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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.

Final rites of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman Bhamo Sayadaw held

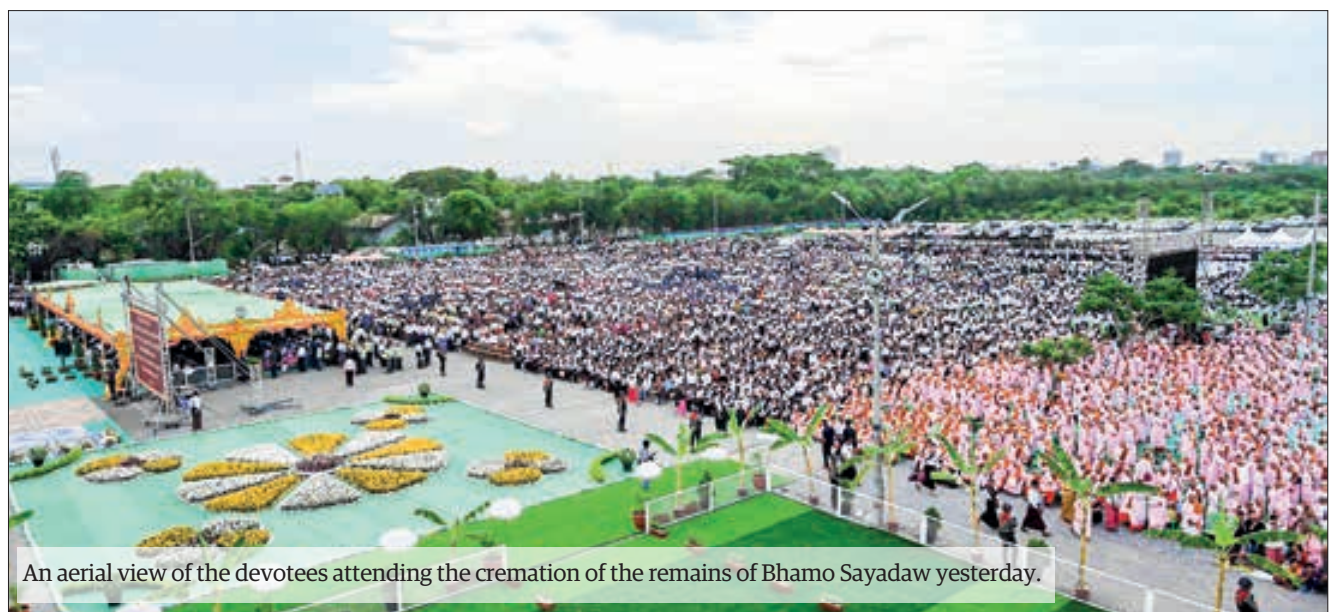


The photo shows the makeshift crematorium for final rites of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Bhamo Sayadaw in Chanmyathazi Township yesterday.

A ceremony to hold final rites of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman Presiding Patron of Bhamo Monastery in Mahanwesin Ward of Maha Aungmyay Township Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa, aged 94, vasa 74, who passed away at 11:11 pm on 25 May was held at the monastery yesterday afternoon.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and congregation took the Five Precepts from Secretary of the SSMNC Presiding Patron of Thanlyin Minkyaung Pahtamapyan Buddhist Learning Centre Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Dr Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa.

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An aerial view of the devotees attending the cremation of the remains of Bhamo Sayadaw yesterday.

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Top examinees in Government Dhammacariya examination announced

THE Department of Religious Affairs under the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture held the government Dhammacariya Examination for 2023. In this regard, a total of 1,297 monks, nuns and persons passed the three-treatise exam, 1,198 in the two-treatise exam and 1,454 in the one-treatise exam. Moreover, three examinees passed the exam with Pali distinction and 12 with Myanmar distinction, totalling 3,964.

Among 19,726 examinees, 3,964 passed the exam, account-

ing for 20.09 per cent.

In the exam, first, second and third positioned examinee monks and nun were Ashin Vimala Lankara in the first position from Chanmyezeya Thamanaykyaw Monastery in Bago winning the Agga Mahakyaw title, Ashin Dhammananda Lankara in the second position from Tipitaka Maha Gandhayon Monastery in Mingaladon Township, Ashin Pavara in the third position from Dhamma Garawa Monastery from Masoeyein Taikthit of Maha

Aungmyay Township and Nun Daw Amara in the first position of nuns from Wannitayama Nunnery in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

The full result of the Government Dhammacariya examination for 2023 can be browsed on www.mahana.org.mm of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, www.mora.gov.mm of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture and www.dra.gov.mm of the Department of Religious Affairs. —MNA/TTA

MRTV to broadcast live ritual water-drifting ceremony of crematory ashes of Bhamo Sayadaw

THE ceremony for ritual drifting in the water of crematory ashes of Bhamo Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa, Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru and Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika, who was also the Presiding Patron of the Bhamo Monastery in Mahanwesin Ward, Maha Aungmyay Township, Maha Aungmyay District in Mandalay Region will be broadcast live from MRTV HD Channel, MRTV Farmers' Channel, MRTV Parliament Channel, MWD HD Channel, and MWD Variety HD Channel, Maha Bodhi Channel, and Buddha Channel starting from 7:50 am on 7 June. — MNA/KZL

70 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 6 June, total figure registers 639,309

MYANMAR'S COVID-19-positive cases rose to 639,309 after 70 new cases were reported on 6 June 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. Therefore, a total of 10,696,807 laboratory samples were examined to date and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached 639,309. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached 618,317 including 113 new recoveries. The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered 19,494 on 6-6-2023 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

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 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
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

Stability and peace needed for nation's development

- The need to ensure stability and peace based on political and security trends for the development of the nation.
- Likewise, it is necessary to restore legal stability.
- Taking responsibility for the peace and stability of the nation, the Tatmadaw holds meetings with ethnic armed organizations.
- Security forces are striving for minimizing terror acts.

(Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Tatmadaw members and families from the Magway Station on 28 November 2022)

Final rites of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman Bhamo Sayadaw held



The Senior General and congregation observe the Five Precepts at the event yesterday.



The Senior General seen covering the diamond velvet over the remains of Sayadaw.

FROM PAGE-1

The Senior General, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Ko Ko, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung and Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko Oo covered the diamond velvet over the remains of Sayadaw.

The Secretary Sayadaw read the message of Samvega sent by the SSMNC. The Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture read the message of condolences of the ministry. An official from the region government read the messages of condolences sent by the Sri Lankan Prime Minister and the Chairman of Sri Lankan Amara-pura Sangha Council. Yangon Catholic Archbishop Cardinal



The Senior General leads the conveyance of the remains of Sayadaw to the incineration chamber.

Charles Bo read the message of condolences sent by Pope Francis. U Wunna Shwe read the message of condolences sent by the Islamic Religious Affairs Council, and an official of the region government read the message of condolences by the Buddhist Association of China.

The Senior General and wife offered alms to the Thanlyin Minkyaung Sayadaw.

Presiding Patron of Mandalay Masoeyin Taikhit Agga Maha Pandita Maha Dhammakathika Bahujana Hitadhara Bhaddanta Vasettha Bhivamsa delivered a Samvega Katha whereas the Thanlyin Minkyaung Sayadaw shared merits gained.

SEE PAGE-4



The general public seen attending the final rites of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman Bhamo Sayadaw on 6 June 2023.



Final rites of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman Bhamo Sayadaw held



The cremation of the remains of Bhamo Sayadaw in progress yesterday.

Thaik in Yabe Village of Taungtha Township on 14th Waxing of Tawthalin 1291 ME. The Sayadaw was ordained on 10 waxing of Tabodwe 1310 ME. The Sayadaw received many religious titles offered at home and abroad. The Sayadaw served as member of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha from first to sixth times till March 2010, as Secretary of the SSMNC from March to July 2010 and Chairman from July 2010 to date. The Sayadaw also served as Chancellor of the State Pariyatti Sangha Universities.

The government offered the Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika title to the Bhamo Sayadaw in 2009 and the Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru title in 2011.

The ashes of the Sayadaw will set adrift into the water of the Ayeyawady River at Ma-yanchan Port in Mandalay on the morning of 7 June. —MNA/TTA

FROM PAGE-3

The master of ceremonies read the biography of the Bhamo Sayadaw.

