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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.

Myanma Thanaka — a natural cosmetic and a cultural heritage

By Myitta Moe Hnin (Bago)

THANAKA, a yellowish-white cosmetic paste made of ground bark, is commonly known as a natural cosmetic in Myanmar. It is a distinct feature of Myanmar people's culture. The majority of Myanmar people prefer to wear Thanaka from the old to young. However, Thanaka enters the competitive market against the chemical cosmetic products with chemical ingredients such as moisture cream, makeup products, sunscreen, toner, etc., in a rapidly changing world. Regardless of the formulated cosmetic products, Myanmar's Thanaka is regarded as a cultural heritage. Inevitably, Myanmar people apply to Thanaka despite the use of certain beauty products.

Myanmar people have been preserving the tradition of wearing Thanaka for generations. The mural paintings of temples that were built in the Bagan era depicted the tradition of the ladies wearing Thanaka. Moreover, Thanaka tradition and demonstrations can be seen in literature and arts, classical poems, folk songs, tales and languages. As a result of this, it is undeniably true that Myanmar people have been applying Thanaka on the



The mural paintings of temples that were built in the Bagan era depicted the tradition of the ladies wearing Thanaka. Moreover, Thanaka tradition and demonstrations can be seen in literature and arts, classical poems, folk songs, tales and languages.

face and arms and legs as natural cosmetics for generations.

It is believed that Myanmar people have applied it for health benefits and skin beauty since they were young.

Mothers also apply Thanaka on their babies after taking a bath. Sometimes, they let their children taste Thanaka paste while grinding it on a circular stone slab (Kyauk-pyin) with a

bit of water. It's believed that Thanaka keeps them cool, gives nutritional value and prevents nutritional rickets. Babies are wrapped in layettes (locally called A-hnee) after wearing

Thanaka. It's said to reduce body heat. Myanmar's children with Thanaka applied on their faces look innocent, adorable and beautiful.

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Approximately 20,000 pilgrims throng Bagan Cultural Zone in pre-Thingyan period

BAGAN cultural heritage zone in NyaungU Township, Mandalay, was packed with about 20,000 devotees in the pre-Thingyan period, said U Than Myint Oo from Shwezigon Pagoda Trustees Board.

Bagan cultural heritage zone, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was crowded with pilgrims during the Thingyan holidays. The pagoda is regularly opened for the devotees from 5 am to 6 pm. During the holidays, opening hours are extended from 5 am to 8 pm.

The local pilgrims are inter-

ested in observing the temples, stupas and mural paintings. The majority of the visitors were seen in the famous historical temples of Bagan city: Shwezigon Pagoda, Tuyintaung Pagoda, Tantkyitaung Pagoda, Htilominlo Temple, Ananda Temple, Bu Pagoda, Thatbyinnyu Temple, Dhammayangyi Temple, Sulamani Temple, Mahabodhi Temple, Sulamani Temple, Manuha Temple, Shwesandaw Pagoda, and other famous pagodas. Now they also like to observe the structure, building and mural paintings of Khayminga pagoda, Yinmanawin



Bagan cultural heritage zone, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was crowded with pilgrims during the Thingyan holidays.

pagoda, Wuttanahtaw pagoda, Sulegon Pagoda, Thagyapon and Thagyahit pagodas precinct, Shweleiktu, Ingyin Cave pagoda, Kyaukmyatmaw pagoda, and other pagodas in the cultural zone.

The pilgrims must strictly obey the health guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health. The zone receives about 20,000 pilgrims these days.

Those pilgrimages help re-

vive the small businesses such as horse-riding businesses, motorcycle and electric bike rental businesses, hotels, motels, guest-houses and souvenir businesses. — KPD/GNLM

Mandalay Yadanabon Park opening ceremony, Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Water Festival events to be broadcast live on MRTV

THE opening ceremony of the Mandalay Yadanabon Park will be broadcast live on Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV-HD) starting from 7:45 am on 13 April, eve of Thingyan.

The 1383 ME Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival celebrations across Myanmar, including the opening ceremonies of Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay mayors' pandals, will be broadcast live on exclusive channels of My-

anma Radio and Television.

On 13 April, the eve day of Thingyan, the Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Maha Thingyan pandals opening ceremony and performances will be broadcast on MRTV Farmer's Channel at 4:30 pm. The Yangon Mayor Maha Thingyan pandals opening ceremony and performances will be broadcast on MRTV Sports Channel at 7:15 am. The Mandalay Mayor Maha Thingyan pandals opening ceremony

and performances will be broadcast at 4 pm on MRTV Hluttaw Channel.

On 14 April, the first day of Thingyan, is called "Akyat Ney", and 15 April, the second day of Thingyan, "Akyat Ney" and the final day of Thingyan, "Atet Ney" on 16 April, respectively. Maha Thingyan Festival celebrations will be broadcast from 8 am to 12 pm and from 3 pm to 6 pm, and then 9:30 pm daily during the Thingyan Festival.—MRTV

70-foot Bailey Bridge on township-to-township road completes 100%

WITH K206.777 million of the fifth grant of the Republic of India, the Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department of the Ministry of Border Affairs implemented the 70 feet long two-layer bailey bridge across the Titi Creek and completed 100 per cent.

The bailey bridge is located on the 117th mile of dirt road and was constructed 225 miles and four furlongs Long on the La-

he-Leshi inter-township road. The bridge was built by the Sarameri Family Company and was completed cent per cent so that local people can cross the bridge during the rainy season.

The completion of the bridge will improve transport, education and health sectors for 11,248 people and 2,247 houses in nine villages. It would also greatly benefit the region's development. — MNA



COVID-19 vaccines delivered to Matupi Township

IN collaboration with civil society organizations, COVID-19 vaccines are transported to different states and regions meeting the Cold Trail Standards, which the Tatmadaw (Air) provides.

Sinovac COVID-19 vaccines, a phial of which can be given to one person at a time, are transported by Cold Chain Delivery Logistics trucks and by military aircraft to Matupi Township, Chin State, meeting quality control standards.

Officials said that on 12 April, 4,000 doses of Sinovac vaccines to Matupi Township were transported by Cold Chain Delivery Logistics vehicles.

Officials added that the authorities from each township received all the vaccines. They would be distributed to the public as soon as possible in accordance with the target population groups. — MNA

23 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 12 April, total figure rises to 612,406

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **612,406** after **23** new cases were reported on 12 April 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **591,029** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll stands at **19,434** without casualties. —MNA

Our Tatmadaw is the only institution hailed from the ethnic people

AS our Tatmadaw is the only institution hailed from the ethnic people, it has to safeguard the lives and poverty of the people and to assist in the daily social life security of the people in all directions.

(Excerpt from Speech Delivered by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Maha Thray Sithu Min Aung Hlaing at the Parade of the 77th Anniversary Armed Forces Day on 27th March 2022.)

MoEE Union Minister inspects main powerstations in Namhsam, Taunggyi, Kalaw, Yepaungson

UNION Minister for Electricity and Energy U Aung Than Oo, Shan State Chief Minister Dr Kyaw Tun, Commander of the Eastern Central Command Maj-Gen Hla Moe, and Shan State Minister for Natural Resources U Sai Leik inspected the electricity distribution at the Namhsam Main Station, Taunggyi Main Station, Kalaw Main Station, Yepaungson Main Station, and met with staff at the Shan State (South) Electrical Engineer Office on 11 April.

During the meeting with the staff, the Union minister said efforts are made to distribute sufficient electricity to the people as the electricity sector plays a vital role in the country’s development. He said that plans are made to produce electricity

based on a variety of energy resources.

He said it is necessary to encourage people to understand the works of the ministry as there is a delay in generating electricity due to various reasons, and the people are experiencing difficulties in adjusting the load from time to time. He also added the need to complete projects in a set period of time, inspect cable lines and equipment used in stations to distribute the electricity constantly and sustainably develop the substations, supervise for collection of electricity bills within the prescribed time and to prevent illegal access to electricity, to educate people to prevent electrical incidents.

— MNA



2nd waste clean-up campaign launched at MraukU cultural heritage zone

SINCE 2017, the government has been trying to nominate MraukU on the UNESCO world heritage lists and submitted the Nomination Dossier (Complete) to the World Heritage Committee in December 2021.

The Nomination Dossier

and the integrated management framework also mention the cleanliness of the heritage sites.

The collective garbage clean-up campaign is launched in MraukU cultural zone every Saturday.

District/township depart-

mental staff, local ethnic people, social/welfare organizations, and MraukU ancient cultural heritage conservation groups organized the second waste clean-up campaign yesterday at Nandawyagon and its vicinity.

— MNA



The second waste clean-up campaign is in action of MraukU cultural heritage zone.

