

NATIONAL

MoHA Union Minister inspects Loikaw Prison, meets township Police Force, family members

PAGE-5

NATIONAL

Coordination meeting for Diamond Jubilee Union Day celebration held

PAGE-7

# 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.

## SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses families of officers, other ranks from Loikaw and Pekhon stations



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets family members of officers and other ranks at the Pekhon Station in Kayah State on 3 February 2022.

**V**ICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Kayah State Chief Minister

U Zaw Myo Tin, Commander of the Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ni Lin Aung, and officials, met with the families of officers and soldiers from the Loikaw and Pekhon stations yesterday.

At first, the Vice-Senior

General said in his address that it was one year since the Tatmadaw held office under the Constitution (2008) and difficulties and crises were successfully overcome with dutiful staff. He said the State Administration

Council will proceed as per the provisions of the State of Emergency. According to Section 417 of the 2008 Constitution, an election must be held after the set timeline, and preparations are underway to hold a free and fair

multiparty democracy general election, he added.

However, the peace process is being prioritized as the country needs to be stable and free of violence, he continued.

**SEE PAGE-3**

### INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

Union Auditor-General addresses at the Opening of the Capacity Building Upgrading Training No (1/2022) for Staff, Knowledge Sharing Seminar

PAGE-6

NATIONAL

Ethnic culture delegates arrive at Nay Pyi Taw for Diamond Jubilee Union Day celebration

PAGE-7

LOCAL BUSINESS

Wooden utensils trending in online marketplace

PAGE-10



NATIONAL

Maung Yay Khe/Ma Shwe Phe poem to highlight ASEAN Tourism sector

PAGE-11

# National Objectives of Diamond Jubilee Union Day 2022

- (1) All ethnic nationals to safeguard non-disintegration of the Union, national unity and sovereignty forever
- (2) To perpetually ensure strengthening dynamic Union Spirit which is a genuine patriotic spirit
- (3) To further strive for the perpetual existence of the country through strong and united strength of all ethnic national brethren
- (4) To build the Union based on democracy and federalism in the realization of genuine, disciplined multiparty democracy
- (5) To equalize development of all regions and states while making efforts for the enhancement of health, education and job opportunities of the ethnic nationals

## Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Order No 11/2022

3<sup>rd</sup> Waxing of Tabodwe 1383 ME  
3 February 2022

### Appointment and Duty-Assignment of Member of Union Election Commission

THE State Administration Council has appointed and assigned U Tin Maung Swe to the duties of a Member of the Union Election Commission under Section 419 of the State Constitution.

By order,

Aung Lin Dwe  
Lieutenant -General  
Secretary  
State Administration Council

#### Motto of 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Union Day 2022

**\* United strength across Myanmar focuses on Union affairs forever**

**368 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 3 February, total figure rises to 536,904**

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **536,904** after **368** new cases were reported on 3 February 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **513,662** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll still stands at **19,310** without casualties for eleven consecutive days.—MNA

# Myanmar rejects statements that interfere in internal affairs of the Sovereign State

IT is observed that certain countries and organizations including the UN entities and personnel have issued statements on the matter that marks one year since the State responsibilities have been transferred to the Tatmadaw pursuant to the State Constitution of Myanmar.

It is noted that the provoking press release by the High Commissioner for Human Rights was issued on the same day with the closed-door meeting of the United Nations Security Council on Myanmar on 28 January 2022, at the request of Britain. In the meantime, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar did not fail to make other unethical and inciting remarks.

Myanmar is an independent and sovereign state and thus, it cannot accept dictating comments and criticism by foreign countries which interfere in the internal affairs and domestic jurisdiction of the country. Myanmar's democratization is a process implemented at the will of the people. Since this process was severely disturbed by the massive electoral fraud in the 2020 general elections, the Government has devoted itself to establishing a genuine democratic system. Unwavering efforts of the Government have been continuing to ensure the country is on track to multiparty democracy in accordance with the Five-Point Road Map since 1 February 2021. The State Administration Council and the Government of Myanmar, with the ultimate aim for holding a free and fair election, have been making every effort to maintain peace and stability of the country and public safety. In this regard, the international community should render support to the process.

It should be noted that today's violence is the consequences made by the NLD which rejected a lawful settlement of the electoral fraud but chose confrontation and utter devastation. The unlawful and terrorist CRPH, NUG and PDFs further exhorted many youths to terrorists and murderers. Again, those who have devised the plot and incited the youth are found to be backed by certain countries. From February 2021 to January 2022, 312 civil servants including teachers, health staffs and administration officials and 1,988 innocent civilians including monks were killed by the terrorist groups. Moreover, civilian buildings such as schools and residences have been used by the terrorist groups for military purposes and these are clearly the appalling acts of terrorism that constitute war crime which demands universal condemnation by the international community including the United Nations.

While the Government of Myanmar has taken effective actions against the terrorists, those who have not committed any serious crimes have been granted pardons. A total of over 40,000 persons were freed and court hearings of 4,000 cases were dropped.

The Joint Press Release on the visit of the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Myanmar on 7 January 2022 ensures the extension of a unilateral ceasefire until the end of 2022. In accordance with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), the Government has held regular discussions with the respective parties including Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) and invited all parties concerned to the peace process.

Myanmar has continued implementing the five-point consensus of ASEAN and constructively engaging with Cambodia, the current Chair of ASEAN. Myanmar will continue to stand on the fundamental principles as stipulated in the ASEAN Charter without prejudicing its sovereignty and national interest.

It hardly sees any gain from foreign interventions by the powerful states and organizations. Instead, it ended up prolonging armed conflicts and disunity among the people of the concerned countries with no hope for peace and stability. The earlier precedents have proven it affirmatively.

The Government of Myanmar, in observance of the responsibilities and obligations entrusted by the State Constitution, is committed to serving peace, stability and interest of its people according to the Five-Point Road Map and political, economic and social objectives of the State. Myanmar categorically rejects those distorted press statements based on unverified facts and unreliable information that lead to interference in the internal affairs of the country in contrary to the diplomatic code of conduct and the Charter of the United Nations.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Nay Pyi Taw  
3 February 2022

# All the people should participate in coordination for ensuring peace and stability, the rule of law and development of Kayah State: Vice-Senior General

RELEVANT departments need to overcome possible difficulties in the future through unity, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the meeting with members of Kayah State government and state-level departmental personnel at the hall of Kayah State government yesterday morning.

In his speech, the Vice-Senior General expressed his recognition over the service personnel who are serving the tasks dutifully for their efforts to develop the region amid various difficulties. Although terrorists chanted to occupy Kayah State on 14 January 2022 with committing the terror acts, faithful service personnel and security forces could fight against them successfully through the cooperation of the local people. All the people should participate in coordination for ensuring peace and stability, rule of law and development of Kayah State. Relevant departments need to overcome possible difficulties in the future through unity.

Relevant experts and service personnel are to join hands in regional development whereas security forces are to focus on



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses the meeting with members of Kayah state government and departmental personnel in Kayah State on 3 February 2022.

peace and stability of the region. They all need to cooperate in the stability of the socio-economy of the local people.

The Kayah State Chief Minister reported on businesses in the state, transport facilities, electrification, health and education measures as well as prevention of COVID-19.

The Vice-Senior General

asked for further information about the gathering of agricultural machinery, operation of private industries, supply of electricity, the progress of mineral melting plant, investment, health and education progress, anti-COVID-19 vaccination, transport and communication measures and attended to the needs.

The Vice-Senior General

discussed regional development measures. He said that departmental personnel need to prepare the functioning of suspended works to resume at full capacity when the region restores peace and stability. The Prime Minister of the State adopted the national vision to ensure the prosperity of the nation and ensure food sufficiency. Food sufficiency depends

on the agriculture and livestock farms of rural people. Development, departmental personnel, security forces and local people are to cooperate in implementing peace and stability which is essential for regional development.

After the meeting, the Vice-Senior General cordially greeted the attendees. —MNA

## SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses families of officers, other ranks ...



The Vice-Senior General presents foodstuffs to Tatmadaw family members at Loikaw Station.

**FROM PAGE-1**

He added that terrorist organizations such as NUG, CRPH and PDF, and some media outlets that do not want peace and stability are spreading false information on social media and that the government is broadcasting true news via state-owned media in a timely manner.

