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DHT-Bagan develops rocky lake, new tourist destination in NyaungU



The ground of the pond is rock layers and the pond is 80 feet long and 80 feet wide with a depth of 30 feet.

BAGAN Archaeological Zone, NyaungU Township in Mandalay Region, is seen with endless number of pagodas and religious buildings which attracts pilgrims all over the country. The Department of Hotels and Tourism, Bagan Branch (DHT-Bagan) has developed a lake that was edged with complete rocks on Thet Soe Mountain as a new tourist destination for travellers, history enthusiasts and those who want to experience the unique four-sided rocky lake on the mountain.

Location of Lake

The lake is situated in the south of Tuyintaung pagoda on Thet Soe Mountain which can be accessible by two routes, one from Tuyintaung pagoda and the other from Tuyintaung monastery road. The lake can be reached within 20 or 25 minutes from the Tuyintaung monastery where vehicles have to be parked.

Strategic site

Some historians refer to Thet Soe Mountain as the place where the 'Thet' people ruled and were the place where King Pyu Saw Htee defeated flying large squirrel. The summit of Thet Soe Mountain was considered to be an important military outpost for the kings of Bagan from which the marching of enemies to the capital of Bagan from all directions could be seen.

The view of the surrounding toddy palm plants, mountain ranges, the historic Mya Pond and the view of Tuyintaung pagoda with the Bagan-NyaungU background can be enjoyed from Thet Soe Mountain.

Appearance of rocky pond

The ground of the pond is rock layers and the pond is 80 feet long and 80 feet wide with a depth of 30 feet. As you descend into the pond, there is a quadruple QR CODE shaped

symbol surrounding the rocky wall, and a statue of Brahminy, a serpent, dragon, and crocodile are engraved on the rocky wall of the pond. Once you enter the Rocky Pond, you will feel like you are back in the Stone Age. During the Bagan period, this pond was considered by experts as a place to store water and provide clean water.

Natural view

The hills around the lake are also home to the Migyoungkan Temple, U Paung Pagoda, Paw Taw Mu Pagoda and it is also a place where you can see ancient stone Buddha images that are slightly broken. It is learned that the sunset view of Tuyin Mountain, Thet Soe Mountain, toddy palm plants, Tantkyi Mountain and sunset beauty with Ayeyawady River, and the overview of Bagan-NyaungU Archaeological Zone can be seen from one place. —Ko Htain/GNLM

Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

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



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Government of the Republic of the
Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Health and Sports

Order No 276/2021
12th Waning of Nayon 1383 ME
6 July 2021

THE Ministry of Health and Sports hereby announced the order by exercising the authority stipulated in Sub-Section (b) of Section 21 of the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Law.

- The Ministry of Health and Sports has taken preventive measures against Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in real-time. Therefore, people from some townships of the Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory and Bago Region need to stay at home due to the number of confirmed patients on the rise in these townships.
- Hence, the people residing in the following townships in the Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory and Bago Region are involved in the Stay-at-Home programme.
 - Union Territory, Nay Pyi Taw
 - Zabuthiri Township
 - Pyinmana Township
 - Bago Region
 - Toungoo Township
 - Bago Township
 - Pyay Township
- The people inclusive of the Stay-at-Home programme of the townships need to abide by the following disciplines:
 - Reside at their homes only
 - except for service personnel serving at government department;
 - except for those serving at private firms such as banks and monetary services, filling stations, foodstuffs and livestock and fishery, cold storage, medicine and medical equipment production and distribution, purified water production and sales, factories of manufacturing daily personal goods and related industries;
 - except for staff from airlines, such as relief flights, cargo flights

- and specially chartered flights, general aviation transport services, ground services, fuel services, aviation export and import services, international freight forwarder companies, customer service companies and agencies, boarding foodstuff production and transport services and aircraft maintenance;
- except for staff from private ports, shipping agencies offices, international freight forwarder companies, customer service companies and agencies, container truck services, port export and import cargo trucks and watercraft, inland container depot and dry ports;
 - except for staff from communication service providers such as post services, line phones and mobile phone communication services, internet services (exclusive of sales of telephone and data at shops), tower and fibre maintenance services;
 - relevant region and state administration councils to issue necessary orders and directives and supervision for the prevention of COVID-19 infection at CMP factories and workplaces;
 - organizations and companies to perform their works from homes;
 - one person from each house to go out shopping;
 - only two persons per house to go to hospitals and clinics;
 - wear masks if they go outside the houses;
 - allow office buses and registered vehicles only to transport returnees from workplaces to pass the wards;
 - allow one person only in addition to the driver in a vehicle for shopping in the ward and two persons except for the driver to go to hospitals or clinics;
 - abide by the standard operating procedures (SOP) for trucks to ensure smooth flow of commodities in the township;
- People need to inform relevant ward/village administration bodies about seeking approvals to go outside the houses if they have reasons to raise the limited number of participants in the measures and other emergency issues mentioned in subparagraphs (d), (e) and (h) of Paragraph 3. The relevant administrative bodies need not allow ingoing and outgoing persons, except for officials and those returnees from duty.
 - Action will be taken against those who fail to abide by the order under the existing laws.
 - The order came into force at 4 am on 7-7-2021.

Dr Thet Khaing Win
Union Minister

3,602 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 6 July, total figure rises to 171,976

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **171,976 after 3,602 new cases** were reported on 6 July 2021 according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these confirmed cases, **140,387** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll stands at **3,513** after **52** died. —MNA

Announcement

- It is found that some foreign correspondents based in Myanmar express the current government of the State Administration Council as military council or military junta or junta in their news stories and exaggerate their news quoting rootless sources and false news related to Myanmar.
- The State Administration Council just controls various State duties in line with the provisions of the state of emergency under the Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and it has been clearly announced that the government is not a coup d'état government.
- The United Nations and global countries have recognized the State Administration Council as the legal government of Myanmar.
- Especially, some foreign news agencies need to express news in line with news media ethics instead of quoting and exaggerating inaccurate and uncertain news and undermining the country by disseminating false news to global people.
- The government emphasizes the holding of press conferences and the correct and quick replies to queries so as to ensure the correct and swift flow of information.
- The announcement was hereby issued that some foreign news agencies were warned not to further apply the usage of military council/military junta/junta for the government in the future and not to quote and exaggerate the false news, and action will be taken against them under the existing laws if they apply wrong usages, quote and exaggerate fake news and disseminate false information.

Ministry of Information

Unity in its real essence

Unity must have a common interests, a common sense of working together and a common objective, for the independence of the whole country and the interests of the whole populace. Unity must work for the people so that they can enjoy shared well-being and shared cause in working together. It is not enough just to say that we want to be united. Labour must be shared, and interests must be shared. Our objective must be the same. Only this kind of effort is worth calling "Unity".

(Excerpt from the speech addressed by Bogyoke Aung San at the AFPFL Conference on 23rd January 1946)



U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs attends Special ASEAN-Russia Foreign Ministers' Meeting



U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended the Special ASEAN-Russia Foreign Ministers' Meeting which was held via video conference on 6 July 2021. The meeting was co-chaired by Retno Marsudi,

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia and Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, and was attended by Foreign Ministers from the ASEAN Member States and the Secretary-General of ASEAN.

At the Meeting, ASEAN Foreign Ministers exchanged views on combatting COVID-19, post-pandemic recovery, regional architecture in the Asia-Pacific and Russia's proposal on the convening of the ASEAN-Russia Commemorative Summit.

During the meeting, Union Minister explained Myanmar's precautionary measures for COVID-19, including a vaccination programme in Myanmar. The Union Minister then underscored the need to enhance green recovery efforts in

line with the sustainable development goals in intensifying the collective efforts for economic recovery through Tourism recovery.

He also highlighted that the threat of ICT related security issues should be tackled by further enhancing cooperation. He also emphasized the need to reinforce cooperation between Southeast Asia and Indian Ocean Countries with a view to upholding ASEAN centrality in evolving regional architecture.

With regard to developments in Myanmar, Union Minister apprised the meeting that the Five-Point Roadmap laid down by the State Administration Council is the future plan to reinstate democracy in Myanmar in accordance with the State Constitution 2008. —MNA

Myanmar hosts 16th ASEAN Working Group on Forest Management meeting

MYANMAR hosted the 16th ASEAN Working Group on Forest Management meeting virtually in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation discussed matters in connexion with the important role of forest products, which support economic growth and rural residents for the sustainable development of the country, 42.19 per cent of forest coverage areas according to the FRA 2020 report, the conservation of soil and

water resources, biodiversity and stability of the ecosystem. He then highlighted the implementation of the forest management system according to the changing world situation and industrial development by switching from sustainable development to everlasting development.