Singapore accepts Myanmar COVIDPASS

PASSENGERS travelling to Singapore from Myanmar can now use the ZADA COVIDPASS to share their vaccination records on arrival at the immigration checkpoints at Changi Airport.

“We are very proud that COVIDPASS holders in Myanmar now can use the COVIDPASS as a vaccination proof when entering Singapore, giving travellers from Myanmar complete confidence that their data is secure and under their control,” said Andreas Sigurdson, ZADA Founder & CEO.

The COVIDPASS is managed in the ZADA digital wallet and can only be issued by accredited vaccination centres such as Pun Hlaing Hospitals in Yangon.

Digital health certificates such as COVIDPASS are becoming a key feature of international air travel, and decentralized solutions like ZADA are a

more secure and efficient way to manage them.

Tanes Kumar, Chief Commercial Officer at MAI, the first Airline in Myanmar to verify the COVIDPASS for travel, shared, “MAI is delighted to collaborate with COVIDPASS as we strive to improve the overall travel experience of our passengers during these challenging times. We hope this addresses the need to digitalize vaccine passports and streamline sharing of sensitive information.”

ZADA is seeing growing success with the COVIDPASS credential, and in the last eight months since going live in Myanmar, over 100,000 certificates have been issued, multiple partners have joined the network, and the unique experiences of running a Decentralized Identity Network have been shared through forums in both Europe, Southeast Asia and the Asia Pacific.—GNLM

Myanma Thanaka — a natural cosmetic and a cultural ...

FROM PAGE-1

It is said that Myanmar women's dignity was Thanaka as they wore them in the daytime, and older generations believe that they lack the appearance and elegant features of Myanmar women if they have a bare face. Thanaka's fragrance and yellowish-white natural look are appealing and make people peaceful. Moreover, there's a distinctive custom that people give Thanaka souvenirs from trips. Myanmar people are delighted with this present. Myanmar people love to smell Thanaka's fragrance.

Thanaka trees are commonly found in tropical central Myanmar regions, Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing regions. It cannot be grown in wetland areas and salt-affected land. Thanaka can prevent sunburn and heat. Therefore, the villagers engaged in farms always heavily wear Thanaka as it is said to soften the skin, and prevent wrinkles and sunburn. Thanaka's root gives you a more refreshing sensation. In summer, both the young and the old wear Thanaka on their faces, arms, and legs due to its cooling effects and skin benefits.

Nowadays, the Thanaka market feels threatened by the competitive market of formulated cosmetics. There are a variety of choices for cosmetic products. Besides, they are a bit pricey compared to Thanaka's price. Nevertheless, cosmetic advertising promotes the products, and the Thanaka market has become weak. Some wrongly commented that Thanaka gives freckles and pores. Thanaka, which passes down from the previous generations, is actually suitable for Myanmar weather conditions. Myanmar's traditional medicine refers to Thanaka treating skin diseases and curing rashes of hot weather and specific skin problems from cold weather.

In the medical aspect,



Thanaka trees are commonly found in tropical central Myanmar regions, Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing regions. It cannot be grown in wetland areas and salt-affected land.

Thanaka is an organic cosmetic in its purest form, and it has no harm to people and the environment. It can reduce wrinkles and treat freckles and acne. Its refreshing and cooling sensation will also protect you from sunburn and skin cancer.

The cosmetics with chemical ingredients might cause skin allergies. No one is allergic to Thanaka. Myanmar composers appreciate the beauty of Myanmar women wearing Thanaka and traditional costumes as dignified and gorgeous ones. People accept Thanaka's cultural value and its distinctive features.

It is mistaken that applying

Thanaka on faces will give you freckles. Thanaka is a remedy for smooth skin. The biological studies showed that it has medicinal properties that could help in the prevention of certain diseases and boost blood flow. Some females consider it a waste of time and apply other cosmetics like lotion. Meanwhile, some have worn it the whole time since they were young. They look younger with softened skin. Thanaka is a natural cosmetic with beneficial properties for Myanmar women.

Some use dried cobra saffron in grinding Thanaka bark for fragrance, and some even use turmeric for the yellow skin

upper Myanmar region wearing Thanaka in his lyrics. Famous singer Twantay Thein Tan sang it, "... Par Oh Ni Ni Lay Nel Hla Tel Nang Cherry Yay" (meaning A beautiful young woman with red cheeks called Nang Cherry).

Shan ethnic women have a unique style of wearing Thanaka. The ladies use cucumber-infused water. The middle-aged women apply Thanaka heavily on their faces. The older female applies it with some makeup foundation. They look elegant and beautiful. People living in the central Myanmar Region have brown skin due to the scorching weather. They are compliment-

venir from Sagaing to Yangon cities. (a lyric stating, "Shwebo Thanaka Tone Myar Yangon Lain Pho U, Bi Lo A Thar Mel Mel War War Nyat Nyat Phyu").

Myanmar New Year Festival also includes Thanaka applying events beyond the water throwing. The seasonal gum-kino (*Pterocarpus macrocarpus*) and Thanaka fragrance will give more refreshing and peaceful minds in the new year. The composers also put the Thanaka tradition of Myanmar people in Thingyan songs as well, depicting the culture and friendly behaviour of Myanmar people who are wearing Thanaka and enjoying the water festival. The modern song also has the lyrics of a lovely girl with Thanaka. The composers never fail to praise the beauty of Thanaka for generations.

Thanaka value-added products such as Thanaka powder, perfume, cream, makeup and ointment are manufactured. Myanmar Thanaka Planters and Producers Association is also encouraging the growers to practice the systematic growing method, the people to use the organic Thanaka and penetrate the international market. They are striving to preserve the Thanaka tradition of the Myanmar people. The imported cosmetics may not be suitable for Myanmar's weather conditions, and sometimes, it can lead to harmful impacts. As a result of this, this article is written to promote and preserve Myanma Thanaka, which is suitable for its own weather condition and honour Myanmar women wearing natural Thanaka.

Translated.



Thanaka value-added products such as Thanaka powder, perfume, cream, makeup and ointment are manufactured.

in rural communities. Some women from the mountain regions mixed it with cucumber-infused water for more benefits and beauty with red cheeks. The ladies apply their faces to the shape of a leaf. Song composer Ko Nyunt Wai composed the beauty of women from the

ed as attractive women as they possess light brown skin tone with Thanaka cosmetics. Classical song of a popular composer Nandaw Shay Saya Tin praised how Shwebo Thanaka variety will give you yellowish skin colour, how dark the skin colour is, and it is worth taking as a sou-



Myanma Thanaka is seen at one of the Thanaka outlets.

U Pauk Bridge (Kanthaya) opened in Hpa-an Township

THE opening ceremony of the U Pauk Bridge in Hpa-an Township of Kayin State was organized yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by Kayin State Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo, state government officials and relevant town elders.

The 1,100 feet long and 6 feet wide U Pauk Bridge was constructed spending the K289 million budget of the Kayin State government. It is such a truss bridge decorated with Myanmar traditional artworks on poles and railing.

After the bridge opening procedures, the chief minister and party inspected the bridge and left instructions on the necessary things.



The ceremonial opening event of the U Pauk Bridge is in progress. **PHOTO: SAW MYO MIN THEIN (IPRD)**

The Kayin State government makes efforts to ensure the green environment of Kanthaya, tourist attraction, recreation and health issues of the public during the term of the State Administration Council by constructing Steel Structure Decking on Kanthaya road, new strand road, retaining wall, Zwekabin park, fountain, water-fall and café shops and 10 ft wide pedestrian along Yan Myo Aung and Kyaw Zeya roads. – Saw Myo Min Thein (IPRD)/GNLM

2nd Rakhine traditional Nanthā grinding contest held in Ponnagyun Township



The second Rakhine traditional incense grinding contest is in action in Ponnagyun Township. **PHOTO: NI TUN AUNG(IPRD)**

THE PNG Development Youth Organization (PDYO) of Ponnagyun Township organized the second Rakhine traditional incense grinding contest at the Lawka Marazein Pagoda precinct in Ponnagyun, Rakhine State, yesterday.

The ceremony was launched with the sounds of Rakkhita Ra-

khine traditional drums, and contest organizing committee members explained the event's intentions.

A total of 12 groups consisting of two supervisors, one leader, one town elder and 10 participants in each group participated in Nanthā grinding competition.

During the event, the chief of panel of judges also explained the grading system of the contest.

According to the organizing committee, the first prize will be K300,000, the second prize K200,000, the third prize K100,000, the fourth prize K50,000, the best costume prize K50,000 and the best photo award K50,000. – Ni Tun Aung (IPRD)/GNLM

K720 mln worth of DRD projects to cover 72 villages in Myeik District

THE rural road development projects will cover 72 villages in the 2022-2023 Financial Year in Myeik District, Taninthayi Region, spending K720 million, said U Aung Kyaw Oo, head of Myeik District Department of Rural Development (DRD).

