Senior General makes speech at Union Government meeting

COMMENDER-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a keynote speech at the meeting of Union Government at the President House in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The meeting was attended by Acting President U Myint Swe, Union Ministers General Mya Tun Oo, Lt-Gen Soe Htut, U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Win Shein, U Ko Ko Hlaing, U Chit Naing, U Ko Ko, U Myint Kyaw and Dr Thet Khaing Win.

In his opening remark, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing urged the Union Ministers to make collective efforts in working for the country by taking responsibilities of the respective ministries as they were believed to have sufficient qualifications to serve for the ministerial role, while the Tatmadaw has taken the administrative and management role of a government.

He also instructed to take the lessons from two previous democratic governments’ experiences and strengthen their advantages as the public and international communities have made their responses to these governments.

The Senior General also stressed the independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy and the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence in moving along the democratic path suitable for the country on its own stance.

The Senior General continued to say to focus on the duties by avoiding any mistakes as the Tatmadaw is the interim administrative organization.

He also recommended the implementation of democracy that meets the existing situations of the country. Regarding the elections, he said that errors in voter lists would be identified after reconstituting the Union Election Commission. Statements of the Tatmadaw on findings in the scrutiny of voter lists are accurate. However, the previous UEC did not take actions on the Tatmadaw’s statements on this issue. The findings from 314 townships had only some errors due to computer system faults.

SEE PAGE-2

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Announcement of Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME
(2 February 2021)

1. Myanmar nationals have been brought back as they wanted to return home from abroad via relief flights during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.
2. During the COVID-19 pandemic, as for Myanmar nationals abroad, it is better to return to Myanmar than they are experiencing difficulties abroad.
3. We would like to announce that in accordance with the rules set by relevant ministries, we will timely arrange more relief flights/vessels to bring back Myanmar nationals who are legally or illegally staying abroad.
140,664 MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 310 new cases were reported on 2 February 2021 according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among after 140,664 control and treatment measures would be continued. The orders on COVID-19 measures will remain effective until they are not changed. The vaccination programme will be carried out in line with the rules, and flights will be arranged for the imported vaccine.

He also discussed the repatriation programme for the stranded nationals in foreign countries, disease control measures, the collaboration of relevant ministries with the Ministry of Health and Sports, and the reopening of pagodas and other religious buildings under the COVID-19 rules.

The Senior General held talks on the recovery of economic sector in the country, which was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the importance of agricultural industry that is relied by 70 per cent of the country’s population who are living in rural areas, the regular needs of food for over 7 billion global population, creation of employment opportunities for them from food production sector, economic recovery plan, jobs for the unemployed people, the role of Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation in this sector, resumption of closed factories in accordance with the rule, distribution of protective items for the disease at lowest prices, if necessary, with the government subsidy from the COVID-19 prevention fund, reopening of domestic travel, recreation of closed factories, and implementing COVID-19 recovery plan from various sectors.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing advised adhering to rules and regulations to scrutinize the voter list fraud, which was a cause for the unavoidable option to the existing situation.

Before the next government takes office after another election, the Tatmadaw needs to manage the country for the country’s stability and prioritize the election issue, COVID-19 measures, and financial sector.

The Senior General also detailed the international relations, census-taking issues for holding the elections again, preparations for reopening pagodas, repatriation of Myanmar nationals from abroad and reopening of hotels.

Then, the Union Ministers reported on their plans for respective ministries. The meeting concluded after the Senior General made the closing remarks, according to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Kawthoung Fisheries Department raise blood clams in mangrove

THE Department of Fisheries of Kawthoung District raised the blood clams (Tegillarca granosa) into the mangroves of Pu Lone Tone Tone Village yesterday.

“The department fixes the small-scale marine businesses officially export the marine products such as blood clams, crabs and frozen cuttlefish via Kawthoung to Thailand in accordance with the procedures of the department during COVID-19 pandemic.—Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung) (Translated by Rhine Thazin Han)”

310 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 2 February, total figure rises to 140,664

MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 140,664 after 310 new cases were reported on 2 February 2021 according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these 140,664 confirmed cases, 3,146 died, 125,885 have been discharged from hospitals.—MNA

Updated at 8 pm, 2 February 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Cases</th>
<th>140,664</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Cases</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Death Tally</td>
<td>3,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharged from Hospital</td>
<td>125,885</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In efforts to speed up the prevention, containment and treatment of the COVID-19 disease, the call centre (phone number 2019) is established by four communications operators and the Blue Ocean Company with the coordination of the Medical Research Department of the Health and Sports Ministry and Post and Telecommunications Department from 9 am to 5 pm daily at the Medical Research Department in Yangon.

Over 43 staff from the Medical Research Department and 17 volunteers from the Myanmar Medical Association totally 60 workers have been working at the centre since 8th April.

—MNA

Weekly relief flight from RoK to Yangon to be resumed

MYANMAR Embassy in Seoul announced the resumption of weekly relief flights for Myanmar nationals during the COVID-19 crisis from the Republic of Korea to Yangon starting from 5 February.

Due to the temporary closure of the Yangon International Airport, the relief flight from Seoul to Yangon was suspended on 2 February and the replacement relief flight will be flown on 6 February for the passengers registered to board the relief flight scheduled for 2 February.—MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

Announcement to public

6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME
2 February 2021

1. The Myanmar Tatmadaw has firmly adhered to the motto of ‘We are the parents’ in dealing with the public in successive times. The ‘multiparty democracy system’ expected by the people was also peacefully adopted through political cultures of negotiation and legal procedures.

