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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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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.

If the State economy is down, it will reflect political instability: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views the products manufactured by the MSMEs at the meeting with business people from UMFCCI and MSMEs in Yangon Region on 3 October 2022.

ONLY when growers, businesspersons and the government join hands in oil crop cultivation and oil production will the country have oil sufficiency in the not-distant future, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday morning at a meeting with entrepreneurs from UMFCCI and MSMEs in Yangon Region at Zeyathiri Beikman in Yangon. **Reports on requirements for the development of businesses**

President of Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Zaw Min Win and businesspersons reported on the need of capitals at soft interest rate for operating the agriculture and livestock products and related businesses to have quick win in process, assistance for raising per-acre yield of summer paddy, prospect for greater development of production to increase export of rice

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Those wishing to enter the legal fold can contact respective townships’ Red Cross Society, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, Social Welfare Office and social welfare organizations authorized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in addition to reception centres in border areas, Tatmadaw units and police stations

THE Information Team of the State Administration Council has released statements inviting CDM staff, students and youths, who are in border areas and ethnic armed groups, they can contact the nearest reception centres in border areas, Tatmadaw units and police stations if they want to enter the legal fold and the government will guarantee their lives following the rules and regulations.

In order to prevent the unnecessary loss of human resources, the State Administration Council has publicly invited the basic education staff who are absent from duty to resume their duties and those who take part in armed resistance under various names of groups, including PDFs. Meanwhile, 3,156 education workers, who were absent from their duties, another 1,009 people, who want to withdraw the cases that were opened against them, and 231 PDF members have contacted and returned to the legal fold. Then, they were given back to their parents systematically and the numbers of people who enter the legal fold and those who wish to are rising. Therefore, the government is making efforts to accept more numbers of those people.

The government opens reception centres in border areas for those who would like to return to the legal fold. Moreover, those wishing to return home can contact respective townships’ Red Cross Society, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, Social Welfare Office and social welfare organizations authorized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. It is guaranteed that they will be able to lead their daily lives peacefully.

Information Team
State Administration Council

Judgements passed on 4 special civil appeal cases; 5 special civil appeal cases heard

THE special appeal court comprising Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo and Supreme Court Judges U Aung Zaw Thein, U Tin Hone, U Thaung Naing and U Thein Ko Ko gave judgements on four special civil appeal cases — No 21/2021 (Shan), No 22/2021 (Shan), No 23/2021 (Shan) and No 24/2021 (Shan) at the office (1) of the Union Supreme Court yesterday morning.

Moreover, they heard five special civil appeal cases — No 10/2020 (Mandalay), No 4/2022 (Rakhine), No 25/2022 (Yangon), No 28/2022 (Mandalay) and No 29/2022 (Mandalay) in accordance with the COVID-19 health rules. — MNA

Public holiday announcement for Deepavali day

ACCORDING to the State Administration Council Notification 168/2022 on 3 October, Deepavali day, which falls on Monday, the 1st Waxing Day of Tazaungmone 1384 ME (24 October 2022), is a public holiday under Section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. — MNA

KNPP, PDF terrorists to face serious actions for breaking stipulations of Counter-Terrorism Law, Penal Code, International Laws

THE XY-AML aircraft type ATR 72-600 of Myanmar National Airlines (MNA) carrying 63 passengers was shot by KNPP and PDF terrorists with the weapon (under verification) while conducting the landing procedures to land at Loikaw Airport at about 8:45 am on 30 September. It hit the left part of the aircraft fuselage causing a passenger injured on the right cheek onboard the aircraft.

Although these KNPP and PDF terrorists broke the existing laws obviously, they released the statements online to conceal their doings. Despite such action, the organizations that are linked with the KNPP and PDF terrorists also issued statements threatening the flight operations of domestic airlines directly on 3 December 2021, according to certain evidence.

According to the provisions of the Counter-Terrorism Law Sections 9 and 49, it found that the terrorist attack of KNPP and PDF terrorists on the flight passenger while the aircraft was in service, was breaking the Counter-Terrorism Law Section 54 in addition to Sections 9 and 49.

Moreover, according to the Geneva

Conventions and International Laws, the attack of KNPP and PDF terrorists on non-military targets was committing to War Crime.

The Law of Armed Conflict or International Humanitarian Law, which is based on four Geneva Conventions, and Rules 1, 2, 7 and 11 of Customary International Humanitarian Law stated that the parties to the conflict must at all times distinguish between civilians and combatants. Attacks may only be directed against combatants. Attacks must not be directed against civilians; acts or threats of violence the primary purpose of which is to spread terror among the civilian population are prohibited; The parties to the conflict must at all times distinguish between civilian objects and military objectives. Attacks may only be directed against military targets. Attacks must not be directed against civilian targets and indiscriminate attacks are prohibited.

The terrorist attacks of KNPP and PDF terrorists on civil aircraft targets and civilians are breaching the stipulations of the Counter-Terrorism Law, Penal Code, Law of Armed Conflict or International



Humanitarian Law based on four Geneva Conventions, and so serious actions will be taken against those who commit such heavy crimes under the existing law of the country.

Information Team
State Administration Council

Panglong Spirit

OUR country gained independence through the Panglong Agreement with Union spirit. The essence of the Panglong Agreement is the Panglong Spirit, which is also called the Union Spirit. The Union Spirit is based on building a future Union rooted in democracy and federalism. Therefore, holding meetings with ethnic armed organizations must be based on the Union Spirit to be able to discuss the actual requirements of the regions and the country.

(The excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on the Occasion of the Eighteen Months of the Assumption of State Duties by the State Administration Council on 1 August 2022.)

If the State economy is down, it will reflect political ...

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with the help of the government, the need of upgrading the broker-ages for stabilizing the prices of goods at home, the need to adopt a precise policy for cultivation and production of edible oil crops in conformity with health standard, extension of terms for MSME businesspersons to pay back loans borrowed from the State in COVID-19 period due to their difficulties, supply of electricity for businesses, requirements of land plots and labourers for extending the industries, development of traditional medicines and garment industries, effective help for rubber production and fully supply of inputs for agricultural tasks.

Responses for reports in respective sectors

Union Ministers U Win Shein, Dr Kan Zaw, U Tin Htut Oo, U Hla Moe, Dr Charlie Than and U Aung Naing Oo, and the Yangon Region chief minister discussed efforts being made to obtain foreign exchange for the State, relevant organizations to raise awareness of businesspersons to have loans under the prescribed disciplines, the undertaking of economic development based on emerald green village project, systematic registration for MSME businesses in Yangon Region.

Instructions over reports

In his speech, the Senior General said that, as the government will fulfil the requirement for ensuring local oil sufficiency, oil crop growers and oil dealers need to actually carry out their respective tasks. Only when growers, businesspersons and the government join hands in oil crop cultivation and oil production will the country have oil sufficiency in the not-distant future. So, **they will have to change their positions from oil importers to oil exporters in the production of oil to have surpluses.**

The government is striving for electrifying the MSME industries and the businesspersons



The Senior General meets business persons from UMFCCI and MSMEs in Yangon Region on 3 October 2022.

need to do so as well. The government allots land plots for MSME industries. If industries are operated on cultivable lands, the production of crops will decline. Hence, the government allows land plots for industries on vacant and virgin lands, not on cultivable lands.

Although all raw materials for livestock farms are located at home, they need to be of good quality. Livestock breeding must be more systematic than traditional one. Efforts are being made for ensuring the availability of inputs and quality strains of crops. Agricultural tasks need sufficiency of water, pesticides and fertilizers. It is necessary to use technologies to ensure a high per-acre yield and have quality raw rubber.

Encouragement for human resource development

The Senior General went on to say that as education is essential for life, encouragement must be given to education. Youths

must be given the learning opportunity in conformity with their age. It is necessary to conduct technical and agricultural courses at basic education schools where private schools need to open relevant courses as much as possible.

Emphasizing improvement of the economic driving force

The increase in currency value is based on a larger gap between supply and demand and hiking prices of the commodities. A government needs to consider the economic development of the country. If the State economy is down, it will reflect political instability. Only when the economy improves will the State be stable.

Fuel, edible oil and electric power

Unscrupulous persons committed halting factories, threatening workers not to join workplaces and posing coercion to them. **Although they attacked the banking system to be collapsed in various ways and means, the**

government prioritized efforts for the banking system not to be collapsed. Currency manipulators committed a decline in currency value and hiked prices for imported goods.

As fuel is imported on a yearly basis, the requirement for foreign currency is under restriction. To be able to reduce fuel consumption, it is necessary to implement the public transport systems by taking adequate time. Efforts are being made to generate electricity from nuclear energy while coordination is being conducted to use nuclear energy in the agriculture, health and education sectors.

Production based on agriculture and livestock farms

The government will consider the plan to allow the import of necessary raw materials by spending foreign exchange obtained from exportation. The government will arrange allotment of invested cash for seeking raw materials.