As Section 337 of the Constitution states that as the Tatmadaw is the main armed forces for national defence, it is necessary for officers and soldiers, who are working with high confidence to defend the country, to fulfil the goals and responsibilities given to them in the spirit of not lowering the flag, he said. The

Vice-Senior General also said strong unity must be built within the army, and to live and move with military caution and make all efforts to fulfil the regional security responsibilities.

Afterwards, the Vice-Senior General provided food for the Tatmadaw families and cordially met with them. In addition, the Vice-Senior General and party went to Loikaw Tatmadaw Hospital and met Tatmadaw family members and local people receiving medical treatment at the hospital, and presented them with gifts.

Also, Member of the State Administration Council U Saw Daniel and party who accompanied in the trip of the Vice-Senior General met with members of the Pekhon Township Administration Body, departmental officials in Pekhon Township and coordinated their submissions. — MNA



The Vice-Senior General comforts the patients at Loikaw Tatmadaw Hospital.

## To build strength within the country!

1. In the first, our economy will be developed by our internal strength. We have abundant natural resources and human resources. We have weakness in the socio-economic development of the people as we have been relying on external products or import rather than our domestic production.
2. Secondly, we will build our political strength internally. Building a Union and multiparty democratic system based on democracy and federalism will certainly enhance our political strength.
3. Thirdly, the defence capability of the country should be strengthened with the participation of all ethnic national people. With united strength both in weals and woes, we all will build the defence capability of our country with modern military prowess (Army, Navy and Air).

*(Excerpt from the speech made by the State Administration Council Chairman  
Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on one-year State responsibilities  
discharged by the State Administration Council)*

# Upon completion of the State of Emergency, preparations must be made for holding the elections: Vice-Senior General

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win met district and township level personnel of Kayah State and town elders at the state hall in Loikaw yesterday morning.

In his address, the Vice-Senior General said that the Tatmadaw severally requested the Union Election Commission, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the National Defence and Security Council to address more than 10.4 million voting frauds in the 2020 general election but received no response. On 1 February, winning NLD started to form governments with attempts to seize the State power in illegal ways. Hence, the Tatmadaw took the State responsibilities without fail under Sections 417, 418 and 419 of the Constitution (2008) for ensuring honest and transparent Hluttaw and solving the dishonesty. Due to the instigation of those wishing to utilize the politics for their self-interest and some big countries, the majority of local and external people misunderstood that the Tatmadaw conducted the coup d'état.

Some persons still misunderstand the taking of State responsibility by the Tatmadaw. The general election is of



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets district and township-level personnel of Kayah State and town elders in Loikaw yesterday.

importance in democracy and it must be free and fair. The election without honesty will not elect the honest and righteous representative. So, those representatives will not correctly select the Head of State.

Hence, the Tatmadaw took the State powers under Sections 417, 418 and 419 of the Constitution so as to maintain strengthening of the genuine

democracy. The State Administration Council was formed with military and civilian members including ethnic nationals in a fair manner.

Upon completion of the State of Emergency, preparations must be made for holding the elections, and it is necessary to ensure regional peace. The people must have the right to cast votes of their own accord

without fear. Those committing the terror acts with belief in the misunderstanding of coup d'état and maintaining the State responsibilities and instigators need to notice that if terror acts happen, elections will not be held; and if so, winning representatives, head of state and governments will not come out.

As Kayah State is full of good domestic products, man-

ufacturing of these goods on a commercial scale to be exported can increase per-capita income as well as the GDP of Kayah State. All people from the state need to strive for gaining better development through unity.

The Vice-Senior General presented aid for staff families and prevention, control and treatment equipment for COVID-19 to officials. — MNA

### 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](mailto: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.

# Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win pays homage to Myonam Shwe Pagoda in Loikaw, provides aid to IDPs

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win paid homage to Myonam Shwe Pagoda in Loikaw yesterday morning.

The Vice-Senior General and party offered flowers, water and oil lights to the pagoda and went around the pagoda clockwise. The Vice-Senior General signed the visitors' book and presented cash donations to an official.

Firstly, Myonam Shwe pa-



The Vice-Senior General pays homage to the Myonam Shwe Pagoda in Loikaw in Kayah State on 3 February 2022.



The Vice-Senior General presents cash donations.

goda was built as a sandy pagoda dubbed as victorious one at previous Thiridaw Village in Kantarawady area, which is now the city of Kayah State, by King Alaungmintaya who also built other sandy pagodas along with

his route marching into Ayudhaya of Yodaya State in 1200 ME in Konbaung era. At a time when Thiridaw Village was built, the pagoda was named Ywanam Pagoda. When Thiridaw was renamed Loikaw, the pagoda title

was changed to Myonam Shwe Pagoda.

At Ottarayon Monastery in Loikaw, the Vice-Senior General paid homage to members of the Sangha led by Abbot of Thirimin-galapon (Hawgyi) Monastery Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Kayah State Ovadacariya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Candima and took the Five Precepts. The Vice-Senior General supplicated religious affairs and sought the advice. The Vice-Senior General presented clothes provided by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement to displaced people who will return to new Ngwetaung Village and Hmonpya Village of Pruhso Township and urban wards of Loikaw from the monasteries in Loikaw where they stayed for disturbances of terrorists. — MNA



The Vice-Senior General provides aid to the IDPs.

## MoHA Union Minister inspects Loikaw Prison, meets township Police Force, family members

STATE Administration Council Member Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Soe Htut inspected Loikaw Prison and met the Myanmar Police Force and their family members in Loikaw Township of Kayah State yesterday.

During his visit to Loikaw prison, the Union minister stressed the need to serve systematic duties by Prison Department for being an armed organization, to carry out the work procedures to be conducted

without breaking the security affairs, regulations and in teamwork, proper food system for prisoners and to provide health care services in line with the COVID-19 health rules.

He then met families of the Prison Department and provided cash assistance.

The Union minister also made a remark at the meeting with the Myanmar Police Force and their family members at the township police office. In his speech, he said the police

need to follow the orders, directives and regulations as it is an armed organization and they are more responsible for the security sector than other departments. The staff should serve duties with national spirit and live with security awareness. Relevant officials should monitor continuously not to break the security and make resistance for the office/station/outposts not to encounter attacks.

The basic military courses are being conducted for fami-



ly members, female police for self-defence and they should practise successively. All should follow the COVID-19 health rules

of the Ministry of Health. He finally stressed the effective measures and provided cash assistance. — MNA

# Misunderstanding and different opinions among ethnic nations cannot develop the region and the nation: Vice-Senior General

RELIGIOUS leaders need to clearly clarify the misunderstanding over the coup d'état due to internal and external instigations, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win in meeting religious leaders of RC Christinity, Islam, Hinduism and Kawthoebone (Tagundaing) at the hall of Kayah State government in Loikaw yesterday.

In his address, the Vice-Senior General pointed out that participation in religious organizations is important for the sake of the state. As religious leaders of influence over those who have faith in respective religions in respective areas, they are capable of serving the interests of relevant regions. So, they have to cooperate with the government in peace and stability of the region through the advice of religions. If so, Kayah State will have peace and stability as quickly as possible and strive for the development of the regions as usual. Security forces are restricted to abide by the rule of engagement. Although they performed controlling the terror attacks with the least strength at the lowest level along with the state of emergency under the law, terrorists



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets the religious leaders in Loikaw of Kayah State on 3 February 2022.

killed innocent people and posed threats to them. According to the duty assigned under the Constitution, the Tatmadaw maintains three kinds of powers in accord with the law for ensuring the maturity of democracy, so the terrorists commit the destruction over the region by showing the reason that the Tatmadaw performed the coup d'état.

As the coup d'état means revocation of the existing Constitution and drawing and approving a new Constitution to be changed to a system that the coup d'état leader and the majority of the people aspire, the handover of power depends on

the coup d'état leader. Now, the State Administration Council maintaining the State responsibilities does not have any reason to revoke the Constitution (2008) approved by the people and the Tatmadaw. Due to no reason to revoke the Constitution, three kinds of State power are being maintained within the limited period involved in the provisions of the State of Emergency mentioned in the Constitution to solve the processes of the emergency period. In line with the fifth point of the Five-Point Road Map, the free and fair multiparty democracy general election will be held in the set period to hand over the

State power to the winning party.