The DRD has been implementing rural road development projects, bridge infrastructure, water distribution networks, rural electrification projects, establishing revolving funds and self-reliant rural development projects with a multi-sectoral approach, aiming for rural development and sustainable socio-economic development of the rural community.

The government allocates

K10 million for each village and is to contribute K720 million for 72 villages.

Myeik District DRD has carried out rural development projects between the 2015-2016 FY and 2021-2022 FY, covering 154 villages. Those 154 projects are conducted with the government fund of K1,444 million and individuals' contribution of K 105 million. A total of 66 concrete roads (three miles and 1.24 furlongs), 13 earthen roads (two miles and 4.48 furlongs), five lakeside roads (one mile), 27 jetties, three concrete bridges, 48 water supply projects and 14 educational facilities have been constructed so far, the department stated. – Myint Oo (Myeik)/GNLM



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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.

Thandwe flights extended 24 times amid visitors' surge in Ngapali during Thingyan Festival

WITH the Myanmar New Year holiday being a nine-day holiday from 9 to 17 April, many visitors to Ngapali beach from Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw causes Thandwe flights are being flown 24 times more than the original route, according to MAI Airlines.

During the Myanmar New Year Holiday period, there are also crowded visitors to Chaungtha and Ngwesaung beaches from Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw.

The Yangon-Thandwe flight is operated daily by Air KBZ's ATR 72-600 aircraft seven times a week. Starting from November, Mandalay-Thandwe flights have been operating per the requirements of tour operators.



One of the Air KBZ fleet. PHOTO: KANU

Thandwe flights from 8 April to 18 April extended extra flights 24 times for visitors to relax on beaches during the Myanmar New Year holiday and the eve

day of Thingyan 13 April to the final day of Thingyan 16 April and the travellers to hometown before the last day of holiday 17 April with the number of flights

are being extended.

"MAI operates international flights, and Air KBZ operates domestic flights. Due to the availability of aircraft, we oper-

ate according to the needs of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. During this Thingyan holiday, people often relax on the beach. A regular flight of Thandwe operates daily for a week. We are also providing extra flights to visitors during the Thingyan festival," said Capt Kyaw Soe Hla of MAI Airlines.

When Myanmar Airways International (MAI) resumes international flights, it will expand its domestic and international flights depending on demand, as Air KBZ extends its Thandwe flights 24 times due to large numbers of travellers to Ngapali during the Thingyan Festival. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/GNLM

CRIME NEWS

Illegal timbers, sawmill equipment, consumer goods, home appliances, vehicles seized

SUPERVISED by the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, action is being taken against illegal trade under the law. The combined inspection teams led by the Rakhine State Department of Forest conducted 9 and 10 April inspections. They seized 6.3918 tonnes of illegal timbers (estimated value of K447,426) in Taungup Township and An Township. Action is taken under the Forest Law.

In addition, a combined inspection team led by the Yangon Region Forest Department conducted inspections in the

Yangon Northern District on 9, 10, and 11 April. During the examination, equipment used in the sawmill (estimated value of K530,000) in Taikkyi Township, a vehicle with 0.8148 tonne of illegal timbers in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, and 0.8334 tonne of illegal timbers in Dagon Myothit (East), estimated at K15,588,338, were seized under the Forest Law.

On 11 April, general consumer goods and home appliances (estimated value of K16,300,000), which were not mentioned in the Import Dec-

laration, were seized under the Customs Law at the Myanmar Industrial Port Container Checkpoint.

In addition, on 11 and 12 April, 16.4306 tonnes of illegal timbers (estimated value of K4,909,614) were seized under the Forest Law in the Bago District, Toungoo District, Pyay District and Thayawady District in Bago Region.

Therefore, 13 arrests (estimated value of K37,245,378) were made from 9 to 12 April, the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee stated. — MNA



Officials confiscate illegal sawmill machine in Yangon Region.

Stimulant tablets worth K32.5 bln seized in An, Shwepyitha townships

STIMULANT tablets worth K32.5 billion were held in An Township and Shwepyitha Township on 5 and 6 April, according to the Myanmar Police Force.

A collaborative team consisting of security personnel searched a 6-wheel vehicle

driven by Zaw Myo Thant (a) Pho Htoo accompanied by Thein Than Myint at the An (Pe Padon) combined checkpoint and found and confiscated 15 million stimulant tablets inside the garment bags, on the evening of 5 April.

According to the investigation, Kyaw Min Thein (a) Thein

Shwe, Htet Wai Yan, Hla Aung Zan, Nan Aung Lin, Moe Che, and Moe Kyaw, who were in charge of the transportation of the drugs, were arrested together with a Toyota Probox car at around 11 pm in MraukU.

Their statements led to the warehouse in the ward (4), Shwepyitha Township, Yangon Region, where 10 million stimulant tablets and a Mitsubishi Canter vehicle were stored. The police seized the stimulant tablets and the car.

These drugs were reportedly transported from Yangon Region to Rakhine State. It is learned that action is taken against the related suspects under the law, and the police are investigating to identify and arrest-related suspects, according to the MPF. — MNA



Eight arrestees are seen along with seized stimulant pills and vehicles.

Four women imprisoned for human trafficking

THE Dekkhina District Court sentenced a woman named Daw Nu Nu Nge (a) Daw Ohnma to 10 years in prison with labour for trafficking four women who lived in Tatkon Township to China on 8 April.

She persuaded them to work in a milk powder factory and a shoe factory in China which would pay K300,000 per month, and sold them to Chinese men. A case was filed against her at the Tatkon Township Police Station under Section 24/32 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law.

On the same day, the PyinOoLwin District Court also sentenced Ma Khin

Hnin Wai (a) Wai Wai to 15 years in prison with labour under Section 24 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law for her role in trafficking two women to men in China.

Daw Mar Cho (a) Daw Kyin Hla, who lived in the Danyingon ward of Insein Township and Ma Aye Aye Khine, residing in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, were also sentenced to 10 years in prison under Section 24 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law on 8 April.

They were found guilty of trafficking a 30-year-old woman to a Chinese man in China. — MNA

Statement to appreciate teachers' efforts

TEACHERS are honoured as part of the Five Infinite Venerables, and the manner of paying respect to the teachers can be only seen in Myanmar as a tradition. The teachers teach their pupils based on their goodwill like their own children and dutifully serve a teacher's duties. They must train their pupils and students in the best discipline. They see that they grasp their lessons well. They instruct them in the arts and sciences, they provide for their safety in every quarter, and they introduce them to their friends and associates.

As the COVID-19 infection rate is controlled to a certain extent, the basic education high, middle and primary schools under the Department of Basic Education have reopened across nation for the 2021-2022 academic year starting 1 June.

Those who want to seek good sake of one party, political extremist NLD members and supporters, NUG, CRPH and PDF committed arson attacks at the schools using mines, homemade bombs and grenades to fail the teaching processes, and threatened the teachers in addition to the incitements, social punishment and threats against education staff to join CDM while the officials made preparations for the reopening of schools and during the current teaching period. Their doings left some casualties, and the State Administration Council has expressed its deepest condolences and sympathy to the victims' families.

The SAC also appreciates the concerted efforts of teachers, who understand two virtues, Hiri — shame at doing evil —and Otappa—fear of the results of doing evil —for teaching the new generations of the country amid such difficulties and challenges.

The security forces will take extraordinary measures to ensure the safety of teachers who are making efforts in the academic sector for the next generations in order to promote the education qualification. The people should keep security awareness and cooperate with the security members in community peace and peaceful learning of children.

*Information Team
State Administration Council*

MAI to extend local, foreign flights after easing curbs on international flights

THE Yangon International Airport will resume admission to international flights on 17 April, Myanmar New Year Day and Myanmar Airways International will extend domestic and foreign flights.

MAI will run Malaysia, Singapore and Bangkok flights once a day while thrice a day to Guangzhou (China) and Incheon (South Korea), once a week to India, Dubai of UAE and Japan and twice a week to Phuket (Thailand) and Penang (Malaysia) and also operate Mandalay-Bangkok route. It also plans to operate New Delhi (India), Dubai and Japan flights thrice every week.

“MAI provided flight operations keeping in line with the



Foreign visitors were seen at Yangon International Airport before the outbreak of COVID-19. PHOTO: KANU

airports. After the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic for two years, we will provide services as per the rules and regulations of WHO when the world tourism industry is revised. The MAI welcomes the tourists,” said U Kyaw Soe Hla, Chief Operating Officer of MAI.

During the Thingyan period, MAI will run to 18 domestic airports in addition to Thandwe, Sittway, Kyaukpyu, Mandalay, Myitkyina, Putao, Kengtung, Tachilek, Myeik, Kawthoung, Nay Pyi Taw and Lashio.