Livestock farming must be done with the use of high-yield strains to have greater benefits. It is necessary to achieve success in fish farming. As feedstuffs are sufficient at home, livestock farms can be operated with locally-made feedstuffs.

Tax-levying rate of Myanmar is the lowest among the ASEAN member countries. The government relies on income from taxes to carry out the development of the nation. Anyone may report to him if Myanmar's tax rate is higher than international countries. Supervision is being carried out strictly for tax evaders. Businesspersons need to cooperate with the government for the development of the State economy.

Afterwards, the Senior General viewed round documentary photos on MSME businesspersons, foodstuffs, personal goods, industrial products, traditional products, gems, clothes and traditional medicines and discussed their market situations. — MNA

SAC Vice-Chair Dy PM Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses 3rd CRMCC meeting

THE purpose of the third meeting of the Coastal Resources Management Central Committee was to clarify the realization of the resolutions of the first and the second meetings of the Central Committee and continued implementation of the future work programme laid down, said State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, in his capacity as the Chairman of Coastal Resources Management Central Committee.

The Vice-Senior General continued that the government regard coastal resources as potentials for sustainable development of the country, that it aims to manage them for the sake of posterity, and that, in doing so, it will act in conformity with the development policies and theories of the countries in the region and the world.

The United Nations is implementing the seventeen objectives of sustainable development goals and it is found that the countries in the region are putting the Blue Economy theories into action, added the Vice-Senior General.

The Blue Economy is to enhance socio-economic development and wealth through **alleviation of climate change and application of sea and ocean resources**, explained the Vice-Senior General. **The Blue Economy is to protect and reestablish natural resources.**

The Vice-Senior General elaborated that Myanmar has a 2,800-kilometre-long coastal line, possesses one-fifth of the ecosystem of the Bay of Bengal and has the potential for pearl culture, fishing and extraction of



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win presides over the third meeting of the Coastal Resources Management Central Committee in Nay Pyi Taw on 3 October 2022.

offshore oil and natural gas, development of international ports and the exclusive economic zone and renewable energy like wind energy. The Blue Economy has its advantages as well as challenges. It is necessary to prevent the destruction of biodiversity, coral reefs, and mangroves and to systematically manage the disposal of plastics, e-waste and agricultural waste.

Myanmar is included in the list of countries for China's Belt and Road Initiative and is in the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar economic corridor and at the focal point of South Asia and Southeast Asia.

The Vice-Senior General

went on to say that, in implementing the development of the policies of the Blue Economy, it is necessary not only to focus on economic opportunities but also to tackle the challenges effectively and the government is trying to create sound foundations for the implementation of the Blue Economy based on sustainable coastal development. He also said that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation is drafting the Integrated Coastal Management-ICM of Myanmar based on six strategic tasks.

As the central committee and work committee members' suggestions are being analyzed

for approval, the Integrated Coastal Management will be approved soon.

The emergence of ICM in Myanmar will be a reference for strategic guidelines of coastal and marine resources multiple management and blue economic development measures.

Being an ASEAN state, Myanmar needs to implement relevant action plans for enabling the blue economy declaration of ASEAN leaders for the exhortation to emphasize the development of ASEAN peoples in post-Covid-19 released by the 38th ASEAN Summit held on 26 October 2021 to link with regional development plans.

The Vice-Senior General urged all to strive for the conservation of coastal areas and marine resources under the regional plans and cooperate in coastal and marine resources conservation tasks.

Director-General U Htay Aung of the Forest Department, on behalf of the central committee secretary, reported on the accomplishment of assignments and tasks.

The Vice-Senior General then gave supplementary advice and attended to the needs of the Union minister, region and state chief ministers and officials, and made a concluding remark. — MNA

Objectives of 23rd Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2022

- (a) To uplift national prestige and integrity and to preserve the cultural heritage and national characteristics
- (b) To discover, preserve and uplift the traditional cultural heritage of performing arts of ethnic nationals and national cultural characteristics
- (c) To preserve traditional cultural performing arts in order to further revitalize adoration of the State and hand it down to new generation youths
- (d) To contribute much to the restoration of perpetual peace

MoLA Union Minister joins 43rd ASEAN Law Association Governing Council Meeting online



Union Legal Affairs Minister Dr Thida Oo takes part in the 43rd ASEAN Law Association Governing Council Meeting virtually yesterday.

A Myanmar delegation led by Chairperson of the ASEAN Law Association (Myanmar) Union Minister for Legal Affairs and Attorney-General of the Union Dr Thida Oo joined the 43rd ASEAN Law Association Governing Council Meeting held with a hybrid system in Indonesia, upon the invitation of ALA Chairman and Chief Justice of Singapore Mr Sundaresh Menon and

ALA-Indonesia Chairman Chief Justice Mr Muhammad Syarifuddin, yesterday.

During the meeting, the Union Minister and Attorney-General of the Union Dr Thida Oo said that Myanmar, as a member state of ASEAN, is working with the ASEAN countries closely and is committed to the ASEAN Charter. Myanmar joined the ASEAN Law Association in 2012, and the ALA (Myanmar) is cooperating with the member countries in various activities and programmes. The country also enacted the Arbitration Law concerning Alternative Dispute Settlement Mechanism in 2016 and was exercising the Mediation system after the State Administration Council amended the Code of Civil Procedure on 11 October 2021.

Then, the Legal Affairs Ministry established the Myanmar Law Information System Website (MLIS) and conducted legal training courses for the governmental staff and organizations.

She continued that Myanmar ratified the ASEAN e-Commerce Agreement and it is also implementing the Digital Economy Road Map 2018-2025. The E-commerce Law and Cyber Security Law are being drafted.

The outcomes of the meeting will be supportive measures in implementing ASEAN's One Vision, One Identity, One Community.

The 43rd ASEAN Law Association Governing Council Meeting approved the meeting record of the 42nd ALA Governing Council, ASEAN Law Institute Annual Report 2022 and Workplan 2023. The meeting also discussed the implementation of the Alternative Dispute Settlement Mechanism and ASEAN law treaties. — MNA



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5 OCTOBER 2022

World Teachers' Day



5-7 October 2022

THE TRANSFORMATION OF EDUCATION BEGINS WITH TEACHERS

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INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (2022)

“ကြိုတင်သတိပေးထုတ်ပြန်ချက် ဆောလျင်ဆောင်ရွက်အားလုံးအတွက်”

“Early Warning and Early Action for All”

အောက်တိုဘာလ (၁၃) ရက်

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378 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 3 October, total figure rises to 624,292

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 624,292 after 378 new cases were reported on 3 October 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 598,721 have been recovered from disease. Death toll still stands at 19,461 without more casualties.

Myanmar reported 145 COVID-19 deaths between 28-1-2022 and 26-9-2022. Of them, 102 deaths (70 per cent) had underlying chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, liver, kidney, lung and cancer.

According to the analysis of the COVID-19 vaccination rate of deaths with underlying chronic diseases, 81.4 per cent have received no vaccination at all and have not been fully inoculated, 17.2 per cent have received full vaccination and 1.4 per cent has received booster shots.

COVID-19 vaccination rate of deaths with underlying chronic diseases		
Out of COVID-19 deaths with underlying chronic disease		
81.4 per cent	17.2 per cent	1.4 per cent
		
have not been vaccinated at all and have not been fully vaccinated	have been fully vaccinated	have received booster shots

Therefore, according to the analysis of the COVID-19 vaccination rate of deaths with underlying chronic diseases, it causes fewer deaths obviously among those who are fully vaccinated and those who receive the booster shots. The people who are suffering from chronic diseases should follow the COVID-19 health rules, wear face masks and contact the nearest health departments, and village/ward administrative offices to receive the vaccines and booster shots.

