Tatmadaw has formed rescue teams to assist the government since 2016 if natural disasters fall:

Vice-Senior General

The chairpersons of the region and state administration councils need to lead the process of solving the natural disaster problems immediately.

Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, who chairs the National Natural Disaster Management Committee, delivered an address at the meeting 1/2021 of the Committee, at the hall of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Senior General said the National Natural Disaster Management Committee was reconstituted with 43 members under the notification (10/2021) of the State Administration Council.

Events of natural disasters happen across the world every year. Such events were triggered by impacts of global warming, extreme logging of trees, deforestation and forest fires.

In observing outbreaks of natural disasters, the report of the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) stated that four categories were set as a criterion of the disaster which killed more than ten people, one more criterion which affected more than 100 people or the disasters which stipulated the government to declare the area of State level natural disaster, and the disaster in which the government sought the international aid. As the disasters which met at least one criterion were recorded, the globe experienced more than 300 disasters within ten years from 2011 to 2020. In this regard, some 15,000 persons were dead in the disasters per year, and more than 164 million people were affected by disasters per year. During the period, more than US$170 billion lost in the events per year.

Myanmar experienced natural disasters based on natural situations within ten years from 2000 to 2010, with 23 per cent for flooding, 12 per cent for storms and four per cent for earthquakes, tsunamis and landslides. Yearly, nine kinds of natural disasters, namely storms, tidal waves, flooding, landslides, earthquakes, tsunamis, droughts, fire outbreaks and forest fires, fall in Myanmar.

In this regard, the National Natural Disaster Management Committee needs to solve three parts of the issue. The first part is to make preparations, the second to carry out immediate rescue works and the third part to undertake rehabilitation in addition to take preventive measures, preparedness, searching and rescue and rehabilitation. All must overcome challenges of natural disasters, man-made dangers and the danger based on policies and laws as much as possible.

As monsoon falls, anyone cannot say storm and flooding will not happen in the country.

Relevant region and state administration councils are firstly responsible for solving the problems whenever natural disasters fall. The chairpersons of the region and state administration councils need to lead the process of solving the natural disaster problems immediately. To so do, the Vice-Senior General reminded the participants to solve issues related to the natural disaster management in accord with the facts involved in the permanent order of natural disaster issued in 2009, arrangements to be made by relevant ministries and pieces of evidence related to natural disaster management distributed to regions and states.
MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 143,414 after 96 new cases were reported on 27 May 2021 according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these confirmed cases, 132,269 have been discharged from hospitals. —MNA
Tatmadaw has formed rescue teams to assist the government since 2016 if natural disasters fall: Vice-Senior General

FROM PAGE-1

Moreover, local people from affected areas may face losses in natural disasters. Hence, relevant region and state administration councils need to make preparedness as monsoon falls. The Tatmadaw has formed rescue teams to assist the government in 2016 if natural disasters fall. Moreover, the Tatmadaw prepares to carry out the formation, training and rescue in line with the work plan.

The Tatmadaw has much experience related to natural disasters. Those attending the meeting cooperate in the tasks how to overcome natural disasters by studying the handbooks based on experiences in cyclonic storm Nargis in 2008, flooding in Kalay area of Sagaing Region in 2015, storms and other natural disasters, 2013 management law and 2015 management rules.

In conclusion, the Vice-Senior General noted that the government, ministries, and the Tatmadaw must join hands in overcoming natural disasters in accord with the motto: all survivors must be alive.

Vice-Chairmen of the committee Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Soe Htun and Union Minister Dr-Thet Thet Khine reported on preparations of work committee led by respective ministries for prevention of natural disasters, mitigation, response, rescue and cooperation, timely completion of construction tasks and allotment of the funds.

Union ministers discussed preparations of the Tatmadaw to participate in rescue in the natural disasters, work processes for solving the problems of natural disasters, border region development in disaster-hit areas, allotment of emergency funds to relevant ministries and regions and states, cooperation with the international community and regional countries to seek assistance from international organizations, storage of rice reserve, and prevention, mitigation and response to natural disasters in any areas.

Afterwards, the Vice-Senior General said it is necessary to apply the natural disasters law, rules, and orders to overcome natural disasters on time at the national level. He stressed the need to mobilize the people to participate in the rehearsals managed by departments concerned, military and civilian officials in line with the work plan. Relevant ministries must cooperate with each other in making preparedness for natural disasters. Advanced training must be given to State service personnel. Preparations must be made for providing emergency aid to affected regions and states.—MNA

Officials inspect qualifiers of Judo, Archery for 31st SEA Games

The training camps for the 31st SEA Games are underway in Nay Pyi Taw. State Administration Council member Maj-Gen Naw Taung and Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Thet Khaing Win inspected the preliminary training session of Judo and Archery at Wunna Theikdi Gymnasium in Nay Pyi Taw and presented cash awards to the athletes.

Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win and Deputy Minister U Myo Hlaing first enjoyed the Judo qualifying contests and then Compound Raking Round and Recurve Raking Round of Archery.

The final match of Judo was organized in the afternoon. SAC member Jeng Phang Naw Taung, Deputy Minister U Myo Hlaing and other officials watched the contests. The officials awarded the medals and cash to the first prize winner Gold Camp (A) including Judo Suits and best athlete awards.—MNA

COVID-19 causes the decline of the economy across the world. Foodstuff production must be undertaken without fail among the businesses. Myanmar needs to successfully develop agriculture and livestock sectors based on its advantages. The Senior General stressed the need to choose the quality and high-yield crops and pedigree animal species of the agriculture and livestock sectors to occupy the domestic and international markets. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation researches the production of quality strains of crops.
THE State Administration Council makes efforts for state stability and socio-economic development and expands the daily train services to facilitate the transport sector for the people.

