Maha Mingala ceremonies to lay cornerstones for building Maravizara Buddha Image

A CEREMONY to lay gem cornerstones for the construction of Maravizara Buddha image in Buddha Park in Dckkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory took place in the precinct of the Buddha Park yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by members of the Sangha led by State Ovadacariya Pyinma- na Maha Withayama Zaygon Monastery Presiding Nayaka Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Dr Bhaddanta Kavisara and Sayadaw of Pali Takatho Mingala Zeyon Monastery Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadha Bhaddanta Vimaladutta, Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, Vice-Chairman of the Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Council members and their wives, the Secretary of the Council and wife, the Joint-Secretary of the Council and wife, the Chief Justice of the Union, Union ministers and wives, the Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council and wife, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, deputy ministers and guests.

First, the Senior General and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla offered alms in the emerald alms bowl, fruits, flowers, water and oil lights to the Buddha image in the Mingala pavilion.

The congregation opened the ceremony with a three-time recitation of Namo Tassa and took the Nine Precepts from Zaygon Sayadaw. Disciples offered Paritta flowers, water, thread, sand and stones to members of the Sangha. The Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and wife and the Vice-Chairman of the Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) and wife donated the gem casket, the gold casket for sacred Buddha relics, the gold casket for holy relics of Arhat, the gold casket for land from the victorious country, treatises of Tri Patak, and the gold casket for sacred Buddha relics yesterday.
Five future programmes of State Administration Council

1. The Union Election Commission will be reconstituted to carry out tasks that should be done, including inspection of voting lists in accordance with the law.
2. Effective measures will be taken for the prevention of current infectious COVID-19 with added momentum.
3. Efforts will be made to recover businesses that faced loss caused by COVID-19 in various ways as quickly as possible.
4. Emphasis will be placed on restoring eternal peace in the entire nation in line with agreements from the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) as much as possible.
5. When missions will be accomplished in accord with provisions of the state of emergency, a free and fair multiparty democracy election will be held in accordance with the Constitution (2008), and further tasks will be undertaken to hand over State duty to the winning party meeting the standards of democracy.

Military personnel comfort patients at military hospitals in Buthidaung Township

LT-GEN Phone Myat of the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army), Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Htin Latt Oo, and party comforted and provided food aids to the monks, officers, their family members and Myanmar Police Force members who receive medical treatment at the military hospital in Buthidaung Township of Rakhine State. — MNA

Tatmadaw donates food rations to monks in Yangon

FAMILIES of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) provided four types of food rations –rice, salt, cooking oil and gram to the monasteries and nunneries in their respective military command areas.

The Tatmadaw personnel also donated alms and offertories to the monks and nuns and conducted medical check-ups.

The Yangon Command donated food rations, COVID-19 protective gear and offertories to the monks of Thathaon Beikman Monastery in Myaing Thaya Village of Hmawby Township and Dhamma Rekkhita Monastery in No (2) Ward of Botahtaung Township yesterday. — MNA

Daily Newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanmar Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.issuu.com/myanmarnewspaper.

www.moi.gov.mm/mal
www.moi.gov.mm/km
www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and
www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper

News and Periodicals Enterprise
Arrangements are being made to open the universities in early May and basic education schools in early June

IT is necessary to seek ways and means for teachers to enjoy entitlements in conformity with their education qualification. Arrangements are being made to open the universities in early May and basic education schools in early June. So, teaching aid courses are conducted for basic education teachers.

Maha Mingala ceremonies to lay cornerstones ...

FROM PAGE-1
gold leaves for Jaya Mangala Gatha and Mingala Mawgun inscription, the gold alms-bowl, stone inscription, gems cornerstones and offerings to Zaygon Sayadaw and Pali Takatho Sayadaw.

Disciples conveyed the gold casket for sacred Buddha relics, the gold casket for sacred relics of Arhat, the gold leaves for treatises of Tri Pitakat, gold leaves for Jaya Mangala Gatha and Mingala Mawgun inscription, the gold alms-bowl, stone inscription, gems cornerstones, the gold alms-bowl, the gold cornerstone decorated with pieces of ruby, the gold cornerstone and Mawgun inscription respectively to round the precinct of the Buddha image clockwise and then to the centre of the cornerstone.

Leader well-wisher for the image, the Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services placed the soil from seven sites of Bodh Gaya and from famous pagodas from Myanmar. At the auspicious time, the gem casket, the gold casket for sacred Buddha relics, the gold casket for holy relics of Arhat, the gold leaves for treatises of Tri Pitakat, gold leaves for Jaya Mangala Gatha and Mingala Mawgun inscriptions, the gold alms-bowl, the gold cornerstone decorated with pieces of ruby and stone inscription of Mawgun at the designated places and sprinkled scented Paritta water on it.

In accord with the traditions mentioned in the treatises, they all took the designated places. Then, the Vice-Chairman of the Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) placed the cornerstone decorated with pieces of pearl, General Mya Tun Oo, the sapphire cornerstone, Admiral Tin Aung San, the garnet cornerstone, General Maung Maung Kyaw, the emerald cornerstone, Lt-Gen Aung Lin Dwe, the coral cornerstone, U Win Shein, opal cornerstone, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swa Lin, the topaz cornerstone and Lt-Gen Kan Myint Than, the diamond cornerstone. They then sprinkled scented Paritta water on the cornerstones and scattered various kinds of jewellery on the central foundation.

