development and technical and scientific cooperation, as well as an agreement on digital sequence information on genetic resources.

Every country needs to designate habitats for biodiversity. In Myanmar, the governments in successive eras have designated national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, Ramsar sites, wetlands, reserve forests and protected public forests for the shelter of biodiversity species. As such, migratory birds, domestic birds and water birds, wildlife animals and various species of butterflies and others inhabit the relevant areas under conservation for their distinction.

Hence, global people need to conserve biodiversity species with sympathy and consideration for their long-term existence to shape the perfect environment which reflects the nature of living beings. It is sure that whenever biodiversity species are under conservation, the whole world will be prosperous.

Hence, global people need to conserve biodiversity species with sympathy and consideration for their long-term existence to shape the perfect environment which reflects the nature of living beings. It is sure that whenever biodiversity species are under conservation, the whole world will be prosperous.

The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

EPISODE:12

DR Edward Leslie Gilbert Clegg was born on 24 February 1899, in Manchester. He was educated at Central High School (1904-12) and Victoria University, Manchester (1912-15 and 1919-20). He served through the War of 1914-18 as an officer in the Northumberland Fusiliers and saw much active service in France and Italy. After the War, he returned to Manchester, took the M.Sc. degree in geology, and was then (1920) appointed an assistant superintendent in the Geological Survey of India. He was awarded a D.Sc. by Manchester in 1939.

E. L. G. Clegg (1899-1944), Source: GSI

E. L. G. Clegg was appointed Director on the retirement of C. S. Fox on 1 July 1943. He reorganized the headquarters organization by introducing the post of Deputy Director which was filled by W. D. West, in addition to that of Officer-in-charge cum Palaeontologist filled by P. K. Ghosh. In Clegg's time, the training camp of the Geological Survey was introduced for the training in geological fieldwork of the new junior officers of the Department. The scope of this scheme was later somewhat enlarged so as to include a limited number of post-graduate students from different universities in India for training in field duties.

His first fieldwork was on the Archean of the Nagpur district. For in his second field season, he was posted to Burma, where practically all his fieldwork was done in two spells. Between these two spells, Clegg was at headquarters in Calcutta, first as curator of the Geological Museum, and then as officer-in-charge of the Geological Survey office. During this period, he acted also as a lecturer in geology at Presidency College and the Bengal Engineering College, Sipur.

In addition, he took a keen interest in the Mining and Geological Institute of India, acted as one of the joint honorary secretaries during 1927-30, and was vice-president in 1943. In 1932 Clegg was promoted to the grade of a superintendent, and placed in charge of Burma Circle. L. L. Fermor (1945) noted that on account of the approaching separation of Burma from India, it fell to my lot to devise a scheme by which geological survey work in Burma could be continued after separation, for Burma would then have no geologists unless a portion of the Indian Geological Survey was to be cut off.

The solution adopted was to form a new department, the Burma Geological Department, and staff it with officers seconded (on foreign service) from the Indian Survey for periods of five years at a time, until Burma could recruit her own geologists. Meanwhile, the scientific results of the new Department were to be published in the Records and Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India, and this course was followed subsequently.

The separation took place on 1 April 1937, and Clegg became the first superintendent of the new Department, taking orders directly from the Government of Burma, instead of from the director of the Geological Survey of India.

With the invasion of Burma by the Japanese, Clegg returned to India after making a valuable traverse through the Hukawng Valley for the military (for a road through to India), emerging at Margherita in Assam in June 1942.

While in charge in Burma, Clegg had the occasion to visit most of the Burmese mineral deposits in order to advise the local government on their mining administration and on the many problems that arise in the grant of mineral concessions.

He also obtained intimate

knowledge of the Burmese oil fields while acting as a resident geologist at Yenangaung in 1934 and 1936. This experience enabled him to write a valuable account of the "Mineral Deposits of Burma", published by the Government of Burma (1940). He also contributed articles on lead, silver, tin, wolfram, and zinc, to the last "Quinquennial Review of the Mineral Production of India" and finally, in 1944, the bulletin provided details of over 400 tin and wolfram deposits.

He has two important memoirs to his credit. "The Geology of Parts of the Minbu and Thayetmyo Districts, Burma". (Mem. Geol. Sur. Ind., 72, Pt.2, 137; 1938)

On his return to Burma as superintendent of the Burma Circle in 1932, Clegg was set the task, with the assistance of Dr Narayana Iyer, making a detailed map of the Ruby Mines area of Mogok, which had already been commenced by Dr Coggin Brown and A.K. Banerji, and for which a new large-scale map had been specially prepared by the Survey of India. Clegg gives a full account in his second memoir "The Cretaceous and Associated Rocks of Burma" (Mem. Geol. Sur. Ind., 71, Pt.11;1941).

Clegg died untimely at the age of 45 on the 8th of September 1944, at General Hospital Calcutta. At the time of his death, Clegg was Director of the Geological Survey. He was a man of great administration ability and had a practical brain and excellent judgment. He is the first field geologist who proposed that marble and gneisses in the Mogok region might be as young as the Cretaceous.

Burma Geological Department

The Burma Geological Department, the successor of the Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India, commenced functioning as a separate entity on 1 April 1937. The Burma

Geological Department initially consisted of the following officers on foreign service from the Geological Survey of India, which agreed to provide officers to man the Burma Geological Department from 1 April 1937, for a period of five years in the first instance. Mr E. L. G. Clegg, Superintending Geologist, Mr E. J. Bradshaw, Geologist, Mr A. B. Dutt, Assistant Geologist.

