THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VIII, No. 239, 11th Waxing of Nadaw 1383 ME www.gnlm.com.mm Tuesday, 14 December 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.

Entire people, all administrative bodies need to join hands in combatting terrorism, says Senior General

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses the SAC meeting 18/2021 in Nay Pyi Taw on 13 December 2021.

ACTION is being taken against the officials who committed malpractice and related persons in the election, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting 18/2021 of the State Administration Council at the Office of the SAC Chairman, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

In his opening address, the Senior General said a total of 42,771,600 units of COVID-19 vaccines including the vaccines purchased by the State, the vaccines donated by foreign countries to the State and the Tatmadaw, the privately donated vaccines and the vaccines donated by the China-Myanmar Friendship Association for the Myanmar-China border areas have arrived in the country. One more million doses of vaccines purchased from Russia will arrive in Myanmar this month, and it was reported that China will donate more vaccines to Myanmar. Moreover, the Nippon Foundation from Japan pledged to donate two million doses of vaccine to Myanmar, and one million of it would arrive here this month and one more million in January. Myanmar has vaccinated 31,049,275 doses with 11,722,325 doses in hand. And, a total of 12,693,945 people have received the vaccines two times and 5,661,385 people once, totalling 18,355,330. The government strives for the completion of vaccination to the 50 per cent of the people above 18 years old across the nation in December this year. Efforts are being made

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> The violent attack on the people is vulgar, posing the threat to the people. Posing the threat on the people to be feared is directly different from democracy. The entire people and all the administrative bodies need to join hands in combatting terrorism.

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COVID-19 vaccines continue to be delivered across Myanmar

COVID-19 vaccines have been delivered to respective regions and states across Myanmar by Tatmadaw aircraft and Cold Chain Delivery Logistics Trucks at the quality control standards.

Yesterday, 2,200 doses of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine and 500 Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine were transported to Loikaw, Kayah state; 9,170 doses of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccines to Lashio (Northern Shan state); 2,388 doses of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine and 1,675 doses of Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine to Kengtung (Eastern Shan state); 4,274 Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine to Kalay, Sagaing region; 16,693 doses of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine and 15,000 doses of Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine to Sittway and 5,870 doses of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine and 10,000 doses of Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine to Thandwe, Rakhine state; 10,257 doses of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine and 3,880 doses of Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine to Myitkyina, Kachin state.

Officials from the respective townships received the vaccines and will distribute them to respective townships, it is reported.—MNA

Vaccines arrive at Lashio airport.

250 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 13 December, total figure rises to 526,911

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 526,911 after 250 new cases were reported on 13 December 2021 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 503,433 have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll reached 19,188 after 5 died.—MNA

Over 3,000 travellers tour Moeyungyi wildlife sanctuary in early November

In Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary. **PHOTOS: KANU**

MORE than 3,000 tourists visited the 25,600-acre Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary and Wetlands at the start of the tourist season in early November.

As migratory birds from the North Pole flock to Myanmar to spend winter every year, water birds are seen staying in the Moeyungyi wetlands while tourists visited the area in the tourist season. More than 2,800 tourists visited the area each day in April and May. Although the number of tourists declined in August and October, more than 3,000 tourists visited the wetlands in early November which is also the start of the tourist season.

"There were 405 visitors in August and 970 in October. As it increased to more than 3,000 tourists in November, we could say that more visitors have visited the Moeyungyi since October, and more tourists would come in during the tourist season," said the in-charge of the Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary and Wetlands.

As more wintering birds have arrived compared to the last month, crane birds are also seen now in the Moeyungyi Sanctuary and Wetlands. It is expected to be more touristy in December than last month as it is a popular holiday period for tourists and bird watchers. With the attention to the prevention and control of COVID-19 disease, it will be more possible to predict the fluctuation of tourism at the beginning of the year, according to the person in charge of the wetlands.

This winter, migratory birds have been arriving in the Moeyungyi wetlands earlier than last year since the end of October and more water birds continued to enter in November. In the last winter, about 40 species of migratory birds spent winter in the area, and about 26 species of them are beginning to arrive this November.

The Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary and Wetlands is the first Ramsar Site in Myanmar. It also received international recognition in 2014 as the Flyway Network Site of the East Asia-Australia Joint Aviation Conservation Group (EAAFP). It is a bird sanctuary, conserving endangered bird species. The Department of Forest is working to ensure the long-term sustainability of the forest and the sustainability of local livelihoods.

— Nyein Thu(MNA)/GNLM

In Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary.

Public request by Ministry of Health

ONLY when the people cooperate will the work process achieve success in a short time for effective prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19 among the people. As such, all the people are requested to abide by the following points: -

1. Stay at home as much as possible.
2. Don't accept the guests at the house. You don't visit other houses.
3. The older persons above 65 or those suffering from chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and heart must be worn masks in the house. They must be placed at well-ventilated sites.
4. Wear masks if you go outside without fail. Systematically wash hands. Take a six-foot distance from others. Avoid visits to the rooms where ventilation is not good.
5. Avoid the crowds.
6. If possible, go shopping once a week. Don't buy anything from the vendors who don't systematically wear masks.
7. Take care of carrying the virus to the houses whenever return home from outside. Systematically discard the used masks and single disposable equipment outside the houses. Avoid close contact with family members before changing clothes or washing the body.
8. As the vaccines for your quota is the best, accept vaccinations for full time. Despite receiving the vaccination, you should abide by the protective ways.
9. Systematically cooperate in prevention, control and treatment of the disease with manpower, money, materials and expertise.

Ministry of Health (2-8-2021)

Generating hydropower

It is necessary to resurge manufacturing at home to be able to substitute the imported products. If the country saves the consumption of fuel oil, the amount for spending the foreign exchange will decline and the trade surplus will increase. The Senior General highlighted the salient points of reduction of fuel consumption, use of electricity, generating hydropower, and implementation of public transport projects.

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting 3/2021 of the Union Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 3-12-2021)

Entire people, all administrative bodies need to join ...

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for exceeding the target. A plan is underway to vaccinate the people to get the booster at private hospitals under the prescribed disciplines.

Coordination is being undertaken with China to produce the COVID-19 vaccine. A plan is underway to start production of the vaccine in the coming January. Since its operations, a target was set to produce five million units of vaccine per month. Although the Omicron virus has not infected the country yet, such kind of virus spreads in some neighbouring countries and regional countries. If the infection rate is high, treatment will be given at the hospitals and clinics where preparations have been made.

Those who committed the terror acts are arrested and the information about the terrorism is released in real-time. **The violent attack on the people is vulgar, posing the threat to the people. Posing the threat on the people to be feared is directly different from democracy. The entire people and all the administrative bodies need to join hands in combating terrorism.**

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and U Win Myint were handed down four years' imprisonments each under two sections on 6 December but their imprisonments were reduced to two years each. They are kept at the existing place for continuing the trials for further cases without sending them to the prisons. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and U Win Myint are allowed to independently meet with their advocates from the trials to the judgment under the rules. It was accepted that they would know the current political trend, terrorist cases and formation of CRPH and NUG from their advocates. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has the right to give remarks through her advocates. The Tatmadaw kept elected representatives freely at the time of taking responsibilities and sent them back home. But, some persons responded to the government through terrorism.

The errors in the voter list caused some problems in the 2020 multiparty democracy general election. As such, the Ministry of Immigration and Population was formed to issue the citizenship scrutiny cards to the people under the Pankhin project.

The Senior General invited suggestions from the State Administration Council members to extend more district level offices in line with the rules so as to implement effective development projects.

> In his concluding speech, the Senior General urged region and state governments need to strive for food sufficiency of the people. The SAC members need to coordinate with Union ministers and region and state chief ministers for the development of the regions and states.

With regard to the reopening of universities and colleges, the Senior General said: **"We have opened basic education schools. We have allowed the opening of universities and colleges not under the control of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science and Technology, for example, National University of Arts and Culture, under the Ministry of Culture and the universities under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. Moreover, we have allowed the opening of the Sangha Universities. Roughly, universities will be reopened in January. In this regard, control of COVID-19 is of great importance for the reopening of the universities. The number of infected persons hit 423 on 1 December, 521 on 2 December, 402 on 3 December, 374 on 4 December, 285 on 5 December, 230 on 6 December, 367 on 7 December, 398 on 8 December, 347 on 9 December, 274 on 10 December, 375 on 11 December and 280 on 12 December. So, the data shows the infection of the disease does not stable. If possible, the infection rate needs to stay at a lesser two per cent. Yesterday, we found the infection rate reached more than two per cent. So, we need to expedite control of the pandemic with efforts for the reopening of the schools. We should not erase everything. So, I instructed my cabinet as well as military officials on my arrival in regions and states not to ease the restrictions. If not, the long term plans would face many problems. I urged them to restrict the COVID-19 without any easing. On the other hand, our country faced the third wave of the pandemic but avoided the fourth wave and Omicron as well. But, such a new virus has been found in some 50 countries. So, we need to take care of the virus. Whatever it may be, we need to make preparations at hospitals. I gave a guideline to hospitals of the Ministry of Health and military hospitals to make separate units for providing healthcare to the COVID-19 patients. These units must be facilitated with oxygen plants and medical doctors. All should not ease tensions if the pandemic is not yet to break out. If it breaks out, they may face a lack of equipment and materials. We have experienced difficulties. So, region and state authorities need to inspect such activities. Depending on these situations, if the situation is good, we will reopen colleges and universities in the first week of January, after the Independence Day."**

It is important that students must attend school healthily under security. Likewise, school attendance is of importance. So, it is necessary to restrict the school attendance for students. All need to strive for the soonest reopening of the basic education schools. Some farmlands are not used under the projects but these are being used in other ways. Hence, officials need to scrutinize the abuse of farmlands under the laws, rules and regulations.