2. The 2010 Multiparty General Election, the 2015 Multiparty General Election, the 2012 By-election and the 2017 By-election were organized successfully. There were no significant controversies over the elections, except for some common arguments which were settled by the UEC and members at that time.

3. In exercising the multiparty democracy system, an independent and fair election is the lifeblood. The only free and fair election could reflect genuine people’s desire. Article 4 of the 2008 State Constitution has mentioned that ‘The sovereign power of the Union is derived from the citizens and is in force in the entire country.’ The government, the Hluttaws and organizations at Union and region/state levels which will exercise the state power are elected by the public directly or indirectly. Only when such elections are independent, clean and fair, will it reflect the genuine public desire, and would it be truly derived from the people/nationals.

4. There were 10,482,116 (over 10.4 million) errors which can be assumed as the voting fraud on the findings from the scrutiny on official voter lists officially issued by the Union Election Commission in the 2020 multiparty general election. The official announcement of UEC said there were 38 million eligible voters, and that over 10 million voting frauds have accounted for 25 per cent of eligible voters. People can understand that the case was not an ordinary mistake and a regular controversy. To realize this problem, the Tatmadaw has issued the statements on the findings for 30 times, 2 announcements before the elections and 4 announcements after the elections, totally 6 times. The concrete documents were transparently displayed in front of over 50 local and international media organizations during the press conference of the Tatmadaw.

5. The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services has repeatedly reminded even before the election to ensure an independent and fair election, as well as sincere politics as it is a foundation for the multiparty democracy system. ‘whether an independent and fair election or not’ cannot be decided only on the election day. All at least three periods—campaign period before the election, during the election, and the post-election—must be scrutinized on its fairness, no doubt, and reliability. However, there were controversies over freedom, fairness and reliability in all three periods. Therefore, a total of 20 political parties issued 26 letters of announcement over possible voting fraud and called for the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session until the complaints have been solved. A total of the 124 protests took place in 99 townships from 10-11-2020 to 29-1-2021, objecting to the works of UEC.

6. The Tatmadaw, in accordance with the 2008 Constitution and other existing laws, did the following without violating provisions of the laws to ensure “free and fair elections”:

(a) On 2-11-2020, Tatmadaw issued a statement to inform the Union Government and the Union Election Commission about situations in the run-up to the multiparty democracy general election; the Union Election Commission’s various directives that violated existing laws, and fraudulent issues encountered during advance voting.

(b) On 2-11-2020, a statement was issued calling on all ethnic armed organizations not to threaten local ethnic people and political parties in order that political parties could conduct election campaigns and to ensure free and fair elections.

(c) On 30-11-2020, a statement was issued requesting to let copies of documents in accordance with Article 74 and 76 of the Evidence Act to resolve electoral disputes and to ensure that the public recognizes the general election as free and fair.

(d) The Union Election Commission did not allow the copying of documents, so on 10-12-2020, a statement was issued requesting the copying of such documents as citizen’s right to vote and the right to object in accordance with the laws.

(e) On 11-1-2021, a total of 203 Hluttaw representatives from Tatmadaw and political parties called for the convening of a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Special Session in accordance with the Constitution, and the request was denied. So, on 14-1-2021, we issued a statement to review whether the denial is in accordance with the Constitution.

(f) The reason why the Tatmadaw announced its findings of the general election and election fraud lists were that Tatmadaw wanted to unequivocally recognize the results of free, fair, and transparent general election. If the Union Election Commission could resolve the issue and could show that it was a free, fair, and transparent election reflecting the real will of the general public, then Tatmadaw and political parties would accept the results in accordance with the real will of the voters. So, on 20-1-2021, Tatmadaw issued a statement requesting that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or the Union Government, or the Union Election Commission find a solution to resolve the issue for the benefit of the State and the citizens.

In addition to the above-mentioned statements, the Tatmadaw issued a statement calling on the government to convene a meeting of the National Defence and Security Council to address the issue. The Tatmadaw also issued statements urging the Union Election Commission, which was directly involved in the election, to resolve the issue in accordance with the laws and procedures. When the Union Election Commission refused to resolve the issue, the Tatmadaw requested the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to resolve it. Although the request was in line with the laws, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw refused to convene the special session of the Hluttaw. Then, Tatmadaw requested that the government or Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or the Union Election Commission needed to find a solution to resolve the issue. When all these steps were rejected, we proposed twice to convene a meeting of the President-led “National Defence and Security Council”, which represents both the civilian and the military. Tatmadaw followed the procedures and the laws step-by-step.

7. The Tatmadaw follows Article 4 of the Constitution, which says “the Sovereign power of the Union is derived from the citizens and is in force in the entire country”; Article 6 (b) and 7 of the Constitution, which says “flourishing of a genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system”, and Article 6 (f) of the Constitution, “enabling the Defence Services to be able to participate in the National political leadership role of the State”. The relevant officials failed to resolve the issues related to 10,482,116 (more than ten million four hundred thousand) possible fraudulent ballots in the 2020 general election, but they convened the Hluttaw and tried to form a government. These actions are “acts to take over the sovereignty of the Union by wrongful forcible means” as mentioned in the Section 40 (c) and 417 of the Constitution.

