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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.

Buddha image conveyed to Maravijaya Chamber, Naungdawgyi Buddha image to Aggadipati Withongama ordination hall of the Sasana Beikman



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presses the button to convey Buddha image onto the jewelled throne in Aggadipati Withongama ordination hall in Dekkhinathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 June.

A CEREMONY to convey a Buddha Image to Maravijaya Chamber took place in conjunction with conveyance of Naungdawgyi Buddha Image to Aggadipati Withongama ordination

hall of the Sasana Beikman in Maravijaya Buddha Park in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, with attendance of Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

Conveyance of the Buddha image was launched to Maravijaya Chamber donated by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla and

family.

The Senior General pressed the button to convey the Buddha image onto the jeweled throne.

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Electric Vehicles arrive at Yangon Port



EVs arrive at Yangon Port on 28 June.

WITH the approval of the Steering Committee on National-level Development of Electric Vehicles and Related Industries, a total of 31 electric vehicles — 27 Honda ENS1s and four Faw Toyota BZ4Xs imported by Auto Top Power Co Ltd — arrived at Yangon Port yesterday.

The vehicles were allowed to be claimed according to the procedures, and the import of these electric vehicles is exempted from customs duties.—MNA/KTZH

Senior assistant teacher from Hlinethaya BEHS No 2 selected as PMCA recipient

THE Princess Maha Chakri Award Foundation cooperates with the Teachers Council of Thailand, the Equitable Education Fund and relevant agencies in organizing the award presentation ceremony in Bangkok, Thailand, on 17 October. It will be the fifth award presentation of the foundation.

Daw Aye Su Win, a senior assistant teacher from No 2 Basic Education High School in Hlinethaya Township was chosen as 2023 PMCA recipient. The teacher, an English major graduate, develops school activities to help students read, using books in the school library. She teaches students to grow seasonal veg-

etables and fruit plants so that they can eat healthy food with good nutrition. In 2017, the 38 years old female teacher tutored her students for the ASEAN Cyber Kids Camp and her students were awarded the 3rd prize for using the scratch programme.

She was chosen as an awardee for her outstanding efforts to change students' lives.

The foundation selected winners in 11 Southeast Asian countries to present five kinds of awards: a Princess Maha Chakri Award Medal, a gold honorary brooch, a Princess Maha Chakri Award Plaque, a prize money of USD10,000 and a certificate of honour.

Daw Yi Mon Soe from BEMS in Kya-yingyi Village of Nyaunglebin Township, Bago Region, was chosen as awardee for 2015. — Aik Thon



PMCA recipient Daw Aye Su Win of Hlinethaya BEHS No2 seen with officials and former awardee. PHOTO: AIK THON

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 notifications will be made in due course.
3. It has been announced that dona-

tions 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, OK \$, UAB pay and

Citizens Pay which are widely used to enhance convenience for donors. To donate, please scan the QR code and

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
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	
Daw Phyu Phyu Win Director Department of Disaster Management 067-3404316 09-43054844		

National Disaster Management Committee

Tatmadaw guards and protects the interests of the people

IN any age and under any government, Tatmadaw has always regarded the people as their parents and itself as the guardian and protector of the interests of the people.

(Excerpts from the discussion of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting 1/2023 of the National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 1 February 2023)

Buddha image conveyed to Maravijaya Chamber, Naungdawgyi ...



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla pay homage to Buddha image in Aggadipati Withongama ordination hall of Sasana Beikman on 28 June.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing sprinkles scented water on the Buddha image.



Vice-Senior General Soe Win sprays the Buddha image with scented water.

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One more ceremony to convey Naungdawgyi Buddha image to Aggadipati Withongama ordination hall of the Sasana Beikman followed.

The Senior General conveyed the image onto the jewelled throne by pressing the button.

After the process, the Senior General and congregation paid homage to the Buddha image by sprinkling Paritta scented water.

ed water.

Later, the Senior General and wife performed the rituals of golden and silver showers to mark the successful completion of the ceremony.

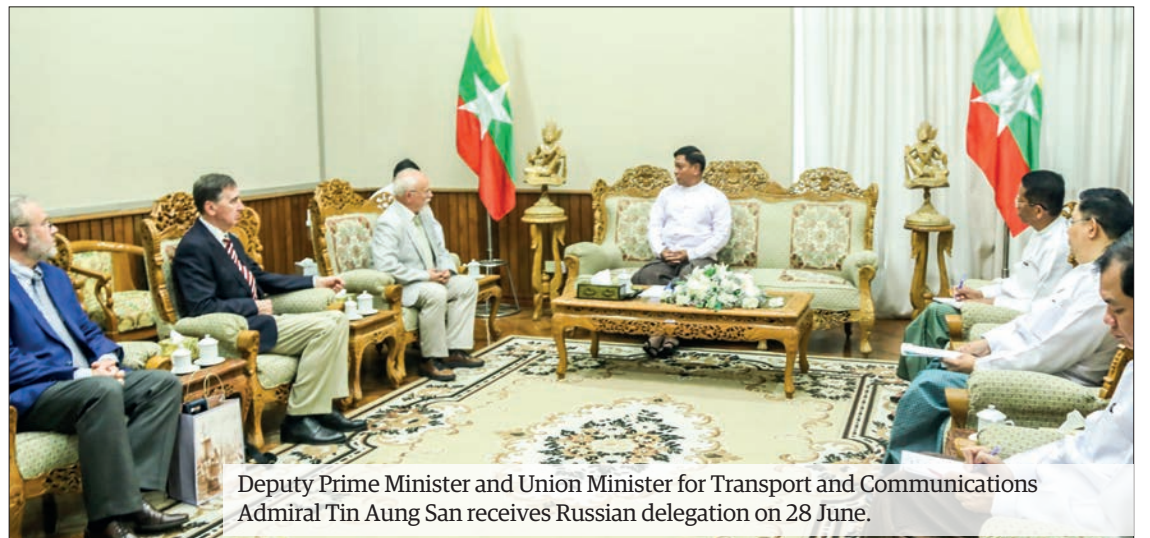
Also present at the ceremony were SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Maung Maung Aye and wife, and dignitaries.—MNA/TTA

DPM and Union Ministers receive Vice-President of Russia-Myanmar Association of Friendship and Cooperation and party

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San, Union Minister for Energy U Myo Myint Oo and Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Khin Maung Yi separately received the delegation led by Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov, Vice-President of Russia-Myanmar Association of Friendship and Cooperation at the meeting halls of the respective ministries yesterday.

During the meetings, the

Deputy Prime Minister, Union Ministers and the leader of the delegation exchanged views on cooperation in development of rail transportation, extension of direct flights, investment in transport and communications, provision of technological assistance for the development of mining sector, cooperation in development of energy sector, exploration of oil and natural gas, and potential investment of Russia in petroleum products of Myanmar.— MNA/MKKS



Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San receives Russian delegation on 28 June.

SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win receives Russian Ambassador to Myanmar who has completed his tour of duty

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win received Ambassador of Russian Federation to Myanmar Dr Nikolay Listopadov, who has completed his tour of duty, at the Credentials Hall of the SAC Chairman Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the talks, the Vice-Senior General expressed his pleasure for the Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Myanmar receiving Wunna Kyaw Htin honorary title conferred by the SAC Chairman on 26 June for his outstanding performances in bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries during the period when he has served for seven years at the capacity of Russian Ambassador to Myanmar from 2016 to date.

The Vice-Senior General and the Russian Ambassador frankly exchanged views on



SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win receives Ambassador of Russian Federation to Myanmar Dr Nikolay Listopadov.

promotion of friendly ties and cooperation between Myanmar and Russia, further enhancement of cooperation between

the two governments and the two armed forces in addition to existing cooperation, boosting cooperation in existing

multi-sectors, and sharing a helping hand to each other in the international arena as Myanmar and Russia are the

most fraternal friends, and exchanged gifts before posing for documentary photos with delegates. — MNA/TTA

Union Minister for International Cooperation receives Russian Ambassador to Myanmar



U Ko Ko Hlaing, Union Minister for International Cooperation of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar received Dr Nikolay Listopadov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, who is leaving Myanmar after

completion of his tour of duty in Myanmar, at 12:30 pm yesterday, at the Ministry of International Cooperation in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the farewell call, the Union Minister congratulated the Ambassador on being conferred the Honorary Title "Wunna Kyaw Htin" for his outstanding performance in enhancing friendly cooperation between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Russian Federation. They then exchanged views on the status of the existing traditional friendly relations and development of comprehensive cooperation between Myanmar and Russia. — MNA

Union Minister for International Cooperation U Ko Ko Hlaing exchanges gifts with Dr Nikolay Listopadov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation on 28 June.

