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Tuesday, 9 November 2021

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.

Dagon University marks opening ceremony of refresher course

DAGON University welcomed the newcomers to the institution and the opening ceremony of the refresher course was convened on 8 November at the convocation hall at the Dagon University.

U Htay Aung, the Advocate-General of Yangon Region Government addressed the remark. Afterwards, Dr Thar Tun Maung, Rector of Dagon University delivered the remark concerning the quality enhancement in higher education and the universities and the upgrading of the libraries.

Additionally, in line with the guidance of the Head of State, the refresher training will be provided. DU will offer a one-month intensive course until 8 December 2021. The course will cover a wide range of teaching ideas and activities, including Educational Theory, Educational Psychology and Educational Methodology



The welcoming ceremony and the refresher course for tutors and demonstrators at Dagon University in Yangon Region on 8 November 2021.

subjects. The event hosts also introduced the newcomers to the administrative organs.

Later, the Advocate-General of the Yangon Region Government contributed K4.5 million

to the refresher course and the Rector received it accordingly.

A total of 152 tutors and demonstrators are attending the course which will end on 8 December. — MNA

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Four special civil appeal cases heard

THE special appeal court comprising Chief Justice of the Union Supreme Court U Htun Htun Oo and Judges U Aung Zaw Thein, U Myo Maung, U Khin Maung Gyi and U Tin Hone heard four special civil appeal cases in line with the COVID-19 health rules on 8 November. —MNA

999 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 8 November, total figure rises to 507,815

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 507,815 after 999 new cases were reported on 8 November 2021 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 479,422 have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll reached 18,839 after 18 died.—MNA

Freelance article contest to mark 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence

THE Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, will hold a freelance article contest entitled “Let’s work now to end violence against women” in commemoration of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence which falls from between 25 November to 10 December 2021.

You are invited to write with a focus on women’s rights and the prevention of violence against women as per the following terms: -

(a) Anyone can enter the competition.

(b) Contestants are required to submit their favourite writing style under the specific title.

(c) Contest entries must be a minimum of 10 A4 pages long and a maximum of 15 pages.

(d) Contest entries must be the Microsoft Word file, written in font size 14 in Myanmar Unicode (Pyidaungsu Font), with the line spacing 1.5 and the margin 1 inch each.

(e) Articles submitted by contestants must be own creation, and the articles that have been already published in journals, magazines or media cannot be the contest entries.

(f) No shortlisted works will be returned.

(g) The contest must approve the contest organizers of publishing the contest entries in the public exhibition, books, pamphlets, websites, brochures, tutorials and video recordings.

Contest entries will be shortlisted by a panel of experts transparently. A total of five prizes (first prize, second prize, third prize, and two special prizes) will be presented with both cash award and prize medal. (Cash award will be rewarded adequately.)

Contest entries, along with a pair of hard/soft copies, confession of own creation, name of contestant, citizenship scrutiny card number, 3 coloured passport-sized photos, contact address, must be submitted to the Director-General of the Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Office Number-23, Nay Pyi Taw, (Phone: 067-404250 and 067-404251, Email: dsw added2021@gmail.com) not later than 4:00 pm on 15 November 2021. Entries must be submitted in person or through a post office or an email. (Contest entries submitted beyond the deadline or without the complete terms will not be considered.)

The awards will be presented at the ceremony of the 16 Days of Activism Against Violence Against Women to be held on 25 November 2021 in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

COVID-19 patients systematically admitted at quarantine centres for healthcare services

MILITARY hospitals and clinics, transit centres and military training depots in various areas of the Military Commands are providing healthcare services for the COVID-19 confirmed patients, officials said.

In addition, quarantine centres are also being set up in the relevant townships in collaboration with responsible persons, officials from the Ministry of Health and other departments and charity organizations.

As of 7 pm yesterday, a total of 98 people — 52 men and 46 women — were under special surveillance at the Nay Pyi Taw Transit Centre.

Local medical teams and officials at the respective Military Commands are assisting in the accommodation, health and medical care of the patients and laboratory-confirmed patients, officials added. — MNA



Fingerlings released into rural lake in Zalun Township



A ceremony to release fingerlings into a rural lake in Zalun Township, Hinthada District, Ayeyawady Region was held yesterday.

Chairman of Zalun Township Administration Body U Tun Tun Lin and members, Head of Hinthada District Fisheries Department U Tint Lwin, Township Fisheries Department Head U Min Zaw, and department heads of the Township Fisheries Department participated in the fingerling releasing ceremony.

According to the Department of Fisheries in Zalun Township, 390,000 two-inch fish hatcheries have been inserted into the Ayeyawady River to increase fish production.—Wai Yan (Zalun IPRD)/GNLM

ကြေးမြို့နယ်နှင့် ကြေးမြို့နယ်အတွင်းရှိ မြို့နယ်များတွင် ဆက်လက်ဆောင်ရွက်နေပါသည်။
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Promoting and cementing Union Spirit

LIKEWISE if one is too eager to embrace the past, one may lose the road to the future. The government has decided to further promote the process of cementing the Union Spirit and peace process before the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee Union Day and Independence Day.

(Excerpt from the Message sent by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Chairman of National Unity and Peacemaking Central Committee Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to mark Sixth Anniversary of signing Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA on 15-10-2021)

MoE Union minister tours universities, education degree college in Meiktila



The welcoming ceremony and opening ceremony of the refresher courses for new tutors and demonstrators in progress in Meiktila yesterday.

UNION Minister for Education Dr Nyunt Pe accompanied by Deputy Minister Dr Zaw Myint, Permanent Secretary Dr Soe Win and Director-General of the Department of Higher Edu-

cation Dr Thein Win toured the Meiktila University, the Meiktila Economics University and the Meiktila Education Degree College yesterday. During the tour, the Union

Minister and party attended the welcoming ceremony for new tutors and demonstrators and the opening ceremony of the refresher courses held in those universities. At the cere-

mony, the Union Minister said the Prime Minister has always been guiding to improve the qualification of faculties and increase the number of educated people in the country. The Ministry of Education is also conducting one-month refresher courses on management training, education subjects and related subjects including teaching methods for newly appointed faculty members.

He urged them to not only teach the students the relevant subjects but also to pay attention to the preservation of Myanmar culture and traditions as well as to speak and behave respectfully and to be disciplined.

He also called on the teachers to study continuously to provide the students with quality education and to work together with respect

among the people working for the Ministry of Education. At the ceremony, the honorarium rewarded by the Mandalay Region Government to new instructors was presented and the students accepted the reward.

The Union Minister also visited No (5) Basic Education High School (Shante) in Meiktila and coordinated requirements in classrooms, laboratory, library, faculty members restrooms and water purifier. Afterwards, he met with the newly appointed faculty members and professors from Meiktila University and instructed them to prepare for the reopening of the universities.

He then visited the Meiktila Education Degree College and coordinated necessities for renovations to the buildings. — MNA

Welcoming ceremony, refresher courses for new tutors and demonstrators, teachers held across Myanmar

THE welcoming ceremony for new faculty members and basic education teachers and

the opening ceremony of refresher courses were held yesterday at the Education

Degree College in Lashio in northern Shan State, universities in eastern Shan State, including Kengtung University and Kengtung Education Degree College, Kalay University in Sagaing Region, Toungoo Education Degree College and Toungoo University in Bago Region.

The ceremonies were attended by the commanders of the respective military command and officials, rectors



At Education Degree College in Lashio.



At Education Degree College in Kengtung.

of the respective universities and colleges and trainee teachers. At the ceremonies, the commanders and officials

provided cash assistance, anti-COVID-19 devices and food to the teachers who will work in universities, colleges and basic education schools.

It is reported that the commanders and officials cordially met the teachers. — MNA

Members of Star Light Operation affiliated with Moon Light Operation that perpetrated attacks in Insein, Hline, Hlegu townships arrested together with firearms

THE terrorist groups CRPH, NUG and PDF conduct acts of terrorism in the country. The police raided No 561 in Thiho Kyaung street in Aung San Ward of Insein township and arrested Aung Kaung San (aka) Kaung Kaung, Shine Aung (aka) Waing Chit and Nay Min Htet together with the firearms.

According to the confession of Nay Min Htet, the security members arrested Thurein (aka) Naing Lin Khant, Phone Myat Hlaing, San Yadana Kyaw, Khine Mar Soe and Saw Win Ko Ko Tun who conducted the bombing attacks in Insein Township together with TOYOTA Vitz car near Kwe Ka Baw hospital in Mingyi street in East Ywama Ward in Insein Township on 23 October.

According to the words of Thurein (aka) Naing Lin Khant, the police raided No 123 in (a+6) street, A+B Ward of Myothit in Insein township on 23 October and did not find the suspect Kyaw Kyaw Aung, and they arrested Zwe Ko Ko and Thant Zin Myo together with the firearms including the homemade bombs and other materials.