Geological Surveys

During the 1937-38 field season, Mr Clegg carried out geological traverses in northern Burma in the following areas; - (a) The First Defile of the Irrawaddy, (b) The Jade Mines, (c) Lai Sai State, (d) The Uyu River.

Prior to Mr Clegg's visit, the geology of the First Defile was practically unknown. C. L. Griesbach (1892) states that so far as it was possible to discover during the rapid traverses made by himself and Dr Noetling, the entire area north of Bhamo appeared to be formed a succession of flexures of older rocks, all striking more or less north and south to north-east to south-west, which flexures had been extensively eroded by the upper Irrawaddy drainage.

Griesbach recognised the following formations; - (1) Metamorphic, including probably Palaeozoic group, (2) Mesozoic strata, (3) Tertiary beds, and (4) Igneous rocks.

In the map which accompanies a paper by Noetling on the occurrence of jadeite in Upper Burma, the whole of First Defile is shown as Silurian (?) crystalline limestone. So too are the rocks that occur in the Second Defile below Bhamo.

It seemed extremely probable that the rocks of the First Defile and also of the Jade Mines area would also be of Cretaceous age and Mr Clegg's fieldwork during part of the 1937-38 field season was planned to settle the question.

By THAN HTUN (GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

(a) The First Defile of the Irrawaddy lies between Sinbo (24°47': 97° 3') at the north end and Thapanbin (24° 21': 97° 8') at the south. In the strictest sense of the word First Defile is not a defile at all but a 'narrow' as described by Clegg (1938). From just above Letma (24° 38': 97° 7') to Htonbo (24° 30': 97° 7') the rocks are all of a sedimentary nature; they consist of calcareous grits and shales all very much crushed and cleaved; in them, Cretaceous foraminiferal limestones frequently occur. Below Htonbo the river makes a big bend to the east and then swings through a semicircle to flow south-west past the village of Thamaingyi. The rocks are seen on the east-west reach strike north by east and consist of volcanic lavas, ashes, and tuffs and, as the river cuts across their strike, provide probably the prettiest section of the defile. Southwards to the lower end of the defile the rocks are practically all of volcanic nature.

(b) The Jade Mines area was geologically surveyed by Dr H. L. Chhibber during 1928 and 1928-29 field seasons. Chhibber recognized the following divisions: - (1) Alluvium, (2) Volcanic rocks, (3) Uru boulder conglomerate, (4) Granodiorite, Crystalline complex, (6) Tertiaries, (7) Peridotites and serpentines, (8) Limestones. In the limestone, Chhibber reported the occurrence of Fusulina elongata, Fenestella, Texularia, and various forms of Globigerinidae and inferred from this that the limestone was of Permo-Carboniferous age.

In the course of Mr Clegg's traverse, he visited the following areas from which Chhibber collected limestones: -

(i) On the Hkakan Hka three-quarters of a mile west of bridge 22/1 on the Mogaung-Ka-

maing Road. (ii) The Uru Kha north of Kansai. (iii) Junction of the Nammon Kha and Hwehka Kha.

(i) The limestone of the Hkakan Hka is dark-bluish grey in colour, very crushed, and veined with calcite. In the thin section traces of the Cretaceous fossil Orbitolina and other foraminifera were noted.

(ii) The limestone of the Uru Kha north of Kansai consists of white crystalline limestone. Mr Clegg could not make out any true bedding on the western side of the occurrence, though it is probable that this mass of limestone has an easterly dip. The rock is completely crystalline and there is no trace of any organic structure.

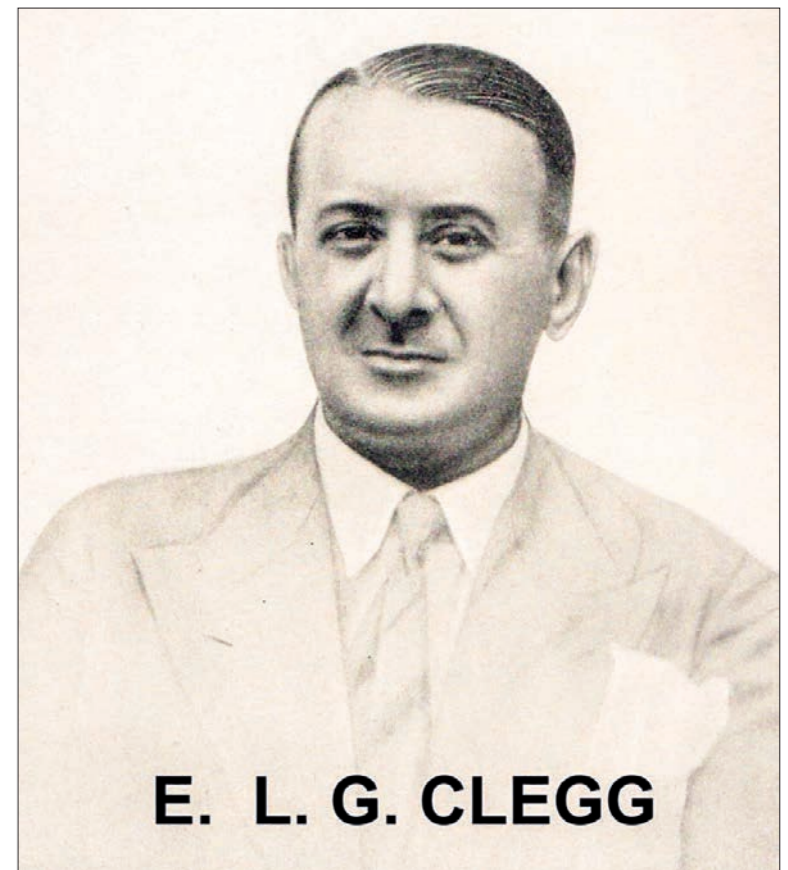
(iii) From the junction to one furlong to the west-south-west of the Nammon Hka and the Hwehka fossiliferous limestone containing Orbitolina birmanica occurs. The limestone is of a greyish colour and is very much veined with calcite. Further to the west-south-west serpentine later than the limestone occurs. The contact rocks are all very silicified.

