Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Anti-Terrorism Central Committee
Declaration of Terrorist Groups
Notification No 2/2021
12th Waning of Tagu 1383 ME
8 May 2021

The Anti-Terrorism Central Committee has issued this order with the approval of the State Administration Council in exercising the Anti-Terrorism Law Section 6, sub-section (e), Section 72 and sub-section (b).

1. Unlawful Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw-CRPH and National Unity Government formed by CRPH constantly incited Civil Disobedience Movement-CDM participants to commit violent acts. Many riots occurred in many places of the country due to their incitements. They perpetrated bombing, arson.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19
- Wear a mask
- Clean your hands
- Keep a safe social distancing

Myanmar Medical Council Executive Committee meeting held

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr Thet Khaing Win attended the Myanmar Medical Council Executive Committee meeting held on 7 May.

At the meeting, the Union Minister said the status of the work to resume public health services throughout the country, the assistance of the ministry to those who want to return to work and the action being taken to the staff who do not return to work in accordance with the rules and regulations.

Regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, he said the incidence of the disease is rising again in neighbouring countries, and our country needs to take precautionary measures to reduce the incidence of the disease.

He also added the vaccination in regions and states. The students passed the matricula-
tion exam in 2020 to the medical universities and related universities, continuing postgraduate courses at medical universities. He expressed words of thanks to the Myanmar Medical Council for scrutinizing the Certificate of Good Standing for Myanmar doctors and the ongoing work during this period.

Chairman of the Myanmar Medical Council Professor Dr Khin Maung Aye discussed the ongoing works of the council and the members of the council and executive members participated in the discussion.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister and party met with the officials of the COVID-19 Medical Treatment Centre (Phaunggyi) and discussed the acceptance of the COVID-19 patients and the completion of new wards.

The Union Minister expressed words of thanks to the Tatmadaw medical corps for the acceptance of the COVID-19 patients and said the purpose of his visit is to discuss to continue the medical work of COVID-19 Medical Treatment Centre (Phaunggyi) when the regular training courses are reopened at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Lower Myanmar).

During the inspection tour, the Union Minister checked the construction of the new wards and said the ministry would provide necessary assistance as soon as possible.—MNA
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs
   (a) To build a Union based on democracy and federalism, through a disciplined
genuine multiparty democratic system that is fair and just.
   (b) To emphasize the achievement of enduring peace for the entire nation in
   line with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA).
   (c) To continue implementing the principle of peaceful co-existence among
countries through an independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy.

2. Economic affairs
   (a) To enhance production based on agriculture and livestock through modern
techniques and strengthen all-round development in other sectors of the
economy.
   (b) To develop a stable market economy and promote international investment
in order to enhance the economic development of the entire National people.
   (c) To promote and support local businesses to create employment opportu-
nities and increase domestic production.

3. Social affairs
   (a) To ensure a strong and dynamic Union spirit, the genuine spirit of patriot-
   (b) To respect and promote the customs and traditions of all National peoples
   and preserve and safeguard their cultural heritage and national charac-
teristics.
   (c) To enhance the health, fitness and education quality of the entire nation.

Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

1. The Union Election Commission will be reconstituted and its mandated tasks, including the scrutiny of voter lists, shall be implemented in
   accordance with the law.
2. Effective measures will be taken with added momentum to prevent and manage the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Actions will be taken to ensure the speedy recovery of businesses from the impact of COVID-19.
4. Emphasis will be placed on achieving enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire
   Agreement.
5. Upon accomplishing the provisions of the state of emergency, free and fair multiparty democratic elections will be held in line with the 2008
   Constitution, and further work will be undertaken to hand over State duties to the winning party in accordance with democratic standards.

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FROM PAGE-1
manslaughter, and intimidation to disrupt the state administrative machinery due to the influence of the leaders of CRPH and NUG. Moreover, NUG established
People Defence Force-PDF. Violent acts occurred in the name of regional defence forces instigated by CRPH and NUG. It is found that their acts to join CDM,
threatening non-CDMs, inciting students and teachers not to go to schools, supporting terrorist acts and perpetrating such terrorist acts violate Section 3 (b) and
Sub-section 13 of the Counter-Terrorism Law – acts with the intent to cause fear in public, to force Government or any internal and external organization to do an
illegitimate act or to refrain from doing a lawful act, and other acts, stipulated by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No 23 on 4 June 2014.

2. Therefore, unlawful associations – Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw-CRPH, National Unity Government-NUG, People Defence Force-PDF and all
their subordinates have been declared as terrorist groups.

Chairman
Anti-Terrorism Central Committee

Black bean price declines by K42,000 per tonne in three weeks

MYANMAR black bean prices have de-
clined by K42,000 per tonne in three weeks,
according to the Yangon Region Chamber
of Commerce and Industry (Bayintnaung
Commodity Depot).

Although the black bean price on 22
April was K930,000 per tonne, the price fell
to about K888,000 per tonne on 8 May, a
decrease of K42,000 per tonne in only three
weeks, according to the bean market data.

The black bean price keeps its down-
ward trend because India, the primary
buyer of Myanmar pulses, controls its
bean purchasing volume with their quo-
ta system. India’s purchasing system is
based on the quota system. The price of beans will plunge
while the quota is almost completed. Ac-
cording to Myanmar Pulses, Beans and
Sesame Seeds Merchants Association
(MPBSSMA), the demand has also de-
clined.

Myanmar yields around 400,000
toones of black bean annually, and the
bean is primarily exported to India. Sim-
ilarly, about 50,000 tonnes of pigeon peas
are produced yearly and exported to India
as well.

Since 2017, India has been setting the
import quota on beans, including black
beans and pigeon peas. Myanmar has to
export black beans and pigeon peas under
a quota system and limit period. Conse-
quently, according to market observers,
there is no guarantee that we could get
the prevailing market price this year.

Following no assurance of black
beans and pigeon peas in the market, the
association suggested on the end-October
2020 that the local farmers grow the black-
eyed beans more. — NN/GNLM
MoRAC Union Minister attends religious matters

UNION Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Ko Ko attended the donation ceremony of the eternal Soon endowment held at Min Kyauk Prathama Pyan monastery in Thanyin Township yesterday.

The Union Minister and party firstly took five precepts from State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee member, President Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadha Dr Candima Bhivamsa of Min Kyauk Prathama Pyan monastery.

Then, the Union Minister bried the religious affairs and donated the offertories and K5 million for Soon endowment to the Sayadaws.

The Union Minister then shared merits by pouring the water of libation when Sayadaw Dr Candima Bhivamsa finished preaching sermons.

Then, the donors U Kyin Oo and Daw Chaw Su Lwin family of Popular Group donated K1 million to State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee members Sayadaws including Committee Chairman Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa and Sayadaw Dr Candima Bhivamsa at Maha Nayaka Monastery in Thiri Mingalar Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township.

The Union Minister and party also attended that donation ceremony.

Next, the Union Minister met the officials of the National University of Arts and Culture (Yangon), Department of Archaeology and National Museum and State High School of Arts.