He also clarified Myanmar Reforestation and Rehabilitation Plan (2017-2018 to 2026-2027), Re-establishing Natural Habitat Programme (2019-2020 to 2028-2029), National REDD+ Strategies, MTLAS and FLEGT being conducted



in the country. He continued that Myanmar faces some challenges in the forest management sector due to the weak techniques, funds and COVID-19 pandemic.

He then expressed the willingness to cooperate with the ASEAN member countries in overcoming such challenges. The ASEAN Forest officials and representatives of

the ASEAN secretariat joined the meeting online. The Deputy Directors-General, Directors of the Forest Department were present at the meeting. — MNA

Myanmar women's traditional clothing boasts of impressive beauty

MYANMAR boasts of its cultures and traditions. The country had existed as an independent and sovereign country under our own Kings. Therefore, Myanmar people want to preserve and protect their own traditional cultures without any inspiration from other's cultures.

Myanmar women are one of these people. Young Myanmar girls wear the traditional dresses –Yin Bone and Longyi like ancient Myanmar women during special occasions or events by obeying the words of their parents. However, there are still some girls who wear skirts, short and long trousers to destroy the Myanmar traditional cultures.

Being the next generations of the country, Myanmar girls should wear the proper costumes in line with the Dhamma for living in the Buddhist country. If so, the foreigners can know them as Myanmar girls for their traditional clothing. Myanmar girls conserve the traditional culture by wearing Yin Bone and Longyi. Myanmar girls are naturally peaceful, gentle, and stay calm.

Therefore, the artists should draw the portrait of the beauty of Myanmar women in their traditional costumes not to lose Myanmar cultural heritages as they can be defined as picturesque paintings.

The traditional dress is a must code for all Myanmar women and they should wear fashionable and eye-catching ones to conserve the Myanmar cultural heritage by adhering to the social virtue – Hiri and Ottappa (shame and fear of sinning). –Zeya Htet (Minbu)/GNLM



Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Education sector needs sound foundations

It is necessary to turn out many educated persons and disseminate the knowledge to each other in the nation to ensure the rule of law. Only when every citizen has the will to build a better country will the country have prosperity. In order to do so, the education sector needs sound foundations.

(Excerpt from the speech of the meeting of the State Administration Council by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 24 May 2021)

Kyaikkhami mid-water pagoda temporarily closed against COVID-19 resurgence in Kyaikkhami town

WITH the rising number of COVID-19 cases, the Kyaikkhami Yayle (mid-water) pagoda was temporarily closed to visitors, according to the announcement of the Pagoda Board of Trustees on 4 July.

“The Kyaikkhami Yayle pagoda was closed starting from 4 July because of COVID-19. The number of COVID-19 is reported mostly in Thanbyuzayat township as well as in Kyaikkhami town. There are three hundred cases of COVID-19 in Thanbyuzayat and nearly one hundred in Kyaikkhami. As a result, Kyaikkhami Yayle pagoda was closed temporarily. The pagoda board

of trustees will announce the reopening date of the pagoda,” said a member of Kyaikkhami Yayle pagoda board of trustees.

Kyaikkhami Yayle pagoda is one of the most famous pagodas in Myanmar and it is the main attraction of Mon State. Located 9 kilometres northeast of Thanbyuzayat, Kyaikkhami was a small coastal resort and missionary centre known as Amherst during the British era. The main focus of Kyaikkhami is Yayle Pagoda. Other attractions here are the colonial administrative buildings that are nearly 100 years old. — Aye Maung/ GNLM



Kyaikkhami mid-water pagoda is one of the most famous pagodas in Myanmar and it is the main attraction of Mon State.

Suspension bridge in Shinorcin Village ready to give transaport service



The bridge will give socio-economic and transportation benefits to 512 villagers from 80 households.

CONSTRUCTION of suspension bridge in Shinorcin village, Kanpetlet Township, Mindat District, Chin State began in the first week of March and is now ready to give transport service to local people, according to the Kanpetlet Township Rural Development Department.

The Rural Development Department of Kanpetlet Township has funded the Village Development Project (VDP) this financial year for the bridge

construction.

The cable-stayed bridge is 415 feet long, 4.6 feet wide and 30 feet high.

Under the Village Development Plan (VDP), the construction of the bridge was carried out with K10 million funds of the Rural Development Department of Kanpetlet Township for the 2020-2021 budget year.

The villagers themselves were also involved in the construction of the bridge under the close supervision and tech-

nical support of the Department of Rural Development.

“Villages in Kanpetlet Township are hilly and difficult to access during the rainy season. The suspension bridge connects Shinorcin village with Aukkant village. The bridge will give socio-economic and transportation benefits to 512 villagers from 80 households,” said U Thang Um, township head of the Rural Development Department, Kanpetlet Township. — Soe Moe Kyaw/ GNLM

Health and Sports Ministry opens COVID-19 call centre

THE Ministry of Health and Sports opens the COVID-19 call centre at its office in Nay Pyi Taw as of 8 am on 22 June for the reply to queries on health awareness about COVID-19 and facts for abiding by the restrictions to the people on time.

The people can dial the following telephone numbers from 8 am to 9 pm on a daily basis for facts about the COVID-19 disease.

- Contact numbers:
- (1) 067-3411508

(2) 067-3411509

(3) 067-3411144
- (4) 09-882557991

(5) 09-882557992

(6) 09-882557993

Myanmar ships over 136,000 tonnes of pigeon peas as of 25 June

MYANMAR exported more than 136,632 tonnes of pigeon peas to the foreign trade partners between 1 October and 26 June in the current financial year 2020-2021, according to the Ministry of Commerce's trade data.

The country generated an income of US\$91.54 million from the exports of pigeon peas in nearly nine months.

At present, the price of pigeon peas in India is declining on steady inflow from Ethiopia, Tanzania, Malawi and Sudan. The pigeon peas fetch around K1,080,000-1,120,000 per tonne depending on varieties. The demand is quite slow, said an exporter.

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



Myanmar's pigeon peas are primarily shipped to India and also exported to Singapore, the US, Canada, Pakistan, the UK, and Malaysia. But, the export volume to other countries rather than to India is extremely small.

The domestic bean market is positively related to the law of

supply and demand, said an official of Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

Myanmar can export 250,000 tonnes of black gram (urad) and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas under the G to G (government to government) pact during the April-March period between the 2021-2022 financial year and the 2025-2026 FY. The bilateral negotiations for the G-to-G pact started in 2016 and the two countries signed an MoU on 18 June 2021.

Additionally, this G-to-G pact will not relate to India's yearly quota on bean import. Therefore, Myanmar exporters can ship them under this quota as well.

Since 2017, India has been setting import quota on beans including black grams and pigeon peas. Therefore, the growers faced difficulties to export their beans to the Indian market in the previous years.

This year, the G-to-G pact ensured a strong market next five years, along with other relaxations on import quota, Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization under the Ministry of Commerce stated.

In the 2017-2018FY, over a million tons of black grams, pigeon peas, and green grams were shipped to foreign countries. Nevertheless, the earnings were registered at just \$713 million owing to the price drop.

Myanmar shipped over 1.6 million tonnes of different varieties of pulses, especially black grams, with an estimated worth of US\$1 billion, to other counties in the FY2018-2019. During the last FY2019-2020 ended September 30, the country delivered 1.6 million tonnes to external market, generating an export value of \$1.195 billion. — MM/GNLM

Bilateral trade with Bangladesh hits \$32 mln this FY

BILATERAL border trade stood at over US\$32.89 million as of 25 June in the current 2020-21 financial year, which saw a decrease of \$17.7 million from the corresponding period of last year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The border trade during the period has dropped by \$17.7 million, compared with that of the same period last year when the total bilateral border trade was only \$50.6 million.

The country's exports to Bangladesh totalled \$14.28 million, while its imports were \$18.6 million.

Myanmar exports goods to Bangladesh through both mar-

itime and land routes. Bilateral border trade is conducted mainly through the Sittway and Maung-taw points of entry.

The products traded between the two countries include bamboo, ginger, peanuts, saltwater prawns and fish, dried plums, garlic, rice, mung beans, blankets, candy, plum jams, footwear, frozen foods, chemicals, leather, jute products, tobacco, plastics, wood, knitwear, and beverages.

At present, Myanmar's border trade with four neighbouring countries—China, India, Thailand and Bangladesh totalled \$7.65 billion, shared by \$4.98 billion in export and \$2.66 billion in imports. — ACM/GNLM

Myanmar imports 266-tonne condensed milk via sea trade last 19-25 June

MYANMAR imported US\$352,000 worth of 266 tonnes of condensed milk from Malaysia and Singapore through maritime trade in a week between 19 and 25 June, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Compared with the previous week, the condensed milk import showed a decrease of 52 tonnes. About 318 tonnes of condensed milk was brought into the country during that week.