Moreover, the SAC keeps following the points of NCA when it leads to the enduring peace that the entire people want.

On 26 May, a handmade mine planted by terrorists exploded on the railway when No 2 down train from Mandalay to Yangon arrived between mileposts (125/14) and (125/15) about 3,700 metres from Nyaung Pintha station of Pyu Township at about 9:30 pm. A hole with 9 square feet depth in the ground has occurred, and five sleepers and five carriages were destroyed. None of the railway staff and passengers was injured.

The insurgent groups conducted mine attacks in 1984. An explosion occurred on Mandalay-Yangon No (2) down train between Kanyut Kwin and Taw Kywel Inn stations (121/6 and 121/7 mile posts). Ten passengers were killed, and 15 wounded in the blast. Similarly, the insurgents also planted a mine to attack the No (2) down train from Mandalay near Kwin Chaung bridge between Kanyut Kwin and Taw Kywel Inn stations on 21 May 1996. It was reported that nine passengers were killed and seven injured in the explosion. Such mine attacks of insurgents on the railways destroyed the lives of people in the past. The people strongly condemned such cases.

The moves of insurgents groups that target the non-military civilians seemed to be intentionally committed to cause casualties and destroy the lives of people and attempt to deteriorate the community peace.

The people should condemn such brutal violence against innocent people and cooperate with the security members in a safe community. Tatmadaw also strongly denounces insurgent groups’ targeted attacks on innocent civilians. The ethnic armed groups that have signed the NCA should pay special attention to the provisions contained in NCA.

Information Team
State Administration Council

THE police continue seizing the firearms and explosives of the insurgents to stop the violent attacks in the country.

A collaborative team with security members stopped and checked a motorcycle driven by Shwe Ko, who lives in Pauk Sein village of Ngazun Township, from Yangon to Mandalay on Yangon-Mandalay highway on 26 May. Then, he was arrested, together with the materials used in riots.

Similarly, the police raided the house of Kyaw Swa Lwin (aka) Zarni located at 60th street, between 34th and 35th streets of Pyi Gyi Myat Shin Ward of Pyigyitagun Township and arrested him together with five handmade bombs.

Moreover, the security forces inspected an unoccupied apartment located at Tat Lan Housing in Yadana street of No (12) Ward of Thakayta Township of Yangon Region. They found various weapons used in riots.

The combined inspection team arrested Moe Khine from Kyauk Khit village, U Hla Win and Kyaw Gyi (aka) Kyaw Thu Naing from Pet Lel Inn village together with the arms while conducting a land clearance operation at about 700 metres from Kyauk Khit Village of Singu Township of Mandalay Region yesterday.

Moreover, the police arrested nine people, including Wai Yan Shine from Sin Ngu Ward of Insein Township, at their respective houses, with firearms and anti-government documents. The detainees will face actions under the law.

— MNA
Press Release on terrorist groups’ arson and bomb attacks at schools

THE primary need for the development of the country and the improvement of social life is to improve the education sector. Every country in the world focuses on education to develop a new generation of talented young people in building a future nation. The Government had to shutter the schools for the 2019-2020 academic year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, affecting the country, students and parents in many ways.

The State Administration Council is overseeing the reopening of schools nationwide from 1 June following the COVID-19 Prevention, Control and Treatment Regulations during the period of adequate control of the COVID-19 disease to prevent further loss of education. Enrolment of students is being accelerated at present.

Preparations are underway in order to ensure students can study safely, distribute free textbooks, teaching aids and masks, face shields to protect COVID-19, and install handwashing facilities at schools.

However, politically extreme terrorist groups, who wish to destroy national interests, instigate teachers and education staff to join CDM and threaten, with death, those who do not do so. Innocent young students are forced to drop out of school.

From 1 to 26 May, a total of 18 arson attacks, 115 times of bombings and attempted bombings occurred at basic education schools and universities across the country. Moreover, they commit vulgar acts that are unacceptable to any civilized society, such as sticking texts against the school attending and drawing threat messages using spray paint.

When the international community is not accepting or condemning such acts of vandalism, they are becoming more and more like extremist terrorist organizations in order to destroy the educational aspirations of future youths. The majority of the parents and the public are protesting against such activities and the organizations behind them.

Therefore, as the State Administration Council seeks to reopen schools, terror acts of insurgent groups will not be tolerated. Those who disrupt the reopening of schools will be taken effective action in cooperation with the people.

Information Team
State Administration Council

Gun owners surrender their firearms voluntarily

The people voluntarily handed over their handmade guns to security forces through the states/regions administrators.

People from Thagyar Chaung village of Kawkareik Township in Kayin State gave two handmade percussion rifles and villagers of Sin Gone in Katha Township of Sagaing 1 handmade gun on 26 May. And people from Pan Tin village of Ingapu Township of Ayeyawady Region handed over two handmade guns to the security members. The security members systematically keep the firearms surrendered by the people. — MNA
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 Haka Township, Falam Township, Mindat Township, Matupi Township and Paletwa Township in Chin State.

2. According to the inspection, the previous election commission released 163,199 eligible voters in these townships. The list of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population in November 2020 showed 177,831 eligible voters who had turned 18. The voter lists mentioned that there were 8,516 citizens, associate citizens, naturalized citizens, and non-identity voters, 1,944 persons repeated on the voter lists more than three times, and 20,098 persons repeated on the voter lists twice.