(c) From Haungpa (25° 30': 96° 6') it was Mr Clegg's intention to traverse in a north-north-easterly direction to Hsingaling Hkamti on the Chindwin River. In this, he was disappointed owing to the tract being unfit for mule transport. Nevertheless, he was able to progress sufficiently far into Lai Sai State to encounter Cretaceous rocks. Limestones of this series are exposed in Hpalamung Bum, which rises sheer from the Hpalamung fields to a relative height of 900 feet and an actual elevation of 1,643 feet. The limestone is of fawn colour and contains Orbitolinae but they are not all common. To the north-west of Hpalamung Bum other similar limestone,

ridges occur en echelon with it, whilst on the stream south-west of a hill Pt.1648, calcareous sandstone and shales dip south-west by west at 65°. The latter are very similar lithologically to the series found in association with Cretaceous limestones in the First Defile of the Irrawaddy.

(d) South of Haungpa the high range of the Sinhku Bum throws out spurs in a westerly direction to the Uyu river. These spurs were found to be composed of 2.5 miles south-south-west of Haungpa of a garnetiferous micaceous gneiss consisting of a little quartz, feldspar, muscovite, garnet, and kyanite and ten miles south-south-west of Haungpa of quartz, actinolite, graphite, and a little muscovite. This crystalline schistose series continues to the north into the Jade Mines area and is probably of Cretaceous age. Southwards down the Uyu River from Shwedwin, only Tertiary rocks overlain by the Uyu boulder conglomerates are visible. The Tertiary sandstones are mostly massive and fawn in colour though some bands are blue, rather shaly, and weather spheroidally into fine needle shapes.

The Uyu conglomerate forms terraces at different elevations, two high-level terraces



E. L. G. CLEGG

E. L. G. Clegg (1899-1944), Source: GSI

being visible at Yebawmi. The upper village is situated on the higher one about a hundred feet above the level of the river whilst the village monastery is on the lower, about twenty feet below. Opposite Yebawmi the conglomerate has apparently a very wide extent.

Other field works

Mr Clegg had done the following fieldwork while he was working with Burma Circle of the GSI:-

1. The lead deposits of Bawdwin Mine in the northern Shan States, Burma in Records of Geological Survey of India, Volume LXX in 1934.

2. Notes on a geological traverse in the Yunzalin Valley in Records of Geological Survey of India, Volume LX in 1928.

3. Notes on rocks in the vicinity of Kyaukse, Burma in Records of Geological Survey of India, Volume 71 in 1937.

4. Geology of Thayetmyo District, Burma in Records of Geological Survey of India, Volume 71 in 1937.

References: E. L. G. Clegg, 1938., *General Report for 1938, Records of Geological Survey of India, Volume 74.*

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THE Global
NEW Light Of Myanmar

Watercraft transport supplies to people in Mocha-hit Rakhine State



A landing craft carrying staff from ministries, relief supplies and vehicles leading to Sittway on 21 May.

VESSEL Chindwin carried 685 members of Myanmar Police Force, and 107 civilian employees from the Directorate of Military Engineers, along with relief materials and food, left Yangon on 19 May, and arrived at Essar Jetty, Sittway yesterday to carry out relief works for Mocha-hit Sittway, Rakhine State.

Similarly, one 29-metre landing craft from the Tatmadaw (Navy) brought 58 staff from Ministry of Electric Power, six tents from the Ordnance Company, one crane, three bags of potatoes, three bags of onions, three jerry cans of oil, three roof tents, one generator and one motorcycle while another 29-metre landing craft of Tatmadaw (Navy) transported 15 troops

from the Directorate of Military Engineers, 69 civilian employees, and one TA TA car from the Quartermaster-General's office to Yathedaung.

The landing craft returned to Yaychanpyin to carry more relief supplies.

MV Fortune of Thuriya Sandar Win Company which docked at No 2 jetty of Bo Aung Kyaw Port left for Sittway yesterday to transport relief items, and foodstuffs.

Commander of Central Naval Command Rear-Admiral Htein Win, General Manager of the Myanmar Port Authority U Zaw Tun Lwin and officials from the Myanmar Timber Enterprise supervised loading of materials aboard the ship yesterday.—MNA/KZL

Brig-Gen Tin Swe inspects cleaning of debris, rehabilitation progress in Maungtaw

BRIG-GEN Tin Swe, who arrived in Maungtaw for close supervision of the rehabilitation tasks of the villages that were destroyed by the storm viewed the cleaning of debris at schools damaged by the storm in Maungtaw, Rakhine State, yesterday evening.

Brig-Gen Tin Swe and officials looked into participation of Tatmadaw members and firefighters in cleaning damaged classrooms at the Basic Education High School in Indin Village,

Maungtaw Township, which were destroyed by the storm. He presented CI sheets for roofing the school and monastery.