During the meeting, the Union Minister discussed the reopening of schools, a significant part of human culture, cultures, language, tradition, arts and ethics, the vital role of literature and Myanmar traditional arts.

He then instructed the needs to prepare the training schools in line with the COVID-19 health rules and provide teaching aid materials.

The Union Minister then attended the donation ceremony.

The diploma courses, first-year and second-year courses of the art schools are being opened, and the remaining diploma courses will be reopened on 10 May. — MNA

Deputy Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations
U Than Aung Kyaw meets investors from industrial zones

DEPUTY MINISTER for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, U Than Aung Kyaw and member (3) of the Yangon Region Administration Council, U Aung Than Oo accompanied by the departmental officials, met with the responsible personnel from burned and damaged factories in Shwe Pyi Thar and Hlaing Thar Yar Townships in the morning of 8 May 2021.

At the meeting, Deputy Minister discussed matters regarding the import of machinery and equipment to restart the commercial operations, fire insurance coverage, employee social security benefits, facilitation entry visa for foreign investors and experts. He also mentioned the government’s assistance programs to mitigate the loss of business in accordance with the existing laws and regulations and investment facilitation matters.

After that, the investors and representatives discussed the current issues, labour issues, financial matters and tax incentives. The Deputy Minister coordinated with the relevant departments to resolve the issues.

In the afternoon, the Deputy Minister and member (3) of the Yangon Region Administration Council attended the meeting with the officials from Myanmar Port Authority (MPA) and responsible persons from Myanmar Mercantile Marine Development Association (MMDA) at the office of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) to facilitate the overseas shipping and container transportation.

The Deputy Minister highlighted the government’s effort to reduce the high cost of trade due to the increase of containers’ rental rate. He also mentioned undertaking necessary measures to provide the requirements of exporters in the peak season. Member (3) of Yangon Region State Administration Council, the officials from the MPA and the representatives of MMDA, made suggestions to reduce trade and logistic costs.—MNA
Union Minister U Khin Maung Yi visit wood-based industrial zone in Yangon

The construction of the 180-feet-long bridge between the milestone 62/7 and 63/0 was also inspected and instructed necessary work.

Afterwards, the Union Minister and party checked the construction work of the Minbu-An road.

During the road construction officials meeting, he said among the three main gateways to Rakhine State are Minbu-An-Sittway road; Pyay-Padaung-Taung-up road and Ngathine-chaung-Gwa-Thanwde road; the Minbu-An-Sittway road is one of the main roads for mainland and state communication and freight flow. He added the need to widen the road’s curves as it is a mountain road; to build directional signs, guard post and guard rail; to record the data by year; and immediately widen the road, which can cause danger.

The Union Minister reached the An valley at the Rakhine State border and instructed them to pay attention to standards and quality in upgrading roads.

In contrast, the Director of the Directorate of Roads explained the completion of the concrete pavement to the 18-feet-wide road between 151 km and 153 km. The Union Minister also made a detailed inspection of the strength and construction of the Thayu (Pepadone) bridge and ordered to conduct a feasibility study to construct another bridge with a load capacity of 60 tonnes near the bridge.

—— MNA

Union Minister U Shwe Lay inspects road, bridge development works in Magway and Rakhine

The onions are primarily grown in Myittha, Myingyan and Natogyi townships in the Mandalay region. Earlier, the onion seeds fetched K40,000, but the growers bought and planted the seeds until they run out. But this year, the seeds of onion fetched K10,000 and there is no buyer.

“Some of the farmers are still growing the onion. But in this situation, there will be only a few growers of onion. Now, the onion seeds are selling for K30,000, but there is no buyer. The farmers could not afford to buy the seeds, and they are not planting the onion yet. But they will grow the onion this year, I think. But this year, the growers will not get a good price despite the high yield. However, the onion production has improved to 2,500 visses per acre from 2,500 visses per acre, according to the onion growers.”

ACCORDING to the estimation of the onion traders, the acres of onion plantations are expected to drop down in the next cultivation season because of the plunging onion price this year.

The onions are primarily grown in Myittha, Myingyan and Natogyi townships in the Mandalay region.

In the first week of May last year, the onion price was K500 per viss. But this year, the price of the onion is only K250 per viss.

This year, the farmers suffer losses because of high yield and no export to foreign countries. — Aye Maung/GNLM

Onion cultivation acres may drop in next cultivation season because of plunging onion price: Onion traders

The Union Minister asked about the technology of wood finishing machines, the market and current situation, and coordinated the needs.

The Union Minister visited century Myanmar Private Limited Sawmill in East Dagon Township, inspected the operation condition of the factory and gave necessary orders.

Afterwards, he arrived at the National Wood Industry Ltd Teak processing factory, and the Managing Director of the factory explained the working condition of the factory, the current situation of Myanmar Wood-based industries, exports from Myanmar and the development of Myanmar’s future Wood-based industry sector and the Union Minister coordinated as necessary.

—— MNA

NATIONAL

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

9 MAY 2021

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Khin Maung Yi and officials visited the Wood-based Industry Department in South Dagon Wood-Based Industrial Zone, Myanna Timber Enterprise and inspected the No (10) Furniture Factory yesterday morning in Yangon. During the visit, the General Manager of the Wood-Based Industrial Zone explained the background history of the industry and cooperation with Prowess Myanmar Company Limited to export furniture.

The Union Minister said in resource extraction, priority is given to forest protection, and only the minimum demand is being extracted, adding exports of logs have been suspended since 2014 and logging in Bago Yoma has been suspended for ten years.

In the 2021-2022 FY, logging will be suspended for one year. For the development of the wood-based industry, more value-added wood products will be produced. The department and the company must work together in teamwork to export to foreign markets.

The Union Minister asked officials to widen the existing bridge.

— MNA

UNION Minister for Construction U Shwe Lay inspected road and bridge development works in Magway Region and Rakhine State on 7 May.

During the inspection tour, the Union Minister inspected the paving of the Nay Pyi Taw-Taunggyi-Myittha-Myaingyan road by the Department of Roads, Nay Pyi Taw. The 22-mile section of the road will be paved with 12 to 18 feet wide concrete pavement.

The Union Minister and party checked the road pavement along the way. They arrived at Thayet Khwar Chaung bridge between the milestone 33/1 and 33/2.

They inspected the water flow under the bridge and erosion of the Box Culvert approach road and ordered to widen the existing bridge.

During the road construction officials meeting, he said among the three main gateways to Rakhine State are Minbu-An-Sittway road; Pyay-Padaung-Taung-up road and Ngathine-chaung-Gwa-Thanwde road; the Minbu-An-Sittway road is one of the main roads for mainland and state communication and freight flow. He added the need to widen the road’s curves as it is a mountain road; to build directional signs, guard post and guard rail; to record the data by year; and immediately widen the road, which can cause danger.