Furthermore, \$25,000 valued 25 tonnes of milk powder were imported from Germany in a week ended 25 June. The import of milk powder also dropped from 126 tonnes recorded in the previous week.

Additionally, Myanmar's Trade Department under the Ministry of Commerce notified that various beverages, coffee mix and tea mix, instant coffee, and condensed milk and evaporated milk have been temporarily restricted for import via the Myanmar-Thailand border starting from 1 May. However, they can be imported through maritime trade, Myawady Trade Zone reported. — KK/GNLM

CBM sells \$3 million for first time in July



The CBM reportedly sold \$12 million at an auction rate in June. The CBM's move is aimed at governing the market volatility.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$3 million on 5 July for the first time this month at an auction market rate of K1,625.

The CBM reportedly sold \$12 million at an auction rate in June. The CBM's move is aimed at governing the market volatility.

The bullish hard currency gained in the local forex market, reaching the peak of K1,730 on 12 May from K1,330 in January-end. In a bid to control the sharp daily gains of the US dollar, the CBM reportedly sold about 6.8 million dollars on 3 February 2021, 6 million dollars each on 22 and 27 April, \$24 million in May and \$12 million in June in the auction market. Consequently, the

exchange rate stands at K1,650 at present.

The CBM trades the foreign currency with the authorized private banks under the rules and regulations of the FX auction market.

The local forex market's data showed that the dollar exchange rate touched the maximum of K1,345 and the minimum of K1,327 in January 2021. The rate moved in the range of K1,335-1,465 in February. It reached the lowest of K1,420 and the highest of K1,550 in March. The rate fluctuated between K1,550 and K1,610 in April. The rate fluctuated between K1,585 and K1,730 in May and it moved to the maximum of K1,595-1,620 last month.

In 2020, the exchange rate moved in the range of K1,465-1,493 in January, K1,436-1,465 in February, K1,320-1,445 in March, K1,395-1,440 in April, K1,406-1,426 in May, K1,385-1,412 in June, K1,367-1,410 in July, K1,335-1,390 in August, K1,310-1,355 in September, K1,282-1,315 in October, K1,303-1,330 in November and K1,324-1,403 in December.

In 2019, the rates are pegged at K1,508-1,517 in July, K1,510-1,526 in August, K1,527-1,565 in September, K1,528-1,537 in October, K1,510-1,524 in November and K1,485-1,513 in December.

On 20 September 2018, the dollar exchange rate hit an all-time high of K1,650 in the local currency market. — NN/GNLM

Mandalay Region ex-chief minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung, ex-minister for Electricity, Energy and Construction U Zar Ni Aung charged under Section 55 of Anti-Corruption Law

FORMER Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung and Former Mandalay Region Minister for Electricity, Energy and Construction U Zar Ni Aung have been charged under Section 55 of the Anti-Corruption Law.

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has set up an investigation team to investigate the allegations of corruption in the activities of Dr Zaw Myint Maung, the former Chief Minister of Mandalay Region, and other officials in the Mandalay

Region government.

According to the findings of the investigation team, Dr Zaw Myint Maung, during his tenure as the Mandalay Region Chief Minister, received a bribe of 300,000 Thai baht from a company whose work was to obtain the permit of other uses of farmland related to the project area and to continue project activities in 2019 and 2020. He also received K65 million from a company operating the Amarapura Urban Development Project as a bribe. While he was receiving medi-

cal treatment in Bumrungrad Hospital in Thailand in 2019, he accepted a bribe of US\$100,000 in three instalments for medical expenses from a businessman operating projects in the Mandalay Region.

In 2019, the Government allocated 0.0171 acre of land worth K94.1 million for the NLD office in Myingyan Township/District and 0.172 acre of land worth K258 million for the NLD office in PyinOoLwin.

Due to his violation of the existing laws and regulations

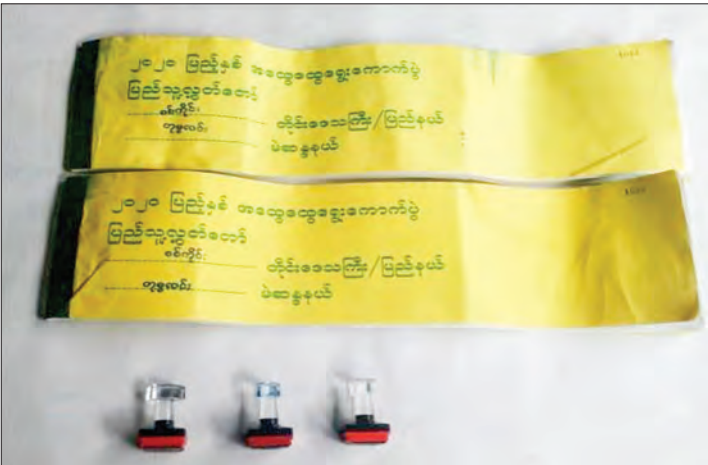
on paying the actual price of the lands, the state lost over K340 million.

Former Minister for Mandalay Region Electricity, Energy and Construction who also served as the Acting Chief Minister for Mandalay Region violated the existing rules and regulations by paying less than the actual prices of the lands allocated by the state for NLD party offices in Aungmyethazan and Chanayethazan townships. Due to that, the state lost more than 130 million kyats.

It is reported that the first complaint was lodged against Former Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung and Former Minister U Zar Ni Aung under Section 55 of the Anti-Corruption Law at Aungmyethazan Township Police Station on 6 July.

The Anti-Corruption Commission also set up a preliminary screening team for the saving book of over K850 million and K45 million in cash at the Mineral Development Bank, US\$20,000 and 500,000 Thai baht. — MNA

Police seized ballots, seals bearing UEC symbol from former Homalin Ward election sub-commission chair



Seized electoral materials.

THE security forces raided the house of U Bo Chit, former chairman of Homalin ward election sub-commission in Homalin Township of Hkamti District of Sagaing Region, on 2 July according to the tip-off that he kept home-made bombs at his house.

The police seized two ballot books containing 50 ballot papers and three seals bearing the UEC symbol used for

Pyithu Hluttaw in the 2020 General Election. The suspect U Bo Chit is still at large and the officials transferred the seized electoral materials to the Homalin Township election sub-commission office.

The current UEC announced on 29 May that it found 7,822 missing ballots and 3,857 extra ballots in Homalin Township. — MNA

Two men arrested with 13 percussion lock firearms in Paungde

TWO men were arrested with 13 percussion lock firearms after the confession of the arrested two drug dealers on 5 July.

Suspects Kyaw Min Oo and Kyaw Thura who were arrested under Section 19 (a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law in Paungde

township police station confessed Kyaw Thura and San Maung purchased 13 firearms with 300,000 kyats from Ko Pauk Kin in Nyaungglaypin village, Nattalin Township and kept them in Myint Soe's house in Nyaungpinsu village.

They were reportedly directed by Nyunt Hlaing who lives in

Kyaungsu village, Paungde Township.

Myint Soe was arrested with 13 firearms and San Maung was arrested later at his house. It is reported that actions will be taken against those who keep the weapons, in accordance with the law. —GNLM



Highway accidents kill 48, injure 276 in Myanmar in 2021H1

IN the first six months of 2021, there were a total of 147 reported traffic accidents on the Yangon-Mandalay expressway, leaving 48 people dead and 276 others injured, according to the Nay Pyi Taw Expressway Traffic Police Force.

During the first six months,

there were four deaths and 40 injuries in 29 traffic accidents in January, three deaths and 29 injuries in 21 traffic accidents in February, 13 deaths and 51 injuries in 25 traffic accidents in March, 13 deaths and 66 injuries in 21 traffic accidents in April, 12 deaths and 43 injuries

in 31 traffic accidents in May and three deaths and 37 injuries in 20 traffic accidents in June.

During the same period of 2020, there were a total of 183 road accidents on the Yangon-Mandalay expressway, killing 35 and injuring 202

others. The number of traffic accidents has declined while the number of traffic-related deaths and injuries has increased in this year compared with the same period that of last year.

The monthly average traffic accident is 24.6 times

in the first six months of 2021. The monthly average death is eight, and the monthly average injury is 46.

Human errors such as overspeeding, reckless driving and drowsy driving are mostly blamed for highway accidents in the country. — ZYA/GNLM

Beware of dangers based on Aedes which causes DHF

MONSOON has fallen into Myanmar for one month. Rain-water fills various ponds, drains, lakes, creeks and rivers in the nation. Moreover, various parts of the ground are covered with rainwater as muddy and wet areas.

The areas filled with clean water are the best for Aedes mosquitoes which bears dengue viruses to be transmitted from person to person. Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever is a mosquito-borne disease caused by any one of four closely related dengue viruses. Such viruses can be identified as DENV-1, -2, -3 and -4. Infection with one serotype of DENV provides immunity to that serotype for life but provides no long-term immunity to other serotypes.