State Peace Talks Team meets with five PPST member NCA signatories on third day

THE State Peace Talks Team-SPTT separately held talks with five PPST member NCA signatories, yesterday morning at the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meetings, Chair Saw Mra Raza Lin led the delegation of Arakan Liberation Party-ALP, Vice Chairman Khun Tun Tin the delegation of Pa-O National Liberation Organization-PNLO, Vice Chairman Kya Phoo the delegation of Lahu Democratic Union-LDU, Saw Sein Win at the rank of Adjutant-General the delegation of Democratic Karen Benevolent Army-DKBA and Vice Chair Dr Naw Kapaw Htoo the delegation of KNU/KNLA-Peace Council.

During the meeting, both sides mutually discussed regional security, stability and development measures.

In the afternoon, the State



State Peace Talks Team and PPST member five ethnic armed organizations seen in third-day peace talks in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 June.

Peace Talks Team-SPTT and five PPST member NCA signatory ethnic armed organizations continued to hold the third day of talks at the National Solidarity and Peacemaking

Centre. After three days of negotiations, they signed the final agreements and exchanged them.

Next, Peace Talks Team

Leader Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and Chairman Saw Mra Raza Lin of Arakan Liberation Party-ALP, on behalf of the ethnic armed organizations, gave closing remarks. The books on Global

Affairs, Myanmar Affairs, and Ethnic Affairs published by the Ministry of Information and gifts were presented to five PPST member ethnic armed organizations.—MNA/TS

SAC member attends opening of Shwe Mine Seik Fertilizer Factory, meets trainees of Saikkhaung Ethnic Youth Development Training School

STATE Administration Council Member U Khun San Lwin attended the ceremony to com-

mission Shwe Mine Seik Fertilizer Factory in Saikkhaung village near Saikkhaung-Maukmai

Road in Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, Shan State (South), at 10 am yesterday. Shan State Chief

Minister U Aung Zaw Aye gave a speech at the opening of the factory.

Minister's Vocational Training School explaining the background of her school.



The opening of Shwe Mine Seik Fertilizer Factory in progress in Saikkhaung village of Hsihseng Township on 28 June.

The SAC member, ministers and officials viewed round the factory which manufactures natural gypsum fertilizer and natural dolomite fertilizer.

Afterwards, the SAC member met trainees of the Ethnic Youth Development Training School in Saikkhaung of Hsihseng Township.

At the meeting, Principal U Khun Aung Hman presented the information about the school, followed by Principal Daw Khin San Win of the Wom-

The SAC member urged trainees to try and learn under the disciplines in order to become good leaders, and advised the teachers to nurture the trainees with good intentions.

The SAC member and the Shan State Chief Minister provided grants for training schools through officials.

Finally, the SAC member viewed round the dormitories, agricultural farm, water purifier plant, library, storehouse, and mess hall. — MNA/CT

MoLA Union Minister receives Russian Ambassador to Myanmar

UNION Minister for Legal Affairs and Union Attorney-General Dr Thida Oo received Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Nikolay Listopadov, who has completed his tour of duty in Myanmar, at the parlour of the Ministry yesterday morning.

On the occasion, the Union minister and the ambassador

exchanged views on the enhancement of good relations between Russia and Myanmar, further close cooperation between the Prosecutor General of Russia and the Ministry of Legal Affairs, and implementation of the cooperation process according to the memorandum of legal cooperation signed be-

tween the Prosecutor General's Office of the Russian Federation and the Myanmar's Ministry of Legal Affairs, enhancement of the bilateral relations and cooperation in counter-terrorism measures.

Later, the Union Minister and the Russian Ambassador exchanged gifts.—MNA/ MKKS



Union Minister Dr Thida Oo receives Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Nikolay Listopadov on 28 June.



Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn plants Gangaw (*Mesua ferrea*) tree in MRTV compound in Tatkon on 28 June.

MoI holds ceremonies of 2023 monsoon tree-growing, releasing fingerlings

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn and wife grew *Mesua ferrea* and Star-flower plants at the designated locations and Deputy Minister U Ye Tint, departmental heads and officials also planted teak, mahogany, star-flower and gum-kino at the respective sites at the 2023 monsoon tree-growing in the compound of MRTV in Tatkon yesterday.

At releasing fingerlings event held at fish farm No 1 of MRTV, the Union Minister and wife released the fingerlings.

Moreover, the Union Min-

ister, wife and party inspected the breeding of 180 goats and monsoon mango plantation in MRTV compound.

A total of 2,025 plants—1,400 saplings and 625 Seintalone mango trees—were planted and 5,000 fingerlings were set free at the event.

At noon, the Union Minister presided over a meeting with officials of tender winning companies for MRTV in 2023-2024 FY at the meeting hall of MRTV and discussed the measures to ensure timely import of quality materials. — MNA/KTZH

Illegal timbers, foodstuffs, industrial materials, jade and vehicles seized

THE combined teams under the supervision of Customs Department confiscated 700 kilogrammes of illegal dried beef worth K4.2 million and 250 kilogrammes of blocks supposed to be petrified wood worth K5 million from a Win Myanmar MPV micro bus (approximately K30 million) heading to Muse from Mandalay at the Yepu permanent checkpoint on 26 June, two kinds of goods worth K16,763,040 including a set of Ottoman sofa that exceeded the 61 days of VPA from a container at the Hteedan Port and three kinds of goods worth K80,424,750 including 3,852 kilogrammes of Lang Hoa Roll Tissue that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from a container at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint on 27 June. The action was taken under Customs Procedures.

Additionally, a combined team led by a police officer from

Muse District Police Station, while patrolling near Sinphyu border in Muse township on 27 June, seized two kinds of goods worth K4.59 million including 1,156 bracelets supposed to be made of jade and 326 kilogrammes of cut pieces of jade worth K9.78 million without official documents from two vehicles. The action was taken under Customs Procedures.

Similarly, a total of 0.912 tonne of illegal teak, 1.247 tonnes of illegal hardwood and 2.050 tonnes of other illegal timbers worth K1,533,280 were seized in Bago and Thayawady districts on 28 June. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

As a result, a total of eight arrests were made on three consecutive days from 26 to 28 June, with an estimated value of K152,291,070, as reported by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS



Pieces of jade stones seized in Shan State on 27 June.

MoEP, MoST Union Ministers receive Russian delegation



Union Ministers U Thaung Han and Dr Myo Thein Kyaw hold talks with Deputy Director-General of Russian State Atomic-Energy Cooperation "Rosatom" Mr Nikolay Spassky at Yangon Technological University on 28 June.

UNION Minister for Electric Power U Thaung Han and Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Myo Thein Kyaw received a delegation led by Deputy Director-General of Russian State Atomic Energy Cooperation "Rosatom" Mr Nikolay Spassky at the Yangon Technological University in Yangon yesterday.

During the meeting, the Rosatom handed over the feasibility study report for thermal power plant project, under MoU between MoEP and Rosatom inked in November 2022, to Min-

istry of Electric Power.

Then, the MoST signed a Memorandum of Understanding in the field of nuclear infrastructure assessment and enhancement with Rosatom.

During the meeting with officials of Rosatom, MoEP Union Minister expressed graduates for completion of feasibility study report on thermal power plant in time and belief to accomplish the work plans stated in Road Map.

He also talked about the MoUs for wind power projects made on 15 June during Inter-

national Economic Forum in St. Petersburg and also said words of thanks for technical supports in generating power using hydropower and other sources.

Then, Deputy Director-General of Rosatom talked about the bilateral cooperation, future investment in thermal power plant projects and other projects and cooperation in conducting feasibility study on wind power projects under MoU.

The delegation led by Rosatom attended the dinner hosted by MoEP in the evening. — MNA/KTZH

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 increase of death rate due to the disease.

Myanmar, Russia hold Science Festival 2023



Union Minister of Science and Technology Dr Myo Thein Kyaw and Deputy Director-General of ROSATOM Mr Nikolay Spassky seen at opening of Science Festival 2023 at YTU on 28 June.

