Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, being the State’s capital where the government opens offices, must be a role model in neatness and tidiness: Senior General

STATE Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday afternoon inspected the situation to expand the Mingalar Lake circular roads in Nay Pyi Taw and land preparations for landscaping beauty grass along Yarzahtani Road.

At the site to expand the Mingalar Lake circular roads near Thabyegon roundabout in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, the Senior General viewed the public recreation area, the site to hang souvenir key chains, the floating desk in Mingalar Lake, and the site to take physical exercise. The Senior General said that being the State’s capital where the government opens offices, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory must be a role model in neatness and tidiness.

SEE PAGE-3

State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing is inspecting expansion works of the Mingalar Lake circular roads in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 May 2021.
72 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 28 May, total figure rises to 143,486

Myanmar’s COVID-19 positive cases rose to 143,486 after 72 new cases were reported on 28 May 2021 according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these confirmed cases, 132,579 have been discharged from hospitals. —MNA
For reducing edible oil consumption

EDIBLE oil crops are involved on the list of primary export items of Myanmar. As individual people of Myanmar consumes 4.5 visses of edible oil per year, its consumption rate is too high. Import of edible oil abroad spends much foreign exchange because edible oil cannot be produced at home sufficiently. As it is necessary to ensure edible oil sufficiency at home, efforts must be made for thriving edible oil crop plantations in the respective areas so as to increase the per-acre yield of edible oil crops. The Ministry of Health and Sports and the Ministry of Information must continuously perform the educative tasks for reducing edible oil consumption.

(Excerpt from the speech to the Management Committee meeting made by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 11 May 2021)

Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, being the State’s capital where the government opens offices, must be a role model in neatness and tidiness: Senior General

FROM PAGE-1

tidiness. As the lake is a public relaxation area, arrangements must be made for them to relax tranquilly. Monsoon will fall in the near future, so it is necessary to make preparations for proper water flow in roads and residential areas of the capital and keep the area clean and tidy without garbage. The Senior General attended to the needs.

The Senior General inspected land preparations to grow a beautiful lawn in front of rain-tree plants along Yarzahtani Road. He instructed officials to carry out the tasks according to capital characteristics and timely completion of tasks.

Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory is a hub of government office of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. It was formed with eight townships that are home to some 1.1 million urban and rural population. No 1 circular road of Mingalar Lake is 4,960 feet long and eight feet wide, and No 2 facility, 11,660 feet long. These two roads will be expanded with two more feet wide on both sides, and the 12 feet wide concrete roads will be constructed on them. The area where land preparations are being made to grow beautiful grass is some 4,600 feet long. — MNA

Tatmadaw provides treatments to over 220,000 outpatients

TATMA DW keeps providing healthcare services for patients at the military hospitals and temporary treatment hospitals in the townships of regions and states.

Tatmadaw medical teams, which comprise Tatmadaw doctors, specialists, medical assistants and nurses, have given medical treatments to the people to solve their difficulties in healthcare services. A total of 224,233 outpatients and 67,613 inpatients reached these hospitals from 5 February to date.

Senior medical experts, medics, medical assistants and nurses have conducted 10,482 major operations and 5,357 minor operations. The senior doctors gave intensive treatment the severe cases.

These hospitals managed for the birth of 13,206 babies to date. Of those, 5,365 cases are done in the caesarean section and 7,841 cases in ordinary delivery.

In addition to providing medical care to patients in need of hospitalization, Tatmadaw is making arrangements for the well-being of hospitalized patients and caregivers. Northern Command Commander Brig-Gen Myat Thet Oo and party encouraged patients – locals, military officers, other ranks and their families and members of Myanmar Police Force – who took medical treatments at the station military hospital in Myitkyina Town, Kachin State. He also presented foodstuffs to the patients yesterday.

Similarly, Commanders of South-West Command and Southern Command clutched comfort blankets onto patients with medical treatments at the respective station military hospitals. — MNA
All statistic data sent by ministries must be accurate, firm and correct: Vice-Senior General

State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Vice-Senior General Soe Win presides over the meeting 1/2021 of the Central Committee on Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics yesterday.

ONLY when they fully cooperate with one another to collect accurate statistic data will the country obtain the correct data and quality of statistics, said Chairman of the Central Committee on Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the meeting 1/2021 of the Central Committee at the State Administration Council Chairman’s Office yesterday morning.

In his address, the Vice-Senior General said the Central Committee for Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics was reconstituted when the State Administration Council held the first meeting. The central committee was reconstituted on 12 July 2013 depending on cooperation with partners, decisions on practices and adoption of policies based on the Nay Pyi Taw Accord for Effective Development Cooperation adopted in the first Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum in 2013. The central committee was reconstituted in 2016 and 2018. The central committee was re-formed on 4 March 2021 again. It adopted a six-point national statistical policy. The Vice-Senior General stressed the need for the Central Committee to do its tasks in a quick process. Clusters 1, 2 and 3 under the Central Committee are to theoretically and practically coordinate with each other in respective ministries.

Expression of actual situations is essential for respective countries. In this regard, it is necessary to express the condition with accurate statistic data, and departments and ministries need to cooperate with each other. Only when they fully cooperate with one another to collect accurate statistical data will the country obtain the correct data and quality of statistics. Work guidelines can be given correct in reviewing the international community’s trust, the people’s reliance on information and data of the entire nation, and correct statistics can be submitted to the Head of State. All the stages of the procedure of the central committee are important, so all committee members should do their tasks systematically. The Vice-Senior General urged all to implement the work procedures to contribute to the Myanmar Statistical Yearbook published by the Ministry of Planning and Finance on a yearly basis.

Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein reported on the implementation of the current tasks and statistics by the central committee, issuance of the firm and quality statistic data, better statistical coverage, and responsibility, accountability and cooperation of relevant organizations and ministries including the private sector. Officials reported on the implementation of the clusters, reformulation of the clusters, the accomplishment of the minutes of the meeting 1/2020, capacity enhancement of statistics, meeting and capacity enhancement training, collection of census population and surveys, survey calendar, and issuance of statistics. Members of the central committee, Union ministers and state and region administration councils presented the implementation of the national strategy for the development of statistics, efforts of relevant ministries and region and states in order to obtain correct statistics, the plans to decide minutes of the meeting 1/2021 of the central committee and sought the approval.