Likewise, a ceremony to convey part-2 and part-3 of the marble rocks for the Buddha image followed. Led by Zaygon Sayadaw and Pali Takatho Sayadaw, the Senior General, the Vice-Senior General, and officials sprinkled scented Paritta water on the parts of the marble rocks and recited Jaya Mangala victorious verses. At the auspicious time, part-2 and part-3 of the marble rocks for the Buddha image were conveyed to the venue to take paying homage.

“Maravizara Buddha Image” is defined as the Lord Buddha significantly conquering overall disturbances and dangers committed by Marn celestial being. Construction of the Buddha image aims to show the firm flourishing of Theravada Buddhism in Myanmar to the world, to ensure peace and tranquillity in the country, contribute visits of local and foreign travellers to the regional development as well as the development of the State. The Buddha image will be carved in line with 32 major characteristics and 80 minor ones of the Lord Buddha in Bhumi Phassa Mudra. The throne will be 18 feet high and the Buddha image, 63 feet high, totalling 81 feet tall. Upon completion, the Maravizara Buddha Image will be the most prominent and highest image made of marble in Myanmar and worldwide. —MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and congregation are taking Nine Precept from the Venerable Monks yesterday.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win is seen sprinkling scented Paritta water on the marble stone for Buddha image.
1. Regarding the Multiparty General Election held on 8 November 2020, the Union Election Commission has inspected the voter lists and the casting of votes of Kyauktaga, Shwegyin and Thanatpin townships of Bago Region.

2. Findings in respective townships were as follows:

### Findings on voter lists in each township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Township and numbers of polling stations</th>
<th>Township sub-commission</th>
<th>List from Immigration department</th>
<th>Those involved in voting list without citizenship scrutiny cards</th>
<th>Those involved in voter list more than three times holding one CSC</th>
<th>Those involved in voter list more than two times holding one CSC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>211 polling stations in Kyauktaga Township of Bago Region</td>
<td>202,408</td>
<td>173,510</td>
<td>46,925</td>
<td>1,704</td>
<td>29,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>74 polling stations in Shwegyin Township of Bago Region</td>
<td>77,137</td>
<td>65,469</td>
<td>14,188</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>7,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>91 polling stations in Thanatpin Township of Bago Region</td>
<td>123,572</td>
<td>105,811</td>
<td>33,690</td>
<td>721</td>
<td>16,534</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The Union Election Commission has inspected the withdrawal/receipt/use/remaing of ballot papers used for Pyithu Hluttaw Election of Kyauktaga, Shwegyin and Thanatpin townships of Bago Region together with the respective township election sub-commission, head of police force, Immigration and Population and administrators in accordance with the Hluttaw Election Law Section 53.

4. According to the inspection, a total of 376 polling stations in these three townships took out 451,206 ballots and used 255,492 ballots. It left 195,714 ballots. The difference was 15,181 ballots and it found 1,997 extra ballots. The extra/shortage ballots were found at respective polling stations. Findings were as follows:

### Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in each township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Total polling station</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Exact remaining</th>
<th>Remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kyauktaga, 211</td>
<td>228,902</td>
<td>126,040</td>
<td>102,862</td>
<td>95,788</td>
<td>8,598</td>
<td>1,524</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Shwegyin 74</td>
<td>86,503</td>
<td>54,133</td>
<td>32,370</td>
<td>30,465</td>
<td>2,164</td>
<td>249</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Thanatpin 91</td>
<td>135,801</td>
<td>75,319</td>
<td>60,482</td>
<td>56,287</td>
<td>4,419</td>
<td>224</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>451,206</td>
<td>255,492</td>
<td>195,714</td>
<td>182,530</td>
<td>15,181</td>
<td>1,997</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. A total of 847 ballots from Taung Khin village-tract, Thanpaya Khone Village-tract and Aung Myin Village-tract of Kyauktaga Township were returned on 9-11-2021 by the secretaries of respective village-tract election commission. Of these returned ballots, 500 were left in the ballot boxes.

### Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Kyauktaga Township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Ward/village - tract ballots</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Exact remaining</th>
<th>Remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sartite Ward 1</td>
<td>2,250</td>
<td>1,363</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sartite Ward 2</td>
<td>2,250</td>
<td>1,363</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>211 polling stations in Kyauktaga</td>
<td>228,902</td>
<td>126,040</td>
<td>102,862</td>
<td>95,788</td>
<td>8,598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Zayet Khin Village-tract</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pyu Village-tract</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>451,206</td>
<td>255,492</td>
<td>195,714</td>
<td>182,530</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. It found 8,596 missing ballots and 1,524 extra ballots at 211 polling stations in 18 Wards and 46 Village-tracts of Kyauktaga Township. The withdrawals and used ballots numbers were in conformity with 817. But the remaining ballots of township election sub-commission must be 43,35 and it found 4,333 ballots in the inspection and two ballots were found missing.