The Council members discussed the topics on scrutiny of registration of private schools, action taken against those who committed the voting frauds, resumption of Myanmar-China trade, construction of the east to west railways and motor roads in Myanmar, electricity, agriculture, nature conservation, the release of information on social media, and extension of necessary government offices in self-administered regions.

In his response, the Senior General said the construction of a road from Myawady-Mae Sot to Ngayokkaung passing Yangon has been allowed. A plan is underway to establish the manufacturing cooperative system for farmers to get good prices for their products. It is necessary to grow mangrove forests and maintain them. Arrangements are being made to grow mangrove plants and coconut plants in Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi regions and Rakhine and Mon states. Efforts will be made for possessing more than 41 per cent of forest coverage in Myanmar.

Action is being taken against the officials who committed malpractice and related persons in the election. The Union Election Commission will hold further meetings with political parties to exercise the PR system. The government has signed agreements with India, Thailand and China to practise the direct payment of Myanmar kyats to that of other countries.

Efforts are being made to generate electricity from the Kalay coal power plant and hydropower at the border of Chin and Rakhine states. District offices will be established in self-administered regions for making decisions if necessary.

In his concluding speech, the Senior General urged region and state governments need to strive for food sufficiency of the people. The SAC members need to coordinate with Union ministers and region and state chief ministers for the development of the regions and states.

Medical universities turned out more than 30,000 medical doctors from 1995 to 2020. Some 10,000 of them serve as the service personnel. In the coming matriculation examination, the eligible students winning remarkable marks in the English, Biology and Chemistry will be allowed to join the entrance test of medical universities. Medical students will be provided with the stipend but they have to serve the State as service personnel for 10 years. Preparations are being made to establish a university that can conduct academic measures for arts, science, law, economics, medical education and social work in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. — MNA

Myanmar delegation visits AgraMe, AquaMe at Dubai Expo

Myanmar delegation looks around the AgraMe AquaMe exhibition in Dubai of the United Arab Emirates.

A Myanmar delegation led by Union minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Tin Htut Oo who was in Dubai, United Arab Emirates to attend the ASEAN Summit on Sustainable Oceans visited exhibitions at the Dubai Expo and the Agra Me Aqua Me exhibition on agriculture for food security in the Middle East and Africa, hosted by the UAE's Ministry of Climate Change and Environment on 9 December.

They met businesspersons, gallery curators and technicians and discussed opportunities for cooperation with Myanmar's current agricultural and fisheries technologies.

The AgraMe, AquaMe showcased agricultural products and aims to ensure sustainable food security for countries in the region.

The Union minister and party observed water quality monitoring and control equipment on display at Aqua Bio Technology Gallery, advanced technology ploughs on display at MA / RA SAG (Italy) APISA Bio-Tech, industrial technologies for drying agricultural products, advanced technology for drying and picking animal feed plants on display at Agri Green Gallery, Due Agri Srl Gallery showcasing the design of cattle sheds and complete production of livestock facilities, Advanced Aquaculture in Climate Change at M Aqua Moaf Gallery and caged fish farming techniques in the sea and river dams demonstrated by AKVA Group.

They also discussed the Saudi Government's National Fisheries Development Plan and its efforts to increase youth participation and entrepreneurship in the fisheries sector.

Similarly, the Union minister and party visited Dubai wholesale market which sells fruits, vegetables and spices.

On their visit, they looked around safe, fresh and high-quality food products for consumers and the types of fish sold at fish markets. The Union minister met with relevant business people to discuss the possibility of exporting more fish and other agricultural products from Myanmar.

In 2020-2021, Myanmar supplied more than US$76 million worth of fish and shellfish to six GCC member countries in the Middle East. Over 50,000 tons of shrimp and fishery products were exported.

Myanmar is the largest exporter to Saudi Arabia and the UAE with a total value of 36,000 tonnes, valued at US$36 million. — MNA

MoTC Union minister inspects Machinery Workshop (Mahlwagon)

UNION minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San conducted an inspection tour to Machinery Workshop (Mahlwagon) of the Myanma Railways (MR) in Mingala Taungnyunt Township of Yangon on 12 December.

During the visit, the General Manager (Civil) of MR and senior engineer of workshop reported on the production of rail equipment and hand-operated materials, maintenance of engineering equipment, department-owned machineries used in railway upgrade work, allocation of machineries and other maintenances.

On the explanations of the officials, the Union minister said it should produce quality materials to meet the demands of work sites. It also needs to check the machineries in accordance with the Maintenance Manual, to keep the systematic Log Books and to follow the Safety Plan for work site. He then highlighted the needs to ensure the skills of staff who operate the machinery and maintenance, Safety Equipment and preventive measures of COVID-19.

He finally inspected the new rail-track maintenance equipment and other materials and instructed the necessary things regarding the proper use of machinery and Function Test. — MNA

The MoTC Union minister inspects the Machinery Workshop (Mahlwagon) of the Myanma Railways (MR).

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Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

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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.

Environmental Conservation Committee holds its first meeting

THE first coordination meeting of the Environmental Conservation Committee was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting, Chairman of the Committee Union minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Khin Maung Yi said that the value of global ecosystem services is losing between $4 trillion and $20 trillion annually due to the lack of protection of the environment and ecosystems, according to the 6th Global Environment Outlook.

Due to environmental pollution, $4.6 trillion are lost annually, accounting for 6.2 per cent of global economic output. At least nine million people die every year from air and water pollution and 29 per cent of the world's land area is degraded, affecting the livelihood of 1.3 billion to 3.2 billion people, he said.

Extreme weather events cost $ 127 billion annually and it is important to have a strong environmental governance that all stakeholders can work together to address the problems of environmental pollution and climate change, the Union minister highlighted.

He said that Myanmar is developing the country in various fields based on agriculture and livestock, and environmental protection activities should be integrated in economic and social development activities under the leadership of the committee. He added the necessity to incorporate Myanmar climate change policy, strategic and core action plans into relevant sectoral projects.

He called on relevant development departments in Nay Pyi Taw, regions/states to systematically manage the action plans and policy of Myanmar's National Waste Management for the systematic management of waste hazards. He stressed the importance of the cooperation of the non-governmental organizations, private sector, and the people in reducing current/future environmental degradation and adverse effects of climate change. He also added that awareness-raising should be a key part of the ongoing process, as well as environmental compliance.

The meeting discussed the implementation of the committee and further plans of each sector in relation to environmental issues and climate change. After the meeting, the Union minister attended the Central Committee Meeting of Myanmar Gems Emporium. — MNA

Myanmar Disaster Response Team Training Course No 2/2021 opened

THE opening ceremony of Myanmar Disaster Response Team Training Course No 2/2021 was held yesterday morning at M-Gallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

In her address, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Thet Thet Khine said that if the disaster management is carried out by just one country or one organization, it would be far from the goal, and so cooperation is encouraged. The current training course is a result of cooperation with ASEAN. There is ASEAN-ERAT at the ASEAN level and there should be an emergency response team locally.

The ministry is also working with ASEAN Secretariat and AHA Centre to conduct the Human Resource Development Project for Humanitarian Assistance for Myanmar and organizing the Myanmar Disaster Response Team and conducting training courses are the priorities among the procedures of the project.

The Union minister then talked about new subjects to be added in the syllabus to improve the local capabilities and stainable development of socio-economy, disaster-related activities of Myanmar disaster response team and improvement of an individual trainee.

Deputy minister U Aung Tun Khine also highlighted the supportive facts of training to be conducted in the respective regions and proper cooperation as mid-level ministry staff who operate disaster management and representatives who serve humanitarian assistance join the training.

A total of 42 trainees joined the six-day training which will end on 18 December. — MNA

COVID-19 vaccination processes conducted as usual

THE Tatmadaw medics, health officials, nurses and health workers of public hospitals, including volunteers, conduct vaccination programmes in regions and states for monks, nuns, people aged over 40, inmates, people with disabilities, ethnic armed groups, patients with chronic disease, people at IDP camps and students aged over 12.