Later, the Vice-Senior General stressed the need to compile the statistic data meeting the international standard as the statistics of Myanmar are being solved in the global statistic system. It is necessary to turn out qualified scholars in order to specialize in the requirements of technologies in the collection of statistic data and modern data collection techniques by doing their works with the least reliance on foreign countries. In sharing data with the international community, statistical data must be correct, and modern technologies must be applied to collect and send the data. All statistic data sent by ministries must be accurate, firm and correct. As such, Myanmar can join the world statistic system. —MNA

Notification of COVID Vaccination Fund Management Sub-Committee

From 24-5-2021 to 28-5-2021, local/foreign donors contributed K0.1 million to the COVID-19 Vaccination Fund Myanmar currency account OA 013733 and foreign currency account EDC 60012 opened at Myanmar Economic Bank (Nay Pyi Taw). The status of the fund account as of 28-5-2021 is as follows:

**COVID-19 Vaccination Fund OA-013733 List**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kyat</th>
<th>USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Account opening balance on 24-5-2021</td>
<td>30,807,093,615.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed balance on 28-5-2021</td>
<td>30,807,183,615.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received amount of money from (+) 24-5-2021 to 28-5-2021</td>
<td>100,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COVID-19 Vaccination Fund EDC 60012 List**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kyat</th>
<th>USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Account opening balance on 24-5-2021</td>
<td>178,140,149.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed balance on 28-5-2021</td>
<td>178,140,149.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received amount of money from (+) 24-5-2021 to 28-5-2021</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 dictatorship 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 intelligentia, 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 kind 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

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SAC Member Jeng Phang Naw Taung attends preliminary archery competition for SEA Games

Ceremony to mark 3rd anniversary of Myanmar Law Information System held

The finals and awards-giving ceremony of the preliminary archery competition for participation in the XXXI Southeast Asian Games was held yesterday afternoon in Nay Pyi Taw.

The ceremony was attended by State Administration Council Member Jeng Phang Naw Taung, Deputy Minister for Health and Sports U Myo Hlaing, Acting Director-General of Department of Sports and Physical Education U Tun Myint Oo, President of the Myanmar Archery Federation U Zay Thha, Deputy Directors-General, Directors and officials.

The final competitions for compound individual, mix team and recurve individual were held at the ceremony and winners were awarded medals and cash rewards.

– MNA

The ceremony was held at the State Administration Council yesterday.

Union Attorney-General Dr Thida Oo pointed out that MLIS had been developed at www.mlis.gov.mm with the help of KOICA and the Ministry of Legislation (MOLEG) of Korea on 24 May 2018 to provide law-related information. Now, it reaches its third full year. The free MLIS is the very first system established in Myanmar among the ASEAN countries. A total of 16,761 data are added to the system to date, and there are 1,290,000 views.

She then highlighted the objectives for the establishment of MLIS as a Law Library for the people, including law researchers, law students and lawmakers, and the new category of Legal Translation Commission containing the law terms translated by the commission.

The efforts of the UAG Office to establish MLIS can assist the government when it implements an e-government system. Therefore, the ministry concerned should send their law-related data in a timely manner to be able to express on MLIS as an e-Law Library.

Present at the ceremony were Deputy Attorney-General U San Lwin, the Permanent Secretaries of Ministries, Directors-General, Deputy Directors-General and Directors of the UAG Office. – MNA

UNION Attorney-General Office organized the 3rd anniversary of the Myanmar Law Information System (MLIS) establishment yesterday.

Union Attorney-General Dr Thida Oo pointed out that MLIS had been developed at www.mlis.gov.mm with the help of KOICA and the Ministry of Legislation (MOLEG) of Korea on 24 May 2018 to provide law-related information. Now, it reaches its third full year. The free MLIS is the very first system established in Myanmar among the ASEAN countries. A total of 16,761 data are added to the system to date, and there are 1,290,000 views.

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1. Regarding the Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2020, the Union Election Commission has inspected the voter lists and the casting of votes of Kalay, Htigyaing, Wuntho, Bamauk, Pinlebu, Katha and Indaw townships in Sagaing Region.

2. According to the inspection, the previous election commission released 807,928 eligible voters in these seven townships in Sagaing Region. The list of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population in November 2020 showed 629,835 eligible voters who had turned 18. The voter lists mentioned that there were 51,799 citizens, associate citizens, non-identity citizens, and non-identity voters, 6,783 persons repeated on the voter lists more than three times and 87,212 persons repeated on the voter lists two times.

3. Findings in respective townships were as follows:

<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</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kalay</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>319,356</td>
<td>196,478</td>
<td>122,778</td>
<td>123,584</td>
<td>2,936</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Htigyaing</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>188,724</td>
<td>71,802</td>
<td>33,922</td>
<td>30,879</td>
<td>7,945</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wuntho</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>63,648</td>
<td>44,864</td>
<td>18,964</td>
<td>18,862</td>
<td>1,360</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bamauk</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>82,256</td>
<td>59,861</td>
<td>22,395</td>
<td>21,922</td>
<td>2,918</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2,481</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pinlebu</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>98,552</td>
<td>68,360</td>
<td>30,192</td>
<td>28,643</td>
<td>2,969</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Katha</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>105,840</td>
<td>70,634</td>
<td>35,206</td>
<td>34,146</td>
<td>1,360</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1,141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Indaw</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>92,473</td>
<td>93,659</td>
<td>1,659</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>8,978</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>773</td>
<td>912,725</td>
<td>691,080</td>
<td>311,645</td>
<td>304,153</td>
<td>33,378</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25,886</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 Kalay, Htigyaing, Wuntho, Bamauk, Pinlebu, Katha and Indaw townships in Sagaing 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 relevant Hluttaw Election Law.