The MAI will resume local and foreign flight operations following the COVID-19 health rules of the Ministry of Health.

— Nyein Thu(MNA)/GNLM

rules of transportation. It has been running for 27 years since 1993 and will keep cooperating in the country's development sector when world tourism comes alive again in Myanmar.

We will run local routes as the Kalay airport is opened.

“We will run to 18 local

Pansodan-Dala ferry schedule to shift during 2022 Thingyan holidays

CHERRY Ferry on the Yangon Pansodan-Dala route operated under Inland Water Transport (IWT) will run a reduced schedule during Thingyan holidays to facilitate public transport.

The Pansodan-Dala Port is the only gateway for the local people in southern Yangon — Dala, Twantay, Kawhmu, Kungyangon townships, and some parts of Ayeyawady Region link with the commercial city hub of Yangon.

The service contributes to the health and socio-economic development of the local community.

The ferry on the Yangon Pansodan-Dala route was plying to and from the ports with 42 plies per day. Dala Port is

available between 5:30 am and 7:30 pm, while the Pansodan side is open between 6 am and 8 pm.

Yangon Pansodan-Dala ferry service has been running regularly. The ferry schedules were changed, balancing the COVID-19 situation and the number of commuters.

During the Thingyan holidays, people might see down-ticks in the passenger rates and freight forwarding service.

Therefore, the ferry will run 20 plies between 6 am and 7 pm at Dala Jetty and between 6:30 am and 7:30 pm at Pansodan Jetty.

The reduced schedule has been declared on the notice board at the ticket office entrance.



The Cherry ferry leaves for Dala across Yangon River.

The ferry schedule will go back to normal after the Thingyan holidays. The ferry costs K100 per passenger.

The ferry ensures the security of a smooth and sound transition for the commuters.

— Aung Myint (IPRD)/GNLM

Wash your souls to be whitish, welcome New Year

DOUSING the people each other with water has been proving the activities of the traditional Thingyan festival of Myanmar for many years, but it was derived from a concept of Hinduism. In fact, Myanmar adopted other's concepts as a fantastic activity in its own culture.

Whatever Hinduism mentions the Thingyan festival as an origin, Myanmar people are enjoying the water-throwing festivities recognized as mitigating the overheat situation of the summer for creating chances for the people to take relaxation and green the environs with thriving trees. Hence, the water-throwing festival benefits both the people and the environment.

The activities of the Maha Thingyan festival can make the

Only when their souls are clean and whitish can they wash others. Only when they have purified their minds can they help others successfully change their mindsets. That is why all the people need to reset their mindsets in line with the nature, situation and period of the Maha Thingyan festival.

deeply cleanse themselves physically and mentally.

Only when their souls are clean and whitish can they wash others. Only when they have purified their minds can they help others successfully change their mindsets. That is why all the people need to reset their mindsets in line with the nature, situation and period of the Maha Thingyan festival. If so, everybody does not need to hug the regrets for everything in the future.

Now is the time of the Maha Thingyan festival. The people, whether they enjoy the water-throwing festival or not, should wash their minds without fail and need to maintain the fresh mindsets leading to the activities for providing benevolent acts to others as part of performing meritorious deeds during the significant days avoiding malpractice acts.

■ ■ ■

people and the society cold. Three or four days included in the Maha Thingyan festival period are enough for changing the temperature of the environment. In a moment, people can escape from the frets of the secular world by enjoying the water festival.

As a tradition of Myanmar, people donate meals and snacks to the people from four corners of the country as much as they can during the period of the Maha Thingyan festival. It is one of the changes from the original concept of Hinduism. Moreover, young people start preparations for providing necessary assistance to the elders on the Myanmar New Year's Day when they will perform manicuring, shampooing and watering the senior citizens respectfully.

All activities at the water-throwing festival are very good. Indeed, all the people of Myanmar need to take care of themselves with farsightedness leading to a vicious circle. They all need to wash themselves at first before dousing others with water. They should

20 countries still below 10% Covid jab rate: WHO experts

TWENTY mostly African countries have still not vaccinated even 10 per cent of their population against Covid-19, the World Health Organization's vaccine advisers lamented Monday.

The Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunisation (SAGE) said the speed of the Covid jab rollout had been "unprecedented".

However, 20 countries — down from 34 in January — had still not managed a 10-per cent immunization rate, Kate O'Brien, the WHO's vaccines chief, told reporters.

"These are countries that are working really hard to advance their programmes. Supply is no longer the issue. The legacy of all the supply constraint from 2021 — the effects of that (are) still being felt," she said.

SAGE said vaccination coverage among the groups most vulnerable to severe Covid-19 disease was not enough to give them the protection they needed. Health worker coverage is at 65 per cent overall.

"That's certainly a very, very strong position to be in, but we're really carrying the message forward that it needs to be 100 per cent," said O'Brien.

Coverage in the over-60s is at 69 per cent — though the figure falls to 24 per cent in some regions of the world.

Omicron data gap

So far, the WHO has authorized eight Covid-19 vaccines and versions thereof, giving them the green light with its emergency use listing (EUL) status.

SAGE said that available data on their effectiveness

against the Omicron variant of Covid-19 generally showed waning immunity against infection but high and more sustained effectiveness against severe disease and death — especially after booster doses.

However, it added: "Data remain very limited for some of the WHO EUL vaccines" in their performance against Omicron.

The WHO EUL-approved vaccines are those made by Pfizer, AstraZeneca, Janssen, Moderna, Sinovac, Sinopharm, Bharat Biotech and Novavax.

SAGE had data on the first five of those, said O'Brien, but for some it had "a lot more evidence than others".

Studies were only just starting to come out on the Sinovac jab, she said. "We don't have real-world evidence in the Omicron era for other products that are

WHO EUL."

70 per cent target

The Covax facility, founded to ensure the poorest 92 countries in the world get access to Covid-19 jabs with the cost covered by donors, has so far shipped 1.42 billion vaccine doses to 145 territories, according to UNICEF, which handles the logistics.

The scheme has sufficient supply available for all those countries to achieve the WHO's 70-per cent coverage target by June, said SAGE.

Covax can only use WHO EUL vaccines.

Cravioto said SAGE had reviewed the CanSino vaccine and would produce its usage recommendations for the jab once the WHO gave it the EUL green light, "hopefully in the next weeks".

SOURCE: AFP



So far, the WHO has authorized eight Covid-19 vaccines and versions thereof, giving them the green light with its emergency use listing (EUL) status. PHOTO: JACKIE RICCIARDI/BU.EDU/AFP

High raw material costs plus weak yen threaten recovery from COVID

JAPAN'S recovery from the COVID-19 economic fallout is at a crossroads as surging raw material costs, driven by the war in Ukraine and amplified by a weak yen, are beginning to cool corporate sentiment.

Despite emerging evidence of companies passing on higher energy, commodity and grain prices to consumers, many are still finding it difficult to raise prices, according to the Bank of Japan's Tankan survey released Friday.

Uncertainty over the war in Ukraine, further yen weakness as a byproduct of the BOJ's powerful monetary easing, and the pandemic situation at home and overseas, especially in major trading partner China, are making companies cautious, economists say.

The yen's rapid depreciation to an over six-year low has heightened a sense of alarm among some corporate executives, complicating efforts to ensure a recovery from the pandemic. A weak yen inflates import costs to the detriment of resource-scarce Japan.

"The recovery from the pandemic may be pausing," said Shunsuke Kobayashi, chief economist at Mizuho Securities Co.



A staffer works in a bakery in Kyoto, western Japan, on 17 March 2022, while price hikes are considered due to spikes in wheat prices. PHOTO: KYODO

"Even if crude oil prices fall from current levels toward \$80 a barrel, it would still be hard for the Japanese economy," he said.

Import costs for Japan

Kobayashi expects that if commodity prices stay at current levels, import costs for Japan this

year will increase by around 11 trillion yen (\$90 billion) from a year earlier. West Texas Intermediate crude oil futures were around \$100 a barrel on Thursday.

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida has ordered the crafting of a new economic package by late April to ease the pain felt by con-

sumers from higher energy, commodity and grain prices ahead of a key national election this summer.

One of the key pillars would be to incentivize companies withholding price increases for fear of losing sales to pass on costs to consumers and extend financing support for struggling small and

mid-sized firms.

To soften the blow to consumers from surging energy costs, the government has been giving oil wholesalers subsidies to bring down retail prices.

But the method can be counteractive, economists say. Gasoline prices lowered by such subsidies may help consumers but will not reduce energy demand and imports, which would further worsen the country's trade balance, a weak yen factor.