Therefore, by following the provisions (of the Constitution) mentioned in paragraph 8 of this announcement, the Tatmadaw has been taking all duties and responsibilities of the State since 1 February. The Tatmadaw will do necessary tasks in accordance with the laws. A genuine and disciplined multiparty democratic system will be established with full justice, and free and fair general elections will be held as soon as the tasks are completed in accordance with the emergency provisions, and the power will be transferred to the winning political party. We would like to call on all the citizens to work together with the Tatmadaw to build a genuine and disciplined multiparty democratic system with full justice.

Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council</th>
<th>Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Order No (1/2021)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Order No (2/2021)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME</td>
<td>6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 February 2021</td>
<td>2 February 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Appointment and Assignment of Union Attorney-General**

Dr. Daw Thida Oo is appointed by the State Administration Council as the Union Attorney-General in accordance with Article 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

By order

Sd/ Aung Lin Dway
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council</th>
<th>Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Order No (3/2021)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Order No (4/2021)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME</td>
<td>6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 February 2021</td>
<td>2 February 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Duty Termination from Deputy Attorney-General**

Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint is terminated from his duties.

By order

Sd/ Aung Lin Dway
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council</th>
<th>Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Order No (5/2021)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Order No (6/2021)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME</td>
<td>6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 February 2021</td>
<td>2 February 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Transfer and Assignment of Deputy Minister**

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Major-General Soe Tint Naing is transferred by the State Administration Council as the Deputy Minister for Union Government Office in accordance with Article 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

By order

Sd/ Aung Lin Dway
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council</th>
<th>Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Order No (5/2021)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Order No (6/2021)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME</td>
<td>6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 February 2021</td>
<td>2 February 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Appointment and Duty Assignment of Deputy Minister**

Lieutenant-General Than Hlaing is appointed by the State Administration Council as the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs and concurrently as the Chief of Myanmar Police Force in accordance with Article 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

By order

Sd/ Aung Lin Dway
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

---

**Trade Mark Ads**

Call Thin Thin May. 09251022355, 09974424848
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No (7/2021)
6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME
2 February 2021

Appointment and Assignment of Chairman of UEC and members

The following persons are appointed by the State Administration Council as the Chairman and members of the Union Election Commission in accordance with Article 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

1. U Thein Soe  
   Chairman

2. U Thaung Tin  
   Member

3. U Than Tun  
   Member

4. U Kyauk  
   Member

5. U Aung Saw Win  
   Member

6. U Than Win  
   Member

By order
Sd/ Aung Lin Dway  
Lieutenant-General  
Secretary  
State Administration Council

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No (8/2021)
6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME
2 February 2021

Appointment and Assignment of Governor of the Central Bank

U Than Nyein is appointed by the State Administration Council as the Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar in accordance with Article 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

By order
Sd/ Aung Lin Dway  
Lieutenant-General  
Secretary  
State Administration Council

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No (9/2021)
6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME
2 February 2021

Appointment and Assignment of Union Ministers

The following persons are assigned by the State Administration Council to the duties of Union Ministers shown against each of their respective ministries in accordance with Article 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

1. U Khin Maung Yi  
   Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

2. U Shwe Lay  
   Ministry of Construction

By order
Sd/ Aung Lin Dway  
Lieutenant-General  
Secretary  
State Administration Council

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No (10/2021)
6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME
2 February 2021

Appointment and Assignment of Chairmen of State/Region Administration Councils

The following persons are assigned by the State Administration Council to the duties of the Chairmen of the Administration Councils shown against each of their respective States/Regions in accordance with Article 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

1. U Khet Hein Nan  
   Kachin State

2. U Khin Maung Oo (a) Buyai  
   Kayah State

3. U Saw Myint Oo  
   Kayin State

4. U Tarance Sminhe Ne Khwe  
   Chin State

5. Dr Tin Htay  
   Mon State

6. Dr Aung Kyaw Min  
   Rakhine State

7. Dr Kyaw Tun  
   Shan State

8. U Maung Maung Lin  
   Sagaing Region

9. U Tin Lwin  
   Magway Region

10. U Maung Ko  
    Mandalay Region

11. U Myo Swe Win  
    Bago Region

12. U Tin Aung  
    Tanintharyi Region

By order
Sd/ Aung Lin Dway  
Lieutenant-General  
Secretary  
State Administration Council

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No (11/2021)
6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME
2 February 2021

Appointment and Assignment of Chairmen of Self-Administered Division and Zones

The following persons are assigned by the State Administration Council to the duties of the Chairmen of the Administration Councils shown against each of their respective Self-Administered Division and Zones in accordance with Article 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

1. U Tun Tun Win  
   Naga Self-Administered Zone

2. U Arkar Lin  
   Dano Self-Administered Zone

3. U Khin Ye Htwe  
   Pa-O Self-Administered Zone

4. Tar Thein Zaw  
   Palaung Self-Administered Zone

5. U Myint Swe  
   Kokant Self-Administered Zone

6. U Nyi Nat  
   Wa Self-Administered Division

By order
Sd/ Aung Lin Dway  
Lieutenant-General  
Secretary  
State Administration Council

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No (12/2021)
6th Waning of Pyatho 1382 ME
2 February 2021

Appointment and Assignment of Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council

Dr Maung Maung Naing is appointed by the State Administration Council as the Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council in accordance with Article 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

By order
Sd/ Aung Lin Dway  
Lieutenant-General  
Secretary  
State Administration Council
Domestic gold price jumps to K1,341,000 per tical

By Nyein Nyein

THE domestic gold price soared to K1,341,000 per tical (0.578 ounces, or 0.016 kilogrammes) on 2 February, the gold traders said.