Religious leaders need to clearly clarify the misunderstanding over the coup d'état due to internal and external instigations. As the State of Emergency has been limited under the Constitution, all should not misunderstand the acts of the State. All don't forget that their region restores peace and prosperity thanks to the peace restoration after negotiating the peace process. Misunderstanding and different opinions among ethnic nations cannot develop the region and the nation. Section 362 of the Constitution mentions that "the Union also recognizes Christi-

anity, Islam, Hinduism and Animism as the religions existing in the Union at the day of the coming into operation of this Constitution". So, they all have an equal term of rights. They all are responsible for regional development and so do in unity. Then, religious leaders discussed matters related to their respective religions and gave wishes. SAC member U Saw Daniel gave a supplementary discussion on the peace and stability of Kayah State and regional development measures.

The Vice-Senior General responded to the discussions and attended to their needs. — MNA

## Union Auditor-General addresses at the Opening of the Capacity Building Upgrading Training No (1/2022) for Staff, Knowledge Sharing Seminar



THE Opening Ceremony of the Capacity Building Upgrading Training No (1/2022) for Assistant Directors and Staff Officers, which was opened at the Nay Pyi Taw Training School of the Office of the Auditor-General of the Union, was held at the Assembly Hall, Office of the Auditor-General of the Union, Nay Pyi Taw at 9:30 am Yesterday morning in line with the COVID-19 related

rules and regulations.

Dr Kan Zaw, the Union Auditor-General, delivered an address at the opening ceremony: the training was opened to improve the office work management and auditing skills, to audit in line with international standards and to enhance knowledge on auditing; it is needed to well understand the International Standards of Supreme Audit In-

stitutions (ISSAIs) and to balance the changes in auditing against which can be applied in their work, to maintain due professional care and assess the cause and effect of an occurrence; it is also needed to abide by the ethics of auditors, to perform their work by taking responsibility and accountability and to manage in a systematic and fair manner because the trainees are close supervisors in auditing; it is advisable to learn and note well by raising questions and discussing in order to apply the lessons learnt from the training until they could provide replicating training in their Regions/States.

Then the principal of the Training School, the Office of the Auditor General of the Union, clarified the training information.

Eventually, Dr Kan Zaw, the Union Auditor-General, greeted the trainees frankly, and the cer-

emony concluded.

A total of twenty-one Assistant Directors and 28 Staff Officers from the Head Office and Audit Offices within the Union territory, 31 Assistant Directors and 20 Staff Officers from Region and State Offices of the Auditor General totalling 100 will attend the training. Six subjects, including ISSAI Based Financial Audit, ISSAI-Based Performance Audit and ISSAI Based Compliance Audit will be taught from 9:30 am to 4 pm on weekdays and Saturdays from 3.2.2022 until 19.2.2022 for two weeks in line with the COVID-19 related rules and regulations.

It is learnt that the Permanent Secretary, the Director-General (Audit Department), the Deputy Permanent Secretary, the Deputy Directors-General, responsible persons, lecturers and trainees attended the cer-

emony.

Similarly, the Union Auditor-General delivered an address at the Knowledge Sharing Seminar No13 with the theme of "Audit Findings due to the weakness of Internal Control" according to the Knowledge Sharing Programme (KSP) in the afternoon. 155 staff members from the Head Office and the Office of Myanmar Accountancy Council, 247 staff members from Regions and States totalling 402 attended the seminar; it is learnt that participants from the Assembly Hall attended physically, and other participants from 2 training halls in the Nay Pyi Taw Training School, office room of the Myanmar Accountancy Council and Region and State Offices of the Auditor-General attended virtually in line with the COVID-19 related rules and regulations. —MNA

# Coordination meeting for Diamond Jubilee Union Day celebration held

THE Ministry of Information organized a coordination meeting regarding the successful celebration including the decorated vehicles and performance to mark Diamond Jubilee Union Day yesterday.

During the meeting, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, in his capacity as Chairman of Diamond Jubilee Anniversary of Union Day Organizing Committee said the measures for the ceremony are in the good drive for all participation. The regions/states make preparations for the floats and it also makes efforts to be

completed soon.

He then highlighted Booster vaccination processes for those who will participate in the ceremony including the practice sessions, health and security affairs.

Afterwards, the secretary of the committee and other relevant officials discussed locations for the vehicles, marching and parking, traditional dances of ethnic people, rehearsal and dinner party.

Finally, the committee chairman stressed necessary things and concluded the meeting. — MNA



The MoI coordination meeting on the successful holding of Diamond Jubilee Union Day in progress.

# Ethnic culture delegates arrive at Nay Pyi Taw for Diamond Jubilee Union Day celebration



PHOTO : KO GYI HTEIN

THE regions/states ethnic culture delegations who will perform their traditional dances at the Diamond Jubilee Union Day ceremony arrived at the sport training centre in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday.

The officials of the subcommittee for reception, transport and communications, information subcommittee, Department of Ethnic Literature and Culture and Department of Fine Arts welcomed them with Ozi (drum) and Dobet (traditional music troupe) and placed at the designated wards.

There are 285 performers who will perform folk dances at the ceremony – 39 from Yangon Region, 33 from Kachin State, 28 from Kayah State, 40 from Kayin State, 37 from Chin State, 34 from Mon State, 35 from Rakhine State and 39 from Shan State. They all arrived at the residence.

The Ministry of Information opens a library and Sarpay Beikman book shop at the administrative building and the Ministry of Health opens the medical clinic and traditional medicine clinic for the delegates. — Myo Set Thit/GNLM

# Former state counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi prosecuted again under Anti-Corruption Law

THE inspection team of the Anti-Corruption Commission inspected the complaint against former State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

According to the inspection team, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received US\$600,000 and seven vissees of Academy Gold in three separate instalments given by the former Yangon region chief minister in support of and protection of activities in the Yangon region. The 1.86 acres of land and building to open the Daw

Khin Kyi Foundation (headquarters) were leased at a discount rate without any fair value in violation of the regulations, causing the State to lose more than K5,200 million.

The State lost more than K19 billion due to payment of less than the fair value and non-compliance with the application process of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Development Committee for 101.33 acres of land in Ottarathiri Township and 23.855 acres of land in Pobbathiri Town-

ship to be used for the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation's Moonlight Forest Vocational Training School Project in Nay Pyi Taw.

Although the original purpose of the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation is to improve the health, education and well-being of the people, more than K1,600 million from public donations to the Foundation was used to build the residence of Foundation Chairperson Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, which was not directly related to the foundation's purpose.

A press release has been issued that the former State Counsellor was charged under Section 55 of the Anti-Corruption Law for the above cases, with former mayor of Nay Pyi Taw Dr Myo Aung, Vice-mayor U Ye Min Oo and former member of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Min Thu, who have been charged under Section 55/63 of the Anti-Corruption Law, and that they are being tried in the Nay Pyi Taw Special Court.

According to further find-

ings, the former State Counsellor, during her tenure, received US\$550,000 as a donation to the Foundation to facilitate the business activities of a private entrepreneur in four instalments in 2019 and 2020. Since she was found guilty of embezzling her position and accepting bribes, the first complaint against her was lodged under Section 55 of the Anti-Corruption Law at the No. (5) Area Police Station of Zabuthiri Township in February. — MNA

# Apply modern techniques to expedite the development of the livestock sector

TO BE able to breed pedigree cattle and poultry as well as fish species, land plots are adequate in the livestock sector in good environs. The livestock farms have access to providing safe feedstuff and water for animals at the systematic farms.

Myanmar faced suffering in livestock farms due to unavoidably restricted measures in the prevention, control and treatment activities of COVID-19. Currently, Myanmar is standing in a position of controlling the downtrend of spreading COVID-19. As such, now is the time of making utmost efforts for rehabilitation as recovering the halted businesses.

Applying modern techniques in the livestock sector, it is necessary to operate the production of safe and quality meat, milk and eggs not only for the consumption of the people but for exportation to increase income for commercial-scale businesses as well as manageable-scale breeders.

narrowing and narrowing due to the fact that construction sites for housings and buildings as well as cultivable lands are invading them inch by inch. Hence, the feedstuff system of livestock farms should be changed from the pastureland system to the cultivation and feeding of feedstuff plants as quickly as possible.

Myanmar has a great chance in the exportation of cattle with the great demand from neighbouring countries. Generally, Myanmar's cattle that eat feedstuff without chemical residue are suitable for the production of safe meat because of vast natural lands across the nation where any pesticide and chemical had not dropped.