On 12 and 13 December, 11,137 people 14 townships of Shan State (North) were vaccinated against COVID-19 while 2,495 people in four townships of Shan state (East), 6,646 monks and people in nine townships of Mon and Kayin states, 3,009 people in Myeik Township of Taninthayi Region, 6,935 people in six townships of Yangon Region, 45,334 people in 26 townships of Ayeyawady Region, 4,285 people in three townships of Rakhine state, 9,583 people in seven districts of Mandalay Region and 3,265 people in three townships of Bago Region.

Similarly, 2,765 students in 26 townships of Ayeyawady Region and 2,575 students in Htantabin Township of Bago Region received their vaccines.

The respective region commanders and officials inspected the vaccination processes and instructed the necessary things. — MNA

High-scale renovation works on 100-year-old Ledi stone inscription museum complete 85%

HIGH-scale renovation works on a nearly 100 years old Ledi stone inscription building in Monywa Township complete almost 85 per cent, said U Kyaw Win, treasurer of the board of trustees.

"The operation complete nearly 85 per cent. The building is almost a hundred years old and the repair works started in 2018. There are 277 chambers for stone plaques and now we have completed 252 chambers. We expected to finish by April 2022," he said. The Ledi stone inscription building is 150x150 feet in width with 277 chambers containing 240 poles.

The cash contribution for this renovation is K150,000 per gold-plated pole and K250,000 per white plate for a wall.

"We do not affect the stone inscriptions in conducting repair works. We cover them with plastic. It spends more than K230 million as of November and is estimated to cost about K300 million," he added.

The Ledi stone inscription museum boasts of 806 stone slab inscriptions that depicted 96 Dipani — 61 treatises Myanmar literature, 18 Nissara and one Pali text. Ledi Sayadaw wrote 89 treatises Dipani; Ledi Pandita U Maung Gyi six Dipani, and Ledi U Kawi one Dipani.

The Ledi stone inscription museum organizing team was formed on 27 November 1925 and conducted a stake driving ceremony in 1926 and the building construction have been completed after three years, according to the records.

The cost was K124,218 plus13 pe and six pya and the southern and western parts of the stone inscription were damaged from bombing during World War II.— Lu Lay/GNLM

Ledi stone inscription. **PHOTOS: LU LAY**

Jotikayon Pali learning centre in Pyay to be upgraded

THE ground floor of the three-storey Maha Thukha Jotika building in the compound of Jotikayon Pali learning centre in Pyay, Bago Region will be tiled, according to the local people.

More than 200 monks are living and studying in the monastery.

Donors wishing to donate may do so in person at the monastery or donations can be made by contacting phone numbers: 09-420703374, 09-5312630 09-423656441, 09-423659596 and 09-250876480. — Maung Shwe Win (Pyay)/GNLM

Tea leaves from Homalin fetches handsome price

THE tea leaves from Homalin township, Sagaing region have fetched a handsome price, it is learnt.

"The price of tea leaves in these days is good. The price of fresh tea leaves is sold at K1,500 per viss. Now, the tea leaves are not as plentiful as spring. But, there are many fresh tea leaves stored because of the rain. The tea leaves season is over. The fresh tea leaves are consuming mostly in ceremonies," said Daw Su Su Htway, the head of the agriculture department from Homalin Township.

The price of Homalin township fresh tea leave was set at K1,300 per viss in October, 2021. Now, the price has increased to K1,500 per viss.

The tea leaves from Homalin township are conveyed to Kalay, Tamu, Mawlaik, Monywa and Mandalay markets.

During 2021-2022 financial year, the tea leaves has been cultivated in Sagaing region since June, 2021. Currently, the agriculture department cultivated 290 acres of tea leaves in Mawlaik, 9,694 acres in Hkamti, 911 acres in Naga region, 487 acres in Katha and 564 acres in Kawlin districts, according to the Sagaing Region Agriculture Department.

There are some 8,900 hectares of tea planted across Myanmar and most of them were exported to Chinese market. Although local tea is exported to Taiwan, Thailand, South Korea and Singapore, the largest market remains China. — Lu Lay/GNLM

Public Notice

1. The Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to effectively curb corruption.
2. The ACC used SMS on the mobile phone to ask the public who seek services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via Short Code No "1111" for feedbacks, including the Public Feedback Programme-PFP.
3. According to the PFP, the right replies of the citizens via Short Code No "1111" will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.
4. Therefore, the public should make a reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at Short Code No "1111" and such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

Anti-Corruption Commission

Answer "1111" to fight against corruption
Answer "1111" to improve services
Let's work together to eliminate corruption towards prosperity

Myanmar yearly ships over 600 tonnes of soft-shell crab to external market

MYANMAR has been exporting seafood from Rakhine State to the international markets beyond domestic consumption and an annual export of the marketable soft-shell crab is estimated at over 600 tonnes.

The soft-shell crabs from Rakhine State are delivered to the US, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong and the countries in Europe. The crab processing companies produce 15 tonnes per month and approximately 200 tonnes per year in Rakhine State. The crabs are sent to cold storage facilities in Hlaingthaya Industrial Park for good packaging. They are conveyed to Europe and other foreign trade partners. The prices of soft-shell crab are worth around 7 US$dollars per kg. Rakhine State seafood exporters ships a full container load of sliced fish, processed squid and ready-made shrimp cake to Australia, France and Hong Kong SAR every two months. The exports of soft-shell crabs by the companies in Thandwe city earned US$2.5 million in the 2018-2019 financial year, $3.8 million in the 2019-2020 FY and $4.66 million in the 2020-2021FY.

The soft-shell crabs from Rakhine State are delivered to the US, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong and the countries in Europe. The crab processing companies produce 15 tonnes per month and approximately 200 tonnes per year in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: KANU**

The soft-shell crab cultivation businesses are found in Ponnagyun and Taungup townships, employing over 1,200 residents. If there is an adequate electric supply in those townships, food processing companies can boost the quality of the products, increase job opportunities and generate revenue. Consequently, it will reduce the production cost as well.

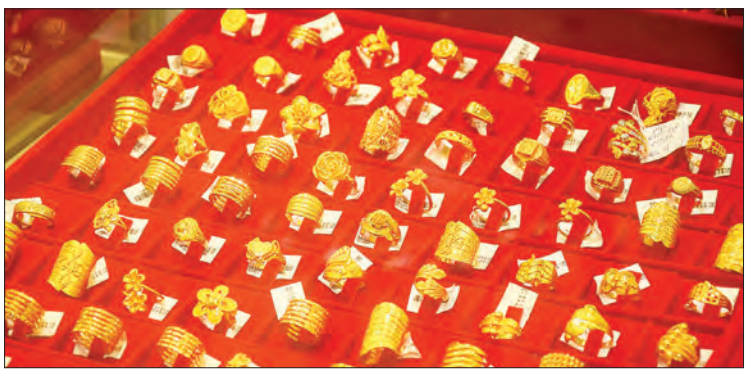
The hard-shell crabs are primarily supplied by Pyapon, Bogale, Myaungmya and Labutta townships in Ayeyawady Region and Kyauktan, Kayan and Thongwa in Yangon Region and townships in Rakhine State. They are mostly sent to Chinese and Thai markets.

"Rakhine is the main producer of fishery products. If there is better infrastructure, it will bring about the development in the socio-economy of the state. There is a shortage of power supply in Rakhine State so it has a barrier to make value-added products. We can add core product offerings through value-adds. Over 600 tonnes of soft-shell crabs are placed in European markets. Rakhine State Department of Fisheries also focus on the aquaculture to help protect the endangered species population," said U Thet Oo, head of the department.

The department has been implementing the hatcheries for fish, shrimp and soft-shell crab. The companies purchase 80 g sized crabs from Sittway, Ponnagyun, Minbya, Taungup, Yanbye, An and Manaung townships and after 45 days of cultivation, the soft shell crabs are ready to place on market. They are processed in Thandwe cold stroage and cold storage plants in Hlaingthaya Industrial Park in Yangon and they are transported to external market through cold chain.

A company usually breeds about 400,000-500,000 crabs in the pond. The Department of Fisheries set three-month offseason for catching crabs between February and April in ordedr to protect the local species. —Nyein Thu (MNA)/ GNLM

Precious yellow metal price falls by K30,000 within one week



Last 28 September, a dollar value hit an all-time high of over K3,000 in the black market and consequently, the pure gold reached a record high of K2.22 million per tical in history.

THE price of precious yellow metal sank to below K1.785 million per tical (0.578 ounce, or 0.016 kilogram), indicating a significant drop of over K30,000 per tical within one week, according to Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association (YGEA).

Last 9 December, the price of pure gold was estimated at K1.817 million per tical.

Starting from October-end, the price has been quite stable. However, the rumour of the issuance of new currency notes (K20,000 and K50,000 notes) shook up the domestic gold market and the price soared to K1,817,000 per tical on 9 December.

"The news of the currency paper imported by air on 8 December was spreading, igniting the rumour of issuance of the new currency note. It hiked up the gold prices on 9 December. After the Central Bank of Myanmar dismissed the rumours of new currency notes, the gold price went down," said U Myo Myint, chair of Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

People will be certainly notified when the CBM will print the new currency notes. At present, the CBM denied the rumours, according to its notification released on 9 December.