More detailed information about COVID-19 can be found on the website of the Ministry of Health: moh.gov.mm. — MNA

CURRENT
AFFAIRS



Fertilizer bags are under loading and unloading processes. PHOTO: GREEN WAY

Myanmar imports over 10,000 tonnes of fertilizer worth US\$6.491 mln by sea in past two weeks

MYANMAR imported over 10,000 tonnes of fertilizer worth US\$6.491 million through maritime trade in the second and third weeks of September 2022. During two weeks, Myanmar imported about 6,000 tonnes of fertilizer from China, over 350 from the Republic of Korea, over 800 from China (Taipei), over 1,000 from Thailand and over 2,100 from Viet Nam. The country's fertilizer import is primarily from neighbouring country China. The volume of fertilizer import is, however,

down by over 13,000 tonnes compared with the corresponding period of the year ago period. Meanwhile, the country imported over 6,200 tonnes of fertilizer worth \$3.023 million this week through land borders with about 2,500 tonnes from Thailand, over 1,800 from India and about 2,000 from China. Thailand is the main supplier of fertilizer in border trade this week. The volume of imports increased by 1,600 tonnes compared with the year-ago period. The prices of fertilizer

moved in the range between K80,000-163,000 per 50-kg bag depending on the brand (Myanma Awba, Thai Grow How, Pale) and types of fertilizer in the second week of September. The prices stood at K78,000 to K168,000 per bag in the third week of September in the domestic markets. Additionally, the prices of Malarmyaing brand Cypermethrin 10 per cent insecticide 100cc and 500cc were K3,100 and K13,000 per bottle. — TWA/GNLM

7 private banks provide services with special counters for gold transactions

ACCORDING to the Central Bank of Myanmar's statement, seven private banks are providing banking services by opening special counters at their designated branches in Yangon and Mandalay regions and Mon State (Mawlamyine) to facilitate gold transactions with the banking payment system. Kanbawza Bank (KBZ Bank), Co-operative Bank (CB Bank) PCL, Ayeyawady (AYA) Bank, Myanmar Apex Bank (MAB), UAB Bank, Yoma Bank, Ayeyawady Farmers Development Bank (A Bank) are providing banking services with 48 branches. They are nine branches of KBZ Bank each in Yangon and Mandalay regions and one in

Mawlamyine city; three of CB Bank PCL in Yangon, two in Mandalay and one in Mawlamyine; two of AYA Bank in Yangon and one each in Mandalay and Mawlamyine; two of MAB in Yangon, four in Mandalay and one in Mawlamyine; 3 of UAB Bank in Yangon and one each in Mandalay and Mawlamyine; one of Yoma Bank each in Yangon, Mandalay and Mawlamyine; two of A Bank in Yangon and one each in Mandalay and Mawlamyine respectively. According to CBM's directive (43/2021) dated 1 November 2021, lump sum payments worth more than K20 million for buying or selling assets have to be processed with the banking system. — TWA/GNLM



Employees of Yoma Bank are seen providing cash withdrawal service at a counter.

UEC invites tenders for buying election supplies

THE Union Election Commission (UEC) has invited tenders to purchase election supplies and equipment for the 2023 election. The tender invitation is for buying plastic ballot boxes, voting booths, plastic baskets for counting ballots, ball-point pens, paper envelopes, papers, ropes for security purposes, ink, and badges for the candidates, polling officers, election observers and media. Tender application forms will be sold for K10,000 for each

item to be supplied, starting on 3 October at the office of the Union Election Commission. The price proposal form and tender rules form can only be bought by the persons or companies or organizations themselves or by their authorized representatives, and only the original proposal forms of the official purchasers will only be accepted. The tender proposals must be sent in on 30 October at the latest. — TWA/GNLM



Population of Myanmar estimated at 55.8 million on 1 October 2022



Officials and staff are pictured collecting data in villages.

THE population of Myanmar on 1 October 2022, the mid-year of the 2022-2023 FY, is estimated at 55.8 million, according to the Ministry of Immigration and Population.

It was approximated on the basis of population in the 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census. According to the estimate, there are 8.9 million in Yangon

Region, 1.3 million in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, 2 million in Kachin State, 0.3 million in Kayah State, 1.6 million in Kayin State, 0.5 million in Chin State, 5.7 million in Sagaing Region, 1.5 million in Taninthayi Region, 5 million in Bago Region, 3.9 million in Magway Region, 6.9 million in Mandalay Region, 2 million in Mon State, 3.4 million in Rakhine State, 6.7 million in Shan State and 6.3 million in Ayeyawady Region. The Ministry of Immigration and Population publishes the annual estimated population of Myanmar in order to be used as a basis for the government and various departmental organizations to formulate and lay down national policies and projects. — TWA/GNLM

LOCAL BUSINESS

Palm oil wholesale reference price down by K600

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil in the Yangon market indicated a decrease of K600 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilograms) compared with that of the previous week, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia including transport costs, tariffs and banking services, and issuing the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil on a weekly basis.

The reference prices of palm oil in the Yangon market

were set at K4,020 per viss for the week ending on 10 October and K4,660 per viss for a week from 26 September to 2 October. The reference price this week was down by K640 per viss, capping the decline in the fourth week.

Nevertheless, the current market price is way too high compared to the reference price.

If those retailers and wholesalers are found overcharging, storing inventory intentionally and attempting unscrupulous action to manipulate the market, they will face legal action under the Special Goods Tax Law, MoC released a statement.

The Ministry of Commerce is striving for consumers not to worry over the supply of edible oil. The ministry is also trying



The wholesale reference rate of palm oil in the Yangon market indicated a decrease of K600 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilograms) compared with that of the previous week.

to secure edible oil sufficiency, supervise the market to offer reasonable prices to the consum-

ers and maintain price stability.

At present, mobile market trucks operated by oil importing

companies, in coordination with Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association, were back to business in some townships on 17 July in order to offer palm oil at a subsidized rate. They sell palm oil at K4,200 per viss to consumers directly. However, there are limited sources of supply although they directly sell the palm oil at a reference rate depending on the volume quota.

The domestic consumption of edible oil is estimated at a million tonnes per year. The local cooking oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. To meet the oil sufficiency in the domestic market, about 700,000 tonnes of cooking oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia.

— NN/GNLM

Fuel oil price eases back below K2,000 per litre

THE price of Octane 92 fell below K2,000 per litre again, according to the fuel oil market.

The prices of fuel oil gradually decreased in the fourth week of September. On 3 October, the prices stood at K1,950 per litre for Octane 92, K2,020 for Octane 95, K2,365 for diesel and K2,450 for premium diesel.

In late August, the prices touched a high of K2,605 per litre for Octane 92, K2,670 for Octane 95, K3,245 for diesel and K3,330 for premium diesel.

Domestic fuel prices are tracking the decline in the price index set by Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS), the pricing basis for many refined products in southeast Asia, according to the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

The committee is governing the oil sector effectively not to have a shortage of oil in the domestic market and to ensure price stability for energy consumers.

The committee draws up Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on fuel import, storage and distribution and sends reports of fuel import matters to the Foreign Exchange Supervisory Committee. Last September, fuel importers had an import quota of 233,594.60 tonnes of fuel oil, with 80,499 tonnes of gasoline and 153,095.60 tonnes of diesel.

The Petroleum Products



A sign is seen showing fuel oil prices at the petrol station in Yangon.

Inspection and Supervision Department, under the guidance of the committee, is issuing the daily reference rate for oil to offer a reasonable price to energy consumers. The reference rate is set on the MOPS' price assessment, shipping cost, profit margin, premium insurance and other general costs.

The rates for regions and states other than Yangon are evaluated after adding the transportation cost and the retail reference rates daily cover on the state-run newspapers and are posted on the media and official website and Facebook page of the department on a daily basis starting from 4 May.

As per the statement, 90 per cent of fuel oil in Myanmar is imported, while the remaining 10 per cent is pro-

duced locally. The domestic fuel price is highly correlated with international prices. The State is steering the market to mitigate the loss between the importers, sellers and energy consumers. Consequently, the government is trying to distribute the oil at a reasonable price compared to those of regional countries.

Some countries levied higher tax rates and hiked oil prices than Myanmar. However, Malaysia's oil sector receives government subsidies and the prices are about 60 per cent cheaper than that of Myanmar. Every country lays down different patterns of policy to fix the oil prices. Myanmar also poses only a lower tax rate on fuel oil and strives for energy consumers to buy the oil at a cheaper rate. — NN/GNLM

Myanmar's exports soar to \$8.15 bln as of 23 Sept

MYANMAR'S exports significantly surged to US\$8.15 billion between 1 April and 23 September in the current financial year from \$6.8 billion recorded in the corresponding period of last year.

The figures reflected a sharp increase of over \$1.3 billion compared with a year-ago period, according to data from the Ministry of Commerce.

The negative pandemic consequences dealt a severe blow to the agriculture, livestock and mineral sectors during the past mini-budget period. As China eases some virus rules and regulations, export sees a slight increase in the agriculture sector this FY. At present, the CMP garment sector raises its head again after the vaccination programme for the factory workers as well.

Of the seven export groups,

fisheries, mineral and other exports showed a decrease compared to the year-ago period.

The values of export were registered at \$1.659 million for agri-products, \$16.88 million for livestock, \$326 million for fishery products, \$169 million for minerals, \$73.668 million for forest products, over \$5.67 billion for manufactured goods, and \$243 million for other goods.

Myanmar's top export markets are listed as China, Thailand, Japan, India, the USA, Spain, Germany, the UK, ROK and the Netherlands.

The country's export sector relies more on the agricultural and manufacturing sectors. The Ministry of Commerce is focusing on reducing the trade deficit, export promotion, import substitution and market diversification. — KK/GNLM



OPINION

Create a chance for rural people to earn increased income

As the economic growth of a country depends on the per-capita income of citizens who are residing both in rural and urban areas, their daily incomes and regular operation of businesses are sure to help the regular circulation of family income, contributing to the improvement of socio-economic status not only for themselves but for the nation.