Hence, all the entire people should collectively participate in anti-DHF campaigns across the nation of their own accord as part of looking after their offspring to be free from epidemics including Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever.

patients.

As a saying goes: Prevention is better than cure, public participation is of great importance in taking preventive measures against the infectious DHF by carrying out sanitation and cleaning of the environment around the residences in the society. All the water containers need to be covered with not for mosquitos to enter. It is because clean water is the best habitat for the Aedes mosquito.

Hence, all the entire people should collectively participate in anti-DHF campaigns across the nation of their own accord as part of looking after their offspring to be free from epidemics including Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever.

■ ■ ■

The patients, especially children under 15, may face warning signs of DHF as severe abdominal pain, persistent vomiting, marked change in temperature from fever to hypothermia, hemorrhagic manifestations, or change in mental status. The patient also may have early signs of shock, including restlessness, cold clammy skin, rapid weak pulse, and narrowing of the pulse pressure. Patients with dengue fever should be told to return to the hospital if they can see themselves these signs.

DHF is currently defined by the following four World Health Organization (WHO) criteria: fever or recent history of fever lasting 2-7 days, any hemorrhagic manifestation, thrombocytopenia (platelet count of <100,000/mm³), and evidence of increased vascular permeability.

In Myanmar society, the Ministry of Health and Sports, as well as medical doctors from various hospitals and clinics, advise on raising health awareness for the people to broaden their horizon how to take preventive measures of DHF in the environs, what symptoms of DHF and how to take medical treatment for the DHF

To be a Professionalism

By Dr Than Lwin Tun



In a recent study on Career Readiness conducted by NACE (National Association of Colleges and Employers), employers who hire college graduates were asked which professional competencies were essential to workplace success. **PHOTO: NACE**

are- be best, be dependable, be a team player, be respectful, be ethical and be positive.

Professionalism is the conduct, behaviour and attitude of someone in a work or business environment. A person doesn't have to work in a specific profession to demonstrate the important qual-

ities and characteristics of a professional. Professionalism leads to workplace success, a strong professional reputation and a high level of work ethic and excellence.

In a recent study on Career Readiness conducted by NACE (National Association of Colleges and Employers), employers who

hire college graduates were asked which professional competencies were essential to workplace success. Professionalism/work ethic topped the list with 97.5% of respondents identifying it as either "absolutely essential" or "essential" for a new college hire's success.

The ways you can develop and practise professionalism: Be productive -- Use your time productively at work; Focus on your job responsibilities and avoid getting pulled into social media, web browsing and phone activity while on the clock; Develop a professional Image -- Project a professional presence and dress appropriately for your industry and organization. A good rule of thumb is to dress in the position you aspire to have; Take the initiative -- Ask for more projects to be given to you or think of assignments that will meet your organization's goals. You don't want to be under-utilized; Maintain effective work habits-- Prioritize, plan and manage your assignments and projects. Follow up and follow through with your supervisor and team members; Manage your time efficiently -- Establish priorities, set goals and create action plans to meet deadlines; Demonstrate integrity -- Be accountable for your work and actions while behaving ethically at all times; Provide excellence -- Produce work and results that reflect a sense of pride and professionalism, often exceeding expectations; Be a problem-solver

-- When you run into problems and obstacles take the time to brainstorm a few solutions and alternatives before you meet with your supervisor; Be resilient -- Develop coping skills to manage setbacks and challenges with a positive and constructive attitude; Communicate effectively -- Practise professional on-line, in-person and interpersonal communication skills; Develop self-awareness -- Learn to manage your emotions and gain awareness of your emotional triggers so you can manage your reactions positively and productively. Accept and reflect on feedback to assist as you learn and grow; Build relationships -- Network with colleagues, customers and clients to build professional cordial relationships, work on teams and collaborate effectively.

So, if you want to progress your specific professionalism, please pay attention to the ways you can develop and practise professionalism.

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■ ■ ■

Curiosity

By U Than Zaw

THE word "Curiosity" is the wish to know things. It simply means a wish to know when a person is curious about anything; it means he is interested in it.

In itself, therefore, there is nothing wrong with curiosity. Whether it is a good thing or a bad thing, will depend on what people are curious about.

Curiosity is often silly, and sometimes it is wrong. In the village and small towns, there is a good deal of foolish curiosity. People with nothing better to do are full of curiosity about what their neighbours do. They want to know what they eat, what money they earn, why are a woman has got a new Hta-hbi, why another does not get married, why Maung Hla come home late at night, or why

Maung Mya bought a ring in the bazaar.

Such curiosity is silly because these things themselves are so trivial. Also, it is no business of their own or what their neighbours do. It would be better if they mind their own business, and left neighbours alone whatever it might be.

Such curiosity is not only foolish, but curiosity that takes mischief gives rise to lies and scandals, which hurt. For it generally leads to gossip and idle gossip often gives rise to lies and scandal, which hurt innocent people.

But, as you know, all children are curious and their curiosity is a good thing. When a child begins to notice things what they are and what they

mean. So, he is always asking questions.

He is always saying What? Why? How? Where? That is the way he learns and as for grown-up people should always be patient with curious children and try to answer their questions best.

And there is noble curiosity also, the curiosity of wise men who wonder at all the great things "Nature" has made and try to find out all they can about curiosity. Columbus could never have found America if he had not been curious.

James Watt would not have made the steam engine if he had not been curious about the raising of the kettle lid. William F.B. Morse would not have made or invented W/T Wireless Tele-



All the discoveries of science have been due to man's curiosity about their desire to know. China launched three male astronauts, Nie Haisheng, Liu Boming and Tang Hongbo, into space in June. **PHOTO: TWITTER.COM/XHSCITECH**

graphy Morse Code we could not have telegraph communications in the whole world, even I could not earn my living as R/O (Ra-

dio Officer) onboard, Mercantile Marine for 23 and half years, isn't it?

All the discoveries of sci-

ence have been due to man's curiosity about their desire to know. Curiosity about great and noble things is noble curiosity.



BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weak elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 7 July, 2021: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, scattered in Mandalay Region and Chin States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Northern Shan, Rakhine, Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

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

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Taninthayi Regions and Shan, Kayah, Kayin, Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 July, 2021: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 July, 2021: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 July, 2021: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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Good governance

By VLADIMIR PETROVSKIY | China Daily Global

THE Communist Party of China is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, a historic event not only for China, but also for the rest of the world. For more than 70 out of its 100 years, the CPC has been China's ruling party, which is a record in itself.

To better understand the true importance of the CPC's experience, one should turn to history. At the turn of the 20th to 21st centuries, the future of socialism depended on its ability and capacity to reform itself. We can compare the Russian and Chinese experiences, because by the end of the 1980s both countries found themselves at the same crossroad, but each chose a different path. Truly, history has no subjunctive mood. Decades later we see where China is now, and where Russia is, and what happened to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

China's development has entered a new stage. A new generation of leaders, led by President Xi Jinping, is setting certain tasks for the Party. The 19th National Congress of the CPC in October 2017 was devoted to how the CPC, as the core of the political system, is moving toward completing the assigned tasks.



LI MIN/CHINA DAILY

Despite the negative impact of the novel coronavirus outbreak, China has successfully completed the 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-20), with absolute poverty being eradicated in the country. By 2020, the country's GDP had doubled com-

pared to that in 2010. Thus, a large-scale milestone task was solved.

The experience of China's political development in the era of reform and opening-up has an important foreign policy dimension. It demonstrates the limitations of the Western model and the danger of a "universal Westernization" policy for countries belonging to non-Western cultures. The Chinese economy's stability and steady growth consolidates the CPC's leading role in China's political system.

The CPC as the main and ruling party determines the key directions, the development model and the value priorities. Its performance in these areas can be measured by the achievements the country has already made and the identifying of the next tasks and how they are to be successfully completed. These tasks are to make the country a major world power, with a modern developed economy, an influential social sphere and with a role as one of the main participants in the formulation of the world and regional agendas.

Attention has been drawn in particular to a number of key provisions expressed by President Xi, including the

need to develop a new type of international relations; countries working together to build a community with a shared future for mankind; the construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics in a new era; and the transformation of China by the middle of this century into a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and beautiful.

The strength of China's example as a successful and strong socialist power is also important, not only for the left-wing forces and the forces of socialism throughout the world, but also for other countries, especially emerging economies, that are looking to form their own models of socioeconomic development.

China, under the guidance of the CPC, will continue to look ahead and develop confidently. China is carrying out a large experiment of a global scale, and all other countries, especially those with a developing economy, are looking at China. What should be the optimal combination of the free market mechanisms and state regulation? China has its own model. In fact, we see an absolutely pragmatic approach, when what is working is supported.