They continued to a temporary school in Myoyu Village and Kyaukpandu Village Basic Education Middle School Branch and viewed the cleaning activities in the damaged school buildings. Brig-Gen Tin Swe instructed officials to open schools as soon as possible. —Thet Lwin Soe, Aung Kyaw Sein (District IPRD)/CT



Brig-Gen Tin Swe supervises cleaning of debris in Mocha-hit Maungtaw region of Rakhine State on 21 May.

ASEAN countries' humanitarian aid for Mocha Storm affected communities taken over

SINGAPORE Air Force's two C-130s and B737-800F aircraft arrived at Yangon International Airport yesterday afternoon, carrying a total of 34.69 tonnes of emergency supplies, temporary tents, tarpaulin, Jerry Can, and shelter repair kits worth US\$ 107,064. The aid was sent from ASEAN countries to assist those affected by storm Mocha.

Mr Lee Yam Ming, the Executive Director of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), presented the first batch of aid items to U Aung



Aircraft of Singapore Air Force arrive at Yangon International Airport on 21 May to hand over 34.69 tonnes of emergency supplies.

Win Thein, Minister of Social Affairs of the Yangon Region Government.

The Regional Minister, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Social welfare, Re-

lief and Resettlement Dr Ko Ko Naing, Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

U Zaw Phyto Win, heads and missions from the nine ASEAN embassies based in Yangon and officials from AHA Centre attended the ceremony.

Following ASEAN's One Response principle, the humanitarian aid provided by ASEAN countries will be facilitated through the ASEAN Disaster Emergency Logistics System for ASEAN-DELSA. The materials, stored in warehouses in Subang of Malaysia and Chainat of Thailand, will be transported by military aircraft of Thailand, Singapore and Indonesia 19 times. —MNA/KZW

Tatmadaw (Air) continues transport of foodstuffs, relief items to Rakhine State

THE relief materials and food items contributed by families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and well-wishers and relief supplies provided by the National Disaster Management Committee for local communities affected by the natural disaster in Rakhine State are being transported by Tatmadaw aircraft, helicopters and vessels.

Military personnel, firefighters, relief materials, school backpacks and uniforms, rice, bags of dried fish, onions, garlic, dried chilli and instant noodles were transported from Nay Pyi Taw Airport to Sittway Airport three times by Tatmadaw plane.

Similarly, the employees

of the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Transport and Communications, health staff, officials from ASEAN embassies based in Myanmar, departmental staffs and military personnel who will assist in the rehabilitation tasks, communications accessories, foodstuffs, solar panels, batteries, inverters, tarpaulin and rescue equipment were transported from Mingaladon Airport to Sittway Airport eight times by Tatmadaw plane.

Officials in the respective areas received relief supplies and will continue to distribute them to storm victims. — MNA/KZW



Tatmadaw members carrying relief items on board the military aircraft leading to Sittway Airport on 21 May.

Coordination meeting held to initiate rehabilitation activities in Manaung



Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Oo supervises relief and rehabilitation for storm-hit people in Manaung Township on 21 May.

BRIG-GEN Kyaw Kyaw Oo met officials at a coordination meeting to initiate restoration works for victims affected by the storm at the meeting hall of the Township General Administration Department in Manaung Township yesterday morning.

Taungup District Administrator U Kyaw Myint Hlaing,

acting Chairman of the Township Administration Body Major Thurein Soe and members, township level departmental officials, businessmen attended the meeting.

Then, Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Oo inspected the damaged schools in Manaung Township due to the storm and met with town elders, teachers

and officials and coordinated soonest opening of the schools. Next, he paid homage to chair of township Sangha Nayaka Committee Bhaddanta Canda of the monastery in Kontan Village and donated rice and oil.

A total of 43 schools were damaged by the storm in Manaung Township. — Thein Pe (IPRD)/KZW

Brazil restricts entry of Myanmar seafarers holding CDC certificates

THE Myanmar Seafarers' Employment Services Federation (MSESF) has announced that Myanmar seafarers will no longer be allowed to enter Brazil with seaman's certificates.

According to the newly amended Brazilian immigration law, the seaman's certificate held by Myanmar sailors will no longer be recognized as an official document starting from 1 May.

Even though Brazil will no longer allow CDC certificate holders, it will allow SID certificate holders to enter Brazil. If seafarers do not have the certificate, they will have to apply for

a visa at the Brazilian Embassy to Myanmar.

Myanmar sailors and officials (contractors, owners, and ship owners) who arrived in Brazil by ship may face fines and deportation. Even after the expiration of the seamen's employment contract, they must remain on the ship for longer than the period allowed by international maritime laws, the statement said.

Due to these restrictions, the Myanmar embassy has announced that if Myanmar nationals enter Brazil by ship, they must contact the Brazilian authorities for coordination. — TWA/CT



An international port in Brazil.

Daily newspapers available online

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

ECONOMY WORLD

Special health zone becomes medical vanguard in south China



Aerial photo taken on 3 April 2020 shows a view of Hainan's Boao Lecheng pilot zone of international medical tourism in south China's Hainan Province. The pilot zone includes a number of medical institutions, including hospitals, clinics, and medical research centers. **PHOTO: GUO CHENG/XINHUA**

A special medical zone in south China's island province of Hainan is rising as a medical magnet as it seeks high-quality develop-

ment in recent years.