The exchange rate stands at K1,788 per US dollar in the local forex market at present.

Last 28 September, a dollar value hit an all-time high of over K3,000 in the black market and consequently, the pure gold reached a record high of K2.22 million per tical in history.

In January 2021, the gold price was ranged between the minimum of K1,316,000 per tical (28 Jan) and the maximum of K1,336,000 per tical (6 Jan). It reached an all-time high of K1,410,000 per tical on 3 Feb and hit the minimum of K1,340,000 per tical on 2 Feb. In March, the rate fluctuated between the highest of K1,391,000 (25 March) and the lowest of K1,302,000 (4 March). The price was registered the highest of K1,455,000 (30 April) and the lowest of K1,389,000 (1 April). The price reached an all-time highest of K1,709,000 (12 May) and the lowest of K1,447,000 in May. The price moved in the maximum of K1,575,500 (11 June) and the minimum of K1,543,000 (19 June). It fluctuated between K1,562,300 (26 July) and K1,587,000 (K1,587,000). The price of gold reached the lowest of K1,572,800 (3 August) and the highest of K1,698,000 (31 August). It was recorded the lowest of K1,703,500 (1 September) and edged up to K2,220,000 (28 September). The price was ranged between K1,768,500 (27 October) and K2,030,000 (1 October). Last month, it elevated to K1,810,000 (6 November) and plunged to K1,768,500 (24 November), the gold traders said. — NN/GNLM

Early yield winter black bean entering market with hike price

THE early yielding winter black beans are entering the Mandalay market with hike price for 2022 verity bean season, according to the Mandalay bean merchants.

"The black beans have been entering the market beginning from second weeks of December. The yield and quality of black bean are also good. Besides, the price of black bean hit K130,000 per bag (one bag contains three baskets) this year, up from K85,000 per bag compared to that of the last year," said U Soe Win Myint, owner of Soe Win Myint Brokerage from Mandalay.

"The winter black beans are entering Mandalay market starting from the second week of December. Since harvesting this year, the beans are fetching the good price. The stockpile of the black bean cultivated in monsoon using of irrigated water is scarcity in the market. This year, the winter black bean are yielding abundantly because there is no plant bugs and thankful for good weather conditions. In the lower region, the black beans are cultivated in only one season as a winter crop. This year, the bean is yielded about two weeks early. Last year, the bean was yielded at the end of December. The black bean is Myanmar's export item, and it has chiefly exported to India," he added.

Currently, the black beans from Katha, Htigyaing, Madaya and Singu regions are flooding the Mandalay market. Besides, the bean from Monywa, Shwebo, Pakokku and Myingyan regions will soon be entered.

The black bean started growing in August in the middle region of Myanmar and is highly harvested in January. The bean also harvests a lot in February and March in the lower areas of Myanmar such as Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago regions, it is learnt. — Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)/GNLM

14 DECEMBER 2021
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Develop engineering profession for serving the State and the people

ALL corps of the Tatmadaw are essential for serving the State defence duty not only in the peaceful period but in the military operations. Military engineering corps is responsible for moving, attacking and living of Tatmadaw through engineering skills and construction works.

Military engineers are vital to successfully implement the process of humanitarian aid and disaster relief as a national duty while performing the prompt response to natural disasters.

As military science and technology are changed, technology is increasingly applied in modern wars such as: to obtain complete information, to get safety and protection, to fight effectively, and to make decisive battles in a short period. The engineers need to have the continuous learning in military science and technology at the international level.

> The DSTA performs the study of benchmarks comparison with the curriculums and educational aids of some international and local technological universities, and also implements the most basic and important processes of accreditation processes according to the Myanmar Engineering Council Law, so engineering degrees of DSTA will be recognized soon at the Asia-Pacific level through the Myanmar Engineering Council.

They must perform to improve their ability by using the continuous learning in the subjects. As science and technology have reached the stage of 'inventing and utilizing' from 'exploration and applying', those engineers have to proficiently learn continuous changing and evolving military science.

Engineering is transforming the natural environment into the development of socio-economic life. To become a proficient engineer indeed, they need to be mastery in the sciences such as physics, chemistry and mathematics.

To produce engineers who can support the socio-economic development of the country, the engineering knowledge that they are under training needs to be qualified. Engineering knowledge is continuously changing and improving so the academic system for engineering is changing to utilize and explore new technologies in accordance with the modern age.

The DSTA performs the study of benchmarks comparison with the curriculums and educational aids of some international and local technological universities, and also implements the most basic and important processes of accreditation processes according to the Myanmar Engineering Council Law, so engineering degrees of DSTA will be recognized soon at the Asia-Pacific level through the Myanmar Engineering Council.

The Tatmadaw must perform the peace and stability of socio-economic, unity and development of the nation and people as much as the engineers can do with physical and mental ability while serving the national duty. In doing so, those military engineers must conduct to succeed the internal and external unity of the military unit. Tatmadaw men in all corps will have to serve the assigned duties with goodwill for the nation and the Tatmadaw.

■■■

Chewing gum to reduce SARS-CoV-2 transmission developed by researchers

A chewing gum has been developed by a team of researchers that is laced with a plant-grown protein serving as a "trap" for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, hence it could reduce its transmission.

The study has been published in the 'Molecular Therapy Journal'.

The work, led by Henry Daniell at Penn's School of Dental Medicine and performed in collaboration with scientists at the Perelman School of Medicine and School of Veterinary Medicine, as well as at The Wistar Institute and Fraunhofer USA, could lead to a low-cost tool in the arsenal against the COVID-19 pandemic.

"SARS-CoV-2 replicates in the salivary glands, and we know that when someone who is infected sneezes, coughs or speaks some of that virus can be expelled and reach others," said Daniell.

"This gum offers an opportunity to neutralize the virus in the saliva, giving us a simple way to possibly cut down on a source of disease transmission," he added.

Course of the pandemic

Vaccinations for COVID-19 have helped change the course of the pandemic but haven't stamped out transmission. Even people who are fully vaccinated can still become infected with SARS-CoV-2 and, according to recent research, can carry a viral load similar to those who are unvaccinated. Prior to the pandemic, Daniell had been studying the angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) protein in the context of treating hypertension. His lab had grown this protein, as well as many others that may have therapeutic potential, using a patented plant-based production system. By bombarding plant material with the DNA of target proteins, they coaxed plant chloroplasts to take up the DNA and begin growing the proteins. The plant material, freeze-dried and ground-up, could be used as a means of delivering the protein. This system has the potential to avoid the usual obstacles to protein drug synthesis: namely, an expensive production and purification process.

The receptor for ACE2

Daniell's past work on ACE2 proved fortuitous in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The receptor for ACE2 on human cells also hapened to bind the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein. Other research groups had shown that injections of ACE2 could reduce viral load in people with severe infections.

Meanwhile, another line of work by Daniell and Penn Dental Medicine colleague Hyun (Michel) Koo had involved research to develop a chewing gum infused with plant-grown proteins to disrupt dental plaque. Pairing his insights about ACE2 with this technology, Daniell wondered if such a gum, infused with plant-grown ACE2 proteins, could neutralize SARS-CoV-2 in the oral cavity.

Scientists developing chewing gum that may cut Covid spread. **PHOTO: ANI**

To find out, he reached out to Ronald Collman at Penn Medicine, a virologist and pulmonary and critical care doctor whose team, since the early stages of the pandemic, had been collecting blood, nasal swabs, saliva, and other biospecimens from COVID patients for scientific research.

"Henry contacted me and asked if we had samples to test his approach, what kind of samples would be appropriate to test, and whether we could internally validate the level of SARS-CoV-2 virus in the saliva samples," Collman said.

Microbiome studies

"That led to a cross-school collaboration building on our microbiome studies," he added.

To test the chewing gum, the team grew ACE2 in plants, paired with another compound that enabled the protein to cross mucosal barriers and facilitated binding, and incorporated the resulting plant material into cinnamon-flavoured gum tablets. Incubating samples obtained from nasopharyngeal swabs from COVID-positive patients with the gum showed that the ACE2 present could neutralize SARS-CoV-2 viruses.

Those initial investigations were followed by others at The Wistar Institute and Penn Vet, in which viruses, less-pathogenic than SARS-CoV-2, were modified to express the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein. The scientists observed that the gum largely prevented the viruses or viral particles from entering cells, either by blocking the ACE2 receptor on the cells or by binding directly to the spike protein. Finally, the team exposed saliva samples from COVID-19 patients to the ACE2 gum and found that levels of viral RNA fell so dramatically to be almost undetectable. The research team is currently working toward obtaining permission to conduct a clinical trial to evaluate whether the approach is safe and effective when tested in people infected with SARS-CoV-2.

"Henry's approach of making the proteins in plants and using them orally is inexpensive, hopefully scalable; it really is clever," Collman said.