Applying modern techniques in the livestock sector, it is necessary to operate the production of safe and quality meat, milk and eggs not only for the consumption of the people but for exportation to increase income for commercial-scale businesses as well as manageable-scale breeders.

■ ■ ■

## COVID-19 less severe in fully vaccinated people: Study

*"Although the risk of infection is much lower among vaccinated individuals, and vaccination reduces the severity of illness, clinical and imaging data of COVID-19 breakthrough infections have not been reported in detail": Yeon Joo Jeong, M.D., PhD, from the Department of Radiology and Biomedical Research Institute at Pusan National University Hospital in Busan, South Korea.*

THE COVID-19 pandemic, which began in 2019, continues to mutate as it spreads further and infects more people. Vaccination, earlier looked upon with scepticism, has now become the only saviour from the never-ending cycle of the COVID-19 virus. A recent study has said that COVID-19 is less severe in fully vaccinated patients.

According to the multicentre study, published in the journal 'Radiology', the clinical and imaging characteristics of COVID-19 breakthrough infections in fully vaccinated patients tend to be milder than those of partially vaccinated or unvaccinated patients.

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases worldwide now exceeds 270 million with an overall mortality rate of approximately 2 per cent.

### COVID-19 vaccines are effective

COVID-19 vaccines are effective and critical tools for bringing the pandemic under control. However, vaccines are not 100 per cent effective at preventing illness. Breakthrough infections are defined as the detection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) ribonucleic acid (RNA) or antigen in a respiratory specimen collected from a person 14 days or more after receiving all recommended

doses of COVID-19 vaccines.

Breakthrough cases are on the rise with the highly transmissible Omicron variant. Therefore, it became important to know how vaccination impacted not only COVID-19 disease severity but also clinical data and medical imaging results.

### COVID-19 breakthrough infections

"Although the risk of infection is much lower among vaccinated individuals, and vaccination reduces the severity of illness, clinical and imaging data of COVID-19 breakthrough infections have not been reported in detail," said the study's senior author, Yeon Joo Jeong, M.D., PhD, from the Department of Radiology and Biomedical Research Institute at Pusan National University Hospital in Busan, South Korea. "The purpose of this study was to document the clinical and imaging features of COVID-19 breakthrough infections and compare them with those of infections in unvaccinated patients."

In this retrospective multicentre cohort study, Dr Jeong and colleagues analyzed data from adult patients registered in an open data repository for COVID-19 — Korean Imaging Cohort for COVID-19 (KICC-19) — between June and August 2021. Hospitalized patients with baseline chest X-rays were divided into three groups, according



People queue to be tested for the coronavirus in Seoul's Itaewon district on 12 May 2020. PHOTO: AFP

to their vaccination status. The researchers evaluated differences between clinical and imaging features and analyzed associations between clinical factors — including vaccination status — and clinical outcomes.

### Fully vaccinated status

Of the 761 hospitalized patients with COVID-19, the mean age was 47 years, and 385 (51 per cent) were women. Forty-seven patients (6.2 per cent) were fully vaccinated (breakthrough infection), 127 were partially vaccinated (17 per cent), and 587 (77 per cent) were unvaccinated. Chest CT scans were performed on 412 (54 per cent) of the patients during hospitalization. Of patients undergoing CT, the proportion of CT scans without pneumonia was 22 per cent (71/326) of unvaccinated patients, 30 per cent (19/64) of partially vaccinated patients, and 59 per cent (13/22) of fully vaccinated patients. Fully vaccinated status was associated with a lower risk of requiring supplemental oxygen

than unvaccinated status, as well as lower risk of intensive care unit (ICU) admission. The results also showed associations between the risk of severe disease and clinical characteristics such as higher age, history of diabetes, lymphocytopenia, thrombocytopenia, elevated LDH (lactate dehydrogenase), and elevated CRP (C-reactive protein). Notably, age was also found to be an important predictor of more severe disease in COVID-19 patients, even in those with a breakthrough

infection.

### Clinical characteristics

The researchers noted that observed differences in clinical characteristics may reflect differences in vaccination priorities based on underlying comorbidities. During the study period, high-risk groups, such as individuals over 65 years old, health care workers and people with disabilities were priority targets for COVID-19 vaccination. Therefore, elderly patients and patients with at least one comorbidity were more common in the vaccinated group than in the unvaccinated group in the study.

"Despite these differences, mechanical ventilation and in-hospital death occurred only in the unvaccinated group," Dr Jeong said. "Furthermore, after adjusting for baseline clinical characteristics, analysis showed that fully vaccinated patients were at significantly lower risk of requiring supplemental oxygen and of ICU admission than unvaccinated patients."

Although additional research will be needed as different variants emerge, this study sheds light on the clinical effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination in the context of breakthrough infections.

SOURCE: ANI

■ ■ ■

## Omicron sub-variant could be more infectious, found in 57 countries: WHO



A flight crew from Air China arrives in hazmat suits in the international terminal at Los Angeles International Airport, in Los Angeles, US, 3 December 2021. PHOTO: AFP

A SUBVARIANT of the highly contagious Omicron coronavirus strain, which some studies indicate could be even more infectious than the original version, has been detected in 57 countries, the WHO said Tuesday.

The fast-spreading and heavily mutated Omicron variant has rapidly become the dominant variant worldwide since it was first detected in southern Africa 10 weeks ago.

In its weekly epidemiological update, the World Health Organization said that the variant, which accounts for over 93 per cent of all coronavirus speci-

mens collected in the past month, counts several sub-lineages: BA.1, BA.1.1, BA.2 and BA.3.

### The BA.1 and BA.1.1

The BA.1 and BA.1.1 — the first versions identified — still account for over 96 per cent of all the Omicron sequences uploaded to the GISAID global science initiative, it said.

But there has been a clear rise in cases involving BA.2, which counts several different mutations from the original — including on the spike protein that dots the virus's surface and is key to entering human cells.

"BA.2- designated sequences have been submitted to GISAID from 57 countries to date," WHO said, adding that in some countries, the sub-variant now accounted for over half of all Omicron sequences gathered.

The UN health agency said little was known yet about the differences between the sub-variants, and called for studies into its characteristics, including its transmissibility, how good it is at dodging immune protections and its virulence.

Several recent studies have hinted that BA.2 is more infectious than the original Omicron.

### Information about the sub-variant

Maria Van Kerkhove, one of the WHO's top experts on Covid, told reporters Tuesday that information about the sub-variant was very limited, but that some initial data indicated BA.2 had "a slight increase in growth rate over BA.1"

Omicron in general is known to cause less severe disease than previous coronavirus variants like Delta, and Van Kerkhove said there so far was "no indication that there is a change in severity" in the BA.2 sub-variant.—AFP

## Myanmar Gazette

### Heads of Service Organizations transferred and appointed

1. THE State Administration Council has transferred U Nyunt Win, Director-General of the Factories and General Labour Laws Inspection Department, the Ministry of Labour, as Director-General of the Union Minister's Office of the same ministry from the date he assumes charge of his duties.
2. The State Administration Council has appointed Dr Aung Khine, General Manager of the Production Department of the Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries of the Ministry of Industry, as Director-General of the Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.



### Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Thursday 3 February 2022)

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

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 4 February 2022:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kachin State and isolated in upper Sagaing, Taninthayi Regions and Chin State. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in lower Sagaing, northern Shan, Rakhine, Kayin, Mon States and generally fair 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 scattered rain or thundershowers in upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, Shan, Kayin, Mon States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 February 2022:** Generally fair weather.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 February 2022:** Generally fair weather.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 February 2022:** Generally fair weather.

## The Global New Light of Myanmar

www.gnlm.com.mm

သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစောင်များကို နိုင်ငံတကာဝန်ခံချိန်မှစ၍ ပုံနှိပ်ချိန်က ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။  
**01 860 4530**

ကြော်ငြာခွင့်များနှင့် ကြော်ငြာအခွင့်အလမ်းများ ကြော်ငြာ ထည့်သွင်းလိုပါက ပိုက်လိုက်ဆက်သွယ် ဆွေးနွေးနိုင်ပါသည်။  
**09 974 424 848**

# Myanmar ships over 1 mln MT of rice in past four months

MYANMAR delivered more than 1.07 million metric tons of rice and broken rice in the past four months of the current mini-budget period (October 2021-March 2022), according to the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

Myanmar has exported rice to 27 foreign markets so far. China is the main buyer of Myanmar rice.