3. The findings of the voter list by township are as follows:

### Findings on voter lists in each township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Total polling station</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>Haka</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>39,204</td>
<td>33,097</td>
<td>2,967</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>3,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Falam</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>39,213</td>
<td>30,236</td>
<td>1,482</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>5,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mindat</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>30,706</td>
<td>23,842</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>4,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Matupi</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>38,019</td>
<td>35,559</td>
<td>646</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>6,074</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Paletwa</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15,997</td>
<td>55,897</td>
<td>2,533</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>1,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>163,199</td>
<td>177,631</td>
<td>8,516</td>
<td>1,944</td>
<td>20,098</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. The Union Election Commission has inspected the withdrawal/receipt/use/remaining of ballot papers used for Pyithu Hluttaw Election of Haka Township, Falam Township, Mindat Township, Matupi Township and Paletwa Township in Chin State 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.

5. According to the inspection, a total of 549 polling stations in these seven townships took out 267,910 ballots and used 123,225 ballots. It left 144,685 ballots instead of 144,665 ballots. The difference was 11,251 ballots, and it found 1,182 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>Township</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>Haka</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>48,149</td>
<td>30,400</td>
<td>17,749</td>
<td>16,289</td>
<td>1,510</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Falam</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>52,076</td>
<td>27,748</td>
<td>24,327</td>
<td>23,716</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mindat</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>39,465</td>
<td>23,844</td>
<td>15,621</td>
<td>14,273</td>
<td>1,448</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Matupi</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>50,020</td>
<td>31,088</td>
<td>18,912</td>
<td>12,374</td>
<td>7,138</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Paletwa</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>78,209</td>
<td>10,184</td>
<td>68,025</td>
<td>67,964</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>267,910</td>
<td>123,225</td>
<td>144,685</td>
<td>144,616</td>
<td>11,251</td>
<td>1,182</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. According to the inspections on voter lists of these five townships of Chin State, the numbers of eligible voters are less 14,632 than the voter lists according to the lists of citizens, associate citizens, naturalized citizens who had turned 18 in November 2020 of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population and Hluttaw Election Law Section 6 (a).

7. There are 8,516 non-identity voters. Moreover, Hluttaw Election Law Section (15) (c) in Chapter VI, “Preparation of Voting Roll” states, “Whoever has the right to vote in any constituency shall not be included in the voting roll of any constituency other than that of the constituency concerned at the same time.” However, there were 1,944 persons repeated on the voter lists more than three times and 20,098 persons repeated on the voter lists twice in these five townships of Chin State.

8. During the inspection of voter lists and casting of votes in Haka Township, only ballots papers used for the Pyithu Hluttaw were found at Polling Station No (2) of Malsawm village-tract and Polling Station No (2) of Lone Yan village-tract, and it was found that receipt, remaining ballot papers and ballot paper Form (1) books were missing.

9. During the inspection of voter lists and casting of votes in Falam Township, it was found that the polling station bag containing the receipt of used ballots for Pyithu Hluttaw, remaining ballot papers, and ballot paper Form (1) books were missing from the Losao village-tract polling station (1).

10. Of the 66 ballot papers used for advance voting in Falam Township, only one voter name was included in the receipt, and the signature of the voter, polling station number and ward/village-tract names were not filled out.

11. During the inspection of voter lists and casting of votes in Matupi Township, it was found that the polling station bag containing the used ballot receipts, remaining ballot papers and ballot paper Form (1) was missing from the polling station (2) included Chan Pyan village-tract and polling station (3) of Teeneeyar village, Rarshit village-tract.

12. Regarding the loss of the polling station bag, the Secretary of the Matupi Township Election Sub-commission, contacted the secretary of the Chan Pyan village Election Sub-Commission on 14.4.2021, and it was known that the bag was kept at his house, and he was informed to return the bag. Although the bag was inspected when he returned it on 15.4.2021, the polling station bag of the Teeneeyar village polling station was not found.

13. The advance ballot papers used in Paletwa Township was found in the five polling stations of the town, and it was not found that they were systematically distributed. The Form (16-1), “Remaining unused ballot paper lists”, was not included in the polling station bags. It was found that the ballot paper forms (1) were not booked, and the ballot papers to be posted at the polling station were not affixed but were put only in the polling station bag.

14. Findings in these five townships of Chin State were as follows:

(a) There were 125,565 voters, and they used 123,225 ballot papers out of all withdrawals, which was 2,054 less than the number of voters.

(b) It was found that ballots were missing in withdrawing and using.

(c) A total of 1,182 extra ballot papers found in some polling stations.

(d) They did not follow the Hluttaw Election Law Rules 66(b). They separately returned the ballot receipts/remaining ballots to the township election sub-commission only after the election.
State Administration Council
Press Release
Re-invitation to Myanmar citizens who reside in various regions for many reasons

1. Some student youths, State service personnel and citizens, with worries, have evaded to areas of EAOs and foreign countries due to the incitements and intimidation of NLD members, extremist followers, unlawful associations and terrorist groups such as CRPH and NUG, stimulation of CDM, and persons and organizations at home and abroad not wishing to restore peace and stability of the State since Tatmadaw assumed the State responsibilities on 1 February 2021.

2. They are further worried about the dictatorial statement and speeches of unlawful association and terrorist group CRPH and NUG, and some relevant persons. As they face no security guarantee and difficulties in socio-economic life in those areas, they wish to return to their native lands.