7. A total of 847 ballots from Taung Khin village-tract, Thanpaya Khone Village-tract and Aung Myin Village-tract of Kyauktaga Township were returned on 9-11-2021 by the secretaries of respective village-tract election commission. Of these returned ballots, 500 were left in the ballot boxes.

8. The remaining used ballots, remaining advance ballot receipts and remaining of No (3) polling station in Zayet Khin Village-tract and No (6) polling station of Pyu Su Village-tract of Kyauktaga Township of Bago Region were found missing.

9. Findings were as follows:

### Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in each township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Ward/Village-Tracts</th>
<th>Total Polling Station</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Exact remaining</th>
<th>Remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kwinmou Ward 2</td>
<td>5,200</td>
<td>2,079</td>
<td>2,220</td>
<td>2,230</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kwinmou Ward 2</td>
<td>5,200</td>
<td>2,079</td>
<td>2,220</td>
<td>2,230</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Zaypin Ward 1</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>1,516</td>
<td>1,034</td>
<td>1,033</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kwintaung Ward 1</td>
<td>2,750</td>
<td>1,534</td>
<td>1,216</td>
<td>1,216</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Khinbyouy Ward 1</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>1,981</td>
<td>1,339</td>
<td>1,339</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dajinswehli Ward 1</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>1,948</td>
<td>1,752</td>
<td>1,752</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gontaw Ward 1</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>1,948</td>
<td>1,752</td>
<td>1,752</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Pyikawtha Ward 1</td>
<td>3,800</td>
<td>2,156</td>
<td>1,644</td>
<td>1,644</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Thadipahtan Ward 1</td>
<td>2,850</td>
<td>1,852</td>
<td>1,268</td>
<td>1,268</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Myoma Ward 1</td>
<td>2,850</td>
<td>1,852</td>
<td>1,268</td>
<td>1,268</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Thanmani Ward 1</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>1,520</td>
<td>1,130</td>
<td>1,130</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Aungmyaw Ward 1</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>1,139</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Aungmyaw Ward 1</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>1,139</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Boopeikan 1 Ward</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>1,465</td>
<td>1,065</td>
<td>1,065</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Boopeikan 2 Ward</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>2,045</td>
<td>1,755</td>
<td>1,755</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Boopeikan 3 Ward</td>
<td>2,950</td>
<td>1,979</td>
<td>1,971</td>
<td>1,971</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Shwegyin Township

Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Thanatpin Township

Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Thaungzig Township
Suspects arrested with their firearms

THE security forces arrested Win Min Tun, Naing Lin Htet, Pyae Phyo Maung, Ma Nan Ohmmar Oo, Ma Hnin Hnin Oo and Ma El Kham together with their homemade weapons used in riots in Kaung Naung Ward in Muse Township on 24 April. Moreover, the police detained Wai Yan, Ma Sandi Nyunt Win and Ma Aye Thandar Aung for distributing government papers in Thingangyan township at Myitila Nyunt Ward of Tamwaw Township, and they found a handmade mine in Ottha Myo Thit of Bago Township and arrested three men near Kanpetlet junction in Mindat Township, 14 men and 2 women including Myint Soe, security of rubber plantation near Myinmar Oo, Ma Hnin Oo Oo, Win Min Tun, Naing Lin Htet, Kyi Htwe from Dawei Township of Taninthayi Region.

On 25 April, the security forces detained Daw Thandar Aung from Pyay Township of Bago Region, Kyaw San San from Pyinmana Township of Nay Pyi Taw and Kyaw San San from Meiktila Township of Mandalay Region together with their firearms used in riots. The police confiscated the weapons used in riots in No (14) B.E.P.S compound in North Okkalapa Township of Yangon Region.

The police raided the house of Nay Min Min located in Myagong Township of Yangon Region and did not find the suspect but the firearms.

The police raided the house of Zaw Zaw Aung located in Myagong Township of Mandalay Region and the house of Myo Kyaw Kyaw located in the same ward and the security members arrested them together with their materials used in riots. Moreover, the police arrested Than Soe from Pathein in Ayeyawady Region and seized the weapons at "Shwe Min Tha Mee" building and "Tun Shwe Yaung" teashop located in Shwepyitha Township.

The security forces detained Daw Thandar Aung from Pyay Township of Bago Region, Kyaw San San from Meiktila Township of Mandalay Region together with their firearms used in riots. The police confiscated the weapons used in riots in No (14) B.E.P.S compound in North Okkalapa Township of Yangon Region.

Those arrested will face effective legal actions, and investigations are underway to capture the rest of the suspects. — MNA
Shan State emphasizes food sufficiency, enhancement of people’s living standard

A coordination meeting to manage systematic learning of vocational courses took place at the office of Shan State Administration Council on 23 April, attended by Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Tin Htut Oo.