Some 30 per cent of the total population is residing in urban areas. Depending on job opportunities, those residents earn incomes as usual.

As such, the individual regular income will contribute much to improving the living standard of rural families. Consequently, those from rural areas will have good learning opportunities for possessing the lives of educated citizens who are able to apply their human resources in nation-building endeavours.

Under the project, training courses are being conducted for those wishing to operate agriculture, livestock and manageable production. Conducting the basic tailoring courses, knitting courses, soap-making courses, jams and snacks making courses, mechanic courses, motorbike repairing courses and others contribute to raising the family incomes.

Rural development undertakings comprise electrification and water supply tasks. In this regard, the villages without electrification are being lit through solar power whereas water supply is being provided to needy villages through springs and tube wells. Thanks to these efforts, some villages see increased incomes for individuals and families. As such, the project has been benefiting the rural areas with development undertakings and manageable green businesses.

Only when the rural people, 70 per cent of the total population of the nation can enjoy socioeconomic development will rural people earn regular income. So also, the per-capital income of both rural and urban people increases and the nation secures the result of higher Gross Domestic Products-GDP. Gradually, individual efforts will drive for development of the nation.

As such, the individual regular income will contribute much to improving the living standard of rural families. Consequently, those from rural areas will have good learning opportunities for possessing the lives of educated citizens who are able to apply their human resources in nation-building endeavours.

Another monkey virus may be on verge of infecting humans: Researchers

ACCORDING to new University of Colorado Boulder research published online 30 September in the journal Cell, an unknown family of viruses that is currently prevalent in wild African primates and known to cause lethal Ebola-like symptoms in certain monkeys is “poised for spillover” to people.

Despite the fact that such arteriviruses are already regarded as a serious hazard to macaque monkeys, no human infections have been observed to date. It is also unknown what effect the virus might have on humans if it jumped species.

Drawing analogies to HIV

However, the scientists, drawing analogies to HIV (the forerunner of which arose in African monkeys), urge caution: The global health community might potentially avoid another pandemic by monitoring for arteriviruses in both animals and humans now, scientists suggested.

“This animal virus has worked out how to get into human cells, reproduce, and avoid some of the crucial immune responses that we would anticipate to protect us from an animal virus.”

“That’s pretty unusual,” said senior author Sara Sawyer, a CU Boulder professor of molecular, cellular, and developmental biology: “We need to pay attention to it.”

Thousands of different viruses circulate among animals all throughout the world, with the majority of them generating no symptoms. In recent decades, an increasing number of viruses have jumped to humans, causing havoc on naive immune systems with no experience fighting them off: Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in 2012, SARS-CoV in 2003, and SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) in 2020.

For the past 15 years, Sawyer’s lab has used laboratory techniques and tissue samples from wildlife all around the world to investigate which animal viruses

are likely to infect people.

Understudied in nonhuman primates

She and lead author Cody Warren, then a postdoctoral fellow at CU’s BioFrontiers Institute, focused on arteriviruses, which are abundant in pigs and horses but understudied in nonhuman primates. They focused on simian hemorrhagic fever virus (SHFV), which causes a devastating sickness comparable to Ebola virus disease and has been responsible for deadly outbreaks in captive macaque colonies since the 1960s.

The research shows that a molecule called CD163 plays an important role in the biology of simian arteriviruses, allowing the virus to enter and infect target cells. The researchers discovered, to their astonishment, that the virus was also extraordinarily adept at latching on to the human version of CD163, getting inside human cells, and rapidly replicating itself.



People wait to be vaccinated at a monkeypox vaccination site in New York, the United States, on 14 July 2022.

PHOTO: MICHAEL NAGLE/XINHUA

Simian arteriviruses, like human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and its progenitor simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV),

appear to attack immune cells, weakening important defence mechanisms and establishing a long-term presence in the body.

Similarities between this virus and the simian viruses

“The similarities between this virus and the simian virus-

es that caused the HIV epidemic are deep,” said Warren, who is currently an assistant professor in The Ohio State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine.

The authors emphasise that another pandemic is not imminent and that the public need not be concerned.

They do, however, recommend that the global health community prioritise further research into simian arteriviruses, develop blood antibody testing for them, and investigate surveillance of human populations exposed to animal carriers.

A wide variety of African monkeys already carry high viral loads of many arteriviruses, often without symptoms, and certain species contact frequently humans, biting and scratching them.

“Just because we haven’t yet identified a human arterivirus infection doesn’t mean no one has been exposed.” “We haven’t looked,” Warren explained.

No one had heard of HIV

Warren and Sawyer point out that no one had heard of HIV in the 1970s either. Researchers now believe that HIV originated in nonhuman primates in Africa before spreading to humans in the early 1900s.

When HIV began killing young men in the United States in the 1980s, there was no serology test and no cure in the works.

According to Sawyer, there is no certainty that these simian arteriviruses will infect humans. But one thing is certain: more viruses will infect humans and cause sickness.

“COVID is merely the most recent in a long line of spillover events from animals to people, some of which have burst into global disasters,” Sawyer explained. “Our objective is that by raising knowledge of the viruses to be on the lookout for, we can get ahead of this so that if human illnesses start, we can respond swiftly.”

SOURCE: ANI

Voice-control devices may have an impact on children’s social, emotional development: Study

ACCORDING to a study, the use of artificial intelligence and machine learning in healthcare, as well as voice-control smart devices like Alexa, Siri, and Google Home, may be harmful to children’s social and emotional development.

The findings of the study were published online in the Archives of Disease in Childhood. These devices might have long-term effects by impeding children’s critical thinking, capacity for empathy and compassion, and their learning skills, says Anmol Arora of the University of Cambridge.

Advanced AI and ‘human’ sounding voices

While voice-control devices may act as ‘friends’ and help to improve children’s reading and communication skills, their advanced AI and ‘human’ sounding voices have prompted concerns about the potential



These devices can’t teach children how to behave politely, because there’s no expectation of a “please” or “thank you”, and no need to consider the tone of voice, he points out. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF GREIFSWALD/ANI

long-term effects on children’s brains at a crucial stage of development.

There are three broad areas of concern, explains the author. These comprise inappropriate responses; imped-

ing social development; and hindering learning.

He cites some well publicized examples of inappropriate responses, including a device suggesting that a 10-year old should try touching a live plug

with a coin.

“It is difficult to enforce robust parental controls on such devices without severely affecting their functionality,” he suggests, adding that privacy issues have also arisen in respect of the recording of private conversations.

These devices can’t teach children how to behave politely, because there’s no expectation of a “please” or “thank you”, and no need to consider the tone of voice, he points out.

Non-verbal communication

“The lack of ability to engage in non-verbal communication makes use of the devices a poor method of learning social interaction,” he writes. “While in normal human interactions, a child would usually receive constructive feedback if they were to behave inappropriately, this is beyond the scope of a smart device.”

Preliminary research on

the use of voice assistants as social companions for lonely adults is encouraging.

But it’s not at all clear if this also applies to children, he notes.

“This is particularly important at a time when children might already have had social development impaired as a result of COVID-19 restrictions and when [they] might have been spending more time isolated with smart devices at home,” he emphasises.

Devices are designed to search for requested information and provide a concise, specific answer, but this may hinder traditional processes by which children learn and absorb information, the author suggests.

When children ask adults questions, the adult can request contextual information, explain the limitations of their knowledge and probe the child’s reasoning—a process that these devices can’t replicate, he says.

Important learning experience

Searching for information is also an important learning experience, which teaches critical thinking and logical reasoning, he explains.

“The rise of voice devices has provided great benefit to the population. Their abilities to provide information rapidly, assist with daily activities, and act as a social companion to lonely adults are both important and useful, the author acknowledges.

“However, urgent research is required into the long-term consequences for children interacting with such devices,” he insists.

“Interacting with the devices at a crucial stage in social and emotional development might have long-term consequences on empathy, compassion, and critical thinking,” he concludes.

SOURCE: ANI

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 3 October 2022)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (17:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure over the westcentral Bay of Bengal Still persists. It is likely to move west-northwest and reach Andhra Pradesh Coast, India during next two days. Weather is cloudy over the northeast Bay of Bengal. Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 4 October 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi regions and Shan, Kayin and Mon states and fairly widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay and Taninthayi regions and Kayin and Mon states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squall with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30-35) mph. Wave height will be about (7-9) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of withdrawal of southwest monsoon from the Deltaic Myanmar areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 October 2022: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANCON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 October 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 October 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

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China’s contribution to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

(Excerpt from China’s International Development Cooperation in the New Era)
https://english.www.gov.cn/archive/whitepaper/202101/10/content_WS5ffa6bbbc6d0f72576943922.html

As an active contributor to the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, China has been assisting other developing countries to reduce poverty, boost agricultural progress, support equal access to education, improve infrastructure, and speed up industrialization.