Prices are rising when Japan has not seen the kind of robust pent-up demand seen in the United States or Europe during pandemic recovery, and tepid wage growth threatens to sap spending appetite.

The recovery in confidence among manufacturers and non-manufacturers stalled in the BOJ's Tankan survey for March, after six straight quarters of improvement.

Companies in the closely watched survey expect prices to rise 1.8 per cent a year later, the sharpest pace on record.

Output prices among big manufacturers

The reading for output prices

among big manufacturers hit an over 41-year high, though the index is still lower than that measuring input prices.

Consumers in Japan, which experienced years of deflation, are sensitive to price hikes.

In a government survey released Thursday, Japan's fiscal state, the economy and the price situation were the top three areas cited by Japanese people as worsening. The data was collected before Russia's invasion of Ukraine sent crude oil and commodity prices surging and the yen's rapid depreciation.

Kengo Sakurada, who leads the Japan Association of Corporate Executives, fired a warning shot against the yen's sharp fall.

"It's not just exporters that are leading the Japanese economy. The service sector accounts for 70 per cent of gross domestic product," Sakurada said at a recent press conference. "The service sector is not necessarily structured in a way that welcomes a weak yen."

A weak yen boosts the overseas profits of exporters when repatriated.

SOURCE: Kyodo



MYANMAR Daily Weather Report

(ISSUED at 7:00 pm Tuesday 12 April, 2022)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 13 April, 2022:

Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State and isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Taninthayi Regions and Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Mon States. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining regions and states.

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

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of fairly wide spread rain or thundershowers in upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State and scattered in Shan, Kayah States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 April, 2022: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 April, 2022: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 April, 2022: Partly cloudy.

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First private mission reaches International Space Station



A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket with the Crew Dragon capsule Endeavor has taken off from the Kennedy Space Centre for the first fully private mission to the International Space Station. **PHOTO: NASA/AFP**

THE first fully private mission reached the International Space Station early Saturday with a four-member crew from startup company Axiom Space.

NASA has hailed the three-way partnership with Axiom and SpaceX as a key step towards commercializing the region of space known as “Low Earth Orbit”, leaving the agency to focus on more ambitious voyages deeper into the cosmos.

A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket with the Crew Dragon capsule Endeavor docked at 1229 GMT Saturday and the crew entered the space station nearly two hours later, after launching from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida on Friday.

Commanding the Axiom Mission 1 (Ax-1) is former NASA astronaut Michael Lopez-

Alegria, a dual citizen of the United States and Spain, who flew to space four times over his 20-year-career, and last visited the ISS in 2007.

He is joined by three paying crewmates: American real estate investor Larry Connor, Canadian investor and philanthropist Mark Pathy, and Israeli former fighter pilot, investor and philanthropist Eytan Stibbe.

“We’re here to experience this but we understand there’s a responsibility,” Connor said in comments shown on NASA’s live feed.

As the first civilian crew, he said, they “need to get it right.”

The widely reported price for tickets – which includes eight days on the outpost, before eventual splashdown in the Atlantic – is \$55 million.—AFP ■

Iraqis clean up river as first green projects take root

GARBAGE clogs the banks of Iraq’s Tigris River in Baghdad but an army of young volunteers is cleaning it, a rare environmental project in the war-battered country.

With boots and gloves, they pick up soggy trash, water bottles, aluminium cans and muddy styrofoam boxes, part of a green activist campaign called the Cleanup Ambassadors.

“This is the first time this area has been cleaned since 2003,” shouts a passer-by about the years of conflict since a US-led invasion toppled dictator Saddam Hussein.

The war is over but Iraq faces another huge threat: a host of interrelated environmental problems from climate change and rampant pollution to dust storms and water scarcity.

The 200 volunteers at work in Baghdad want to be part of the solution, removing garbage from a stretch of one of the mighty rivers that gave birth to the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia.

“It breaks my heart to see the banks of the Tigris in this state,” said one 19-year-old volunteer, who gave only her first name, Rassel, working under Baghdad’s Imams Bridge.—AFP ■



Young Iraqi volunteers take part in a cleanup campaign on the banks of the Tigris River, a rare environmental project in the war-battered country. **PHOTO: AFP**

Climate change drove extreme rain in southeast Africa storms: study

A string of deadly storms pumelled Madagascar, Malawi and Mozambique with more intense rainfall because of climate change, new research found Monday. Three tropical cyclones and two tropical storms hit Southeast Africa in just six weeks in the first months of this year, causing widespread flooding.

More than a million people were affected and at least 230 people died. The analysis was carried out by the World Weather Attribution (WWA) network of scientists, which has pioneered ways to speedily link extreme weather events to climate change.

They said that it was climate change that had made the heavy

rains brought by the back-to-back storms both heavier and more likely. “Again we are seeing how the people with the least responsibility for climate change are bearing the brunt of the impacts,” said WWA co-founder Friederike Otto, of the Grantham Institute at Imperial College London.—AFP ■

24 dead in Philippines landslides, flooding

AT least 24 people have been killed in landslides and flooding across central and southern Philippines, authorities said Monday, after tropical storm Megi dumped heavy rain and disrupted travel ahead of the Easter holidays.

More than 13,000 people fled to emergency shelters as the storm pounded the region Sunday, the national disaster agency said, flooding houses, inundating fields, cutting off roads and knocking out power.

The central province of Leyte was among the hardest hit, with landslides leaving 21 people dead in four villages, Baybay City disaster officer Rhyse Austero told AFP.

Leyte’s death toll adds to another three people killed on the main southern island of Mindanao, the national disaster agency said.

Photos posted on Facebook and verified by AFP show several houses buried in mud up to the rooftops in Bunga, one of the affected villages in Leyte.

“Yesterday the rain was so hard, it was non-stop for more than 24 hours,” resident Hannah Cala Vitangcol told AFP.

The 26-year-old teacher fled with her family to a hotel Monday after waking to find nearby homes had been covered in an avalanche of mud.

“I was crying because I know the people buried there and I was also scared because there were mountains behind our house,” she said.

Baybay City council member Mark Unlu-cay posted photos on Facebook showing survivors from another village, Kantagnos, being treated in hospital.—AFP ■



At least 24 people have been killed in landslides and flooding across central and southern Philippines, authorities said Monday. **PHOTO: AFP**

As pandemic fades, Spain Easter traditions resurrected



The parades feature dozens of people dressed in religious tunics and distinctive pointy hoods, and elaborate floats. **PHOTO: CRISTINA QUICLER /AFP**

WITH Easter processions cancelled for the past two years due to the coronavirus pandemic, Spain's colourful Holy Week marches made their eagerly awaited return to the streets on Sunday.

The holiday, which runs until Easter Day on 17 April, is a time when huge crowds traditionally gather to watch the elaborate processions in this deeply Catholic country.

Organized by brotherhoods, the parades feature dozens of

people dressed in religious tunics and distinctive pointy hoods and elaborate floats topped with statues of Jesus and the Virgin Mary.

Some of the processions date back hundreds of years.

"We're very excited after two years" of being unable to celebrate Holy Week, said Rafael Perez of the Work and Light Brotherhood that stages one of the processions in the southern city of Granada.

In Seville — whose 680,000-strong population dou-

bles during Holy Week — people played traditional procession music over loudspeakers or sang mournful saetas from balconies, a capella ballads about the death of Jesus and the grief of his mother.

Everything was thrown up in the air in mid-March 2020 when the country went into lockdown as the virus took hold a month before Easter, hitting Spain badly as it spread like wildfire.

In one of the world's strictest lockdowns, Spain cancelled all religious celebrations, prompting some to improvise festivities at home on their balconies, mostly in the south where Easter processions have been held for centuries. The situation improved slightly last year, although with memories still fresh of the explosion of virus cases after Christmas the authorities imposed curfews and a ban on travel between regions that clouded the festivities.

The southern city of Seville's impressive Holy Week parades, which had never been cancelled since 1933, were called off for a second year running in a move mirrored across Spain. —AFP ■

Shanghai starts easing lockdown in some neighbourhoods

SHANGHAI eased restrictions on some neighbourhoods Monday after mounting outcry over inflexible Covid-19 rules that have locked down 25 million people, caused food shortages and left thousands in quarantine. Authorities said they would gradually begin to allow those in areas with the least number of virus cases to leave their communities, although it was unclear how many people will be allowed out of their homes or when. China has stuck to a policy of "zero Covid", aiming to eliminate infections through rigid lockdowns, mass testing and travel restrictions.

Shanghai has been placed

under some of the most severe measures since the virus emerged in Wuhan in 2019, with a strict lockdown leaving many struggling to get enough food and thousands sent to centralised quarantine centres.

Officials said they would categorise communities across the city into three levels based on the number of infections.