5. According to the inspection, a total of 773 polling stations in these seven townships took out 912,725 ballots and used 691,080 ballots. It left 304,153 ballots instead of 311,645 ballots. The difference was 33,378 ballots and it found 25,886 extra ballots. The extra/shortage ballots were found at respective polling stations. Findings in respective townships were as follows:

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</tbody>
</table>

6. According to the inspections on voter lists of these seven townships of Sagaing Region, the numbers of eligible voters are more 178,093 than the voter lists according to the lists of citizens, associate citizens, naturalized citizens, and non-identity 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 51,799 non-identity voters. Moreover, Hluttaw Election Law Section (15) (c) in Chapter VI, “Preparation of Voting Roll” stated, “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.” But, there were 6,783 persons repeated on the voter lists more than three times and 87,212 persons repeated on the voter lists two times in these seven townships of Shan State.

8. According to the respective Hluttaw Election Rules 15 (a) which states, “Two sets of voter lists of the relevant ward or village-tract, signed and approved by the chairman and secretary of the ward or village-tract sub-commission on each page of the voter list, shall be sent to the township sub-commission. Township sub-commissions shall collect by constituency.” However, it was found that the voter list Form 1 of 30 village-tracts in Kalay Township were not signed by the chairperson and secretary of the relevant ward or village-tract sub-commission.

9. It was found that the signature or fingerprint of the voters were not included and marks and underlines and colorful inks, circle with pencil and black ink in the voter list Form (1) to confuse the voter and the advance voters.

10. It was found that the advance voters were not underlined by red colour ink in the voter list Form (1) and “advance vote” was written with blue colour ink in the permanent signature box, and no signature of voters were found on the Form (1) of the polling station (1) in Tonehlaw village-tract, Bamauk Township.

11. It was found that the advance voters were not underlined by red colour ink in the voter list Form (1) of the polling station (2) of Choontaung village-tract and polling station (2) of Aung Zeya ward in Htigyaing Township. It was also found suspicious that the name of the voter, voter list Form (1) books of the polling station (1) and (2) of upper Waigyi village-tract in Katha Township were lost.

12. It was found that marks were made on the voter name and permanent signature or fingerprint was not included after casting the vote in the voter list Form (1) of the polling station of Kyaung Kone village-tract and polling station (1) of Nantha village-tract in Indaw Township.

Announcement of Union Election Commission
28 May 2021

1. Kalay 195 319,356 196,478 122,778 123,584 2,936 3,742
2. Htigyaing 92 188,724 71,802 33,922 30,879 7,945 4,672
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6. Katha 110 105,840 70,634 35,206 34,146 1,360 1,141
7. Indaw 84 92,473 93,659 1,659 354 8,978
Total 773 912,725 691,080 311,645 304,153 33,378 25,886
Union Minister U Aung Naing Oo meets Magway Region Investment Committee members

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission U Aung Naing Oo met the Magway Region Administration Council and region investment committee yesterday.

During the meeting, the Union Minister discussed prioritized sectors to improve investment in the manufacturing industry, farming and breeding sectors, renewable energy and SMEs to grab positive achievements in a short period.

He then said it should examine investment-related proposals within a fixed term according to the law.

Region Administration Council/Investment Committee Chairman presented the region’s investments, including further work plans and cooperation work with the ministries concerned.

The Union Minister and party also inspected a solar power plant of GEP (Myanmar) Co., Ltd in Min Hla Kyin village of Minbu Township of Minbu District. The officials finally inspected the Man Thi Tar (MTT) concrete pole factory of Kyaw & Than Ltd in Kanyay Village-tract. — MNA

Myanmar delegation joins virtual Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Health Ministers’ meeting

A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister Prof Dr Aye Tun of the Ministry of Health and Sports participated in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Health Ministers’ meeting through videoconference on 27 May.

Health Minister of Azerbaijan Mr Teymur Musayev first made a greeting speech while Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus of WHO spoke via his video message.

The officials of NAM member countries then discussed cooperation works in conducting COVID-19 prevention and control activities, ways to solve health challenges, Universal Health Coverage, Sustainable Development Goals, fair use of COVID-19 Vaccine in member countries, priorities of WHO in sharing the methods of making vaccines in developed countries for the developing countries and collective strength to control the global pandemic.

The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Health Ministers’ meeting will be organized from 24 May to 1 June via videoconferencing in Geneva, Switzerland, along with the 74th World Health Assembly. During this assembly, the Chairman of NAM will release a statement of NAM on behalf of member countries. — MNA

Public information

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

Phone numbers: 01 830 1975, 01 830 2175

Yangon Region Administration Council
When ‘Taiktae Batters the Land’

By Maung Hlaing

A MIGHTY storm in the middle of May hit the nation and the people. The cyclone, called ‘Taiktae’, made landfall in Myanmar on 11 May 2021, as an Extremely Severe Cyclone. It was the worst to hit Myanmar since Cyclone Nargis in 2008.

What is Taiktae? ‘Taiktae’ is a Burmese name. It means ‘a ghost town’. It is about the pain and suffering of people in the affected areas. So, when the cyclone hit, it was a cruel blow to the victims. It was a bad news.

The APF’s news message on 11 May informed that ‘Taiktae’ battered Myanmar. Many buildings were full of fallen trees. In the affected area, the survivors were in a ghost town.

Theological Reflections

Theological reflections on this natural disaster are important.

In theology, the ‘unity of strength’ is a principle that guides us. It means that we should be united in strength, no matter how dangerous the situation is. In the case of the ‘Taiktae’ cyclone, we should work together to overcome the disaster.

A strong person can stand alone, but a weak person cannot. In the case of the ‘Taiktae’ cyclone, we should stand together to overcome the disaster.

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The Third Month of the State Administration Council Government

By Kanaung

CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

Also on 8 April, the Union Minister for International Co-operation and other officials held a brief presentation on the current developments in Myanmar to diplomats and heads of UN agencies. The officials presented matters pertaining to taking State's responsibilities by the State Administration Council according to the stipulations of the 2008 Constitution, and the plans to hold a free and fair multiparty general election in line with the 2008 Constitution, following which State power would be transferred to the winning party in accordance with democratic norms. Following the meeting, participants viewed the weapons, including homemade guns used by National League for Democracy supporters, displayed at the meeting hall.

On 9 April 2021, the Tatmadaw Information Team met the foreign Military Attachés based in the country and briefed them on the current political situation and the duties of the State Administration Council, and then replied to the questions raised at the meeting.

From 12 to 16 April 2021, the Tatmadaw. The guidance given to various stakeholders highlights these new roles and directions.