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—— MNA
Announcement of Union Election Commission
7 May 2021

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 Kawthoung and Bokepyin townships of Taninthayi 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>75 polling stations in Kawthoung township of Taninthay Region</td>
<td>112,389</td>
<td>67,416</td>
<td>24,679</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>6,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>114 polling stations in Bokepyin township of Taninthay Region</td>
<td>39,099</td>
<td>31,412</td>
<td>16,900</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>3,304</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

4. According to the inspection, a total of 189 polling stations in these two townships took out 185,343 ballots and used 10,618 ballots. It left 76,378 ballots instead of 78,525 ballots. The difference was 2,573 ballots and it found 426 extra ballots. The extra/shortage ballots were found at respective polling stations. Findings in respective townships were as follows:

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</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 Missing</th>
<th>Extra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ward/village-tract ballots</td>
<td>110,950</td>
<td>65,122</td>
<td>47,828</td>
<td>46,373</td>
<td>1,493</td>
<td>38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Township Advanced ballots</td>
<td>1,424</td>
<td>1,424</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Township Remaining ballots</td>
<td>6,387</td>
<td>6,387</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>118,761</td>
<td>64,546</td>
<td>54,215</td>
<td>52,760</td>
<td>1,493</td>
<td>38</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. According to the inspection, 75 polling stations in 12 Wards and 15 Village-tracks of Kawthoung Township in Taninthay Region took out 118,761 ballots and used 64,546 ballots. It left 52,760 ballots instead of 54,215. The extra/shortage ballots were saved 6,387 township remaining ballots.

**Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Kawthoung Township**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</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 Missing</th>
<th>Extra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ward/village-tract ballots</td>
<td>118,761</td>
<td>64,546</td>
<td>54,215</td>
<td>52,760</td>
<td>1,493</td>
<td>38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Township Advanced ballots</td>
<td>6,387</td>
<td>6,387</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Township Remaining ballots</td>
<td>52,760</td>
<td>52,760</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. There were 1,493 missing ballots and 38 extra ballots at 75 polling stations in 12 Wards and 15 Village-tracks of Kawthoung Township. They used 1,424 township advance ballots and saved 6,387 township remaining ballots.

7. Findings were as follows:

**Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in each sub-Commission**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Ward/Village-Tract</th>
<th>Total polling station</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Exact remaining</th>
<th>Remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Difference Missing</th>
<th>Extra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Annawa Ward</td>
<td>2,990</td>
<td>1,678</td>
<td>1,222</td>
<td>1,222</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Buinthaung Ward</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>1,817</td>
<td>1,283</td>
<td>1,283</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Padaukhawaza Ward</td>
<td>3,650</td>
<td>3,591</td>
<td>2,594</td>
<td>2,594</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aungthukha Ward</td>
<td>4,700</td>
<td>3,997</td>
<td>3,121</td>
<td>3,121</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ayemyakantha Ward</td>
<td>2,250</td>
<td>1,968</td>
<td>1,282</td>
<td>1,282</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Thirimyaing Ward</td>
<td>2,950</td>
<td>1,568</td>
<td>1,381</td>
<td>1,381</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Shwehintha Ward</td>
<td>2,530</td>
<td>1,644</td>
<td>906</td>
<td>906</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Shwezinyaw Ward</td>
<td>2,950</td>
<td>2,413</td>
<td>1,788</td>
<td>1,788</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ayevekyine Ward</td>
<td>1,950</td>
<td>1,221</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Shwezinyaw Ward</td>
<td>4,180</td>
<td>3,914</td>
<td>3,914</td>
<td>3,914</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>No (1) Ward, Khamaukgyi Town</td>
<td>7,550</td>
<td>4,321</td>
<td>3,229</td>
<td>3,229</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>No (3) Ward, Khamaukgyi Town</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Puluontone Village-tract</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>2,967</td>
<td>2,033</td>
<td>2,036</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Semine Village-tract</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>3,346</td>
<td>2,554</td>
<td>2,551</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. According to the inspection, 114 polling stations in 8 Wards and 19 Village-tracks of Bokepyin Township in Taninthay Region held out 66,582 ballots and used 42,272 ballots. It left 23,618 ballots instead of 24,310. The extra/shortage ballots were found at respective polling stations. Findings were as follows:

**Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Bokepyin Township**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</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 Missing</th>
<th>Extra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ward/village-tract ballots</td>
<td>65,600</td>
<td>41,782</td>
<td>23,128</td>
<td>23,128</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Township Advanced ballots</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Township Remaining ballots</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>66,582</td>
<td>42,272</td>
<td>24,310</td>
<td>23,618</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>388</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in each sub-Commission**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</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 Missing</th>
<th>Extra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ward/village-tract ballots</td>
<td>10,250</td>
<td>5,221</td>
<td>5,029</td>
<td>5,011</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Township Advanced ballots</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Township Remaining ballots</td>
<td>6,387</td>
<td>6,387</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11,250</td>
<td>6,387</td>
<td>5,011</td>
<td>5,011</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</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 Missing</th>
<th>Extra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ward/village-tract ballots</td>
<td>5,200</td>
<td>3,105</td>
<td>2,095</td>
<td>2,095</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Township Advanced ballots</td>
<td>1,090</td>
<td>1,090</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Township Remaining ballots</td>
<td>5,040</td>
<td>5,040</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FROM PAGE-5

9. There were 1,080 missing ballots and 388 extra ballots at 114 polling stations in 8 Wards and 19 Village-tracts of Hokepyin Township. They used 490 township advance ballots and saved 492 township remaining ballots.

10. Findings were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Ward/Village-Tract</th>
<th>Total polling station</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Extra remaining</th>
<th>Remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pyigyimannaing Ward</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>1,027</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>223</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Laymyin (east) Ward</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>941</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>259</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Laymyin (west) Ward</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sirewallonitha Ward</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>997</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>503</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Aungmingala Ward</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>2,430</td>
<td>1,070</td>
<td>1,078</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Karathuri No (1) Ward</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Karathuri No (2) Ward</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Karathuri No (3) Ward</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>136</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Htagsalar Village-tract</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,450</td>
<td>1,404</td>
<td>1,046</td>
<td>1,046</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Chaungkaphet Village-tract</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>230</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Htaungyak Village-tract</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Htaungngathaing Village-tract</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>938</td>
<td>562</td>
<td>612</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Kawbut Village-tract</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Manoeyone Village-tract</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>1,964</td>
<td>1,036</td>
<td>932</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Shwegengyo Village-tract</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3,450</td>
<td>2,201</td>
<td>1,249</td>
<td>1,249</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Yuyangangyi Village-tract</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3,850</td>
<td>2,167</td>
<td>1,683</td>
<td>1,683</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Satein Village-tract</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3,150</td>
<td>2,169</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>1,067</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Htaungsonenmahet Village-tract</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>1,295</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Aleman Village-tract</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4,300</td>
<td>2,966</td>
<td>1,334</td>
<td>1,334</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Akwinterkpoypin Village-tract</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4,250</td>
<td>1,687</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Ohntawkan Village-tract</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>260</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Kamarchaung Village-tract</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,110</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>490</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Htaungkhamet Village-tract</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6,700</td>
<td>3,797</td>
<td>2,903</td>
<td>2,903</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Noengwea Village-tract</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5,850</td>
<td>3,719</td>
<td>2,131</td>
<td>2,131</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Kawbarnar Village-tract</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>1,308</td>
<td>732</td>
<td>732</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Hankauby Village-tract</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,100</td>
<td>1,652</td>
<td>1,448</td>
<td>1,448</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Mathay Village-tract</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8,750</td>
<td>5,404</td>
<td>3,346</td>
<td>3,346</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total polling station: 114
Withdrawal: 66,582
Used: 42,272
Extra remaining: 24,310
Remaining on the Ground: 23,126
Difference: 1,080

The Union Election Commission

Tatmadaw medical teams provide health care to locals

Tatmadaw medical teams consisted of Tatmadaw doctors, specialists and nurses who have been providing necessary medical treatment to the patients in military hospitals and public hospitals.