THE Ministry of Science and Technology and ROSATOM of Russian Federation kicked off

the Science Festival 2023 at Yangon Technological University yesterday.

First, Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Kyaw made an opening speech, saying that the sci-

ence festival can improve the knowledge of students from primary to tertiary levels and young experts serving in respective sectors regarding the scientific facts and experience. It can also stimulate them to explore the scientific innovation. In education sector, it can also improve the spirit of youths, and the knowledge about the nuclear energy will spread through media outlets and so it will be very effective move in developing science and nuclear energy sectors of the country.

Then, Deputy Director-General of ROSATOM Mr Nikolay Spassky made a remark.

The Science Festival will last for three days from 28 to 30 June at Yangon Technological University and Nuclear Technology Information Centre. The

festival includes quiz games on nuclear technology and science for basic education school students, and the winners will be awarded. Moreover, it will offer demonstration of undergraduate/postgraduate students, excursion to Yangon Technological University, talk shows of engineering students under topics of nuclear energy and related science, question and answer section of Russian experts and sharing of knowledge to media sector.

During the ceremony, Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya and Deputy Director-General of ROSATOM co-chaired the first Myanmar-Russia Joint Coordination Committee meeting on peaceful uses of nuclear energy and human resource development for nuclear technology. — MNA/KTZH

MoCRD Union Minister oversees rehabilitation progress in Rakhine State

UNION Minister for Cooperatives and Rural Development U Hla Moe visited the Cultural Museum and Library in Sittway yesterday morning.

While in Sittway, he donated alms to monasteries.

Next, the Union minister attended handover of 554 tonnes of rice donated by the Republic of Korea and 20,000 packages of instant rice by Japan under the ASEAN +3 Emergency Rice Reserve APTERR Tier 3 Programme, to the Rakhine state government through the Depart-

ment of Agriculture.

At the entertainment show in Sittway, the Union minister cordially conversed with artistes from various associations.

The artistes donated K132.2 million and foodstuff and Mocha fund football team officials, K75 million and foodstuff to the Union minister.

The Union Minister attended the disaster rehabilitation coordination meeting held at the Rakhine State Government office and heard reports on progress of rehabilitation. —MNA/KZW



Union Minister for Cooperatives and Rural Development U Hla Moe visits Cultural Museum and Library in Sittway on 28 June.

Rakhine State still receiving relief items, supplies



Construction materials being loaded onto ship at TMT port on 28 June.

THE relief items and supplies are being transported to Rakhine State

under the directives of the National Disaster Management Committee.

The MV Fortune departed from the Myanmar Terminal (TMT) to Sittway yesterday carrying a total of 1,562.58 tonnes of supplies including 165,674 CI sheets, 132.77 tonnes of plain sheets, 150 tonnes of Lip Channel, two transformers, 150 tonnes of sawn timber, 100 bags of rice, 10,030 packs of water bottles and 14,002 saplings provided by relevant ministries, Myanmar Economic Corporation, Union of Myanmar Economic

Holdings Public Limited and Kokang Self-Administered Zone.

Moreover, a total of 26,900.64 tonnes of supplies including construction materials, electrical devices, health devices, commodities and foodstuffs, 249,762 gallons of diesel and 199,886 gallons of Octane 92 were transported by 18 vessels including naval vessels to Sittway of Rakhine State from 16 May to date. — MNA/KTZH

45 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 28 June, total figure registers **640,391**

MYANMAR'S COVID-19-positive cases rose to **640,391** after **45** new cases were reported on 28 June 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. Therefore, a total of **10,845,123** laboratory samples were examined to date and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached **640,391**. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **619,310** including **38** new recoveries. The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered **19,494** on 28-6-2023 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

OPINION

Strictly control use of e-cigarettes in the society

THE World Health Organization (WHO) has issued a press release cautioning against the use of e-cigarettes as a substitute for traditional cigarettes. According to the WHO, e-cigarettes contain elements that can cause severe damage to the lungs and respiratory tracts.

In response to this concern, a total of 47 countries worldwide, including South Asian and Southeast Asian countries such as Bhutan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Laos, Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia, Brunei, and Timor-Leste, have implemented bans on the sale of e-cigarettes until 2021. Many ASEAN countries have also implemented specific laws, notifications, and directives to regulate the use of e-cigarettes.

While Myanmar enacted the Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law in 2006, the law does not specifically address measures related to e-cigarettes. Consequently, these devices are readily available in the market.

Currently, vaping and e-cigarette usage are gaining popularity among youths worldwide. As opposed to previous generations who primarily experienced tobacco, today's youth are increasingly influenced by vaping and e-cigarettes. These products are designed with attractive colors and flavors to appeal to young people, leading them to view vaping as a fashion statement. Initially, these products were developed with the intention of reducing cigarette smoking. However, it is important to note that both vaping and e-cigarette usage can be detrimental to users' health and may even result in loss of life. While users of these products and traditional cigarettes face severe health conditions, tobacco traders, including vape and cigarette merchants, often manage to escape the associated dangers and thrive in their businesses.

E-cigarettes work by heating a liquid that typically contains nicotine, flavorings, and other chemicals, producing an aerosol. Users inhale this aerosol into their lungs, and bystanders can also be exposed to it when users exhale into the air.

While e-cigarettes may have the potential to benefit adult smokers who are not pregnant, provided they completely substitute traditional cigarettes and other smoked tobacco products, they are not considered safe for youth, young adults, pregnant individuals, or adults who do not currently use tobacco products.

All in all, any form of cigarette or tobacco product usage is ultimately detrimental to both individuals and society as a whole. With the exception of tobacco's limited use in traditional medicine, it is crucial for authorities to implement strict regulations to curb the use of tobacco products in all forms, including vaping, cigarettes, and e-cigarettes for emergence of healthy and fit youths on which the whole Myanmar society can rely in the future.

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Essential Criteria for Assessing a Student's Ability to Learn

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

IT will be well known that a student's ability to learn is mostly evaluated by teachers and educational centres with diagnostic assessments, formative assessments, summative assessments, placement tests, or final examinations. But those assessments, tests, and examinations are not the end of the world for students, to be sure. I think that textbooks have been prescribed from the extracts of literature, language, and science which would probably be good for real-life situations as their sample basic concepts and achievement tests cannot examine all the facts and figures from curriculums or courses besides the potential course coverage. Hence, students' authentic abilities to learn must not be described as 100 per cent of reliability, validity and relevancy by tests and measurement. However, teachers, parents, and students themselves will be able to estimate their general abilities and skills to a certain extent through either criterion-referenced tests or non-referenced ones. Except for those who have Down's syndrome or dyslexia, slow or quick learners can conduct their studies to the utmost.

In my experience of part-time teaching, where Down's syndrome is an abnormal condition in which a person is born with a wide, flat face, sloping eyes and a mental ability that is below average, and dyslexia is a slight disorder of the brain that causes difficulty in reading and spelling but does not affect intelligence. Apart from assessments, tests, and examinations, there are also many essential criteria for a student's ability to learn which are going to be expressed here in the following order now: 1) Curiosity to learn 2) Intrinsic motivation 3) Learning styles 4) Memory 5) Intelligence 6) Learning rate 7) Other factors.

As we all know, children show curiosity about everything as well as they are childish under the illusion that their elders, especially parents and teachers, must be able to answer any question they want to ask. They tend

to have a belief in or a fear of even the supernatural, i.e. ghosts, black magic, and something like these. Similarly, students get interested in school subjects – some go for languages, English or Myanmar; others like sciences, Maths or any one of Natural Science, Fundamental Science, or General Science; others enjoy Social Studies, a combined volume of Geography and History. Myself, I have been keen to study English since I was in my primary student life. I always loved my teacher Sayagyi U Tapala, also the Karen national, teaching English, especially how he pronounced the final consonant sounds of English words with the apparent position of his lips. Since then, I have willingly been studying English until today. Of course, curiosity about anything turns out to be the very first step towards a student's future educational success. I believe that questions are the solution clues to every problem, not learning disturbance at all. Both teachers and parents should even instil curiosity into their children if they do not have it.