Moreover, the police sized 1 Glock pistol and bullets at No 663 in Thamine Ward of Mayangon Township on 24 October



လွင်ကိုလတ်(NUG)



ကျော်မင်းယု(ခ)ဂျင်စီ

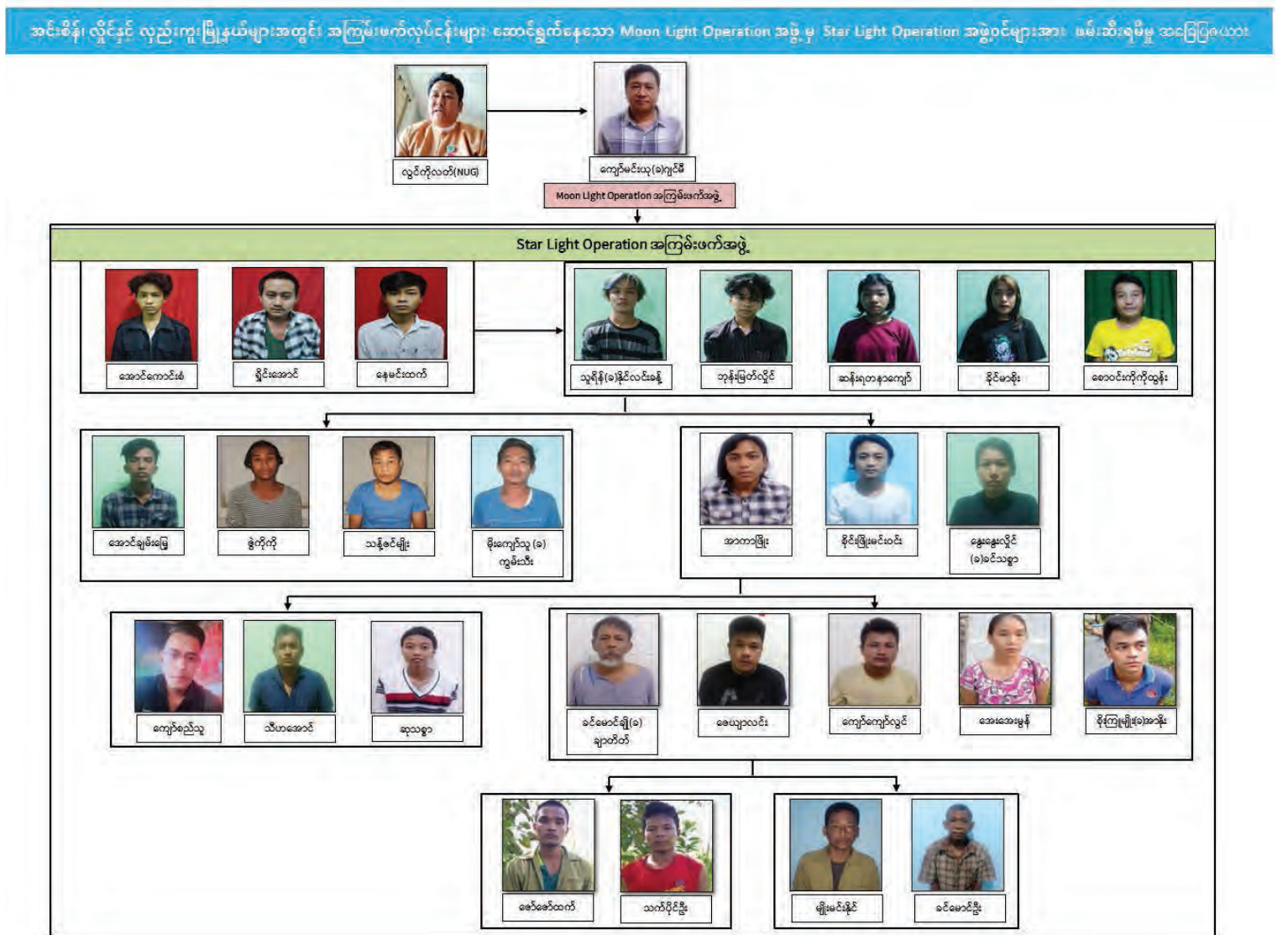


ခင်မောင်ချို (ခ) ချာတိတ် (၆၂)နှစ်

Star Light Operationအဖွဲ့ခေါင်းဆောင်



ဇေယျာလင်း (၃၄)နှစ်



according to the confession of Thurein (aka) Naing Lin Khant. The police also raided the house of Thurein (aka) Naing Lin Khant on the 6th floor of 8th

building in Laydauntkan street in (g/a) Ward in Thingangyun Township and seized 13 homemade bombs and arrested Moe Kyaw Thu (aka) Kwan Thee at 9th street of Thiri Myaing Ward in Hline Township.

According to the confession of suspect Thurein (aka) Naing Lin Khant, the security members arrested Arkar Phyo and Sai Phyo Min Win (aka) Ko Sai at "Aung Myat San" teashop in No (5) Ward of Shwepyitha Township and Nway Nway Hlaing (aka) Khin Thitsar at No 486 in Muditar housing (2) on 29 October.

According to the words of the suspects, the police raided No 248/a in Sein Chal street in No (5) Ward in Shwepyitha Township on 29 October. Meanwhile, the terrorists shot the security members and then the police arrested Kyaw Sithu and Thiha Aung together with bombs. Moreover, they also arrested Su Thitsar who completed the explosive training at No 93 in U Aye 3rd street in No (1) Ward of Hline Township.

The police arrested Khin Maung Cho (aka) Char Tate in No (12) ward of Hline Township on 1 November and another

suspect Zeyar Lin in Parami street of No (12) Ward of Hline Township based on the confession of Khin Maung Cho (aka) Char Tate.

According to the words of Khin Maung Cho (aka) Char Tate, the security members raided the house of Ko Aung (aka) Aung Aung who is still at large in Dukatone Village of Hlegu Township on 2 November and arrested Kyaw Kyaw Lwin and Aye Aye Mon together with the explosives including satellite phones, laptops and CDs.

Based on the confession



Seized firearms in Mayangon Township.



Seized firearms in Hlegu Township.

အောက်တိုဘာလ ၂၀ ရက်တွင် လွိုင်မြို့နယ်၊ အမှတ်(၁၃)ရပ်ကွက်၊ ဗဟိုလမ်း၊ သီရိမြိုင်ဘူတာအနီး၌ ပစ်ခတ်မှုဖြစ်ပွားခဲ့သည့် မှတ်တမ်းဓာတ်ပုံ



U Thein U (48) (dead).

of Aye Aye Mon, the police detained Soe Kyu Myo (aka) Arnoe in the field of Dakutone Village together with rifles, guns and bullets.

According to the words of Soe Kyu Myo (aka) Arnold, the police arrested Zaw Zaw Htet and Thet Paing Oo together with a Sigsauer pistol and bullets near the field of Dakutone Village on 2 November while Myo Min Naing and Khin Maung Oo together with 1 homemade gun.

According to the words of Myo Min Naing, the police seized homemade guns, bombs and other explosives including jingalis in the fish farming pond of Kyaw Kyaw Lin (aka) Tayoke Lay, who is still at large, in Kywal Lan Village of Twantay Township on 4 and 7 November.

Among these suspects, Su Thitsar joined the explosive training courses in KNLA 6th brigade area while Soe Kyu Myo (aka) Arnold in KNLA 7th brigade area with the connection of Phyo Marn Oo (still large from Ngar Su Taung Village) and Zaw Zaw Htet and Thet Paing Oo at the fish farming pond in Kywal Lan village in Twantay Township where

Kyaw Kyaw Lin (aka) Tayoke Lay who is still at large lives in.

Khin Maung Cho (aka) Char Tate admitted that Saw Thet Tun (aka) Ti Kyi and Tin Maung Lwin who are still at large and members of Moon Light Operation led by Kyaw Min Yu (aka) Jimmy organized the Star Light Operation with 20 members to conduct terrorist attacks on 8 August.

Saw Thet Tun (aka) Ti Kyi members of Moon Light Operation communicated with the fugitive Lwin Ko Latt of NUG to provide the needed weapons to the Star Light Operation group. They then provided 4 M-16s, 2 AK-47s, 2 MK-12s, 2 12-V short-guns, 180 9MM bullets and 360 AK47 bullets and 350 M-16 bullets at the fishing farm pond in Kywal Lan Village of Twantay Township.

The suspects Khin Maung Cho (aka) Char Tate, Thet Paing Oo, Myo Min Naing, Zaw Zaw Htet, Zeyar Lin and Khin Maung Oo created the homemade bombs and guns at the fish pond of Kyaw Kyaw Lin (aka) Tayoke Lay in Kywal Lan Village of Twantay Township. Ko Ko Latt, former treasurer of the NLD and Kyaw Kyaw

Linn (aka) Tayoke Lay who are still at large provided financial assistance to Star Light Operation members to make homemade bombs.

The suspect Khin Maung Cho (aka) Char Tate inspected the deployment of security members while another suspects Aung Paing Htet (aka) Mi Htet (still at large) was deployed in Twantay and Hlegu townships, Pyae Soe Naing (aka) Than Chaung (aka) Pino

(still at large) in Yankin, Dala and Mingaladon townships and Aung Aung (aka) Ko Aung in Mayangon township.

Moreover, Kyaw Min Yu (aka) Jimmy instructed the Moon Light Operation terrorist group to attack using homemade bombs on local battalion of Twantay township, Twantay Police Station, police outpost of Phaya Ngoketo Village and 1 ward administrator, Hlegu Township general administration department office, Land Record office, EPC, Cooperative Office, Myoma police station and security outpost of No 3 highway, Hmawset administration office of Dala Township, entrance Seikkyi and security outpost, Mingaladon township general administration department office, municipal office and RTAD and Mayangon township police station, ward administration office, EPC and junction traffic light.

The suspect Myo Min Naing participated in the murder case against innocent person U Ohn Tun owner of a betel shop from Thiri Mingala market of Hline Township on 23 February, U Sein Lwin from Htan Nyi Naung ricemill street in

Kungyangon Ward of Twantay Township.