The international gold price was pegged at around US$1,855 per ounce on 2 February 2021, while a US dollar exchange rate was worth K1,335.

Last 6 January 2021, the precious pure gold metal price rose to K1,336,000 per tical in the domestic market, and now, it peaked within one month.

However, the local market sees more sellers outnumbering the buyers.

Earlier, the daily transaction of 50 visses (a viss equals 1.6 kg) of gold were seen in the market. Now, about five visses are traded per day, according to the Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

In January 2021, the gold price was ranged between the minimum of K1,316,000 per tical (28 January) and the maximum of K1,336,000 per tical (6 January).

According to gold traders, the local gold reached the lowest level of K1,316,500 (2 September) and the highest level of K1,341,000 (1 September). In October, the rate ranged between K1,307,800 (30 October) and K1,316,500 (21 October). The rate fluctuated between the highest of K1,317,000 (9 November) and the lowest of K1,270,000 (30 November). In December, the pure yellow metal price moved in the range of 1,280,000 (1 December) and 1,332,000 (28 December).

With global gold prices on the uptick, the domestic gold price hit fresh highs last year, reaching K1,000,000 per tical between 17 January and 21 February, crossing K1,100,000 (22 June to 5 August), climbing to over 1,200,000 (7 August-4 September), and then reaching an all-time record high of K1,300,000 on 5 September 2019.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

MoC extends import permit on reconditioned machine for SMEs

THE Ministry of Commerce has extended import permits on the reconditioned machine for the small and medium-sized enterprises, support the establishment of the manufacturing process and reduce the capital expenditure, according to the notification released in the third week of January 2021.

The Ministry of Commerce has allowed the import of used machines which are useable since 2015, according to section 13, subsection (b) of the Export and Import Law of the ministry. The ministry issues the notification every year as per its policy, intending to avoid unnecessary goods piled up and environmental damage, and improving the entrepreneurs’ production capacity.

Those reconditioned machines are to be remained usable up to 10 years starting from the import date. The machines shall be repaired to have the usable condition. The import requires a 10-year warranty by foreign sellers. Moreover, the machine parts and accessories of those imported machines shall be easily purchased in the domestic market. The preshipment inspection certificate with six-month validity is also required to ensure the running condition of those machines, as per the notification.

Nevertheless, the permit does not cover home appliances such as refrigerator, air-conditioner, washing machines, copier, printers, televisions, computers and office machines. Those machines which are designated for commercial sales are also not included.

The notification comes into effect within 60 days of the issue date (20 January 2021). Those reconditioned machines can be imported only via maritime trade.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)
Global Coronavirus Cases Drop for Third Straight Week

Consecutive drop in new COVID-19 cases 'encouraging news': WHO

FIFA President Gianni Infantino emphasized the importance of having a level playing field, whether in football or in health. "Fairness and sport are key values of our sport," he said. "And these same key values, fairness and sport are needed for today’s great challenge: overcoming COVID-19. It is important for football to address issues that affect society, to make the fight to make COVID-19 vaccines, treatments and diagnostics available to all countries.

FIFA has teamed up with WHO for the "ACT Together" campaign, which also promotes adherence to the everyday public health measures aimed at preventing coronavirus spread, such as handwashing and wearing masks. Star footballers and competing team captains will participate in the campaign, which is being held in conjunction with the FIFA Club World Cup 2021, taking place in Qatar from 2-11 February.

WHO's Dr. Neesh Sharma, a US Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Consultant, disseminates hand sanitising techniques and the benefits of local handwashing at Muuma Deen (VHND) in Champa Faska. AW Bauza, Ganta, Liberia (Photo: UNICEF)

Time to team up and tackle Long Covid, says WHO expert

The mission has attracted media attention and Dr Van Kerkhove underscored that the team must be given the space to carry out its work.

"Fairness and team spirit are key values of our sport," he said. "And these same key values, fairness and team spirit are needed for today’s great challenge: overcoming COVID-19. It is important for football to address issues that affect society, but there was no picture yet of serious disease from Covid-19."

Tellingly, Long Covid does not yet have a proper name. The WHO currently calls it post-Covid condition, while other terms in circulation include post-COVID-19 syndrome and Covid long haulers.

Building up a picture The WHO is hosting a first global seminar on Long Covid on February 9. It will bring scientists, experts and clinicians together to define the condition, give it a formal name and harmonise study methods.

"It’s a condition that needs further description, further understanding of how many are affected and further understanding of what causes it, so we can better prevent, manage and treat it," said Diaz. "It is, after all, a respiratory physician and intensive care doctor.

She said British and other studies suggested potentially one in 10 cases may have prolonged symptoms such as muscular pain or fatigue, but there was no picture yet of how long those conditions might persist.

The elderly and those with underlying conditions are at risk of serious disease from Covid-19. But the profile of Long Covid patients does not match. It affects people with varying degrees of severity of disease and "seems to potentially also include young people," including children, said Diaz.

The pandemic response priority remains preventing people from catching the virus and falling ill. "Leaving coronavirus cases "must also include cases after the acute illness", until you get back to full health," Diaz said.