Clinical trials

Though the research is still in the early stages of development, if the clinical trials prove that the gum is safe and effective, it could be given to patients whose infection status is unknown or even for dental check-ups when masks must be removed, to reduce the likelihood of passing the virus to caregivers.

"We are already using masks and other physical barriers to reduce the chance of transmission," said Daniell.

"This gum could be used as an additional tool in that fight," he concluded.

SOURCE: ANI

■■■

Nasal vaccine might help fight new COVID-19 variants: Study

If the nasal vaccines prove to be safe and efficient in humans, Iwasaki envisions them being used in conjunction with current vaccines and boosters that work system-wide in order to add immune system reinforcements at the source of infection. **PHOTO: JKMEDIA/ANI**

IN a new study by Yale's Akiko Iwasaki, the Waldemar Von Zedtwitz Professor of Immunobiology, it was found that intranasal vaccination provided broad-based protection against heterologous respiratory viruses in mice.

The research has been published in the 'Science Immunology Journal'.

"The best immune defence happens at the gate, guarding against viruses trying to enter," said Iwasaki, senior author of the study.

Mucous membranes contain their own immune defence system that combat air- or food-borne pathogens. When challenged, these barrier tissues produce B cells which in turn secrete immunoglobin A (IgA) antibodies. Unlike vaccines which elicit a system-wide immune response, IgA antibodies work locally on mucosal surfaces found in the nose, stomach, and lungs. While the protective role of IgA-producing cells had been well established in combating intestinal pathogens, Iwasaki's lab wondered if triggering IgA response might also produce a localized immune response against respiratory viruses.

Protein-based vaccine

Working with researchers at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York, they tested a protein-based vaccine designed to jump-start an IgA immune response, administering it to mice through injections, as is commonly done with systemic immunizations, and also intranasally. They then exposed mice to multiple strains of influenza viruses. They found that mice that had received vaccine intranasally were much better protected against respiratory influenza than those that received injections. Nasal vaccines, but not the shot, also induced antibodies that protected the animals against a variety of flu strains, not just against the strain the vaccine was meant to protect against.

The Yale team is currently testing nasal vaccine strains against COVID strains in animal models.

"While both vaccine injections and nasal vaccines increased levels of antibodies in the blood of mice, only the nasal vaccine enabled IgA secretion into the lungs, where respiratory viruses need to lodge to infect the host," Iwasaki said. If the nasal vaccines prove to be safe and efficient in humans, Iwasaki envisions them being used in conjunction with current vaccines and boosters that work system-wide in order to add immune system reinforcements at the source of infection. Other co-first-authors of the study are Ji Eun Oh, Eric Song, and Miyu Moriyama, all from Yale.

SOURCE: ANI

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Heads of Service Organizations transferred and confirmed

1. The State Administration Council has transferred and appointed Dr Win Tun, Director-General of the Department of Education Research, Planning and Training of the Ministry of Education, as Director-General of the Department of Higher Education from the date he assumes charge of his duties.
2. The State Administration Council has confirmed the appointment of the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations against shown each of their names after the one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Ye Kyaw Mya	Director-General ASEAN Affairs Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(b) U Wunna Han	Director-General Protocol Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 13 December 2021)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 14 December 2021: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Mandalay, Magway, Taninthayi Regions and (Southern and Eastern) Shan, Chin, Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is (60%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Sagaing Region and Kachin, Northern Shan States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Strong easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in strong easterly winds may reach (30-35) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (7-9) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (5-7) feet in off and along Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, Shan, Chin States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 14 December 2021: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 14 December 2021: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 14 December 2021: Partly Cloudy.

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PDF terrorists arrested within 24 hours after killing innocent civilians including one nurse in Mandalay Region

THE terrorist groups CRPH and NUG supporting NLD organized PDFs to commit murders and bomb/arson attacks on government buildings, public hospitals, schools, houses, villages, markets, government banks, private banks and departmental buildings.

On 12 December, the PDF terrorist groups shot a nurse and her husband on 62nd street, between 104th and 105th streets of Chanmyathazi Township, one ward administrator and one civilian on 113th street, between 56(A)th and 56 (B)th streets in Pyigyitagun Township and lay attendant of the monastery at 56th street, 106th and 107th streets of Aungpinle Ward of Chanmyathazi Township.

Confiscated weapons, explosives, ammunition and related items.

The security forces investigated to arrest the terrorist groups as quickly as possible. On 12 December evening, the police arrested one suspect who participated in the terrorist attack on 55th and 114th streets in Chanmyathazi Township and found conversation regarding plans to kill the informers and to conduct terrorist attack via social network to kill the informers in his phone.

According to the confession of the suspect, the police received information that the PDF members arrived at a two-story house built of corrugated iron sheet/bamboo matting on 42nd street between 61st and 62nd streets in Than Hlat Mhaw west Ward of Maha Aungmye Township. They raided the house and the terrorists attacked them and one security member got a gunshot wound.

Then, the security forces arrested seven terrorists dead and seized two pistols, five magazines, 19 homemade mines, 10 grenades, 67 9mm bullets, four high explosive mines, three detonators, three remote controls and other related materials.

According to the words of detainees, the police raided another two-storey house on 117th street, between 51st and 52nd streets in Pyigyitagun Township at about 11 pm and one PDF member attacked with a homemade bomb and run away. Then, the suspect was arrested dead.

Action will be taken against the arrested PDF terrorists as per the procedures. The security forces conduct security measures to ensure the safety of innocent civilians and people are urged to cooperate with the officials. — MNA

Confession made by PDF terrorist Aung Naing Myint who killed innocent civilians including one nurse in Mandalay

I am Aung Naing Myint from Mandalay PDF. I live in Chanmyathazi Township. My main responsibility was to get rid of "Dalan (informer)" under the instruction of the group leaders of Mandalay PDF. In doing so, we mainly killed the main members of administration offices and those who provided security to civil servants. In order to do this, we had to divide into groups in the area and do whatever we can.

Today, we assassinated Daw Chan Mya Nyein, the nurse, and her husband. Ko Temi, Ye Ye, Parkyal cooperated to kill them. It is said that Ko Zaw Sai Win, a philanthropist who accompanied the monks during the alms-giving, were killed by Ko Phyo Wai Aung and Ko Naing Min Htwe in Aungpinle. In Pyigyitagun, we were waiting for Administrator U Soe Han while he was eating Shan noodles since the morning. Ko Thet Paing Thu and Ko Thein Than Aung came and killed him. I was arrested while security forces were conducting a search operation in the junctions in Mandalay due to the firing in the city. After my arrest, my phone was searched by security personnel and they uncovered plans to assassinate "Dalan", security personnel, members of the War Veterans Organization. During the interrogation, as I was asked to show the places of the members of our PDF group, I accompanied the security forces to our victory site. When we arrived at 42nd street between 61st street and 62nd street, we were fired by firearms and grenades from the inside of the house. A member of the security forces was seriously injured and eight members of PDF died when security forces returned fire. In fact, we feel the same as the family members of those who had been killed by our group. The lessons we have learned from our lives are to tell PDFs that the protection of the law is the safest thing for the people. — MNA

Arrestee Aung Naing Myint.

MoC assists daily import process of anti-COVID product

THE Ministry of Commerce is overseeing the import of essential medical supplies plus anti-COVID devices that are critical to the COVID-19 prevention, control and treatment activities, including liquid oxygen and oxygen cylinders, through trading posts, international airports and seaports.

Anti-COVID-19 equipment was imported by five companies using 12 vehicles. A total of 20 tonnes of liquid oxygen carried by one bowser, 238 empty oxygen cylinders, ten tonnes of gloves and 60 tonnes of masks were imported via Myawady and Chinshwehaw trade camps, and international seaports yesterday.

One oxygen bowser was transported to Yangon via Myawady trading post, officials said.

Officials from the relevant departments are cooperating to facilitate and expedite the standard operating procedures, including online registration for the import process.

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

GDF terrorists arrested with weapons/ammunition in Monywa

Nine are arrested for making handmade firearms and ammunition.

ACCORDING to the report on the arrival of so-called GDF terrorists at Chan Thar Gyi Monastery in MyoOo ward, Ahlon, in Monywa, on 12 December, a combined team inspected the monastery and arrested a total of 9 men with weapons and ammunition.

U Awbatha (a) Aung Zaw Tun, Thein Soe Min (a) Ko Soe, Myo Thu, Aung Chit, Kyaw Zin, Thurain Soe, Saw Min Htike, Ye Htet (a) Ye Htut Zaw, and Khaing Zaw Oo were arrested with 1 homemade gun, five homemade air guns, one homemade short gun, seven homemade guns under construction, 96 homemade empty bullets, seven homemade bombs, three rounds of 7.62 ammunition, 20 rounds of .22, and explosive materials at the monastery.

According to the statement of the detainees, Saw Min Htike, Kyaw Zin, Aung Gyi (on the run), Padauk (on the run), Zaw Lay (on the run), Nga Oo (on the run) and Gyo Maung (on the run) attended a terrorist training conducted in Latpansu village in Kani.