Meanwhile, Myanmar shipped broken rice primarily to China, followed by the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, France and three other countries.

The volume of rice and broken exports stood at over 216,375 MT in October 2021, 285,223 MT in November, 301,033.9 MT in



Myanmar has exported rice to 27 foreign markets so far. China is the main buyer of Myanmar rice.

December and 269,215.9 MT in January 2022, respectively, MRF's data showed.

The prices of low-quality

white rice varieties were approximately valued US\$330-355 per MT depending on the different varieties and quality. The

export price of Myanmar's rice was relatively lower than the rates of Thailand and Viet Nam. Yet, the prices were higher than those market prices of India and Pakistan, MRF's data showed.

At present, traders turned to maritime trade for rice export as COVID-19 restrictions hindered the trading activity through the border posts. Myanmar shipped rice and broken rice to China, regional countries and European Union countries through maritime trade. Trading in the domestic market is quite sluggish amidst the excess supply.

The rice worth K43,000-K50,000 per bag is highly demanded in the domestic

market. The prices of high-quality rice move in the range of K34,500-K58,000 per bag, the Bayinnaung Rice Wholesale Centre's price data indicated.

Myanmar generated over \$800 million from rice exports in the financial year 2019-2020 ended 30 September, with an estimated volume of over 2.5 million tonnes. Myanmar generated US\$700.13 million income from exports of 1.87 million tonnes of rice and broken rice in the past FY2020-2021 (October-September) amidst the border trade disruption triggered by the COVID-19 negative consequences, as per the statistics released by the Myanmar Customs Department. — KK/GNLM

## Border trade down over US\$1.36 bln

TRADE between Myanmar and its four neighbouring countries has reached over US\$1.99 billion this mini-budget period to date, according to the statement of the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar shares borders with China, Thailand, Bangladesh and India. The country conducts border trade with neighbouring China through Muse, Lweje, Kampaiti, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung, with Thailand via Tachilek,

Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Meisei checkpoints, with Bangladesh via Sittway and Maung-taw and with India through Tamu and Reed border crossings, respectively.

Exports of these four countries from the start of October 2021 until 21 January 2022 generated \$1.43 billion. On the same period, the country imported \$568.3 million worth of goods.

From 1 October to 21 Jan-

uary of the 2021-22FY, the total border trade value amounted to \$1.999 billion, down \$1.36 billion compared with the same period last year. This time last year, the border trade was valued at \$3.36 billion.

Myanmar's major export items are farm, animal, marine, forest, mining, CMP and other products. Myanmar mainly imports capital goods, industrial raw materials, personal goods and CMP raw materials. — ACM/GNLM

## Ayeyawady black bean sees slight drop in price

THE black bean from the Ayeyawady region has slightly decreased, according to the pulses market.

The heading of the new black bean from the Ayeyawady region to the market plentifully is the primary reason for the price decrease. The decreasing domestic price of beans in India, the main buyer of Myanmar pulses, has also led to a price drop.

At the end of January 2021, the price of black beans has dropped by about 100 rupees per quintal in the Mumbai market in India. And, the demand for black beans from pulses mills is also declining.

Besides, India expected Myanmar black bean production will increase this year. India has also extended the import period of beans. The price has also decreased due to the regular import of Myanmar bean

into India.

Although the price of black beans has mounted to K46,000 per basket on 12 January. However, the price dropped to K45,000 per basket on 25 January, K43,300 per basket on 26 January, K42,500 per basket on 27 January, K42,200 per basket on 28 January, K41,200 per basket on 31 January, K41,500 per basket on 2 February and K41,000 per basket on 3 February.

The price of the old bean is about K1,000 higher than the newly harvested bean. The price of bean fetched about K40,000 per basket.

India, the main buyer of Myanmar pulses has excused black bean and pigeon peas from being restricted commodities to a free import commodity. A memorandum of understanding was signed on 18 June to export a total of 350,000 tonnes

of Myanmar pulses, including 250,000 tonnes of black bean and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon pea to India in five consecutive years (from the 2021-2022FY to the 2025-2026FY).

India is the largest producer as well as consumer of pulses, consuming about 2.7 or 2.8 million tonnes of black beans annually.

The black bean, which is mainly bought from India, is mainly grown in Myanmar. Other pulses including green gram and pigeon pea are grown in Africa and Australia in addition to Myanmar, according to Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

The black bean plantations are yielding around 400,000 tonnes annually in Myanmar. Besides, Myanmar has also produced about 50,000 tonnes of pigeon peas yearly. — NN/GNLM

## Wooden utensils trending in online marketplace



The trending wooden household items and kitchen utensils are Buddhist altars, plates, bowls, cups, chopping boards, boxes, spoons, spatula and flowering pots among others.

THE wooden household items and kitchen utensils are sold well online, said Daw Pyae Pyae, a traditional household products maker from Thabeikkyin Township.

Those wooden items are sold at a fair price in the domestic market. The prices of wooden household items move in the range of K1,000 and K1 million. At present, they are trending on eCommerce sites.

"The wide range of locally made items are offered in the market. The customized order can also be done. The market is relying on domestic consumers. Additionally, the wooden items are shipped to China and Thailand. Wooden chopping boards are highly demanded both in domestic and foreign markets.

Furthermore, wooden offering bowls curved with lids are being sold well in the domestic market. Consumer behaviour is shifting and digital platform has become popular in the present. The appreciation for locally made items is growing. Some kitchen utensils made of timber are cheaper than those products of plastic and ceramic. Most importantly, they are of high quality," she elaborated.

The trending wooden household items and kitchen utensils are Buddhist altars, plates, bowls, cups, chopping boards, boxes, spoons, spatula and flowering pots among others. There is a plan to exhibit Myanmar traditional household items made of timber to promote local businesses. — Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)/GNLM

### Motto of 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Union Day 2022

**\* Joining hands in unison among ethnic nationals of the Union**

# Maung Yay Khe/Ma Shwe Phe poem to highlight ASEAN Tourism sector

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Htay Aung addressed a virtual workshop named “Maung Yay Khe/Ma Shwe Phe and ASEAN Tourism” at Jade Hall at the Ministry Office yesterday morning.

At the workshop, the Union Minister prescribed Dr Maung Phyu's poems "Maung Yay Khe and Ma Shwe Phe" in the basic education Myanmar language lessons.

“As these poems contain the basic nature of tourism, this topic was encouraged during the workshop on tourism redevelopment. At present, various countries are trying to reopen tourism,” the Union Minister said.

The ASEAN Tourism Ministers' Meeting, related meetings and ASEAN Tourism Forum-2022 were held to discuss cooperation issues for the development of tourism in ASEAN member countries in Presihanu State, Cambodia from 17 to 20 January

and was attended by a Myanmar delegation led by the Union Minister.

During his meeting with the Minister of Tourism of Cambodia, he discussed the possibility of launching airlines to promote tourism between the two countries. They also discussed ways to enhance cooperation between the government and the private sector and other related issues.

Then, President of Myanmar Tourism Federation U Yan Win clarified on the private sector participation in ASEAN Tourism Forum-2022. He clarified the emergence of global tourism and the need for public-private partnerships to promote Myanmar to ASEAN and the world.

Director of the International and Regional Cooperation Division Daw Khaing Mie Mie Tun spoke on ASEAN Tourism Cooperation and issues related to the implementation of ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plans were



also discussed.

Then, the discussions were divided into four groups. The group discussions were held on four topics: ASEAN Tourism Quality Improvement, ASEAN Tourism Cooperation, ASEAN Tourism Policy Guidelines and ASEAN Tourism Reopening.

Representatives from four groups presented a panel discussion on the relevant topics and answered questions from the participants.

Afterwards, the chairman of the workshop explained the results of the workshop, and the Union Minister made concluding remarks and awarded certificates to the participants and group representatives. —MNA

## Ministries cooperate to bring back foreign investors in Myanmar

DUE to the global pandemic, many foreign investors in Myanmar has suspended operations and returned to their respective countries in 2020.

As Myanmar has controlled the spread of the COVID-19 virus to some extent and factories and workplaces are now operational, these entrepreneurs are returning to Myanmar.

From May 2021 to January 2022, a total of 9,010 foreigners from 50 countries came

in with relief flights and chartered flights and are resuming their businesses.