On Wednesday, doctors performed a pancreas-related operation at the Ruijin-Hainan Hospi-

tal in the Hainan Boao Lecheng International Medical Tourism Pilot Zone using a surgical system allowing robotic-assisted surgery through a single port.

"I think the operation makes great sense because it will benefit the general public by bringing more precision in future surgical operations," said Shen Baiyong, the professor who led the operation. The operation is just one of the many successes recorded at the pilot zone.

Established in 2013 with the approval of the State Council, China's cabinet, the Hainan Boao Lecheng International Medical Tourism Pilot Zone develops the related industries of international medical tourism, such as licensed medical treatment, health management, care rehabilitation, medical cosmetology, and anti-aging. — Xinhua

UK unveils £1 bn semiconductor strategy



The British government is investing a lot of money to protect technology from risk and keep the chip supply chain running smoothly. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/TECH MONITOR/PRAGMATIC/AFP**

BRITISH government on Friday unveiled a new £1 billion semiconductor strategy to invest in infrastructure, research and security as the UK tries to diversify its chip supply chain.

The plan would "safeguard supply chains from disruption and protect tech against national security risks", the UK government's department for business, energy and industrial strategy said in a statement.

The investment over the next decade would include up to £200 million (\$215 million) between now and 2025.

The new 20-year strategy would "boost the UK's strengths and skills in design, R&D and compound semicon-

ductors, while helping to grow domestic chip firms across the UK", the department added.

It comes as European carmaker Stellantis has warned it could close some UK factories should the British government fail to tweak Brexit trade rules to ease the supply of batteries for electric vehicles, for which semiconductor technology is a key part.

Visiting Tokyo Thursday, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced Japanese investment of more than \$22 billion into the UK, but accepted carmakers' concern about Brexit trade rules as he confirmed talks with the European Union. — AFP

ChatGPT is coming to smartphones



A man speaks with a booth representative next to a digital display (L) promoting ChatGPT, during the three-day 7th AI Expo, part of NexTech Week Tokyo 2023, at Tokyo Big Sight international exhibition center on 10 May. **PHOTO: RICHARD A. BROOKS/AFP**

CHATGPT, the artificial intelligence bot that became a global sensation for its powers to churn out human-like content and provide answers on all subjects, is now available in the Apple app store.

OpenAI, the Microsoft-backed company behind ChatGPT, on Thursday said the release came after it heard from users that they "love using ChatGPT on the go."

By moving to smartphones, OpenAI continues its encroachment on the search market,

massively dominated by Google, which has been put under pressure by the rise of generative AI.

Offered free of charge, the app will allow users to "get precise information without sifting through ads or multiple results," OpenAI said on its website, in a subtle dig at Google's search engine.

The app can also give "guidance on cooking, travel plans, or crafting thoughtful messages," the company added.

OpenAI said it was starting the rollout in the United States

and will expand to additional countries in the coming weeks. ChatGPT would be available on Android devices "soon," it added.

ChatGPT's powers are already available on smartphones, through Microsoft's Bing search app, which uses technology from OpenAI.

The app store is also stocked with apps riding the wave of excitement around AI. Facebook-owner Meta last month warned of malicious software posing as ChatGPT or similar AI tools. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Russian oil revenues tumble due to price cap: Treasury

RUSSIA'S oil revenues have suffered a marked decline since Western countries slapped a price cap on Russian crude as punishment for the invasion of Ukraine, the US Treasury said Thursday.

"Despite widespread initial market skepticism around the price cap, market participants and geopolitical analysts have now acknowledged that the price cap is accomplishing both of its goals," according to the Treasury report.

The \$60-a-barrel cap levied by the G7 group of advanced economies, the European Union and Australia caused oil revenues to shrink from as much as 35 per cent of the total Russian budget before the war to 23 per cent this year, the Treasury said.

The Treasury, citing Russian Ministry of Finance figures, said federal government oil revenues were down over 40 per cent between January and March this year compared to a year earlier.

The decline in revenues comes despite an increase in overall Russian oil exports to countries including India over the last year.

The report will provide welcome news for G7 now leaders holding a summit in Japan. They are expected to weigh fresh Russian sanctions over the war in Ukraine, and how to better enforce existing sanctions. — AFP



OpenAI chief Sam Altman reasons that combining robotics, artificial intelligence and cheap energy such as fusion could allow machines to essentially do the work and people to reap the benefits. **PHOTO: DREW ANGERER/AFP/FILE**

Dark cloud over ChatGPT revolution: the cost

THE explosion of generative AI has taken the world by storm, but one question all too rarely comes up: Who can afford it?

OpenAI bled around \$540 million last year as it developed ChatGPT and says it needs \$100 billion to meet its ambitions, according to industry media The Information.

“We’re going to be the most capital-intensive startup in Silicon Valley history,” OpenAI’s founder Sam Altman told a panel recently.

And when Microsoft, which poured billions of dollars in investment into OpenAI, is asked about how much its AI adventure will cost, the company answers with assurances that it is keeping an eye on its bottom line.

Building something even near the scale of what OpenAI, Microsoft or

Google have on offer would require an eye-watering investment on state-of-the-art chips and recruiting prize-winning researchers.

“People don’t realize that to do a significant amount of AI things like ChatGPT takes huge amounts of processing power. And training those models can cost tens of millions of dollars,” said Jack Gold, an independent analyst.

“How many companies can actually afford to go out and buy 10,000 Nvidia H100 systems that go for tens of thousands of dollars a piece?” asked Gold.