Two kinds of motivation will contribute to the learning process: intrinsic and extrinsic. On the first hand, intrinsic motivation is including the above-mentioned curiosity to learn, educational competition spirit, hard study, deep learning, continuous learning, life-long learning, and so forth. On the other hand, extrinsic motivation involves national influences, school influences, teachers' influences, friendship influences, parental influences, environmental influences, and so on. Personally, intrinsic motivation is a little bit more important than extrinsic motivation for a student now that most of those celebrated from every corner of the globe are found to be self-made persons, even though extrinsic motivation may lead students to stronger intrinsic motivation. Intrinsic motivation is more extreme than extrinsic motivation. The more intrinsic motivation a student has got, the closer he will arrive at his educational target. In other

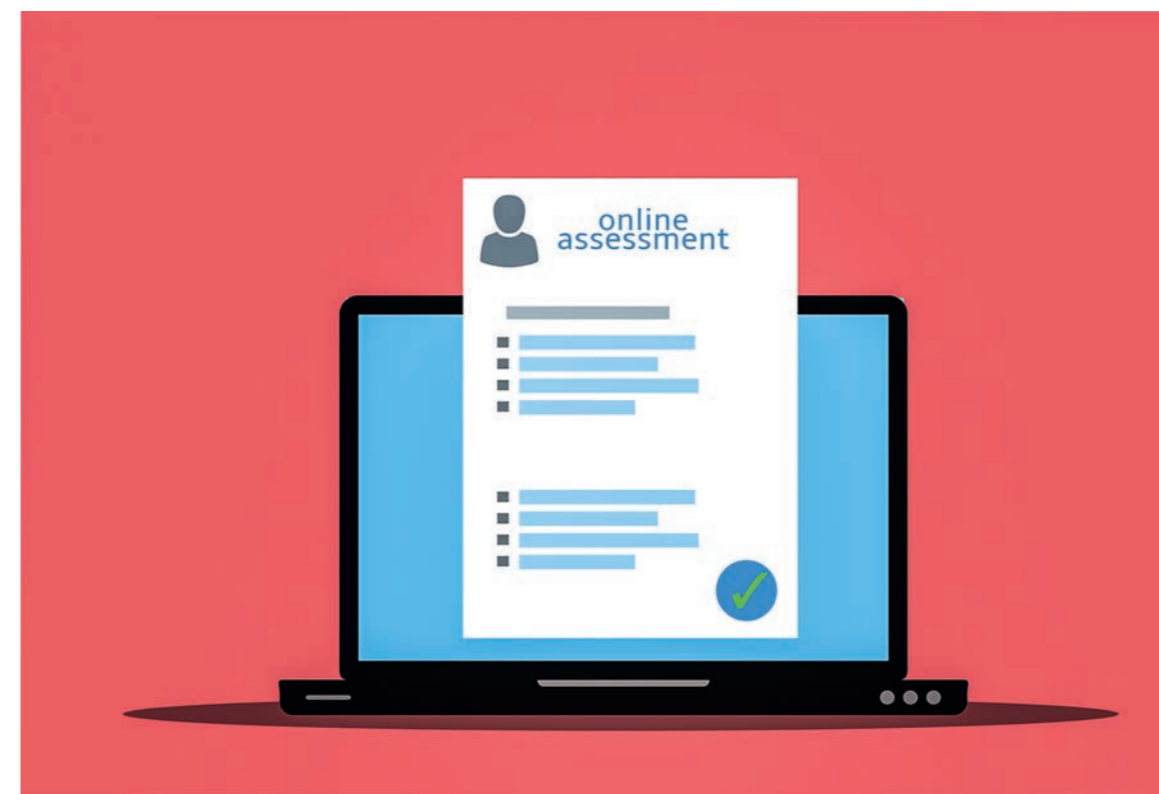
words, intrinsic motivation is a sort of self-motivation that ought to help students conquer their laziness, boredom, dependence on others, and being neglected with ease.

These days learning styles are divided into several types in the educational sector; the way I see it. It is traditionally believed that there are three types of learning styles: listening type, spatial type, and action type. Firstly, listening type of learning means that a student can take a lesson well just by listening or even hearing it. Secondly, the spatial type of learning refers to the point that a student can learn something only by seeing it himself. Thirdly, the action type of learning denotes that a student is capable of learning merely by doing. Students belonging to the listening type of learning are supposed to be the most outstanding ones as usual. As for me, I would prefer that there have been categorized four major learning styles in education – auditory, visual, read/write, and kinesthetic. The former three types of learning styles resemble auditory, visual and kinesthetic learning styles respectively. The third learning style, reading/writing, can be regarded as a mixture of visual and kinesthetic learning styles, too. What is more, the sub-types of learning styles are verbal, musical, logical, and social. Some students possess the only characteristic learning style while others hold a combination of two or more learning styles. Obviously, students with auditory and read/write learning styles usually excel at language and literature whereas the ones with visual and kinesthetic learning styles do very well at art and science.

Students are born with either short-term memory or long-term memory. From the educational point of view, short-term memory is the ability to remember things, which have been learnt, only for a short time in future and is the reverse of the long-term memory. Exceptionally, many students will be likely

to remember anything that has been learned with great attention or from some mistakes, for a long time. Students with a short memory should not rely on their brain only; they need to depend upon the innate ability to learn, mnemonics, private thoughts or feelings, gestures, down-to-earth approaches, and even external tuition rather than just studying textbooks wherever necessary. All the same, students with a long memory can carry out as many studies as possible; some of them will even become famous authors in the future. Memory and forgetting often go hand in hand, and this would be easily seen in the aged. The forgetting process may happen due to short-term memory, proactive inhibition, retroactive inhibition, and getting aged. After all, forgetting can be defeated by frequent recitation, revision, repetition, and meaningful learning.

In the present, nine types of intelligence of which students have possession – linguistic, naturalistic, spatial, musical, mathematical, bodily-kinesthetic, intrapersonal, interpersonal, and existential – are observed in the world of education. In summary, linguistic intelligence relates to



When assessing a student's ability to learn, it is important to consider multiple criteria that can provide a comprehensive view of their learning capabilities and potential. **ILLUSTRATION: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ PIXABAY**

communicating through words, naturalistic intelligence understanding living things and reading nature, spatial intelligence to visualizing the world in three dimensions, musical intelligence to playing and recognizing musical patterns, mathematical intelligence to quantifying-reasoning, and logic, linear thinking, bodily-kinesthetic intelligence fine motor skills and physical activities, intrapersonal intelligence understanding oneself and one's thoughts or feelings, interpersonal intelligence understanding and communicating with others, and existential intelligence understanding the whys and the wherefores of the world. Most significantly, students with linguistic intelligence excel in several languages and literature; the ones with naturalistic and spatial intelligence shine at painting and solving geometric problems; those with musical and mathematical intelligence are proficient at playing musical instruments and doing numerical calculations; and the students with bodily-kinesthetic intelligence are talented singers and dancers.

As regards learning rates, students are grouped as slow,

normal, and quick, as I see it. Not every slow learner is a bad student, that is, he is almost always weak in school subjects. Slow learners find it hardly easier to study school subjects than average. Seldom can such learners study any subject with their eyes shut but make a study little by little. On the contrary, slow learners like to study harder than normal and quick ones do. As always, normal learners pass all their exams with their eyes closed. Only occasionally do they fail an exam because of little concentration on their studies. Fast learners can have well studied anything very quickly. Whatever kind of learner a student is, reasonable diligence, hard work, and dogged perseverance are the three pillars of success in schoolwork. Unlike quick learners, slow ones take time following a learning procedure as well as they cannot, in the main, be expected to obtain the maximum achievement in education for the simple reason that they could get fed up with a long-lasting study. Conversely, quick learners spend a shorter time studying and therefore will not have studied so much, to the best of my knowledge.

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External reading makes a big difference to students. This will be appreciable, particularly in students' creative writing. Now and then creative writing goes with external reading. The more external reading, the better creative writing. Highly intelligent students are given extra-curricular reading and writing practice of essays, emails, letters and replies at weekends. Reading provides for subject matter to write, food for thought, good ideas, choice words or phrases, and a study of writing styles including language fluency and accuracy aside from laying off spelling mistakes, grammatical errors, thematic inaccuracies, and writing flaws. In addition, extended reading helps build problem-solving skills and strategies for not only mathematics, viz. puzzles, quizzes, and crosswords, but also sports, if mathematical and sporting books have been read. Maths, sports and physics are perceived to link up with one another via extensive reading. Resolving unseen mathematical problems, taking up sports and applying their physical, mental, and emotional well-being in studies are students' excellent intellectual capacities.