"Differentiated prevention and control (measures)" would reflect the "actual circumstances" on the ground, Shanghai official Gu Honghui said Monday, in a move that appeared aimed at defanging rising anger over authorities' handling of the virus.—AFP ■



Workers unload supplies including boxes of masks in Shanghai on 10 April 2022. **PHOTO: CHINATOPIX/XINHUA**

Queen Elizabeth felt 'exhausted' from Covid



NHS workers and former patients talk via video link to Queen Elizabeth II during the official opening of the Queen Elizabeth Unit at Royal London Hospital. **PHOTO: RALPH HODGSON/VARIOUS SOURCES/ AFP**

BRITAIN'S Queen Elizabeth II, who turns 96 soon, has spoken of serious fatigue after she contracted Covid-19 in February despite aides downplaying her illness.

At the time, Buckingham Palace said the vaccinated monarch had "mild, cold-like symp-

toms". But she was forced to cancel a series of appointments with foreign diplomats, at the start of her record-breaking 70th year on the throne.

Queen Elizabeth recalled her experience on Wednesday when she spoke to staff and patients by video-link to mark the

opening of a hospital unit named in her honour in east London.

Speaking to one former Covid patient who required ventilation, the queen said about the virus: "It does leave one very tired and exhausted, doesn't it?"

"This horrible pandemic. It's not a nice result," she said, according to footage released by the palace on Sunday.

The unit at the Royal London Hospital was built in record time to cope with an influx of Covid sufferers.

The construction team hailed the "Dunkirk spirit" that inspired them, referring to the World War II retreat of British and allied forces from northern France, in the face of a Nazi onslaught.

"Thank goodness it still exists," the queen replied.

"It is very interesting, isn't it, when there is some very vital thing, how everybody works together and pulls together — marvellous, isn't it?"—AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli researchers design wearable sensors to improve vaccine trials

A group of Israeli researchers has designed wearable smart sensors to help monitor the process of vaccine trials, Tel Aviv University (TAU) in central Israel said on Sunday.

The researchers said that wearable sensors can better help vaccine developers make early identifications of abnormal reactions and therefore improve the process of the trials.

The new method is better than the current practice in vaccine trials, which is primarily based on self-reported questionnaires and may lead to biased results, it added.

The TAU said the study was conducted between 1 Jan and 13 March 2021, during the mass COVID-19 vaccination campaign in Israel.

The researchers gave chest-patch sensors to 160 adult participants to monitor them and use a mobile application for collecting the information the sensors updated automatically every day.—Xinhua ■

Vietnam reports 23,184 new COVID-19 cases

VIETNAM reported 23,184 new COVID-19 cases on Monday, down 5,123 from Sunday, according to the country's Ministry of Health.

The new infections were logged in 61 localities nationwide, with 23,181 domestically transmitted and three imported cases.

Localities reporting the highest numbers include the Vietnamese capital Hanoi with 2,011 new cases, central Vietnam's Nghe An province with 1,470, and the northern Yen Bai province with 1,271.

Also on Monday, local health authorities of central Vietnam's Thanh Hoa province reported 28,740 previously detected COVID-19 cases.—Xinhua ■

Italy PM signs Algeria gas deals to reduce Russia reliance

ITALIAN Prime Minister Mario Draghi announced a deal on Monday to boost gas deliveries from energy heavyweight Algeria, as he steps up efforts to reduce Rome's heavy reliance on Russian imports.

Addressing journalists after meeting President Abdelmadjid Tebboune, Draghi told journalists the two governments had signed a preliminary deal on energy cooperation.

"There is also a deal between ENI and Sonatrach to boost gas exports to Italy," he said, referring to the Italian energy giant and Algeria's state hydrocarbons firm.

The firms agreed to boost gas exports through the Transmed undersea pipeline starting this autumn, gradually "increasing volumes of gas... up to 9 billion cubic metres per year in 2023-24", ENI said

in a statement.

The Ukraine war has sparked a Western push for sanctions against Moscow, including moves to drastically cut purchases of Russian gas.

Italy buys the vast majority of its natural gas from overseas, and is one of the most Russia-reliant gas importers in Europe, with over 40 per cent of its imports coming from the country. But Italy also im-

ports significant amounts from Algeria, including some 6.4 billion cubic metres of Algerian gas during the first quarter of 2021, a 109 per cent uptick from the previous year.

The war in Ukraine and the subsequent campaign of Western sanctions have prompted Rome to step up the search for alternative sources, with gas giant Algeria an obvious option.— AFP ■



There is also a deal between ENI and Sonatrach to boost gas exports to Italy. The Sannazzaro refinery of Italian multinational oil and gas company ENI. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3206W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3206W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **12-4-2022** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (169N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (169N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-4-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V KOTA HIDAYAH VOY.NO. (KHDY0314N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V KOTA HIDAYAH VOY.NO. (KHDY0314N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-4-2022** 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 PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ZIM AUSTRALIA VOY.NO. (5S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ZIM AUSTRALIA VOY.NO. (5S/N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-4-2022** 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 GOLD STAR LINES PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PANJA BHUM VOY.NO. (190W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PANJA BHUM VOY.NO. (190W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **12-4-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

TUG: PG 2012 AND BG: CASSANDRA-2502 (V.0322)

Consignees of cargo carried on **TUG: PG 2012 AND BG: CASSANDRA-2502 (V.0322)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-4-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S UNI SHIPPING LOGISTICS HOLDINGS PTE LTD

Transferred Distributor for Registration Pesticides

Distribution and registration processes of below pesticides produced by **Agsin Pte Ltd.** will have been transferred from **Htet Thiha Naing Company Limited.** to **Zagro Myanmar Ltd.** So, if there is any protest, please protest to this address: Co-Secretary, Pesticides Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Gyogone (West), Insein Township within (14) days starting from this announcement.

No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Reg Type	Reg; No.
1	Metalmen	Mancozeb 64% + Metalaxyl 8% w/w WP	Full	F2016-710
2	Imasin 10 SL	Imazethapyr 10% SL	Full	F2019-2006

Htet Thiha Naing Company Limited.
TEL : (95) 9 784999975

Transferring Distributorship For Registered Pesticides

We, **Jiangxi Zhengbang Crop Protection Co.,Ltd** would like to change the distributor of the following product, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar from **Friends Helper Co.,Ltd** to **Myanmar Shwe Thein Trading Co.,Ltd.** If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next two weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration Type	Registration No
1	ZB-Flash 16 SC	Emamectin Benzoate 4% + Indoxacarb 12% SC	Experimental Registration	E2022-5507
2	ZB-Vanquisher 12SC	Chlorfenapyr 10% + Spinosad 2% SC	Experimental Registration	E2022-5508

Myanmar Shwe Thein Trading Co., Ltd (Pa Tin Wun Oo Shwe Pin Street, No.121, Industry zone(4), Shwe Pyi Thar Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar. Tel: 09-458066064

Honda to launch 30 EV models by 2030, spend \$60 billion on R&D

HONDA Motor Co. said Tuesday it will launch 30 electric vehicle models globally by 2030 and spend about 8 trillion yen (\$63 billion) on research and development over the next 10 years. Honda said it will try to achieve an annual output of over 2 million EV units by 2030 as it accelerates efforts to increase the ratio of electric and fuel-cell vehicles to 100 per cent of its overall new car sales by 2040. Amid intensifying global competition, Honda said it will invest 43 billion yen to build a demonstration line in Tochigi Prefecture for the production of all-solid-state batteries, a key component in making batteries safer and giving vehicles greater range, with the goal of making it operational in the spring of 2024. Honda President Toshihiro Mibe said in a presentation at the company's headquarters in Tokyo that the automaker will allocate approximately 5 trillion yen in the area of electrification and software technologies. The 30 new EV models that Honda aims to launch by 2030 will be a full lineup of vehicles ranging from minivehicles for commercial use to high value-added flagship models, it said. In Japan, the automaker expects to introduce in early 2024 an EV-model minivehicle priced at around 1 million yen.—Kyodo

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Daw Kyi Nyein Chan, (H.G.P)
For Amplify Health Assets Pte. Limited
c/o Baker & McKenzie Limited
Suite 28, Level 14, Junction City Tower,
No. 3/A Bogyoke Aung San Road,
Pabedan Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: +95 9 44918 9060
Dated: 13 April 2022

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
Central Committee for Holding Myanmar Gems Emporium
The Information on Fifty-Seventh Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022

1. The significant Fifty-Seventh Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022, under the supervision of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, will be held on April 22 to 28, 2022 at Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw. Genuine Myanmar pearl lots, gems lots and rough jade lots will be sold at the Emporium.

2. In accordance with the Myanmar 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 Fifty-Seventh Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022 according to the terms and conditions.