The answer is pretty much no one and in tech, if you can’t build the infrastructure, you rent it and that is what companies already do massively by outsourcing their computing needs to Microsoft, Google and Amazon’s AWS.—AFP

Guitar smashed by Nirvana’s Kurt Cobain sells for nearly \$600,000

A guitar smashed on stage by Nirvana front man Kurt Cobain sold for nearly \$600,000, several times its original estimate, an auction house said Saturday.

The busted black Fender Stratocaster has been put back together, but is no longer playable, Kody Frederick of Julien’s Auctions told AFP earlier this month.

It was signed by all three members of the Seattle grunge outfit as they rocketed to global fame.

The auction house said it had expected the instrument to sell for \$60,000 at the event in front of a live audience at the Hard Rock Cafe in New York City.—AFP

Rotterdam welcomes leading Chinese port group’s first European branch

THE establishment by Shandong Port Group Co., Ltd (SPG), one of China’s leading port operators, of its first European branch has been warmly welcomed here. “Welcome to Rotterdam,” said Anita van der Laan, a senior manager of the Port of Rotterdam authority while delivering a speech at a recent launching ceremony of the SPG’s first European branch.

She described the opening of the SPG’s first European branch as “an important milestone in the history of our port.”

Headquartered in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province, the SPG operates four major ports in China — Qingdao Port, Rizhao Port, Yantai Port and Bohai Bay Port.



A cargo ship of COSCO Shipping Lines docks in Dutch Port of Rotterdam, 20 April 2013. **PHOTO: JIA LIRUI/XINHUA**

With 337 container routes and 84 sea-rail intermodal train services, the port group maintains connections with over 180 countries and regions worldwide.

The investment by

SPG in Rotterdam would bring economic benefits to the region and would also enhance ties between China and Europe, van der Laan said, adding: “I am confident that our relationship will thrive and

prosper.”

Wilbert Lek, managing director of Rotterdam Partners, an investment and promotion agency of the city of Rotterdam, joined van der Laan in welcoming SPG.—AFP

Tesco chairman to step down over misconduct claims



Tesco’s chairman, John Allan, is leaving his job in June. He was a strong leader who helped the company during tough times. The company is looking for a new chairperson. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

UK supermarket giant Tesco said Friday its chairman John Allan would step down next month following newspaper allegations over his conduct towards women.

“We are well advanced in our search for a new chair and will make an announcement in due course,” interim chair Byron Grote said in a statement to the London Stock

Exchange.

Grote said he would helm Tesco’s annual general meeting (AGM) on June 16, when Allan will step down after eight years in the chair.

Last week, the Guardian newspaper reported that Allan “faces claims of inappropriate and unprofessional behaviour from four women”. —AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V GSS YANGON VOY.NO. (169N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V GSS YANGON VOY.NO. (169N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **22-5-2023** 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.

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GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Chinese FM spokesperson slams G7 summit's hyping up of China-related issues

A Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson on Saturday made remarks on G7 Hiroshima Summit's hyping up of China-related issues, urging the countries to stop ganging up to form exclusive blocs.

According to reports, the G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué and other documents adopted at the G7 Hiroshima Summit contain comments on the situation in the Taiwan Strait and accusations regarding the East China Sea, the South China Sea, Hong Kong, Xinjiang, Tibet and China's nuclear power, professed G7 opposition to any unilateral

attempts to change the status quo and claims about "economic coercion" that allude to China.

The spokesperson said the G7 makes high-sounding claims about "promoting a peaceful, stable and prosperous world," but what it does is hindering international peace, undermining regional stability and curbing other countries' development. That simply shows how little international credibility means to the G7.

Despite China's serious concerns, the G7 used issues concerning China to smear and attack China and brazen-



Hundreds of Japanese citizens take to the streets on 14 May in the Japanese city of Hiroshima to protest against the upcoming Group of Seven summit. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/XINHUA**

ly interfere in China's internal affairs. China strongly deplores and firmly opposes this and has made serious demarches to the summit's host Japan and

other parties concerned, the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson stressed that resolving the Taiwan question is a matter for the Chinese,

a matter that must be resolved by the Chinese. The one-China principle is the solid anchor for peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait. — Xinhua

East Timorese vote for parliament, hoping for end to political deadlock

VOTERS in East Timor flocked to polling stations on Sunday to cast their ballot in parliamentary elections, hoping for an end to years of political deadlock in Asia's youngest country.

This is the fifth parliamentary poll since East Timor gained independence from Indonesia in 2002 after a 24-year occupation, with 65 national lawmakers to be elected to a five-year mandate.

As polling stations opened at 7 am local time (2200 GMT), voters formed long queues, carrying umbrellas for shade as they patiently waited their turn.

"All people came to give their voices, because one voice can make a change," said 61-year-old



The Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor, also known as Fretilin, party's rock-solid base of support ensures its competitiveness at every election. **PHOTO: VALENTINO DARIEL SOUSA/AFP**

voter Cesar dos Santos de Carvalho at a polling station in the capital Dili. "I hope the political party that I chose can put attention on

health, education, infrastructure and agriculture, because these are the priority sectors that all people need." — AFP

Sinn Fein becomes largest party in N Ireland local elections

PRO-IRELAND party Sinn Fein won the largest number of local council seats in Northern Ireland on Saturday, outstripping pro-UK unionist rivals in a historic first for the province.