According to U Awbatha (a) Aung Zaw Tun, Mutt Tee (on the run) asked for permission to let some PDF terrorists stay in the monastery in the third week of November, and with the connection of Pho Thar Gyi (a) Naing Min Htet (on the run) and Mutt Tee (on the run), a total of 11 men including Thein Soe Min (a) Ko Soe came and stayed at the monastery to make homemade guns.

Suspect Thein Soe Min (a) Ko Soe revealed that he made 15 homemade guns together with Myo Thu, Aung Chit, Kyaw Zin, Thurein Soe, Saw Min Htike, Ye Htet (a) Ye Htut Zaw, Mutt Tee, Zaw Win (on the run), Aung Khant Kyaw (on the run), Ye Yint Aung (on the run), Bott Tee (on the run) on the request of Pho Thar Gyi (a) Naing Min Htet (on the run), at Chanthargyi monastery in November and delivered them to Butlin PDF terrorists.

Suspect Kyaw Zin stated that he made 12 homemade guns at Taungtalone mountain in Thazi village in Monywa together with defendant Thein Soe Min (a) Ko Soe and Fattie, Katone, Phyo Ko, Doctor, Tun Tun and Khant Khant, who are still left to be arrested, under the instruction of Fattie in the first week of August. He also made another 12 homemade guns together with defendant Saw Min Htike and Zaw Lay, Wai Moe Si, Maung Kyaung, Piya, Aung Gyi and Padauk and delivered the guns to Butalin PDF.

According to the statement of Thein Soe Min (a) Ko Soe, the confiscated ammunition was handed over to U Awbatha (a) Aung Zaw Tun as he was instructed by Phothargyi (a) Naing Min Htet (on the run) on 9 December.

As the NUG, a terrorist group for the destruction of the country has made and hid weapons in religious buildings and premises by using fake monks and the religious beliefs of the people, people are urged to work together with authorities by secretly reporting religious hypocrites and terrorists to the nearest security forces in order to take effective action against them under the law. — MNA

Prices list of medicines commonly used against COVID-19 till 13-12-2021

No	Product Name	Pack Size	Price in Kyats (Retail)	Company Name
Anti thrombosis				
1	Injection Enoxaprim 60 mg	1 Pre-Filled Syringe	9,000	Nyi Lay Naing
Symptomatic				
2	P.O Paracetamol 500 mg	10X10's tablets/ Box	1,500	AA Medical
3.	P.O Dextromethophan	10X10's	1,450	AA Medical
4	P.O Bromhexine	10X10's tablets/ Box	1,000	Medi Myanmar
5	P.O Cetrizine	10X10's / Box	2,200	AA Medical
Supportive				
6	P.O Multivitamin with/ without zinc	3X10's / Box	5,600	OLIVE
7	P.O Vitamin C	10X10's / Box	700	Pai Brother
8	P.O - Pantocid	10X10's / Box	7,000	PL
9	P.O Omeprazole	10X10's / Box	1,650	Shwe Htay Min
10	Injection Pantocid	1g/Vial	1,500	Aorta

PLEASE visit the Website (www.mccpmd.org) and Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/ 32330252139 2189/posts/ 1720802588308835/ ?d=n to know the prices of other medicines.

Europe's big meat and dairy firms accused of climate 'greenwash'

GREENHOUSE gas emissions from Europe's biggest meat and dairy firms continue to increase, according to a new report Monday, which found many firms are polluting "with impunity".

The non-profit Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) said many major companies had no climate plans or targets and even among those that do it raised concerns about "greenwashing", calling on governments to step up regulation.

The study looked at 35 of the largest beef, pork, poultry and dairy companies headquartered in the EU, UK and Switzerland, examining their possible climate plans and emissions from their supply chains, in particular livestock, a major emitter of greenhouse gases.

According to the analysis, these companies were responsible for seven per cent of EU emissions in 2018, while the emissions of the top 20 exceed those of the Netherlands.

"The climate footprint of Europe's big meat and dairy companies rival the fossil fuel giants yet they continue to operate with impunity," said IATP European Director Shefali Sharma.

"The handful of companies that have climate plans rely on accounting tricks, greenwash, and dubious offsets to distract from the fundamental changes needed to cut emissions, while off-loading many of the costs and risks onto farmers in their supply chains."

Seven out of the 10 companies that the report tracked over time saw their climate footprint grow between 2016 and 2018.

The emissions of Irish beef producer ABP surged 45 per cent and Germany's Tonnies, which supplies Aldi, 30 per cent.

In dairy, French firms Danone and Lactalis saw their emissions climb 15 per cent and 30 per cent respectively from 2015 to 2017, according to the research.

Of the 20 companies analyzed, only four report emissions from their entire supply chain, IATP said, even though livestock production accounts for the lion's share of emissions.

And only three — Nestle, FrieslandCampina and ABP — commit to an overall reduction in livestock emissions.— AFP ■

Saudi projects budget surplus after years of deficits

The skyline of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 28 March 2014, is seen at night in this aerial photograph from a helicopter. **PHOTO: SAUL LOEB / SAUL LOEB / AFP**

SAUDI Arabia approved its 2022 budget on Sunday, projecting a surplus for the first time since oil prices collapsed in 2014.

King Salman said the improved fiscal situation for the world's biggest oil exporter comes "after the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has overcome the economic repercussions and the exceptional stages of the coronavirus pandemic".

Cited by the Saudi Press Agency, he said total expenditures were budgeted at 955 billion Saudi riyals ($255 billion) and revenues estimated at 1.045 trillion riyals, giving a surplus of 90 billion riyals.

Riyadh's projections come with higher global crude prices, despite worries about the Omicron coronavirus variant which is spreading worldwide.

Crude prices finished higher on Friday to post their best week since August.

Brent North Sea crude for February delivery rose to $75.15. In New York, West Texas Intermediate crude for January delivery increased to $71.67 a barrel.

Economic experts have said Saudi Arabia needs a crude price of about $80 a barrel to balance its budget.

At a press conference, Finance Minister Mohammed al-Jadaan did not answer AFP's question about the price per barrel on which the budget projections were based.

The kingdom produced about 9.8 million barrels per day in October, according to the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries. — AFP ■

S Korea's export logs double-digit growth in 1st 10 days of December

Visitors look at cars during a press preview of the Seoul Mobility Show at KINTEX exhibition hall in Goyang on 25 November 2021. **PHOTO: JUNG YEON-JE / AFP**

SOUTH Korea's export logged double-digit growth in the first 10 days of December on the back of the continued global demand recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, customs office data showed on Monday.

Export amounted to 19.5 billion US dollars in the December 1-10 period, up 20.4 per cent from the same period of last year, according to Korea Customs Service.

Semiconductor export jumped 26.5 per cent, and oil products shipment almost doubled amid a higher global price for crude oil.

Automotive export declined 6.2 per cent in the 10-day period, but shipment for precision machinery and computer gained ground.

Export to China, South Korea's biggest trading partner, advanced 24.9 per cent, while those to the United States and the European Union (EU) went up 18.3 per cent and 24.2 per cent each. — Xinhua ■

Kanji meaning "gold" picked to symbolize 2021 amid Olympic year

THE kanji for "kin," meaning gold, was picked as the single most representative Chinese character corresponding to the social mood in Japan this year, a Kyoto-based organization said Monday.

The selection came after Japan had its best-ever haul of 27 gold medals at the Tokyo Olympics in the summer. It is the fourth time "kin" has been chosen as the year's kanji after 2000, 2012 and 2016, all of which were also Olympic years.

The pick of the word for the 27th annual poll run by the Japan Kanji Aptitude Testing Foundation was based on votes cast by the general public. In Kyoto, chief Buddhist priest Seihan Mori of Kiyomizu temple handwrote the character with a giant calligraphy brush on "washi," or Japanese paper, 1.5 metres high and 1.3 metres wide, at the renowned structure where this year's kanji announcement was made. — Kyodo ■

Seihan Mori, chief Buddhist priest of Kiyomizu temple, writes the kanji character "kin" meaning gold on 13 December 2021, at the temple in Kyoto after it was picked as the single most representative Chinese character corresponding to the social mood of the Olympic year in Japan. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Asia stocks slightly up after Wall St rally

ASIA stocks rose marginally Monday following a record-smashing lead from Wall Street.

In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng Index was up 0.11 per cent in afternoon trade, while Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei 225 index closed up by 0.71 per cent.

Friday's gains on Wall Street, where the broad-based S&P 500 piled on more than 0.9 per cent to finish at 4,712.02, eclipsed a record from last month -- and came despite the consumer price index jumping 6.8 per cent in November.

Such a rise in inflation would suggest a sooner-rather-than-later tapering in the US Federal Reserve's ultra-loose monetary policy, a change markets have been nervously awaiting for months.

Fed chair Jerome Powell had already signalled plans to accelerate the tapering of stimulus payments. Many analysts expect the central bank to hike interest rates at least twice in 2022.