Moe Kyaw Thu (aka) Kwan Thee exploded a bomb near a wall of Tatmadaw factory in Okkyin railway station road of Hline Township on 13 October. On 20 October, Moe Kyaw Thu (aka) Kwan Thee and Su Thitsar inspected the condition of killing an innocent person U Thein Oo near Thiri Myaing railway station in Hline Township and Zaw Zaw (still at large) shot him to death.

The police arrested 27 suspects — 22 males and 5 females — together with 5 various small weapons, 1 percussion lock firearm, 2 homemade guns, 4 magazines, 175 bullets, 1 gunpowder packet, 6 homemade launchers, 175 grenades, 126 homemade bombs, 67 jingalis, three satellite phones, three gas masks, three gas safety glasses, three laptops and other materials.

Effective actions will be taken against the suspects under the law and the entire people should report the information of the movement of the insurgents to the nearest security forces. — MNA



Seized handmade mines and related materials in Twantay Township.



Seized weapons and ammunition in Hlegu Township.

Myanmar-Bangladesh bilateral trade drops by \$2.39 mln this FY



Myanmar exports goods to Bangladesh through both maritime and land routes. Bilateral border trade is mainly conducted through the Sittway and Maungdaw points of entry.

TRADE between Myanmar and Bangladesh as of 22 October in the mini-budget year of 2021-2022 or transition period from October to March this year has secured US\$ 1.2 million, down \$2.39 million from the same period last year, according to the monthly data issued by the Ministry of Commerce.

Between 1 October and 29 October of this transition period, Myanmar-Bangladesh trade through border checkpoints was touched at \$1.21 million, with exports worth \$1.19 million and imports amounting to \$0.01 million.

Compared with the same period last year, the value of exports between the two countries increased by \$1.19 million, while

imports declined by \$3.58 million. For the same period last year, the total trade between the two countries was valued at \$3.59 million, with \$3.59 million in imports.

Myanmar exports goods to Bangladesh through both maritime and land routes. Bilateral border trade is mainly conducted through the Sittway and Maungdaw 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.

— ACM/GNLM

Sesame prices likely to remain upward trend on low stockpile

THE price of sesame seeds is expected to be in the bull market as the stockpile drop will continue until the coming harvest time of the winter sesame, the market observers stated.

The COVID-19 prevention measures hinder exports. The flat price occurred in May. The price has regained since the second week of October.

Furthermore, the farmers in the monsoon sesame growing

regions chose other crops over sesame and the yield dropped sharply compared to the previous years' rate. The price climbs up at present on the short of supply in the market.

At present, the price stands at K2,300 for brown sesame, K2,500 for cold season sesame and K3,500-3,600 for black sesame.

Normally, Myanmar's sesame is shipped to China, the

Republic of Korea, Japan, Singapore and China Taipei (Taiwan). At present, the country is relying solely on the Chinese market and facing a hurdle to place the sesame on other foreign countries.

Myanmar conveyed the sesame seeds to China through maritime trade despite the closure of the border posts between Myanmar and China. Thanks to Kyat depreciation in the local forex market, the sesame price is rising.

The cold season sesame season is coming shortly. The price of input cost is on the rise regardless of the slip in the foreign exchange rate. As a result of this, the growers will experience a high input cost in the coming season.

The domestic consumption of sesame is significantly less than the export volume. This being so, the price of sesame price is positively related to the foreign exchange rate.

The market lacks quality sesame seeds with oxidative stability. Thus, the price will stay on the high side until the fresh sesame enters the market, as per the market data.

— NN/GNLM



At present, the price stands at K2,300 for brown sesame, K2,500 for cold season sesame and K3,500-3,600 for black sesame (Samone variety).

Maymyo flowers grown commercially in Wuntho



The growers made a good profit from cultivating the Maymyo flower last year. That is the reason the local farmers expanded their plantation to grow more Maymyo flowers this year to earn more income.

THE local farmers from Wuntho township are growing Maymyo flowers on a commercial scale using Nan Hlaing and Daung Myu creeks in hope of gaining a better profit.

Maymyo flowers are cultivated in late October and November. The cultivation of flowers costs more than 100,000 for 0.50 acre. It will take about two and a half months for the plantation period. The water is irrigated into the flower growing farms. Water is not sprayed onto the flowers. The flowers need to be irrigated every five or seven days depending upon

the soil moisture. The pesticides should be sprayed when there are insects. The fertilizer is also used only when it is necessary.

There are many species of Myamyo flowers. Nevertheless, most of them are cultivating a few species of flowers, said a local grower.

The growers made a good profit from cultivating the Maymyo flower last year. That is the reason the local farmers expanded their plantation to grow more Maymyo flowers this year to earn more income.—Myint Tun Min (Kawlin)/GNLM

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

Sagaing Region Agriculture Department plans to designate special farming zone for crops

IN a bid to enhance the agricultural development in Sagaing Region, the region Agriculture Department has planned to explore special farming zones in each area for various crops.

“Quality paddy zone is being projected in Shwebo and Kanbalu districts under the irrigation system by Thaphanseik Dam. Shwebo Pawsan and Ayarmin paddy will be primarily cultivated. As the crops will be produced under the Good Agricultural Practices, GAP certification will also be accredited,” Dr Tin Mar Mar Oo, in charge of International and Public Relations Section of the Agriculture Department,

elaborated.

There are about 870,000 acres of monsoon paddy and 200,000-300,000 acres of summer paddy in Sagaing Region. This being so, the region has potentials to attract investors to execute rice milling, rice products and rice trading.

Out of 23 million acres of arable land, 4.56 million acres (20 per cent) have been developed. — Lu Lay/GNLM

There are about 870,000 acres of monsoon paddy and 200,000-300,000 acres of summer paddy in Sagaing Region.



Lablab bean price soars to over K210,000 per bag



The prices of lablab bean went up in the Mandalay market from Chinese demand, coupling with competitive demand from local warehouse owners, according to the Mandalay pulses market.

THE prices of lablab bean hit the highest of K215,000 per bag in the domestic market on the back of high demand, Mandalay market stated.

The prices of lablab bean went up in the Mandalay market from Chinese demand, coupling with competitive demand from local warehouse owners, according to the Mandalay pulses market.

Lablab bean fetched K93,000 per bag last year, as per price data of Soe Win Myint depot from Mandalay.

Lablab bean is highly consumed in the domestic market and it is also exported to foreign markets. Earlier, China did not buy lablab beans. Since 2013, it has started purchasing lablab beans. Chinese demand drove the lablab bean price up.

The Kyat depreciation in the local forex market is another reason for a price hike.

At present, the Chinese is the main buyer of Myanmar's lablab bean. The beans are also shipped to India and Japan. Additionally, Myanmar achieved to export lablab beans as ready-to-eat roasted beans to Singapore after value-adding.

The exports of lablab bean exceeded 19,422 tonnes in the financial year 2020-2021, generating a revenue of US\$11.6 million, as per the Ministry of Commerce's data.

The lablab beans are cold season crops and they are primarily grown in Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. It is harvested in January. — KK/GNLM

Trade deficit shrinks to US\$46.6 mln over eight months

MYANMAR'S trade gap has significantly narrowed to US\$46.6 million between 1 and 29 October of the current mini-budget period 2021-2022 (Oct-Mar) from just \$63.05 billion registered in the corresponding period of the 2020-2021 FY, according to data provided by the Ministry of Commerce.

The decrease in trade deficit is attributed to the drastic drop in imports in October 2021.

Last month, Myanmar's external trade plummeted to \$1.95 billion from \$2.18 billion recorded in the year-ago period.

While exports were estimated at \$953.37 million, imports were valued relatively high at \$10 billion this mini-budget period. Compared to the FY 2020-2021, exports showed a drop of

over \$105.59 million, while imports fell by \$121.9 million.

Myanmar witnessed a slump in exports and imports triggered by the coronavirus impacts. Myanmar's maritime trade climbed up yet the country witnessed drop in border trade amid the coronavirus impacts and political changes. The neighbouring countries tighten the border security and restrict the trading in certain border areas.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, animal products, minerals, forest products, and finished industrial goods, while it imports capital goods, raw industrial materials, and consumer goods.

The country's export sector relies much on the agricultur-

al and manufacturing sectors. The Ministry of Commerce is trying to reduce the trade deficit by screening luxury import items while boosting exports. The country mainly imports essential goods, construction materials, capital goods, hygienic material and supporting products for export promotion and the import substitution.

Myanmar's trade deficit was pegged at \$1.3 billion in the 2019-2020 FY, \$1.14 billion in the 2018-2019 FY, \$1.3 billion in the previous mini-budget period (April-September, 2018), \$3.9 billion in the 2017-2018 FY, \$5.3 billion in the 2016-2017 FY, and \$5.4 billion in the 2015-2016 FY, according to statistics released by the Central Statistical Organization. — MM/GNLM

Green chilli from Myothit township fetches high price

THE green chillies are destined in the Myothit township market and the price is fetching the high price.

“The green chillies produced in the township are currently entering the market. The price of green chilli increased to K2,000 per viss from K1,200 per viss, respectively, compared to the early period. It means that the price of green chillies is fetching upright price,” said U Htaik, a green chilli

grower.

At present, around 10 three-wheel motorbikes loaded with green chillies are entering the municipal market daily where most of the fresh kitchen crops are widely distributed. There is also good trading of the green chillies in the market.

“At this moment, the price of green chillies is good because it comes out and is early harvested only from our Myothit township. Lat-

er, it will come out soon from the mountain region and the prices are unlikely to rise any further,” he added.