"Cracking the code Diaz said sadness appeared to be the most common symptom, with others including postural malaise, cognitive dysfunction or brain fog, loss of strength, loss of balance, and psychological problems.

"The more we learn the more we understand that some symptoms are profound, according to Diaz, saying researchers needed to crack the underlying mechanisms of the disease that were causing those persistent symptoms."

SOURCE: UN News

Union Day Objectives 74th Anniversary of Union Day - 2021

1. To work on the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong. Filling the success of the internal peace process is achieving peace and national reconciliation.
2. Development of the socio-economic life of the ethnic nationalities.
3. To work for the emergence of a constitution that is in alignment and harmony with the Democratic Federal Union. All ethnic groups have the rights to self-determination, protection of non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of autonomous regions and territories, and preservation of national sovereignty.
4. To nurture and develop new generations endowed with high skills and capabilities imbued with strong Union spirit.

SOURCE:  Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is cloudy over the Southeast Bay and a few cloud to partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

PERSISTENT HUMIDITY THROUGHOUT 3 FEBRUARY 2021 Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Suguap, Tanintharyi Regions and Kachin, Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar seas. Wave height will be about (4-7) feet off and along Monywa and Sagaing Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Generally fair in the whole country.

SOURCE: PAGYIN, BEYAWAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 FEBRUARY 2021 Generally fair weather.

SOURCE: PAGYIN, BEYAWAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 FEBRUARY 2021 Generally fair weather.

SOURCE: PAGYIN, BEYAWAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 FEBRUARY 2021 Generally fair weather.

SOURCE: PAGYIN, BEYAWAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 FEBRUARY 2021 Generally fair weather.
All YBS buses running in Yangon

ALL YBS buses are running as usual in Yangon on 2 February, said Joint Secretary U Hla Aung of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

“Now, our YBS buses are running as usual because there are many commuters who depend upon the public transportation,” he explained.

The YBS buses from all buses lines and other city taxis and private vehicles are running on the road in Yangon Region. However, the roads are not busy like before the outbreak of a pandemic. Only companies’ staff are going on the road.

“The number of running YBS buses dropped significantly in the pandemic period. So far, over 3,000 buses are resuming their operations as usual, which is more than three-fourths of all YBS city buses. And, YBS buses are carrying out around 450,000 or 500,000 commuters.”

“Usually, the YBS carries 1.8 million passengers a day. Most people are travelling with YBS buses, particularly in the morning and evening. Only a few passengers are on board the YBS buses in the afternoon,” said Dr Maung Aung, the secretary of YRTA. More than 4,000 buses from nearly 100 bus lines provide daily service for the passengers in the Yangon Region. Now, YBS operates over 3,000 buses. —Myint Maung Kyaw
(Translated by Hay Mar)

Trial cultivation of grapes succeeds in Kyaukse

GRAPES cultivation succeeded in Hmine Pan village, Kyaukse Township, Mandalay Region. The residents grew about 500 trees of grapes on a trial basis in the village.

The grapes are high-yielding and selling at an affordable price. Thus, the local growers are happy with a handsome profit.

Before growing grapes, the cultivated ground needs to be repaired. The ground needs to be dug one-foot deep and one-foot wide hole and added with natural compost. After fixing the ground, the grape trees could be grown. After six months, we need to plant under the grafting system. Then, the fruits could be picked after another six months. The cultivation of 500 grape trees costs K1.6 million, and it could produce 1,500 visses of grape.

The grapes are likely to fetch around K3,000 to K4,000 per viss in the market. All 500 grapes plantations could earn K6 million, said U Nyunt Win, a grape grower.

The grape plantation is suited to Kyaukse weather and soil. That is the reason why the grapes should be grown more than other fruits in Kyaukse. It can also earn a handsome profit for the local growers. Thus, the local farmers who own the land expand the grape cultivation. —Thet Maung (Kyaukse)
(Translated by Hay Mar)
SUB-ORBITAL TESTING

Iran launches new satellite-carrying rocket

IRAN’S defence ministry on Monday said it has test launched a new satellite carrier with its “most powerful” solid-fuel engine to date, state TV reported.

The test was “the first launch of the Zoljanah hybrid satellite carrier for sub-orbital testing”, said Ahmad Hosseini, the spokesman for the ministry’s space division.

“This three-stage carrier can compete with the world’s current carriers, and has two stages of solid propulsion and a single liquid one,” he added, noting that the rocket was for “research purposes”.

According to Hosseini, Zoljanah can put satellites in a “500 kilometre (310 mile) altitude orbit and carry a 220-kilogramme (1,100-pound) payload.

He also said the rocket can be launched from a “mobile platform”, which provides it with “special capabilities”.

CONTROVERSIAL NEW MECHANISM

Japan says EU export curbs delaying its Covid-19 vaccination plan

EU export rules are preventing Japan from finalizing its coronavirus vaccination plan, a Tokyo minister said Tuesday, after the bloc introduced a controversial new mechanism for the shipment of jabs made inside its borders.

With less than six months until the pandemic-postponed Tokyo Olympics, Japan has yet to set out when it will vaccinate its population of 126 million people, although it hopes to give the first doses later in February.

The European Union, which is facing criticism of its own sluggish Covid-19 vaccine rollout, on Friday brought in a new rule requiring drug-makers to seek approval before exporting vaccines to non-EU countries.

“Because of that, we have not been able to finalize our supply schedule,” said Taro Kono, the minister in charge of Japan’s vaccine programme.