Nepal aims to export power after inaugurating largest power project

NEPALI Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli Monday inaugurated the Upper Tamakoshi hydropower project, the country's largest with an installed capacity of 456MW, which is expected to make Nepal a power exporter in the wet season.

Oli "switched on" the button through a video conference after the electricity generated by one of the six turbines of the project was evacuated to the national grid.

"Once power is generated from all turbines, the country will have surplus energy making the country capable of exporting electricity," said Hitendra Dev Shakya, managing director of the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA).

"The completion of the Upper Tamakoshi project has provided an opportunity for Nepal to export power in addition to local consumption, which is a great achievement," Oli said during the inauguration. "Now we have to increase the use of electricity in our kitchen, nationwide electrification, industrial use, education so that we can promote green development of the country."

The project on Tamakoshi River in Dolakha district in central Nepal, approximately 200 km from the capital of Kathmandu, is one of the country's

National Pride Projects.

Between 2007 and 2017, Nepal went through a massive power outage with load shedding extending up to 18 hours per day. In May 2018, the NEA officially announced the end of load shedding in the country through better management of available power and by importing more power from India.

Nepal's peak demand of power was 1,400MW, while the installed capacity of power projects was 1,369MW during the first half of the current 2020-21 fiscal year that ends in mid-July, said Madan Timsina, the NEA's spokesman.

So the country has to import power from India to fill in the gap.

Kul Man Ghising, former NEA managing director under whose leadership the load shedding ended, told Xinhua that the government was asked to take concrete measures to export power to India to ensure the surplus power not to be wasted.

"Nepal can trade the power in Indian power exchange market," he said.

Ghising also spoke of the need for promoting the use of electricity in kitchen and other sectors.

The Upper Tamakoshi hydropower project started in 2011 and was sup-



The project on Tamakoshi River in Dolakha district in central Nepal, approximately 200 km from the capital of Kathmandu, is one of the country's National Pride Projects. **PHOTO: KATHMANDUPOST/XINHUA**

posed to complete in six years, yet change in the design of the main tunnel, earthquake in 2015, India's trade blockade in the same year and a lockdown imposed to contain the COVID-19 have all contributed to the delay and cost overrun of the project.

Initially, the project was expected to cost 409 million U.S. dollars including

the interest to be paid to creditors, now the estimated final cost has reached around 709 million U.S. dollars, according to the NEA.

Irrespective of the growing cost, Nepali Energy Minister Bishnu Paudel said the project would contribute around 1 percent to the country's GDP. — Xinhua ■

S. Korea garden known for statue of kneeling man donated to gov't

A private botanical garden in South Korea that drew attention for installing a statue of a kneeling man in front of a statue symbolizing “comfort women” has been donated to the government, except for the pair of statues, the garden’s founder said Tuesday.

The bronze figure that appears to be bowing to the girl statue in atonement became controversial last year as many say it resembles then Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. Kim Chang Ryeol, who heads the garden, said he will personally manage the statues out of consideration for their potential impact on bilateral ties if the government also owned them. The girl statue symbolizes Korean women forced to work at Japanese military brothels during World War II. Similar statues of life-size girls depicted seated

and wearing traditional Korean outfits have been erected across South Korea and overseas.

The issue of the former comfort women remains a diplomatic flashpoint between the two neighbours. The donation is intended to keep the garden open for the long term. Kim said he felt it would be difficult to continue running the garden “both physically and economically.”

Sometime after a donation ceremony on Wednesday, Kim intends to step down as garden head but stressed there is no plan to remove or relocate the statues.

The statues, titled “Everlasting Atonement,” will remain in a section of the garden where visitors can stroll. An organization under the Korea Forestry Service will manage the garden. Kim, who views the statues as

works of art, is considering holding an exhibition in Tokyo and elsewhere by temporarily moving the statues. While he is seeking backers in Japan for the project, he had yet to be contacted about it as of Tuesday. The garden is located in Pyeongchang in the country’s northeast. Kim created the botanical garden with his own money, which he made through agriculture and other endeavors.—Kyodo ■

Photo taken at the privately run Korea Botanic Garden in South Korea’s Pyeongchang on 19 June 2021, shows statues of a girl (top) symbolizing Korean “comfort women”, a euphemism for women who were made to work in Japan’s wartime brothels, and a man resembling former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on his knees bowing to her. **PHOTO: KYODO**



Fears for future of Mexico City’s ‘green lung’



Activists fear a bridge being built over Mexico City’s wetlands will cause irreparable damage to the ecosystem. **PHOTO: AFP**

A major construction project in wetlands seen as one of the “green lungs” of smog-choked Mexico City has raised concerns for the future of the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

A more than 1.7-kilometre (one mile) long reinforced concrete bridge is being built on a freshwater lake system that helps to regulate the temperature and prevent flooding in the city of nine million people.

Hundreds of trees have been cut down in the Xochimilco reserve, which is home to

endemic species including the critically endangered axolotl, a salamander-like amphibian.

Residents and experts worry that the project is just the first step in an accelerated development of the area, which is listed as a Wetlands of International Importance under an intergovernmental conservation treaty.

“We’re going to keep fighting, because we fear that they will want to continue to develop and fill the lakes here to make a commercial plaza,” said Maria Alvarado, 60, a member of a group campaigning against the project.

Xochimilco is a magnet for tourists who ride colorful gondolas through its maze of canals and artificial islands created centuries ago by the area’s indigenous peoples.—AFP ■

Ancient bone carving could change the way we think about Neanderthals

The design may be simple, but a chevron pattern etched onto a deer bone more than 50,000 years ago suggests that Neanderthals had their own artistic tradition before modern humans arrived on the scene, researchers said Monday.

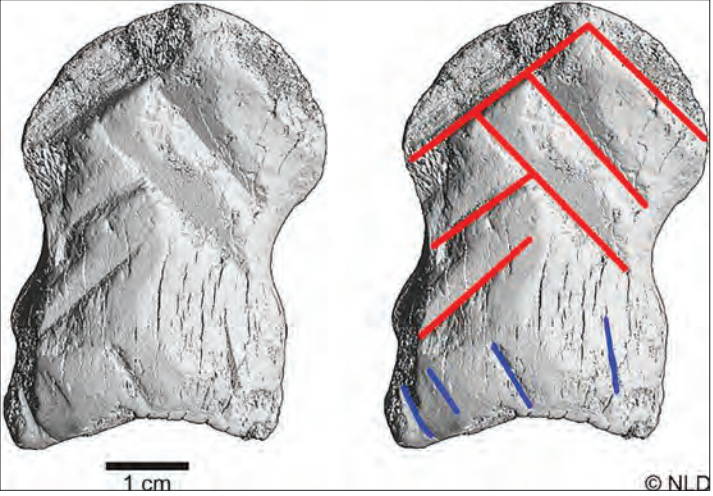
The engraving, discovered at a German cave where Neanderthals lived tens of thousands of years ago, has no obvious utility according to researchers who say the artifact sheds new light on the ill-fated species’ capacity for creativity.

The vast majority of Stone-Age artworks discovered in Europe are attributed to Homo sapiens and experts have long

suggested that Neanderthals, among our closest relatives, only began creating symbolic objects after mixing with them.

But using radiocarbon dating, archaeologists determined the recently-unearthed artifact to be at least 51,000 years old -- pre-dating the arrival of Homo sapiens in central Europe by some 10,000 years, according to the research published in the journal Nature Ecology and Evolution.

“The cultural influence of H. sapiens as the single explanatory factor for abstract cultural expressions in Neanderthals can no longer be sustained,” the study says.—AFP ■



Archaeologists determined the artifact to be at least 51,000 years old -- before the arrival of Homo Sapiens in central Europe. **PHOTO: NLD/AFP**

Storm Elsa batters Cuba as it heads toward Florida Keys

TROPICAL storm Elsa brought drenching rain and strong winds to Cuba Monday but left the island without major damage, as the US National Hurricane Centre reported the storm was now making its way toward the Florida Keys.

Elsa has left a trail of destruction through the Caribbean,

claiming at least three lives, and is expected to gain strength as it emerges off the coast of western Cuba Monday evening. Over 100,000 people were evacuated from coastal or low-lying areas as the storm cut through the island, with Cuba’s meteorological institute Insmet reporting winds of up to 100 kilometres an hour. By

9 pm (0100 GMT), it was headed out toward the Gulf of Mexico, authorities said. But Florida appeared set to avoid the worst of the storm as forecasters shifted its likely path westward, suggesting the southwest coast of the state will experience a glancing blow rather than the direct hit earlier expected.—AFP ■

Sydney Airport gets \$17 billion takeover bid

SYDNEY Airport received a multi-billion-dollar takeover bid from a consortium of Australian investors Monday, sending its share price soaring.