Then, eight disciples of the Sayadaw, eight leaders led by the Senior General, eight members of the leading committee and eight relatives conveyed the remains of Sayadaw to the decorated float and then to the incineration chamber in Chanmyathazi Township.

The Senior General and congregation paid homage to the remains of Sayadaw. Then, members of the Sangha pressed the button to cremate the remains.

The Bhamo Sayadaw has served as Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee for some 13 years. He was born to U Bo Thit and Daw Aye



The Senior General, his wife and congregation pay homage to the remains of Bhamo Sayadaw.



Devotees are seen paying homage to Bhamo Sayadaw at his final rites in Chanmyathazi Township yesterday.



An emphasis must be placed on collection of information about rehabilitation tasks to be released on time: Vice-Senior General

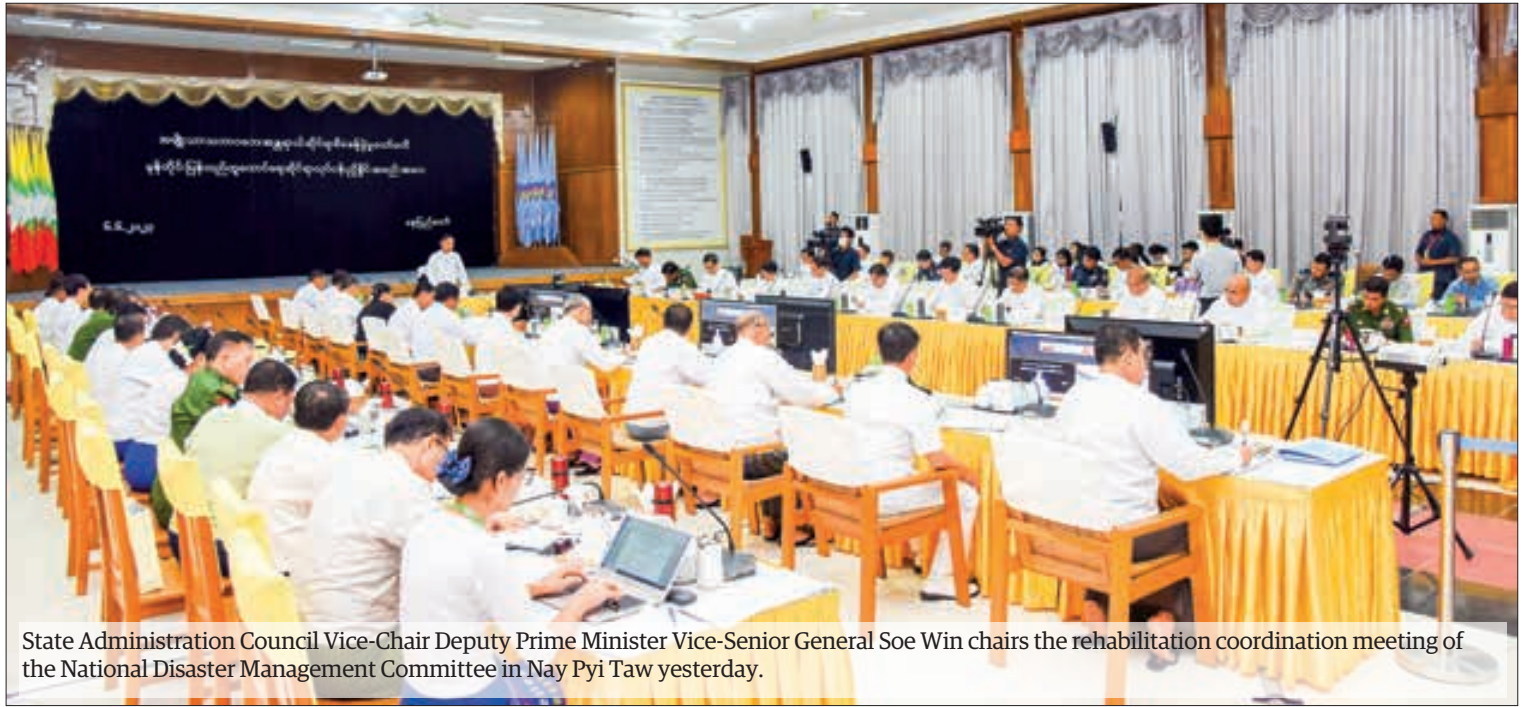
IT is necessary to soonest complete the reconstruction of schools and hospitals and provide quality seeds of crops and agricultural machinery to local farmers as quickly as possible, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, who is also Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee, at the rehabilitation coordination meeting of the management committee at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Senior General said that progress can be seen in undertaking rehabilitation tasks in storm-hit Rakhine State within three weeks. The Vice-Senior General called for taking lessons from the rehabilitation tasks in the aftermath of cyclonic storm Nargis and the participation of all ministries for the soonest completion of rehabilitation in all aspects.

The Vice-Senior General stressed the need for relevant ministries to spend expenses for the maintenance on repairing the damaged parts. If they do not have an adequate amount of funds, they have to submit reports for seeking the emergency fund of the national disaster management committee.

According to the first-time collection of data, losses and damage happened in Chin State, Magway, Ayeyawady and Sagaing regions. These losses and damage will be inserted into the national-level loss and damage list.

The Vice-Senior General highlighted that an emphasis must be placed on the collection of information about rehabilita-



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win chairs the rehabilitation coordination meeting of the National Disaster Management Committee in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

tion tasks to be released on time.

On 1 June, basic education schools and higher education schools were reopened in Rakhine State easing the worries of local people. It is a success of rehabilitation efforts. Moreover, it is necessary to timely complete the repairing of station hospitals and township hospitals.

Communication rehabilitation tasks have been completed by 96 per cent in Rakhine State. The Ministry of Electric Power has completed repairing 230 kV power cables for 93 per cent and 66 kV power cables for 98 per cent.

On 7 June, 230 kV and 66 kV lines will electrify Sittway and Ponnagyun whereas 11 kV lines will electrify Sittway and Ponnagyun. It is necessary to soonest complete the reconstruction of schools and hospitals and provide quality seeds of crops and agricultural machinery to local farmers as quickly as possible.

Vice-Chairman of the committee Union Minister for Home

Affairs Lt-Gen Soe Htut reported on the progress of rehabilitation, collection of losses and damage data, setting rehabilitation period, transport of relief supplies by Tatmadaw and civil vessels and aircraft, providing healthcare services to locals, transport of construction materials, treatment to cattle in Rakhine State, repairing of buildings in Ayeyawady and Magway regions and Chin State.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Thet Thet Khine reported on receiving cash donations amounting to K26.009 billion and more than US\$375,000, purchase of 200,000 bags of rice from Myanmar Rice Federation through the natural disaster management fund, transport of construction materials to Sittway, and collection of data in Sittway, Rathedaung, Kyauktaw and Ponnagyun together with ASEAN-ERAT.

Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San also clarified meas-

ures to provide aid to groups and categories, supply fuel to transport vehicles, vessels and aircraft, and construct schools and other buildings in Rakhine State by the Ministry of Construction.

Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein reported on the spending of ordinary expenditure and capital expenditure, following financial rules and regulations, and compilation of the amounts spent on rehabilitation tasks.

Union Minister for International Cooperation U Ko Ko Hlaing explained offers of UN agencies, ASEAN, red cross societies and INGOs to participate in relief measures, the need for non-discrimination in humanitarian aid, connection with Humanitarian Country Team, approval for the Secretary General of ASEAN as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (SG-AHAC) to view round losses and damage, and formation of On-Side Operation Coordination

Centre.

Union Minister Dr Thida Oo presented reports on ways and means to declare the state of natural disaster-hit areas and terminate the declaration.

Those present at the meeting discussed emergency response in the Mocha-hit areas, repairing tasks of relevant ministries, resumption of agriculture and livestock tasks and spending of finance under the financial rules and setting the rehabilitation period.

Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Maung Maung Aye reported on preparations of the Tatmadaw against the storm, transport of relief aid by Tatmadaw vessels and aircraft, selling of foodstuffs at fair prices to storm victims in Rakhine State and participation in rehabilitation tasks.