The meeting focused on job opportunities for local people, enhancement of living standard, the emergence of modern oil mills, encouragement to the establishment of the wholesale market, change of quality crops and pedigree animals suitable for the region, assistance of necessary techniques, pest control over agricultural and livestock export products, the potential for feedstuffs, renovation of Heho port products, the potential for agricultural and livestock extension of agricultural machinery by farmers and formation of cooperative societies.

Shan State has 88 per cent of rice sufficiency, 66 per cent of cooking oil and more than 200 per cent of beans and pulses. As such, Union level officials and local authorities will join hands in undertaking local food sufficiency, change of growing crops suitable for the region, modern techniques and formation of cooperative societies.

The Union Minister inspected Namkhwi Dam in Hopong Township and Hsegyi Dam in Taunggyi Township.

Namkhwi Dam irrigates 1,690 acres of farmlands, and Hsegyi Dam, 3,000 acres of land. There are more than 290,000 acres of irrigated farmlands in Shan State.

In the Holi and Lonhay villages of Hopong Township, the Union Minister discussed the supply of water from springs, livelihoods of local people, cultivation of coffee plants, market potential and utilization of cultivable lands under the law. — MNA

All faculty members urged to join the workplaces not later than 3 May 2021

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10 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 25 April, total figure rises to 142,722

MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 142,722 after 10 new cases were reported on 25 April 2021 according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these confirmed cases, 121,932 have been discharged from hospitals. — MNA
One billion COVID vaccine doses administered globally

On December 8, 90-year-old British woman Margaret Keenan, resplendent in her Christmas T-shirt, received the Western world's first COVID vaccination - a chink of light at the end of the tunnel for the human race after a devastating pandemic year.

World leaders from US President Joe Biden, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, Pope Francis and Russian President Vladimir Putin rolled up their sleeves to take the shot - although not always in front of cameras - in a shared public acceptance of the vaccines.

Biden told the world: “There’s nothing to worry about” as he received his shot live on TV.

The few countries that rolled out a vaccine quickly have seen cases and deaths fall, with a return to something of a normal life.

In Israel, where more than half of the population is fully vaccinated, cases dropped to around 13 per 100,000 people compared to around 500 in January. Deaths fell by a factor of 10.

British palms have reopened their beer gardens, lined dropped mask wearing outside and theme parks and theatres have restarted in the United States. In Japan, a 69-year-old medical administrator and Harry Potter fan, told AFP her trip to Universal Studios in California was her “first real outing” since last spring.

“To get a piece of that magic is just, it’s indescribable. It’s just so wonderful to be back.”

'Robbing' disparity

But it has been far from plain sailing. The scrum for vaccines has seen ugly political spats, with China and Russia accused of “vaccine diplomacy” by offering home-baked jabs to strategic allies.

Britain and the EU became embittered in an unwelcomed post-Brexit row over access to vaccines and the vaccine came under fire for a shambolic start to the vaccine rollout.

“Getting these vaccines into the arms of billions of people is now the most pressing challenge for the international community. This is, in a manner of speaking, the ‘new arms race’,” according to the Soufan Centre, a research body.

And with Western leaders egging foul over data protection.

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_**Understanding the new restrictions, operators of restaurants serving alcohol and movie theatres are required to close temporarily and sports events will be held without spectators. The emergency declaration will be effective for 17 days through May 11 in a bid to curb infections during the upcoming Golden Week holidays from late April to early May._

While the state of emergency does not entail a hard lockdown of the kind some other countries have imposed and largely relies on the cooperation of the public, the measures have more teeth than the previous declaration in January.

Authorities are also asking the operators of karaoke establishments as well as tourism spots such as Tokyo Sky Tree and Universal Studios Japan in Osaka to close.

Department stores in the designated areas are only selling food and other daily essentials.

Public transport operators such as train and bus companies have also been asked to end operations earlier on weekdays, with reduced services on weekends.

While a quasi-state of emergency was declared in the major cities of Tokyo, Osaka and Kyoto as well as in Hyogo and Okayama prefectures earlier this month, the measures have been unsuccessful in bringing down coronavirus cases.

SOURCE: KYODO

A seniors' walking event was held in Tokyo's Ginza area on April 24, 2021, a day before a fresh coronavirus state of emergency comes into force in the capital amid a resurgence in infections.

PHOTO: KYODO

**OPINION**

**Agricultural input users cannot forego pesticide-free crops**

By AUNG KYAW

Farmers cannot forego pesticide-free crops, even when pesticide residues are found in food products before consumption for staying away from possibly hazardous nutrition.

Hence, farmers need to receive laboratory tests over agricultural products before exportation. Simultaneously, people should check packages of crops with the technical assistance of authorized organizations before consumption for staying away from possibly hazardous nutrition.