The Tatmadaw medical team continued to provide healthcare-related to surgery, dental and oral healthcare, osteoporosis, obstetrics, gynaecology, hypertension and heart disease to the patients in military hospitals and public hospitals.

Senior medical experts, medics and nurses have conducted 8,979 major operations. The senior doctors gave intensive treatment to the severe cases.

These hospitals managed for the birth of 11,597 babies to date. Of those, 4,640 cases are done in the caesarean section and 6,957 cases in ordinary delivery. Moreover, the Commanders of respective Commands offered words of encouragement to the monks, officers and other ranks who had medical treatments at the military hospitals in Myitkyina Township of Kachin State, Mawlamyine Township of Mon State, Pathein Township of Ayeyarwady Region and Kalay Township of Sagaing Region and provided them with foodstuffs yesterday. Then, the commanders and officers inspected the hospital compound. — MNA

Military tribunal takes action against murderers and illegal drugs dealers

A total of seven people were arrested together with stimulant tablets and marijuana in Dagon Myothit (North) and Hlinethaya Township (West) between 6 and 10 April in Yangon Region. A tribunal was set up to investigate their cases, and under Section 19 (a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, they were sentenced to 20 years in prison with work imprisonment, respectively, on 7 May.

Myo Min Tun (a) Thargyi, son of U Soe Myint, has been on the run, and an arrest warrant was issued according to Section 436 of the Penal Code on 7 May.

Similarly, the military tribunal investigated the murder cases that happened in Dagon Myothit (South), and Hlinethaya Township (East) and (West) between 26 March and 8 April and perpetrators were sentenced to 20 years in prison with work respectively under Section 302 and 436 of the Penal Code on 7 May.

The illegal drug dealers who were arrested together with stimulant tablets in Hlinethaya (East) Township on 9 and 10 April were also sentenced to 10 years in prison with work respectively under Section 16 (c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law on 7 May.

The Martial Law was declared on 14, and 15 May in Hlinethaya Township, Shwepyitha Township, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township and North Okkalapa Township as terrorist attacks to industries, schools and ward administration offices were accelerated in these townships. It is reported that 23 types of crimes that will be heard by the military tribunals in the townships where the Martial Law was declared were issued and that legal action is being taken effectively and rapidly if one commits these crimes. — MNA

A local patient seen receiving foodstuffs.
Files opened against medical nurses who participated in CDM activity with attempts to deteriorate peace and stability of the State

The following medical nurses 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>Daw Than Tharn Yi</td>
<td>Muse People’s Hospital</td>
<td>Muse Township, Shan State (North)</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Daw Hla Hla Thin</td>
<td>Muse People’s Hospital</td>
<td>Muse Township, Shan State (North)</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Daw El El Min</td>
<td>Muse People’s Hospital</td>
<td>Muse Township, Shan State (North)</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Daw La Pyae Wun</td>
<td>Dala People’s Hospital</td>
<td>Dala Township, Yangon Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Daw Maw Maw Khine</td>
<td>Shwebo People’s Hospital</td>
<td>Shwebo Township, Sagaing Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As tasks are being carried out to arrest those medical nurses charged, people are urged to inform nearby police stations about those medical nurses and action will be taken against the persons under the law for admitting those medical nurses. —MNA

Files opened against education staff who participated in CDM activity with attempts to deteriorate peace and stability of the State

The following teachers have been charged under Section 505-A of the Penal Code for inciting State service personnel and education 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>Occupation</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Section of Penal Code</th>
<th>Photo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Daw Hnin Ei</td>
<td>Deputy staff officer, Office of the Township Education Officer; Palaw Township</td>
<td>Palaw Township, Taninthayi Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Daw Khin Swe Win</td>
<td>Assistant Supervisor, Office of the Township Education Officer; Palaw Township</td>
<td>Palaw Township, Taninthayi Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Daw Nway Nway Ei</td>
<td>Lower Division Clerk, Office of the Township Education Officer; Palaw Township</td>
<td>Palaw Township, Taninthayi Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>U Nyi Nyi Min</td>
<td>Account 3, Office of the Township Education Officer; Palaw Township</td>
<td>Palaw Township, Taninthayi Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Daw Aye Thi Aung</td>
<td>Headmistress, BEPS (3), Palaw Township</td>
<td>Palaw Township, Taninthayi Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As tasks are being carried out to arrest those education staff charged, people are urged to inform nearby police stations about those education staff and action will be taken against the persons under the law for admitting those education staff. —MNA
CBM's guarantee eases tensions of bank customers

TILL recent days, people across Myanmar were worried about the safety of their cash entrusted at various kinds of banks.

Everybody might worry about their property until they didn’t have any guarantees. They might tremble with the loss of their property. Even in thoughts, they might tremble with loss. It is a universal truth. It is because they tried to secure such kinds of property by spending their long precious time, labour and mental and physical strengths.

Recently, the terrible rumour spread out elsewhere that the banking system would collapse soon. So, the people who opened the banking accounts to earn their trust faced a problem for their property.

At the weekly press conference of the Information Team of the State Administration Council on a recent day, the deputy governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar firmly said that the CBM has no plan to disallow any banks. It was good news for all. It was because no collapse of the banking system means the safety of money entrusted by the customers.

We should call “well-done” for affirmation of the Central Bank of Myanmar. The CBM, the deputy governor granted the banks their status as the safe and secure site of keeping money.

In fact, people need to trust their money faced demolition. At the same time, the government also had the backing of the banking entrepreneurs shall strive for the endurance of such financial institutions to be able to secure the trust of the customers.

In light against Covid variants some firms target T cell jabs

Getting Covid vaccines into the arms of the world’s population is an international priority – but will today’s jabs stay effective against virus variants that are spreading across the globe?

It is one of the big questions about the pandemic, with the world in the dark about how long first-generation vaccines will protect against new variants. But observational research published on Saturday (May 8) in the medical journal Lancet Rheumatology, based on 72,000 hospitalized patients, found that the fell against variants. However, us such as diabetes or cancer.

T he start of the corona-virus pandemic there was concern over the potential effects of non-stereidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), which are used to treat everything from minor pain to chronic arthritis and cardio-vascular disease.

But observational research published on Saturday (May 8) in the medical journal Lancet Rheumatology, based on 72,000 hospitalized patients, found that the drugs “do not increase the mortality or severity” of Covid-19.