Later, the Vice-Senior General coordinated necessary measures and gave a concluding remark. — MNA/TTA

Assistance provided for 4 closed IDP camps in Kachin State during April-June

THE Kachin State government is working together with various organizations to close the temporary IDP camps and resettle IDPs. A total of four IDP camps were closed and 712 households and 3,838 people were resettled from April to 5 June this year, according to the coordination meeting of the members of the state-level committee on the resettlement of IDPs and the closure of temporary shelters.

At the coordination meeting of the members of the state-level committee on the



The Kachin State chief minister meets internally displaced persons at the IDP camp in Myitkyina yesterday.

resettlement of IDPs and the closure of temporary shelters

held at the office of the Kachin State government yesterday

morning, Kachin State Chief Minister U Khat Htain Nan said that the IDPs were not only returned to their original villages and relocated to the housings built for them but they were also provided with the basic needs such as education and health services and called for coordinated efforts for the closure of IDP camps and rehabilitation work in the future.

Afterwards, the chief minister, together with state ministers and responsible personnel, proceeded to the IDP camp in

Tatkon ward, met the families in four IDP camps in Myitkyina township who were going to return to their original villages and gave words of encouragement to them.

Then, the chief minister and party assisted in cash and kind, amounting to K4,445,871, to the families in three IDP camps in Dukahtaung ward who were going to return to their original villages in Myitkyina, Waingmaw, Momauk and Phakant townships. — State IPRD/MKKS

Union Ministers inspect rehabilitation processes in Rakhine State

UNION Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, accompanied by Union Ministers U Myo Thant and Dr Thet Thet Khine and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin inspected collective cleanup activities, maintenance along the Sittway beach, sawing logs at sawmills and unloading processes of relief items at jetties in Sittway Township of Rakhine State yesterday.

First, the Union minister and party inspected cleanup activities conducted by over 500 people including members of the Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade, departmental staff and locals along the Sittway strand road and beach.

Then, they oversaw the maintenance of concrete roads, platforms and stone retaining walls with adequate manpower and machines conducted by the Sittway District Road Department of the Ministry of Construction along the strand road of Sittway.

On arrival at sawmills near the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project and they gave proper instructions regarding sawing logs into timber to be used in repairing storm-affected buildings.

Construction materials are allotted to repair the destroyed school buildings, hospitals and religious buildings and provided to the public. Moreover, logs of teak to be sawn are also transported by boats and vessels to



MoEP staff are seen repairing cables yesterday.

sawmills in Sittway and distributed to the respective regions. A total of 1,897 tonnes of teak — 644 tonnes of finished teak and 1,253 tonnes of unfinished teak arrived in Sittway to date and 730.95 tonnes of teak were distributed to the respective areas.

Furthermore, the Union minister and party also checked the loading processes of relief items and supplies onto boats and vessels from MCL-3 and MCL-5 ships docked at Sittway Port and Charities ship docked at Phaungtaggyi jetty of Myanma Port Authority.

Then, they proceeded to the Rakhine State government office and gave instructions to immediately distribute paddle-operated and battery-powered water purifiers donated by the AHA Centre.

At noon, they attended the donation ceremony for rehabili-

tation of Mocha-hit areas held at the Rakhine State government office and received a total of 42.5 million cash donations and 2,000 CI sheets.

To electrify Sittway other towns in the northern part of Rakhine State, 16 groups including 581 staff and 62 units of machinery are employed to repair the 230 kV power cable and 66 kV power cable while there are 15 groups — 14 groups including 642 staff and 36 kinds of machinery and one private company group for the maintenance of downtown power cables.

The maintenance of the 230 kV power cable is completed by 93 per cent for the An-MraukU-Ponnagyun section while 100 per cent for the 66 kV power cable of the Ponnagyun-Sittway section. Therefore, the electricity will be transmitted to Sittway

soon.

The maintenance of 11 kV and 400 V power cables is 94.45 per cent finished in Sittway, 99 per cent in Kyauktaw and 100 per cent in Ponnagyun, Pauktaw, Rathedaung, MraukU, Minbya, Myebon, Maungtaw and Buthidaung townships. All these townships will have access to electricity in the first week of July.

In addition, the Ministry of Border Affairs and the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development also supply clean drinking water to storm-affected areas of Rakhine State using mobile water trucks, water purifiers and mobile solar-powered water purifiers.

Three mobile water purifiers have been distributed to Sittway while two to Rathedaung and one to Minbya township and three more mobile water purifiers will be allotted to Kyauktaw, Ponnagyun and MraukU townships.

Similarly, a total of 210 Life Straw water purifiers that can purify about three gallons of water per hour have also been distributed to 143 villages in Sittway, Ponnagyun, Rathedaung, Kyauktaw, Minbya, MraukU, Buthidaung, Maungtaw and Myebon townships. One water purifier can purify water for 100 people a day.

Moreover, officials purify water using three solar-powered water purifiers that pump water from ponds in the wards of Sittway township. Such water purifiers can purify about 300 gallons of water per hour. Seventeen more solar-powered water purifiers will be distributed to the storm-hit villages.

The Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development also arranged saltwater pumping activities at the lakes of Rakhine State. Operations are underway at 222 lakes in Ponnagyun, Pauktaw, Rathedaung, MraukU, Kyauktaw, Minbya, Myebon and Sittway townships and 142 lakes are completed while 19 lakes are in operation and 61 lakes remain.

Furthermore, the relief and rehabilitation-related materials are transported to Rakhine State by Tatmadaw vessels and planes. Between 15 May and 5 June, the Tatmadaw planes transported 381.928 tonnes of materials 114 times, Tatmadaw vessels for 11 times and private vessels nine times, totalling 16,298.6 tonnes. These materials are also transported to disaster-hit areas by Tatmadaw vessels 17 times with 815.24 tonnes while 1,487.63 tonnes by trucks and vessels of inland water transport. — MNA/KTZH



Union Ministers inspect the repair work along the strand road in Sittway yesterday.



Relief goods are transported by Tatmadaw planes and vessels to Rakhine State yesterday.



Relief and rehabilitation measures such as the repair of electric cables, distribution of purified water and desalination process at lakes are underway in Sittway Township yesterday.

DPM MoPF Union Minister attends opening ceremony of No 5 Public Financial Management Special Refresher Course

THE opening ceremony of the No 5 Public Finance Management Special Refresher Course was held yesterday at the Public Finance Management Training School of the Ministry of Planning and Finance, Nay Pyi Taw.

Deputy Prime Minister U Win Shein highlighted that the development of political, economic and social affairs of a country depends on the strengthening of public financial management; that it is necessary to have a good public financial management system and to be able to produce civil servants with full capacity; that the field of public financial planning is to in-

crease the sources of financing; the systematic distribution of expenses and monitoring whether allocated expenses can be used efficiently and effectively.

The Deputy Prime Minister called on trainees to study the contents of public financial management subject thoroughly and utilize them systematically in their work.

The No 5 Public Financial Management Special Refresher Course was attended by planning and finance in-charge persons at the central level and ministerial level totalling 40 trainees and training will last four weeks. — MNA/TS



Deputy Prime Minister U Win Shein opens the Public Financial Management Special Refresher Course No 5 yesterday.

Shwebo Pawsan rice price rockets to K110,000 per bag



Varieties of rice are organized for sale at the rice outlet in Yangon.

THE price of Shwebo Pawsan rice continued to surge to K110,000 per bag following the rise in paddy price, according to the Wahdan Rice Wholesale Centre. Shwebo Paddy's price climbed to K3 million per 100 baskets.

Similarly, the prices of other rice varieties are also moving onwards in the Yangon market. Pawsan rice prices moved in the range between K86,000 and K93,000 per bag depending on the producing areas (Myaungmya, Dedaye, Pyapon, Pathein). The new Pawsan rice price was K87,000 per bag. Meanwhile, the prices stood at K92,000 per bag

for Kyapyan, K77,000 for Kunni, 58,000 for Ngasein, K74,000 for short matured rice (90 days), K62,000 for Aemahta, K78,000 for Pawkywe, K64,000 for rice grown under intercropping season, according to the Myanmar Rice Wholesale Centre (Wahdan). Myanmar Rice Federation will join hands with the rice millers, rice traders and companies to stabilize the rice price and steer the market for the right price and the right product and encourage the mill owners to achieve performance balance between the short-term and long-term, as per the MRF's notification dated 24 April.