The chillies are grown within an enclosed space. After 15 days, the chillies are transplanted to the farmlands and it is needed to put the water into the farms every five days. After one month of transplanting into the fields, the chilis bloom and bear fruits. — Than Win Tun (IPRD)/GNLM

Correct errors in time to have good results

True and false are identified by a concept. Depending on the concept, both true and false emerge in society. The true can change as the false whereas the false can be shaped as the true depending on the time and situation.

Everybody often makes false as well as errors in their daily lives. As everybody does not perfect in all aspects, they cannot be free from errors. In fact, everybody wishes to do all true and right things, without daring to do false and errors. However, they often make errors because of not understanding the situations and time.

Errors may accidentally be caused. But they sometimes commit errors and false. They repeatedly make errors. Whatever it may be, everybody wishes to overcome the challenge of accidental errors but they do not afford to do all correct things. They all are living beings. Even robots may make errors in daily works based on complicated programmes.

In fact, everybody used to do errors and false as a nature of living beings. Importantly, everybody should dare to apologize to others for their errors. It is a human ethic. Those who committed errors need to apologize to the persons for their losses. If so, the losers should agreeably accept the apology and forgive the errors.

If the error-makers and losers are in the same ideas with forgiveness, the society will be pleasant and prosperous. Forgiveness is invaluable for all. In reverse, losers may not forgive the error-makers, causing society unpleasantness and anxiety.

In fact, those from society cannot do the perfect and universal truth. Everybody does not have the qualified intelligence for doing so. Only then could the Lord Buddha Who had attained Enlightenment do the perfect truths and correct things due to His greatest performances in the vicious circle. It is because the Lord Buddha was unrivalled throughout the world as well as the whole Universe.

That is why everybody should not be disappointed at their errors but they should try to double their diligence and efforts for avoiding more errors. If they understand the root cause of the errors, they easily avoid repeatedly making errors. Indeed, the occurrence of errors may reduce personality and confidence. If they can avoid errors, they can enhance their confidence in doing all things.



Airlines gear up for travel surge as US reopens

AIRLINE reservations to the United States took off immediately after the White House announced the country would reopen to all vaccinated international voyagers starting next week, compelling a welcome — if challenging — industry pivot.

The long-awaited US move to welcome back international travellers — which takes effect Monday — follows 18 months of restrictions for 33 countries during the worst of the coronavirus pandemic that separated families, impeded business travel and frustrated tourists.

Big carriers, including Air France, United Airlines and Singapore Airlines are scrambling to meet the sudden surge in demand, adding flights, swapping in bigger planes for smaller ones and redoubling efforts to hire and retain staff.

Just after the White House announcement, British Airways saw a 900 per cent jump in searches for flights and holiday packages to key US destinations compared with the week before.

The day after the announcement, American Airlines garnered a 66 per cent jump in flight reservations to Britain, 40 per cent to Europe and 74 per cent to Brazil.

Competition for seats on 8 November itself was especially intense, as Evelyne and Jean-Michel Desobeau discovered when they booked a trip using frequent flyer miles.

The couple, anxious to see their daughter and son-in-law, had reserved a flight from France to New York for November 2, based on a guess of when the travel ban would be lifted.

But when the date was officially set at 8 November, the couple discovered that flying that day would have meant using three times as many miles as the original trip. In the end, they will arrive on 9 November, using a more moderate amount of miles.

More seats, bigger planes

At Air France, traffic has been gradually returning and “won’t change overnight on 8 November,” said a spokesper-

son for the carrier.

The French airline has for months flown jets with empty seats. But with demand rising, it recently increased the number of daily flights between New York and Paris from three to five.

For its Houston-Paris trip, Air France is shifting out the Airbus 330 in favor of the Boeing 777, which has more seats. The carrier expects its capacity in terms of US travel to reach 90 per cent of its pre-Covid 19 level in March 2022, up from 65 per cent in October.

Airlines are planning for a modest pullback in January and February after a strong holiday season, but anticipate strong demand in the spring that will intensify in the summer, traditionally the busiest season.

At United Airlines, traffic to Latin America has fully returned to its level from 2019, but the rest of international travel remains at only about 63 percent.

The US carrier is betting big on a vibrant return to inter-

national travel, introducing five new destinations in the spring including in Spain and Norway, adding flights for popular destinations such as Rome and Dublin and reviving service to Frankfurt, Nice and other cities.

Too few workers? The industry also expects a strong, but slower, recovery in travel to Asia.

Singapore Airlines, which benefited from a recent decision by Singaporean authorities to allow quarantine-free travel for a far broader range of travellers from the United States and Canada, anticipates flight frequency from North America to Singapore in December will reach 77 per cent of pre-Covid levels, thanks to the reopening of voyages to Seattle and Vancouver, and for trips like Singapore-Frankfurt-New York.

Burkett Huey, an analyst at Morningstar, said airlines should have enough planes to meet rising demand. But whether there is sufficient staff is “a question mark,” he said.

Airlines welcomed the exo-



View of airline ticket counters at Los Angeles International Airport on 24 May 2018. PHOTO: AFP/ DANIEL SLIM

dus of thousands of employees early in the pandemic. But both American and Southwest have in recent weeks cancelled thousands of flights due in part to meager staff levels.

Still unclear is the timetable for a robust recovery in business travel, an unknown that affects airline planning.

Traditionally, airlines fly wide body planes across the At-

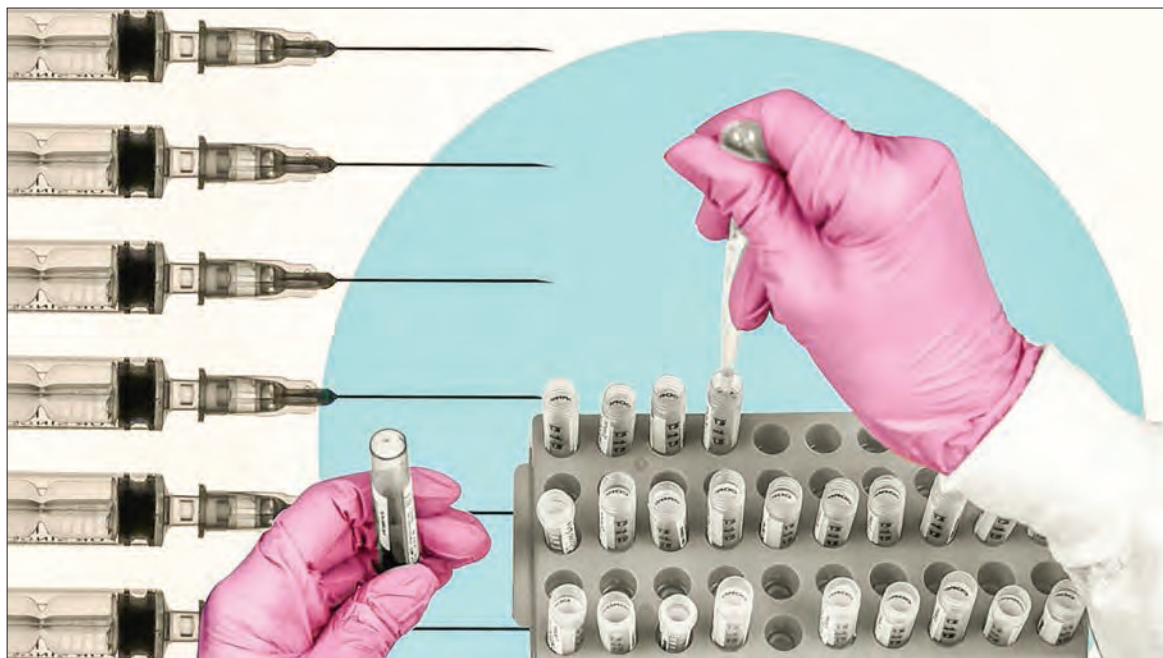
lantic on busy routes to provide comfortable seats for business travellers, and then organize smaller planes for touristic destinations.

But if business travellers are late to come back, airlines could decide to plan more direct flights using the newer narrow body jets with longer range.

Source : AFP



High-profile breakthrough cases trigger vaccine misinformation



Claims that the shots are failing can erode trust and slow uptake efforts. PHOTO: AFP

FROM White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki, US Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, and American comedian Chris Rock testing positive to former secretary of state Colin Powell dying of Covid-19 complications, prominent cases have triggered a deluge of inaccurate information online.

So-called breakthrough cases are expected and do not mean the vaccines are ineffective, US health authorities say. But claims that the shots are failing can erode trust and slow uptake efforts, which remain crucial as younger children become eligible for the shots.

“Any time there is a break-

through case, people who feel very concerned about the efficacy of vaccines see it as yet another reason to reinforce the doubt that’s already in their mind,” said Andy Carvin, managing editor at the Atlantic Council’s Digital Forensic Research Lab, describing the problem as a “weaponization of doubt.”

Psaki announced on Sunday that she had Covid-19, crediting the vaccine for the mildness of her illness. But she was described as “living proof that the vaccine is ineffective” by a Twitter user with more than 12,000 followers — one of a number of people who made such claims on social media.

Similar allegations followed the Powell family’s October announcement that the retired four-star general died from complications caused by Covid-19, even though he had a type of cancer that experts say undermines the efficacy of the shots. Positive tests for Kavanaugh and Rock this year also gave rise to accusations that the shots are not effective.

Not ‘a magic forcefield’ Addressing the issue of misinformation stemming from breakthrough cases is increasingly important, because as more people get vaccinated, more cases — including severe ones — will occur in the vaccinated population, said Devon

Greyson, public health researcher at The University of British Columbia.