_**Agricultural Cultural inputs, particularly fertilizers and pesticides, are used for the cultivation of crops, including paddy and beans, all over the country. As 450,000 tonnes of rice fertilizers and 16,000 tonnes of pesticides were imported from October 2020 to April 2021, domestic use, businesses need to distribute such kind of agricultural inputs to farmers at fair prices, without focusing on self-interest only.**_

**Systematically use fertilizer and pesticide in cultivation without chemical residues**

**Under the new restrictions, operators of restaurants serving alcohol and movie theatres are required to close temporarily and sport events will be held without spectators. The emergency declaration will be effective for 17 days through May 11 in a bid to curb infections during the upcoming Golden Week holidays from late April to early May.**

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**PHOTO: KYODO**

A seniors’ walking event was held in Tokyo’s Ginza area on April 24, 2021, a day before a fresh coronavirus state of emergency comes into force in the capital amid a resurgence in infections.

**Announcement**

The Molotov journal is not signed on the list of books and periodicals allowed by the Ministry of Information for legal publishing under the Printing and Publishing Law (2014). The Molotov journal is illegally published. It is announced that actions will be taken against anyone who operates the journal without a permit and provides assistance, according to the existing law.

Ministry of Information

Yangon Region Administration Council is working with relevant departments to help the businesses in the region. People are informed to contact the following phone numbers in order assistance for their small and medium-sized businesses and investments which are facing some delays and working to do new business.

Phone numbers: 01 830 1973, 01 830 2155

Yangon Region Administration Council
Union Construction Minister makes inspection of bridges in Shan State (East)

UNION Minister for Construction U Shwe Lay on 24 April inspected local roads in Kengtung, maintenance of the Kengtung-Mongphyat-Tachilek road and the Tahtay-Pahlyo-Kenglek road.

He instructed officials to prioritize the expansion of the asphalt road width from 12 feet to 18 feet between the 12 km to 55 km section of Tahtay-Pahlyo-Kenglek road and urged officials to carry out regular maintenance of the road section for smooth transport of cargo trucks. He said if commodity flow is much better, the width of the road will be expanded to 24 feet.

The Union Minister inspected maintenance of the 691.6-metre long WMyanmar-Lao friendship bridge on the Myanmar side and waterway conditions at the bridge.

At the work site for construction of the 580-foot Namlin Creek bridge being built by Bridge Special Team (12) of the Department of Bridge on Tahtay detour, the Union Minister heard reports on the construction of the bridge, spending of Union budget on the tasks and future plans by officials.

The Union Minister also inspected the construction of Na-hailon Bridge on Tahtay detour and left instructions on the construction of bored piles meeting set standards, and coordination with mining entrepreneurs not to harm waterway of the bridge and piers due to operation of mining.

The Union Minister also viewed maintenance of the 296 feet long No 1 Myanmar-Thailand friendship bridge in Tachileik.

— MNA

MoSWRR provides social pension to elderly, cash assistance to storm victims, disabled, Parahita, CSOs in Magway Region

THE ceremony to provide social pension, and cash assistance to storm victims, the people with disabilities, Parahita and social welfare teams was held in Pwintbyu Township of Magway Region in 2020.

In the event, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Thet Thet Khine visited the regions. Of these regions, the storm that occurred in Sagaing, Ava in Magway Region. Therefore, a total of K14,100,000 will be provided to 470 persons with disabilities out of 8,918 disabled.

In her concluding remark, she discussed the social welfare programmes of the Social Welfare Department, disaster resilience of the community, assistance for vulnerable community and cooperating works with the CSOs across the nation.

Then, Deputy Minister U Aung Tun Khine clarified the preparations to resume the suspended businesses and reopening of kindergartens of the ministry.

The Union Minister also met the staff of Social Welfare and Natural Disaster Management Departments of Magway in the afternoon. The officials clarified their respective work plans, and the Union Minister gave instructions the necessary things.

The Union Minister visited the office of Natural Disaster Management and instructed officials to follow the ways stated in the handbook of conserving the warehouse and storage of enough protective gear for various disasters.

— MNA

Markets, banks, hospitals, bus lines resume normal operations; people peacefully visit pagodas

THE pagodas, including buildings or temples of other religions, were reopened to the public starting 8 February following the COVID-19 health rules. The pilgrims and visitors, including monks and nuns, peacefully visited the pagodas. Similarly, the people of other religions peacefully do their religious affairs at their respective religious buildings. Moreover, the public parks and playgrounds in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and other regions and states are reopened as usual.

The markets are alive with the vendors and sellers. Simultaneously, the banks, hospitals, airlines, train services, boat services and bus services also resume their operations.

— MNA
### Files opened against medical doctors who participated in CDM activity with attempts to deteriorate peace and stability of the State