1. Poverty Reduction

Eliminating poverty is the common aspiration of all peoples and a shared mission of the international community. The primary goal of the 2030 Agenda is to “end poverty in all its forms everywhere”. China has been helping other developing countries to reduce poverty and improve people’s lives, by providing assistance in the construction of rural public facilities, sharing experience in agricultural governance, and offering technology transfer.

- Implementing poverty reduction pilot projects. China has been assisting other developing countries in alleviating poverty. In Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia, China has launched pilot projects to promote its experience in village-by-village poverty reduction, improving local villages’ organizational ability, encouraging farmers to combine their efforts in agricultural activities, and cultivating a new vision for development to shake off poverty. China has organized training programs and co-hosted seminars with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to share ideas and actions in targeted poverty alleviation with other developing countries.
- Raising rural incomes. China has been assisting some countries in improving their rural living environment and meeting local needs in transport, work and life. For example, it helped Mauritania to build a highway in its Hope Delta to support local agriculture and animal husbandry. China has also provided training in handicrafts based on local conditions. In Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Lesotho, Rwanda and the Central African Republic, China launched pilot projects on Juncao planting techniques, to help rural households to increase their incomes. In Liberia and Ethiopia, China im-

parted bamboo weaving techniques, encouraging farmers to tap local bamboo resources and start furniture businesses as a new source of income.

- Protecting special groups. Special groups are the most deserving recipients of poverty alleviation. China has been supporting other developing countries in formulating policies concerning people with disabilities, improving rehabilitation services for them, and enabling them to share the fruits of social development. In Mongolia, Ecuador and Libya, China organized training programs on health care policies and rehabilitation services for special groups, which improved these countries’ capacity to alleviate poverty and provide better health care services for such groups. In Samoa, China helped set up a training centre for people with disabilities, with the number of trainees rising from 150 to over 400, providing them with opportunities for basic education and skills training.

2. Food Security

Agriculture is the foundation of economic growth and social stability. China assists other developing countries to leverage their own strengths to accelerate agricultural progress and ensure food self-sufficiency and food security.

- Improving agri-productivity. By the end of 2019, China had dispatched 81 agri-technology teams composed of 808 experts to 37 Asian and African countries; China had assisted African countries in setting up 22 agri-technology pilot centres to promote high-yield crop varieties, helping farmers increase productivity and boost their confidence in development. In Georgia, Chinese experts on plastic greenhouse vegetable cultivation rolled out solar greenhouse planting techniques among farmers, which increased vegetable yields and ensured self-sufficiency. In Kyrgyzstan and Chad, China launched assistance projects to upgrade their irrigation systems and offered agricultural machinery and supplies to ease local shortages. In Laos, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda, China provided timely

aid during locust plagues to help restore agricultural production. In Cambodia, China offered assistance in modern agricultural planning, and supported the Stung Chikreng water resources development project, ensuring an 80 per cent water supply rate for irrigation and replacing single cropping with double cropping in rice production.

- Cultivating agricultural research and technical personnel. Agricultural upgrading requires a talent pool. China has helped to build platforms to train rural technical personnel, including an agricultural school in Kratie, Cambodia, a Sino-Africa Joint Research Centre for scientific cooperation in agriculture with African countries, and a number of agri-technical cooperation programmes in Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, and Grenada. China has sent agricultural specialists overseas to offer technical training programmes on raising rice yields in Côte d’Ivoire, upgrading aquaculture in Zanzibar, Tanzania, and improving coffee varieties and processing methods in East Timor. To provide technological support and services for agricultural development in Africa, China initiated a “10+10” cooperation mechanism between Chinese and African agricultural research institutes for the joint development of new crop varieties, technologies, and equipment suited to the African continent.
- Developing agro-industrial chains. China attaches great importance to offering assistance in post-agricultural production. It helped build a pig and cattle slaughterhouse in Cuba, an agri-product preliminary processing centre in Cape Verde, a corn flour production plant in Zambia, and grain processing and storage facilities in East Timor, to improve their capacity to process and store agri-products, reduce post-production waste, and increase the added value of agri-products and farmers’ income. In Tonga and Samoa, China promoted biogas technology and pig-biogas-vegetable circular agri-technology and used agri-technology pilot centres to demonstrate how to develop a full industrial chain from production, storage, processing to

marketing, share comprehensive agri-management experience, and support circular agriculture and sustainable production. In response to initiatives and campaigns by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), China has helped some countries to improve their food security.

3. Health Care

China always puts the people first and prioritizes the protection of lives. It has been supporting other developing countries in building their public health systems, improving their medical and healthcare services, and protecting people’s lives and health.

- Building public health systems. To help Africa improve its public health system and build the headquarters of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), China dispatched health experts to support its emergency command, epidemiological analysis, and disease control during a number of epidemics. In tackling infectious diseases such as malaria and schistosomiasis, China assisted Africa in carrying out a raft of disease control and health improvement programmes. In Zanzibar, Tanzania, China provided technical assistance in schistosomiasis control and helped design prevention and treatment protocols, which lowered the local infection rate. In Comoros, China assisted its malaria elimination program with an Artemisinin-based combination therapy, which ensured zero deaths and reduced the morbidity rate by 98 per cent.
- Improving basic medical service capacity. In the Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, Cambodia and Kyrgyzstan, China provided aid to more than 50 medical infrastructure projects, playing an important role in protecting public health and training medical professionals. China offered medicines, equipment and consumables to other countries to ease their shortages of medical supplies.

China launched paired cooperation with medical institutions in over 20 countries, helping them to set up specialized hospital departments or improve the performance of existing

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departments. China assisted Trinidad and Tobago in establishing its own micro neurosurgery and endoscopic neurosurgery departments. The Chinese medical team in Dominica introduced minimally invasive surgery to the country. Through such efforts, China has brought advanced treatment concepts and filled many medical technology gaps in the Caribbean region.

- Strengthening human resources for medical services. From 2015 to 2019, China dispatched 3,588 medical workers overseas in 202 groups, who provided treatment to 11 million patients, organized professional training for local medical staff, offered free mobile clinic services, and donated medicines and equipment; more than 1,500 of these Chinese medical workers were awarded presidential medals or other honours by the recipient countries, while one of them died on duty. China has also sent short-term medical specialist teams overseas for particular diseases. In 25 countries, including Botswana, Eritrea, Morocco, Ghana, the Bahamas, Maldives, and Antigua and Barbuda, China launched 42 sight recovery activities under the Brightness Action programme, providing 9,752 cataract surgeries. In Ghana and Tanzania, China carried out 170 heart surgeries under the Heart-to-Heart programme.

4. Quality Education

Education is the foundation of development. China has been assisting other developing countries in providing fairer access to better education, by opening schools, training teachers, and increasing scholarships.

- Supporting basic education. Access to good education is the common aspiration of all children and teens in developing countries. It is also an important means to improve population quality and advance national development. In Nepal, Armenia, Mozambique, Namibia, Peru and Uruguay, China assisted in the construction of a number of primary and secondary schools and offered computers, lab equipment, stationery and sporting goods to improve their basic education conditions. In South Sudan, China provided technical assistance in education, including compiling customized primary school textbooks on mathematics, English and science, and printing 1.3 million copies of them for 150,000 teachers and students. In North Macedonia, China provided distance education equipment to 27 schools, helping improve local

education, particularly in mountainous and rural areas, and promoting the balanced distribution of education resources.

- Developing higher education. China has been assisting other countries in improving higher education facilities and training high-calibre talent. China assisted in construction projects such as the Emalus Campus of the University of the South Pacific in Vanuatu, the Malawi University of Science and Technology, the teaching building of the Chinese Department at Kabul University in Afghanistan, the library at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, and the Kabala Campus of the University of Bamako in Mali. At Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya, China helped establish the Sino-Africa Joint Research Centre, offering courses on the protection and utilization of biodiversity and remote sensing of natural resources to improve local technology levels. China has provided part-time degree and non-degree programmes for foreign trainees. Since 2013, the Chinese government has sponsored more than 4,300 people from other developing countries to obtain master's and doctoral degrees in China. To strengthen research cooperation and academic exchanges with partner countries to jointly train high-calibre personnel, China has launched the "20+20" Plan for higher education cooperation with Africa and established the Atomic Energy Scholarship of China.
- Promoting vocational education. Vocational education is an important means for developing countries to generate demographic dividends and increase employment. In Laos, Cambodia, Nepal, Myanmar, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Rwanda, Uganda, Malawi, Egypt, Sudan, Liberia, Equatorial Guinea and Vanuatu, China helped set up technical schools and vocational training centres. In Azerbaijan, Ethiopia and Madagascar, China provided material support for improving their vocational and technical education. The Omdurman Friendship Centre for Vocational Training, supported by China, has become Sudan's national vocational training base for teachers. In Djibouti and Egypt, China has established Lu Ban workshops to provide practical technical training to local youth through paired cooperation with Chinese vocational schools. China's technical assistance to the vocational training centre in Burkina Faso has helped boost the local vocational education market.