3. For further information in detail about granted admission to purchase Lots at Fifty-Seventh Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022, can inquire and keep contact with Emporium Central Committee, Myanmar Gems Enterprise (Head Office), Myanmar Pearl Enterprise (Head Office) in Nay Pyi Taw.

Emporium Central Committee

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MCL 21 V.05/2022

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCL 21 VOY. NO. (05/2022) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-4-2022 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MKH where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: 2301928

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

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

www.gnlm.com.mm

သတင်းစာ ဖုန်းနံပါတ် ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်
09 454 237 515

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09 974 424 848

India hopes for Pakistan reset after Sharif election

INDIA hopes that Pakistan's new prime minister will herald a diplomatic thaw between the two nuclear-armed foes after years of tensions, analysts say.

The pragmatic and business-friendly Shehbaz Sharif faces daunting challenges as leader — among them relations with a neighbour his country has fought three wars against in the past 75 years.

But he hails from an elite political family seen in India as conciliatory towards New Delhi and willing to settle disputes with dialogue instead of denunciation — unlike his immediate predecessor.

"He is not someone who

will go to the extreme of antagonizing India," Ajay Darshan Behera, a professor of international studies at New Delhi's Jamia Milia Islamia university, told AFP.

Unusually for a senior Pakistani politician, Sharif has actually visited India, in 2013 as chief minister for Punjab — a state that was split between them in the bloody 1947 partition of the sub-continent.

Sharif visited his family's ancestral village on the Indian side of the frontier and met with then-prime minister Manmohan Singh in New Delhi, along with other officials.

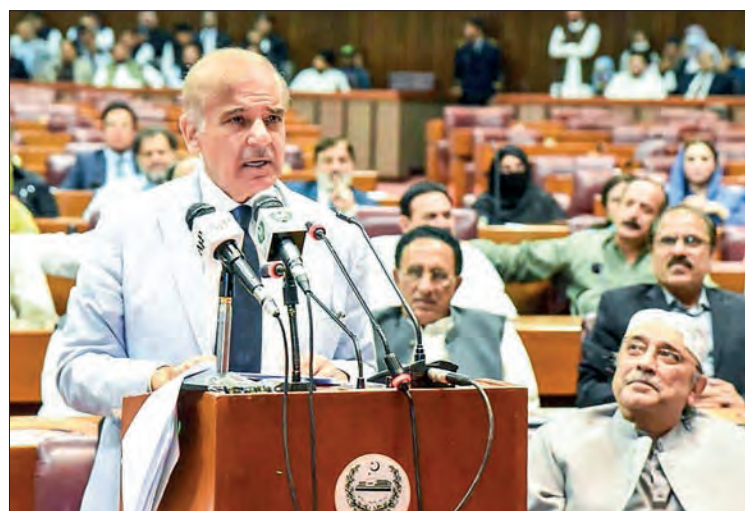
And for his part, his Indian

counterpart Narendra Modi has attended a Sharif family wedding.

The Hindu nationalist leader made a surprise trip to Pakistan in 2015, a year after taking office, when he was hosted by Sharif's elder brother Nawaz, himself prime minister at the time. Both siblings have usually had "cordial relationships" with Indian leaders, said Imtiaz Gul of the Centre for Research and Security Studies in Islamabad.

"This is a good entry point basically for India to resume dialogue," he added.

Modi's trip was followed by several rounds of trust-building talks aimed at repairing rela-



Pakistan's new prime minister, Shehbaz Sharif, addresses the National Assembly after his election, Monday 11 April. **PHOTO: THE GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE/HANDOUT / AFP**

tions that had sunk to a low ebb after the 2008 Mumbai terrorist attacks, which India accused Pakistan of sponsoring.—AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

Albania's former 'Stalin City' looks West with NATO airbase

IN an Albanian city once named for Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin, dozens of Soviet- and Chinese-made planes rust in the open air on a former communist airbase, some with flat tyres, others covered with dust.

The site in the central city now called Kucova is being transformed into a modern NATO airbase, a symbol of Albania's westward shift — and a key military buffer in Europe as Russia wages war in Ukraine.

The renovation project was agreed in 2018 by the Balkan state and NATO, which has already committed \$55 million (50.4 million euros) to the project, according to Albanian sources. Construction began at the beginning of the year, ahead of Russia's 24 February invasion of Ukraine that has sparked fears of a spillover into NATO and EU member states.—AFP ■

Travellers warned as chaos hits UK sea route to France

TRAVELLERS heading to France from England were urged Saturday to pack food and water after huge queues developed on routes to the ferry port of Dover.

A "perfect storm" of factors have coalesced as many people hit the roads at the start of Easter holidays, said Toby Howe of the local authority's "Kent Resilience Forum" in southeast England.

Foremost was the suspension of sailings by P&O Ferries on the popular Dover-Calais route, after it fired nearly 800 seafarers without notice.—AFP ■

In new shake-up, French politics fragments into three blocs



Power alternated for decades between the two main parties — the Socialists and Republicans — before Emmanuel Macron grabbed power in 2017. **PHOTO: AFP**

FRANCE'S political landscape is now fragmented into three blocs—the centre, far-right and radical left — after the abysmal

performance of traditional parties in the presidential election.

Power alternated for decades until the 2010s between

the two main parties — the Socialists and Republicans — before Emmanuel Macron took power in 2017 with a centrist platform.

His meteoric emergence — and pillaging of key traditional right and left figures for his own centrist movement — pushed the political centre of gravity on the left and right to the extremes. Now, the traditional parties struggle to get even five percent of the vote, a situation that creates not just political but also financial problems for them under the French system.

"The first round of this presidential election confirms

the three-way split of the electorate and the creation of three blocs with pretty much equal weight," said political scientist Gael Brustier.

It's the "cornerstone of the new world of French politics", he wrote in a Slate column.

Marine Le Pen, who will go head-to-head with Macron on 24 April in the second round of the election, and her National Rally (RN) party embody the far-right bloc. Macron represents the centre while Jean-Luc Mélenchon and his France Unbowed (LFI) party are the focus of the far left, taking a strong third place in Sunday's polls.—AFP ■

Philippine volunteers in door-to-door blitz for top Marcos Jr rival

CLUTCHING pink flyers and face masks, diehard supporters of Philippine presidential hopeful Leni Robredo are going door to door across the archipelago nation in an against-the-odds bid to win over voters.

Nearly two million volunteers are involved in a grassroots movement for Robredo, the incumbent vice-president, as she battles to close the gap with frontrunner Ferdinand Marcos Junior before the 9 May polls.

Voter surveys show the son of the country's former dictator heading towards a landslide victory, the endgame of a dec-

ades-long, well-funded effort to return the powerful clan to the presidential palace they fled 36 years ago.

But there are signs Robredo's pink-coloured campaign is finding traction, with huge rally turnouts, endorsements from pop stars and Catholic priests, and a bump in a recent poll raising hopes among her fervent fans.

"I'm really craving for change, for decency in the highest position," said Rocelle Mendoza, 29, who uses her own money to print Robredo T-shirts and aprons that she gives away at markets in the capital Manila.



Nearly two million volunteers are part of a grassroots movement backing Leni Robredo as she takes on Philippines presidential poll frontrunner Ferdinand Marcos Jr. **PHOTO: AFP**

"We are aware that we have to climb a mountain. And I think it's also why we're no longer hesitating to spend."—AFP ■

Biden, Modi discuss Ukraine

US President Joe Biden and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi have a “candid exchange of views” on the Ukraine crisis at a virtual summit, a senior administration official says, but there is no indication of significant progress toward a unified stance.

Reiterating the importance of US-India ties, the White House on Monday said the video call between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Joe Biden was an opportunity to discuss the Russian aggression in Ukraine and it builds on discussions happened at the lower level. PM Narendra Modi on Monday held a virtual meeting with US President Biden where in both the leaders exchanged views on several regional and global issues. Answering a question on why the call between PM Modi-Biden was organized, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said, India’s an incredibly important partner



A virtual call held between US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. PHOTO: TWITTER@POTUS/ANI

and the US consult very closely with it on a range of issues. “And this (video call between Modi and Biden) was an opportunity to discuss work very closely discuss the consequences of Russia’s unprovoked and unjustified war against Ukraine,” she said. Psaki said PM Modi-Biden’s call builds on discussions that have

happened at a lower level. “... But certainly is a reflection of the value the President sees in leader to leader diplomacy and having conversations that are candid, that is direct, but also provide hopefully a pathway to continuing to build on the steps we’ve seen India take in recent weeks.”—ANI ■

Russia “in favour” of continuing negotiations with Ukraine: Russian FM

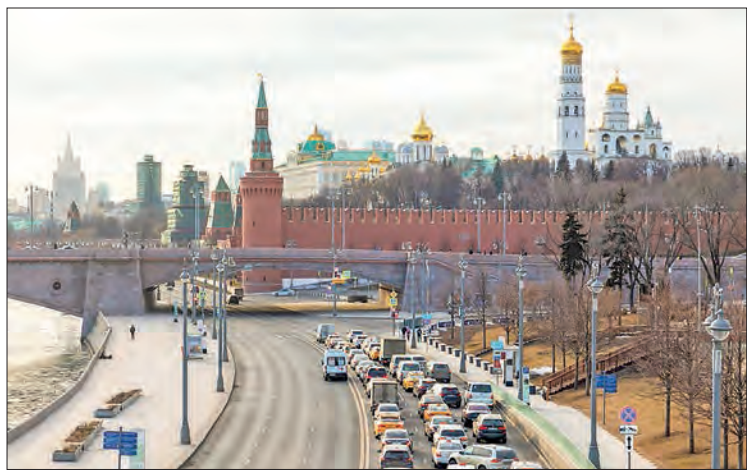


Photo taken on 10 March 2022 shows the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia. PHOTO: XINHUA/BAI XUEQI

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Monday that Moscow prefers to continue its negotiations with Kyiv.