Last but not least, both parental support and environmental influence have beneficial effects on a student's ability to learn. The road to students' education will, figuratively speaking, be straight to the end when their parents, mainly intelligentsia, give them lots of financial support and psychological strength, or when they have a chance of living in an atmosphere of educational encouragement and competition, or both. Still, the parents who are only fulfilling the basic needs, or, more precisely, food, clothing, and shelter for their socio-economic conditions frequently give birth to gifted students that every one who knows them can't help marvelling at their education. A student's environmental influence can even cover his sexual orientation, to say nothing of his education. Friendship exerts a

strong influence on students, and honestly, this relationship may become a burden on their route to education. Clever students make good use of psychological concepts, assimilation and accommodation, among their school friends. Sometimes students are suffering from several psychological problems such as a broken family and bullying in school, which are also serious spiritual disturbances while they are at school.

Suffice it to say that only exam results cannot tell the whole educational achievement of students for sure. That is why examinations have simply set the parameters which are used for a preliminary evaluation of the educational system. Just because a student does badly in his exams, he will not have come to a dead end in his path to education for certain. Although he has not got hard skills, he may hold soft skills that enable him to lead a successful life. Furthermore, parental care and teachers' instruction play parts of the moment in their students' educational improvement and all-round development. Strange to say, even some parents who are civil servants working in different stations quit their devoted jobs before their pensionable age so that they can live under one roof as their children till they have sent them to primary schools. From the point of view of educational psychology, such children do well in schooling. It would also be better if a teacher's instructional methods are neither extremely traditional nor out of date. Teachers had best known inside Educational Theory, Educational Psychology, and Methodology alongside their majors specialized at arts and science universities. I deem that barely the above-shown essential criteria for assessing a student's ability to learn should not be enough. Students themselves need to show self-reflection on their learning on their own after setting a distinctive life ambition too, I hope.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

MoHT continues efforts to boost local, global tourism with new phases



Foreign tourists go sightseeing at Shwedagon Pagoda.

THE Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is implementing its strategies for rapid development of domestic and international tourism services with phases, said the Union Minister.

During an online roundtable discussion hosted by the Ministry of Economic Development of Russia in Moscow, the Union Minister made this statement.

The “Welcome Russia” programme in Myanmar aims to invite Russian tourists to Myanmar. It is being implemented by the Myanmar-Russia Association of Friendship and Cooperation and private associations, and he mentioned that measures are being taken to plan a Familiarization Trip (FAM) composed of Russian media and tourism operators.

International tourist arrivals to Myanmar reached 0.233 million in 2022, which represents

a 78 per cent increase compared to 2021, including Russian tourists.

From January to May 2023, over 400,000 foreign tourists entered the country, with the majority coming from China, Thailand, Korea, Japan, India, Viet Nam, the United States, Malaysia and Singapore.

International travel exhibitions, which are frequently held in foreign countries, play a significant role in promoting Myanmar’s destinations. According to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar’s tourism promotion efforts extend beyond conferences and also include collaborations with airlines from these countries. —TWA/KZW

A student falls to death from fourth floor of YUFL building

A student fell from the four-storey building of the Yangon University of Foreign Languages (YUFL) in Kamayut Township, and died on the spot, according to the social welfare organization.

The Gangaw Myay Social Welfare Association, a branch of the Myanmar Ambulance Network (MAN), rushed to the scene after receiving a report that a said student fell off a four-storey building on the campus of YUFL, located on the University Avenue in Kamayut Township, at 10:45 am on 28 June.

A responsible person said the deceased is a second-year student and fell from the fourth floor of the front balcony of the school.

An ambulance from the Gangaw Myay Social Welfare Association took the body of the deceased to the mortuary of Yangon General Hospital, and the Kamayut Myoma Police Station is conducting an investigation regarding the death.

It is known that a student had died from falling from that building on the campus of YUFL before. — TWA/CT



A building at the Yangon University of Foreign Languages (YUFL).

Real estate rental market booming before Full Moon Day of Waso

REAL estate rental market is thriving prior to the full moon day of Waso where in Myanmar people traditionally cannot move house during the three-month Buddhist Lent. Meanwhile, the real estate sales market has been cooling down, realtors told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

The rental market is bustling in the townships of Yangon, Ma Wah Lay, a realtor from South Okkalapa Township, told the GNLM.

“Real estate rental market is going up following urbanization. Some young people are moving to Yangon for study and some have migrated to greater job opportunities. Some urban people stay at the apartments near the offices. So, the rental housing market is growing before the full moon day of Waso. During the Buddhist Lent, the market is expected to cool down. The real estate sales market is slow moving as the prices of plots of land and apartments double,” Ma Wah Lay elaborated.

The rents climbed from K130,000 to K200,000 per apartment in the suburban



A photo shows some apartments in Yangon city.

areas: South Okkalapa, North Okkalapa, Shwepaukkan, Thimgangyun, Thakayta and Dawbon townships. The rent for a room worth K200,000 increased to K300,000. The rents vary depending on the floors of the apartment, Ko Zaw Win explained.

“Some moved to the new four townships owing to higher rents. There is a gap of K50,000-K100,000 per room between the suburban areas and outskirts. Yet, the gap widens

when we make a rental contract for a year,” Ko Zaw Win added.

Along with the rocketing housing prices, the rents also rose in the new townships and outskirts.

“The rent for a 10x60 feet house in the new townships went up to K150,000 from K60,000-K70,000. The rents for apartments and houses are exorbitantly high,” a realtor from Dagon Myothit (South) Township told the GNLM.—TWA/EM

LOCAL BUSINESS

Central Bank of Myanmar warns of online scams

THE Central Bank of Myanmar released a notification on 28 June that it will take legal actions against the online scammers and swindlers under the name of Gold T 6 Facebook Page, conducting a boiler room scheme to defraud investors to put their money into nonexistent assets.

In accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Central Bank of Myanmar Law and Financial Institutions Law, the CBM has issued banking licences to four state-owned banks, 27 private banks and 20 foreign bank branches. Those entities need to follow the provisions in providing banking services including accepting saving deposits.

Nonetheless, as per the section 158 and 163 of the Financial Institution Law, an individual or some companies are found to be violating the rules; No bank shall engage in banking without licence and no one can



Facebook Page of Gold T6 shows statuses.

accept the saving money without licence. The swindlers are running boiler room operations to deceive the people with the promise of a high rate of interest for their worthless investments, the CBM's statement mentioned.

The scammers using the Gold T 6 or Gold T 6 Trading page on social media platforms are using false information to convince

the investors in nonexistent real estate, gold assets and foreign currency trading. They displayed legitimate looking investment advertisements on their social media page, misinforming cooperation with the CBM in order to trap the investors.

This being so, the CBM warned of online scams offering incentives and promising

higher interest rate return. The authorized banks offer nine per cent interest rate per annum yet the swindlers give six per cent per day. The public needs to be aware of those fake advertisements with incentives.

The CBM will take legal actions against those involved in online fraud under the Facebook page of Gold T 6 and Gold T 6

Trading under the section 158, 163, 171 and 172 of the Financial Institution Law.

The CBM will step up investigation and prosecuting market manipulation in the local forex market and crack down on online scammers with incentives and deception scheme to take advantage on investors and illegal financial service operators under the provisions stipulated in the Financial Institution Law, the Anti-Money Laundering Law, the Foreign Exchange Management Law and the existing laws.

Under the guidance of the Monitoring and Steering Committee on Gold and Currency Market, the Central Bank of Myanmar clamped down on 50 individuals and three companies involved in the foreign exchange market manipulation and illegal money transfer service in Yangon and Mandalay cities, according to its notification on 23 June. — NN/EM

MGEA sells pure gold at over K3.03 mln per tical by drawing lots

MANDALAY Gold Entrepreneurs Association (MGEA) sold pure gold at over K3.03 million per tical (0.578 ounce, or 0.016 kilogramme) by drawing lots, not under queuing system.