5. Gender Equality

Women are an important driving force for social progress. China has assisted other developing countries in promoting women's development, creating more opportunities for women to succeed in life.

- Safeguarding women's rights and interests. China has begun to implement the 100 maternal and child health care projects in developing countries, initiated by President Xi Jinping at the summits celebrating the UN's 70th anniversary in 2015. Some of these projects are already in place in Cambodia, Sierra Leone, Malawi and Cape Verde, effectively ensuring basic healthcare services for local women. In Zimbabwe, China launched a programme for the prevention and treatment of cervical diseases, donated medicines and equipment for early diagnosis and treatment, and dispatched specialists to improve the expertise of the local medical staff. China provided training programmes to some countries on maternal and child health care, to help improve their clinical services in obstetrics and neonatology.
- Empowering women. China has reinforced its efforts to assist in training women in other developing countries, promoting vocational and technical training to increase women's employment and their participation in political and economic activities. Since 2013, China has offered over 60 capacity development and technical training programmes for women in developing countries, and provided part-time degree and non-degree programmes on women's leadership and social development, aiming to expand female officials' capacity to participate in political and economic activities.

6. Infrastructure

China has assisted other developing countries in building public facilities and energy infrastructure, enabling their people to enjoy a better life.

- Supporting the construction of public facilities. China aided the maintenance and renovation of public facilities such as the Algiers Opera House in Algeria, the National Wrestling Arena and the Museum of Black Civilizations in Senegal, the Culture Palace of Abidjan in Côte d'Ivoire, and the Cotonou Convention Centre in Benin. It provided assistance to some countries and the African Union in building conference centres and support facilities.

It assisted Grenada, Guinea-Bissau and Tunisia in building, repairing and upgrading sports venues. All these projects aim to increase cultural and sporting activities in these countries and regions and enrich local cultural life.

- The Development Centre for Children with Disabilities in Mongolia, constructed with China's assistance, is the largest multi-functional rehabilitation centre of its kind in the country, and is renowned as "a happiness project".
- Improving the urban living environment. In Sierra Leone, Burundi, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Nepal, the Philippines, the Federated States of Micronesia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Serbia, China helped build urban arterial roads and upgrade congested sections to ease traffic flow. The China-Maldives Friendship Bridge, built with China's assistance to connect three adjacent islands, has become an artery of traffic in the Male Atoll, providing an alternative to the ferry as the only means of local transport. In Syria, China provided 100 buses to expand urban transport capacity, which has facilitated travel and reconstruction in the recipient cities. China-aided projects on road repair and residential drainage in Sao Tome and Principe and those on water supply and sewage treatment in Kurunegala, Sri Lanka, have addressed urban waterlogging and separated sewage from rainwater, thereby reducing pollution and improving local life quality.
- Expanding energy access. Depending on resource availability, China has assisted other countries in developing hydro, solar, wind, nuclear and geothermal power, and helped them to build power transmission, transformation and distribution networks.

In Cuba, China assisted the construction of a solar power station with an installed capacity of 9 MW and an annual power output of 12.85 million kWh, which filled a sizable gap in the local power supply. China aided Kyrgyzstan in rebuilding its power grid in the south, aided Tajikistan in a 500 kV power transmission and transformation project in the Districts of Republican Subordination, aided Laos in building a 230 kV power transmission line between Thavieng and Laksao, and aided Zambia in building a power transmission line between Kariba North and Kafue West. These projects have improved power grid connectivity in these countries and played an important role in boosting their energy independence and industrialization.

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China’s contribution to the UN 2030 Agenda...

FROM PAGE-11
7. Sustainable and Innovation-Driven Economic Growth

China has supported other developing countries in advancing industrialization, increasing the added value of their resources, boosting industrial employment, releasing the potential of the digital economy, and improving economic creativity and inclusiveness.

- Advancing Industrialization. Industrialization is a prerequisite for economic independence and an important means of creating employment and ending poverty. China has been supporting other developing countries in tapping their potential for competitive industrial capacity, modernizing their industrial systems, and increasing the added value of their resources, to accelerate the process of industrialization. In Bangladesh, China assisted the construction of the Shahjalal Fertilizer Factory. Since it was put into operation in 2015, the factory has achieved a total output of 1.1 million tonnes and saved over US\$400 million in foreign exchange. The China-aided fruit and vegetable processing plant in Cuba and the sulfuric acid plant in Tajikistan have raised local production efficiency and boosted local income and tax revenues. Prioritizing localization, these programs have increased employment and improved labour skills for local people.
- Promoting the digital economy. China has assisted other countries in implementing 37 telecommunications infrastructure projects covering telecommunications networks and government information networks, to help them develop information and communications industries and narrow digital gaps. Kenya’s national fibre optic cable network, built with China’s assistance, has greatly increased transmission speed, reduced communication costs, and boosted e-commerce, marking a great leap in the development of Kenya’s information and communications industries. China

assisted in the construction of the police command centre and government hotline in Laos, and the integrated government information system in Papua New Guinea, helping the two countries to raise their administrative efficiency and increase the application of IT in governance. China assisted the third-phase project of Bangladesh’s e-government network, extending high-speed information and communications connectivity to 64 districts, 488 sub-districts, and 2,600 unions to cover 62 per cent of its territory and population.

8. Eco-environmental Protection

Upholding the vision of harmonious coexistence between humanity and nature, China has proactively assisted other developing countries in promoting new energy, protecting the environment, and addressing climate change. China has shared its experience in green development, fulfilled its commitments under international conventions, and expanded international cooperation on wildlife protection and desertification control, to join other countries in preserving our beautiful planet.

- Developing clean energy. China has increased its support for renewable energy projects and assisted other developing countries in implementing clean energy programmes. In Gabon, China launched a clean energy pilot project to increase power supply while minimizing environmental impacts. In Kenya, China assisted the construction of the Garissa solar photovoltaic power plant, providing an average annual generation capacity of 76 GWh and an annual reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 64,000 tonnes. In Fiji, China supported the construction of a number of small hydropower plants, to provide clean, stable and low-cost energy and replace annual diesel imports worth RMB6 million, helping the country to work towards the goal of making renewable energy 90 per cent of its total energy consumption by 2025.

- Protecting biodiversity. Biodiversity is the foundation of human survival and development. China attaches great importance to biodiversity conservation, fulfilling its international obligations, and promoting international cooperation on wildlife protection. China provided Zimbabwe, Kenya and Zambia with wildlife protection supplies, upgrading their equipment for combatting poaching and illegal wildlife trade and improving their wildlife protection capacity. China provided Mongolia with technical assistance for the management of Gobi bear habitats, by helping improve environmental quality and offering specialist equipment, to protect its “national treasure” from imminent extinction.
- Addressing climate change. China has promoted South-South cooperation in the response to climate change, helping other developing countries – particularly small island countries, African countries and least developed countries – to mitigate the impacts of climate change. In 2015, China announced the establishment of a South-South Climate Cooperation Fund, and the plan to set up 10 pilot low-carbon industrial parks, start 100 climate mitigation and adaptation programmes and provide climate change response training programmes for 1,000 people in other developing countries, which have to date involved cooperation with 34 countries. China assisted Laos and Ethiopia in formulating plans for environmental protection and clean energy development to accelerate their green and low-carbon transformation. China provided Myanmar with home solar power systems and clean cooking stoves, which reduced carbon emissions and protected forest resources. Ethiopia’s microsatellite, donated by China, was launched into space, helping the country improve its capacity for disaster monitoring and alerting, and for climate change response. From 2013 to 2018, China organ-

ized over 200 training programmes on climate change response and environmental protection, set up targeted degree and non-degree programs on environmental management and sustainable development, and trained some 5,000 people from other countries.

- Curbing desertification. China is happy to share with other countries its desertification control technology and experience and has organized a number of training programmes on curbing desertification and soil erosion. China launched an international platform for technical assistance and exchange on desertification control in its Gansu Province, organizing 36 international training sessions on this topic. In 2006, China held the first training session on desertification control technology for Arab states, and up to now has organized 12 such sessions. China has also imparted bamboo and Juncao planting and processing techniques in other countries, which have effectively contained soil erosion and land degradation and protected the eco-environment.
- Conserving marine and forest resources. Oceans and forests are valuable natural resources. China helped countries like Jamaica with programmes for hydrological and meteorological observation, assisted Uzbekistan in establishing pilot automatic weather stations, and supported research on marine disaster preparedness and mitigation. China assisted Cape Verde in developing its plan for a maritime special economic zone and designing a blueprint for the exploitation and conservation of marine resources on Sao Vicente Island. China has launched cooperation with African countries on afforestation and forestry research and provided Tanzania and Comoros with fire engines and patrol vehicles to improve their forest resource management capacity.