The authors recommended that doctors should continue to prescribe NSAIDs as they have in the past.

When the pandemic began over a year ago, we needed to be sure that these common medications can be used safely in people with Covid-19,” lead author Ewen Harrison, a professor at the University of Ed-inburgh, said in a press release.

“We now have clear evidence that NSAIDs are safe to use in patients with Covid-19, which shows that both clinicians and patients that they can continue to be used in the same way as before the pan-demic began,” he said.

The new research examined data on 72,000 Covid 19 patients admitted to 250 health centres in England, Scotland and Wales be-tween January and August 2020. Of these, 4,211 had taken NSAIDs before hospitalisation. The study found that the propor-tion of death was similar reg-ar-dless of whether patients had taken the drugs or not. 34 per cent of those who had and 31.5 per cent for those who had not. It also found that these who took NSAIDs were “more likely to be admitted to critical care, need invasive or non-invasive ventilation, or require oxygen,”

Regarding the banking story, it is undeniable that not only the government but also the banking entrepre-neurs shall strive for the endurance of such financial institutions to be able to secure the trust of the customers.
Action to be taken against those who do social punishment

THE State Administration Council is making efforts to develop political affairs, economy and social issues with a five-point roadmap and nine objectives. The government employees who want the nation's development also serve their duties in line with the Civil Services Personnel Law, Rules and ethics. Meanwhile, the politically extremist people can contact the following phone numbers to uncover the suspects. Therefore, actions will be taken against those who threaten to do social punishment. Those who face such social punishment cases can inform the nearest security forces. The government will make efforts to develop political affairs, economy and social issues with a five-point roadmap and nine objectives. The government employees who want the nation's development also serve their duties in line with the Civil Services Personnel Law, Rules and ethics. Meanwhile, the politically extremist people can contact the following phone numbers to uncovered the suspects. 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Homalin tea leaf plantations produce over 300 visses per acre

Tea leaf plantations made over 300 visses per acre in Homalin township, Sagaing region, it is learnt.

“Currently, the price of tea leaves is above K 800 per viss in the local market. Each acre of tea leaves yields over 300 visses. More than 2,000 growers from 33 village-tracts in Homalin Township are growing the tea leaves. There are also more than 8,000 acres of tea leaf plantations, said Daw Su Su Htway, the township head of the Agriculture Department in Homalin Township.

Tea leaves have been cultivated in Homalin township for many years. Now, the growers are gradually expanding their cultivation, and it has now reached over 8,000 acres of tea leaf cultivation.

Earlier, the growers in Homalin Township, said Daw Su Su Htway, have been cultivating tea leaves for more than 8,000 acres of tea leaf plantations, said Daw Su Su Htway. The tea leaves were exported to the foreign market. Tea leaves are separated into various categories based upon taste and quality for local markets. In contrast, organic tea leaves are considered more expensive than their regular counterparts. — Lulay/GNLM

Gold hit all-time high of K1.5 mln per tical on 7 May

THE domestic gold price hit a record high of K1.5 million per tical (0.578 ounces, or 0.016 kilograms) in the bull market in the afternoon of 7 May.

The domestic gold price hit a record high of K1.5 million per tical on 7 May, tracking the positve global trends. The international gold prices topped US$1,820 per ounce on 7 May. The price stood at only K1,302,000 per tical on 4 March, and it tremendously soared to K1,500,000 per tical on 7 May. The price increased by around K200,000 per tical in two months, according to the domestic market.

In March, the rate fluctuated between K1,316,000 per tical at its minimum (28 January) and the maximum of K1,336,000 per tical (6 February). It reached an all-time high of K1,410,000 per tical on 3 February and hit the minimum of K1,340,000 per tical on 2 February.

It reached a new peak of K1.5 million on 7 May, tracking the positive global trends. The international gold prices topped US$1,820 per ounce on 7 May. The price stood at only K1,302,000 per tical on 4 March, and it tremendously soared to K1,500,000 per tical on 7 May. The price increased by around K200,000 per tical in two months, according to the domestic market.

In October, the rate ranged between K1,307,000 (30 October) and K1,316,500 (21 October). The rate fluctuated between the highest of K1,317,000 (9 November) and the lowest of K1,276,000 (30 November). In December, the pure yellow metal priced moved in the range of 1,300,000 (1 December) and 1,323,000 (28 December).

With global gold prices on the uptick, the domestic price hit fresh highs last year, reaching K1,000,000 per tical between 17 January and 21 February and crossing K1,106,000 (22 June to 5 August). It climbed to over 1,290,000 between 7 August and 4 September, then reaching a high of K1,300,000 on 5 September 2019. — GNLM

Traders using Hundi system for convenient cash flow of border trading

TRADERS are using the Hundi system for the convenient cash flow of border trading due to restrictions imposed on the limit of cash withdrawal from the bank. Chairman U Min Khaing of the Myanmar Corn Industrial Association said.

Currently, the entrepreneurs are only allowed to withdraw K 20 million per week from the bank. That is the reason why the Hundi system is in practice in order to transfer the money.

“Most of the businessmen are using the Hundi system. The government authorities have said that they will take legal action against practising the Hundi system. They said that it is an illegal cash flow system. The bank has also lowered the weekly withdrawal limit to K20 million for company accounts currently.

“The amount is minimal for big companies because, with this amount of money, they can only buy a vehicle. The companies are transferring the amount of money equal to the value of 20 to 50 vehicles. So, it is not convenient for the companies, and they are forced to use the Hundi system,” he explained.

However, the Hundi business is weak to protect transactions because it is less secure. Besides, they charge too much for services, he added.

At present, Myanmar exports products including corn to Thailand through the Myawaddy border trade. And, the price of a tonne of corn is about 8,000 Bahts. Myanmar is set to reach an export target of one million tonnes of corn to Thailand this year with Form-D. So far, the country has already exported 600,000 tonnes of corn, said Myanmar Corn Industrial Association. Myanmar is allowed to export corn to Mae Sot, Thailand through Myawaddy border trade between 1 February and 31 August with Form-D, under zero tariff.

Myanmar corn exports were exempted from tax between February and August. Thailand imposed a 73 per cent tax on corn imports to protect the rights of their growers if the corn is imported during the corn season of Thailand. The maximum tax rate of 73 per cent is put under the notification of the World Trade Organization regarding corn import of Thailand.

In the 2019-2020 financial year, Myanmar exported 2.2 million tonnes of corn to the foreign market, with an estimated value of US$360 million, according to the Ministry of Commerce’s data. Presently, corn is cultivated in Shan, Kachin, Kayah and Kayin states and Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. Myanmar has three corn seasons — winter, summer and monsoon. The country yearly produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corns. — NN/GNLM

Myanmar has three corn seasons — winter, summer and monsoon. The country yearly produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corns. — NN/GNLM

Myanmar has three corn seasons — winter, summer and monsoon. The country yearly produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corns. — NN/GNLM
THE Tatmadaw recaptured the Myothit Microwave Camp from the KIA in the afternoon on 7 May and the insurgents retreated to the east and northeastern borders of the country.