"The MGEA sold the pure gold by casting lots. It no longer used a queuing system. Anyone can buy them freely at noon. Drawing lots system will be continued in the upcoming days," said an official of the MGEA.

The MGEA will closely observe the purchase as some are selling queue spots.

In order to stabilize the gold price, the MGEA commenced gold sell-off at K3.05 million per tical at noon of 19 June and sold at K3.04 million per tical on 20 June, K3.035 million per tical on 21 and 22 June and K3.03 million per tical on 23, 26 and 27 June.

The MGEA's price will scale down the price depending on the daily price fluctuation.

Apart from the members of the association, whoever can buy them freely at the office located on 67th street between 40th and 41st streets, Maharmyaing



Buyers seen in a queue to purchase gold at Mandalay Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

1 Qt, by presenting the citizenship scrutiny card and household registration document. For further details, please contact the office. The MGEA is open for gold trading except the weekends and bank holidays.

The prevailing price of pure gold fetched up to K3.3 million per tical at the gray market, tracking the spot gold price rally at US\$1,916 per ounce and Kyat depreciation to around K3,300 against the US dollar.

Myanmar's gold price is highly correlated with the spot gold price and US dollar exchange rate. The soaring dol-

lar exchanging at over K4,500 pushed the gold price up to a record-high of K3.7 million per tical in late August 2022.

In order to lower the gold price, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has been selling gold ingots under the competitive bidding system in Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw.

With an aim at reducing gold price, the YGEA and Mandalay Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association sold gold bullion supplied by the executive members and the members as well. — NN/EM

Thilawa SEZ to commence solar power distribution from 2023-2024 FY

ACCORDING to the report of Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings Public Co Ltd, the distribution of renewable energy will be implemented in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone (SEZ) from the 2023-2024 financial year.

MTSH holding the largest shares on the Yangon Stock Exchange is normally running in the Thilawa SEZ. To bolster the investments, enquiries for market promotion and land and factory lease for the foreign and domestic investors are being accepted, the report stated.—TWA/EM



A photo shows an aerial view of Zone B of Thilawa SEZ.

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BGFs taken by KNDF, KNPP terrorist armed organizations in Pantain, Sukpaing recaptured



Jun 28, 2023,09:38

BGF No 1005 occupied by KNDF and KNPP was recaptured in Sukpaing region and primary school was seen.



Jun 28, 2023,09:35

Commanding officer's office seen after Border Guard Force No 1005 in Sukpaing region occupied by KNDF and KNPP has been recaptured.

AS Taung Hla, Maetanwe, BP-14, Meisei and Nampaung outposts providing security for border areas and local residents in Kayah State came under massive attacks of KNDF and KNPP terrorist armed organizations from 13 to 19 June, fierce clashes with security forces broke out and communications with No. 1004 Border Guard Force in Pantain under the command of the Tatmadaw were cut off.

In the morning on 17 June, communications with a Tatmadaw officer who was performing

duties at No. 1004 BGF were restored and according to his reports, it was learnt that some transformed members of No. 1004 BGF had betrayed the State and the Tatmadaw by launching a re-

bellion and joined with KNPP and KNDF terrorist armed organizations together with weapons and ammunition armed by the Tatmadaw and that Tatmadaw personnel, who were performing duties at the BGF, and their families were being detained at respective offices and buildings.

In the same morning, the Tatmadaw units advanced on No. 1004 BGF by deploying airborne units and employing commando tactics and seized control of it with air and artillery support in the afternoon before rescuing detained personnel and their families and transporting them to a safe haven by helicopter.

Similarly, communications



Jun 28, 2023,09:35

BGF members of BGF No 1005 seen at Central Guard.



Jun 28, 2023,09:38

Those displaced by the occupation of KNDF and KNPP being encouraged at the monastery.



Arms and ammunition seized in reoccupation at BGFs in Pantain and Sukpaing regions.

with No. 1005 BGF in Sukpaing were lost on 17 June and the Tatmadaw had planned to send airborne units to the BGF but it was impossible to do so due to bad weather. As a result, commando units had to advance on No. 1005 BGF phase by phase to launch attacks and recaptured it in the evening of 27 June. When No. 1005 was recaptured, Tatmadaw officers and other ranks and families, who were performing duties there, had disappeared and search and rescue operations have been launched to save them

as soon as possible.

In recapturing Nos. 1004 and 1005 BGFs, clashes broke out and 41 assorted weapons, 927 rounds of assorted ammunition, 28 grenades of various kinds and weapon accessories were seized from them while some officers and other ranks suffered casualties.

The Tatmadaw is taking measures to recapture some outposts in Meisei taken by KNDF and KNPP terrorist armed organization as soon as possible. —MNA



Jun 28, 2023,09:40

Outposts of Border Guard Forces in Pantain and Sukpaing region occupied by KNDF and KNPP have been recaptured.

China's development zones attract over 30,000 foreign companies

CHINA'S state-level economic and technological development zones have attracted more than 30,000 foreign-funded companies, the Ministry of Commerce said Tuesday.

The country currently has 230 such development zones in 31 provincial-level regions, gathering more than 4 million enterprises, the ministry said at an event promoting the state-level economic and technological development zones.

Over 300 Fortune 500 enterprises have established headquarters or research centers in these development zones.

Last year, the state-level economic and



Aerial photo taken on 26 May 2021 shows the Yangpu international container port at Yangpu economic development zone in South China's Hainan province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

technological development zones generated a regional GDP of 15 trillion yuan (about 2.08 trillion US dollars), increasing 117 per cent over 2013.

These development zones have become a vital platform for China's economic integration into the global industrial system.—Xinhua

Debate sizzles as meat eating hits new low in Germany

FLORIAN Busmann used to enjoy sausages and steak on the barbecue in summer, but these days he prefers meat substitutes and grilled vegetables like aubergines and peppers.

"Eating less meat is definitely a contribution to both the environment and animals. And it is also healthy," the 28-year-old local government worker told AFP at the Vegan Summer Festival in Berlin.

Despite being known for their love of sausages and schnitzel, Germans have been steadily eating less meat over the past few years.

Figures from the

German Agriculture Ministry show that meat consumption dropped to 52 kilogrammes (115 pounds) per person in 2022, the lowest since the calculations began in 1989.

In comparison, the

figure stood at around 61 kilogrammes per person just five years ago. Worries over animal welfare, climate change and higher prices appear to have driven consumers to look for alternatives to meat to fill their plates.—AFP



Concerns about the climate impact of livestock farming is seen as another reason for a drop in meat consumption in Germany. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

NEWS IN BRIEF

UBS to cut 35,000 jobs after Credit Suisse rescue: report

SWISS banking group UBS plans to cut 35,000 jobs at Credit Suisse — more than half its workforce — as part of the emergency rescue takeover of its rival in March, according to a report by Bloomberg News on Tuesday.

Credit Suisse had a staff of around 45,000 before it nearly collapsed on investor fears about its solvency, which prompted a massive bailout orchestrated by the Swiss government.

Analysts had warned that huge job losses were likely because of the overlapping activities at two of the world's most important banks.—AFP

Senegalese go wild for prized 'maad' fruit

OUTSIDE a bustling fruit market in Senegal's Dakar region, three trucks are blocking the road while a dozen men sweat to unload the precious cargo.

Working in intense heat and racing against the clock, they are shifting 60 tonnes of maad — a delicate tropical fruit which is massively popular in the West African state.

A yellow fruit with a pulp that has a distinctive sweet and sour savour and is rich in vitamins and fibre, maad comes from a vine called the Saba senegalensis, which grows wild and is common across the region.

The fruit's season is relatively short, running from May to August, which prompts a rush of sellers at street corners, hawking the delicacy with salt, sugar or chilli, blenderised into juice or turned into jam.