Crude prices rally as top producers mull big output cut

OIL prices jumped more than four per cent in Asian trade Monday as reports said OPEC and other top producers considered slashing output.

WTI climbed 4.5 per cent to \$83.06 and Brent piled on 4.4 per cent to \$88.83 ahead of a meeting of the group this week in Vienna, with Bloomberg News saying officials were discussing a one-million-barrel-a-day cut in output.

Bloomberg added that the move — which it said delegates to OPEC had not finalized — would be the biggest since the pandemic began, when crude prices collapsed.

Such a move “will be

enough to put a floor under prices”, Phil Flynn, at Price Futures Group, said.

Officials will meet on Wednesday.

The jump in prices comes after both main contracts suffered hefty losses in recent months on demand fears caused by an expected recession in major economies, while a strong dollar and China’s economic woes have also weighed on the commodity.

The losses caused prices to hit levels last seen in January, having wiped out all the gains following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

Suvro Sarkar, an



Oil pumpjacks are seen along a section of Highway 33 known as the Petroleum Highway north of McKittrick in Kern County, California on 28 September 2022. PHOTO: AFP

energy analyst at DBS Bank, expected more gains were likely.

“It’s only going to be a matter of time before oil returns to \$100 a barrel,

especially with supplies set to tighten towards the end of the year,” he said.

The cut could give central banks another headache as surging energy costs have been a key driver of inflation that has forced officials to hike interest rates, hammering economies around the world.

It would also come after the United States and other countries released millions of barrels from their emergency supplies to tamp down prices.

OANDA’s Edward Moya said: “The slide in oil prices is likely over.

“Energy traders turned pessimistic over the summer given global slowdown fears, but now it seems the risks for oil are to the upside.”—AFP

In the matters of the Insolvency Law 2020, and
UNIQUE SEA PRODUCTS MYANMAR CO., LTD
(In Members’ Voluntary Winding-up)

[Under Section 147 of Insolvency Law & Rules 9 & 15 (b) of Insolvency Rules]

Pursuant to Section 156 (b) of the Myanmar Companies Law the following resolutions were passed as Special Resolutions, on 30th September, 2022 by the sole Member of Unique Sea Products Myanmar Co., Ltd.

- (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, 1st Floor, Rose Condominium, No. 182/194, 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 Unique Sea Products Myanmar Co., Ltd (In Members’ Voluntary Winding-up)

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In the matters of the Insolvency Law 2020, and
UNIQUE SEA PRODUCTS 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 Unique Sea Products Myanmar Co., Ltd (In Members’ Voluntary Winding-up) (Company Registration Number-126874162) are required to submit a Proof of Debt or Claim in the prescribed form together with supporting documents and evidences at Room No. 2D, 1st Floor, Rose Condominium, No. 182/194, Botahtaung Pagoda Road, Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar or email address: hninsumon@winthinassociates.com on or before **20-10-2022**, failing to which their claims will be excluded from the benefit of a distribution made before its debts or claims are admitted and objecting to that distribution.

Liquidator of Unique Sea Products 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.)

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PANJA BHUM VOY.NO. (205W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PANJA BHUM VOY.NO. (205W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-10-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR SOLO VOY.NO. (973N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR SOLO VOY.NO. (973N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-10-2022** 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V RESOLUTION VOY.NO. (2228S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RESOLUTION VOY.NO. (2228S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-10-2022** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

Sweden's Paabo wins medicine Nobel for sequencing Neanderthal DNA



A screen shows the winner of the 2022 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine Swedish paleogeneticist Svante Paabo, during a press conference at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, on 3 October 2022. Swedish paleogeneticist Svante Paabo, who sequenced the genome of the Neanderthal and discovered the previously unknown hominin Denisova, won the Nobel Medicine Prize. **PHOTO: JONATHAN NACKSTRAND / AFP**

SWEDISH paleogeneticist Svante Paabo, who sequenced the genome of the Neanderthal and discovered the previously unknown hominin Denisova, on Monday won the Nobel Medicine Prize.

Paabo's research gave rise to an entirely new scientific discipline called paleogenomics, and has "generated new understanding of our evolutionary history", it said.

"By revealing genetic differences that distinguish all living humans from extinct hominins, his discoveries provide the basis for exploring what makes us uniquely human", the Nobel committee said in a statement.

The founder and director of the department of genetics at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Paabo found that gene transfer had occurred from these now extinct hominins to Homo sapiens following the migration out of Africa around 70,000 years ago.

"This ancient flow of genes to present-day humans has physiological relevance today, for example affecting how our immune system reacts to infections", the jury said.

One such example is that Covid-19 patients with a snippet of Neanderthal DNA run a higher risk of severe complications from the disease, Paabo

found in a 2020 study. Paabo, 67, who takes home the award sum of 10 million Swedish kronor (\$901,500), will receive the prize from King Carl XVI Gustaf at a formal ceremony in Stockholm on 10 December the anniversary of the 1896 death of scientist Alfred Nobel who created the prizes in his last will and testament.

Paabo is the son of Sune Bergstrom, a Swede who won the 1982 Nobel Medicine Prize for discovering prostaglandins, which are biochemical compounds that influence blood pressure, body temperature, allergic reactions, and other physiological phenomena. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

First indigenously-built light combat helicopters inducted in Indian air force

INDIA'S defence minister Rajnath Singh Monday inducted the first batch of indigenously-built light combat helicopters into the Indian Air Force (IAF), officials said.

The induction was done at Air Force station Jodhpur in the western Indian state of Rajasthan.

Primarily designed for deployment in high-altitude regions, the light combat helicopters are capable of firing a range of missiles and other weapons.

Singh revealed that the helicopter has been named Prachand, which means fierce.

Equipped with stealth features, the light combat helicopter is the attack helicopter in the world that can land and take off at an altitude of 5,000 metres with a considerable load of weapons and fuel, officials said. — Xinhua

Philippines, US kick off joint military drills

OVER 3,000 Philippine and US troops on Monday kicked off a series of joint military drills to sharpen their "interoperability in conducting combined tactical readiness."

Acting Philippine Navy chief Rear Admiral Bernard Valencia said 630 Philippine troops, mainly from the marines, and 2,550 US marine soldiers are participating in the 12-day annual exercises, dubbed KAMANDAG 6. Japanese and South Korean troops are taking part as observers, he added.

This year's exercise, running at various training sites in Metro Manila, throughout the main Luzon island and in Palawan province, will focus on "curbing transnational crime, counter-terrorism, and performing other non-traditional security roles," Valencia said at the opening ceremony.

Rear Admiral Derek Trinque, exercise director on the US side, said coastal defence, amphibious operations and live-fire training will be included in this year's exercises. — Xinhua

Iran urges US to quit sanctions addiction if seeking to reach nuclear agreement



Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanani speaks during a press conference in the capital Tehran on 3 October 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman on Monday urged the United States to quit its addiction to sanctions and display "constructive" behaviour if it seeks to reach an agreement on the revival of a 2015 nuclear deal, according to official news agency IRNA.

Nasser Kanaani made the remarks in an address to a weekly press conference, adding that Washington's imposition of fresh sanctions against Tehran indicates that the US government is suffering from inconsistency and paradox and fails to have the political will for continuing the nuclear negotiations.

He noted that the talks on the nuclear deal's revival and sanctions' removal are continuing through the European Union (EU) as the negotiations' coordinator, saying the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York provided a good opportunity for talks on the issues and indirect messages were exchanged between Tehran and Washington on its sidelines. Iran is still committed to achieving a "good and robust" agreement as well as a favourable result and has submitted its response to the EU's proposed final draft of a potential nuclear agreement.

Kanaani assured that the

process of exchanging messages is continuing, and Iran has presented its conclusion about the negotiations to the EU.

It is still possible to reach an agreement and resume the nuclear deal's implementation, he said, emphasizing that once the American side shows its political will, the agreement can be achieved in a short period of time.

Iran signed the nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), with world powers in July 2015, agreeing to curb its nuclear programme in return for removing sanctions on the country. However, former US President Donald Trump pulled Washington out of the agreement and reimposed unilateral sanctions on Tehran, prompting the latter to drop some of its commitments under the pact.

The talks on the JCPOA's revival began in April 2021 in Vienna but were suspended in March this year because of political differences between Tehran and Washington. The latest round of the nuclear talks was held in the Austrian capital in early August after a five-month hiatus. — Xinhua

Indonesia orders stadium disaster ‘perpetrators’ punished

INDONESIA’S government called on police Monday to identify and punish those responsible for a stadium stampede that left 125 people dead, as anger mounted over one of the deadliest disasters in the history of football.