The consortium of infrastructure investors and Australian pension funds offered Aus\$8.25 per share -- or Aus\$22.3 billion (US\$17 billion).

The proposal “has been made during a global pandemic which has deeply affected the aviation industry and the Sydney Airport security price”, the airport’s board said in a statement to the Australian Securities Exchange.

“The indicative price is below where Sydney Airport’s security price traded before the pandemic.”

The investors -- calling

themselves the Sydney Aviation Alliance -- confirmed the approach, saying they invested on behalf of more than six million Australian pension fund members.

The alliance said the proposal would ensure substantial ongoing Australian ownership of the country’s biggest airport, contending it was “in the long-term interest of Sydney and the travelling public”.

Sydney Airport’s share price spiked more than 30 per cent on the offer, which is now being considered by the company’s board. — AFP ■



Sydney Airport has received a US\$17 billion takeover bid. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Thabyay Radio to launch broadcast on 11 July



A NEW radio broadcasting programme namely Thabyay Radio will be launched in central Myanmar with MW 711 KHz and Yangon and surrounding areas with FM 99.6 MHz as of 11 July.

The Myanmar Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information will arrange broadcasting programmes of Thabyay Radio comprising the true information sector to rebut fake and false news, feature programmes and talks, the youth sector, the general knowledge sector, the questions for thoughts, questions for health knowledge, beautiful Myanmar, knowledge from books, the digest sector, sweet songs of Thabyay Radio, modern songs and songs for patriotic spirit from 7 am to 12 noon and from 4 pm to 9 pm daily. — MNA

NEWS IN BRIEF

Oil prices extend gains after OPEC+ talks fail, equities mixed

OIL extended gains in Asian trade Tuesday after a gathering of top producers fell apart without any agreement on a plan to lift output despite stockpiles shrinking and demand surging along with the global economic recovery. The breakdown of talks between OPEC and other key crude nations raised the possibility of \$100 a barrel -- a level not seen since 2014 -- and stoked fresh fears about inflation, which could force central banks to taper their monetary policy or hike interest rates earlier than thought. Equity markets were mixed in Asia, with the US Independence Day break Monday meaning there were few buying catalysts. Hong Kong’s tech firms remained in focus owing to fears that a new crackdown on the sector by Chinese authorities will make them unattractive to investors. But eyes were on oil after Brent broke above \$77 for the first time since 2018 while WTI also rallied. The OPEC+ group on Monday cancelled a planned meeting that was supposed to overcome an impasse between the United Arab Emirates and other members on how to lift output. — AFP ■

Brazil’s financial market raises economic growth forecast to 5.18 pct in 2021

Brazilian financial market analysts raised their forecast for gross domestic product (GDP) growth from 5.05 to 5.18 per cent in 2021, while modifying their 2022 projection from 2.11 to 2.10 per cent, the Central Bank of Brazil reported on Monday. According to the bank’s weekly survey of the country’s top financial institutions, experts raised estimated inflation in 2021 from 5.97 to 6.07 per cent, and modified it from 3.78 to 3.77 per cent in 2022. The forecast exceeds the official target of 3.75 per cent in 2021, with a 1.5-per cent margin of tolerance, a ceiling of 5.25 per cent. Regarding the benchmark interest rate, currently at 4.25 per cent annually, economists maintained their forecast of 6.5 per cent by the end of this year and raised their projection from 6.5 to 6.75 per cent by the end of next year. Analysts also revised their forecast for the Brazilian currency, which is currently 5 reals per U.S. dollar, to 5.04 reals per U.S. dollar at the end of 2021 and 5.2 reals per U.S. dollar by the end of next year. — Xinhua ■

South Korea’s imported car sale falls 4.2pc in June

SOUTH Korea’s imported car sale fell in single digit last month, marking the first slide this year, industry data showed yesterday.

The number of imported vehicles sold was 26,191 in June, down 4.2 per cent from the same month of last year, according to the Korea Automobile Importers and Distributors Association (KAIDA).

It was the first decline this



South Korea’s imported car sale fell in single digit last month, marking the first slide this year, industry data showed yesterday. PHOTO: PULSENEWS.CO.KR/XINHUA

year amid the supply shortage of some brands, but demand remained strong for German luxury models. German carmaker Mercedes-Benz ranked the first for the sixth consecutive month in terms of automotive sale here by selling 6,828 vehicles last month.

It was followed by German automaker BMW with the sale of 6,502 units, Audi with 1,848 vehicles, Volkswagen with 1,667 units and Volvo with 1,451 vehicles.

The number of European models sold was 21,195, or 80.9 per cent of the total. It was followed by American brands with a market share of 11.2 per cent and Japanese models with 7.9 per cent each. — Xinhua ■

French champagne houses cry foul over Russian label rule

CHAMPAGNE houses in France on Monday issued a plea for diplomatic help over a new Russian law reserving the term “champagne” for Russian-produced sparkling wines, which interrupted supplies from the local market leader Moet Hennessy.

French producers are fiercely jealous of the AOC, or Controlled Appellation of Origin, that is supposed to give them exclusive use of the word in countries that adhere to the Lisbon Agreement on distinctive geographical indications. But Russia is not a signatory, and on Friday President Vladimir Putin signed a law that will forbid the use of the Russian translation of champagne -- “Shampanskoe” -- on imported bottles. French producers can still use the word in French, but will also have to write “sparkling

wine” in Cyrillic on the back of bottles -- a heresy for brands that say nothing on Earth can match their distinctive bubbly. “The Champenois call on French and European diplomats to obtain a change of this unacceptable law,” the Champagne Committee, which groups grape growers as well as producers in France’s northeastern Champagne region, said in a statement. — AFP ■

Spain maintains tourism target despite British travel restrictions

SPAIN expects to meet its target of welcoming around 45 million foreign tourists this year despite virus travel restrictions faced by Britons, its main market, the government said yesterday.

“We can still recover half of our international tourism this year, its a prudent goal,” Tourism Minister Maria Reyes Maroto said in an interview published in top-selling daily newspaper El Pais.

“We expect around 17 million international tourists during the summer and many will be British because it is a market that is very faithful to Spain,” she added. The minister announced in mid-May that Spain, the world’s second most popular destination after France before the pandemic, expected to draw 45 million foreign visitors this year, more than half the 83.5 million it received in 2019.

Between January and May, Spain welcomed 3.2 million foreign visitors, including about 130,000 Britons, according to the latest official figures.

Britain allowed inter-

national travel to resume in May after months of banning most trips abroad, but Spain is not included in its so-called “green list” of safe destinations.

That means Britons returning from trips to mainland Spain must self-isolate on arrival for 10 days and take two Covid-19 tests.

Only Britons heading to Spain’s Balearic archipelago, which includes Ibiza and Mallorca, are exempt due to the lower numbers of Covid-19 infections there.—AFP ■



Tourists visit the Casa Mila, a renowned building designed by architect Antoni Gaudi, in Barcelona, Spain. PHOTO: XINHUA

Emirates offering free ticket to Burj Khalifa observation deck

EMIRATES, the world’s largest international airline, has launched an offer for holidaymakers planning a trip to Dubai. All customers in any cabin class are being given a complimentary ticket to At the Top, Burj Khalifa – one of the world’s highest observation decks.

To get their free entry, customers need to book their travel to Dubai on emirates.com with a promo code TOP2021 or via participating travel agents before July 22 for travel until September 30.

Maltese holidaymakers will be able to take advantage of this offer, as Emirates will resume three weekly services to Malta via Larnaca, Cyprus, from July 14. Flights to/from Malta will operate three times weekly through the airline’s existing Larnaca service on its two-class Boeing 777-300LR, offering 42 lie-flat seats in business class and 386 ergonomically-designed seats in economy class.

Fares to Dubai in economy class start from €569, and in business class from €2,499.

The structure, which soars over the Dubai skyline, is located next to The Dubai Mall and has drawn visitors from all over the world since opening in 2010. Not only is the Burj Khalifa the world’s tallest free-standing structure, it also holds the record for the fastest double deck elevators, cruising at 10m/s.

From Level 124, visitors can take a closer look at the world below through high-powered telescopes and step out onto the public outdoor observation terrace overlooking the ever-growing skyline. The visit continues at Level 125, standing at 456 metres, offering a spacious deck for stunning 360-degree views of the city.—AFP ■



All Emirates customers can now enjoy Dubai from a new perspective with a complimentary ticket to At the Top, Burj Khalifa. Dubai’s Burj Khalifa. PHOTO: AFP

Up to 1,500 firms affected in major ransomware attack, Kaseya says

UP to 1,500 businesses around the world may have been affected by a major ransomware attack that has shuttered hundreds of Swedish supermarkets, according to the American IT company at the centre of the hack.