Individuals and family entities can contact the rice wholesale centres for a fair price and the right product. For any difficulties, please contact the office of the MRF, as per the statement.

Additionally, it will inspect those manipulators who spread malicious rumours on digital platforms to spark the concerns of the consumers and raise the rice prices for the sake of the long-term benefit of the rice industry. The federation will forward the reports to the relevant authorities. Those stakeholders in the supply chain need to exert concerted efforts in this.—NN/EM

Air KBZ introduces Yangon-Loikaw-Yangon direct flight

AIR KBZ stated that it has introduced direct flights between Yangon and Loikaw.

The Yangon-Loikaw-Yangon direct flight started on 4 June. It departed from Yangon at 7:30 am, arrived in Loikaw at 8:35 am, left Loikaw again at 8:55 am, and landed in Yangon at 10 am.

The flight ticket for this trip is K176,000, and there are flights on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Air KBZ also operates 11 flights for passengers such as Yangon, Mandalay, Hehoe, Tachilek, Thandwe, Kawthoung, NyaungU, Lashio, Nay Pyi Taw, Khamti, and Kalay. — TWA/CT



The photo shows aircraft of the Air KBZ fleet at the airport.

16 traffic accidents logged on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway in May

ALTOGETHER 16 traffic accidents occurred on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway in May and there were seven minor injuries and 29 serious injuries, according to the Nay Pyi Taw Expressway Traffic Police Force.

The highway police force stated that the causes behind most highway traffic accidents were exceeding the speed limit, vehicles in bad condition and negligence of drivers and private autos were mostly involved in the traffic accidents.

The speed measuring machines have been installed at the Tollgates on the Expressway to ensure that drivers do

not drive faster than the specified speed to reduce traffic accidents.

During the period from April to May, action was taken against a total of 5,597 drivers for speeding. — TWA/MKKS



Rescue efforts seen at the accident on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway on 31 May.

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.

OPINION

Ensure the safety of food for all global people

EVERYBODY can generally endure seven days without consumption of food, according to a Myanmar saying. It is because those who cut or lose consumption of foods may face the danger of life due to weakness triggered by a shortage of nutrition and other important minerals in the body.

Hence, everybody tries to secure food for life. But, it is not adequate for food consumption. All kinds of foods must be safe for daily consumption for free from danger and poisons based on the foodstuffs. In this regard, food safety is of importance to assure that every stage of the food chain must be safe from production to harvest, processing, storage, distribution, and so on.

This year's theme for World Food Safety Day has been set as "Food standard saves lives". The World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations jointly facilitate the observance of the commemorative day for enabling the people to notice the important role of food safety and contribute to the improvement of the food chain so as to manufacture safe food for all. Safety food must be supplied to all people across the world regardless of race and country to overcome famines.

will nurture healthy and happy children to grow up free from danger.

The safety of food can shape society to create a safe environment for all. Such an environment will help turn out qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia who can serve the State's duties as well as the interests of society. Thanks to food safety, healthy and happy people can improve their society better and better.

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The antagonism of youths against parents

By Win Sein

IN MYANMAR, family life is a major part of the culture and heritage of our people. They tend to live near each other in the village and are very close and supportive. Children who get off to work in large cities and return home on a regular basis. A trait is similar to nearby countries such as Thailand and Viet Nam. The influence of Buddha's teachings has handed down the good qualities of respect for parents, and others like being humble and honest.

Nowadays, in Myanmar, sadly

to say, the situation has turned Myanmar upside down to a 90 degree, the very new generations of youths have adopted a new what not free-thinking or free society philosophy, have made most of the youths ruthless, outspoken, and acting wildly with no concern whatsoever for others in public in a very bad manner. This may be contributed by parents to sons and so on and on, so much so, it turned out so bad that has become an ugly criminal stage like cases involving the killing of parents,

monks, teachers and all others.

Myanmar people may be called the "most unsatisfied people" in the world. Conflicts among each other are very common even far back in history during the time of as soon as our Bogyoke Aung San had signed the Panglong Agreement in 1947, to retain peace in the whole country, but to our dismay, many political parties deviated from the ruling government, many national races have opposed the central gov-

ernment and gone into exile as insurgents. These conflicts have been going on even after many times of military taking over of the government., this may have contributed to the emergence of present antagonism between the ruling government and the general public (comprising of all national races). This tug-of-war involving the general public will create a widespread commotion in the country. if not lessened by the agitations from both sides

would turn out into greater magnitude with no control at last.

Why can't we, the general public and the ruling government, come to a round table to resolve all our difficulties at one sitting after another? Instead of killing each other, involving the loss of lives of brothers and sisters, private properties, and infrastructures of development projects.

If we want to catch up with our neighbouring countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Indonesia and Laos. Unless we

should resolve ourselves with each other by standing on a common platform, talking over our difficulties with patience and compassion on each other, then should we be able to dismantle the straightjacket that has choked us helplessly for a long long time. Then we may now be able to breathe in the free air with no strings attached to launch our many projects for development in the future.

Human extinction threat 'overblown' says AI sage Marcus

EVER since the poem churning ChatGPT burst on the scene six months ago, expert Gary Marcus has voiced caution against artificial intelligence's ultra-fast development and adoption.

But against AI's apocalyptic doomsayers, the New York University emeritus professor told AFP in a recent interview that the technology's existential threats may currently be "overblown".

"I'm not personally that concerned about extinction risk, at least for now, because the scenarios are not that concrete," said Marcus in San Francisco.

"A more general problem that I am worried about... is that we're building AI systems that we don't have very good control over and I think that poses a lot of risks, (but) maybe not literally existential."

Long before the advent of ChatGPT, Marcus designed his first AI programme in high school — software to translate Latin into English — and after years of studying child psychology, he founded Geometric Intelligence, a machine learning company later acquired by Uber.

'Why AI?'

In March, alarmed that ChatGPT creator OpenAI was



This photo taken on 10 May 2023 shows the latest version of a robot called Sophia being tested at Hanson Robotics, a robotics and artificial intelligence company which creates human-like robots, in Hong Kong. PHOTO: PETER PARKS / AFP

releasing its latest and more powerful AI model with Microsoft, Marcus signed an open letter with more than 1,000 people including Elon Musk calling for a global pause in AI development.

But last week he did not sign the more succinct statement by business leaders and specialists — including OpenAI boss Sam Altman — that caused a stir.

Global leaders should be working to reduce "the risk of extinction" from artificial intelligence technology, the signatories insisted.

The one-line statement said tackling the risks from AI should be "a global priority alongside other societal-scale risks such as pandemics and nuclear war". Signatories included those

who are building systems with a view to achieving "general" AI, a technology that would hold the cognitive abilities on par with those of humans.

"If you really think there's existential risk, why are you working on this at all? That's a pretty fair question to ask," Marcus said. Instead of putting the focus on more far-fetched scenarios

where no one survives, society should be putting attention on where real dangers lie, Marcus surmised.

"People might try to manipulate the markets by using AI to cause all kinds of mayhem and then we might, for example, blame the Russians and say, 'look what they've done to our country' when the Russians actually weren't involved," he continued.

"You (could) have this escalation that winds up in nuclear war or something like that. So I think there are scenarios where it was pretty serious. Extinction? I don't know."

Threat to democracy

In the short term, the psychology expert is worried about democracy.

Generative AI software produces increasingly convincing fake photographs, and soon videos, at little cost.

As a result, "elections are going to be won by people who are better at spreading disinformation, and those people may change the rules and make it really difficult to have democracy proceed."

Moreover, "democracy is premised on having reasonable information and making good decisions. If nobody knows what

to believe, then how do you even proceed with democracy?"

The author of the book "Rebooting AI" however doesn't think we should abandon hope, still seeing "a lot of upside."

There's definitely a chance AI not yet invented can "help with science, with medicine, with elder care," Marcus said.

"But in the short term, I feel like we're just not ready. There's going to be some harm along the way and we really need to up our game, we have to figure out serious regulation," he said.

At a US Senate hearing in May, seated beside OpenAI's Altman, Marcus argued for the creation of a national or international agency responsible for AI governance.