“Vaccination is an amazing technology, but it isn’t a magic forcefield,” Greyson said.

Yotam Ophir, health and science misinformation expert at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York, said that health communicators need to better set public expectations about the realities of the vaccines, both in terms of their benefits and their limits.

The other issue is that “humans have a tendency to pay a lot of attention to vivid cases. We don’t really know how to think in numbers and statistics, we usually think in stories and good narratives,” he said.

What is not covered by the news is “all the people who got vaccinated and stayed healthy,” Ophir said.

‘Putting out fires’

Nina Jankowicz, a disinformation specialist at the Wilson Center, said false claims following Powell’s death were “espe-

cially disappointing,” because a lack of nuance in the media allowed misinformation to bloom.

“A lot of the coverage that I saw, even from some of the most trusted news outlets in our country... didn’t include information about Secretary Powell’s cancer status,” she said.

Carvin said the necessity of context in news coverage is at odds with the breakneck speed and need for brevity in the current media environment.

Deciding which breakthrough cases merit coverage — thus possibly inciting a misinformation storm — “very much becomes a media ethics question,” he said, adding that “journalists and media in general has to think creatively about how we go presenting it.”

Ophir called for policy-level changes to address health misinformation, saying that “we are basically at the mercy of private corporations like Facebook and Twitter” to manage the problem.

Source : AFP



Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Head of Service Organization

THE State Administration Council has appointed U Thura Aung Bo, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Power Transmission and System Control under the Ministry of Electricity and Energy, as Director-General of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 8 November, 2021)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is a few cloud over the North Bay of Bengal and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 9 November, 2021: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Ayeyawady Region and (Southern and Eastern)Shan State and isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Yangon Regions and Kayah, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

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: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions and Shan, Rakhine, Kayah States. **FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9 November, 2021:** Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9 November, 2021: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9 November, 2021: Partly cloudy.

Low Pressure Area Condition

Issued at (14:00) hours M.S.T on 08-11-2021

ACCORDING to the observations at (13:30) hrs M.S.T today, a lowpressure area may form over the South east during next (24) hrs. It is forecast to move west - Northwestwards, may further intensity into a depression and reach near north Tamil Nadu coast (India) around (11.11.2021)

Earthquake News

A slight earthquake of magnitude (4.9) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about (20) miles southeast of Homalin), latitude 24.68°N, longitude 95.15°E, depth (101) kilometers, about (61) miles northeast of Tamu seismological observatory was recorded at (08) hr (48) min (34) sec M.S.T on 8th November, 2021.

The Global New Light of Myanmar

www.gnlnm.com.mm

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MoC oversees daily import processes for anti-COVID-19 equipment



THE Ministry of Commerce is making efforts to ensure people have access to the essential medical supplies that are critical to the COVID-19 prevention, control and treatment activities, including liquid oxygen and oxygen cylinders, by arranging continuous importation through trading posts, international airports and seaports with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

On 8 November, anti-COVID-19 equipment and medical

products, including masks and oxygen concentrators, were imported by five companies and transported using seven vehicles.

A total of 160 empty oxygen cylinders, one oxygen plant, 13 oxygen concentrators for home use, 18,800 PPE suits, and 44 tonnes of masks were imported via Chinshwehaw trading zones, and Yangon International Seaports, officials said.

One oxygen plant was transported to Yangon via the

seaport, officials said.

Officials from the relevant departments are cooperating to facilitate and expedite the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), including online registration for the import process.

It is reported that the Ministry of Commerce is coordinating with relevant departments, treatment of COVID-19, as well as contact persons for inquiries can be reached through the Ministry's Website—www.commerce.gov.mm. — MNA

Over 170,000 vaccinated against COVID-19 in NyaungU District

A total of 177,124 people has been vaccinated against COVID-19 in NyaungU District, Mandalay Region as of 8 November, according to the Township Administration Department.

People in the township received the COVID vaccines at 12 designated places in Kyaukpadaung Township and another 12 places in NyaungU Township, officials said.

In NyaungU Township, a total of 48,755 has received the first dose of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccines, while 26,360 the second dose of the vaccines.

Meanwhile, 3,106 people have been injected with the first dose of Sinovac vaccines, while 1,200 have received the second

dose of the vaccines.

In Kyaukpadaung Township, a total of 63,209 has received the first dose of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccines, while 30,000 the second dose of the vaccines.

Meanwhile, 4,494 people have been injected with the first dose of Sinovac vaccines.

A total of 177,124 people have been vaccinated against COVID-19 in the two townships, officials said.

Vaccination is still being provided based on the availability of vaccines. According to the NyaungU District Administration body, the COVID-19 vaccination team is being sent to remote villages. —Ko Htein (KPD)/GNLM



A NyaungU local gets jabbed against Covid-19.

Health officials give COVID vaccines to people in Indaw town



Inoculation programme in Indaw Town.

HEALTHCARE officials gave the second dose of COVID-19 vaccines to people at People's Hospital in Indaw Town, southern Shan State yesterday.

The current vaccine is a

China-made Sinopharm vaccine, which is given at a rate of five per ampoule.

People with disabilities, people with chronic diseases and over 18-year-old people

received the second dose of vaccines at the sixth quarter in Indaw and Ohnkwel and Nantkaungmhu village-tracts in Indaw town.

According to the General Administration Department, staff from the Indaw Station Health Department vaccinated 500 first-time recipients of the COVID-19 vaccine in the first group and 375 new ones on the second day, and the rest will be vaccinated soon.

Officials of the department, members of the fire brigade, staff from the General Administration Department and the ward administrators assisted in the vaccination. — Aung Khaing(IPRD)/GNLM

COVID-19 vaccination continues in Buthidaung Township

HEALTHCARE officials gave the second dose of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccines to 1,845 local people aged 55-year-old and above at nine designated places in Buthidaung Township in Rakhine State yesterday.

Vaccination activities are documented by officials followed by measuring body temperatures, blood pressure, and monitoring oxygen level by healthcare staff.

Vaccines were given systematically to the local people, and only those with normal conditions are vaccinated.

After resting for about 30 minutes after being vaccinated, people were given healthcare education and then allowed to leave.

Township Public Health

Department staff, officials from the Township level departments, Red Cross members and fire brigades assisted in the vaccination activities, officials added. – Hla Kyaw (IPRD)/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.

Sharp jump in number of people facing famine: UN

THE UN's food agency said Monday the number of people on the edge of famine in 43 countries had risen to 45 million, as acute hunger spikes around the world.

The jump from 42 million people earlier in the year was largely down to a food security assessment that found another three million people facing famine in Afghanistan, the World Food Programme (WFP) said.

"Tens of millions of people are staring into an abyss. We've got conflict, climate change and Covid-19 driving up the numbers of the acutely hungry," WFP Executive Director David Beasley was quoted as saying.

"And the latest data show

there are now more than 45 million people marching towards the brink of starvation," he said after a trip to Afghanistan, where WFP is upping support for almost 23 million people.

"Fuel costs are up, food prices are soaring, fertiliser is more expensive, and all of this feeds into new crises like the one unfolding now in Afghanistan, as well as long-standing emergencies like Yemen and Syria," he added.

WFP said the cost of averting famine globally now stands at seven billion dollars, up from 6.6 billion dollars earlier in the year, but warned that traditional funding streams were overstretched.

Families facing acute food



Afghan people listen to a volunteer as they sit besides sacks of food grains distributed as an aid by the World Food Programme (WFP) in Kandahar on 19 October 2021. **PHOTO: JAVED TANVEER / AFP**

insecurity are being "forced to make devastating choices", marrying off children early, pulling them out of school or feeding

them locusts, wild leaves, or cactus.

"Meanwhile media reports from Afghanistan point to families reportedly being forced to sell their children in a desperate attempt to survive," it said.

Multiple droughts in Afghanistan were combining with an economic meltdown to push families to the edge, while some 12.4 million people in Syria do not know where their next meal will come from — more than any time during the decade-long conflict, it said.

Increases in acute hunger are also being seen in Ethiopia, Haiti, Somalia, Angola, Kenya, and Burundi, the Rome-based agency said. — AFP ■



View of used clothes discarded in the Atacama desert, in Alto Hospicio, Iquique, Chile, on 26 September 2021. **PHOTO: AFP**

Chile's desert dumping ground for fast fashion leftovers

A mountain of discarded clothing, including Christmas sweaters and ski boots, cuts a strange sight in Chile's Atacama, the driest desert in the world, which is increasingly suffering from pollution created by fast fashion.

The social impact of rampant consumerism in the clothing industry — such as child labour in factories or derisory wages — is well-known, but the disastrous effect on the environment is less publicized.

Chile has long been a hub of secondhand and unsold clothing, made in China or Bangladesh and passing through Europe, Asia or the United States before arriving in Chile, where it is resold around Latin America.

Some 59,000 tons of clothing arrive each year at the Iquique port in the Alto Hospicio free zone in northern Chile.

Clothing merchants from the capital Santiago, 1,800 kilometres (1,100 miles) to the south, buy some, while much is smuggled out to other Latin American countries. But at least 39,000 tons that cannot be sold end up in rubbish dumps in the desert.

"This clothing arrives from all over the world," Alex Carreno, a former employee in the port's import area, told AFP.

"What is not sold to Santiago nor sent to other countries stays in the free zone" as no one pays the necessary tariffs to take it away.

"The problem is that the clothing is not biodegradable and has chemical products, so it is not accepted in the municipal landfills," said Franklin Zepeda, the founder of EcoFibra, a company that makes insulation panels using discarded clothing.