For the smooth return of these foreigners, the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations has been coordinating with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Immigration and Population. It is also reported that relevant departments are assisting the smooth re-entry of foreign investors. — MNA

## Information release on detection of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant

1. THE Ministry of Health is continuously conducting “COVID-19 Molecular Disease Surveillance”, and releasing information on the detection of SARS CoV-2 Omicron variant from those who return by relief flights in a timely manner.
2. Forty-six laboratory samples of COVID-19 of the returnees were sent to the National Health Laboratory on 3-2-2022 and the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant was found in 28 laboratory samples.
3. Twenty-eight Myanmar returnees —12 from Singapore, five from the UAE, five from Malaysia, four from the ROK, one from India and one from Indonesia were found positive.
4. The patients are isolated and provided with medical treatment and those who have close contact with them now undergo strict quarantine and lab tests.
5. Myanmar has so far reported a total of 348 SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant cases.
6. Therefore, the ministry is stepping up the COVID-19 disease monitoring and control measures plus disease prevention, control and treatment activities.

Ministry of Health

## CRIME NEWS

### Illegal timber, motorcycle and spare parts seized in Ayeyawady, Bago, Sagaing, Yangon regions

SUPERVISED by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, action is being taken against illegal trades under the law.

On 1 February, a Customs team on duty at MITT Port seized motorcycle spare parts (estimated value of K23,479,800) in excess of the

import declaration ID during an inspection, and action is being taken under the Customs Law.

On 3 February, a combined inspection team under the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force in Ayeyawady Region inspected Mawlamyinekyun Town-

ship according to a report and seized 77.4918 tonnes of illegal timber (estimated value of K70,985,240), and action is being taken under the Forest Law.

Managed by the Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force in Bago Region, combined inspection teams led by the Department of Forest conducted inspections in the forest reserves in Bago and Toun-goo Districts and confiscated 30.5492 tonnes of illegal timber (estimated value of K3,909,330) under the Forest Law. An inspection team led by the Myanmar Police Force also seized

one motorcycle (Feiling 125) (estimated value of K400,000) and action is being taken under the Import and Export Law.

Therefore, there was a

total of six cases (estimated value of K98,774,370) on 1 and 3 February, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA



## State Administration Council Press Release

### Re-invitation to Myanmar citizens who reside in various regions for many reasons

1. Some student youths, State service personnel and citizens, with worries, have evaded to areas of EAOs and foreign countries due to the incitements and intimidation of NLD members, extremist followers, unlawful associations and terrorist groups such as CRPH and NUG, stimulation of CDM, and persons and organizations at home and abroad not wishing to restore peace and stability of the State since Tatmadaw assumed the State responsibilities on 1 February 2021.
2. They are further worried about the dictatorship statement and speeches of unlawful association and terrorist group CRPH and NUG, and some relevant persons. As they face no security guarantee and difficulties in socio-economic life in those areas, they wish to return to their native lands.
3. **The State Administration Council will specifically ease restrictions for service personnel, intellectuals and intelligentsia, and persons from various arenas and citizens who, with worries, absconded from the country except for persons who committed murders, robberies, setting fires, mine explosions and intentional attacks on security troops, those who crowded to attack public service personnel and some people, those who destroyed government and private-owned buildings and those who are highly involved in the CDM activities by providing monetary assistance and other means.**
4. As those who evade their native areas are also citizens, the State Administration Council will arrange their returns from the evaded areas to various parts of Myanmar.
5. As such, the information was released that if those who evaded to various areas, except for persons who committed any kinds of crime, wish to return to their native lands in Myanmar of their own accord due to multiple worries, the citizens abroad can contact nearby ward, village, township and district administration bodies and relevant embassies, military attaché offices and consulates in accord with the easing restrictions under the law.

Information Team  
State Administration Council

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

## YBS buses submit to increase bus fare K400



YBS buses are seen at the city centre of Yangon.

WITH the rising of maintaining costs and fuel oil price, the bus line's owners have submitted a proposal to YRTC to increase the YBS bus fare up to K400 as YBS vehicles operating in the city need to remain operational, according to the YBS bus line companies.

In recent days, the company owned buses line of Yangon-Bago buses, have increased its fair price based on the increase of fuel oil in the market. There are also many mini-buses in Yangon and they are also requested

YRTC to submit their bus fare after increasing fuel oil price and spare parts of their buses.

"YRTC has also introduced a Yangon Payment Service (YPS) card payment system to reduce the collecting of extra bus fare. In the card system, it is reported to collect the minimum K400 for the bus fare from the card," said a bus line owner.

YPS machines were installed on YBS buses as of 21 July 2020. Asia Starmar Transport Intelligent Co., Ltd is making effort to distribute

more YPS cards and to install the new YPS machines on the buses.

Currently, YPS machines have been installed on a total of 1902 buses including 608 buses of Yangon Bus Public Co. Ltd (YBPC), 304 buses of Bandoola Transportation company, 700 buses of Yangon Urban Public Transport Public Co. Ltd (YUPT), 165 buses of Ludu Partner Company and 27 buses of Golden Yangon City Transportation Public Co. Ltd (GYCT) companies.

— Aye Maung/GNLM

## Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was re-constituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

The following telephone numbers, fax and email address can be reached to safely report information in connection with illegal trade.

Auto telephone number - 067 409 883  
Mobile phone - 09 404339969  
Fax - 067 409 886  
Email address - antiillegaltradeinfo@gmail.com

Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee

## Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was re-constituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

Regarding the "request for money from departmental organizations in conducting trade", the following numbers can be reached to safely report such information.

Auto telephone number - 067 409 881  
Mobile phone - 09 699611116  
Fax - 067 409 887  
Email address - antiillegaltradeoffice@gmail.com

Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee

## The Global New Light of Myanmar

www.gnlim.com.mm

သတင်းစာ မြန်မာ့လုံခြုံရေး အကဲခတ်မှုဦးစီးဌာန

09 454 237 515

# Hybrid car sales catch up to diesel in Europe

HYBRID car sales reached a milestone in Europe last year as they grabbed the same market share as diesel vehicles, while electric models gained more ground, industry data showed on Wednesday.

The figures come as the European Commission aims to ban the sale of new fossil fuel cars from 2035 and automakers have unveiled plans to transition to an electric future.



Self-charging hybrid vehicles accounted for nearly 20 per cent of new passenger cars registered across the 27-nation EU last year. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

A green group warned, however, that conventional engines could stage a comeback if the European Union does not set more ambitious CO2 emissions standards.

Self-charging hybrid vehicles accounted for nearly 20 per cent of new

passenger cars registered across the 27-nation EU, matching diesel, with 1.9 million cars sold, according to the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA).

This was up from an 11.9-per cent market share

for hybrids in 2020.

Hybrid cars have become the "perfect solution" for automakers to reduce their average CO2 emissions, said Felipe Munoz, analyst at auto industry specialists Jato Dynamics.

Self-charging hybrid

cars are powered by a conventional engine and an electric motor that charges while driving.

Automakers also make plug-in hybrids that run on their electric battery until their power runs out and then run on fuel. Their market share rose to 8.9 per cent last year.

Nearly 880,000 fully electric cars were sold last year, representing 9.1 per cent of total car registrations.

Electric car sales have surged thanks to government incentives to buy them and growing output by automakers. They accounted for less than two per cent of the market share in 2019 and 5.4 per cent in 2020.—AFP ■

# Nintendo raises profit forecast but cuts Switch sales outlook

NINTENDO raised its full-year profit forecast Thursday, citing strong performances by recent game releases, but it again cut its sales target for the Switch over global supply chain problems.

The Japanese giant posted its highest-ever annual profit in 2020-21, buoyed by a surge in gaming as the coronavirus pandemic forced people indoors.

Even as restrictions ease, Nintendo said it expects to post a 400 billion yen (\$3.5 billion) net profit at the end of the fiscal year in March, up 50 billion yen from its forecast in November.—AFP ■



Nintendo has faced persistent speculation about its plans for a new version of its Switch console. PHOTO: AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HANSA COBURG VOY.NO. (204W/205E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HANSA COBURG VOY.NO. (204W/205E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-2-2022** 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

M.V RESOLUTION VOY.NO. (2202S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RESOLUTION VOY.NO. (2202S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-2-2022** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V XING PING VOY.NO. (062N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V XING PING VOY.NO. (062N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-2-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** 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

In the matter of the Insolvency Law 2020, and  
In the matter of **HASKONINGDHV MYANMAR CO., LTD**  
(In Members' Voluntary Winding-up)  
[Under Section 147 of Insolvency Law & Rules 9 & 15 (b) of Insolvency Rules]

The General Meeting of HaskoningDHV Myanmar Co., Ltd (In Members' Voluntary Winding-up) duly held via online on 1st February, 2022, at 10:00 a.m the following resolutions were passed unanimously as Special Resolutions:

(1) Resolved that the Company be and is hereby wound up voluntarily as Members' Voluntary Winding-up under the Insolvency Law.