- Tatmadaw officers, other ranks and their families are kept informed on the various steps in state-building and nation-building being undertaken, and on the findings of the newly formed Union Election Commission (UEC), which is scrutinizing the details of voter lists for each township and regularly releasing its findings on electoral fraud during the 2020 general election.

- On 4 April 2021, the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win attended the passing-out parade of the 124th intake (Thura Company) of the Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School in Bahto. He stressed unity within and among units and urged Tatmadaw members to strictly follow the military moral ethics. He then visited the military hospital in Bahtoo with gifts of food to encourage both military personnel and civilians taking medical treatment at the hospital. The Vice-Chairman also inspected the agriculture and livestock activities within the Tatmadaw grounds and met with trainees for the Infantry Platoon Commander Training in Bahtoo.

- On 11 April, the State Administration Council Chairman met with officers, other ranks, and families of Yangon Station. He explained that the voting lists were under inspection, and that the findings of electoral fraud would be released. Based on the inspection results, actions would be taken under the law. He also briefed the Yangon Region Administration Council members and departmental staff on the transfer of State responsibilities from the Pro Temp President as a result of these circumstances. Government employees were requested to understand the situation and to continue to carry out their duties. He highlighted certain political issues and the Five-Point Road Map of the Council. The Chairman inspected the damage in the industrial zones of Hlinethaya and Shwepyitha townships, which had been burned and destroyed by violent mobs. Residents of those areas were provided with food assistance.

- On 30 April 2021, the State Administration Council Chairman inspected Oil Refinery No. 1 in Thanlwin and the municipal operations in Yangon Region. The inspection tour focused on measures to resume operations in state-owned factories and to meet the country’s fuel demands. Inspection tours were also conducted of the drainage system and river outlets in Botataung, Kyauktada and Lannaw township, with a view to prevent or mitigate the impacts of flooding in Yangon.

Progress is being made towards multiparty democracy, led by the new government and the Tatmadaw. The guidance given to various stakeholders highlights these new roles and directions.

Myanmar delegation led by the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs joined the 64th Session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotics Drugs held in Vienna, Austria via videoconferencing. The officials discussed the fight against illegal drugs and drug trafficking, including measures in Myanmar to reduce poppy cultivation and production rate.

The government considers such measures to be a national duty.

Engagement of stakeholders

Progress is being made towards multiparty democracy, led by the new government and the elections.

- On 3 April 2021, at a meeting with officers, other ranks and families of the Meiktila Station, State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing emphasized that the main task of the Tatmadaw is not only national defence, but also individual and collective efforts based on goodwill to elevate the Tatmadaw’s image, the country and Myanmar people.

- On 4 April 2021, the State Administration Council Chairman met with the officers, other ranks and families of Magway Station, the Magway Region Administration Council members, and departmental staff. The Chairman gave a briefing on the country’s current political situation and highlighted the need to improve food security in Magway Region, increase agricultural productivity; develop more farmland, prioritize the reopening of schools, promote community-based tourism and adapt the ‘One Village-One Product’ system for Myanmar.

- On 5 April, the Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council met with the citizens of Taunggyi Station and Yamethin Station. Discussions focused on new and renewable sources of energy, such as solar power plants, and on the health, education, public transport and living standards of the people.

- On 9 April 2021, Vice-Senior General Soe Win attended the passing-out parade of the 124th intake (Thura Company) of the Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School in Bahtoo. He stressed unity within and among units and urged Tatmadaw members to strictly follow the military moral ethics. He then visited the military hospital in Bahtoo with gifts of food to encourage both military personnel and civilians taking medical treatment at the hospital. The Vice-Chairman also inspected the agriculture and livestock activities within the Tatmadaw grounds and met with trainees for the Infantry Platoon Commander Training in Bahtoo.

- On 10 April, the Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council met with the citizens of Meiktila Station and families of the Meiktila Station, and then replied to the questions raised at the meeting.

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Additional findings of electoral fraud

The newly appointed UEC had embarked on an examination of voter lists used in the 2020 general elections since its appointment. It has been conducting on-the-ground checks in each township of the country. Starting from February, the UEC has been releasing — with full transparency — its findings on voter lists and the status of ballot papers (issued, received, used, and remaining, as well as shortage/loss and excess ballots) in the respective townships. Table 1 shows the townships for which UEC issued the outcomes of their examination in April.

The findings may be summarized as follows:

- Ballot papers were issued to each election sub-commission in exact numbers, comprising people on the voting roll. However, ground inspections showed missing ballots and extras (and used) ballot papers in significant numbers. These indicate illegal activities, such as ballot papers filled up and cast as votes by real voters, but now disappeared, and fraudulent ballot papers added to the real voting results outside of official channels.

- Significant numbers of ballot papers had the wrong candidates, while some non-NLD candidates were missing from ballot papers.

- Significant numbers of voters in the lists had no national identity cards (or citizenship scrutiny cards).

- The same citizenship scrutiny cards with identical identification numbers were recorded as “voters” in two or more locations, which is impossible without fraud; in other words, the citizenship scrutiny cards numbers were duplicated ill-
gally and used for fraudulent voting.

All of the above constitutes electoral fraud.

The Social Security Board had provided social security expected to be launched in January 2022, according to the original schedule. This will give impetus to the country’s efforts to develop a cash assistance programme for social protection, since effective targeting and identification of poor households are linked to the robustness of the social protection management information system. At the same time, training of the workforce will be required in new technology and approaches.

Since 2017, there has been no progress on the draft law to prevent violence against women. Work on the draft law has now resumed led by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and the law is expected to be finalized and adopted in the near future. In the third week of April, the government held discussions on the draft national report for the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

The Chairman of the State Administration Council, Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services delivered a New Year message on 20 April for Myanmar New Year 1383. He emphasized that the State Administration Council was trying to restore peace and stability and generate socio-economic development, which are the two aspirations of the Myanmar people. He highlighted that the State Administration Council would join hands with all National ethnic peoples and exert utmost efforts to ensure a peaceful and stable socio-economic life for all, together with the unity and development of the State. Nation-wide efforts would be necessary to rebuild the national economy, reform existing important economic institutions, and build new ones to strengthen the economic infrastructure. He called for people’s cooperation in the process.