The idea is also backed by Altman, who has just returned from a European tour where he urged political leaders to find the "right balance" between safety and innovation.

But beware of leaving the power to corporations, warned Marcus.

"The last several months have been a real reminder that the big companies calling the shots here are not necessarily interested in the rest of us," he warned.

SOURCE: AFP

Another rising respiratory virus in US draws concern

"The transmission mode, prevention methods, symptoms, and treatment of this virus (HMPV) are similar to influenza. So there is no need to worry too much except for the elderly people, the immunocompromised population and other high-risk groups," an epidemiologist said.

AS CASES of COVID-19, flu and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) were winding down across the United States, infections of another respiratory virus, called human metapneumovirus (HMPV), were picking up during spring and drawing concern as many people had not known about it.

Discovered in 2001, HMPV is in the Pneumoviridae family along with RSV. Broader use of molecular diagnostic testing has increased identification and awareness of HMPV as an important cause of upper and lower respiratory infection, according to a CNN report.

Cases of HMPV spiked in the United States this spring, according to the CDC's respiratory virus surveillance system.

The per cent of tests positive for HMPV surged to 17.5 per cent for antigen tests and 9.6 per cent for PCR tests at the end of March.

At its peak in mid-March, nearly 11 per cent of tested specimens were positive for HMPV, a number that was about 36 per cent higher than the average, pre-pandemic seasonal peak of seven per cent test positivity, according to a CNN report.

It filled hospital intensive care units with young children and seniors who are the most vulnerable to these infections.

HMPV can cause upper and lower respiratory disease in people of all ages, especially among young children, older adults, and people with weakened immune systems, according to the CDC.

SOURCE: Xinhua



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 6 June 2023)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 7 JUNE 2023: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing Region, scattered in Upper Sagaing and Magway regions and Kachin State, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay Region and Chin State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Rakhine and Mon states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The Cumulonimbus clouds are developing in the whole country. The area along the Cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squall with rough seas are likely at time off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (35-40) mph. Wave height will be about (9-11) feet in off and along Myanmar Coast.



MoI Union Minister receives Myanmar-China Culture and Tourism Promotion Society Chairman

MYANMAR-CHINA Culture and Tourism Promotion Society Chairman Mr David Liu and his team met Union Information Minister U Maung Maung Ohn at the guest hall of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

They discussed trade, information and cultural exchange

between China and Myanmar, as well as investment and tourism promotion issues, at the meeting.

Deputy Minister U Ye Tint, Permanent Secretary U Myo Myint Maung, and departmental heads participated in the meeting. — MNA/CT

Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn receives Chairman Mr David Liu of the Myanmar-China Culture and Tourism Promotion Society yesterday.

Myanmar attends 2023 ASEAN Media Partners Forum

MYANMAR delegation led by Director-General U Ye Naing of the Myanmar Radio and Television, Ministry of Information, attended the 2023 ASEAN Media Partners Forum held at the International Convention Center of Li Yuan Grand Metro Park Hotel in Nanning, the capital of Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region of China, yesterday morning.

First, Mr Shen Xiaixiong, deputy head of the Information Office and Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and CMG (China Media Group) president met the representatives of ASEAN countries and made a greeting speech.

During the forum, Mr Shen Xiaixiong and Secretary of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Regional Committee of the CPC and Chairman of the Standing Committee of Guangxi People's Congress of China Mr Liu Ning



The documentary group photo of the 2023 ASEAN Media Partners Forum held in China yesterday.

made opening speeches and the Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand and Cambodian Information Minister also gave opening speeches online.

Director-General U Ye Naing then participated in pressing the electric button for the inauguration of the AI Studio of ASEAN - China Media Complex,

ASEAN Zone in Ethereal Sound App of CMG, the exhibition of Chinese cultural digital arts in ASEAN regions and studying of ASEAN media partners on the

development of China together with other Chinese and ASEAN representatives.

In his speech, the Director-General said Myanmar will keep cooperating based on the mutual friendship, respect, equality and benefits of neighbouring countries emphasizing the cooperation work of ASEAN media partners in the future. He also pledged that the country will enhance its relationships with ASEAN countries, dialogue partners and regional countries in addition to neighbouring countries like China and work together in other sectors and media sectors.

The ASEAN Media Partners Forum is held annually and the 2023 forum was held to mark the 20th-anniversary establishment of the China-ASEAN Strategic Partnership and the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative. — MRTV/KTZH

Illegal consumer goods, electronics, animals and vehicles confiscated

A combined team under the supervision of the Magway Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force confiscated a Honda Fit car (approximate value of K6.5 million) without official documents near Kywalthoemyaung village in Minbu township and 165 cattle (worth K165 million) without official documents from five Nissan vehicles (approximate value of K500 million), two UD cars (approximate value of K200 million), a Hino truck (approximate value of K100 million) and a Double Cab car (approximate value of K40 million) at the Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun)

in Minhla township on 28 May. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law and Important Goods and Services Law.

In addition, the Myawady District Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force impounded three kinds of goods (worth K4.725 million) including PP bags without official documents from a Toyota Hi-Ace car (estimated value of K13 million) near Asia highway road in Myawady township and 2,400 packages of Dreamy coffee (worth K9.6 million) without official documents at a warehouse in No 6 ward on Asia highway

road in Myawady township on 4 June. The action was taken under the Forest Law and Customs procedures.

A combined team on duty at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint confiscated 160 81-inch stand fans (worth K4 million) that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from a Mitsubishi Fuso tractor head and a trailer (estimated value of K45 million) heading to Yangon from Myawady on 4 June. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

Therefore, seven arrests (estimated value of K1,087,825,000)



Confiscated illegal commodities in Kayin State.

were made on 28 May and 4 June, according to the Illegal Trade

Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

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

THE relief aid and food items contributed by the 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 Cyclone Mocha in Rakhine State are being transported by Tatmadaw aircraft and helicopters.

A total of 3.16 tonnes of school materials and relief supplies donated by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of

Cooperative and Rural Development were delivered from Nay Pyi Taw Airport to Sittway Airport by a plane of Tatmadaw (Air).

A total of 3,170 Tatmadaw members and departmental staff who will help in rehabilitation work and 473.7 tonnes of supplies were helicoptered to the storm-battered areas.

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



Relief goods are loaded aboard the Tatmadaw aircraft to deliver them to Mocha-hit areas yesterday.

Tatmadaw senior officers oversee rehabilitation efforts in Sittway



Senior military officers are seen overseeing rehabilitation measures in Sittway yesterday.

LT-GEN Phone Myat from the office of the Commander in Chief (Army), together with Commander of the West Command Maj-Gen Htin Latt Oo, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Tin Htut and officials, on an inspection of the farms

planted by the Department of Agricultural Mechanization.

Then, they inspected the breeding processes of DYL pig farms and chicken farms in the Sittway station. Afterwards, they checked the reconstruction of the 65-metre tower of the Myawaddy TV

and the site chosen to build a relay station building.

Finally, they paid homage to the Latwelthalonetaw Pagoda and met with the Board of Trustees for the renovation of the religious buildings. — MNA/KZW

Essential food items sold at fairer prices for storm victims

MEMBERS of the local battalions under the Western Command and officials are selling essential foodstuffs at lower prices for the convenience of residents and departmental staff affected by Cyclone Mocha in Sittway and to enable them to buy foodstuffs at cheap prices.

Foodstuffs such as edible oil, meat, salt, fish, egg, rice, dairy products, vegetables, and products of Tatmadaw factories and

MEC such as instant noodles, biscuits and canned food in addition to electronic devices and construction materials of private businessmen were sold at prices lower than the market price at U Ottama Park in Sittway yesterday.

Lt-Gen Phone Myat from the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and Commander of the West Command Maj-Gen Htin Latt Oo personally viewed the sale. — MNA/KZW



Sittway locals seen purchasing foodstuffs at fairer prices yesterday.



Humanitarian aid seen being unloaded from the Bangladeshi navy ship before its departure yesterday.

Bangladeshi naval vessel departs after handing over humanitarian aid

THE ceremony to hand over food items and relief supplies for storm victims in Rakhine State was held at MITT jetty of Thilawa Port in Yangon yesterday and relief aid was handed over by Mr ASM Sayem, Bangladeshi chargé d'affaires, to U Aung Win Thein, the Minister of Social Affairs of the Yangon Region government.