The following medical doctors have been charged under Section 505-A of the Penal Code for inciting State service personnel and health staff to participate in CDM activities, themselves participating in it, supporting CDM activities and CRPH unlawful association with the aim of deteriorating the State administrative machinery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Hospital</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Section of Penal Code</th>
<th>Photo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dr Yan Naing Lin</td>
<td>Hpa-an People’s Hospital</td>
<td>Hpa-an Town, Kayin State</td>
<td>505-a</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Dr Su Hlaing</td>
<td>Hpa-an People’s Hospital</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Dr Khun Than Aung Soe</td>
<td>Hpa-an People’s Hospital</td>
<td>Hpa-an Town, Kayin State</td>
<td>505-a</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dr Aung Htet Naing</td>
<td>Hpa-an People’s Hospital</td>
<td>Hpa-an Town, Kayin State</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Photo" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dr Phyu Pyar Min</td>
<td>Katha District Public Health Depart-</td>
<td>Katha Town, Sagaing Re-</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Photo" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dr Sai Min Naing Hsaing</td>
<td>Kengtung General Hospital</td>
<td>Kengtung Town, Shan State (East)</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td><img src="image7" alt="Photo" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Dr Moe Zaw Lat</td>
<td>Kengtung General Hospital</td>
<td>Kengtung Town, Shan State (East)</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td><img src="image8" alt="Photo" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Dr Thein Thwin Nwe</td>
<td>Kengtung General Hospital</td>
<td>Kengtung Town, Shan State (East)</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td><img src="image9" alt="Photo" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dr Khine Zar Yu Shein</td>
<td>Kengtung General Hospital</td>
<td>Kengtung Town, Shan State (East)</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td><img src="image10" alt="Photo" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dr Theik Tun Aung</td>
<td>Kengtung General Hospital</td>
<td>Kengtung Town, Shan State (East)</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td><img src="image11" alt="Photo" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Among them, Dr Kyin Kyin (Assistant Surgeon) and Dr Soe Than Htaik (Assistant Surgeon) of Tangan Township People’s Hospital, Dr Thant Zaw (Specialist) of Yangon Eastern District General Hospital, Dr Ko Ko Naing (Assistant Surgeon) of Hpa-an People’s Hospital and Dr Kyaw Lin (Specialist) of Yangon Childern’s Hospital participated in CDM activities without performing medical treatments at assigned hospitals but gave medical treatments at private hospitals/clinics according to the documentary photos.

As tasks are being carried out to arrest those medical doctors charged, action will be taken against the persons under the law for admitting those medical doctors, and work licences of the private hospitals/clinics which allowed them to give medical treatments will be closed. Deterrent action will be taken against owners of these hospitals/clinics according to the law. Action will be taken against any health staff under the law for taking documentary photos.

Severe action will be taken against owners of private hospitals/clinics which admit hospitals/clinics with participation in CDM activities without discharging assigned duty. Severe action will be taken against owners of private hospitals/clinics which admit those medical doctors and health staff for supporting the CDM participants.—MNA
Fuel oil price up by 55 per cent in three months

**Pigeon pea price in bull market**

THE pigeon pea (red gram) price continues rising from early April, and it surged to above K94,500 per metric tonne in early February 2021 in the domestic market.

The pigeon pea market saw a slight upward trend in price along with the appreciation of US dollar against Kyat, according to the domestic market.

The pigeon pea market remains bullish even after the Thingyan holidays (13-19 April), a trader from the Mandalay market shared his opinion.

Myanmar’s pigeon peas are primarily shipped to India and exported to Singapore, the US, Canada, Pakistan, the UK, and Malaysia.

**China tightens border security amid coronavirus resurgence**

“CHINA has stepped up food safety measures on imported goods following the coronavirus resurgence in the border,” U Min Thein, the vice-chair of Muse Rice Wholesale Centre, said.

Starting from 20 April, 30 samples from imported goods and packaging per truck have to be tested for the COVID-19.

Traders must bear the cost. Only those traders and packaging tested negative will be allowed for cross-border trade.

The COVID-19 test is mandatory for all those truck drivers, brokers and workers who are executing cross-border trade between Myanmar and China every day.

The test is estimated at 60 Yuan for a person.

The traders, goods and packaging are to be daily tested for the COVID-19. Consequently, the traders are facing an extra burden of expense (K400,000-500,000) per truck for now.

They have to wait for another day for the test result, causing a delay in trade and discomfort for the drivers.

The extra expense significantly hurts the trading to a large extent”, said U Min Thein.

Additionally, the workers must strictly abide by the coronavirus containment measures to return to work.

The fever test, wearing masks and gloves, and test results are essential.

The staff and workers in the border point must stay at the designated place between 9 pm and 8 am. If they are found to violate the rules, they will be sent to their hometown.

Following the coronavirus resurgence, Myanmar’s Muse border trade has come to be a verge of a standstill. — NN/GNLM
Fed set to hold the line as US economy recovers

The Federal Reserve finally has what it wants and predicted: signs of a US economic recovery that could undo some of the damage done by the Covid-19 pandemic.

But when the central bank’s policy-setting Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) opens its two-day meeting on Thursday, analysts do not expect officials to raise rates or otherwise signal any backing away from the easy money policies rolled out to aid the US bourseback, despite some fears of rising inflation. “No one is expecting any major policy changes in terms of rates or the Fed’s asset purchases,” Andrew Hunter, senior US economist at Capital Economics, told AFP.

In fact, Fed officials have clearly stated that they will not be spooked by temporary price increases into reacting too quickly and pumping the brakes on stimulus measures. The government in recent weeks has reported the first signs that Covid-19 vaccines are bringing laid-off workers back to work and ending the suffering of businesses hard-hit by closures meant to stop the contagion. Labor Department data showed unemployment claims hit the lowest point since the pandemic began, while the economy regained 916,000 jobs in March, pushing the unemployment rate down slightly.