On 21 April 2021, the Myanmar National Committee on Child Labour Eradication held a coordination meeting. The State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Vice-Senior General Soe Win addressed the meeting in his capacity as Committee Chairman. Child labour in Myanmar is driven by poverty and the need to earn income for the family. Child labour is common in many sectors and is a challenge for any developing country.

### Table 1. Townships for which the new UEC issued investigation outcomes in April 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Township/ Region</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Township/ Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/4/2021</td>
<td>Budalun township, Sagaing Region and Myittha township, Mandalay Region</td>
<td>16/4/2021</td>
<td>Minbha and Aunglan townships, Magway Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/4/2021</td>
<td>Monywa township, Sagaing Region and Tura Township, Mandalay Region</td>
<td>17/4/2021</td>
<td>Thayet and Sinaungwwe townships, Magway Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4/2021</td>
<td>Venaungyang township, Magway Region and Sintgaung township, Mandalay Region</td>
<td>28/4/2021</td>
<td>PyinUoLwin and Singu townships, Mandalay Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/4/2021</td>
<td>Chipwe and Tanai townships, Bago Region</td>
<td>29/4/2021</td>
<td>Thabeikkyin and Ngazun townships, Mandalay Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/4/2021</td>
<td>Sekpyu, Pauk and Taungdwingyi townships, Magway Region</td>
<td>30/4/2021</td>
<td>Pyay township, Bago Region and Kamya township, Magway Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/4/2021</td>
<td>Seven townships, Kayah State</td>
<td>22/4/2021</td>
<td>Tipas-an, Kawkarek and Kyin in Sekkyi townships, Kayin State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/4/2021</td>
<td>Dukku and Nwe townships, Bago Region</td>
<td>24/4/2021</td>
<td>Kyauktada, Swwyugin and Thanapatin townships, Bago Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/4/2021</td>
<td>Kyaukpadaung and Mahlaing townships, Mandalay Region</td>
<td>26/4/2021</td>
<td>Mohsin, Moeguang and Mani townships, Kayin State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/4/2021</td>
<td>Yamethin township, Mandalay Region</td>
<td>27/4/2021</td>
<td>Kawa, Letpadan and Okpo townships, Bago Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/4/2021</td>
<td>Putao and Machanbaw townships, Bago Region</td>
<td>28/4/2021</td>
<td>Madaing, Mogok and Wundwin townships, Mandalay Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/4/2021</td>
<td>Sagaing and Myittha townships, Mandalay Region</td>
<td>29/4/2021</td>
<td>Kanpetlet and Thantlanng townships, Chin State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/4/2021</td>
<td>Phawawdy and Minha townships, Bago Region</td>
<td>30/4/2021</td>
<td>Myaung and YU townships, Sagaing Region</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Socio-economic development

On 2 April 2021, the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations held a coordination meeting with the respective ministries and organizations on development projects being implemented with the assistance of the European Union. The meeting emphasized the importance of information exchange and the need to update the respective development partners on implementation constraints and benefits to insured workers in private industries and workplaces during the COVID-19 outbreak. As of the end of March 2021, about 1.6 million insured workers had been paid up to K68,715.14 million during the COVID-19 pandemic. The current government has been able to continue the process.

On 5 April 2021, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement held a meeting on the development of the social protection management information system, which is expected to be launched in January 2022, according to the original schedule. This will give impetus to the country’s efforts to develop a cash assistance programme for social protection, since effective targeting and identification of poor households are linked to the robustness of the social protection management information system. At the same time, training of the workforce will be required in new technology and approaches.

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Police arrest those who complete explosive training at ethnic armed groups-controlled areas

THE security forces investigate to expose insurgents and NLD supporters/members who intentionally commit explosions in some cities of the country. According to the testimony of Thein Sin, he participated in the riots in Bago on 16 May. The police arrested other trainees: Aung Phyoe Naing (aka) Mafia, Aung Soe Aung (aka) Caspa, Thet Phyoe Naung, Lu Min and Ei Myat Thwe at Ewarat guest-house in Ottha Myo Thit of Bago Township, and Thura Kyaw Swar (aka) Nyi Nyi Zaw at Than Kywe teashop in Ottha Myo Thit of Bago Township.

Persons arrested with explosives in Yangon region

SECURITY forces have been conducting necessary investigations to ensure that there is no terrorist attack in the country and confiscating weapons and related items of the terrorists. According to the report, on 21 May, Kyaw Zeya Thein, 38, was arrested at Grand Hanthar hospital located on Nanat-taw Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon Region. According to his confession, Tun Htun Hline, Khine Lin Thu, Wai Yan Maung, Ko Thaw, Ko Phyo (a) Wai Phyo, Sheyan Maung and Sithu Tun were arrested.

According to the confession of Wai Yan Maung Maung, Ko Phyo (a) Wai Phyo Maung was arrested together with two homemade bombs attached to a keypad phone in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region on 22 May. According to the information received, security forces searched house number (65), 4th Thunanda Street, Thin-gangyun Township, Yangon Region. They arrested Aung Naing Tun, Kyaw Naing, Myint Kay Tun, Thura Kyaw Swar and Aung Kyaw Myint.

A total of 23 suspects were arrested together with three pistols, three bullet cases, 25 rounds, 24 homemade guns, 2080 homemade bombs and mines, 20 sound bombs, 44-time bombs, three grenades, 58 fire bottles and gunpowder and related items used in making explosives. Terrorists who threaten the lives, property and social security of the people who want to live in peace will be taken actions effectively under the law. — MNA

Military tribunal sentences murderers, rapist in Shwepyitha, Hlinethaya

THE military tribunal has sentenced five men to death for murdering a man who lived in No (12) ward, Shwepyitha Township, Yangon Region, on 27 May. Htun Ko Ko, Thiri Kyaw Tint, Kyaw Pu, Zarni and Aung Kyaw Myint tortured and stabbed Kyaw Htun to death on 14 March. They were sentenced to death under Section 302 (1) (b), 34 of the Penal Code after the investigation by the military tribunal.