Powell will update the markets this week following a two-day policy meeting.

But traders took the data in stride, in part because inflation was largely expected.

In Asia, Singapore, Manila and Jakarta were marginally up, with Wellington rising more than one per cent. Shanghai also jumped, while Seoul and Taipei dipped.

Chinese artificial intelligence start-up SenseTime said it was postponing a planned $767 million initial public offering in Hong Kong after it was blacklisted by the US over human rights concerns in Xinjiang. It filed a statement with the Hong Kong stock exchange saying it would postpone its listing "to safeguard the interests of the potential investors" as they weigh the impact of being placed on the blacklist.

In Tokyo, "the market is looking at the Bank of Japan's Tankan" quarterly business survey, released 10 minutes before the opening bell, senior market analyst Toshiyuki Kanayama of Monex said.

The latest survey showed Japan's major manufacturers remain cautious about the economy's trajectory, with business sentiment flat for the quarter as concerns about the pandemic linger.— AFP ■

A view of the headquarters of SenseTime, a Hong Kong-based artificial intelligence company with offices in China, Singapore, Japan, Abu Dhabi and the United States is seen in Hong Kong on 13 December 2021. **PHOTO: PETER PARKS / AFP**

Japan big nonmanufacturers' sentiment recovers to pre-pandemic levels

BUSINESS confidence among major Japanese nonmanufacturers improved to pre-pandemic levels in December, enhanced by the lifting of a COVID-19 state of emergency, but the improvement for manufacturers paused with parts shortages causing pain for automakers, the Bank of Japan said Monday.

In the quarterly "Tankan" survey, the key confidence index for nonmanufacturers, including the services sector, rose to 9 from 2 in the previous September survey, marking the sixth straight quarter of improvement and the highest reading since December 2019. The recovery in the services sector still lags behind big manufacturers, whose confidence was flat at 18 after five quarters of gain, the survey showed.

The average market forecasts were 7 for the nonmanufacturing sector and 18 for manufacturers in a Kyodo News survey.

The Tankan index represents the per centage of companies reporting favourable conditions minus the per centage reporting unfavourable ones. With the virus emergency lifted Japan-wide since 1 October, economic activity has been picking up, giving some relief to service providers such as dining establishments, bars and hotels which had seen a sharp drop in customers and sales.— Kyodo ■

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No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Reg. Type	Reg. No.
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The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

Central Committee for Holding Myanma Gems Emporium
The Information on 2021 Mini Gems Emporium

1. The significant **2021 Mini Gems Emporium**, under the supervision of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, will be held on December 17 to 22, 2021 at Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw, Genuine Myanma pearl and rough jade lots will be sold at the Emporium.
2. In accordance with the Myanma Gemstone Law local gems entrepreneurs who got permit to make gems mining and local gems merchants who got licence to operate the finished gemstone making and dealings will be allowed to attend and purchase the lots at 2021 Mini Gems Emporium according to the terms and conditions.
3. For further information in detail about granted admission to purchase lots at 2021 Mini Gems Emporium, can inquire and keep contact with Emporium Central Committee, Myanma Gems Enterprise (Head Office), Myanma Pearl Enterprise (Head Office) in Nay Pyi Taw.

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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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SINAR POMALAA VOY.NO. (073N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR POMALAA VOY.NO. (073N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-12-2021** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

G7 issues strong warnings on Iran and Russia

THE G7 on Sunday said time was running out for Iran to agree a deal to curb its nuclear ambitions, and warned Russia of "massive" consequences if it invades Ukraine.

Foreign ministers from the world's richest nations held a two-day meeting in Liverpool, northwest England, seeking to present a strong, united front against global threats.

On Iran, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, from G7 host Britain, said resumed talks in Vienna were the Islamic Republic's "last chance to come to the negotiating table with a serious resolution".

"There is still time for Iran to come and agree this deal," she told a news conference.

Britain's Foreign Secretary Liz Truss speaks at a press conference on the final day of the G7 foreign ministers summit in Liverpool, north-west England on 12 December 2021. **PHOTO: AFP**

The final communique from the talks said Iran "must stop its nuclear escalation and seize the opportunity to conclude a deal, while this is still possible".

Negotiations restarted on Thursday to try to revive the 2015 deal between Iran and world powers, which the United States withdrew from under Donald Trump in 2018. Iran claims it only wants to develop a civilian capability but Western powers say its stockpile of enriched uranium goes well beyond that, and could be used to develop a nuclear weapon.

US President Joe Biden has said he is ready to return to the agreement and Iranian officials maintain they are serious about committing to the talks.

But Tehran has been accused of backsliding on progress made earlier this year and playing for time.

Truss's comments are the first time a signatory to the original deal has given an ultimatum for the talks.

Russian troop build-up

Britain, which hands over the G7 presidency to Germany next year, portrayed the two-day conference in Liverpool, northwest England, as a chance to stand up to authoritarianism around the world. As well as Iran, Russia's build-up of troops on the border with Ukraine dominated talks, given fears of a possible invasion of the former Soviet state.

Truss said there was "very much a united voice... that there will be massive consequences for Russia in the case of an incursion into Ukraine". In the final communique, ministers unanimously backed Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty, praising President Volodymyr Zelensky for Kiev's "posture of restraint". — AFP ■

Sudan denies Ethiopian accusations of supporting rebel forces

SUDAN has denied Ethiopian accusations of supporting the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) which is fighting the Ethiopian army.

"Sudan controls all of its internationally recognized territories and borders with neighbouring Ethiopia, and has never, and will never, allow its use for any aggressions," said Sudan's foreign ministry in a statement on Sunday.

The ministry made the statement in response to news reports from an Ethiopian news outlet, in which it accused Sudan of supporting the TPLF.

"The ministry would like to affirm Sudan's full commitment to the principles of good neighbourliness and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries," the statement said. — Xinhua ■

Pregnant nurse among 7 dead in Sicily building collapse

RESCUERS on Monday worked to free the body of a pregnant nurse from the rubble of collapsed buildings in Sicily, after a massive explosion which killed at least seven people.

The blast, likely caused by a gas leak, tore through four residential buildings late Saturday in the southern town of Ravanusa, with one survivor describing it "as if a bomb had gone off".

The search "continues unabated" for two more people missing after the disaster, firefighters said.

A photograph on the firefighters' Twitter account showed them standing amid the rubble, as "a fresh day of searching painfully begins". The blast levelled four structures, including a four-storey apartment building, in the central residential district of the town of nearly 11,000 inhabitants, according to Italy's civil protection agency. Images from the scene showed a mass of concrete rubble, wooden beams and mangled steel in a large empty space, with neighbouring buildings charred and damaged.— AFP ■

This handout picture taken and released by Italian Firefighters (Vigili del Fuoco) on 12 December 2021 shows firefighters working after a four-storey apartment building collapsed, following a gas explosion, in Ravanusa on 12 December 2021. **PHOTO: VIGILI DEL FUOCO / AFP**

After deadly tornadoes, stricken Kentucky town organizes to help their own

Tornado damage is seen after extreme weather hit the region 12 December 2021, in Mayfield, Kentucky. **PHOTO: BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI / AFP**

IN Mayfield, a US town razed by the weekend's tornadoes, locals say they are driven by their Christian faith to clear the rubble, collect supplies and turn their churches into shelters for those left homeless by one of the most devastating storm outbreaks in American history.

The small town in southern Kentucky is part of the "Bible Belt," a swathe of the southern United States where life centres on the church.

On Sunday, residents mentioned their faith as a driving force to move forward and help each other pick up the pieces.

Vanessa Cooper, 40, was trying to salvage what she could from her mother's apartment, of which only two walls remained.

Nearby, three friends cleared away twisted debris while Cooper rummaged through damaged furniture.

"Some people from my church came to help ... It means a lot to me," she said, adding that she couldn't have done it alone.

"I don't know what the future brings, but God brought me through a lot in life."

Solidarity comes naturally in small communities, Cooper said, as a neighbor asked if she needed anything. Mayfield, a town of 10,000, "has always been close," said Cooper, who works at the local technical high school. "We show a lot of love to each other." — AFP ■

South Korea says no boycott of Beijing Olympics

SOUTH Korea's president on Monday ruled out joining a US diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, citing the need to work with China.

Visiting Canberra, Moon Jae-in said he was "not considering" snubbing the Olympics to protest China's human rights abuses as several Western nations have done.

"We have not received a request from any other country including the United States to participate in the diplomatic boycott," he said.

China has warned the United States, Australia, Britain and Canada that they will "pay the price" for protesting the Games.

The boycott was prompted by China's abuses against the Uyghur minority in Xinjiang and its smothering of democracy in Hong Kong.

Moon stressed that South Korea wanted to promote a free and open Pacific region, but also had to consider China's role in trying to bring peace to the Korean Peninsula.

"We need the constructive efforts of China to enable denuclearisation of DPRK (North Korea)" he said, adding that Seoul wanted a harmonious relationship with Beijing.