Retail sales surged in March to a level 27.7 per cent higher than the pre-pandemic rate a year earlier, while the Institute for Supply Management’s services index hit an all-time high last month and new home sales hit a 15-year high. Yet even with signs hiring has picked up, more than 17 million people remain out of work and Fed Chair Jerome Powell has warned the economy will not achieve “maximum employment” this year.

“Maximum employment” this year. — AFP

New bloodletting hits Spanish banking sector

Late last year, Banco Santander, Spain’s largest bank, said it would cut 3,500 jobs while Banco Sabadell moved to lay off 1,800 staff.

All of them have made the same argument: that in a context of low interest rates which is expected to continue, they have to cut costs by reducing the number of branches rendered unnecessary by the growth of online banking.

Online transactions at BBVA have grown by 87 percent over the past two years, while branch-based operations have fallen by 48 percent, the bank said on Thursday.

—AFP

Shanghai looks to attract foreign investment in ‘new cities’

SHANGHAI government is working to attract foreign investment for the five “new cities” in the city’s suburbs — Songjiang, Jiading, Fengxian, Qingpu and Nanhui — by holding a series of diverse investment promotional events. The first event took place on Thursday in Sheshan, a beautiful scenic spot in Songjiang New City.

The Shanghai Commission of Commerce and Invest Shanghai co-organized the event, which attracted more than 100 people from the government, the consulates general in Shanghai of the United States, Canada, Japan, Singapore and South Korea, as well as key foreign-invested enterprises and professional service institutions.

“The commission will focus on further promoting the investment environment in the ‘new cities’ through diverse activities that make them more familiar to foreign investors,” said Li Hong, deputy director general of the Shanghai Commission of Commerce.

In 2020, Songjiang’s industrial output reached 447.7 billion yuan (US$68.81 billion), the total value of imports and exports stood at 305.57 billion yuan and 447.7 billion yuan, the total value of the Shanghai Commission of Commerce.

Chair Jerome Powell has shown no signs of backing away from his policy of tolerating rising inflation to maximize employment as the US economy gets back on its feet. — PHOTO: AFP

Aerial photo taken on Nov. 13, 2018 shows the Intercontinental Shanghai Wonderland, also known as Shimao Quarry Hotel, in Songjiang District of Shanghai, east China. — PHOTO: XINHUA

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
HOLIDAY NOTICE
As the wharves, warehouses and chellian Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 30th APRIL 2021 (Alternative Holiday of World Workers Day), 1st MAY 2021 (World Workers Day), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.
By Zai Hlaing Min
Translated by TTA

M YANMAR is the land of stupas and temples. Every stupa and temple is based on historical events, some of which are very interesting. Moreover, there are plentiful of ancient pagodas accessible to travel tours for taking a relaxation across the nation. Among them, clusters of Tahkong Mwetaw pagodas in Nyaungshwe Township of Shan State are attractive to travellers.

Tahkong Mwetaw is about 37 nautical miles sail of motor schooner from Inlay Lake of Nyaungshwe Township in Shan State. Motor schooners can take about three hours to drive a journey from Inlay Lake to cluster of Tahkong Mwetaw pagodas located on the western bank of Bilu Creek. A route of waterway, and natural beauties from environs of Inlay Lake are attractive to travellers.

Travellers can enjoy significant views along both sides of Bilu Creek leading to Tahkong Mwetaw Pagodas and crop plantations of the local farmers with Shan mountain ranges in the background. Misty Shan mountain ranges give a taste of chill to souls of travellers. Environs of the pagodas are peaceful and tranquil except driving sound of motor schooners.

Every traveller can see ancient Tahkong Mwetaw Pagodas on the western bank of Bilu Creek. Some of pagodas are damaged and some are in good conditions. The history of these pagodas mentioned King Alaungsithu on his tour built the said pagodas. There are 76 large pagodas and 54 small ones in the cluster of Tahkong Mwetaw pagodas, in addition to 106 damaged pagodas, according to its history. These pagodas are in small and long forms and lacqueware umbrellas atop the pagodas are of tip. Circular decorative bands of the pagodas are small. Oldie Tahkong Mwetaw pagodas were affected by natural disasters as well as some of pagodas was burgled to take out the enshrined objects. Designs and forms of Tahkong Mwetaw pagodas are similar to that of Intein and Kakku. Similar pagodas can be seen in some areas of Shan State and environs of Inlay Lake.

Although the maintenance and renovation are being undertaken at Tahkong Mwetaw...
Pagodas damaged by impacts of natural disasters, historical value and images of archaeology has already lost there. These losses might be disaster for international travellers who wish to emphasize valuable observation for ancient historical events.

Some bells take positions in the venue of Tahkong Mwetaw Pagodas. Historians and researchers estimated these bells might be some 200 years old. Reclining Buddha images, statues of kings of celestial beings and Galon (mythical king of birds) can be seen in the precinct of pagodas. It is interesting that works of these statues and choice of locations were wonderful. Historians and researchers analyzed that the location of Tahkong Mwetaw Pagodas built on both banks of Bilu Creek which originates at near Yuzana Hotel. (1.78 km), 11201 Yangon. No.141, West Shwegondaing Road,Bahan T/s.