The military tribunal has also sentenced Wai Moe Aung to 20 years in prison with labour under Section 376 (1) of the Penal Code for raping a young woman on 22 April at “Myint Mo” motel near the bus stop in front of the Hlinethaya Township office, Yangon Region. — MNA
Airbus to raise plane production, sees aviation post-COVID recovery

Airbus said on Thursday it will produce more single-aisle planes in 2023 than before the coronavirus crisis as the European aerospace giant sees the aviation sector ascending from the pandemic.

The aircraft maker had slowed its production early on in the pandemic.

“The aviation sector is beginning to recover from the COVID-19 crisis,” Airbus chief executive Guillaume Faury said in a statement. The company said it expects the aviation market “to recover to pre-COVID levels by between 2023 and 2025, led by the single-aisle segment”.

Airbus is “therefore providing suppliers with an update of its production plans, giving visibility in order to schedule necessary investments and secure long term capacity and production rate Readiness, in line with the expected recovery,” it said.

Airbus shares soared at the Paris stock exchange following the announcement. Airbus is currently producing 40 planes of the A320 family per month but the company said it would increase the average rate to 45 during the last three months of this year. It added that suppliers should “prepare for the future by securing a firm rate” of 64 A320 planes by the second quarter of 2023. — AFP

US hands Swiss bank red card in FIFA bribe scandal

SWISS Bank Julius Baer admitted it participated in money laundering of $36 million in bribes in the “FIFAGate” scandal over television broadcast rights, US officials announced on Thursday.

The bank admitted in federal court that it conspired to launder the funds through the United States to officials with FIFA and soccer federations in the Americas.

“Their behaviour has earned them the equivalent of a red card, and the money the bank now owes the US government is more than double what it admits to laundering,” FBI Assistant Director-in-Charge William F Sweeney Jr said in a statement.

It was the latest twist in the scandal which shook up the international football body, forcing long-time chief Sepp Blatter to step down in 2015.

The legal saga began with the arrests in May 2015, and involves “rack-steering” by officials in the two continental federations in the Americas, CONMEBOL and CONCACAF, in exchange for the rights to broadcast continental competitions.

Julius Baer admitted the wrongdoing and entered into a three-year deferred prosecution agreement with US authorities. As part of this agreement, the bank has agreed to pay more than $79 million in penalties, including a fine of $42.3 million, the Justice Department statement said.

Nike says split with Neymar over refusal to cooperate with sex assault probe

NIKE said Thursday it parted ways with Neymar last year after the superstar Braill attacker “refused to cooperate in a good faith investigation” as the company probed an employee’s claim that he sexually assaulted her. The apparel giant said in a statement that its investigation into the alleged 2016 incident — which was reported to the company in 2018 — was inconclusive. “No single set of facts emerged that would enable us to speak substantively on the matter,” the company said. In a Wall Street Journal article reporting the assault allegation, a spokeswoman for Neymar said the player denies the claim. “Neymar Jr will vigorously defend himself against these baseless attacks in case any claim is presented, which did not happen so far,” she said in a statement, adding that Nike and Neymar split for commercial reasons. — AFP

Kagoshima overtakes Shizuoka in green tea output for Japan’s top spot

KAGOSHIMA has overtaken Shizuoka in output equivalent to green tea sales, gaining the top spot in Japan, with differences in cultivation methods between the two prefectures and changes in consumer tastes behind the shift.

Kagoshima had output equivalent to 25.2 billion yen ($2.32 million) worth of green tea leaves sales in 2019, compared to Shizuoka’s 25.1 billion yen, according to data released in March by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries. Shizuoka thus lost the position as Japan’s leader in tea output it had held since 1967 when data was first compiled.

Output in Shizuoka has decreased more than 40 per cent over the past decade, while Kagoshima’s has remained constant.

As Kagoshima has extensive areas of flat land as compared to the rest of Japan, local tea farmers have promoted large-scale cultivation and capitalized on the growing demand for bottled tea.

In contrast, Shizuoka has continued to focus on high-grade tea.

Given the persistent contraction of the domestic market, however, both prefectures are stepping up efforts to increase exports.

At Kagoshima Horiguchi Seicha Co. in the city of Shibushi, one of the biggest tea producers in the southwestern prefecture, large unmanned, sensor-controlled tea-picking machines slowly move through the approximately 300-hectare farm harvesting leaves each April.

“Smart farming using advanced technology has given us leeway to promote other operations,” said Daisuke Horiguchi, 38, vice president of the company. — Kyodo News

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC NINGBO VOY. NO. (120N/120S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC NINGBO VOY. NO. (120N/120S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29-5-2021 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Shipping Agency Department

Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CTP MAKASSAR VOY. NO. (225N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CTP MAKASSAR VOY. NO. (225N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29-5-2021 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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Shipping Agency Department

Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING

Photo shows Daisuke Horiguchi, vice-president of Kagoshima Horiguchi Seicha Co, a large tea farm in Shibushi, Kagoshima Prefecture, in April. 2022. PHOTO: KYODO

Photo shows Daisuke Horiguchi, 38, vice-president of Kagoshima Horiguchi Seicha Co., a large tea farm in Shibushi, Kagoshima Prefecture, in April 2022. PHOTO: KYODO

Photo shows M.V CTP Makassar, a vessel that arrived in Yangon this week. The weekly Claims Day Notice is issued by the Myanmar Port Authority. PHOTO: KYODO
Construction of new Mingalar Market completed 63%

According to the officials, the government is constructing a new Mingalar Market in Mingala Taungnyunt Township spending K68 billion, and about 63 per cent of the market has been completed.

The market will be a 17-storey building with a two-storey basement car park and is being constructed by modern machinery, expert engineers and skilled labourers following the COVID-19 health rules of the Ministry of Health and Sports.

There will be banks, restaurants and supermarkets on the ground floor. From 6th to 13th floor including two-storey basement car park can accommodate more than 700 cars. There will also be shops and warehouses on the 9th and 10th floors while the offices will be on 11st and 13th floors. There will be more than 1,000 shops from the 5th to 8th floors managed by the construction companies. The YCDC will relocate the vendors from the ground floor to the 4th floor who lost their shops in old Mingalar Market, which caught fire.

The officials now speed up the building construction. If the new Mingalar Marker is completed, it can benefit more than 40,000 people, including vendors, staff, and customers, so the market will become alive more than before. — Pwint Thitsar/GNLM

Maize price rises due to strong demand from Thailand, local buyers

Mandalay pulses traders say prices of maize in the Mandalay market have risen in recent days due to strong demand from Thai and local buyers.