Moon is currently on a three-day state visit to Australia, where the two countries signed a series of technology and military cooperation agreements. — AFP ■

South Korea's President Moon Jae-in (R) greets members of the public after laying a wreath at the Australian National Korean War Memorial in Canberra on 13 December 2021, on the second day of his three-day official visit to Australia. **PHOTO: LUKAS COCH / POOL / AFP**

Philippine presidential candidate Domagoso eyes naval buildup

Philippine presidential candidate and Manila Mayor Francisco Domagoso, popularly known as "Isko Moreno," speaks in an interview with Kyodo News in Manila on 10 December 2021. **PHOTO: KYODO**

PHILIPPINE presidential candidate and Manila Mayor Francisco Domagoso has said he wants to beef up the country's naval forces amid China's expansive maritime claims in the South China Sea.

The nominee of the May 2022 presidential election, popularly known as Isko Moreno, stressed a "fearless" assertion of the nation's sovereignty in an interview with Kyodo News on Friday last week, saying, "I will buy more ships and resources and reinforce our navy and coast guard" on the western seaboard facing the disputed waters.

Vowing not to allow any form of bullying by foreign countries, Domagoso," said, "We have to show...the world that we are fighting for it" in a very civilized but firm manner.

Domagoso said he would call for other parties to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea to support the Philippines in asserting a 2016 ruling of the Permanent Court of Arbitration that invalidated China's historical claim over much of the South China Sea.

Apparently departing from foreign policies of President Rodrigo Duterte who has been criticized for being defeatist toward China on the dispute, Domagoso also said he would fully cooperate with the International Criminal Court should it proceed with its investigation of Duterte's war on drugs that reportedly led to wide-scale abuses and killings believed to number in the thousands.

Regarding trade policies, the 47-year-old mayor, who is the third most preferred candidate in the presidential election according to a September Pulse Asia survey, said he is willing to enter into "new sets of relationships" with Japan, China, Indonesia and Thailand, in a bid to create more domestic jobs and revive the COVID-19-weary Philippine economy.— Kyodo ■

Kishida seeks improvement of SDF rescue operation after Afghan case

PRIME Minister Fumio Kishida said Monday he seeks to improve the rescue operation of the Self-Defence Forces after they were only able to evacuate one Japanese national from Afghanistan in August due to legal restrictions following the Taliban's return to power. "I have instructed a review on whether we can further improve" SDF operations by removing legal restrictions, Kishida said at parliament in response to questions by LDP policy chief Sanae Takaichi.

SDF personnel were dispatched to the region to evacuate around 500 people wishing to leave Afghanistan, including locals who worked for Japanese agencies. However, the troops only evacuated one Japanese as well as 14 Afghans at the request of the United States by the end of their mission on 31 August. Current law limits the SDF to carrying out evacuations from a "safe place." "I understand it is important to make preparations in nonemergency situations so that we can fully respond in evacuating Japanese nationals when they face a crisis overseas," Kishida added. — Kyodo ■

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida speaks in the parliament in Tokyo on 13 December 2021. **PHOTO: KYODO**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Miss India wins Miss Universe held in Israel despite boycott calls

MISS India Harnaaz Sandhu was crowned Miss Universe in the Israeli city of Eilat early Monday, with several contestants defying pressure to boycott in support of the Palestinians.

The 70th edition of the annual pageant, held in Israel for the first time, has also faced complications from the coronavirus pandemic.

Sandhu took the top prize in the Red Sea resort with Paraguay's Nadia Ferreira first runner-up and Miss South Africa Lalela Mswane taking the second runner-up spot.

South Africa's Ministry of Sports, Culture and Arts had urged its contestant to stay away from Eilat, citing "atrocities committed by Israel against Palestinians." The call echoed Palestinian groups who pleaded with contestants to avoid the event. — AFP ■

Two missing after ships collide south of Sweden: maritime authority

TWO people were missing on Monday after two cargo ships collided in waters south of Sweden in the early morning hours, the Swedish Maritime Administration said.

The ships collided in the Baltic Sea between the Swedish city of Ystad and the Danish island of Bornholm, the head of press at the Swedish Maritime Administration, told AFP.

"Shortly after half past 3 am (0230 GMT), we received an alert through our sea and flight rescue central that two freight vessels have collided," Carl-Johan Linde said.

"One of the ships has capsized and is upside down," Linde said, adding that two people from that vessel had ended up in the water as a result of the collision.

Nine boats as well as a rescue helicopter were searching for the missing sailors in the cold water, Linde said.

The ships were sailing under British and Danish flags.— AFP ■

Semifinalists to be appeared on 4th match of Suzuki Cup

SEMIFINALISTS will appear in the fourth group matches of the Suzuki Cup 2020, which will be held on 14 and 15 December at Singapore Indoor Stadium in Singapore.

Myanmar team will not participate on the fourth day of the tourney, but the matches will tell some semifinalists for the Suzuki Cup, football experts predicted.

The Philippines will play against the Thai team at 4 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 14 December while Singapore will take on Timor-Leste at 7 pm Myanmar Standard Time.

On 15 December, Cambodia will face Laos at 4 pm Myanmar Standard Time and Viet Nam will play Indonesia at 7 pm.

In Group A, Singapore and Thai teams are nearly advanced to the next stage of the tourney after bagging full six points while the Philippines has a few hopes with three points collected after two matches played and Myanmar has no hope for the semifinal.

In Group B, Indonesia and Viet Nam have six points each from two matches. Malaysia has six points from three games, while Cambodia and Laos have no point yet. — Ko Nyi Lay/ GNLM

Real Madrid move 13 points clear of Atletico after derby stroll

Real Madrid's Serbian forward Luka Jovic (C) vies with Atletico Madrid's Brazilian defender Felipe (R) during the Spanish league football match between Real Madrid CF and Club Atletico de Madrid at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 12 December 2021. **PHOTO : OSCAR DEL POZO / AFP**

REAL Madrid strengthened their already-commanding position in the title race on Sunday by defeating Atletico Madrid 2-0 to move 13 points clear of the defending champions in La Liga.

Atletico have a game in hand over their rivals but the advantage is considerable and perhaps even insurmountable, even in December.

Barcelona are now 18 points adrift and arguably an irrelevance at the top after they were earlier held to a 2-2 draw away at Osasuna.

Sevilla, who last won the Spanish title in 1946, are the closest challengers, eight points back, and having played a game fewer.

"We are favourites today, of course, you can say that," said Carlo Ancelotti. "But if you relax it can cost you dearly. We have to keep going, to get closer to winning it as soon as possible."

Madrid, though, were ominously superior in a derby that had its occasional bad-tempered moments but was largely neutralised by the home side's dominance at the Santiago Bernabeu.

"The title race is still alive," insisted Diego Simeone. "There are a load of matches left. Madrid have a lot of points, it's true, but La Liga is complicated."

Karim Benzema was passed fit enough to start and then, worryingly for Madrid went off again at half-time, but not before volleying them into the lead. Marco Asensio doubled the advantage in the second half.

There was never any sign of an Atletico comeback, with the home fans confident enough to cheer their team's every pass in the 70th minute while some of Madrid's defending late on was done at walking pace.

The 21-year-old Vinicius Junior was instrumental again, providing the assists for both goals, but it was the 36-year-old Luka Modric who ran the game, with the Croatian at his majestic, mesmerising best. At one point in the second half the home crowd gave Modric a spontaneous standing ovation and he was so comfortable he even had time to applaud them back.

"It was an incredible performance, nothing else to say, it was spectacular," said Ancelotti. "With the ball, without the ball, the consistency, the personality. It was extraordinary."

Atletico's attacking talents all failed to fire. Luis Suarez started on the bench and came on when Madrid's ascendancy was established. Joao Felix and Thomas Lemar replaced Antoine Griezmann and Yannick Carrasco at half-time but Simeone's attempts to shake life into his team came to nothing. — 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.

PSG to face Real Madrid in Champions League last 16 after draw farce

PARIS Saint-Germain will play Real Madrid while Liverpool take on Inter Milan in two of the standout ties in the last 16 of the Champions League after an embarrassed UEFA was forced to redo Monday's draw following a "technical problem".

PSG had initially been paired together with Manchester United but the reworked draw sees them play Real while the Old Trafford side will face Spanish champions Atletico Madrid. UEFA had earlier blamed a "material error" due to a "technical problem with the software of an external service provider" as it announced that the draw for the first knockout round of its flagship competition would have to be redone.

With the draw being streamed live from UEFA's headquarters in Nyon, Switzerland, the problem was made evident when Manchester United's name was drawn to face Villarreal, despite the fact the two clubs could not have played one another having been in the same group. — AFP ■

This handout picture released by the UEFA shows the final result of the Champions League round of 16 draw at the UEFA headquarters in Nyon, on 13 December 2021. The first legs are scheduled for 15/16/22/23 February, with the second legs on 8/9/15/16 March. **PHOTO : RICHARD JUILLIART / AFP / UEFA**