3. The State Administration Council will specifically ease restrictions for service personnel, intellectuals and intelligentsia, and persons from various arenas and citizens who, with worries, absconded from the country except for persons who committed murders, robberies, setting fires, mine explosions and intentional attacks on security troops, those who crowded to attack public service personnel and some people, those who destroyed government and private-owned buildings and those who are highly involved in the CDM activities by providing monetary assistance and other means.

4. As those who evade their native areas are also citizens, the State Administration Council will arrange their returns from the evaded areas to various parts of Myanmar.

5. As such, the information was released that if those who evaded to various areas, except for persons who committed any kinds of crime, wish to return to their native lands in Myanmar of their own accord due to multiple worries, the citizens abroad can contact nearby ward, village, township and district administration bodies and relevant embassies, military attaché offices and consulates in accord with the easing restrictions under the law.

Information Team
State Administration Council

The State Administration Council will specifically ease restrictions for service personnel, intellectuals and intelligentsia, and persons from various arenas and citizens who, with worries, absconded from the country except for persons who committed murders, robberies, setting fires, mine explosions and intentional attacks on security troops, those who crowded to attack public service personnel and some people, those who destroyed government and private-owned buildings and those who are highly involved in the CDM activities by providing monetary assistance and other means.

Myanmar delegation participates in 22nd ASEAN SCI meeting

The ASEAN SCI meeting aims to strengthen mutual understanding and mutual respect among member countries through ASEAN regional media and implement the ASEAN projects with the rotating ASEAN Chairmanship.

At the meeting, the project proposal was discussed to include Myanmar in charge of hosting the 10th ASEAN Quiz (National Level) and the 10th ASEAN Quiz (Regional Level) in 2022.

Viet Nam will chair the 23rd ASEAN Sub-Committee Meeting on Information in 2022. – MNA

Myanmar hosts ASEAN wildlife-related meetings virtually

Myanmar hosted the 10th ASEAN Working Group on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement and the 2nd ASEAN Technical Meeting on Development of ASEAN Handbook on Legal Cooperation to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trade on 26 and 27 May via videoconferencing.

During the meetings, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw discussed the enactment of the law in order to combat illegal trade of wildlife, flora and fauna, the draft of plans to eradicate illicit wildlife trade, activities to draw the attention of local populace for biodiversity conservation, and cooperation works between departments concerned and ASEAN regions.

The ASEAN member countries, the international organizations, including the CITES’ Secretariat Office and ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, then presented the law enforcement on the illegal trade of wildlife. A total of 116 delegations from ASEAN, the Forest Department and other relevant international organizations joined the meetings. – MNA
HUMAN society needs not to act discrimination of gender, disability, IQ, EQ and others with holding up sympathy. Everybody, including the able-bodied are member of human society. They all have an equal form of rights to shape their future and fortune as they like. Anyone does not have the right to set aside others depending on their identity. The word of disabilities is inclusive of deformities at body or mental disabilities or the mental one. It is not showed not only fine personalities but deformities on everybody depending on general reasons.

That is why, nobody is empowered to remove or add any unnatural gifts of humans. That is why no one needs to blame for physical and mental disabilities on others.

On the other hand, everybody has responsibil- ities and obligations to give a helping hand to those with disabilities in shaping a better society with equal- ity and non-discrimination. Currently the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Rehabilitation is drafting the five-year national strategy plan for the persons with disabilities in order to provide assis- tance to them. The five-year strategic plan is based on eight principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The noble truths of suffering, the truth of the middle path, the truth of the death, and the truth of the after life is the paths leading to the attainment of the noble life.

The Buddha, who had suffered from the suffering for a long time, found the noble truths and taught them to others.

The noble truths are as follows:

1. The suffering of the human beings is caused by desire and craving.
2. The cause of suffering can be ended by the eradication of desire and craving.
3. The cause of suffering can be eradicated by the practice of the middle path.
4. The practice of the middle path leads to the attainment of nirvana.

The Buddha taught these four noble truths to his disciples and asked them to practice them. The disciples followed the Buddha’s teachings and attained enlightenment.

The universal truth we have been searching for the whole life circle (Samsara) is

Universal truth we have been searching for the whole life circle (Samsara)

By Aung Kyaw Thant

In Myanmar, the Universal truth we have been searching for the whole life circle (Samsara) can be said to be something special as a day truth, a week truth, a month truth and a year truth as well as a life truth. An Excel life truth should not be identified as the universal truth. It is because such truth has just a life span only, but its term cannot be beyond the period of one life. So, we can adopt the conclusion that if a truth is placed under a limited period, it will not be a universal truth.

Although today’s truth can be substituted with tomorrow’s wrong, it is just identification. It depends on the own concept of analysts. Those who firmly uphold different concepts will not be disagreed by other concepts. They will all seem concepts different from their concepts, may be wrong ones. They think something unequal to their concepts will be wrong. Likewise, they think something which has been recognized by the concepts, as well as the truths they accept, may be wrong ones. Actually, we all need to analyze and scrutinize our concepts which are really right or wrong. In fact, the religious concepts and ideologies should not be considered with that of social and political fields. However, these four noble truths mentioned above may not be disagreed by other. All the concepts and ideologies can be observed in various aramas. One concept from the religious sector can be used in the political arena, while one ideology is used in the economic sector.