The price of maize has risen sharply since the first week of May, from K28,000 per three-basket bag before Thingyan to K31,000 today, according to U Soe Win Myint (Soe Win Myint brokerage) from Mandalay.

In addition to the foreign demand, the resumption of the operation of feedstuff mills that use the maize as the raw materials has made the price increase, he added.

Both maize farmers and traders are reportedly satisfied with the current price. Farmers are reminded to take care of the maize fields as they are often infested with FAW insects this season.

Japan takes top source of FDI in Myanmar this FY

Japan is the largest foreign investor in Myanmar so far, with three Japan-based companies putting the foreign direct investment of US$518.76 million in the past seven months (October-April) of the current financial year 2020-2021, as per data released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Singapore stood as the second-largest investors this FY with an estimated capital of $388 million from 13 enterprises, followed by China investing $166.75 million in Myanmar.

Japan focuses more on responsible businesses. Therefore, it thoughtfully considers and learns before they make investments. It is expected that investments from Japan will increase this year, DICA stated.

Additionally, Thilawa Special Economic Zone is a symbol of development in Japan’s investments in Myanmar. Besides, Japan is a development partner of Myanmar.

Japan has been providing comprehensive support in developing the infrastructure, including railway, road, and research in Myanmar through the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

Since the 2016-2017FY, FDI of over $440.367 million has flowed into the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) from 15 Japanese businesses under the Special Economic Zone Law.

The DICA’s data showed that Japan’s investment in Myanmar stood at $768.456 million in the last FY2019-2020, $42.77 million in the 2018-2019FY, $134.5 million in the 2017-2018FY, $86 million in the 2016-2017FY and $219.79 million in the 2015-2016FY, respectively.

— KK/GNLM
Price of Seintalone mango exported to China plummets this year

GENERAL Secretary U Kyaw Soe Naing of the Myanmar Mango Market and Technology Development Association said that the price of Seintalone mango (Diamond Solitaire) exported to neighbouring China has plummeted this year compared to that of last year.

"Last year, Seintalone mangoes fetched around 120 Yuen per 16 kg basket. But this year, the price of Seintalone mangoes dropped down to under 100 Yuen per 16 kg basket. The price of mangoes plunged this year compared to that of the previous year. The traders received only around or less than 100 Yuen per basket. This could not make the profit under the market condition," said U Kyaw Soe Naing.

"Besides, more than thousands of mango loaded trucks are stranded in Kyaikkami, Shwehintha, Padamyar Nga Mauk, Yinlaw and Machitsu mango species are grown chiefly. Also, Myakphyak and Kyauktaining mangoes from Monywa, Sagaing region are also produced from the area.

Mangoes are grown primarily on the Ayeyawady region on about 40,000 acres of land, followed by Bago region with 43,000 acres and the Mandalay region with 29,000 acres. Besides, there are more than 24,000 acres of mangoes in Kayin State, over 20,400 acres in Shan State and over 20,000 acres in the Sagaing region. — NN/GNLM

The price of Seintalone mango exported to China has plummeted because China has closed some checkpoints because of COVID-19. Their inspection of the products is taking a longer time than previously.

At present, Myanmar has been exporting around 10 or 15 mango loaded trucks to China daily. Those mangoes are from Sagaing and Katha townships, according to the association.

There are more than 200 mango species in Myanmar. Among them, Seintalone, Shwehintha, Padamyar Nga Mauk, Yinlaw and Machitsu mango species are grown chiefly.

"Myanmar Customs Department’s statistics showed corn exports to foreign countries had generated over US$246.9 million in the first five months (October-February) of the current financial year 2020-2021.

Myanmar corn exports by sea have come to an end due to the lack of demand, Chair U Min Khaing of the Myanmar Corn Industrial Association said.

Myanmar has been delivering corns to the neighbouring countries Thailand and China via the land border. The shipment to Singapore, Malaysia and Viet Nam abruptly stopped owing to zero demand, he added.

"The lack of demand by sea is attributed to the political changes and disruption in the logistic sector," said U Min Khaing.

Myanmar is conveying corns to Thailand through the land border, with a tonne of maize fetching up about 8,000 baht.

As Myanmar revoked the two-per-cent withholding tax exemption on corn exports during the new wave of coronavirus, the corn price is expected to fall, he added.

The withholding tax exemption status for corn exports to Thailand duly expired amid the pandemic. The two per cent WHT had to be paid starting on 1 May.

"The two per cent WHT was levied on corn exports through the land border. During the pandemic, the tax was temporarily exempted. At present, the exemption status is revoked. Consequently, the lower commodity price is likely to happen," U Min Khaing said.

Thailand gives the green light to corn imports through Maesot under zero tariff (with Form-D), between 1 February and 31 August.

Thailand has granted tax exemption on corn imports between February and August. However, Thailand imposed a maximum tax rate of 73 per cent on corn import in order to protect the rights of their growers if the corns are imported during the corn season of Thailand, as per the notification of the World Trade Organization regarding corn import of Thailand, said a corn exporter.

With the local corn consumption growing, Myanmar’s corn export to foreign markets is expected to reach 1.6 million tonnes this year, the association stated.

Myanmar is the second-largest exporter of corn among regional countries. At present, 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.

The corn crop is mostly demanded by the feedstuff processing business. Therefore, it is the potential business for both domestic and external markets, said an official of the Ministry of Commerce.

During the last FY2019-2020 ended 30 September, the country exported 2.2 million tonnes of corns to the external market, with an estimated value of $160 million, the Ministry of Commerce’s data showed.

As per data from the Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar exported 1.5 million tonnes valued at $270 million in the 2018-2019FY, 1.4 million tonnes of corn worth over $290 million in the 2017-2018FY, 1.2 million tonnes of corn worth $250 million in the 2016-2017FY, and 1.1 million tonnes of corn worth $300 million in the 2015-2016FY. — HH/GNLM

Farmers to get monsoon paddy cultivation loans of K150,000 per acre in 2021

Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank (MADB) announced that the bank would provide the monsoon paddy cultivation loans amounting to K150,000 per acre in 2021 with a five per cent interest rate. The bank will provide the loans as of the end September.