Miami-based firm Kaseya, which provides IT services to some 40,000 businesses globally, said customers of its clients were the main victims of the attack, which saw hackers demand \$70 million in bitcoin in exchange for the return of stolen data.

“We understand the total impact thus far has been to fewer than 1,500 downstream businesses,” Kaseya said in an update on its website late Monday.

The tech company said only 60 of its own customers may have been affected by the ransomware attack — an increasingly lucrative form of digital hostage-taking in which hackers encrypt victims’ data and then demand money for restored access.

The attack — which experts believed was carried out by a Russian-speaking hacking outfit — compromised customers using Kaseya’s signature VSA software, which allows companies to manage networks of computers and printers from a single point.

Kaseya said it is preparing to release a VSA patch to its customers to bring their services back online as soon as possible after testing. —AFP ■

Changing Manufacturer Name for Registered Pesticides

Manufacturer Name of Pesticides, Clincher (Cyhalofop-butyl 10% EC) Reg; No: F2017-674 and Gallant Super (Haloxypop-R-methyl ester 108g/l EC) Reg; No: F2019-1222, registered by Corteva Agriscience (Myanmar) Co., Ltd at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, is changing name from PT.Dow AgroSciences Indonesia to PT.Corteva Agriscience Manufacturing Indonesia. Any objection to this name change can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, West Gyogone, Insein, Yangon within 14 days.

Corteva Agriscience (Myanmar) Co., Ltd
Ph: 01-9253390

Trade Mark
Ads

Call

Ph: 09251022355
Ph: 09974424848

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V PRESIDIO VOY.NO. (061N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PRESIDIO VOY.NO. (061N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-7-2021** 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.

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.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING PTE., LTD.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V CTP MAKASSAR VOY.NO. (228N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CTP MAKASSAR VOY.NO. (228N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-7-2021** 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.

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.

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Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING

NEWS
IN BRIEF

Malaysia's parliament, shut amid COVID-19 crisis, to reopen July 26

MALAYSIA'S embattled Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin announced Monday that parliament, which has been suspended since January when the country was placed under emergency rules to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, will reconvene from July 26.

A statement from the prime minister's office said the government has agreed to advise the king, Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin, to summon parliament for a special meeting, with the House of Representatives to sit for a total of five days between 26 July and 2 Aug and the Senate to meet for three days from 3 to 5 Aug.

"The meeting is aimed at briefing the Members of Parliament about the National Recovery Plan and to amend all the legislatures and regulations to enable the parliament to meet via hybrid method," the statement said.—Kyodo News ■

Chicago violence spikes over July 4 weekend with up to 88 shootings

THE United States celebrated Independence Day with parades, barbecues and fireworks, but in violence-plagued Chicago, 88 people were shot, 14 of them fatally.

The holiday weekend violence comes after increased media and police attention to the problem that has plagued Chicago all year, the nation's third-largest city which is on pace for more murders than the 774 recorded in 2020 -- which was Chicago's second deadliest year in the last two decades and more than New York and Los Angeles combined.

Holiday weekends usually are especially deadly in Chicago, and because of that, members of Chicago's City Council took the unprecedented step of grilling police superintendent David Brown for six hours on 2 July about police strategies.

Despite the meeting, 10 more people were shot than last weekend, when 78 were shot, 10 fatally, across the city.—AFP ■

Controversial "comfort women" statue exhibited by Nagoya gallery



Photo taken on 6 July, 2021, shows a statue symbolizing wartime "comfort women" put on display at an art exhibition at the Sakae municipal gallery in Nagoya. **PHOTO: KYODO**

WORKS from an art exhibition that has repeatedly sparked controversy for its purported "anti-Japan" message in featuring a statue symbolizing wartime "comfort women" have been put

on display at a gallery in central Japan, organizers of the event said Tuesday.

The Sakae municipal gallery in Nagoya will show the statue of a girl in traditional Korean dress symbolizing women who worked in wartime Japanese military brothels as well as two other pieces from the exhibition until 11 July.

The exhibition, titled "After 'Freedom of Expression?'" initially opened at the Aichi Triennale 2019 but was forced to close over security concerns amid a flood of threats and complaints.

A similar exhibition that was set to open in Tokyo last month was postponed indefinitely due to disruption caused by protestors

in vehicles using loudspeakers.

The exhibition is also unlikely to open in Osaka later this month as scheduled after a prefectural facility revoked permission for organizers to use it as a venue.

Nagoya city officials said that they have requested organizers increase security and will work with police to hold the event. The other two works on display include a film featuring a scene where an image of Emperor Hirohito, the grandfather of the current emperor, is burned to ashes. According to the city officials, protestors gathered in front of the facility over the weekend, criticizing the city for allowing use of the venue.—Kyodo News ■

Six school kids among nine Hong Kongers arrested for 'bomb plot'

SIX secondary school children were among nine Hong Kongers arrested on terror charges for allegedly trying to manufacture a powerful explosive, police announced Tuesday.

Five males and four females aged between 15 and 39 were arrested Monday on suspicion of "conspiracy to use explosives for terrorist activities", police said.

"The operation we conducted yesterday was against gangsters (who) tried to manufacture TATP explosive inside a home-made laboratory inside a

hostel," senior superintendent Steve Li, from the city's new national security unit, told reporters. TATP is a high-powered explosive.

Police said the nine people belonged to a pro-independence group that called itself "Returning Valiant". Those arrested included six teenage students and three adults who worked at a local university, a secondary school, and as a driver. Li said they were planning to attack public facilities including a cross-harbour tunnel, the rail-



Hong kong police arrested nine people including six teenagers accused of plotting attacks on the city. **PHOTO: PETER PARKS/ AFP**

way network, and courtrooms to "maximize damage to society". Anti-government sentiment exploded in 2019 during massive

and often violent pro-democracy protests that were stamped out with arrests and a new national security law.—AFP ■

Norwegian pension fund sells off groups linked to Israeli settlements

Norway's largest pension fund announced on Monday it had divested assets in 16 companies for their links to Israeli settlements in the West Bank, including telecom equipment giant Motorola.

"Motorola and other companies risk complicity in international law violations in occupied Palestine," KLP, which manages some 95 billion dollars (€80bn) worth of assets, said in a statement. The divestment follows the February 2020 UN publication of a list of 112 companies with activities linked to Israeli settlements, considered illegal under international law.

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A Palestinian farmer aided by his donkey, ploughs his land facing the Israeli settlement of Kiryat Arba'a, in the West Bank town of Hebron. **PHOTO: HAZEM BADER / AFP**

ments, considered illegal under international law Israel's government has denounced the publication of the list -- which included

companies like Airbnb, Expedia, Motorola and Tripadvisor -- as a "contemptible effort".

"Divesting from Motorola

Solutions was a very straightforward decision over its surveillance role in the occupied territories," KLP said, arguing the company provide software used in border surveillance.

KLP also divested telecom operators offering services within the West Bank as they contributed to making "the settlements attractive residential areas". These included Altice Europe, Bezeq, Cellcom Israel and Partner Communications.

Also included are five banks that facilitated or financed the construction of housing and infrastructure in occupied territories, as well as engineering and construction groups, including the French multinational Alstom.—AFP ■

US forces shoot down armed drone near US embassy in Baghdad

US forces shot down an armed drone above their embassy in Baghdad on Monday night, Iraqi security officials said, hours after a rocket attack on a base housing US soldiers in the west of the country.

American defence systems fired rockets into the air in Baghdad, according to AFP reporters, with Iraqi security sources saying the salvos took out a drone that was laden with explosives.

Since the start of the year, 47 attacks have targeted US interests in the country, where 2,500 American troops are deployed as part of an international coalition to fight the jihadist Islamic State group.

Six of them involved these kinds of drones, a tactic that poses a headache for the coalition as the aircraft can evade air defences.

In April, a drone packed with explosives hit the coalition's Iraq



Iraqi Counter Terrorism Forces stand guard outside the U.S. Embassy on 30 May, 2021 in Baghdad, Iraq.

PHOTO: AFP/JOHN MOORE

headquarters in the military part of the airport in Arbil, the Iraqi Kurdish regional capital.

The next month, a drone packed with explosives hit the Ain Al-Asad airbase housing US

troops.

On June 9, three explosives-laden drones targeted Baghdad airport, where US soldiers are also deployed. One was intercepted by the Iraqi army.

In a sign that the United States is concerned about new drone attacks, it recently offered up to \$3 million for information on attacks targeting its interests in Iraq.— AFP ■

Ethiopia begins second stage of filling mega-dam, angering Egypt

ETHIOPIA says it has started the next phase of filling a controversial mega-dam on the Nile River, Egyptian authorities said Monday, raising tensions ahead

of an upcoming UN Security Council on the issue.