"I wanted to stop being the problem and start being the solution," he told AFP about the firm he created in 2018.

According to a 2019 UN report, global clothing production doubled between 2000 and 2014, and the industry is "responsible for 20 per cent of total water waste on a global level." To make a single pair of jeans requires 7,500 litres (2,000 gallons) of water. — AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

9 dead after floods in Sri Lanka, southern India

NINE people are dead and two others missing after floods in Sri Lanka and parts of southern India caused by more than a week of pounding rains. Nearly half of Sri Lanka's 25 districts have been hit by the deluge, with the worst affected areas in and around the island's tea-growing Central Highlands.

"Five deaths and two disappearances were reported" across Sri Lanka since the rains began at the end of October, Pradeep Kodippili of the island's disaster management agency told AFP on Monday.

More floods are likely in the coming days with downpours set to move to the country's northern coast around the city of Jaffna, the country's weather bureau warned.

Four people have also died in "rain-related incidents" across India's Tamil Nadu state, local disaster management minister K.K.S.R. Ramachandran said on Sunday. Authorities had established more than 150 relief camps to distribute food and aid to those forced out of their homes, the minister added.

Most main roads in state capital Chennai were underwater and trees were uprooted, disrupting traffic.

Residents were seen wading around the city ankle-deep in waters that also lapped up against the century-old offices of the municipal government. — AFP ■

Russia shutdown ends despite coronavirus wave

MOST of Russia on Monday ended a week-long paid holiday aimed at curbing the spread of the coronavirus, despite the country seeing thousands of new cases and more than 1,000 deaths per day.

President Vladimir Putin ordered the paid holiday period from 30 October to 7 November in a bid to stem soaring infections and deaths exacerbated by a slow vaccination drive.

Individual regions had the authority to extend the period but as of Monday only five had done so, including the western region of Bryansk and the Siberian region of Tomsk. A number of regions did however introduce or extend a requirement for proof of vaccination to visit restaurants, cafes and shopping centres. Moscow, the epicentre of the pandemic in Russia, still does not require proof of vaccination for most public activities.

With more than 8.8 million cases registered since the start of the pandemic, Russia is one of the worst-hit countries in the world and a devastating wave this autumn has seen infections and deaths reach new records. — AFP ■

Mobile payments firm Paytm kicks off India's biggest IPO

INDIA'S biggest-ever initial public offering opened Monday with digital payments platform Paytm looking to raise nearly \$2.5 billion, in what has already been a record year for share listings.

Paytm is backed by Chinese tycoon Jack Ma's Ant Group, Japan's SoftBank and Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway, which together own around a third of the company. The firm was founded barely a decade ago by Vijay Shekhar Sharma, the son of a schoolteacher who says he learned English by listening to rock music.

He was ranked India's youngest dollar billionaire four years ago at the age of 38 and now has a net worth of \$2.4 billion, according to Forbes. He owns a



In this picture taken on 7 November 2021 a family sits next to a billboard advertisement for Paytm, an Indian cellphone-based digital payments platform, in Mumbai. India's biggest-ever initial public offering opens 8 November 2021 with digital payments platform Paytm looking to raise nearly 2.5 billion USD, in what has already been a record year for share listings. **PHOTO: PUNIT PARANJPE / AFP**

nearly 14-per cent stake.

Paytm was issuing fresh

shares worth 83 billion rupees (\$1.1 billion), with existing share-

holders selling stocks worth \$1.34 billion, according to the prospectus. The IPO is expected to make Paytm India's most valuable tech company with a valuation of \$20 billion, up 25 per cent from two years ago.

The platform was launched in 2010 and quickly became synonymous with digital payments in a country traditionally dominated by cash transactions.

It has benefited from the government's efforts to curb the use of cash — including the demonetisation of nearly all banknotes in circulation five years ago — and most recently, from Covid.

"I didn't know corona would happen but Paytm was very useful to me during the pandemic," Mumbai grocery shop owner Nai-

na Thakur told AFP.

Thakur said about a third of her customers pay her for milk, bread and other daily groceries via Paytm. "It's much easier than a bank transfer because they only need my mobile number to pay and I get the settlement within seven hours," she said.

Thakur is one of nearly 22 million Indian shop owners, taxi and rickshaw drivers and other vendors who accept payments as low as 10 rupees (\$0.13) using Paytm's ubiquitous blue-and-white QR code stickers.

The platform had 337 million customers at the end of June, according to the company's regulatory filing. In 2020-21 it undertook transactions worth more than \$54 billion. — AFP ■

Sydney Airport poised to sell for \$17 billion

SYDNEY Airport announced Monday it had agreed to a US\$17 billion takeover bid by an Australian investor consortium, just days after reopening to international travel.

The airport's board unanimously approved the sale to the Sydney Aviation Alliance — a consortium of infrastructure investors and Australian pension funds — and recommended shareholders vote in favour.

The alliance offered Aus\$8.75 per share, or Aus\$23.6 billion (US\$17.5 billion), after its earlier offers in recent months were rejected as too low.

"Today's announcement is the culmination of months of engagement between all parties," Sydney Airport chairman David Gonski said in a statement.

"The Sydney Airport Boards believe the outcome

reflects appropriate long-term value for the airport."

The announcement comes in the wake of Australia's international border partially reopening, almost 600 days after one of the world's toughest pandemic border closures began.

Vaccinated Australians travelling via Sydney and Melbourne may now come and go without quarantine or obtaining an official exemption — with the move seen as the country's first step in the gradual resumption of travel.

The airport sale remains subject to conditions, including an independent expert evaluation.

Shareholders are expected to consider the deal at a meeting in the first quarter of 2022, with a 75 per cent majority required for it to gain approval. — AFP ■

Japan to revise COVID assessment criteria as inoculations progress



Economic revitalization minister Daishiro Yamagiwa (R) speaks at a meeting of the government's subcommittee on the coronavirus response on 8 November 2021 in Tokyo. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

JAPAN will revise its criteria used to assess the COVID-19 situation, shifting focus to hospital capacity from the number of new infections, in line with the increase in the vaccination rate, government officials said Monday.

The new system, discussed during a meeting of the government's subcommittee on the novel coronavirus response, will also classify the situation according to five levels, up from the current four.

The alert levels have been used by the government in deciding whether to declare a state of emergency and by prefectural governments in deciding on what kind of measures to take against the virus.

The upgraded system will incorporate a projection of hospital bed availability and try to forecast earlier whether there may be a serious strain on the country's medical system in the wake of a resurgence of infections.

Economic revitalization minister Daishiro Yamagiwa, who is in charge of the government's COVID-19 response, said work has been under way to come up with new standards by mid-November.

"Based on today's discussions, we would like to prepare for a potential resurgence of infections by assuming a worst case scenario," Yamagiwa said at the meeting.

The move comes after a re-

cent sharp fall in the number of serious COVID-19 patients in Japan with about 70 per cent of the population now fully inoculated.

Under the five-phase scale of assessment, alert level 0 means maintaining a situation of no new COVID-19 cases while level 1 signifies the health care system is able to respond to COVID-19 in a stable manner.

Level 2 warns that an increase of infections is beginning to put a strain on the system while level 3 means a state of emergency is needed. Level 4 signifies that hospitals are no longer able to deal with COVID-19 patients even if they reduce general medical services. — Kyodo News ■



A family leave to board a plane at Sydney's International Airport on 1 November 2021, as Australia's international border reopens almost 600 days after a pandemic closure began. **PHOTO: SAEED KHAN / AFP**

Asian markets mixed as inflation plays against recovery optimism

ASIAN markets were mixed Monday as long-running concerns about inflation offset forecast-busting economic data out of the United States and China, while tourism-linked firms rallied on optimism about the global reopening after Pfizer said its pill to treat Covid was highly effective.

Wall Street's three main indexes clocked up records last week after figures showed more than half a million new US jobs were created last month, with hiring rebounding as new infections fall across the country. Figures for the previous two months were also revised up.

The news provided fresh evidence that the world's top econ-

omy is well on the recovery track as life slowly returns to some semblance of normal.

But optimism continues to be held back by worries about inflation, which has surged this year owing to a pick-up in demand, a spike in energy prices and supply chain snarls — forcing central banks around the world to start rowing back their massive pandemic-era support measures.

“Inflation is the major headwind right now,” Dana D’Auria, at Envestnet, told Bloomberg Television.

Tokyo, Hong Kong, Sydney, Seoul and Wellington all fell but there were gains in Shanghai, Singapore, Taipei, Manila, Mumbai,

Bangkok and Jakarta.

Adding to inflation expectations is Joe Biden’s \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill that finally passed through Congress on 5 November, giving the president a much-needed boost in his plan to push through vast spending measures to support the economy.

However, another proposal to stump up another \$1.9 trillion for social and environmental programmes continues to languish.

The US jobs report was followed Sunday by China saying exports had soared by a better-than-expected 27.1 per cent in October as factories kept goods flowing out despite power out-



Digital signs display stock market information in the Central district of Hong Kong on 5 November 2021. PHOTO:ISAAC LAWRENCE / AFP

ages in recent months caused by emission reduction targets, the surging price of coal and supply problems. — AFP ■



Supplied photo shows Mazda Motor Corp.'s remodeled CX-5 sport utility vehicle. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Mazda starts accepting reservations for remodeled CX-5 SUV

MAZDA Motor Corp. began accepting reservations for its mainstay CX-5 sport utility vehicle following a major facelift aimed at maintaining steady sales.