Japan has reached deals with Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca to buy enough vaccine doses for its population.

But health authorities want to confirm the vaccines’ safety through domestic clinical trials before giving any of them a green light.

The jab from Pfizer — which, along with AstraZeneca has factories in the EU — will likely be the first approved.

Kono, the outspoken minister for regulatory reform, also called for international measures to prevent so-called “vaccine nationalism” impacting on global health.

Delays have dogged both the procurement and rollout of vaccines in the EU, which has been embroiled in a furious dispute with AstraZeneca.

The bloc accuses AstraZeneca of breaching its contract by delaying deliveries to EU governments while maintaining those under a deal it signed earlier with the United Kingdom.

On Friday, the European Commission launched a scheme to monitor and in some cases bar exports of vaccines produced in EU plants — an emergency measure that has been criticized by the World Health Organization.

Kono said he understood the EU’s predicament, but stressed that the export rules had come in after vaccines became available, and had “started to affect supplies”.

SOURCE: AFP

A MANCHESTER-BORN CONVERT TO ISLAM

Indonesia detains British woman on terror suspect list

Indonesian cleric Abu Bakar Bashir reportedly officiated at Tazneen Miriam Sailar’s wedding. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

INDONESIA has detained a British woman named on a list of global terror suspects and plans to deport her for visa violations, authorities told AFP Tuesday.

Tazneen Miriam Sailar — a Manchester-born convert to Islam married to an Indonesian jihadist who was killed in Syria — is not charged with terror offences.

But she and her late husband are on an Indonesian police list of suspect extremist that includes several foreigners notorious in the West.

Sailar, 47, and her 10-year-old Indonesia-born son were being held in Jakarta after being picked up last year without documents allowing her to remain in the Southeast Asian nation, her lawyer Farid Ghozali said.

“She was put (in detention) while awaiting her return, which will be facilitated by the British embassy.”

Indonesian immigration directorate spokesman Ahmad Nursaleh told AFP.

The embassy declined to comment, and it was unclear when she might be deported.

The police docket does not specify why Sailar was named with some 400 other terror suspects — including her husband — on the Indonesian list.

He was killed in Syria in 2015.

The couple’s 2016 marriage was officiated by radical Indonesian cleric Abu Bakar Bashir, the spiritual head of extremist group Jamaah Islamiyah (JI), according to sources familiar with the case.

JI members were behind the 2002 Bali bombings which killed more than 200 people — including nearly 90 Australian holidaymakers — at two packed bars on the Indonesian island.

SOURCE: AFP
Google deals with trio of US lawsuits over ad prowess

EXECUTIVES at Google parent company Alphabet will report quarterly earnings on Tuesday, seeking to highlight the internet titan’s money-making success while mindful of the internet giant’s dominating position among advertisers and targeted ads and hurt many businesses.

Google has thrived during the pandemic as people rely on the internet for work, school, shopping and socializing.

Worldwide, the firm is on track to take in $116.7 billion in digital ad revenue this year, an increase of 18.4 per cent from 2020, according to a forecast by industry tracker eMarketer.

Google, which has dominated the lucrative online advertising market, is the target of a trio of antitrust lawsuits in the US accusing it of abusing its position.

EXECUTIVES at Google parent company Alphabet will report quarterly earnings on Tuesday, seeking to highlight the internet titan’s money-making success while mindful of the internet giant’s dominating position among advertisers and hurt many businesses.

Google has thrived during the pandemic as people rely on the internet for work, school, shopping and socializing.

Worldwide, the firm is on track to take in $116.7 billion in digital ad revenue this year, an increase of 18.4 per cent from 2020, according to a forecast by industry tracker eMarketer.

Google, which has dominated the lucrative online advertising market, is the target of a trio of antitrust lawsuits in the US accusing it of abusing its position.

EXECUTIVES at Google parent company Alphabet will report quarterly earnings on Tuesday, seeking to highlight the internet titan’s money-making success while mindful of the internet giant’s dominating position among advertisers and hurt many businesses.

Google has thrived during the pandemic as people rely on the internet for work, school, shopping and socializing.

Worldwide, the firm is on track to take in $116.7 billion in digital ad revenue this year, an increase of 18.4 per cent from 2020, according to a forecast by industry tracker eMarketer.

Google, which has dominated the lucrative online advertising market, is the target of a trio of antitrust lawsuits in the US accusing it of abusing its position.

EXECUTIVES at Google parent company Alphabet will report quarterly earnings on Tuesday, seeking to highlight the internet titan’s money-making success while mindful of the internet giant’s dominating position among advertisers and hurt many businesses.

Google has thrived during the pandemic as people rely on the internet for work, school, shopping and socializing.

Worldwide, the firm is on track to take in $116.7 billion in digital ad revenue this year, an increase of 18.4 per cent from 2020, according to a forecast by industry tracker eMarketer.

Google, which has dominated the lucrative online advertising market, is the target of a trio of antitrust lawsuits in the US accusing it of abusing its position.

EXECUTIVES at Google parent company Alphabet will report quarterly earnings on Tuesday, seeking to highlight the internet titan’s money-making success while mindful of the internet giant’s dominating position among advertisers and hurt many businesses.

Google has thrived during the pandemic as people rely on the internet for work, school, shopping and socializing.

Worldwide, the firm is on track to take in $116.7 billion in digital ad revenue this year, an increase of 18.4 per cent from 2020, according to a forecast by industry tracker eMarketer.