Director of the Disaster

Management Department of the Yangon Region U Than Soe, Tatmadaw (Navy) officers, Bangladeshi military attaché and officials from the embassy, departmental staff and officials attended the event.

The Bangladeshi navy ship BNS Somudra Joy (F-28) that carried the relief aid left for home yesterday evening. — MNA/KZW

ECONOMY

WORLD/AD

Sri Lankan cabinet approves proposal to remove many VAT exemptions

SRI Lanka's cabinet of ministers has approved a proposal to draft a bill to cancel the existing simplified value added tax (SVAT) methodology from next year, and to remove a large number of value added tax (VAT) exemptions, a spokesman said on 6 June.

The proposal was made by President Ranil Wickremesinghe.

In a press conference, cabinet spokesperson Bandula Gunawardena said Sri Lanka must introduce two major re-

visions to the VAT as per an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The IMF in March approved a 48-month extended arrangement under the Extended Fund Facility of about three billion US dollars to support Sri Lanka's economic policies and reforms. Sri Lanka has a number of goods and services that are exempt from VAT and the IMF has demanded most of these exemptions be removed, Gunawardena said. — Xinhua

Japan to invest 15 tril yen in hydrogen supply for decarbonization

THE Japanese government on Tuesday decided on a plan to generate 15 trillion yen (\$107 billion) of investment in the supply of hydrogen over the next 15 years from the public and private sectors in a push to increase its use and speed up decarbonization.

Under the revised Basic Hydrogen Strategy, approved at a meeting between relevant ministers, the country also plans to increase its hydrogen supply sixfold from the current level of two million tonnes to around 12 million tonnes by 2040.



Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno (2nd from R) speaks at a ministerial meeting on the government's hydrogen policy in Tokyo on 6 June 2023. PHOTO: KYODO

Since hydrogen does not emit carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases when combusted, the utility sector can significantly

cut emissions by mixing hydrogen with natural gas at thermal power plants, or by burning hydrogen as a fuel. While it is hoped hy-

drogen will be used for various purposes, including as fuel for cars, challenges remain over its widespread adoption and use due to high production and transportation costs compared with conventional fuels such as coal. "We would like to steadily build a supply chain for hydrogen in Asia and the Indo-Pacific region by further expanding Japan's (hydrogen) technology, which has been world-leading," Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Yasutoshi Nishimura told a press conference. — Kyodo

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (9/2023-2024)

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

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(1)	DMP/L-147(23-24)	Accessories for Volvo Tractor (73) Items	Ks
(2)	DMP/L-148(23-24)	Accessories for F-1600 Mud Pump EX ZJ 70L Drilling Rig (12) Items	Ks
(3)	DMP/L-149(23-24)	Accessories for SJS Serva Cementing Unit (35) Items	Ks
(4)	DMP/L-150(23-24)	Accessories for F 1000, K 700 and W 440 Mud Pump EX Drilling Rig (3) Groups	Ks
(5)	DMP/L-024(23-24)	400-510 KW Gas Engine Generator Complete CAP (Retender) Set (1) Set	Ks
(6)	DMP/L-066(23-24)	Welding Electrode (2) Items (Retender)	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 6 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 20, June 2023.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time – **20-6-2023, 13:00 pm**

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

IMF says immigration can help UK cut inflation

IMMIGRATION can help reduce Britain's high inflation rate, the deputy head of the International Monetary Fund has told the BBC as the UK restricts the net amount of legal migrants.

UK inflation is cooling slower than expected, in part owing to sectors including hospitality and farming paying higher wages to fill large vacancies. "With inflation as high as it is, having workers who can fill the shortages in some of the sectors that we're seeing right now will help with bringing inflation down," IMF deputy managing director Gita Gopinath said in a BBC interview broadcast late Monday.

Official data shows UK annual inflation slowed to a 13-month low in April, but remains elevated at 8.7 per cent as soaring food prices offset weaker energy costs.

Analysts had forecast a bigger drop from the level of 10.1 per cent in March.

"Our view is that if you have a well-designed immigration policy, the evidence is that that's

usually beneficial for the country," added Gopinath, noting also migrants' eventual contributions to taxes. Her comments come with immigration a live political issue in the UK ahead of a general election next year.

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak last month said legal immigration levels were "too high" and announced restrictions on family visas for international students.

Net migration in the UK hit a record 606,000 in 2022, official figures have showed, heaping pressure on the Conservative government, which has pledged to cut dependency on foreign labour.

Immigration has long

been a key political issue in the UK and was one of the main battlegrounds of the Brexit referendum in 2016, which saw the country leave the European Union.

In 2021, net migration — the difference between the number of people leaving the UK and those arriving — was 488,000.

Analysts said world events such as the end of the Covid-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine played a part in the increase.

China's squeeze on civil rights in Hong Kong, which led to the UK relaxing entry rules for holders of British overseas passports, also had an impact. — AFP



The International Monetary Fund (IMF) headquarters building is seen in Washington, DC on 11 March 2022. PHOTO: AFP

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY.NO. (1114W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY.NO. (1114W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-6-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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.

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Oil sinks after Saudi-driven rally; equities flag

OIL prices sank Tuesday as dealers mulled the weak demand outlook after having rallied the previous day on output cuts from key crude producer Saudi Arabia.

Europe's Brent oil contract and US counterpart WTI crude fell more than two per cent, one day after bouncing on news that Riyadh slashed daily output by one million barrels for July in a bid to prop up prices.

The announcement came at a weekend meeting of the 23-nation

OPEC+ oil producers' alliance, which also agreed to continue its current production cuts until the end of next year.

Saudi glow fades

"Oil prices are under pressure... as the glow from Saudi's supply cut fades and the reality of the sluggish demand backdrop sets in," noted Victoria Scholar, head of investment at trading firm Interactive Investor.

Asian and European stock markets mostly fell as investors also digested a surprise interest rate in-

crease from the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA).

That sparked talk that global central banks were not yet done hiking to combat stubbornly-high inflation.

The RBA lifted its main rate by 25 basis points to 4.1 per cent, which was the highest level since May 2012.

In reaction the Australian dollar jumped more than one per cent against the greenback, which traded mixed against the euro and yen.

— AFP

US securities regulator sues cryptocurrency platform Coinbase

US securities regulators sued Coinbase on Tuesday, alleging that the cryptocurrency platform's failure to register as a securities exchange venue exposed investors to risk.

The complaint comes

on the heels of Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) charges filed Monday against cryptocurrency exchange Binance and founder Changpeng Zhao for numerous securities law violations, includ-

ing running an unregistered national securities exchange. "Since at least 2019, Coinbase has made billions of dollars unlawfully facilitating the buying and selling of crypto asset securities," said the SEC in a statement on Tuesday.

In filing a complaint in federal court, the SEC said Coinbase's failure to register "has deprived investors of significant protections, including inspection by the SEC, record-keeping requirements, and safeguards against conflicts of interest, among others," the US agency added. — AFP



(FILES) This illustration file photo shows the Coinbase logo on a smartphone in Los Angeles on 13 April 2021. PHOTO: AFP

Thailand's consumer inflation growth hits 21-month low in May

THAILAND'S consumer inflation growth fell to its lowest level in 21 months in May due to lower energy and food prices and the high comparative base from last year, official data showed on Tuesday.

The country's consumer price index (CPI), a key indicator of inflation, slowed for the fifth straight month to 0.53 per cent year on year in May, down sharply from a 2.67 per

cent increase in the previous month, according to the Ministry of Commerce. The May inflation growth remained within Bank of Thailand's (BOT) target range of one per cent to three per cent for the third consecutive month. The core CPI, which excludes raw food and energy prices, recorded its softest growth since January 2022, with a year-on-year increase of 1.55 per cent, down from

a 1.66 per cent increase a month earlier. The commerce ministry expects annual headline inflation will decline further, possibly shrink in June, helped by lower energy prices compared to the previous year and the government's measures to support living expenses, said Wichanun Niwatjinda, deputy director-general of the ministry's Trade Policy and Strategy Office. — Xinhua

Notice for change of distributor

Notice is hereby given that the official distributor – Agro Power Co.,Ltd. to Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. has been changed for the following pesticides manufactured by UPL Limited, India.