The remodeled CX-5 will go on sale in Japan in early December with suggested retail prices ranging from 2,678,500 yen (\$23,000) to 4,075,500 yen. The Japanese au-

tomaker did not disclose a sales target.

The changes include a revamped shock-absorbing structure to reduce driver fatigue and a redesigned cargo area that will make it easier to load and remove luggage, it said.

The vehicles will be available in two special models — Field Jour-

ney, using waterproof materials in the cargo area, and Sports Appearance, with black interior and exterior accents.

The CX-5 is Mazda’s core model, accounting for 29 per cent of its global sales in 2020. The upgraded SUV will be launched in the United States this winter and in Europe early next year. — Kyodo News ■

Climate on track to devastate world’s poorest economies: study

THE 65 most vulnerable nations will see GDP drop 20 per cent on average by 2050 and 64 per cent by 2100 if the world heats up 2.9 degrees Celsius, according to a report released Monday at the COP26 climate talks in Glasgow.

Even if global temperature rises are capped at 1.5C, in keeping with the most ambitious Paris Agreement goal, the same countries would take a GDP hit of 13 per cent by 2050 and 33 per cent by the end of the century, the study com-

missioned by Christian Aid said.

To date, Earth’s average surface temperature has risen 1.1C compared to late 19th-century levels.

The findings from Christian Aid show that more than a third of the world’s nations urgently need help to build up resilience if their economies are to withstand the onslaught of heatwaves, drought, floods and storms made more intense and deadly by global warming.

“The ability of countries in the Global South

to sustainably develop is seriously jeopardized,” said lead author Marina Andrijevic from Humboldt University in Berlin.

“Policy choices that we make right now are crucial for preventing further damage.”

Eight of the top 10 most affected countries are in Africa, with two in South America.

All 10 face GDP damage of more than 70 per cent by 2100 under our current climate policy trajectory, and 40 per cent even if global warming is capped at 1.5C. — AFP ■

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V LOCH MELFORT VOY.NO. (82)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V LOCH MELFORT VOY.NO. (82)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-11-2021** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** 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: **2301177, 2301931**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V B TRADER VOY.NO. (142S/143N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V B TRADER VOY.NO. (142S/143N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-11-2021** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** 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 SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

TUG;PG 2012 BG;IN THYE 2503

Consignees of cargo carried on **TUG;PG 2012 BG;IN THYE 2503 V NO. (V.1)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-11-2021** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT-1** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S UNI SPRING LOGISTICS HOLDING PTE LTD

Germany's seven-day Covid incidence rate rises to record high



A doctor vaccinates a student at Ruth Cohn School on 13 September in Berlin at the start of a vaccination campaign called #HierWirdGeimpft (#Here We Vaccinate), on the sidelines of a visit by the German President to support the campaign. Steinmeier. **PHOTO: AFP**

GERMANY'S incidence rate measuring the number of new coronavirus infections per 100,000 people over the last seven days soared to 201.1 on Monday, a record since the pandemic erupted more than a year ago.

The figure, published by Germany's Robert Koch Institute (RKI), surpasses the last high, which had been 197.6 reached on 22 December 2020.

While many more people in the country have had the jab than at that point last year, vaccination rates have stagnated at under 70 per cent, with officials pleading in the last days for the population to get the jab.

"For the unvaccinated, the risk is high that they will become infected in the coming months," warned RKI chief Lothar Wieler on Wednesday.

In the eastern state of Saxony, where the

incidence rate is more than twice the national average at 491.3, unvaccinated people face new restrictions from Monday.

Access to indoor dining and other indoor events will be limited to those who are fully vaccinated or can show proof of recovery.

The new rules are the toughest state-wide restrictions in Germany against non-inoculated people. Only children as well as those who cannot receive jabs for medical reasons will be exempt.

The surge in German cases comes with the country in political limbo following September's general election.

The incoming coalition parties, aiming to form a government by early December, have so far ruled out mandatory jabs and said there will be no new lockdowns — at least not for the vaccinated. — AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bodies found at Nepal site where French climbers went missing

A search team flew out to recover three bodies in a remote corner of Nepal's Himalayas on Monday, close to where a trio of French climbers went missing last month.

The group were attempting to scale Mingbo Eiger, a 6,000-metre (19,700-feet) peak near Mount Everest, and were last heard from via satellite phone from their camp on 26 October.

Bad weather hampered efforts to find the men and a member of the team trying to locate them last week said they could have been buried under a depth of snow the size of a five-floor building.

Police inspector Rishi Raj Dhakal told AFP that three bodies had been found in the search area by local mountain guides but it was too early to confirm their identities.

"A helicopter along with the rescue team of professional mountain guides has been sent to bring those bodies," he added.

The three young climbers — Thomas Arfi, Louis Pachoud and Gabriel Miloche — were part of an eight-strong expedition. They had split into two groups to tackle different summits.

The men appeared to have abandoned their summit attempt and turned back when the avalanche hit. — AFP ■

Christchurch mosque murderer weighing life-term appeal

THE Christchurch mosque attacker is considering appealing his unprecedented whole-of-life jail term, arguing guilty pleas made in the wake of the 2019 shootings were obtained under duress, his lawyer said Monday.

Self-proclaimed white supremacist Brenton Tarrant pleaded guilty to 51 charges of murder, 40 of attempted murder and one of terrorism last year.

He was sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole, the first time a whole-life term has been handed down in New Zealand.

Tarrant did not offer a defence at the time but his lawyer Tony Ellis said the Australian national was questioning his decision to plead guilty.

Ellis said the gunman, 31, had told him the pleas were entered under duress because he was subject to "inhuman and degrading treatment" while being held on remand.

"He decided that the simplest way out was to plead guilty," Ellis told Radio New Zealand.

Ellis reportedly took over as Tarrant's lawyer ahead of a coroner's inquiry into the March 2019 shootings and advised his client to exercise his right of appeal. — AFP ■

Taliban victory sparks hopes of peace in rural Afghanistan

IN the villages that once bore the brunt of Afghanistan's front-line fighting, the Taliban victory has broken a cycle of air strikes, gun battles and funerals. The hardliners' takeover of Kabul and the sudden collapse in August of the US-backed regime shocked the world and upended the freedoms of Afghans, which were particularly enjoyed by the urban middle class.

But away from major cities, where little of the international aid worth billions of dollars ever reached, many believe the

Islamist movement's rule could bring a stop to the fighting and the hope for an end to corruption.

"I would give everything for the Taliban," said 72-year-old Maky as she prepared cotton fibre in her hardened hands with a group of other women in Dashtan, a remote farming settlement in northern Balkh province. "Now there is no sound of shooting," she told AFP. "The war is over and we are happy with the Taliban."

Desperately poor, the vil-

lagers are preparing for winter by drying animal dung to use as fuel.

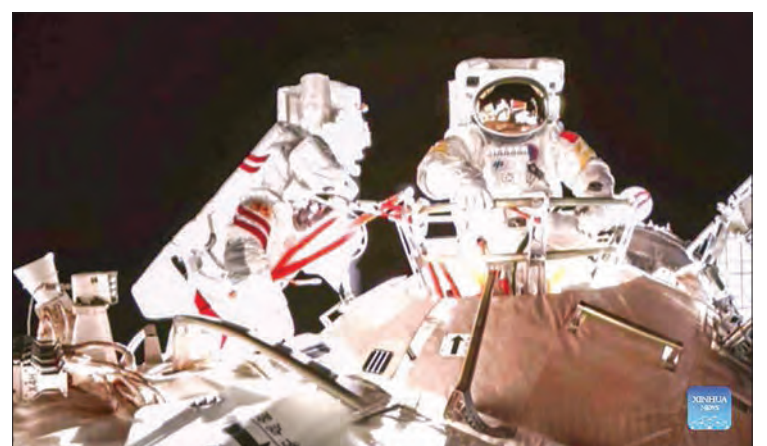
A bitter breeze whips up dust in the central cemetery, where the graves of Taliban fighters are now decorated with colourful trinkets and flags. In one of the well-tended plots lies the son of 82-year-old village elder Hajifat Khan, who celebrated the Islamists' victory. "The men and women of this village are Taliban supporters, young and old," he said, cross-legged in a neighbour's home. — AFP ■

China's Shenzhou-13 taikonauts complete first extravehicular mission

TAIKONAUTS Zhai Zhigang and Wang Yaping have completed their extravehicular activities (EVAs) and returned to the space station core module Tianhe, the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) said on early hours of Monday.

The event was the third extravehicular mission conducted during the construction of the country's space station and the first by the Shenzhou-13 crew. It also marks the first EVAs in Chinese space history involving a female taikonaut, said the agency, which has declared Monday's EVAs a complete success.

The pair returned to the core module at 1:16 am (Beijing Time) after 6.5 hours of extravehicular activities. They completed a series of extrave-



Screen image taken at Beijing Aerospace Control Centre on 8 November 2021 shows Chinese taikonaut Wang Yaping (R) completing extravehicular activities (EVAs). **PHOTO: XINHUA**

hicular tasks.

The mission further tested the functions of the China-developed new-generation extravehicular spacesuits, the coordination between the taikonauts and the mechanical arm, and the reliability and safety of sup-

porting equipment related to the EVAs, the CMSA noted.

China launched the Shenzhou-13 spaceship on 16 October, sending three taikonauts on a six-month mission to construct its space station. — Xinhua ■

19th CPC Central Committee holds sixth plenary session

THE 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) started its sixth plenary session in Beijing on Monday.

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, delivered a work report on behalf of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and made explanations on a draft resolution on the major achievements and historical experience of the CPC's 100 years of endeavours.