Google, which has dominated the lucrative online advertising market, is the target of a trio of antitrust lawsuits in the US accusing it of abusing its position.

EXECUTIVES at Google parent company Alphabet will report quarterly earnings on Tuesday, seeking to highlight the internet titan’s money-making success while mindful of the internet giant’s dominating position among advertisers and hurt many businesses.

Google has thrived during the pandemic as people rely on the internet for work, school, shopping and socializing.

Worldwide, the firm is on track to take in $116.7 billion in digital ad revenue this year, an increase of 18.4 per cent from 2020, according to a forecast by industry tracker eMarketer.

Google, which has dominated the lucrative online advertising market, is the target of a trio of antitrust lawsuits in the US accusing it of abusing its position.
ITALY’S virus-stricken economy shrank by 8.9 per cent last year, national statistics office Istat said Tuesday.

The calendar-adjusted figure represents the big-
Authorization for marks

As stated by IP law, an application for mark registration has to be scrutinized in accord with the provisions stipulated in article 13. It is aimed at scrutinizing the characteristics eligible for mark registration. A mark must have distinctness in the process of scrutinizing the qualities eligible for mark authorization. Distinctness means there must be the difference between the mark and the goods or service. Moreover, the mark to be used must give clear information or easy recognition to the users. If not so, the mark will not be eligible for registration.

For example, if an apple selling shop uses 'apple shop' or 'picture of an apple' as a mark, it will be supposed that it is not distinct. This is because 'apple shop' is a common name. The person officially using the mark must have the right to ownership as long as he/she uses it. No one is allowed to own a common mark. But if the picture of the apple is used for other goods, it will be distinct. For instance, the picture of apple can be used for computer, phone and other electronic devices. But if it is used for computer, the mark should not be ‘computer picture’.

Lack of distinctness includes simplicity, complexity, incomprehensible marks, an alphabet or one digit, simple phrases, just surface design, and common usable marks. A mark is typically not distinct, but if it is recognized by the users as the trademark, or if it is able to effectively direct original trade, it can’t be denied. Moreover, if a mark is continuously used as a trademark, the users will recognize it as the trademark and then it should be regarded as the distinct mark.

If a mark contains quality, quantity, intended use, value, time of manufacture and other characteristics or only instructions, it can be denied. This is because these marks are just an illustration.

For example, a mark for a candy selling service should not be the words “Pleasant Smell” or “Sweet”. The reason is that the candy possesses the property of being sweet and being a pleasant smell. Although candy has many different kinds, every candy has the property of being sweet, and so it can be denied to allow registration. Moreover, a mark for a product or a service should not be the words such as No-1 or the Best. These words are not allowed using as single ownership. In addition, the uses in the mark should not mislead the public or commercial area.

For example, although the word ‘swiss’ is revealed in the trade-mark of ‘swisstime’ as a place of origin, if it is not related to this place, it will be able to mislead the users about the place of origin as Switzerland.

Attention is to be paid that a mark to be used for a product or a service mustn’t be detrimental to public order, reputation, beliefs, the Union’s reputation, or traditions valued by ethnic minorities. Besides, without the approval of relevant authorities, all or part of a country’s flag, ceremonial appearance, other marks and symbols, a legal mark indicating the management or guarantee by a State, or a mark of quality guarantee, or a multilateral international organization’s ceremonial appearance, flags, or other marks, names, including said organization’s acronyms, full name, or any part mustn’t be directly copied or imitated or misled. If a mark uses any of the said points, it will be ineligible for registration. Furthermore, the marks and signs separately protected under the international agreements in which the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is a
Any owner of a registered mark has the right to prevent another person from using a registered mark by an unauthorized use for goods or services if they are identical or similar goods and services. If the goods or services are not identical or similar, the use of a registered mark for identical or similar goods or services may be prohibited if they are used without the consent of the owner of the registered mark. An owner of a well-known mark has the right to prevent another person from using a well-known mark for identical or similar goods or services for the same or similar goods and services as the well-known mark. The owner of a well-known mark may also prevent another person from using a well-known mark in a way that is likely to cause confusion with the well-known mark.

Eligible marks will be published for registration. If so, it can be refused for registration. The application for registration must be examined in accordance with the provisions in Chapter XI. The examiner will examine the application to determine whether the mark is eligible for registration. The examiner will also examine the mark to determine whether it is likely to cause confusion with another registered mark. If the examiner finds that the mark is not eligible for registration, the examiner will issue a notice of rejection. If the examiner finds that the mark is eligible for registration, the examiner will issue a certificate of registration.

The intellectual property rights of any other person in the same or similar goods and services are protected. Any person who uses a registered mark for goods or services that are identical or similar to those for which the registered mark is used may be sued under civil law or criminal law. The owner of a registered mark has the right to require the person to desist from using the registered mark.

The intellectual property rights of any other person in the same or similar goods and services are protected. Any person who uses a registered mark for goods or services that are identical or similar to those for which the registered mark is used may be sued under civil law or criminal law. The owner of a registered mark has the right to require the person to desist from using the registered mark.
Olympics will happen ‘however coronavirus evolves,’ Tokyo 2020 chief says

TOKYO — The pandemic-postponed Olympics will go ahead this summer “however the coronavirus evolves”, Tokyo 2020 chief Yoshiro Mori said Tuesday, brushing aside doubts about the event.