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the period prescribed, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board.

No.	Brand Name	Active Ingredients	Registration No.
1.	Kris	Bispyribac – sodium 400 g/l SC	P 2019 - 4499
2.	Vajra	Lambda – cyhalothrin 2.5 EC	F 2017 – 1271

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd.
Suite # 09 – 02, Crystal Tower, Kyun Taw Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon.
01 – 933 93 59, 933 93 60

Notice for change of distributor

Notice is hereby given that the official distributor – AGRICO LTD to Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. has been changed for the following pesticides manufactured by United Phosphorus Ltd. (UPL Limited), India.

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the period prescribed, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board.

No.	Brand Name	Active Ingredients	Registration No.
1.	Lancer 75 SP	Acephate 75% SP	FF 2022 - 842
2.	Glory	Azoxystrobin 5% + Mancozeb 70% WG	P 2019 - 3215

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd.
Suite # 09 – 02, Crystal Tower, Kyun Taw Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon.
01 – 933 93 59, 933 93 60

Notice for change of distributor

Notice is hereby given that the official distributor – Vanida Myanmar Co.,Ltd. to Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. has been changed for the following pesticides manufactured by UPL Limited, India.

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the period prescribed, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board.

No.	Brand Name	Active Ingredients	Registration No.
1.	Mallet	Imazethapyr 24% SL	F 2018 - 1711
2.	Malphos 50% EC	Malathion 50% EC	F 2015 – 192
3.	Affix 250 SC	Azoxystrobin 25% SC	P 2019 – 4598

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd.
Suite # 09 – 02, Crystal Tower, Kyun Taw Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon.
01 – 933 93 59, 933 93 60

Transferring Distributor Registered Pesticide

Distributor of the pesticide, **Besun Elite** (Zinc Thiazole 30% SC) with its registration number P2022-4631 is transferring from **Myanmar Byter Agro Tech Company Limited** to **Golden Lion High Tech Agricultural Resources Company Limited**. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayintnaung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon within 14 days.

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GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Facts about Ukraine crisis: European Commission extends Ukraine grain import restrictions

THE following are the latest developments related to the Ukraine crisis:

The European Union has extended to 15 September restrictions on imports of Ukrainian grain demanded by five member states who sought to protect their agriculture sector, the European Commission said on Monday.

The commission said in a statement that the bloc will phase out the exceptional and temporary preventive measures affecting Ukrainian wheat, maize, rapeseed and sunflower seed in Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia.

The Russian Ministry of



A Ukrainian soldier of the Aidar battalion walks at a front line position near Bakhmut, in the Donetsk region, on 22 April 2023 amid the Russian invasion on Ukraine. **PHOTO: AFP**

Defence announced on Tuesday that their armed forces repelled a new attack by the Ukrainian Armed Forces (UAF) on the

southern Donetsk front, resulting in the destruction of over 1,500 Ukrainian soldiers and 28 tanks, including eight Leopards.

According to the ministry, Ukraine continued its offensive on Monday, focusing primarily on the Vremyevskaya bulge of the southern Donetsk front. However, the UAF experienced a significant defeat and were unable to accomplish their objectives.

The UAF launched a large-scale offensive on five fronts in the southern Donetsk direction on Sunday, spokesperson of the Russian ministry, Lieutenant General Igor Konashenkov, said on Monday.

He said Ukraine deployed

the 23rd and 31st Mechanized Brigades from the strategic reserves of the UAF, with the support of other military units and formations.

Ukrainian Defence Minister Oleksiy Reznikov said that during the expected counteroffensive against Russian forces this summer, Ukraine will not use F-16 aircraft, but will use all ground weapons. In an interview with NHK in Singapore, the minister explained that some Western countries are currently training or have offered to train Ukrainian pilots to pilot F-16 fighters. He said Ukraine will be ready to deploy F-16 in autumn or winter. — Xinhua

No immediate risk to Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant after Ukraine dam damage: IAEA



This handout satellite image courtesy of Maxar technologies shows an overview of the Nova Kakhovka dam in south Ukraine, on 5 June 2023.

PHOTO: SATELLITE IMAGE ©2023 MAXAR TECHNOLOGIES / AFP

THE head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) excluded immediate risk to the safety of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant on Tuesday after the Kakhovka hydroelectric power

plant dam in southern Ukraine was damaged.

IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi said in a statement that the severe damage to the Kakhovka dam is “currently lead-

ing to about five centimetres per hour reduction in the height of the reservoir.”

The Kakhovka reservoir supplies water for the essential cooling system of the Zaporizhzhia plant, and the absence of the cooling water for “an extended period of time would cause fuel melt and inoperability of the emergency diesel generators,” Grossi noted.

“However, our current assessment is that there is no immediate risk to the safety of the plant,” he said.

The IAEA staff stationed at the plant have been informed about the consequence of the damage and they reported that the plant is “making all efforts to pump as much water into its cooling channels and related systems as possible”, according to Grossi. — Xinhua

French left in last-ditch bid to derail pensions overhaul

FRANCE'S left-wing forces and labour unions will stage another day of strikes on Tuesday to try to derail President Emmanuel Macron's pensions overhaul, insisting that the fight to thwart the changes is not over even after it became law.

Hundreds of thousands of people are expected to take to the streets across France for what will be the fourteenth day of demonstrations since January to oppose the reform.

Macron signed in April the bill to raise the pension age to 64 from 62 after the government used a controversial but legal mechanism to avoid a vote in parliament that it risked losing.

The later retirement age, which seeks to bolster France's troubled long-term finances, was a banner pledge of Macron's second and final term in office, and its smooth implementation is seen by supporters as crucial to his legacy.

Parts of the overhaul, including the key increase in the pension age, were printed Sunday in France's official journal, meaning they are now law.

Opponents are pinning their hopes on a motion put forward by the small Liot faction in parliament — broadly backed by the left — to repeal the law and the increased retirement age. — AFP



Protesters march, holding a placard depicting French President and reading “Macron, baldness”, during a demonstration on the 14th day of action after the government pushed a pensions reform through parliament without a vote, using the article 49.3 of the constitution, in Nantes, western France on 6 June 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

UN nuclear chief regrets ‘very slow’ progress on Iran monitoring

UN nuclear watchdog chief Rafael Grossi warned on Monday that cooperation with Iran on better monitoring its nuclear programme was “very slow”, saying while some cameras and other equipment had been installed again “a lot more” needed

to be done.

In March, Iran agreed to reconnect surveillance cameras at several nuclear sites almost a year after they were turned off, as the Islamic republic has stepped up its atomic programme despite a landmark 2015

deal. The deal — curbing Iran's nuclear programme in exchange for sanctions relief — started to fall apart in 2018 when the US unilaterally withdrew from it and reimposed sanctions. Efforts to revive it have been fruitless so far. — AFP

Iran unveils hypersonic missile hailing deterrent boost

IRAN'S Revolutionary Guards unveiled an intermediate range ballistic missile Tuesday capable of travelling at hypersonic speeds of up to 15 times the speed of sound, state television reported.

President Ebrahim Raisi hailed the new missile's hypersonic capability, saying it would boost Iran's "power of deterrence" and "bring peace and stability to the countries of the region".

The official IRNA news agency published photographs of the ceremony in a closed area it did not identify. Several top military commanders were present, including Guards chief General Hossein Salami.

"The range of the Fattah missile is 1,400 kilometres (870



This handout photo provided by Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) official website Sepah News on 6 June 2023 shows the head of the Revolutionary Guard's aerospace division General Amir Ali Hajizadeh speaking during the unveiling ceremony of the 'Fattah' hypersonic missile in Tehran. PHOTO: IRAN'S REVOLUTIONARY GUARD VIA SEPAH NEWS / AFP

miles) and its speed before hitting its target" is between 13

and 15 times the speed of sound, IRNA said.

Like slower ballistic missiles, hypersonic missiles can be equipped with nuclear warheads and Iran's announcement it was producing one in November prompted International Atomic Energy Agency chief Rafael Grossi to express concern.