Egypt said the move was “a violation of international laws and norms that regulate pro-

jects built on the shared basins of international rivers,” and had expressed its “firm rejection of this unilateral measure”, its irrigation ministry said in a statement late Monday.

The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam, which is set to be Africa's largest hydroelectric project when completed, is the source of an almost decade-long diplomatic stand-off between Addis Ababa and downstream nations Egypt and Sudan.

Ethiopia says the project is essential to its development, but Cairo and Khartoum fear it could restrict their citizens' water access.

Both countries have been pushing Addis Ababa to ink a

binding deal over the filling and operation of the dam, and have been urging the UN Security Council to take the matter up in recent weeks.

Thursday's meeting was requested by Tunisia on Egypt and Sudan's behalf, a diplomatic source told AFP.

But France's ambassador to the UN said last week that the council itself can do little apart from bringing the sides together.

Egypt's Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry said in one note to the UN that negotiations are at an impasse, and accused Ethiopia of adopting “a policy of intransigence that undermined our collective endeavors to reach an agreement.”—AFP ■



The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam has been a source of conflict between Addis Ababa and Egypt and Sudan since construction began. PHOTO: EDUARDO SOTERAS/ AFP

Contact lost with plane in Russia's Far East, 28 on board: reports

CONTACT has been lost with a passenger plane carrying 28 people in Russia's Far East, news agencies cited emergency services as saying on Tuesday.

The An-26 was flying from Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky to Palana in the Kamchatka Peninsula when it did not make a scheduled call-in, the Interfax, RIA Novosti and TASS agencies quoted local officials as saying.

The report said the 28 on board included six crew members and that there were one or two children among the passengers. There were conflicting reports of what may have happened, with one source telling TASS the plane could have crashed into the sea and another telling Interfax it may have gone down near a coal mine close to the town of Palana.—AFP ■



REPRESENTATIONAL PHOTO: A Russian-made AN-26 similar to the one which has been reported missing. PHOTO: AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Austria's former far-right leader on trial for corruption

AUSTRIA'S former vice-chancellor and longtime leader of the far-right Freedom Party (FPÖ) stands trial for alleged corruption on Tuesday, in a case linked to a scandal that brought down the government.

One of Europe's most high-profile far-right leaders, Heinz-Christian Strache was forced to resign as vice-chancellor in 2019 after the publication of a video that showed him offering public contracts in return for electoral campaign support from a woman posing as a Russian investor.

The scandal, dubbed “Ibiza-gate” as the video was secretly filmed on the Spanish party island, spawned a sweeping corruption investigation which uncovered several different accusations of wrongdoing.

Tuesday's trial concerns charges that Strache helped change a law for an FPÖ donor when he was in a coalition government with the centre-right People's Party (ÖVP) of Chancellor Sebastian Kurz.—AFP ■

Afghan troops struggle to replace Americans at key base

AFTER American troops withdrew without notifying them, Afghan soldiers guarding the Bagram Air Base have been left with thousands of Taliban prisoners and a certainty that the enemy will attack.

The sprawling military complex was at one point home to tens of thousands of US and allied soldiers, and one of the most important sites to prosecute the two-decade war in Afghanistan.

But the last of the American soldiers quietly left the base last week, effectively completing their withdrawal from Afghanistan and leaving a massive security vacuum that the Afghan military will struggle to fill.

The new commander of the Bagram base, General Mirasadullah Kohistani, on Monday spoke candidly about the challenges ahead, as reporters were given a tour of the largely deserted base.—AFP ■

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs

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

2. Economic affairs

- (a) To enhance production based on agriculture and livestock through modern techniques and strengthen all-round development in other sectors of the economy.

- (b) To develop a stable market economy and promote international investment in order to enhance the economic development of the entire National people.
- (c) To promote and support local businesses to create employment opportunities and increase domestic production.

3. Social affairs

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

Maguire never feared for England career despite turbulent year

HARRY Maguire insists he never feared for his England career after a turbulent year on and off the pitch that will see him aim to make amends against Denmark in the semi-finals of Euro 2020 on Wednesday.

Just 11 months ago, the Manchester United captain found himself locked up in a Greek jail for two days after a post-season holiday went wrong. Maguire, 28, was given a suspended 21-month sentence after being found guilty of assaulting a police officer, swearing, resisting arrest and bribery during an incident in Mykonos.

He always protested his innocence and launched an appeal which nullifies the verdict and means he has no criminal record ahead of a full retrial. The incident just days after the end of the delayed 2019/20 season had consequences that rolled into the new season.

He was dropped for England's Nations League ties with Iceland and Denmark in September and looked like a man with the weight of the world on his shoulders even when he did return from club and country.— AFP ■

Thet Htar Thuzar qualified for badminton event of Tokyo Olympic

THE Badminton World Federation (BWF) yesterday announced that Myanmar Badminton star player Thet Htar Thuzar will be able to compete in the badminton event of the upcoming Tokyo Olympics in Japan.

According to the BWF, Thet Htar Thuzar will compete in the women's singles event, which has 42 competitors.

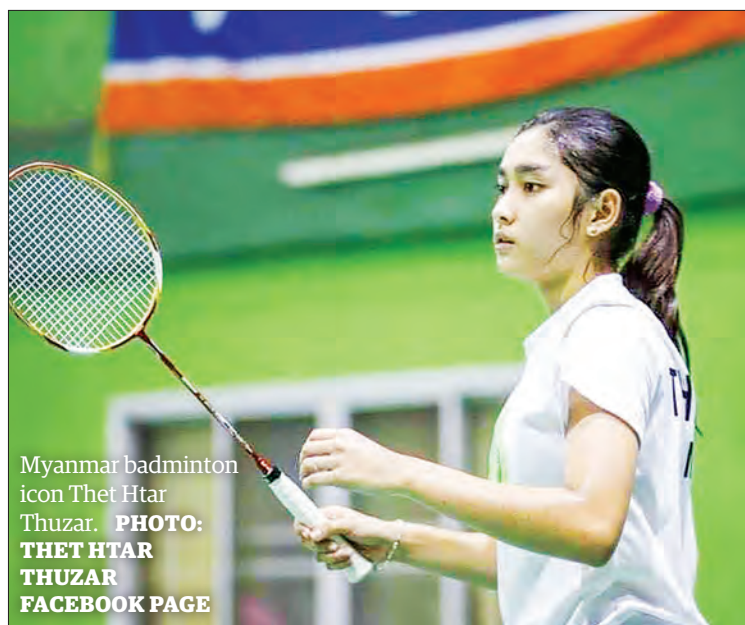
"The dream that I have been waiting for many years has come true. I was actually allowed to enter the Olympics. I hope the news will raise all the spirits of my fans. I'll try to be the best

representative for all the people of Myanmar. The success of Thet Htar is the success of all the Myanmar people," Thet Htar Thuzar said.

Thet Htar Thuzar has not competed in international competitions since March 2020 due to the global outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

She has competed in a total of 15 events during the Olympic Qualifiers and has been trying to qualify for the Olympics for the past few years.

Since 2018, she has won eight Badminton World Federa-



Myanmar badminton icon Thet Htar Thuzar. **PHOTO: THET HTAR THUZAR FACEBOOK PAGE**

tion (BWF) tournaments.

The Badminton World Federation (BWF) on 5 July announced the shortlist of national badminton players including

Thet Htar Thuzar for the Tokyo Olympics. There are 87 male and 86 female badminton players representing each country for the Olympic tourney.—GNLM

Djokovic, Federer in Wimbledon landmarks as title showdown nears



Sweet and low: Novak Djokovic returns against Chile's Cristian Garin during their fourth round match. **PHOTO: AFP**

NOVAK Djokovic and Roger Federer can inch closer to a Wimbledon title showdown on Wednesday when they make landmark appearances in the quarter-finals. World number one Djokovic, chasing a sixth title at the All England Club and record-equaling 20th Grand Slam, plays his 50th quarter-final at the majors.

The Serb tackles Marton Fucsovics, the first Hungarian man to get this far since 1948. Federer, just five weeks shy of his 40th birthday, is in his 18th Wimbledon quarter-final and 58th at the majors. He faces either second seed Daniil Medvedev

or Hubert Hurkacz with their last-16 tie still to be decided due to Monday's rain. Having already become just the third man to win all four Slams more than once by lifting his second French Open last month, Djokovic now has another record in his sights. He is halfway to a rare calendar Grand Slam, a feat only achieved by two other men —Don Budge in 1938 and Rod Laver in 1962 and 1969. As a result, the 34-year-old is already being hailed as the greatest player of all time, surpassing even Federer and the absent Rafael Nadal.— AFP ■