Organizers, Japan’s government and Olympic officials are trying to shore up support for the games despite a surge in infections around the world, less than six months before the opening ceremony.

Doubts about the games have grown as countries have been forced to re-enter lockdowns, with large parts of Japan currently under a virus state of emergency, but Mori sounded a confident note.

“We’ll certainly go ahead however the coronavirus (pandemic) evolves,” he told a meet-
ing of Olympic organizers and members of Japan’s ruling party in Tokyo. “We must go beyond discussion about whether we will hold it or not. It’s about how we will do it. Let’s think about a new kind of Olympics on this occasion,” he added.

Tokyo 2020 President Yoshiro Mori delivers a speech at a beginning of a meeting on preparations for the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics at the Liberal Democratic Party headquarters in Tokyo on Tuesday. PHOTO: POOL/AFP

Djokovic says future of men’s tennis in good hands

MELBOURNE — World number one Novak Djokovic said the future of men’s tennis was in good hands Tuesday, praising the new generation for showing “courage and boldness” in their pursuit of Grand Slam glory.

Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer have dominated the sport over the past 15 years, holding a vice-like grip on the major titles, with 57 between them.

But their reign is being threatened, with Dominic Thiem winning the US Open last year and the likes of Alexander Zverev and Stefanos Tsitsipas knocking on the door.

With the big three getting older, 17-time Grand Slam winner Djokovic said it was good to see the next generation performing well.

“It’s great for the sport that we have new Grand Slam champions,” he said after leading Serbia to a 2-1 win over Canada in the ATP Cup.

“We have new successful young players that are showing the courage and boldness, coming into the biggest stadiums in sport, willing to take on the biggest challenge in facing especially the three of us, fighting for the biggest title.

“There are a few of them that are very close. They have huge potential. Obviously there’s still a lot of time ahead of them.”—AFP

Solskjaer tells Man Utd to ‘make a fuss’ about referees’ decisions

LONDON — Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has told his Manchester United stars to “make a fuss” about referees’ decisions after his team were on the wrong end of two key decisions in a damaging defeat against Sheffield United.

United are second in the Premier League heading into Tuesday’s clash with Southampton after Saturday’s goalless draw at Arsenal followed the shock 2-1 loss to the lowly Blades.

That result ended United’s 13-match unbeaten league run, leaving Solskjaer frustrated by decisions that allowed Kean Bryan’s opener and ruled out Anthony Martial’s strike.

Billy Sharp pushed David De Gea as Bryan scored and the comments came hours before Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga announced a month-long extension of the state of emergen-
cy — meaning the measure will run until March 7 in Tokyo and several other parts of the country.

Tighter border restrictions imposed after infections surged have already forced the postpone-
ment of some sporting fixtures including this year’s first Olympic test event, an artistic swimming qualifier that was scheduled for March.

The nationwide Olympic torch relay is still due to begin on March 25.

On Wednesday, organizers are expected to outline further details of the extensive coro-
virus countermeasures they have devised for the 2020 Games, which were pushed back to 2021 last March as COVID-19 spread around the globe.

But Japanese public opinion appears opposed to holding the games this year, with 88% of people backing either further postponement or a cancellation in surveys.

Organizers have said neither of those options are on the table, and have received strong sup-
port from both the International Olympic Committee and athletes around the world.

Olympic Minister Seiko Hashimoto told the meeting she too was confident the games could go ahead. “Making the Tokyo Games a success will demonstrate the world is united,” said Hashimoto, herself a former Olympian.—AFP

Liverpools’s Minamino completes loan deal to Southampton

LONDON — Liverpool’s Japa-

nese midfielder Takumi Minamino has joined Premier League rivals Southampton on loan for the rest of the season, the south

cost club said on Monday (Feb 1).

The 26-year-old Japan interna-
tional, who can play on the wing or as a second striker, was signed by Liverpool from Austria’s RB Salzburg a year ago.

“He will help provide ano-

ther good attacking option, and is importantly the right profile of player for us,” Southampton manager Ralph Hasenhuttl said in a club statement.

“This will give us some additional depth in our squad at an important time, and I am looking forward to beginning work with him on the training pitch.”

Minamino, who has 12 goals in 26 appearances for his country, is the second Japanese international to arrive at South-

ampton after defender Maya Yoshida, who moved to Samp-

doria this season.—AFP

The comments came hours before Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga announced a month-long extension of the state of emerg-
cency — meaning the measure will run until March 7 in Tokyo and several other parts of the country.

Tighter border restrictions imposed after infections surged have already forced the postpone-
ment of some sporting fixtures including this year’s first Olympic test event, an artistic swimming qualifier that was scheduled for March.

The nationwide Olympic torch relay is still due to begin on March 25.

On Wednesday, organizers are expected to outline further details of the extensive coro-
virus countermeasures they have devised for the 2020 Games, which were pushed back to 2021 last March as COVID-19 spread around the globe.

But Japanese public opinion appears opposed to holding the games this year, with 88% of people backing either further postponement or a cancellation in surveys.

Organizers have said neither of those options are on the table, and have received strong sup-
port from both the International Olympic Committee and athletes around the world.

Olympic Minister Seiko Hashimoto told the meeting she too was confident the games could go ahead. “Making the Tokyo Games a success will demonstrate the world is united,” said Hashimoto, herself a former Olympian.—AFP

Takumi Minamino can play on the wing or as a second striker. PHOTO: AFP