Despite Ukraine’s inconsistency and tendency to reject its own proposals, Russia prefers to continue the negotiation pro-

cess, said the minister during an interview with the Rossiya 24 broadcaster.

The Russian top diplomat further explained that Moscow will be patient and persistent throughout the negotiations, however, will never play a subordinate role in the current world order.

“Russia, with its history ... its traditions, is one of those countries that will never occupy a subordinate position. We can only be members of the international community on equal terms, under conditions (that guarantee) the indivisibility of security,” Lavrov said, adding that these principles were agreed upon and then ignored by the West. —Xinhua ■

Russian forces destroy foreign supplies of missile systems in Ukraine

RUSSIA’S armed forces have destroyed air defence equipment supplied to Ukraine by a European country, the Russian Defence Ministry said Monday.

“On 10 April, high-precision sea-based Kalibr missiles destroyed the equipment of an S-300 anti-aircraft missile division, which was supplied to Kyiv by a European coun-

try,” Russian Defence Ministry Spokesperson Igor Konashenkov told a daily briefing.

The equipment previously hidden in a hangar was destroyed on the southern outskirts of the eastern Ukrainian city of Dnipro.

Meanwhile, Russia is continuing its special military operation in Ukraine, and a total

of 129 aircraft and 99 helicopters, 243 anti-aircraft missile systems, 441 unmanned aerial vehicles, 2,079 tanks and other armoured combat vehicles, 239 multiple launch rocket systems, 909 field artillery and mortars, as well as 2,003 units of special military vehicles have been destroyed to date.—Xinhua ■

QUICK SUMMARY

Here are the latest developments in the war in Ukraine.

Russians reinforce in Donbas

RUSSIAN forces are reinforcing around the Donbas region, notably near the town of Izyum, but have not yet launched a full offensive, Pentagon officials say. Ukraine’s defence ministry says that Russian preparations are almost over and that it believes a major assault will happen soon.

Austrian leader ‘pessimistic’

AUSTRIAN Chancellor Karl Nehammer says he is “rather pessimistic” about the prospects for diplomacy ending the Ukraine conflict after meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Describing Putin as having “massively entered into a logic of war”, Nehammer tells reporters “peace talks are always very time-intensive while military logic says: ‘Don’t spend too much time and go directly into battle’”.

Violence against women

AT a United Nations Security Council meeting, officials call for an investigation into violence against women during the conflict.

“We are increasingly hearing of rape and sexual violence. These allegations must be independently investigated to ensure justice and accountability,” Sima Bahous, director of the UN women’s agency, says.

French police arrive in Ukraine

FRENCH police officers and forensic doctors arrive in Ukraine to help investigate the discovery of scores of bodies in civilian clothing scattered in Bucha and other towns around Kyiv after Russia’s withdrawal from the region.

Ukraine says it has discovered 1,222 bodies in Bucha and other towns.

No EU consensus on sanctions

EU foreign ministers launch discussions on a sixth round of sanctions, but fail to find a consensus, including on sanctions on oil and gas, Josep Borrell, the bloc’s top diplomat, says.

Trade growth takes hit

THE war could almost halve world trade growth this year and drag down global GDP growth, according to the World Trade Organization.

Ukraine still open to talks

Ukraine’s Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba says he is still open to negotiating with Moscow. “If sitting down with the Russians will help me to prevent at least one massacre like in Bucha, or at least another attack like in Kramatorsk, I have to take that opportunity,” he tells US broadcaster NBC.

France expels six Russian diplomats

FRANCE is expelling six Russians suspected of working as spies under diplomatic cover in Paris, after the French intelligence services uncovered a clandestine operation, the foreign ministry says.

More than 4.5 million flee

MORE than 4.5 million Ukrainian refugees have now fled their country, the United Nations refugee agency says. Ninety per cent of those who have left are women and children.

Syrians aid Ukrainians in ties forged by war

SYRIANS are mobilizing to support Ukrainians, sharing hard-earned knowledge gleaned from years of war involving Russian forces, such as surviving shelling, helping refugees and responding to chemical attacks.

With both Ukrainians and Syrians seeking accountability for the ravages inflicted by Russian forces in their countries, they feel a unique bond is growing between them.

SOURCE: AFP



Buriram United celebrated their victory after winning the Thai League-1 Championship title.
PHOTO: THAI LEAGUE

Aung Thu’s Buriram United wins Thai League-1

BURIRAM United, played by Myanmar striker Aung Thu, won the Thai League-1 match in the 2021-2022 season before the end of the competition.

Aung Thu moved to Thai League 1 club Buriram United last season and successfully in the second season.

Buriram has one game left

but beats second-placed BG Paton United by five points.

The Thai League-1 will end on 21 May, and Buriram has played 29 matches in the tourney.

With 62 points, they won the championship with one game left.

Buriram, the most success-

ful team in the Thai league, won the title for the eighth time.

Aung Thu has been playing for foreign clubs since 2018 and has also played for Police Tero FC and Muangthong United.

It was the first Thai club for Aung Thu to win the Thai League championship.

—KO Nyi Lay/GNLM

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.

Myanmar’s Futsal team fail to reach 2022 Asian Futsal Championship

MYANMAR’S national Futsal team finished fourth in the 2022 ASEAN Futsal Championship held in Thailand from 2 to 10 April and could not advance to the 2022 Asian Futsal Championship.

The ASEAN Football Federation did not host the 2022 Asian Cup (ASEAN Zone) separately but in conjunction with the 2022 ASEAN Futsal Championship. The champions, first runner-up, and second runners-up teams have already qualified for the 2022 Asian Futsal Championship.

Myanmar could advance to the semi-finals of the ASEAN Futsal Championship as a first-place team in Group A but lost to Indonesia 1-6 in the semi-finals. They drew 1-1 with Viet Nam in the third-place match and decided by a penalty shootout. Team Myanmar lost by five goals to two in total.

Therefore, the Thai team, which won the 2022 ASEAN Futsal Championship, the first runner-up Indonesia team, and the second runner-up Vietnamese squad, qualified for the 2022 Asian Cup Futsal Championship.

Myanmar has only competed in the 2018 AFC Futsal Championship once but has not qualified for the tournament since 2019. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

Bayern aim to ‘punish’ Villarreal’s missed chances



Bayern Munich will look to “punish” Villarreal for their missed chances in the first leg and produce a “brilliant” display in the return at home on Tuesday to turn around their Champions League quarter-final.
PHOTO: AFP

BAYERN Munich will look to “punish” Villarreal for their missed chances in the first leg and produce a “brilliant” display in the return home on Tuesday to turn around their Champions League quarter-final.

By their own admission, Bayern was lucky to only lose 1-0 last week away to Villarreal

as Francis Coquelin had a goal disallowed and Gerard Moreno hit the post for the Spaniards.

Moreno also curled agonizingly wide from inside his own half after Bayern goalkeeper and captain Manuel Neuer miscued a clearance, briefly leaving his own net gaping.

“We made a lot of mistakes in the away game, they made

one which allowed us to survive — and we should punish that,” Bayern head coach Julian Nagelsmann said Monday.

Bayern has scored 20 goals in their last six home games, but they are under pressure to avoid exiting the Champions League in the quarter-finals for the second straight year.

“As we all know, diamonds are made under high pressure,” said Nagelsmann. “Hopefully we will produce a brilliant performance tomorrow.”

Neuer insisted Bayern have the experience to cope with losing the first leg. “The good thing is that we still hold our fate in our own hands,” he said.

Villarreal coach Unai Emery stressed his team remain the underdogs in Munich.

“Bayern are the favourites. It will be incredibly difficult and we have to try to find answers,” he said. “We must know how to respond.”—AFP