By a wide margin of gains, the party supplanted the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) as the dominant force in local

government in the region created just over 100 years ago to ensure a pro-UK majority.

Sinn Fein, the former political wing of the paramilitary IRA, had won 143 of 462 seats across Northern Ireland's 11 local councils with just six seats left to declare. For 15 months, the DUP has boycotted Northern

Ireland's devolved government over its opposition to post-Brexit trade arrangements, paralysing its power-sharing institutions at Stormont. Sinn Fein leader Michelle O'Neill called the result "momentous", telling the BBC her party's campaign had "resonated with the electorate". —AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hollywood stance on writers strike is obscene: Sean Penn

ACTOR Sean Penn gave his full support to the ongoing writers' strike in Hollywood on Friday, saying it was a "human obscenity" that studios were not taking seriously concerns over artificial intelligence.

Penn was speaking at the Cannes Film Festival, the day after the premier of his new film, "Black Flies", an ultra-gritty movie about New York paramedics.

Asked about the writers' strike that has upended Hollywood productions, he said: "It is the industry that's been upending the writers and the actors and directors for a very, very long time. My full support in this situation is with the writers guild of course.

"There are a lot of new concepts that are being tossed about, including the use of AI (to write scripts). It strikes me as a human obscenity for there to be any pushback on that from the producers."

The strike kicked off on 3 May after negotiations broke down between the Writers Guild of America and major US studios, with writers demanding better compensation after the disruption caused by streaming and fears over the increasing use of AI.

"The first thing we should do in this conversation is change the Producers Guild and title them how they behave, which is the Bankers Guild," Penn said. The strike has been a hot topic at the festival. James Mangold, director of "Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny", also backed the striking writers.

"No movie happens without a great script, and no great script happens without writers. I support them in their struggle," he told reporters. On Tuesday, US actor and director Paul Dano — who is on the festival jury — added his support, saying he would join the picket line when he got home.

The 62-year-old Penn has long been an outspoken activist and runs a disaster relief organisation overseeing a huge testing and vaccination programme during the peak of the Covid-19 pandemic. — AFP

German chancellor arrives for talks in S Korea



German Chancellor Olaf Scholz (R) and his wife Britta Ernst (L) arrive at Seoul Air Base in Seongnam on 21 May 2023. **PHOTO: JUNG YEON-JE /AFP**

GERMAN Chancellor Olaf Scholz arrived in South Korea on Sunday for talks with President Yoon Suk Yeol after attending the G7 summit in Hiroshima.

Scholz, the first German chancellor to visit Seoul for a bilateral meeting in 30 years, will travel to the Demilitarised Zone dividing North and South Korea ahead of his summit with Yoon.

The two leaders will hold a joint news conference before Scholz flies out late Sunday night.

The summit agenda will range widely from climate change to security policy in the Indo-Pacific region, with the two leaders also expected to discuss the war in Ukraine, German offi-

cial said in a briefing last week.

South Korea, the world's ninth-largest arms exporter, has sent humanitarian assistance to Ukraine and has also sold tanks and howitzers to Poland.

However, it has a longstanding policy of not providing weapons to active conflict zones.

An official from the German government told reporters the two leaders will discuss Seoul's plans for providing further assistance to Ukraine.

"We have recently heard from President Yoon — this was also public — that there were certain considerations or a certain easing in this direction," the official said. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pope asks cardinal to lead Ukraine peace mission

POPE Francis has asked Cardinal Matteo Zuppi, head of the Italian bishops' conference, to lead a peace mission to try and stop the war in Ukraine, the Vatican said Saturday.

Zuppi has been asked "to help ease tensions in the conflict in Ukraine, in the hope, which the Holy Father has never given up, that this can initiate paths of peace," Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni said.

"The timing of such a mission, and its modalities, are currently being studied," he added in a note.

Francis first spoke of a possible mission on his return from a trip to Hungary last month, telling reporters "there is a mission in course now, but it is not yet public."

He gave no more details. Zuppi, 67, was elected head of the Italian Episcopal Conference last year, and hails from the Sant'Egidio Catholic Community, which specializes in diplomacy and peace efforts.

The Vatican statement came as G7 leaders in Japan met with President Zelenskyy and renewed their support for Ukraine, which was invaded by Russia in February 2022. — AFP

Attack on rally drivers leaves 10 dead in Mexico

AT least 10 people were killed and nine wounded on Saturday when gunmen attacked a group of amateur rally drivers in the northern Mexican town of Ensenada, near the US border, authorities said.

The motorists, who were participating in a race, were parked on the side of a highway when a group of men got out of a pickup truck and opened fire.

The attack "left nine wounded and 10 people dead," Ensenada authorities said in a statement.

The prosecutor's office of the state of Baja California, where Ensenada is located and which has been hard hit by drug violence, announced the formation of a "special investigation group" to identify the killers and determine the motives behind the shooting, the statement said. Some of the wounded received emergency care and were later transferred to hospitals in Ensenada, a municipality of some 440,000 people. — AFP

Bahrain to resume diplomatic relations with Lebanon

BAHRAIN said Saturday it would restore full diplomatic relations with Lebanon after a year and a half, following a row over the Saudi-led military intervention in Yemen.

Bahrain and other Gulf countries followed Saudi Arabia in recalling their diplomats towards the end of 2021 after a Lebanese minister criticised Riyadh's military intervention in the war in Yemen.

Manama — a staunch ally of Riyadh — also called on its citizens in Lebanon to leave the country.