Maad has different names and spellings across West Africa, where it is eaten from Ivory Coast to Mali and Guinea — but the lust for it is strongest in Senegal.—AFP

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (13/2023-2024)

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr No.	Tender No	Description	Remarks
(1)	DMP/L-090(23-24) (Retender)	Assorted Sizes of Hose Pipe (6) Items	Ks
(2)	DMP/L-164(23-24)CAP	Installation of 10 inch Hlaing River Crossing Pipe Line 1200 FT by HDD Method	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from **28 June, 2023** at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications and Commercial Quotation with Original Bid Bond in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **13:00 pm on 12, July 2023**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time – **12-7-2023, 13:00 pm**

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph No. + 95 67 – 411206

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (787N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (787N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-6-2023** 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 LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V MM AMBER VOY.NO. (103959)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MM AMBER VOY.NO. (103959)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-6-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-3** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S CHUN AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO LTD

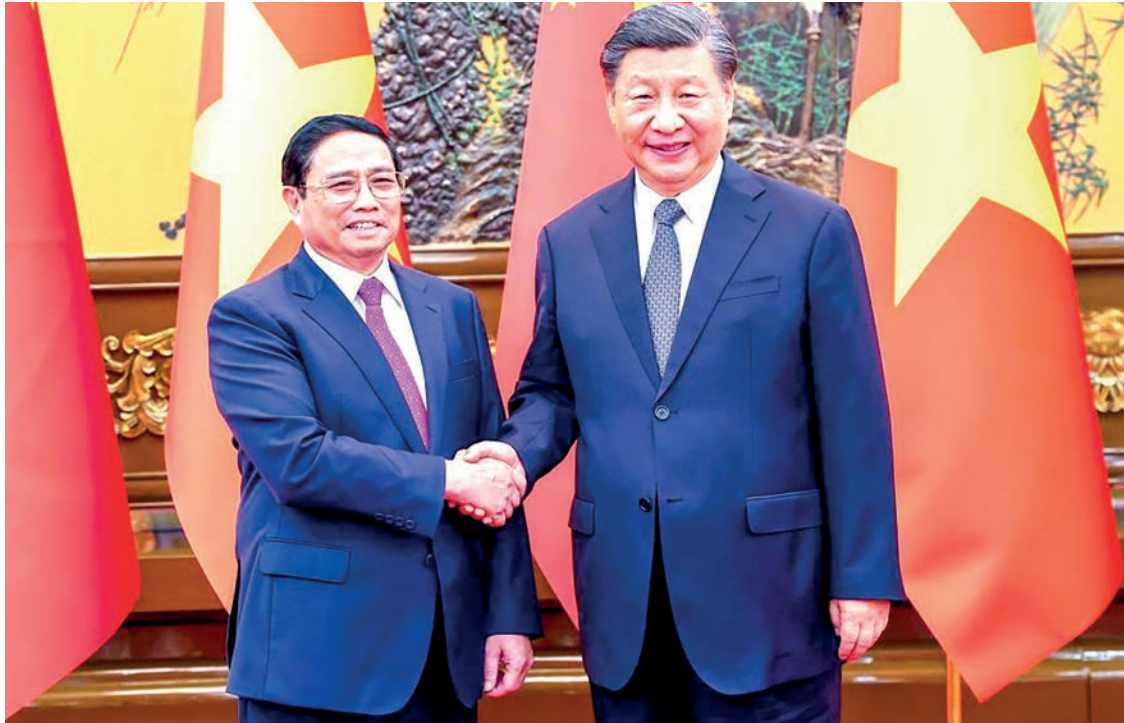
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Xi meets with Vietnamese PM



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with Prime Minister of Vietnam Pham Minh Chinh at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, 27 June 2023. **PHOTO: YAO DAWEI/XINHUA**

CHINESE President Xi Jinping met with Prime Minister of Vietnam Pham Minh Chinh in Beijing on Tuesday.

Noting that this year marks the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the China-Vietnam comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership, Xi said

China regards Vietnam as a priority in its neighborhood diplomacy and is working to build a community with a shared future with Vietnam — a strategic choice China has made based on the long-term development of bilateral relations. Facing an increasingly severe and complex

international situation, China and Vietnam should uphold the spirit of equality, mutual benefit, solidarity, mutual trust and win-win cooperation, work together for common development to bring more benefits to the two peoples, and inject more stability into the world, Xi said.— Xinhua

N Korea raps Japan over abduction symposium, repeats issue resolved



Hitomi Soga (L) speaks at a charity concert in Niigata on 15 October 2022. The concert was organized by classmates of Megumi Yokota (on screen), who was abducted by North Korea in 1977 at the age of 13. **PHOTO: KYODO/FILE**

NORTH Korea has criticized Japan over a symposium it will host with the United Nations and other countries on Pyongyang's past abductions of Japanese nationals, reiterating the issue has been resolved, state-run media said Wednesday.

"It has been completely, finally and irreversibly settled, thanks to our magnanimity and sincere efforts," Ri Pyong Dok, a researcher at the North Korean Foreign Ministry's Institute for Japan Studies, said in an article issued Tuesday, according to the official Korean Central News Agency.

The online UN symposium co-sponsored by Japan, South Korea, the United States, Australia and the European Union will be held Thursday.

In Tokyo, Japan's top government spokesman Hirokazu Matsuno rejected North Korea's assertion that the abduction issue has been resolved.

"It is totally unacceptable," Matsuno, the chief Cabinet secretary who doubles as the minister in charge of the abduction issue, told a press conference.

"We will make utmost efforts to realize the return of all abductees as soon as possible."

Matsuno is scheduled to deliver keynote remarks at the virtual event.

Japan officially lists 17 nationals as having been abducted by North Korea in the 1970s and 1980s but suspects Pyongyang's involvement in many other disappearances. — Kyodo

EU strikes deal to give users more control over data

THE EU has reached an agreement giving users greater access to their data and control over how the digital information is used by companies.

Brussels has already set global standards for personal data protection and privacy as well as building up its legal armoury to tackle the might of technology companies.

Negotiators from the European Council, which represents the 27 member states, and the European Parliament struck a deal late on Tuesday on the data act, first proposed by the bloc's executive arm in February 2022.

With the climbing use of internet-connected products, there has been an explosion in how much data is available and the EU says it wants to make sure European citizens wres-

tle control from companies.

Under the law, data sharing should be made easier between customers and companies, as well as with other firms. Previously, people's data has remained in the hands of businesses with little chance of users gaining access.

The new rules also include safeguards against unlawful data transfer by cloud service providers and make it easier to switch providers of data processing services, the council said in a statement.

"Once the data act enters into force, it will unlock the economic and societal potential of data and technologies and contribute to an internal market for data," said Sweden's minister for public administration Erik Slotner.— AFP



Brussels has already set global standards for personal data protection and privacy with the GDPR regulation. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

NEWS IN BRIEF

France braces for protests after 'unforgivable' police shooting

FRANCE braced for more angry protests Wednesday after the killing of a teenager by police during a traffic stop that President Emmanuel Macron called "unforgivable".

The government said it would deploy 2,000 riot police to deal with any unrest, a day after a 17-year-old was shot in the chest by a police officer who then appeared to lie about the circumstances of the killing.

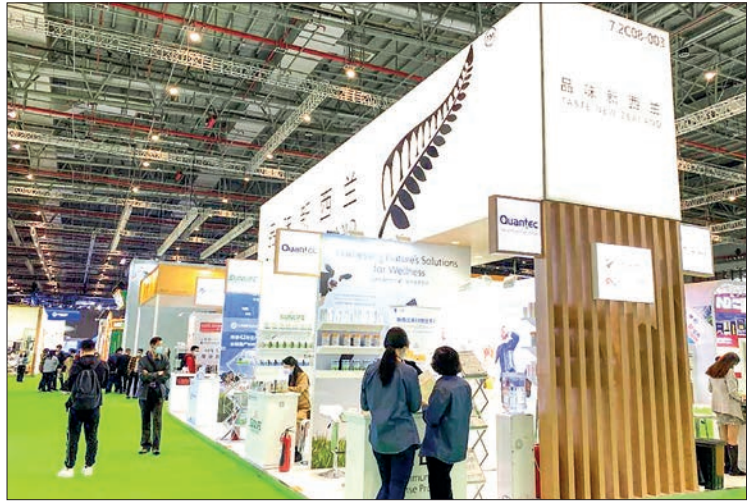
The shooting had already sparked unrest in several Paris suburbs overnight.

Celebrities and politicians expressed outrage and grief at the death of the teenager, with Macron calling it "inexplicable" and "unforgivable".

The teenager, named only as Nael M., was pulled over by two policemen on Tuesday for breaking traffic rules, prosecutors said.