The plenum is scheduled to last until Thursday, according to a decision made at a meeting of the CPC Central Committee Political

Bureau on 18 October. The Political Bureau meeting also decided to submit the draft resolution to the plenum for deliberation.

The CPC has led all ethnic groups of the country in making remarkable achievements over the past 100 years in the history of human development, according to a statement issued after the October meeting.

Chinese people who had suffered subjugation and bullying since the advent of modern times had stood up. The Chinese nation is advancing toward modernization on all fronts and socialism

has blazed a successful trail in the world's most populous country, the statement said. It also said that China is taking strides to keep abreast with the times, and the Chinese nation is embracing a bright prospect of national rejuvenation.

It noted that Chinese Communists, with Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin, and Hu Jintao as chief representatives, led the whole Party and people of all ethnic groups in achieving vital progress in the revolution, construction and reform, with precious experience accumulat-



Xi Jinping delivers an important speech at a ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China in Beijing, capital of China, 1 July 2021. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

ed. Since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping at the core has led the whole Party and people of all ethnic groups in making new notable achievements and accumulating new precious experience. — Xinhua ■

Australia vows to sell coal ‘for decades’



Australia is one of the world's largest producers of coal. **PHOTO: WILLIAM WEST/AFP/FILE**

AUSTRALIA said Monday it will sell coal for “decades into the future” after spurning a pact to phase out the polluting fossil fuel to halt catastrophic climate change.

More than 40 countries pledged to eliminate coal use

within decades during the COP26 UN climate summit in Glasgow, which aims to cap the warming of Earth since the Industrial Revolution to between 1.5 and 2.0 degrees Celsius. Australia, along with some other major coal users such as China and the United

States, did not sign up.

“We have said very clearly we are not closing coal mines and we are not closing coal-fired power stations,” Australian Minister for Resources Keith Pitt told national broadcaster ABC. Defending Australia's decision, Pitt said Australia had some of the world's highest quality coal.

“And that is why we will continue to have markets for decades into the future. And if they're buying... well, we are selling.” Demand for coal is expected to rise until 2030, the minister claimed. “If we aren't to win that market, somebody else will,” Pitt added. “I would much rather it be Australia's high-quality product, delivering Australian jobs and building Australia's economy than coming from Indonesia or Russia or elsewhere.” — AFP ■

Man arrested for Japan bullet train arson, had Joker attack in mind

A man was arrested on suspicion of attempting to start a fire on a shinkansen bullet train in southwestern Japan on Monday morning, in an incident that appeared to be inspired by a recent arson attack on a train in Tokyo on Halloween, police said.

Kiyoshi Miyake, 69, from Fukuoka was arrested at the scene, they said. No injuries were reported on the train from Hiroshima bound for Kagoshima-Chuo Station, which was running in Kumamoto Prefecture at the time of the incident around 8:40 am, according to Kyushu Railway Co, known as JR Kyushu.

Miyake was quoted as tell-

ing the prefectural police that he “wanted to imitate” the recent knife and arson attack on a train in Tokyo after seeing the news about it

In the October 31 incident, a man wearing a costume reminiscent of Batman villain the Joker injured 17 people, including one seriously, during the attack on a Keio Line train. The man, Kyota Hattori, has told investigators he adores the Joker and wanted to kill people and be given the death penalty. In the latest case, Miyake said he spread a liquid, set fire to a piece of paper using a lighter and threw it on the floor, according to the police. — Kyodo News ■

Good COP, bad COP: UN climate meet praised and panned

THE COP26 climate talks resuming Monday have so far unfolded on parallel planes, with high-level announcements stage-managed by host country Britain during week one riding roughshod over a laborious UN process built on consensus among nearly 200 countries.

A dizzying blitz of pledges to curb methane emissions, phase out coal-fired power, stop overseas fossil fuel financing, and halt deforestation would appear to have moved the dial towards the Paris Agreement's most ambitious goal of capping global warming at 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels. With a rise of 1.1C to date, storms, heatwaves

and floods have become more frequent, intense and deadly.

An International Energy Agency (IEA) tally of the commitments, along with one by India to boost renewables and reach net zero by 2070, found they would hold warming to 1.8C – not good enough, but way better than the “catastrophic” 2.7C projected by the UN just last month. US special envoy John Kerry, a 30-year veteran of climate geopolitics, said he “had never counted as many initiatives and as much money — real money — being put on the table.”

But not everyone was equally impressed.

On the streets, climate ac-

tivist Greta Thunberg, leading a global protest march on Saturday, branded COP26 a “failure” and an exercise in greenwashing.

Several of the marquee pledges last week, while still significant, were considerably less than meets the eye, analysts pointed out.

“We've run the numbers – the IEA scenario still leaves an enormous emissions gap in 2030,” researchers at Climate Analytics reported, highlighting the need to slash global emissions nearly in half within a decade to keep 1.5C within view.

‘Two truths’

Many frontline negotiators were not happy either.

“This first week is a disappointment,” said Ahmadou Seberry Toure, chair of the G77-plus-China group, a negotiating bloc of more than 130 poor and developing countries, the largest in the UN climate forum.

“Most of our concerns are not truly or effectively being taken into account,” the Guinean diplomat told AFP in an interview.

Toure lambasted the failure of rich nations to cough up \$100 billion a year by 2020 — a pledge first made in 2009, and now postponed to 2023 — to help vulnerable nations decarbonise their economies and cope with climate impacts.

“After the sub-prime crisis in 2008, the US mobilised \$8 trillion — and that was just for one country,” he said.

Many experts and negotiators commented on the stark contrast between the competing narratives, and wondered if they could be reconciled during the home stretch of the talks, which run through Friday.

“We have two different truths here,” said Helen Mountford of the World Resources Institute.

“We've made much more progress in some ways that we could have ever imagined even in a couple of years ago, but at the same time we're nowhere near enough.” — 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.

Win Theingi Tun's Gokulam FC lose 2-1 to Amman FC



Myanmar striker Win Theingi Tun (No. 7) looks for a position to clear the ball against Amman FC players during their AFC Women's Club Championship opener at Aqaba stadium in Jordan on 7 November. **PHOTO: AFC**

GOKULAM Kerala FC, in which Myanmar women striker Win Theingi Tun, participated and began their AFC Women's Club Championship campaign with a 2-1 loss against home team Amman FC of Jordan at the Aqaba stadium in Jordan on 7 November. Gokulam were the first ones

to score through players' effort but Amman put more power to secure their victory.

On the first day, host Jordan club Amman beat Indian club Gokulam 2-1 while Iranian club Shahadur Serijan beat Uzbekistan club Banyodeca FC 2-1.

Win Theingi Tun was named

in the starting line-up of the Gokulam team and led by one goal in the first half but lost by two goals in the second half.

Indian club Gokulam FC will play against Iranian club Shahadur Serijan FC on 10 November in the second match of the group. —Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

Milan derby draw allows Napoli to keep top spot

AC Milan missed the chance to go top of Serie A on Sunday after a 1-1 derby draw with Inter Milan which allowed Napoli to maintain their place at the summit.

Stefano Pioli's unbeaten side are level with Napoli on 32 points after a Stefan de Vrij own goal cancelled out Milan old boy Hakan Calhanoglu's 11th-minute penalty for Inter in a tense, exciting encounter at the San Siro.

Milan, whose fans unfurled a huge display before the match in honour of health workers and those who had died of Covid-19, will be rueing a missed opportunity to claim first place after Napoli could only manage a 1-1 home draw with Verona earlier in the day.

"The glass is half-full because when you prepare matches you want to win them, above all the derby," said Pioli to DAZN.

"Inter are a good team and we proved that we are strong

too. It was a positive performance."

Neither side will be happy with the derby point as they both had opportunities to win the match in front of 57,000 fans, with Alexis Saelemaekers striking the post late for Milan.

Lautaro Martinez meanwhile missed Inter's second penalty of the night just before the half-hour mark and wasted other chances to snatch the winner for nominal away side Inter, who were looking for a win which would have boosted their title challenge.

As it is, Simone Inzaghi's team stay seven points behind the league's two front-runners in third place.

"For me the glass is half-empty... Looking at the chances we had we deserved more," said Inzaghi.

"Milan and Napoli have kept up an incredible rhythm but there is time and we are up there. We want to keep pushing forward." — AFP ■



AC Milan's Swedish forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic (2nd R) heads the ball during the Italian Serie A football match between AC Milan and Inter on 7 November 2021 at the San Siro stadium, in Milan. **PHOTO: TIZIANA FABI / AFP**

West Ham end Liverpool's unbeaten run as Villa sack Smith

WEST Ham beat Liverpool 3-2 on Sunday to end the Reds' 25-match unbeaten run as struggling Aston Villa fired manager Dean Smith on a day of high drama in the Premier League.

Jurgen Klopp's team were one game away from setting a new club record of 26 matches unbeaten in all competitions but three costly errors from goal-

keeper Alisson Becker cost them dear.

Elsewhere in the English top flight, Antonio Conte had a taste of the scale of his task at new club Tottenham as they laboured to a 0-0 draw at Everton.

Liverpool travelled to the London Stadium without a defeat since April but left frustrated as West Ham leapfrogged

them into third spot in the table. It was a day to forget for Brazilian international Alisson, whose own goal put West Ham ahead early in the first half.

Trent Alexander-Arnold equalized with a brilliant free-kick, but Alisson was at fault again as Pablo Fornals and Kurt Zouma struck for the Hammers after half-time. — AFP ■