Moreover, the political field heirs some usages related to the truth from the religious arena. It is noticeable that concepts, ideas and attitudes concerning the universal truth can be seen in various sectors, but they are not changeable. The definition of the universal truth in various sectors is unchangeable. Hence, whoever says what the universal truth is, we should analyze it under the codes of noble truth. Despite the exis- tence of the nobility, it is just identification. You should analyze it at first whether it is long lasting truth or not. If it is unchangeable truth until human beings attain theNibbana, it can be identified as a universal truth. Identification of the Univer-
sal truth

The one-day truth, the one-year truth and on, depending on non-re-
ligious concepts, is not enlisted in the universal truths. With regard to the religious arena, especially the Buddhist church, the truth which is long lasting the world is called the universal truth. Identification of the Universal

The four noble truths

The four noble truths are:

1. The suffering of the human beings is caused by desire and craving.
2. The cause of suffering can be ended by the eradication of desire and craving.
3. The cause of suffering can be eradicated by the practice of the middle path.
4. The practice of the middle path leads to the attainment of nirvana.

It can be said that the persons with disabilities in Myanmar can see a better future thanks to the implementation of the national strategic plan.

Universal truth we have been searching for the whole life circle (Samsara) in Myanmar can see a better future thanks to the implementation of the national strategic plan.
The ASEAN Leaders’ Meeting

In his capacity as State Administration Council Chairman, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing made the first foreign trip to Jakarta, Indonesia to attend the ASEAN Leaders’ Meeting, held on 24 April 2021. While it is hardly unusual for a State Leader to make an overseas trip, this trip was notable for highlighting the future path of the government led by the State Administration Council to ASEAN and the world, despite the state of emergency. It was made clear that the State Administration Council would continue to safeguard the country and protect its national interests, keep the nation on a path of democratic reform, improve national stability, and raise the living standards of citizens.

The State Administration Council Chairman informed the ASEAN leaders that Myanmar would continue to support regional stability, reconstruction, and rehabilitation. Moreover, he reiterated that Myanmar would maintain close cooperation with ASEAN countries in line with the ASEAN Charter and the provisions of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia in order to achieve the aims and purposes of ASEAN.

During the ASEAN Leaders’ Meeting, the State Administration Council Chairman presented the political changes in Myanmar and the tasks that lay ahead. The trip underscored the State Administration Council’s key roles, highlighted international and regional acceptance of the current situation of Myanmar and on the points in the statement of the ASEAN Chairman. In response to ASEAN Leaders’ befitting acknowledgment of the priorities now to be to maintain law and order and restore community peace and stability, the way forward would depend on the progress in restoring stability to the country. Myanmar also informed that all suggestions would be positively considered if these facilitated the implementation of the Five-Point Roadmap that had been laid down by the State Administration Council, in accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, ASEAN Way and ASEAN Spirit. Peace, security, and the rule of law

On 31 March 2021, the Tatmadaw issued a statement regarding ceasefire arrangements and the peace process. The statement announced that the Tatmadaw would extend the suspension of all military operations until the end of April, so that ongoing peace negotiations could continue, and the traditional Myanmar Thingyan festival could be held peacefully. On 30 April 2021, the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services extended the suspension of all military operations until 31 May 2021, except in cases where the government’s security and administrative machinery is being sabotaged and attacked. The statement urged all in the meantime to negotiate and make concerted efforts to achieve durable peace.

On 20 April 2021, the Myanmar Navy conducted the Three-Dimensional Naval Exercise – Sea Shield 2020, which involved exercises in strategic air defence, surface warfare and underwater warfare. The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services himself inspected the operations on 10 April.

Starting from 2 April 2021, legal actions under Section 505-A of the Penal Code were taken against those who commit incitements affecting peace and stability. The suspects thus charged have their names, addresses, photos, and Facebook accounts disclosed in state-owned newspapers, radio, and television channels on a daily basis. Among those charged are well-known public figures, artists, and medical doctors. Those who have spread false news in order to stoke unrest and riots are also being charged.

On 29 April 2021, the Ministry of Home Affairs issued a
press release stating that since the so-called Committee Representing Pyithu Hluttaw (CRPH) was formed illegally, the CRPH and its associated organizations had been declared as unlawful associations on 21 March 2021. Actions have been taken against CRPH for forming an illegal parallel government. Accordingly, the NUG (National Unity Government) formed by the CRPH is also an illegal association and NUG members are illegitimate. On 22 April, 26 members of the so-called parallel government were charged at courts and police stations. Moreover, the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners has not been allowed to register as it does not conform to the Association Registration Law and Rules. The Association claims to release the death toll during the riots. Based on social media and rumours, the numbers are not accurate and have been grossly exaggerated.

such information causes more unrest and public concern, and the Ministry of Home Affairs stated on 26 April that action would be taken under the law against such false reports. On 1 April 2021, the State Administration Council issued its invitation again to Myanmar citizens who had left Myanmar for various reasons. The invitation noted that certain citizens, including students, youth, and civil servants, had fled to areas dominated by ethnic armed organizations or to other countries, due to fear fueled by falsehoods produced by local and foreign organizations. Those who have fled are now suffering with regard to security, life prospects, and socio-economic conditions. Therefore, the State Administration Council invites such citizens to return to their homes. The Government has also made arrangements for young people who had participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) and the protection test, but had only done so with incitement from others, to be reunited with their parents in April.

On 27 April 2021, the State Administration Council’s Information Team released a statement that indicated leniency for civil servants who have been involved in CDM not because they wished to undermine the state but as a result of pressure, threats and coercion from others and fear of social punishment. Such civil servants will be given special consideration, and provided with the opportunity to re-enter government service, with certain condition- alities and limitations.