Actualy, it was an area of ancient Sankar City often flooded in the monsoon. As the area of Sankar City was inundated in monsoon as a large lake, it was called Sankar Lake. Some people said that such lake is four miles long from the east to the west and some seven miles from the south to the north with about 15 to 20 feet deep of water. As such, some pagodas of the cluster are still facing flooding in monsoon. Even though, such situation of the pagoda can be attractive to the foreign tourists who wish to pay visits to these pagodas in any seasons. Natural beauties of that area being changed in seasons would win the hearts of local and foreign tourists.

Inlay lake in southern Shan State is an eminent destination for local and foreign tourists but number of travellers bound for Tahkong Mwetaw Pagodas via Inlay Lake is still lesser. It is because tour operators didn’t arrange a tour package heading to Tahkong Mwetaw Pagodas.

Architectural works of Tahkong Mwetaw Pagodas are similar to that of Intein Mwetaw Pagodas in any seasons. Natural beauties of ancient Sankar City of - Travelling.

Reclining Buddha 1500 years old. Reclining Buddha was inundated in monsoon of ancient Sankar City of - Travelling.

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Klopp admits Liverpool don’t ‘deserve’ Champions League next season

JURGEN KLOPP admitted Liverpool are not playing like a side who “deserve” Champions League football next season after blowing the chance to move into the Premier League’s top four with a 1-1 draw against Newcastle on Saturday. Mohamed Salah had opened the scoring after just three minutes, but Liverpool wasted a host of chances to extend their lead and paid in stoppage time.

The Reds even had a re-prieve when Callum Wilson’s equaliser was ruled out after a VAR review for handball, but still could not hold on as Willock’s deflected strike secured a vital point in the Magpies’ bid for top flight survival. Liverpool move up to sixth but are a point behind Chelsea, who face off later on Saturday. Mohamed Salah scored a brilliant solo goal as Liverpool moved top of the ESL as a closed shop for their own players and fans. “If you deserve it, you deserve it,” said Klopp, echoing the critics of the ESL as a closed shop for Europe’s big clubs. “I didn’t see us today playing like we deserve Champions League next year. We have another five games and we will see. We learn or we don’t play Champions League, that’s it.”

A protest outside Anfield on Saturday was more muted than the ones seen ahead of Chelsea and Arsenal’s home matches in recent days, but a number of flags and banners were attached to the gates around the ground calling out the “greed” of the club’s American owners Fenway Sports Group (FSG). —AFP

Henderson surges to victory in LPGA Los Angeles Open

BROOKE Henderson fired a four-under par 67 to win the LPGA Los Angeles Open on Saturday, erasing a four-stroke deficit to edge Jessica Korda by one shot.

Canada’s Brooke Henderson hits off the second tee during the final round of the LA Open at Wilshire Country Club in Los Angeles. —AFP

Djokovic upset by Karatsev in Belgrade semi-finals

WORLD number one Novak Djokovic suffered a second surprise loss in as many weeks Saturday as he was knocked out by Russia’s Aslan Karatsev in the Belgrade semi-finals. The 28th-ranked Karatsev saved 23 of 28 break points to advance to his second final of the year following a 7-5, 4-6, 6-4 victory, gaining a measure of revenge for his defeat by Djokovic in the last four of the Australian Open.

Djokovic was also beaten in the last 16 of the Monte Carlo Masters last week by Britain’s Dan Evans. “We’ve picked out 12 superb options; some of them known for being prolific scorers, some for their work as providers, and others who are remembered for specific moments in the tournament — it’s up to you to choose your favourite,” AFC officials said. —GNLM

Myanmar star player included in AFC best midfielders’ list

ACCORDING to the statement with the AFC, the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) has recently announced its best players in the Asian region, and Myanmar star player Maung Maung Lwin also included in the list. The midfielders AFC has picked are Bader Al-Mutawa of Kuwait, who has scored 30 AFC Cup goals, Maung Maung Lwin of Myanmar’s Yangon United, who has scored eight AFC Cup goals, Boaz Solossa of Indonesia, who has scored 16 AFC goals, Nguyen Van Quyet of Vietnam, who has scored 16 AFC goals, Artur Gervyorkan of Turkmenistan, who has scored 4 AFC Cup goals, Hassan Maa-touk of Lebanon, who has scored 17 AFC goals, Humam Tareq of Iraq who has achieved AFC Cup winner Awards in 2016 and 2017, Saif Al Hashan of Kuwait, who has scored six AFC Cup goals, Riko Simanjuntak of Indonesia, who has scored one AFC Cup goals, Khaled Saad of Jordan, who has scored six AFC Cup goals, Ali Fasir of Maldives, who has scored 11 AFC goals, and Fatkhullo Fatkhulloev of Tajikistan, who has scored seven AFC goals.

“The global New Light of Myanmar”