The Tatmadaw fought 24 battles to regain the camp and some Tatmadaw officers and soldiers lost their lives for the country and some were wounded. There have been reports of a number of casualties, including two brigadiers generals from the KIA-led coalition, kinds of ammunition were confiscated and bodies were properly buried.

The KIA-led coalition forces attacked the Byuhar landsone base located about 4,000 metres northeast of Nwelan village and the Microwave base about 3,000 metres northeast of Myothit village. Tatmadaw was providing security on 11 April. At the same time, attempts were made to blow up the Tarpain bridge about 2,000 metres south of Myothit village to disrupt traffic, and the security forces prevented the bombings.

Similarly, from 17 April to 7 May, the KIA fired 29 artillery shells and large weapons at local battalion headquarters around Myothit village and six attempts to seize it led to clashes. On 23 April, the KIA-led coalition forces attacked the base again with better weapons and the security forces had to abandon the base. A large-scale artillery attack was carried out on the Album Army security post about 3,000 metres from the Myanmar-China border and about 10,000 metres southeast of Dawphonyang town, Momauk Township, Kachin State on 24 March by the KIA-led coalition forces.

Although the KIA-led coalition forces attacked the Album, Byuhar lansone, Myothit Microwave base camp, Tarpain bridge and battalion headquarters around Myothit with large weapons, they had to flee with heavy casualties without being able to capture the battalion headquarters due to the brave retaliation of the Tatmadaw members.

The Tatmadaw has issued a statement suspending all military operations since 21 December 2018, except for the time when the government has been disrupting security and administrative machinery in order to achieve lasting peace and has opened the way for peace talks. However, it has been found that the KIA has committed acts of violence such as killing innocent people for no reason, destroying the lives and property of the people, disrupting the rule of law and regional stability, bombing public roads and bridges.

It is reported that the Tatmadaw, who is responsible for national security, will take security measures to ensure the rule of law and regional stability. — MNA

THE terrorist groups throw and plant handmade bombs at state-owned buildings, some houses and on public roads.

On 7 May, the explosions occurred at the region education officer office in Petgone Pawby Ward of Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay Region, in front of the Myawady Bank in Chanmyathazi Township, at traffic light station at the corner of Bo Min Khaung and Alan Pya Pagoda streets in Botahtaung Township in Yangon Region. In Wa Gaung Ward in Shan State, and so the security force members in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay Region, in No (3) Ward of Dagon Myothit (North) in Yangon Region and under 2F-xxxx Toyota Belta parked in front of the Tun Yee painting and sports centre owned by Daw Moh Moh Win who lives in Phet Tan Ward of Mawlamyine Township in Mon State, and so the security members examined and removed the bombs. The security members investigate to take action against those committing such terrorist attacks under the law.—MNA

**Bombs explode across nation**

**Ravages seen in the aftermath of handmade mine explosion at Myawady Bank in Chanmyathazi Township.**

**Inwa Bank in Bhamo Township of Kachin State, district education officer office in Hom Mon Ward of Muse township in Shan State (North), staff housing of township administration department of Khar Nam Ward of Momauk Township of Kachin State, the security force members in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay Region and at the ramp of Maha Bandoola Bridge in No (3) Ward of Botataung Township in Yangon Region.**

One bank security staff reported that one security force member was injured and the police arrested one suspect who threw a handmade bomb in Aungmyethazan Township.

The security forces received information that the handmade bombs were planted in the compound of no (1) B.E.H.S in Mingalar Taungnyunt Township of Yangon Region, in No (1) B.E.H.S at Banyar Dala Street, at ward administrative office of Myoma Lawpita and U Yar Zat streets in No (35) Ward of Dagon Myothit (North) in Yangon Region and under 2F-xxxx Toyota Belta parked in front of the Tun Yee painting and sports centre owned by Daw Moh Moh Win who lives in Phet Tan Ward of Mawlamyine Township in Mon State, and so the security members examined and removed the bombs.
Japan pharmaco industry opposes U.S. backing for vaccine patent waiver

THE Japan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association on Friday opposed U.S. support for a waiver of coronavirus vaccine patent rights held by pharmaceutical companies. PHOTO: KYODO

The group said it is concerned that noneffective products may circulate, and the risk of side effects could increase as well.

“We are deeply concerned that if vaccines are made in an uncontrollable environment, it will intensify scarcity of raw materials as well as further disperse and disrupt supply chains, possibly leading to a further delay in distributions,” the association said in a statement.

With unequal availability of vaccines in many parts of the world, the Biden administration has been facing pressure from Democratic lawmakers and other countries to share the intellectual property to boost vaccine production.

GERMAN carmaker Volkswagen reported a jump in first quarter profits on Thursday but warned that a global shortage of semiconductors that has hurt production would have a “more significant impact” in the coming months.

The car giant reported net profits of €3.4 billion, up from €517 million over the January-March period in 2020 when the first wave of the pandemic closed showrooms and factories. Revenues for the 12-brand group, which includes the Audi, Porsche and Skoda marques, climbed 13 per cent to €62.4 billion, it said in a statement.

The hike was driven by a rebound in car sales especially in China, the world’s largest car market, and robust global demand for high-profit luxury models, VW said.

The carmaker also highlighted the growing popularity of more environmentally friendly vehicles, with sales of its electric and hybrid cars more than doubling to 133,000 units.

Overall, the group delivered 2.4 million vehicles in the first quarter of the year.

“We started the year with great momentum,” said CEO Herbert Diess. “Our e-offensive continues to gain momentum and we are making good progress with the transformation. There is still much more we can achieve in the remainder of the year.”

Chief finance officer Arno Antlitz said VW had “managed the effects of COVID-19 and the semiconductor shortages responsibly” over the first quarter.

Like other carmakers, VW has been grappling with a supply crunch of semiconductors as the pandemic boosts demand for crucial microchips also needed for consumer electronics. The chip shortage has forced VW to trim car production at some plants and put thousands of workers on shorter hours, delaying car deliveries.

“The shortage of semiconductors throughout the industry is expected to have a more significant impact in the second quarter than before,” said Antlitz. “Nevertheless, we are confident regarding business development in the full year,” he added. —AFP

Volkswagen profits rise but chip shortage impact not over

The Japan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association on Friday opposed U.S. support for a temporary waiver of coronavirus vaccine patent rights held by pharmaceutical companies. PHOTO: KYODO

Japanese tobacco giant Philip Morris said the company will phase out conventional cigarettes in Japan within 10 years, in an interview with the Nikkei business daily published Friday.

The Marlboro maker announced in 2016 a long-term goal to stop selling cigarettes and replace them with alternatives that it says are less harmful — but this is the first time it has given a clear deadline.

“We want Japan to be the first market for the phase-out, newly appoint ed CEO Jacek Olczak told the Nikkei in an interview published in Japanese.

The company “will realize a smoke-free society in Japan within 10 years,” he said.

Philip Morris International is betting on its IQOS: a sort of short cigarette inserted into a device that heats the tobacco and releases a vapour.

Olczak told the Nikkei they “plan to introduce devices using new technologies”.