Collective strength

The government led by the State Administration Council is accelerating measures to enhance regional development, uplift people’s lives, and set the course to achieve democracy, based on goodwill, decisive and solar power generation at Indawgyi Lake. Furthermore, the meeting also discussed the issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards under the Citizenship Law.

Arrangements are being made to grant citizenship scrutiny cards to all eligible citizens. The Pankhin project will issue citizenship scrutiny cards to more than 3.8 million people. This task will require the full participation of staff at each level in all relevant departments.

The implementation of measures to improve state and regional development is proceeding in a transparent and consultative way. On 6 April 2021, the State Administration Council Chairman met with the Chairpersons of Region/State Administration Councils and Self-Administered Division/Zone Administration Bodies. The State Administration Council Chairman underscored the need to serve the interests of agricultural products over natural resources exploitation, and to actions that develop human resources in each region.

The support of the leadership has provided renewed impetus to the Tatmadaw medical corps who are providing medical services to the civilian population, and to the government’s efforts to reopen public hospitals, closed because of civil disobedience by public doctors, who had also expelled their own patients. The leadership provides motivation to accelerate transport and other infrastructural projects for the country, as well as the required improvements in health, education, and other socio-economic sectors. Leadership firms up the resolve to control the spread of misinformation and disinformation via media, reopen schools for children and adolescents, and ensure that adherents of all religions can practise their faith peacefully.

On 1 April 2021, the State Administration Council focused on management of COVID-19, the need for solid evidence to take action against an organization under existing law, the need to appreciate loyal government employees, the resumption of normal operations by banks, the actions against entertain- ment artists committing illegal actions, the organization of interim press conferences, and firm commitment. Policy guidance and prioritization are set by the various deliberations of the State Administration Council. For example, on 22 April 2021, the meeting of the Management Committee of the State Administration Council focused on the production and export of products, the effective use of the State budget, the organization of sports competitions, the arrangements for reopening schools in May and June, and the renewed emphasis on law and business in university curricula. On 26 April 2021, the State Administration Council meeting (9/2021) focused on the need for solid evidence to take action against an organization under existing law, the need to appreciate loyal government employees, the resumption of normal operations by banks, the actions against entertain- ment artists committing illegal actions, the organization of interim press conferences, and the entire people and obtain their trust as a government that can be relied upon to deliver results. He emphasized that Myanmar must continue to work towards the achievement of democracy and federalism. As such, citizens would need to broaden their knowledge of democracy and federalism. Priority would be given to the export of agricultural products over natural resources exploitation, and to actions that develop human resources in each region.

On 10 April 2021, the State Administration Council Chairman met with the members of the Ayeyawady Region Administration Council and departmental staff. The meeting emphasized development issues and the resumption of operations. The Union Ministers accompanying the State Administration Council Chairman focused on the reopening of public schools, universities, and health care programmes in the region.

Regional and international cooperation

The Twenty-Fifth ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council Meeting of ministers was held virtually on 30 March 2021 under the ASEAN Chairmanship of Brunei Darussalam. Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Ko Ko and his delegation joined the meeting via videoconferencing. The ministers discussed socio-economic development and collaboration among ASEAN countries.

On 4 April 2021, the Union Minister for International Cooperation attended the 17th Ministerial meeting of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), which was held virtually in Colombo, Sri Lanka to finalize preparations for the Fifth BIMSTEC Summit to be held in Sri Lanka in 2021. The Union Minister discussed the approval of documents to be signed at the upcoming Fifth BIMSTEC Summit on economic cooperation, safe transportation, and mutual collaboration in the agricultural and energy sectors.

On 8 April 2021, the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs participated in the ASEAN-UK Open-Ended Troika Meeting on cooperation between ASEAN and the UK in health-related matters, including COVID-19, resilient and sustainable economic recovery, and climate change. The Union Minister presented Myanmar’s emphasis on management of COVID-19 and economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, both of which are part of the State Administration Council’s Five-Point Road Map.
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**Gandhama (Chrysanthemum) flower prices plummet due to oversupply**

One bouquet of the flower was between K3,000 and K3,500 last year. It is only K2,000 this year, according to a flower grower from Kyaukmee village, Patheingyi Township.

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**Scallops in Taninthayi Region**

The scallop is a popular local delicacy in townships in the Taninthayi Region, where long and wide coastlines exist, being prepared and sold as a variety of seafood from neighbouring Thailand.

Loosely known as Shat, various kinds of scallops can be found along the mouth of Pulaw creek in Pulaw Township, Kyel, Kyauk Kan Phe and Min Ka Kyel as well as in the muddy and sandy beaches in Myeik, Bokpyin and Kawthoung townships, Taninthayi Region. Unlike fish, the scallops do not hatch or reproduce individually. They grow only in loamy soils with a mixture of silt and sand, with the mucus inside the husk. Their reproduction rate is swift, and fishers collect them for the family or to sell them.

The location of collecting them varies depending on the unstable weather conditions and the tide. However, they can be collected all year round. On some days, it can be done twice a day and sometimes once a day, depending on the tide. There are various methods for collecting scallops. Commercial collectors use a small boat and a shovel to collect them under the deep sea underwater, which is around a man's height, to export to Thailand. Local self-employed scallop collectors collect them on the sandy beaches at low tide.

Local people eat scallops, which is dried, fermented, boiled, steamed or grilled. It can also be made with a variety of home-cooked dishes and cooked with Thai spices at hotels and restaurants. It is reported that scallops that are rich in vitamins and protein are not abundant in any coastal region apart from Taninthayi Region. — Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung) GNLM

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**Small-scale fish farm makes profits**

SUBSISTENCE fish farming of Ko Ye Htut from Payathonezu Township of Kawakareik District in Kayin State sell the fish at reasonable prices to the people during the COVID-19 pandemic.