But Grossi added he did not see the new missile "having any influence" on negotiations with Iran over its nuclear activities.

Talks between Tehran and major powers on reviving a 2015 nuclear deal that was left in tatters when Washington unilaterally abandoned it in 2018 and imposed renewed sanctions are currently stalled. Iran has since suspended its implementation of the strict limits it agreed to on its nuclear activities and restricted IAEA monitoring in a policy it is

only slowly reversing.

Unlike conventional ballistic missiles, hypersonic ones fly on a trajectory low in the atmosphere, enabling them to reach their targets more quickly and with less chance of being intercepted by modern air defences.

When the programme was announced last year, Guards aerospace chief General Amirali Hajizadeh said the system was developed to "counter air defence shields", adding that he believed it would take decades before a system capable of intercepting it is developed.

Iran's arch foe Israel, which is widely believed to have its own undeclared nuclear arsenal, has multiple air defence shields for countering subsonic and supersonic missiles.—AFP

Russia open to dialogue with US on arms control: Kremlin

RUSSIA remains open to a dialogue with the United States on arms control as it is "extremely important", but Moscow is waiting for specific proposals from Washington, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Monday.

During a daily briefing, Peskov called it "important and positive" the recent statement by US National Security Advisor Jake

Sullivan that the United States is ready for nuclear talks with Russia without preconditions.

"We hope that it will be supported by actual steps through diplomatic channels. And then it will be possible to consider the proposed formats of dialogue," he told reporters. "It is very difficult to rely on statements to the press on such an important and sensi-

tive issue, especially when we are experiencing an acute shortage of mutual trust in our bilateral relations," he said.

In February 2023, Russia officially suspended its participation in the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty with the United States, the last nuclear arms control pact between the two nuclear superpowers. — Xinhua

Pope in hospital for tests, two months after bronchitis infection



(FILES) In this file photo taken on 25 May 2023 Pope Francis arrives to take part in the "Eco-Educational Cities" conference organized by Scholas Ocurrentes and aimed at promoting education and sustainability on 25 May 2023 at the Augustinian Patristic Pontifical Institute in Rome. PHOTO: AFP

POPE Francis visited a Rome hospital for a medical check-up

on Tuesday, the Vatican said, just over two months after he was

hospitalized with bronchitis.

"This morning Pope Francis went to the Gemelli Polyclinic to undergo some clinical tests and returned to the Vatican before noon," Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni said in a statement.

Francis, 86, was forced to take a day off at the end of last month with a fever, which the Vatican secretary of state blamed on tiredness. The pope does not have public audiences scheduled on Tuesdays. His general audience at the Vatican was confirmed for Wednesday, according to his official schedule.

The Vatican also released the schedule for Francis's next trip abroad, which will see him attend World Youth Day in Lisbon from 2-6 August. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three dead, several injured in Haiti quake

AN earthquake shook parts of western Haiti on Tuesday, killing at least three people and injuring more than two dozen others, civil protection authorities said.

The magnitude 4.9 quake occurred in the isolated Grand'Anse department nearly 300 kilometres (185 miles) west of Port-au-Prince, at a relatively shallow depth of 10 kilometres, according to the US Geological Survey.

"As a partial toll, we have already recorded three deaths. They are members of the same family and were killed when their house collapsed," Christine Monquele, head of Civil Protection in Grand'Anse, told AFP Tuesday.

Monquele's office also counted 28 injured, she said, adding that the search for "other possible casualties" was ongoing.

The quake comes just days after heavy storms battered Haiti — the poorest nation in the Western hemisphere — leaving at least 42 people dead and 11 others missing, according to the Civil Protection services. — AFP

Singapore to end 180 years of horse racing

MORE than 180 years of horse racing in Singapore is set to come to an end, with the city-state's only racecourse closing and being redeveloped for housing.

The Singapore Turf Club (STC) said that the final race, the 100th Grand Singapore Gold Cup, will take place in October next year.

The club was founded in 1842 by a Scottish merchant and other horse-racing enthusiasts. The current racecourse in Kranji was opened in 2000, replacing the old Bukit Timah track.

"We are saddened by the decision of the government to close the club," STC's chairman Niam Chiang Meng said in a press release.

"At the same time, we understand the land needs of Singapore, including housing and other potential uses such as leisure and recreation," he added. The STC acknowledged that attendance at the racecourse had been declining over the past decade.

Racehorse owners and trainers will be offered support for horse maintenance and exportation, the club said. — AFP

Iran unveils hypersonic missile hailing deterrent boost

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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.



One of the Myanmar's gold medallists receives the medal in the XII ASEAN Paralympic Games. PHOTO: MNA

XII ASEAN Paralympic Games: Myanmar wins two golds, two silvers, two bronzes in track & field

SPORTS events of the XII ASEAN Paralympic Games were held at Morodok Techo National Stadium Complex in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 5 June.

Myanmar's Soe Pe secured one gold medal in the Men's 100-Metre Race Event of track and field while Maung Lin garnered another gold for Myanmar in the Men's 800-Metre Race Event.

Wai Wai Thin grabbed one silver medal for Myanmar in the Women's 400-Metre Race Event while Law La Win won another

silver in the Women's 400-Metre Race Event.

Next, Nanda Lin picked one bronze medal for Myanmar in the Women's 400-Metre Race Event while Aung Myint Htay gained another bronze in the Men's 100-Metre Race Event.

After the competitions, the awarding ceremony continued, and the gold, silver and bronze medallists were awarded by Maj-Gen Hla Moe, chairman of the Myanmar Paralympic Sports Federation and officials. — MNA/KZL

Karim Benzema signs for Saudi Arabia's Al-Ittihad: club source

REAL Madrid's Ballon d'Or winner Karim Benzema has signed for Saudi Arabia's Al-Ittihad for three years starting next season, a source in the Jeddah-based club told AFP on Tuesday.

"Benzema has signed a contract for his transfer to Al-Ittihad for a three-year period starting

next season," the source said.

The announcement comes days after Real Madrid announced that the 35-year-old was leaving the club after 14 seasons, the day after coach Carlo Ancelotti had said there was "no doubt" Benzema's future was in the Spanish capital.

Benzema is in line to join

Cristiano Ronaldo in the Gulf kingdom after the Portuguese five-time world player of the year moved to Al Nassr from Manchester United following last year's World Cup.

Lionel Messi, who is leaving Paris Saint-Germain after two seasons, has also been linked to a move to Saudi Arabia. — AFP

Djokovic and Alcaraz close in on French Open semi-final showdown

NOVAK Djokovic and Carlos Alcaraz can set up a blockbuster French Open semi-final Tuesday as Ukraine's Elina Svitolina tackles Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus in a politically-charged tussle where the only guarantee will be the absence of a handshake at the match's conclusion.

Djokovic is in familiar territory after making the last eight in Paris for a record 17th time — his 14th consecutive quarter-final appearance here.

The 36-year-old Serb, chasing a third French Open crown and record 23rd men's Grand Slam singles title, looks to be rounding into form at the right time after an underwhelming

clay season.

His lone loss in nine matches against Tuesday's opponent Karen Khachanov came in the 2018 Paris Masters final, with Djokovic dispatching the Russian in three sets in their only Roland Garros clash three years ago.

The 27-year-old Khachanov is in his third straight Grand Slam quarter-final after semi-final runs at last year's US Open and the Australian Open in January.

Djokovic, however, is a conundrum he has struggled to solve. "You need to play really good chess to beat him," said Khachanov.

World number one Al-

caraz has so far lived up to his billing as the tournament favourite but his quarter-final rival Stefanos Tsitsipas, the 2021 runner-up, represents his stiffest challenge yet.

The Spaniard has won all four past meetings — two of which have been on clay, most recently triumphing in the Barcelona Open final in April.

"We have played great matches. I won every match that we have played. But it doesn't mean that I'm going to win every match that we play," said Alcaraz.

Tsitsipas also reached this year's Australian Open final, losing to Djokovic, and has been steady rather than spectacular in 2023. — AFP

Serbia's Novak Djokovic reacts as he plays against Russia's Karen Khachanov during their men's singles quarter final match on day ten of the Roland-Garros Open tennis tournament at the Court Philippe-Chatrier in Paris on 6 June 2023. PHOTO: AFP