Police initially reported that one officer shot at the teenager because he was driving his car at him, but this version of events was contradicted by a video circulating on social media and authenticated by AFP. — AFP

New Zealand PM scores trade deals on China trip



New Zealand Exports to China was US\$12.76 billion during 2022, according to the United Nations COMTRADE database on international trade. File photo shows the exhibition booth of New Zealand at the third China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China. **PHOTO: NEW ZEALAND TRADE AND ENTERPRISE/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA/FILE**

CHINA and New Zealand on Wednesday signed a string of agreements designed to boost trade between the two countries, as their leaders met in Beijing for talks.

New Zealand Prime Minister Chris Hipkins is in China on a multi-day, multi-city mission to drum up business and help his nation exit an election-year recession.

After meeting Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday, Hipkins' charm offensive continued Wednesday, when he met Premier Li Qiang at the Great Hall of the People, greeted by a 48-strong band from the People's Liberation Army.

Dialling down any criticism over China's human rights abuses, tensions over Taiwan, and Beijing's tacit support for Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Hipkins hailed the meeting as a reaffirmation of "important economic connections" between the countries. "Our trading relationship is worth over NZ\$40 (US\$24) billion annually," Hipkins said, stressing the need to "reaffirm the important economic connections we have with China". Li for his part welcomed Hipkins warmly as "a young and promising politician" and thanked him for the visit "after less than half a year in office". — AFP

Philippines court disbars Marcos adviser over 'misogynistic' outburst

THE Philippines Supreme Court said Wednesday it has stripped a new adviser to President Ferdinand Marcos of the right to practice law over a "misogynistic" outburst against a journalist.

Marcos appointed lawyer Lorenzo Gadon as his adviser on poverty alleviation on Monday, highlighting his "legal expertise and extensive experience in various industries".

The following day, the Supreme Court voted unanimously to disbar Gadon over his "misogynistic, sexist, abusive and repeated intemperate language", the court's public information office said in a statement Wednesday.

The court cited a viral video in which Gadon "repeatedly cursed and uttered profane remarks" against a woman journalist ahead of last year's election, which it described as "indisputably scandalous".

"The Court pointed out that Gadon unfortunately failed to re-



The Philippines Supreme Court voted unanimously to disbar lawyer Lorenzo Gadon yesterday. **PHOTO: AFP**

alize that lawyers are expected to avoid scandalous behavior, whether in their public or private life," the public information office said.

Gadon — who backed Marcos's bid for the presidency last year and failed in his own attempt to win a Senate seat — was previously convicted and suspended from the law for three months for using "offen-

sive and intemperate language", and faced 10 other administrative cases, the office added.

"Although these cases have yet to be decided, the volume of administrative complaints filed against Atty. Gadon indubitably speaks of his character," it said.

In a statement posted on Facebook, Gadon said he would appeal the decision because the penalty was "too harsh". — AFP

Huge crowds 'stone the devil' as fiercely hot hajj winds down

VAST crowds of robed worshippers hurled pebbles in the "stoning of the devil" ritual on Wednesday as the biggest hajj pilgrimage since the start of the pandemic draws to a close in intense Saudi Arabian heat.

From dawn in Mina, hundreds of thousands of Muslim pilgrims began pelting three concrete monoliths representing Satan, and heading to Mecca for a final "tawaf" — walking in circles around the Kaaba, the

giant black cube at the Grand Mosque.

More than 1.8 million people are taking part in the first unrestricted hajj since Covid struck in 2020. About 2.5 million, the most on record, joined the pilgrimage in pre-pandemic 2019. As well as crowds at every turn, the visitors have had to contend with ferocious temperatures at the hajj, which currently coincides with the Saudi summer. — AFP



Huge crowds converged on Mina for the stoning of the devil ritual. **PHOTO: SPA/AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Karabakh rebels say four troops killed by Azerbaijani fire

FOUR Armenian separatist fighters died on Wednesday from Azerbaijani fire in the breakaway Nagorno-Karabakh region, the rebels said, as Baku and Yerevan held peace talks mediated by the United States.

Armenia and Azerbaijan have been locked in a decades-long conflict for control of the mountainous region in Azerbaijan, which is populated mainly by ethnic Armenians.

The clashes erupted a day after the United States opened three days of peace talks between the Caucasus arch foes, in the latest attempt to quell a conflict that has flared repeatedly.—AFP

Russian missile strike on restaurant kills nine in Ukraine

THE death toll from a Russian missile strike on a restaurant in eastern Ukraine rose to nine on Wednesday, as Kyiv downplayed the impact of the Wagner mutiny on fighting.

Three children were among the dead at the Ria Pizza restaurant, while at least 56 people were injured in the attack.

The eatery is popular with both soldiers and journalists in the town of Kramatorsk, one of the largest still under Ukrainian control in the east. "Search and rescue operations and debris removal are ongoing," Ukraine's state emergency service said on social media.

"The bodies of 9 dead people — including 3 children — were retrieved from under the rubble," it said.—AFP

New Zealand PM scores trade deals on China trip

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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.

Bayern have deal with Kane but Spurs reject bid: report

BAYERN Munich have agreed personal terms with England captain Harry Kane, German daily Bild reported Wednesday, but an initial 70-million-euro (£60-million, \$76-million) bid was rejected by Tottenham Hotspur.

The German champions are said to be intent on securing the signing of England's record scorer, whose contract with Spurs runs out in 2024.

Kane's camp is believed to have approved the move, but Bayern need an agreement on a transfer fee with Tottenham to seal the transfer.

Bayern submitted an offer of 70 million euros plus add-ons for

Kane, according to Bild, while Spurs are demanding at least 100 million euros to part with their talismanic striker.

Other top European clubs including Real Madrid and Manchester

United are also said to covet Kane, who could look to move away from Tottenham in pursuit of silverware.

Kane thought he had sealed a £127 million move to Manchester



England captain Harry Kane's time at Tottenham Hotspur could be at an end as Bild reported he has agreed personal terms with Bayern Munich. PHOTO: AFP

City prior to the 2021/22 campaign only for Spurs chairman Daniel Levy to turn it down – despite the striker claiming they had a gentleman's agreement permitting him to move on. — AFP

Guadeloupe draws at Canada and Guatemala wins in Gold Cup

CANADA surrendered an own-goal equalizer in the 94th minute on Tuesday to lift Guadeloupe into a 2-2 draw in a Group D opening match at the CONCACAF Gold Cup.

In the night's other match in the biennial North American regional showdown, Guatemala blanked Cuba 1-0 at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to seize the group lead. At Toronto, the hosts looked to have grabbed a victory when Guadeloupe's Thierry Ambrose, who opened the

scoring in the 23rd minute, smashed a low cross that deflected into the goal off Canadian Jacen Russell-Rowe for the stoppage-time equalizer. Canadian forward Lucas Cavallini, a striker for Tijuana of the Mexican League, brought the hosts level four minutes into the second half.

Canada grabbed the lead in the 70th minute off an own goal by Guadeloupe defender Meddy Lina and kept the edge until the dying seconds. — AFP



Thierry Ambrose of Guadeloupe (L) celebrates with teammates Anthony Baron (C) and Meddy Lina after the final whistle. PHOTO: AFP

Yadanabon vs ISPE ends at 1-1 draw in MNL Week-10

YADANABON FC played a 1-1 tie against Institute of Sports and Physical Education FC (ISPE) in the Week-10 match of the Myanmar National League held at Thuwunna Stadium yesterday.

The Yadanabon team, which has improved in recent matches, held a draw with ISPE team taking the third position in the MNL standing. Both teams got a single point each. The ISPE team tried to continue to put pressure on the top teams of

the table but was satisfied with a draw after conceding a goal in the second half.

In the first half, ISPE team put significant pressure on their opponent. Meanwhile the Yadanabon's defensive made a lot of mistakes and had to give opportunities to ISPE. Naing Naing Kyaw translated a pass of his partner into a goal for the ISPE, taking the lead of the match due to a defensive mistake by the Yadanabon. In the second half, Yadanabon tried to equalize and

Thaing Bwe Aung successfully netted an equalizer at the 56th minute for the Yadanabon. The rest of match time, Yadanabon played with some opportunities but unable to apply them, resulting in the final outcome being a draw.

Yadanabon goalkeeper Pyae Phy Thu won the best player of the match. After this match, the ISPE accumulated 17 points in nine games whereas Yadanabon managed to secure 12 points in 10 games. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL