BEEF UP THE OPERATION OF MSMEs TO PRODUCE QUALITY PRODUCTS PAGE-8 (OPINION)

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IX, No. 174, 13th Waxing of Thadingyut 1384 ME www.gnlm.com.mm Friday, 7 October 2022

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.

The rice industry can be implemented not only for export promotion but for import-substitute measures: Senior General

THE Myanmar Rice Conference 2022 was kicked off at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, with an address by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

The conference aimed to review appropriate action lines, difficulties and future prospects of the rice sector and discuss the process in the chain of value for rice cultivation, production, milling, storage and sale in accordance with the national export strategy, reform processes and future plans of the government and the private sectors under the theme Rising with rice: Enabling the New Beginnings and Strategic Actions for the Export Promotion.

> Myanmar Rice Federation and relevant organizations and departments need to strive for seeking the market in Africa and South-east Asia for rice exportation.

State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivers the speech on the inaugural occasion of the Myanmar Rice Conference-2022 in Nay Pyi Taw on 6 October 2022.,

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General said rice and rice products are prioritized in the national export strategy being implemented for promoting the export volume. The vision for the promotion of the rice export strategy is to produce and export rice which will be high quality for rural development and increased income as well as sustainable development suitable for the natural environment.

The Myanmar Rice Conference 2022 is being organized by the Ministry of Commerce and the Myanmar Rice Federation on 6 and 7 October.

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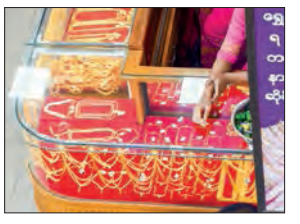


Those wishing to enter the legal fold can contact respective townships' Red Cross Society, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Social Welfare Office and social welfare organizations authorized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in 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

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Law Translation Commission Order No 5/2022

11th Waxing of Thadingyut 1384 ME
5 October 2022

1. The Law Translation Commission hereby announced the translated Myanmar version of the Guardians and Wards Act, which was enacted in English under Sub-Section (a) of Section 9 of the Law Translation Commission Law, in accord with Sub-Section (a) of Section 12 of this law.
2. That Myanmar translated law shall come into effect similar to the original copy.

(Dr Thida Oo)
Chair
Law Translation Commission

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

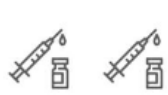
350 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 6 October, total figure rises to 625,497

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 625,497 after 350 new cases were reported on 6 October 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 599,597 have been recovered from disease. Death toll reaches 19,464 after one death.

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

New postage stamp to be on sale on 9 October

MYANMA Post under the Ministry of Transport and Communications will issue a new K200 postage stamp with a picture of a white-throated babbler called "Swae" bird in Myanmar. It is a species of bird endemic to Myanmar, according to the record of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.

The new postage stamp will be sold simultaneously at the Central Post Office in Nay Pyi Taw, the General Post offices in Yangon and Mandalay and other post offices in regions and states at 9:30 am on 9 October.

As a special programme, the date will be sealed on the postage stamps purchased at the Central Post Office in Nay Pyi Taw and General Post offices in Yangon and Mandalay on 9 October, it is reported. – MNA

Our country must now build a stronger Union system for ensuring its long-term existence

OUR country is a nation where ethnic people have been residing for many years. From before losing independence, the whole country was under the administrative system of centralization, although the types of administration were different in regions and areas. Thus, when we gained independence, the whole nation, the whole Union collectively gained independence.

Hence, our country, which had been formed through the Union system since historical times, must now build a stronger Union system for ensuring its long-term existence.

(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)

The rice industry can be implemented not only for export promotion but for import-substitute measures: Senior General

State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and dignitaries view the exhibits at the Myanmar Rice Conference in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

FROM PAGE-1

The sown acreage of rice takes 34 per cent of all cultivable land. Rice was grown on 17 million acres of land in the 2020-21 financial year, and 15 million acres of monsoon paddy and 2.4 million acres of summer paddy, totalling 17.4 million in 2021-22 FY. Efforts should be made for the production of 100 baskets of paddy per acre. The paddy-after-paddy, paddy-bean-paddy, and paddy-sunflower-paddy cropping should be implemented on the land of paddy rather than the expansion of sown acreage.

In the coming summer paddy season, the State will disburse K200,000 per acre of summer paddy at a special rate for implementing the contract farming on 0.85 million acres of farmland, totalling K140 billion which should be spent on quality paddy strains and fertilizers.

Currently, more than 500,000 tonnes of rice and 360,000 tonnes of broken rice, totalling over 860,000 tonnes were exported to 38 customer countries within six months in the 2022-23 financial year, exceeding more than 200,000 tonnes of rice and broken rice in the corresponding period of the previous financial year.

In exportation, parboiled rice is traded at US$460 to $505 per tonne. Within six months, 860,000 tonnes of rice comprises parboiled rice for five per cent, broken rice for 42 per cent and usual rice for 53 per cent.

Myanmar Rice Federation and relevant organizations and departments need to strive for seeking the market in Africa and Southeast Asia for rice exportation. Now, preparation is being made to export 200,000 tonnes of rice to Bangladesh for the third time while high-grade rice will be exported to China and African countries.

The rice industry can be implemented not only for export promotion but for import-substitute measures. Some 80 per cent of the annual production of rice is consumed by the people and making snacks and 20 per cent of rice is exported. Hence, the government and farmers need to cooperate in local consumption and the stability of the rice market.

Today's conference needs to discuss the use of paddy dryers for maintaining the quality of rice in the post-harvest sector, the increase of rice mills capable of milling high-grade rice, the promotion of rice export, and effective application of digital technology in the rice and paddy sector in order to adopt the work procedures.

Union Ministers U Aung Naing Oo, U Tin Htut Oo and U Hla Moe explained the purpose of holding the conference. MRF President U Ye Min Aung discussed the topic Rising with rice: Enabling the New Beginnings and Strategic Actions for the Export Promotion.

In his response to the reports and discussions, the Senior General clarified the efforts of the government to supply quality paddy seeds, use agricultural machinery, utilize biofertilizers produced by livestock farms, and distribute rice and paddy to local and international markets.

The Senior General viewed the display of rice, paddy and fertilizers at the booths.—MNA

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanma Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mal, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.

News and Periodicals Enterprise

Myanmar delegation takes part in the AACC-CCJA joint conference virtually.

5th Congress of WCCJ, joint conference between AACC and CCJA held

THE joint conference between the Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions (AACC) and the Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CCJA) commenced on 4 October, and the delegation led by U Khin Maung Oo, a member of the Constitutional Court of the Union, attended the event online.

The theme of the joint conference was "Promoting Asian-African Cooperation for the Protection of People's Fundamental Rights" and it was participated by chief justices, presidents and judges of constitutional courts, tribunals and councils from 16 AACC member countries and 29 CCJA member countries. Legal experts from AACC and CCJA member countries read their papers and shared their experiences and knowledge.

Similarly, the Myanmar delegation participated in the 5th Congress of the World Conference on Constitutional Justice (WCCJ) virtually, which was held on 5-6 October. Chief justices, presidents, judges and invited international legal experts of constitutional courts, tribunals and councils from 98 WCCJ member countries exchanged their expertise at the congress held under the theme of "Constitutional Justice and Peace". — MNA

MoL Deputy Minister meets Thai Labour Minister

THE delegation led by Deputy Minister for Labour U Win Shein met Thailand Labour Minister Mr Suchart Chomklin and officials in Bangkok, Thailand, yesterday morning.

During the meeting, the deputy minister thanked the Thai Employment Department for the invitation to inspect the opening of CJ extension camps in Thailand based on the request of the Thai Labour Minister to issue certificates of identity (CIs) to Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand.

The deputy minister said that the directors-general of the two countries would discuss the details of the process of issuing new CIs, as requested by the Thailand Labour Minister.

He also expressed his belief that the two countries' cooperation in labour affairs would have positive results.

A total of 56,237 Myanmar workers left for Thailand to seek jobs under the MoU system during the period from 10 May to 29 September, it is reported. – MNA

CRIME NEWS

Illegal teak, foodstuffs, consumer goods and vehicles confiscated

SUPERVISED by the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, effective action is being taken to prevent illegal trade under the law.

An on-duty team led by the Bago Township Customs Department under the supervision of the Bago Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force made inspections.

Officials confiscated 170 old electric bicycles worth K10.2 million that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from a Nissan Diesel car (estimated value of K30 million) heading from Myawady to Yangon near the Phayagyi Shwethanlwin Tollgate on 4 October. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

On 6 October, a combined inspection team seized a total of 3.8340 tonnes of illegal teak worth K543,360 in Yedashe township of Toungoo district. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

Afterwards, on 4 October, a combined team under the Ayeyawady Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force captured an unregistered Toyota Wish car (approximately K10 million) at the Myatto junction on the Pathein-Monywa Road in Pathein township. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

Seized illegal commodities.

In addition, the Hteedan Container Checkpoint nabbed K37.8 million worth of bicycle parts that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) from a container on 5 October. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Similarly, at the Mayanchaung Permanent Checkpoint in Mon State captured 720 litres of edible oil worth K2.4 million that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from a Nissan Diesel truck (approximately K40 million) heading from Myawady to Yangon. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

On 5 and 6 October, a combined inspection team confiscated 2,460 litres of edible oil worth K5.15 million without official documents in Myawady township and 65 cartons of apples worth K1.95 million without official documents from a vehicle at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) Combined Checkpoint. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Therefore, ten arrests estimated at K138,043,360 were made on three consecutive days from 4 to 6 October, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee.— MNA

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish **"Letter to the Editor"** that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Kyaikkhami mid-water pagoda to resume Buddha Pujaniya Festival

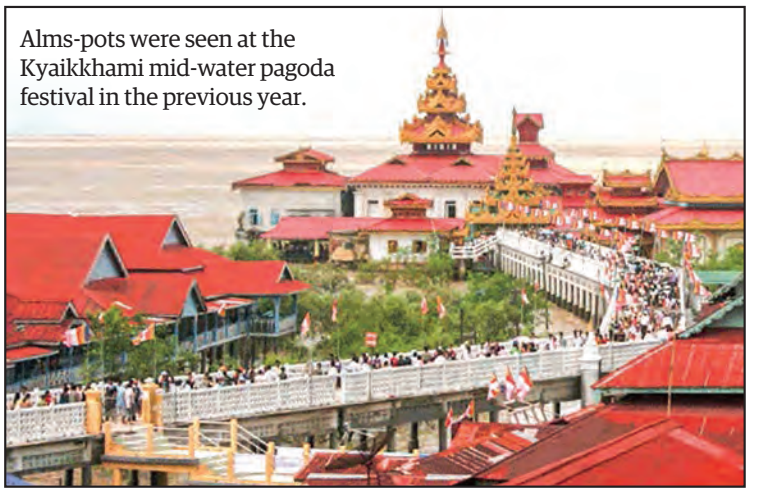
THE Buddha Pujaniya Festival of the Kyaikkhami Mid-water Pagoda will be held in Kyaikkhami of Thanbyuzayat Township, Mon State, and there will be no sports competitions and funfairs this year, according to the Kyaikkhami Mid-water Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The festival will be celebrated on the coming 8 October (14th waxing of Thadingyut) and will last until 14 October (5th waning of Thadingyut).

Only the Pathana reciting ceremony and the Thadingyut Lighting Festival (Abhidhamma Day) will be held in this year's festival.

The pagoda festival will be observed under COVID-19 health rules published by the Ministry of Health. Buddhist devotees will set adrift alms-pots into the water which can only be executed at the dawn of Thadingyut full moon day as well.

Due to rising caseloads of domestic infections of COVID-19 in early July 2021, the Kyaikkhami Mid-year Pagoda was closed temporarily and was open to the public again on 14 August. — TWA/GNLM



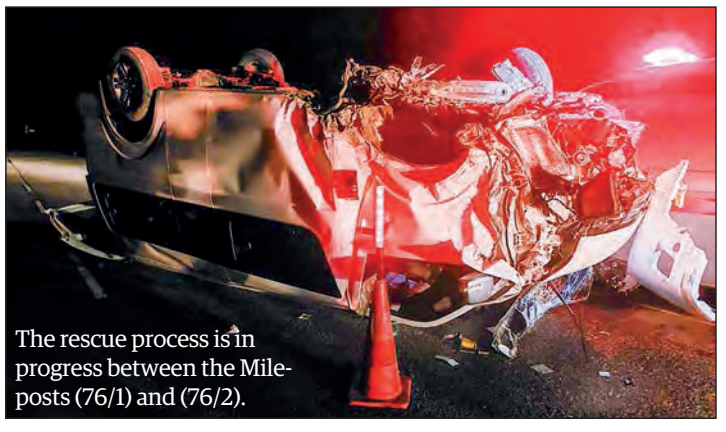
Alms-pots were seen at the Kyaikkhami mid-water pagoda festival in the previous year.