"The bank has extended the repayment period of April 2021 for its agricultural loans for the 2020 winter crop season by the end-July 2021 for the convenience of the farmers, according to MADB.

The 2021 monsoon paddy cultivation loans will be available from 26 May to 30 September at MADB’s branch banks across the country.

The farmers need to pay out the old lands to get the new 2021 monsoon paddy cultivation loans. Those who wish to have the new loans need to contact the bank’s relevant district and township branches as soon as possible.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, this budget year is the lowest year for paddy cultivation in five years.

The country cultivate 17.82 million of summer and monsoon paddy in 2015-2016FY, 17.70 million of paddy in 2016-2017FY, and 17.93 million paddy in 2017-2018FY and 17.86 million of paddy in 2018-2019FY and 17.31 million of paddy in 2019-2020FY, it is learnt. — ACM/GNLM

Corn export tops $246.9 mln in five months

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Sport

Man City, Chelsea eye Champions League glory in Porto final

Manchester City and Chelsea's Champions League final clash in Porto will be their third meeting in six weeks. PHOTO: POOL/AFP/FILE

PEP Guardiola's Manchester City are 90 minutes away from the trophy they so desperately crave but a Chelsea side transformed in recent months stand in their way in Saturday's all-English Champions League final in Porto, the Portuguese city which was named as a last-minute host. It is the third final of Europe's elite club competition to be played between two Premier League sides, and the second in just three seasons, and so this is a match-up that underlines the strength of the cash-rich English game.

And these are the two clubs whose own transformations in the last two decades under mega-rich foreign owners have done the most to change forever the landscape of the Premier League. Not so long ago, the idea of Chelsea and City meeting in the biggest club game of all would have been laughable. Their only previous encounter in a final came in 1986 in the short-lived Full Members Cup, when Chelsea won 5-4 at Wembley.

That was before the Premier League and modern Champions League existed, before Roman Abramovich bought Chelsea in 2003 and before the Abu Dhabi takeover of City in 2008.

Nadal, Djokovic and Federer in same half of French Open draw

Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer, the three most successful men in Grand Slam tennis history, were on Thursday all drawn in the same half of the French Open.

Nadal, Djokovic and Federer, seeded eight, are locked on 20 Grand Slams each while Djokovic, who has 18, can become the first man in over half a century to win all four majors on more than one occasion.— AFP

Man, Pochettino hold talks with former boss Pochettino: reports

TOTTENHAM have made contact with former manager Mauricio Pochettino — currently boss of Paris Saint-Germain — about a return to the club, according to widespread reports in the British press on Friday.

The 49-year-old left Spurs in November 2019 after five years in charge and was replaced by Jose Mourinho, who was sacked last month. Media reports say it is understood the London club have spoken to the Argentine, who replaced Thomas Tuchel at PSG in January, regarding the potential of a second spell in charge in London.

That was before the Premier League and modern Champions League existed, before Roman Abramovich bought Chelsea in 2003 and before the Abu Dhabi takeover of City in 2008.

Myanmar suffer 0-10 defeat to Japan in World Cup Qualifiers

MYANMAR men's national football team faced a 0-10 loss to the Japan team in the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers, played yesterday at Fukui-Ari Stadium in Chiba, Japan.

Myanmar head coach Antoine Hey picked youth stars mixed with veteran players for the lineup list. The eleven players included in the list are goalkeeper San Satt Naing, Zaw Ye Tun, Ye Min Thu, David Htan, Maung Maung Win, Lwin Moe Aung, Soe Moe Kyaw, Yan Naing Oo, Captain Mg Mg Lwin, Win Naing Tun and Htet Phyo Wai.

Myanmar launched with slow action, but Japan made turbo-play even in the kickoffs. With significant differences between the two teams in FIFA rank, Japan used every opportunity to grab the sweet victory.

With Daichi Kamada’s assist, Takumi Minamino scored an icebreaker for Japan at the 7-minute mark.

Next, Yuya Osako scored second for team Japan with the assist of Yuto Nagatomo at 22 minutes.

The third goal came in with a penalty, shot by Yuya Osako at 30 minutes.

Six minutes later, Yuya Osako again scored the fourth with the of his teammate Yuto Nagatomo. Japan led team Myanmar 4-0 after the first half.

The second half saw the brighter skills of the Japanese players.

Yuya Osako scored the fifth goal for Japan over an assist of Takumi Minamino at 50 minutes.

Next, Hidemasa Morita scored the sixth at 57 minutes by an assist of Sei Muroya.

At 66 minutes, Takumi Minamino scored the seventh goal with the assist of Yuya Osako.

Daichi Kamada made the eighth with the assist of Sei Muroya at the 84-minute mark.

At 88 minutes, Yuya Osako scored the ninth goal over a beautiful assist from Takumi Minamino.

Next, Ko Itakura scored the final or tenth goal over an assist of Takumi Minamino at a 90-minute play.

The Myanmar team's defeat to Japan 0-10 was the record for the biggest loss in the team's history.

The previous big loss was a 9-9 away defeat to Kuwait in the 2018 World Cup Qualifiers on 3 September 2015.

Japan, who are top of Group F, has won all six matches. With 18 points, team Japan has advanced to the third round of the 2022 World Cup Qualifiers and also won the 2023 Asian Cup qualification. On the contrary, the Myanmar team has garnered 6 points with two wins and four losses, and the team is standing in fourth place. — GNLM

Tottenham hold talks with former boss Pochettino: reports

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Having slipped to number four in the world, it was always likely that Nadal, the 13-time champion, would face top-ranked Djokovic before the final.

The two great rivals could now meet in the semi-finals this year.

Djokovic has lost three finals to Nadal at the French Open in 2012, 2014 and then last year, when the Spaniard swept to victory 6-6, 6-2, 7-5.

Djokovic, the 2016 champion, is top seed and could possibly face 2009 winner Federer in the quarter-finals. All three men are chasing history at the French Open which starts on Sunday.

Nadal and Federer, seeded eight, are locked on 20 Grand Slams each while Djokovic, who has 18, can become the first man in over half a century to win all four majors on more than one occasion.— AFP