He orders the catfish and climbing perch from Yangon and breeds them from 2 months to 4 months. The farmed fishes are sold at Payathonezu market at K2,500 (50 baht) per kilo of catfish and K5,000 (100 baht) per kilo of climbing perch. — Payathonezu (IPRD) GNLM
Spain races to vaccinate farm workers against virus ‘time bomb’

Under Spain’s vaccination programme, farm workers have been given priority. PHOTO: AFP

Bezos to hand over Amazon CEO reins on July 5

AMAZON founder Jeff Bezos said Wednesday that he will hand over operational control to his successor on July 5, leaving as the e-commerce giant flexes its muscles in television and cloud. Bezos is ceding his chief executive role to Andy Jassy, who heads Amazon Web Services, the lucrative cloud computing unit at the Seattle-based company. Bezos will take the role of executive chair.

Bezos announced his departure date at an annual shareholders meeting, saying it has “sentimental” value to him because it will be the 27th anniversary of Amazon officially becoming a corporation.

Bezos assured investors that Jassy is well known in the company, having been at Amazon almost as long as Bezos.

“He is going to be an exceptional leader, and he has all my confidence,” Bezos said of Jassy. — AFP

Shares in Hong Kong democracy paper quadruple as suspension ends

SHARES in the parent company of Hong Kong’s pro-democracy Apple Daily newspaper quadrupled on Thursday as trading in them resumed following an eight day suspension. Dealing in Next Digital was halted last week after city authorities said they were freezing the assets of its jailed media tycoon Jimmy Lai, using a sweeping new national security law.

But when trading resumed Thursday the share price skyrocketed from its previous close of HK$0.19 to hit HK$0.80 before paring the gains to HK$0.16 mid-morning.

The group saw a similar — and volatile — surge in its share price in August when police first arrested Lai, as ordnary Hong Kongers snapped up the firm to show support for the embattled Apple Daily.

The 73-year-old media tycoon has sturdly backed Hong Kong’s pro-democracy cause, including the huge and often violent protests that swept the international financial hub in 2019.

The 73-year-old media tycoon has staunchly backed Hong Kong’s pro-democracy cause, including the huge and often violent protests that swept the international financial hub in 2019.

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Dated: 28th May, 2021
Seintalone export to China plunges by half as against last year

U Kyaw Soe Naing, general secretary of the Myanmar Mango Market and Technology Development Association, said Seintalone mango export this year is about 50 per cent less than in the corresponding period last year.

“Last year, nearly all the mangoes from Seintalone mangoes from Sagaing and Katha cities are daily sent to China on 10 to 15 trucks, Myanmar Mango Market and Technology Development Association stated. Eight per cent of Myanmar’s Seintalone goes to China. It fetches 100 Yuan per 16 kg box.

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Short supply makes tomato prices skyrocket

AS there are a few growers of tomato plants in Kawlin and Wuntho townships, Sagaing region, this keeps prices high. The tomato growers in the townships are making better profits this year than last year.

“Tomato growers in Kawlin and Wuntho townships are making better profits this year than last year. The drop in mango export is attributed to China’s restriction in some border areas amid the COVID-19 and delays related to the COVID-19 containment measure (COVID-19 test for food packaging).”

“China shut down many border posts. Only Kyinsankyaw post is available for cross-border trade, causing delays and long queue. It takes 4 to 5 days for a truck to enter the checkpoint. Heightening security measures on fruits and vegetables hinders the border trade,” U Kyaw Soe Naing continued.

Seintalone mangoes from Sagaing and Katha cities are daily sent to China on 10 to 15 trucks, Myanmar Mango Market and Technology Development Association stated.

Eight per cent of Myanmar’s Seintalone goes to China. It fetches 100 Yuan per 16 kg box.

Tomato growers in Kawlin and Wuntho townships are making better profits this year than last year. Of about 200 mango varieties that originated in Myanmar, Seintalone, Shwehintha, Padamyan Ngamaun, Yinwke, and Machitsu varieties are primarily grown.

The foreign market prefers the Seintalone type.

Ayeawady Region possesses the most extensive mango plantation areas, having about 46,000 acres. Bago Region is the second-largest producer with 43,000 acres, and Mandalay has 29,000 acres of mango.

According to the association, there are over 44,000 acres in Kayin State, over 20,400 acres in Shan State and over 20,000 acres in Sagaing Region. — NN/GNLM

Myanmar attracts $1.25 bln FDI in seven months this FY

MYANMAR has drawn foreign direct investment of more than US$1.256 billion in the past seven months of the 2020-2021 financial year, including expansion of capital by existing enterprises and acquisitions in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

MIC intends to reach an FDI target of $5.8 billion for the current FY2020-2021. The Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations has been inviting responsible businesses to benefit the country. Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) ensures to approve the responsible businesses by assessing environmental and social impacts. The commission is working together with the relevant departments to screen the projects.

Japan has been the top source of foreign direct investments into Myanmar over the past seven months of the current FY. It brought in an estimated capital of $18.76 million with three projects, DICA’s statistics indicated.

Singapore stood as the second-largest investors this FY with an estimated capital of $383 million from 13 enterprises, followed by China investing $166.75 million in Myanmar. Those enterprises listed from Thailand, India, Japan, Indonesia, the UK, Viet Nam, Marshall Island, South Africa, Samoa, China, Hong Kong (SAR) and China (Taipei) also made investments this year.