But the tiny Gulf kingdom said Saturday that it was bringing an end to the impasse, a move welcomed by Beirut.

"The Kingdom of Bahrain has decided to restore diplomatic representation" at ambassador level in Lebanon, the Bahraini



Bahrain is a small country in the Middle East and is made up of 50 islands. **PHOTO: AFP**

foreign ministry said, adding that this would "strengthen the fraternal relations between the two countries".

Lebanon's prime minister Najib Mikati said the country "appreciated this decision and welcomes it".

A diplomatic crisis erupted in October 2021 after the then-information minister was quoted criticising the Saudi role in Yemen, where a grinding war has produced what the UN describes as the world's worst humanitarian crisis. — AFP

Russia's Wagner chief claims total capture of Bakhmut

THE head of Russia's Wagner mercenary group, Yevgeny Prigozhin, on Saturday claimed the complete capture of east Ukraine's Bakhmut, scene of the longest and bloodiest battle in Moscow's offensive.

Ukraine admitted the situation in the city was "critical", but maintained it still has some ground control there.

Wagner has spearheaded the fight for Bakhmut and is believed to have suffered huge losses in the months-long storming of the city.

"Today on May 20, around mid-day, Bakhmut was taken in its entirety," Prigozhin said in a video posted on Telegram, with fighters behind him holding the Russian flag surrounded by

ruins.

Wagner fighters would examine the captured city before handing it over to the official Russian army by May 25, he said.

"By May 25 we will completely examine (Bakhmut), create the necessary lines of defence and hand it to the military," Prigozhin said. "We ourselves will go into field camps." — AFP



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.

Man City turn Premier League into procession

MANCHESTER City's domestic dominance under Pep Guardiola has made a mockery of the Premier League's claim to be more competitive than Europe's other top leagues.

City sealed a fifth title in six seasons on Saturday with three games to spare, having ultimately seen off Arsenal's challenge to win the league for the first time in 19 years with ease.

Their dominance looks remarkably like that of Bayern Munich in Germany or Paris Saint-Germain in France, despite a clutch of hugely wealthy rivals in England.

Guardiola's men can enhance their case to be considered one of the all-time great teams in the coming weeks by matching the achievement of

Manchester United's treble winners of 1998/99 by adding the Champions League and FA Cup.

But they have turned the world's richest league into a one-horse race.

A takeover from Emirati royal Sheikh Mansour in 2008 has transformed City from also-rans in the shadow of their local rivals into the dominant force in English football.

On the back of huge investment from the Abu Dhabi owners, City have won seven titles in the past 12 seasons.

But they have gone up a level since the arrival of Guardiola, one of the most successful managers in football history.

Only United under Alex Ferguson had previously won five titles in six years, between 1995/96 and 2000/01.—AFP



Manchester City win Premier League title after Arsenal lose at Nottingham Forest. Manchester City have secured the 2022-23 Premier League title without playing after closest rivals Arsenal lost 1-0 at Nottingham Forest. PHOTO: AFP

Myanmar's Traditional Lethwei fights on 28 May



An announcement of the Myanmar Lethwei Challenge to be held as ANS Fight 2, organized by the Myanmar Lethwei Federation.

WITH the supervision of Myanmar Lethwei Federation, ANS Fight-2 events of traditional Lethwei (Myanmar's boxing) will be launched at Theinbyu Boxing Gymnasium in Mingala Taungyunt Township, Yangon starting at 1:00 pm on 28 May.

In the three-round bout, Kyaw Kyaw Moe (M2k) will take on Saw Gapae Phoe (Yoeya Kyar).

Interesting fights of Ye Kyaw Oo (Ray) vs Aung Lay (Yoeya Kyar), Thiha (Meiktila) vs Salai Thang Kwi Shein (Ze Manma), Aung Bo Tun (Yoeya

Kyar) vs Aung Pyae Sone (Tawwin Ayeya), Ye Lin Oo (Smart Fight) vs Paing Thet Aung (Kanyaw Thwi), Saw Solomon (Yoeya Kyar) vs Khit Thit Sein (Python MMA), Ko Ko (PL Phone La Pyae) vs Hanthawady (Lethwei Warrior) are included in the four-round bout category.

In the five-round bout, Kyar Pauk (900-tonne Factory) will face Thway Thit Maung (Aphyu Yaung Thway Thit) while Kyaw Swa Win (M2K) will fight against Shue Kalein Min (900-tonne Factory). Myanmar's Lethwei is believed to have originated

in the days of the ancient Pyu kingdoms, but clear evidences had been found only in the Bagan period. Some of the mural paintings in Bagan's stupas feature boxing and wrestling, as well as athletes and performers.

During the reigns of the ancient Myanmar kings, Lethwei techniques were taught in the royal army along with warfare. Lethwei bouts were also celebrated with great enthusiasm.

During the reign of King Thibaw, Lethwei fighters were honoured with the title of "Great Fighter".—TWA/KZL

Arsenal must look in the mirror: Ramsdale

ARSENAL must own up to errors made in the season that helped Manchester City win the Premier League title but the London club can still take pride in qualifying for the Champions League after last playing in the tournament in 2017, goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale said. Despite Arsenal leading the league for nearly 250 days, an experienced City side

were with them every step of the way, reeling them in before taking the lead after the London side lost 1-0 away at Nottingham Forest. Ramsdale said the team were disappointed and needed to look inward at how their title challenge collapsed, but he took comfort in the fact that they had returned to the top four for the first time since 2016.—AFP