(2) Resolved that Daw Hnin Su Mon (B.Com, C.P.A, D.B.L, ACCA, Member of Myanmar Association of Insolvency Practitioners Inc.), holder of Citizenship Scrutiny Card No. 12/Ma Ya Ka (Naing) 114749, Senior Manager of WIN Consulting Limited of Room No. 2D, Rose Condominium, No. 182/194, 1st Floor, Botahtaung Pagoda Road, Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar, be and is hereby appointed as Liquidator of the Company for the purpose of such winding-up and be authorized to carry on the business of the Company to such extent and for such period as may be necessary for the beneficial winding up thereof and be granted such other powers as may be deemed fit or proper.

S/d Liquidator of HaskoningDHV Myanmar Co., Ltd (In Members' Voluntary Winding-up)

In the matter of the Insolvency Law 2020, and  
In the matter of **HASKONINGDHV MYANMAR CO., LTD**  
(In Members' Voluntary Winding-up)  
[Under Section 201 of the Insolvency Law & Rule 87 of the Insolvency Rules]

Notice to Creditors for Proof of Debts or Claims

Notice is hereby given that the Creditors of HaskoningDHV Myanmar Co., Ltd (In Members' Voluntary Winding-up) (Company Registration Number 109352772) are required to submit a Proof of Debt or Claim in the prescribed form together with supporting documents and evidences at Room No. 2D, Rose Condominium, No. 182/194, 1st Floor, Botahtaung Pagoda Road, Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar or email address: hninsumon@winthinassociates.com on or before **23-2-2022**, failing to which their claims will be excluded from the benefit of a distribution made before its debt or claim is admitted and objecting to that distribution.

Liquidator of HaskoningDHV Myanmar Co., Ltd (In Members' Voluntary Winding-up)  
Daw Hnin Su Mon (B.Com, C.P.A, D.B.L, ACCA, Member of Myanmar Association of Insolvency Practitioners Inc.)

Trade Mark Ads

Call 09251022355,  
09974424848



The President of Russia delivered the Address to the Federal Assembly. The ceremony took place at the Manezh Central Exhibition Hall on 21 April 2021. PHOTO: SERGEI BOBYLEV / TASS/XINHUA

# Putin lambasts US Europe for putting excessive pressure on Russia

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has lambasted the United States and its European allies for putting excessive pressure on Moscow over issues related to Ukraine and doping, Chinese state-run media reported Thursday.

“We reject the practice of ‘collective punishment’ for acts perpetrated by individual people, which has recently become a frequent occurrence,” Putin said in a recent interview with the official China Global Television Network.

Putin was apparently referring to a ban on Russia from the Olympics over doping violations and Washington’s warning that it could personally sanction the

Russian leader if Moscow invades Ukraine.

His remarks came as US-Russia tensions are running high over Moscow’s massive military buildup on the Ukrainian border, while he has demanded that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization pull back troops and weapons from Eastern Europe. On Wednesday, Washington announced plans to deploy thousands of additional troops to Europe in the coming days to reassure its allies in the region amid fears Russia may further invade Ukraine, a move that triggered a backlash from Moscow.

Putin is scheduled to visit China to attend Friday’s opening ceremony of the Beijing Winter

Olympics. During his stay, he is also slated to hold summit talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Putin said in the interview, “We oppose the attempts to politicize sport or use it as a tool of coercion, unfair competition and discrimination,” apparently criticizing a diplomatic boycott initiated by the United States and other democratic countries over China’s human rights issues.

He also said, “Sport is a unique phenomenon of human civilization. Major sports festivals are designed to bring nations together; deepen mutual understanding and promote the universally accepted principle of ‘fair play.’”—Kyodo ■

# US to send warship, fighter jets to UAE after Yemen attacks

THE United States will deploy a guided missile destroyer and state-of-the-art fighter jets to help defend the United Arab Emirates after a series of missile attacks by Yemeni rebels, a US statement said Wednesday.

The deployment, to “assist the UAE against the current threat”, follows a phone call between Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin and Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, the US embassy in the UAE said.

The UAE, part of the Saudi-led coalition fighting Yemen’s Iran-backed Huthi rebels, suffered its third missile attack in consecutive weeks on Monday.

The guided missile destroyer USS Cole will partner with the UAE Navy and make a port call in Abu Dhabi, the

statement said, while the US will also deploy fifth-generation fighter planes.

Other actions include “continuing to provide early warning intelligence”, it added.

The rebel attacks have opened a new front in Yemen’s seven-year war, which has killed hundreds of thousands directly or indirectly and displaced millions. Three foreign workers were killed in a drone-and-missile assault targeting Abu Dhabi’s oil facilities and airport on 17 January, triggering a salvo of deadly air strikes in retaliation. On 24 January, US forces stationed at Abu Dhabi’s Al Dhafra air base fire Patriot interceptors and scrambled to bunkers as two ballistic missiles were shot down over the city.—AFP ■



The USS Cole guided missile destroyer will make a port call in Abu Dhabi. PHOTO: NAVY OFFICE OF INFORMATION/AFP/FILE

# Wreck of British explorer James Cook’s Endeavour found: researchers

THE wreck of Captain James Cook’s famed vessel the Endeavour has been found off the coast of the US state of Rhode Island, Australian researchers

said Thursday.

Their research partners in the United States, however, have described the announcement as premature. The Endeavour, which the British explorer sailed in an historic voyage to Australia and New Zealand between 1768 and 1771, was scuttled in Newport Harbour during the American War of Independence. For more than two centuries, it lay forgotten. “Since 1999, we have been investigating several 18th-century shipwrecks in a two-square-mile area where we believed that Endeavour sank,” Kevin Sumpston, director of the Australian National Maritime Museum, told a Thursday media briefing.

“Based on archival and archaeological evidence, I’m convinced it’s the Endeavour.”

But the Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project said it was too early to draw that conclusion.—AFP ■

which the British explorer sailed in an historic voyage to Australia and New Zealand between 1768 and 1771, was scuttled in Newport Harbour during the American War of Independence. For more than two centuries, it lay forgotten. “Since 1999, we have been investigating several 18th-century shipwrecks in a two-square-mile area where we believed that Endeavour sank,” Kevin Sumpston, director of the Australian National Maritime Museum, told a Thursday media briefing.

“Based on archival and archaeological evidence, I’m convinced it’s the Endeavour.”

But the Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project said it was too early to draw that conclusion.—AFP ■



A replica of Captain Cook’s ship ‘Endeavour’ is seen at the Australian National Maritime Museum in Sydney in 2018. PHOTO: SAEED KHAN/ AFP

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### US intelligence says directed energy could explain Havana syndrome

INTENSE directed energy from an external source could have caused some cases of the debilitating so-called “Havana syndrome” among US diplomats, US intelligence said Wednesday, supporting the possibility of deliberate attacks.

A panel of technological and medical experts convened by the US intelligence community found that pulsed electromagnetic energy and ultrasound, delivered from close distances, could cause the unique mix of symptoms in a certain number of what are officially called anomalous health incidents (AHIs).—AFP ■

### W. African leaders hold emergency summit after spate of coups

WEST African leaders hold a key summit on Thursday as a wave of coups buffet a region struggling with poverty and a long history of turbulence. Emergency talks in the Ghanaian capital Accra were triggered after Burkina Faso on 24 January became the third member of the 15-nation Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to be overtaken by the military.—AFP ■

# Russia takes lead at UN in crises around the world

RUSSIA has a stake in crises around the world from Ukraine to Syria, Sudan and Mali – and that is reflected in the active role it takes at the UN Security Council on issues both big and small, contrasting with the relative detachment of the United States.

The paradox is that, by at least one measure, the former superpower's role at the Security Council is outsized: Moscow does not carry much weight in the global economy, and its financial contribution to the United Nations is far below that of Washington, the European Union or China.