MIC and the respective investment committees permitted and endorsed 42 foreign enterprises between 1 October and 30 April in the current FY. Of 42, 21 enterprises pumped FDI into the manufacturing sector. The power sector received seven projects, and the livestock and fisheries sector attracted five projects. The other service sectors also drew five projects, while the agriculture sector pulled two projects.

One foreign enterprise each entered the industrial estate and the hotels and tourism industries.

The FDIs stood at $6.9 million from 158 enterprises in the FY2016-2017, $6.119 billion from 234 businesses in the FY2017-2018, $1.94 billion from 89 projects in the 2018 mini-budget year, $4.5 billion from 298 firms in the FY2018-2019 and $5.689 billion from 253 businesses in the FY2019-2020 respectively, the DICA’s data indicated. Those enterprises have created over 90,000 jobs in the FY2016-2017, 110,000 jobs in the FY2017-2018, over 53,000 jobs in the 2018 mini-budget period, over 180,000 jobs in the FY2018-2019 and 210,000 jobs in the FY2019-2020, respectively.

— MM/GNLM
The Swedish fashion retailer H&M is gradually placing orders from Myanmar again after it paused in March. Then, more international fashion retailers such as Primark and Bestseller starts to resume new orders.

The domestic gold price hit only over K1.57 million on 27 May despite the rising of global gold price, according to Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association (YGREA).

The international gold price was around US$1,808 per ounce on 27 May. Although the international gold price stood at only $1,834 per ounce on 12 May, the price of precious yellow metal hit the all-time highest of K1,709,000 per tical (57.8 ounce, or 1.016 kilogramme) in history. As a result, the domestic gold price is not rising like international gold.

Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association is taking the necessary measures to stabilize the gold price as per the instructions of the special investigation team, according to an announcement of YGREA issued on 17 May. At present, the association has closed the gold trading to be able to stabilize the gold price as per the instructions of the special investigation team.
Zinedine Zidane has resigned as Real Madrid’s coach with immediate effect, the Spanish club said Thursday, just days after they were beaten to the La Liga title by Atletico Madrid. Only 10 days ago Zidane, who has a contract until 2022, denied press speculation he had already told his players he would be leaving at the end of the season. “It is now time to respect his decision and show our appreciation for his professionalism, dedication and passion all these years,” Real Madrid said in a statement on its website. “Zidane is one of Real Madrid’s great myths and his legend beyond his role as coach and player at our club.”

The Frenchman’s departure comes at the end of a disappointing campaign for the 13-time European champions, who also lost to Chelsea in the Champions League semi-finals as they failed to win a trophy for the first time in 11 seasons. Only 10 days ago Zidane, who has a contract until 2022, denied press speculation he had already told his players he would be leaving at the end of the season.

“Well, in the end, what matters is the result on the pitch.”

“This is a game left and we are going to give everything. I only care what happens in this finale,” he said at the time. But, tellingly, he added: “The rest, we will see at the end of the season.” The announcement marks the end of Zidane’s second spell in charge of the Spanish giants. — AFP

Villarreal bask in ‘special’ Europa League triumph

VILLARREAL midfielder Francis Coquelin hailed his side’s “special” maiden major trophy, secured in stunning fashion with victory over Manchester United in the Europa League final on Wednesday. Playing their first ever major European final, Unai Emery’s men clinched a memorable triumph 11-10 on penalties in Gdansk.

“It feels really good. It’s been a very tough competition,” Frenchman Coquelin told BT Sport. “What an end!” The match finished 1-1 after extra time, with Man United striker Edinson Cavani having cancelled out Gerard Moreno’s first-half opener. Villarreal finished seventh in La Liga, but the win over United sees them jump from next season’s Intertoto Cups in 2003 and 2004.

“We didn’t manage to get to the Champions League through the league so to get through with our first title is amazing,” added former Arsenal midfielder Coque- lin. “Obviously to beat them in the final was something special. “We will try to celebrate (despite Covid) because it’s something special for the club.”

Villarreal’s only previous silverware had been the Spanish third division in 1970 and two Intertoto Cups in 2003 and 2004.

“We had a great match against one of the best teams in the world,” left-back Alfonso Pedraza told RMC Sport. — AFP

Myanmar to play World Cup Qualifier against Japan today

Myanmar men’s national football team will take on Japan national team today at Fuku-Ari Stadium in Tokyo in the 2022 World Cup Qualifier.

Defenders are Zaw Ye Tun (Yadanarbon FC), Ye Yint Aung, Lar Din Mawra (Hanthawady United), Ye Min Thu (Shan United), Soe Moe Kyaw (Yan- gon United), Hein Htet Sithu (Yadanarbon FC) and Tin Win (Free Agent).

Midfielders are Yan Naing Oo, Maung Maung Lwin, Nyein Chan Aung, Lwin Moe Aung and Maung Maung Win from Yangon United, Tin Win Aung from Free Agent, Hlaing Bo Bo from Sukhothai FC, Myat Kaung Khant from Yadanarbon FC and Htet Phyo Wai from Shan United.

For the match against Japan, Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) has released a primary list of 24 players. Defenders are Zaw Ye Tun (Yadanarbon FC), Ye Yint Aung, Lar Din Mawra (Hanthawady United), David Htan (Shan United), Soe Moe Kyaw (Yan-gon United), Hein Htet Sithu (Yadanarbon FC) and Tin Win (Free Agent).

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