Japan, considered by some a smoker’s paradise, has long been an outlier in the developed world for cigarette use.

Under a law that came into effect in 2020, lighting up regular cigarettes is banned in most restaurants, while heated products are allowed while eating and drinking when certain conditions are met.

Japan’s government earns billions of dollars annually in cigarette tax revenue, and owns a one-third stake in Japan Tobacco, the world’s third largest tobacco company.

Smoking in the street is banned in many places under local regulations that impose hefty fines on violators. Cigarettes cost only around 450 ($4) to 570 yen a pack and carry modest health warning labels.

Despite that, tobacco use in Japan has been falling, in line with a broader global trend. —AFP
Disappointing April jobs data pose new challenge for Biden agenda

THE United States added just 266,000 jobs in April – a quarter of the number expected – in a surprise setback for President Joe Biden's efforts to revive an economy blighted by the Covid-19 pandemic. The weak hiring also pushed the unemployment rate up slightly to 6.1 per cent, according to the Labour Department’s monthly employment report released Friday.

The data defied economists’ upbeat predictions that widespread Covid-19 vaccines and government relief measures would allow businesses to return to normal and add one million jobs last month. Biden said such setbacks are not unusual during recoveries, and the report undermined criticism that his massive spending programmes were not needed since the economy was already recovering.

“We knew we were facing a once-in-a-century pandemic and once-in-a-generation economic crisis. We knew this wouldn’t be a sprint, it’d be a marathon,” the president said in comments following the data release.

He again called on Congress to approve two spending proposals costing more than $4 trillion that are aimed at revamping US infrastructure and the workforce.

“Can’t let up. This jobs report makes that clear. We’ve got too much work to do,” he said.—AFP

Asian Development Bank proposes ending financing for coal plants

THE Asian Development Bank will stop financing new coal power plants under a draft energy policy released Friday that was cautiously welcomed by environmental groups.

The ADB, which provides loans and grants for projects in the poorest countries in the Asia Pacific region, said its current policy was “no longer adequately aligned with the global consensus on climate change”.

“Coal and other fossil fuels have played a large part in ensuring access to energy for the region’s economic development, but they have not solved the energy access challenge, and their use harms the environment and accelerates climate change,” the Manila-based bank said in the document.

The lender will also no longer fund “any coal mining, oil and natural gas field exploration, drilling or extraction activities”, it said.

However, under certain conditions, it would provide funds for natural gas projects and “hybrid electricity solutions” involving fossil fuels as backup systems, according to the draft.

Between 2009 and 2019 the ADB funnelled $42.5 billion into energy sector projects in Asia, where around 60 per cent of electricity is generated by coal, its data show.

The final version of the energy policy is expected to be submitted to the ADB board of directors by October.—AFP

EU and India relaunch trade quest at Covid-hit summit

THE EU and India are expected to further bolster warming ties Saturday by relaunching long-stalled trade talks and agreeing to work together against the pandemic battering the south Asian giant.

The devastating wave of coronavirus infections sweeping India has already impacted the meeting by forcing Prime Minister Narendra Modi to scrap plans to fly to Portugal for in-person talks.

But the 27-nation bloc and the world’s largest democracy remain determined to capitalise on growing momentum for tighter relations fuelled by shared concerns over the rising might of China.

“There is a positive dynamic because there is a convergence of interests,” a European diplomat told AFP. EU countries have sent medical equipment and drugs worth an estimated 100 million euros ($120 million) to India as part of international efforts to help it fight against the flood of Covid-19 cases. The focus on the virus at the summit will be on making sure the two vaccine-producing powerhouse can maintain global supplies – as well as on trying to plan together to tackle future pandemics.—AFP

EU leaders pledge Brussels’ role in fight against poverty

EU leaders stressed on Friday the importance of fighting poverty and inequality as the continent emerges from the Covid-19 pandemic, but member states remain divided about Brussels’ role in rebuilding a fair economy.

The heads of the EU institutions agreed an action plan with stakeholders from labour and civil society, before heading to dinner with most of the 27 member state leaders ahead of Saturday’s European summit.

“We are going to transform Europe’s economic governance, thanks to this action plan, the model will be more balanced, more fair... a better Europe,” host Antonio Costa, the socialist prime minister of Portugal, declared. A handful of leaders, notably German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, will attend only by videoconference.

In what was dubbed the “social summit”, the meetings began Friday with conferences bringing together representatives of civil society and trade unionsists, as French President Emmanuel Macron and other leaders attended workshops.

“We are living unprecedented times,” social summit delegates said, in a statement dubbed the Porto Social Commitment, calling for “a transition towards a green, socially just and digital economy”—AFP
MORE than 160 people were wounded after Israeli riot police clashed with Palestinians at Jerusalem’s flashpoint Al-Aqsa mosque compound late Friday, capping a week of violence in the Holy City and the occupied West Bank.

Stones, bottles and fireworks were hurled at officers who fired rubber bullets and stun grenades at the crowds at Islam’s third holiest site, also revered by Jews as the location of two biblical-era temples.

At least 163 Palestinians and six Israeli officers were reported wounded at Al-Aqsa and elsewhere in east Jerusalem, as the Palestinian Red Crescent said it had opened a field hospital because emergency rooms were full. Police said officers had re- stored order because of the “riot- ing of thousands of worshippers” after evening prayers.

Defects, damage suspected in Mexico metro disaster

The collapse of a Mexico City metro overpass that left 25 people dead could have been caused by defects in the steel beams or damage to the joints, experts told AFP.

The capital’s mayor, Claudia Sheinbaum, said after Monday’s accident, which also left 80 injured, that a beam holding up the section of elevated track had given way. Norwegian engineering company DNV has been asked to help prosecutors with the investigation into the disaster, which has prompted accusations of negligence and demands for justice from devastated relatives.

Sergio Alcocer, a researcher at the engineering faculty of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, said that the collapse “may be due to a defect in the steel” used to make the beams. Like other experts, he based his initial suspicions on a police video showing the moment when an elevated part of metro line 12 collapsed, sending two carriages plunging towards the ground.

Juan Manuel Fuentes, technical director of Mexican structural engineering firm Quasar, said that “the deafening vibration” on some of the sections of the line also could have caused the overpass’s joints to weaken.

According to a senior Mexico City official, Jesus Antonio Ortega, the National Autonomous University of Mexico, said that the collapse “may be due to a defect in the steel” used to make the beams. Like other experts, he based his initial suspicions on a police video showing the moment when an elevated part of metro line 12 collapsed, sending two carriages plunging towards the ground.

Israel’s restrictions on access to parts of the Old City during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, and after authorities ordered several Palestinian families to leave their homes to make way for Israeli settlers. The United States called for “de-escalation” and said the threatened evictions could worsen the situation in east Jerusalem, as the United Nations warned the forced evictions could amount to “war crimes”.