The tragedy on Saturday night in the city of Malang also saw 323 people injured after officers fired tear gas in a packed stadium to quell a pitch invasion, triggering a stampede.

“We ask the national police to find the perpetrators who have committed crimes in the next few days,” Indonesia’s chief security minister Mahfud MD said in a broadcast statement.

“We asked them to unveil who has perpetrated the crimes and take action against them

and we also hope the national police will evaluate their security procedures.”

He announced that a task force had been formed for an investigation.

The incident unfolded when fans of home team Arema FC stormed the pitch at the Kanjuruhan stadium after their loss 3-2 to bitter rivals Persebaya Surabaya.

Police responded by launching tear gas into packed terraces, prompting spectators to rush en masse to small gates where many were trampled or suffocated, according to witnesses.

Police described the incident as a riot and said two officers were killed but survivors accuse them of overreacting and

causing the deaths of scores of spectators, including a five-year-old boy.

“One of our messages is for the authorities to investigate this thoroughly. And we want accountability. Who is to blame?” said 25-year-old Andika, who declined to give his last name.

“We want justice for our fallen supporters.”

National police spokesman Dedi Prasetyo said investigators were analyzing CCTV footage around the stadium to identify “suspects who have perpetrated the destruction”.

They also planned to question event officials on Monday as well as 18 officers responsible for being “the carrier or the operator of the weapons”, he told a



Players and officials from Arema Football Club gather to pray on the pitch for victims of the stampede at Kanjuruhan stadium in Malang, East Java on 3 October 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

televised press conference.

In a tearful live address, Arema FC president Gilang

Widya Pramana apologized for the club’s role in the tragedy. — AFP

UK’s new govt in major tax U-turn after uproar



Britain’s Chancellor of the Exchequer Kwasi Kwarteng (L) and Britain’s Prime Minister Liz Truss (R) attend the opening day of the annual Conservative Party Conference in Birmingham, central England, on 2 October 2022. UK’s new Prime Minister will have plenty of critics lying in wait at what the Tories bill as Europe’s largest annual political event. **PHOTO: AFP**

BRITAIN’S beleaguered finance minister on Monday announced a dramatic U-turn on a tax cut unveiled as part of an economic package that has bombed with the markets, electorate and his party.

The abrupt change of course by Chancellor of the Exchequer Kwasi Kwarteng, and Prime Minister Liz Truss, raised questions about their right-wing project less than a month after she succeeded Bo-

ris Johnson. “We get it, and we have listened,” Kwarteng said on Twitter, announcing that he would no longer be scrapping the 45 per cent top rate of income tax levied on the highest earners.

Their plan also comprises axing a cap on bankers’ bonuses and reversing a planned rise in corporation tax, as well as a recent hike in national insurance contributions. At the same time, they have refused to rule out cuts to spending and benefits in the middle of Britain’s worst cost-of-living crisis in generations.

The perceived unfairness of the package has ignited a political storm as Truss’s Conservatives gather for their annual conference in Birmingham.

On the markets, the intention to pay for the tax cuts with billions more in extra borrowing had sent the pound tumbling and UK government bond yields soaring. — AFP

Never-before-seen Beatles footage released in Japan

BEATLES fans have hailed the release of never-before-seen footage showing the Fab Four on tour in Japan, following a fierce court battle over the 35-minute video.

The silent black-and-white footage of the British band’s only visit to the country in 1966 was recorded by police as a security measure. It shows the musicians descending from

a plane in matching kimonos and performing to a rapturous crowd at the Budokan arena in Tokyo, as well as behind-the-scenes police operations. The footage has a noticeable quirk, however: the faces of everyone except the Beatles — from crying admirers to officers facing off with right-wingers protesting the tour — have been pixelated for privacy reasons. — AFP



This handout taken on 30 June 1966 and released to AFP on 3 October 2022 by the Metropolitan Police Department via Freedom of Information Citizen Centre shows The Beatles (R) in concert at the Nippon Budokan in Tokyo. **PHOTO: HANDOUT / FREEDOM OF INFORMATION CITIZEN CENTER / METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT / AFP**

Indian jets scramble after false bomb scare on Iran airliner

INDIAN military jets were scrambled on Monday after a bomb alert on an Iranian airliner that turned out to be false, the Indian Air Force (IAF) said.

“IAF fighter aircraft were scrambled, which followed the

aircraft at a safe distance. The aircraft was offered the option to land at Jaipur & then, at Chandigarh,” the IAF said in a statement, referring to two airports in northern India.

The statement said the pilot was unwilling to divert

to either airport, and that instructions were later received to disregard the threat.

“After a while, intimation was received from Tehran to disregard the bomb scare, following which, the aircraft continued on its journey to-

wards its final destination,” the statement said.

The Airbus A340 operated by Iranian carrier Mahan Air, with a capacity of between 320 and 475 passengers, was headed from the Iranian capital Tehran to Guangzhou in

China.

Flight tracker websites showed that the aircraft performed several mid-air circles west of the Indian capital New Delhi before heading east towards its final destination. —AFP

Sweden's Paabo
wins medicine Nobel
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SPORT

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 team stands sixth in ASEAN for September's FIFA Ranking

THE Myanmar men's national football team is currently standing sixth in the ASEAN region and ranked 158th in the world with 1,008 points, according to the FIFA rankings released in September 2022.

Team Viet Nam is still standing first in ASEAN with a world ranking of 96th and 1,227 points earned.

Meanwhile, Thailand's national football team is placed second in ASEAN with a FIFA

ranking of 111 and 1,175 points.

The Philippines squad is third with a world ranking of 133rd and 1,115 points.

Next, Malaysia's national team is fourth in ASEAN and the team is standing 147th in the world ranking with 1,060 points earned and the Indonesia team is fifth in ASEAN with 152nd world rank.

In the meantime, Singapore is following Myanmar with a FIFA world ranking of 159th and

1,004 points.

Next, Cambodia and Laos are in the eighth and ninth place in ASEAN with FIFA rankings of 177th and 187th.

Brunei team is next in the tenth place with a FIFA world ranking of 190th and Timor-Leste is in the eleventh place with a FIFA ranking of 198th. Myanmar had the highest records in FIFA ranks as 97th in April 1996 and the lowest as 182nd in August 2012, according to FIFA. — GNLM

Juve ease pressure with Bologna win, Atalanta keep pace with leaders Napoli

JUVENTUS swept aside Bologna 3-0 on Sunday to ease their recent troubles as Atalanta continued their dream start to the Serie A season with a 1-0 win over Fiorentina which kept them level on points with leaders Napoli.

A routine third league win of the season

against dismal opposition will stave off questions about coach Massimiliano Allegri's future until at least next weekend, when they travel to champions AC Milan.

They are seventh, seven points behind the leading duo of Napoli and Atalanta thanks to Filip Kostic's first goal for the club midway through the first half and two more after the break from strike pairing Dusan Vla-

hovic and Arkadiusz Milik.

"We hadn't won a game for a month, when we got back to the dressing room we almost couldn't believe it," said Allegri to DAZN.

"We have to take it one step at a time, hopefully we can close the gap like we did last season."

Before facing Milan they host Maccabi Haifa on Wednesday with a win over the Israelis essential for their hopes of reaching the Champions League's knockout rounds.

Fans of Italy's biggest club are not filling the Allianz Stadium in Turin and they will not be won over by a home win over Bologna, who are one point above the relegation zone and have shown no signs of improvement since replacing Sinisa Mihajlovic with Thiago Motta earlier this month.—AFP

Madrid drop first points as Benzema spurns penalty against Osasuna

KARIM Benzema missed a penalty for Real Madrid as they finally blinked in the La Liga title race, dropping their first points of the season in a 1-1 draw with Osasuna on Sunday.

Elsewhere Real Sociedad won 5-3 at Girona and high-flying Real Betis fell to a 1-0 defeat at Celta Vigo.

After Barcelona beat Real Mallorca on Saturday, Madrid knew they had to win to stay top but were frustrated by Jagoba Arrasate's well-organized side at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Benzema, on his return to the side after injury, won a spot-kick but then fired it against the crossbar, and also had a goal disallowed

for offside as Madrid tried to force a way through.

Vinicius Junior broke the deadlock just before half-time with a cross that snuck all the way into the far corner, but Kike Garcia's well-taken header early in the second period earned Osasuna a point.

"What we were missing was scoring that penalty, normally Karim scores them," Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti told DAZN.

"He had no problem playing the 90 minutes. It's been a month since he's played, he has to get his best form back. He did his part, he had the chance from the penalty. It's an accident, sometimes it happens."—AFP



Juventus' French midfielder Adrien Rabiot (C) is tackled during the Italian Serie A football match between Juventus and Bologna on 2 October 2022 at the Juventus stadium in Turin. PHOTO: AFP