"Russia's greatest strength is that it feels no shame about



UN Security Council meeting. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

blowing up UN diplomacy when it wants to," says Richard

Gowan, a UN specialist at the International Crisis Group think

tank in New York.

"In contrast to China, which

still tries to avoid getting into big fights in New York, Russia will use its veto at the Security Council even when it offends most other UN members," he told AFP.

The Soviet Union, as a member of the victorious Allied Forces in World War II, was made a permanent member of the Security Council in 1945. Russia kept the seat after the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. The Cold War's legacy is that, with the Soviet Union's disintegration, "the old balancing act has disappeared in favour of a formidable asymmetry," says Bertrand Badie, professor of international relations in Paris.—AFP ■

## Iraq struggles to make use of Saddam's crumbling palaces

SCATTERED across Iraq lie more than 100 opulent palaces and villas built by former dictator Saddam Hussein — some in use, many in ruins like much of the war-scarred country.

With their marble columns, ornate carvings and gaudy furniture, they reflected the megalomania and delusions of grandeur of Saddam, who visited some of them only once or twice.

In his Babylon residence, the feared strongman's profile is engraved in bas-relief like that of the Mesopotamian emperor he idolized, Chaldean dynasty king Nebuchadnezzar II.

In many places, the initials "S.H." are still visible as reminders of the despot who was toppled by the 2003 US-led invasion, captured later that year and executed in 2006.

Most of his palaces were looted during the chaos of the in-

vasion, when thieves scavenged all they could carry, even ripping electric cables out of walls.

Since then, only a handful of the palatial residences have been given a second lease of life, often as military bases or public administrations, more rarely as museums.

Most lie empty, in part be-

cause the cost of renovating them is prohibitive.

"We can turn palaces into museums, at least in Baghdad — a tapestry museum, for example, or on the royal family or Islamic art," said Laith Majid Hussein, director of the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage.—AFP ■



Iraqis walk past one of former dictator Saddam Hussein's palaces near Baghdad International Airport. PHOTO: AFP

## Clashes in NW Syria as US-led troops conduct anti-jihadist operation: monitor

TROOPS from the US-led anti-jihadist coalition landed in north-west Syria Thursday in search of wanted militants, resulting in clashes, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported.

The Observatory, which relies on a network of sources inside Syria, said the helicopter-borne forces touched down near camps for displaced people in Atme, a town close to the border with Turkey in jihadist-dominated Idlib

province. Observatory chief Rami Abdel Rahman told AFP the operation was the largest since coalition special forces launched an October 2019 raid in Idlib that led to the killing of Islamic State (IS) chief Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

The clashes lasted for two hours in the area, the monitor said, and the identities of the jihadists who were the focus of the operation have not been released.

The Observatory said there

were "confirmed reports of fatalities" without providing details about their number or identities.

Residents in the area told AFP they heard shelling and gunfire.

In an audio recording circulating among residents and attributed to the coalition, an Arabic speaker can be heard asking women and children to evacuate their homes in the targeted area.—AFP ■

## US deploys 3,000 troops in Ukraine standoff

THE United States on Wednesday deployed several thousand troops to bolster NATO forces in eastern Europe, as the leaders of France and Germany flagged trips to Moscow to address Western fears of an invasion of Ukraine.

With Russia refusing to pull back 100,000 troops poised on Ukraine's borders, 1,000 US soldiers in Germany are being sent to Romania, and another 2,000 stationed in the United States are being flown to Germany and Poland.

"As long as (President Vladimir Putin) is acting aggressively, we are going to make sure we reassure our NATO allies in eastern Europe that we're there," President Joe Biden said after the deployments were announced.

In response, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander

Grushko said the move would make it harder for a compromise between the two sides, calling the US deployments "destructive steps, which increase military tension and reduce scope for political decision".

Western powers have been engaged in intense diplomatic efforts — coupled with the threat of sanctions against Putin's inner circle — to deter what they fear to be a looming invasion of ex-Soviet Ukraine, despite strenuous denials from Moscow.

Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz announced Wednesday he would soon travel to Moscow to discuss the crisis, while France's President Emmanuel Macron said a similar trip may be in the cards — depending on upcoming talks with other world leaders.—AFP ■



In this image released by the US Department of Defence, two NATO supply soldiers prepare to move to the location of their next mission during Allied Spirit 22 military exercise on 31 January 2022, at Joint Multinational Readiness Centre, Hohenfels Training Area, Germany. PHOTO: ALUN THOMAS / US DEPARTMENT OF STATE / 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.



The Myanmar national Futsal team players and coaches pose for a group photo before a match. PHOTO: MFF

## Myanmar national Futsal team plans to play international friendlies

THE Myanmar national Futsal team is planning to play international friendly matches ahead of this year's overseas tournaments in April and May. The Futsal Team will compete in the ASEAN Futsal Championship in April and the 31<sup>st</sup> SEA Games in May.

The Myanmar national Futsal team is made up of 22 preliminary players and is headed by Thai national Boonlert Charoenwong. The Myanmar Futsal

team has been reorganized with most of the former squad players and some new players have been selected.

Goalkeeper Kyaw Htet Aung, Zwe Pyae Sone, Moe Min Aung, Khin Zaw Lin, Ye Min Khant, Nang Lin Tun, Hein Min Soe, Myo Myint Soe, Zaw Wunna, Ko Ko Lwin, Sai Pyone Aung, Wai Zin Oo, Htet Myat Tun, Htet Myat Naing, Myo Thet Aung, Nyein Min Soe, Htet Wai Tun, Chan

Thar, Tun Aung Kyaw, Thaing Bwe Aung, Hlaing Min Tun and Aung Zin Oo have been selected for the lineup list of the national futsal team.

The ASEAN Futsal Championship will be held in conjunction with the 2022 Asian Cup Futsal Championship. The first, second and third-placed teams will win the tournament and advance to the 2022 AFC Futsal Championship. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

## World leaders wish Beijing Winter Olympics, Paralympics complete success

STATE leaders and heads of international organizations have recently sent messages and letters to Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, wishing the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics a complete success and extending Spring Festival greetings to the Chinese people.

Noting that the Beijing Winter Olympics and Paralympics are the biggest international sporting event of this year, Vietnamese President Nguyen Xuan Phuc said that Beijing will be the first city in the world to successfully host both the Summer and Winter Olympics.

He said the Olympic flame lit at the National Stadium in Beijing will be a symbol of the sports spirit transcending national boundaries, which embodies the strong will and unity of mankind and inspires confidence in building a peaceful and prosperous world.

Vietnam and its people fully support and firmly believe that China will successfully hold the Winter Olympics and Paralympics, Phuc said. Thongloun Sisoulith, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and Lao president, said that the Beijing Winter Olympics have attracted worldwide attention and heightened anticipation.

China has given full play to the advantages of its comprehensive national strength, overcome the difficulties of the pandemic and successfully completed all preparatory work on schedule, said Thongloun.

He said the Lao side is confident that under the strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Xi at its core and with the joint efforts of the Chinese government and people, the Beijing Winter Olympics will surely become a splendid, extraordinary and outstanding sport event for the people of the world. —Xinhua ■

## Canada on brink, US ice Honduras in big chill

CANADA moved to the brink of their first World Cup finals appearance in 36 years on Wednesday with a 2-0 win over El Salvador as the United States reignited their qualification campaign with victory against Honduras.

Second-half goals from Atiba Hutchinson and Jonathan David gave Canada a deserved victory in San Salvador and left them leading the CONCACAF qualifying standings with 25 points from 11 games.

Although their qualification for Qatar is not mathematically certain, it would require a freak sequence of results for Canada to fail to qualify for their first World Cup since the 1986 finals in Mexico.

The Canadians lead the standings by four points with three games remaining, all to be played next month. A win over Costa Rica in their next game on March 24 would seal Canada's place in Qatar.

Elsewhere on Wednesday, the USA cruised to a 3-0 win over Honduras in a game played in sub-zero temperatures in St. Paul Minnesota. Two Honduras players were substituted at half-time due to the extreme weather conditions at the Allianz Field.

Players from both teams took to the field with multiple layers of clothing, with some opting for balaclavas in addition to gloves and thermal jerseys. — AFP ■



Photo taken on 29 Jan 2022 shows the decorative installations with the theme of 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics at a square in Yanqing District of Beijing, capital of China. PHOTO: XINHUA/REN CHAO