Friday’s unrest came on Al-Quds (the Arabic name for Jerusalem) Day, an annual day of pro-Palestinian rallies held by Iran, the arch-enemy of Israel, which also saw many thousands march in majority-Muslim countries across the region and as far as Pakistan. — AFP

Trump administration obtained phone records of journalists: Washington Post

The Trump administration secretly obtained the phone records of Washington Post journalists who reported on allegations of Russian meddling in the 2016 election, the newspaper reported Friday, prompting concerns over freedom of speech.

The Justice Department sent letters to three reporters — Ellen Nakashima and Greg Miller, and former Post reporter Adam Entous — saying that it had received work, cell or home phone records “for the period from April 15, 2017 to July 31, 2017,” according to the Post.

The newspaper was “deeply troubled by this use of government power to seek access to the communications of journalist,” Post acting executive editor Cameron Barr was quoted as saying. — AFP

RACIST and offensive Texas place names are holdovers from a dark past, but they are poised to finally change as a reckoning on how white America treats black people washes over the United States.

Though state lawmakers sought to officially rename a series of features in 1991, that change was stymied, and decades later places like “Negrohead Lake” or “Negro Creek” still carry their derogatory monikers.

Yet the murder last year of African American George Floyd under a white police officer’s knee has brought new impetus to confronting racism, including place names or statues honouring Confederate war generals.

While Texas fought on the side of the slavery-supporting Confederacy during the nation’s civil war, today it is a state where non-Hispanic white people are in the minority. A vote by a federal panel that is set for next month could finally officially rechristen 16 Texas places whose names include the word “negro”, a once common description that many now see as outdated and offensive. “It’s a tremendous relief. It’s late, but better late than never,” Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis told AFP. — AFP

Negrohead Lake near Houston may finally see its name officially changed amid America’s racism reckoning. PHOTO: AFP
The 2021 football season of AIA Singapore Premier League (SPL) will continue behind closed doors starting this month, said the source with the ASEAN Football Federation.

“All the matches will be played in accordance with additional community measures announced earlier this month by the COVID-19 Multi Ministry Taskforce,” officials said.

“The return of spectators to SPL matches in recent weeks was a heartening sight, but the well-being of the football fraternity and the wider general public will always be our top priority, and we encourage all to adhere to the prevailing safe management measures.

“SPL fans will still be able to watch every SPL match live on broadcast at SingTel TV, StarHub TV, and live streaming online via the SPL Facebook page and YouTube channel, as well as the Facebook page of 1 Play Sports,” the football authorities added.

The Singapore Premier League currently comprises eight clubs, consisting of three rounds in which each team plays every other team once.

The football seasons run from late March to October, with teams playing 21 matches each, and thus a total of 147 games to be played in one season.” —GNLM

**SPL football tourney to be held behind closed doors**

Ronaldo and Ibrahimovic face off in battle for Champions League spot

**DETHRONED** Juventus host Milan on Sunday in a clash of former Serie A title hopefuls now fighting to qualify for the Champions League.

Juventus’ bid for a 10th consecutive title collapsed as Inter Milan sealed their first league crown since 2010 with four games to spare last weekend.

Antonio Conte’s Inter host Sampdoria in the San Siro Saturday, their first game at home since being crowned champions, with fans only allowed to celebrate outside because of COVID-19 restrictions. Behind Inter, five teams battle for the other three Champions League spots.

Atalanta, Inter and Milan are all level on 69 points, with fifth-placed Napoli two points behind and Lazio a further three points adrift but with a game in hand.

Not qualifying for the Champions League would have been unthinkable at the start of the season for Juventus, twice finalists of Europe’s top club competition in the past decade.

“We know that we have to qualify for the Champions League at all costs,” said Juventus coach Andrea Pirlo, whose side also host Inter before the end of the season.

Cristiano Ronaldo scored twice last weekend at Udinese to rescue three points and extend his lead at the top of the scoring charts with 27 goals, six more than Inter star Romelu Lukaku.

Ronaldo, 36, has one more year left on his contract, and amid speculation over his future failure to qualify for the Champions League could herald his exit.

Veteran Sweden star Zlatan Ibrahimovic has already committed to another season at Milan which will take him to 40 years old. Ibrahimovic galvanised Milan after his return midway through last season, leading the line as the ‘Rossoneri’ went 27 games unbeaten before losing 3-1 to Juve at the San Siro in January.” —AFP

**Nothing can stop Olympics from going ahead: IOC’s Coates**

John Coates admits not having the Japanese public fully on board for the Games is concerning. PHOTO:AFP

International Olympic Committee vice-president John Coates was adamant Saturday that nothing could stop the Tokyo Olympics from going ahead, despite ongoing risks from Covid-19.

Asked by AFP if there was any scenario in which the Games, which are due to start on July 23, could be cancelled or postponed again at this late stage, he replied: “No, there’s not.

“The prime minister of Japan said that to the president of the United States two or three weeks ago. He continues to say that to the IOC.

“We’re working with him (Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga) on all of the safety measures. It’s going ahead.”

Suga held talks with US President Joe Biden in April and stressed the Asian nation was doing everything possible to contain Covid-19 infections and hold a “safe and secure” Olympics.

But questions continue to be raised about the viability of the Games, given the ongoing pandemic and a virus state of emergency in Tokyo and other parts of Japan being extended on Friday.

“We spent the first half of last year identifying all the worst-case scenarios,” he told reporters in Sydney on the sidelines of the Australian Olympic Committee’s annual general meeting.

“We spent the next six months looking at the counter-measures that are necessary.

“We’re implementing those countermeasures, predicated on there being no vaccine, so that situation has improved. The Games will go ahead.” —AFP

Three share Quail Hollow lead with McIlroy, Mickelson in pursuit

FORMER US Open champion Gary Woodland headlined a leading trio at Quail Hollow on Friday, where two-time winner Rory McIlroy was in the mix along with five-time major champion Phil Mickelson.

Woodland, the 2019 US Open winner who has struggled of late, carded a two-under-par 69 for a six-under total of 136, where he was joined by England’s Matt Wallace and American Patrick Rodgers. Wallace, a four-time European Tour winner who is gunning for a first US Open title, had five birdies in his four-under 67 while Rodgers posted a 68 highlighted by a 13-foot eagle putt at the seventh. The three were one stroke in front of Kramer Hickock, who posted a 69 for 137.

McIlroy, who was outside the projected cutline after a first-round 72, grabbed six birdies in a five-under-par 66 to head a group on four-under 138 – just two shots off the lead. Mickelson, who held the overnight lead after a sparkling seven-under 64, was 11 shots worse in the second round, but his four-over 75 left him in a group only three strokes off the pace on three-under 139. Woodland, who said his missed cut at Innisbrook last week marked the “rock bottom” of a downward trend that all started with a left hip injury and his attempt to play through pain, said a phone consultation with coach Butch Harmon and in-person work with Pete Cowen had helped him start to get back to what he was doing “when I was hitting it well.” “I’ve seen some shots this week that I just haven’t seen in a long time,” Woodland said. “The golf swing feels so much better. Confidence has gone way up, which I did not have really in the last year.” —AFP

American Gary Woodland has a share of the 36-hole lead along with Matt Wallace and Patrick Rodgers at the US PGA Tour Wells Fargo Champions hip. PHOTO:AFP