Over 100 traffic accidents occur on Yangon-Mandalay expressway within 9 months

A total of 123 car accidents happened on the Yangon-Mandalay expressway within nine months, according to the Nay Pyi Taw Expressway Police Force office. Altogether 118 people – 114 men and four women – were prosecuted for the accidents that occurred between January and September 2022.

The office released a notice that the reasons behind highway accidents were as follows: speeding, drowsy driving, pedestrian negligence, riding motorcycles, reckless driving, flat tyres, mechanical failures. etc.

According to statistics of the Nay Pyi Taw Expressway Police Force office, there were seven dead and 13 injured in nine accidents in January, 12 dead and 12 wounded in 20 accidents in February, four deaths and 16 injuries in four accidents in March, three killed and 32 injured in 13 accidents in April, four dead and 37 wounded in 15 accidents in January, four casualties and 19 injuries in 12 accidents in June, four deaths and 37 wounds in 15 accidents in July, three dead and 9 injured in 13 accidents in August, and four casualties and nine wounds in 11 accidents in September. — TWA/GNLM



The rescue process is in progress between the Mileposts (76/1) and (76/2).

Chinese potato price climbs, yet Kyukok garlic price dips

Bags of Chinese potatoes are seen at the Bayintnaung Wholesale Market.

OUT of imported kitchen groceries (Chinese onions, Kyukok garlic and potato), Kyukok garlic price is sliding while Chinese potato price is rising, according to the Yangon commodity market.

Those imported kitchen groceries flow into the Yangon market through Mandalay. The fluctuation in the Kyat exchange rate against foreign currencies caused the prices of imported goods to vary rapidly. However, the prices are moving up and down, said a trader who sends the goods to regions outside Yangon.

When the prices of locally produced onions soared in Yangon markets, Chinese onions entered the Yangon market at a cheaper rate. The price of Chinese onions is K500 lower than that of local ones. Although Chinese onions are in low demand, it can stop the price hike of local onions. The wholesale price of Chinese potatoes increased from K1,950 to K2,300 per viss on 5 October.

However, Kyukok garlic price dipped to K3,450 per viss in the wholesale market, Ko Myint Oo, a potato and onion depot owner on Yetama Street, told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

Meanwhile, the prices of potatoes from Shan State (Aungban) stood at K1,500-1,600 per viss. As Chinese potatoes cannot be used in potato chip businesses, it relies on the consumer market. However, the price of Chinese potatoes is still higher than that of local potatoes, Ko Kyaw Kyaw, a seller of potatoes, told the GNLM.

The wholesale prices of Chinese potatoes were K2,450-2,500 per viss in mid-September 2022. The price dipped to K1,900-1950 on 26 September. Then, the price rebounded to K2,300 per viss on 5 October.

Kyukok garlic price stood at K5,000 per viss on 1 September. After one month, the price fell to K3,450 per viss on 5 October. The local garlic price moved in the range between K2,700 and K4,200 per viss on 1 September. The prices of garlic from Shan State were K2,800-3,800 per viss.

Not all commodities imported from the border market are not priced high. The price condition is positively related to the demand of the domestic markets, GNLM quoted Ko Chit Tun, a veteran trader, as saying.—TWA/GNLM

Trafigura's Puma Energy to sell Myanmar business to local private company

TRAFIGURA'S Puma Energy, which is the main supplier of aviation fuel in Myanmar, has signed an agreement to sell its stake in Myanmar to a local private company, according to the official statement on 5 October.

Following a board decision to exit Myanmar earlier this year, Trafigura's Puma Energy has signed an agreement to sell its stake in Puma Energy Asia Sun (PEAS) and National Energy Puma Aviation Services (NEPAS) to a locally owned private company.

National Energy Puma Aviation Services Company (NEPASC), a joint venture between Singapore-based Puma Energy and state-owned Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, has executed the jet fuel business since 2015. – TWA/GNLM

The picture shows an aviation fuel servicing tanker of Puma Energy Asia Sun (PEAS).

LOCAL BUSINESS

Individual entitled to buy seven visses of gold: MGEA

The Mandalay Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association (MGEA) will sell about seven visses of gold (seven gold bars) each to individual in a bid to reduce the gold price.

THE Mandalay Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association (MGEA) will sell about seven visses of gold (seven gold bars) each to individual in a bid to reduce the gold price. A gold bar weighs 10 ticals (one viss equals 100 ticals).

The sales of pure gold bars will start on 7 October. The gold buyers can purchase them at the office of MGEA located on 67th street between 40th x41st streets in Mahaaungmyay Township, by presenting a citizenship scrutiny card.

The association stated that they will offer a cheaper price in an attempt to control the volatile gold price. The price of gold will be declared only at 2 pm on 7 October.

Except for the members of the MGEA, anyone is free to buy them.

At present, the price of pure gold ticked up to K2.6 million per tical (0.578 ounce or 0.016 kilogramme) in the domestic markets, tracking the mild rebound in gold spot prices in international markets and Kyat weakening against the US dollar.

The soaring dollar exchanging at over K4,500 pushed up the pure gold price to a record-high of K3.7 million per tical in late August.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation is, therefore, selling gold bars and coins in order for the gold price to ease.

Furthermore, the governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) and officials of the Monitoring and Steering Committee on the Gold and Currency Market discussed matters regarding the stability of the gold and currency market and supporting plans of the banks for gold bar transactions to be made with banking system on14 September in Nay Pyi Taw.

Then, on 30 September, the seven private banks opened special counters at the designated 48 branches to offer banking services for gold transactions.

According to CBM's directive (43/2021) dated 3 November 2021, lump sum payments worth more than K20 million for buying or selling assets have to be processed with the banking system.

The seven private banks are providing banking services by opening special counters at their 48 branches in Yangon and Mandalay regions and Mon State (Mawlamyine) to facilitate gold transactions with the banking payment system.

Those banks are Kanbawza Bank (KBZ Bank), Co-operative Bank (CB Bank) PCL, Ayeyawady (AYA) Bank, Myanmar Apex Bank (MAB), UAB Bank, Yoma Bank and Ayeyawady Farmers Development Bank (A Bank). – NN/GNLM

Equity market hits record trade in Sept

THE equity market witnessed the highest trading value in August 2022 with 109,809 shares worth K370 million, the Yangon Stock Exchange's monthly price data indicated.

The stock trading value of seven listed companies on the YSX rose last month as well.

At present, shares of seven listed companies — First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), TMH Telecom Public Co Ltd (TMH), the Ever Flow River Group Public Co Ltd (EFR) and Amata Holding Public Co Ltd. (AMATA) were traded in the equity market.

The share prices per unit were closed at K9,600 for FMI, K3,600 for MTSH, K7,700 for MCB, K20,000 for FPB, K2,700 for TMH, K2,750 for EFR and K5,000 for AMATA respectively in September.

Trading of 61,435 shares valued at K282 million was recorded on the exchange in January 2022 and the trading volume rose to 80,291 shares in February, with an estimated value of K414.9 million. A total of 52,408 shares with an estimated value of K233.634 million were traded on the exchange in March. The trading value slightly rose to K276 million with 53,059 shares traded on the exchange in April. The equity market saw K314 million worth 55,024 shares traded in May, K200.63 million worth 40,062 shares in June, K246.9 million worth 72,843 shares and K370 million worth 109,809 shares in August, according to the monthly report of the YSX.

Regardless of the collapse of the stock markets worldwide, the local equities market has been able to continue operating without stopping trading.

Additionally, YSX launched a pre-listing board (PLB) on 28 September 2020 in order to provide unlisted public companies with fund-raising opportunities and build a bridge toward listing on YSX.

Furthermore, block grading of YSX can be done with the minimum order quantity (10,000 stocks) or with the stocks of trading value of K30 million starting from 1 September 2022.

Next, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar (SECM) has allowed foreigners to invest in the local equity market since 20 March 2020.

The YSX was launched four years ago to improve the private business sector. It disseminates rules and regulations regarding the stock exchange and knowledge of share trading through stock investment webinars and training courses. – KK/GNLM

3,700 companies struck off register in past 9 months due to AR absence: DICA

A total of 3,700 companies have been struck off the register in the past eight months as they fail to submit annual returns (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The office of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration – DICA in Yangon.

This year, 400 companies each in January, February and March, 300 in April and 500 in May, 400 each in June and July, 55 in August and 400 in September did not file annual returns on MyCO respectively, according to DICA.

The DICA has notified any registered company which fails to file its AR on MyCO is to be suspended, under 430 (F) of Myanmar Companies Law, according to the DICA notification.

The registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

All registered companies need to file AR on the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation, and at least once every year (not later than one month after the anniversary of the incorporation), according to Section 97 of the law.

According to Section 266 (A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, public companies must submit annual returns and financial statements (G-5) simultaneously.

All overseas corporations must submit ARs in the prescribed format on MyCO within 28 days of the financial year ending, as per Section 53 (A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

As per DICA's report, thousands of companies were suspended for failing to submit AR forms before the due date. Newly established companies are required to submit ARs within two months of incorporation or face a fine of K100,000 for filing late returns.

The DICA has notified that any company which fails to submit its AR within 13 months will be notified of its suspension (I-9A). If it fails to submit the AR within 28 days of receiving the notice, the system will show the company's status as suspended. Companies can restore their status only after shelling out a fine of K50,000 for the AR fee, K100,000 for restoration of the company on the Register, and K100,000 for late filing of documents, totalling K250,000.

If a company fails to restore its status within six months of suspension, the registrar will strike its name off the register, according to the DICA notice. – NN/GNLM

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Hazy timeframe for reaching electric plane era

CLEARED for Recent test flights suggest the era of electric airplanes is coming closer, but aviation experts caution that achieving commercial use hinges on regulatory approval which has an unknowable timeframe.

Eviation Aircraft successfully completed a test flight in Washington state last week, showcasing a plane the company plans to begin delivering to airlines in 2027.

That came on the heels of an Icelandair flight in August which carried Iceland's president and prime minister among its passengers.

Besides the benefit in eliminating carbon dioxide emissions, electric airplane travel potentially means less noise than conventional plane transport, as well as eliminating the need for jet fuel, a major expense for commercial airlines.

Gregory Davis, chief executive of Eviation, called last week's test flight the start of "the next era of aviation," and said it offered a glimpse of what "affordable, clean and sustainable aviation looks and sounds like."

But industry experts speak of a hazy timeframe before that future becomes reality, in part because of murkiness over how quickly US air safety authorities will move to greenlight new technology from a seven-year old company with no operating history.

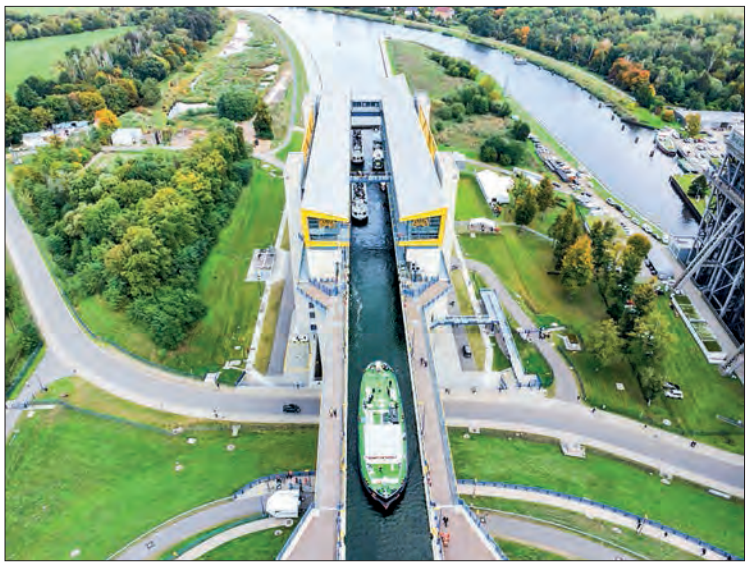
Eviation is "stepping into some unknown areas as far as how you certify and support electric aircraft," said Glenn McDonald, a principal at AeroDynamic Advisory, a consultancy.

While the 2027 timeframe for the Eviation plane "could be realistic," McDonald noted that the Federal Aviation Administration has taken a more painstaking approach to certifications since the Boeing 737 MAX crashes in 2018 and 2019.

The two-seat Velis Electro, certified by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency in 2020, is the only electric plane currently service. —AFP

An artist's conception of the Eviation Aircraft electric plane. On 27 September 2022, Eviation Aircraft's Alice zero-emission electric aircraft performed first flight. **PHOTO: EVIATION**

The German town where boats take the elevator



The engineering feat in Niederfinow, eastern Germany, stands at 55 metres tall. **PHOTO: AFP**

GERMANY'S whopping new boat lift could lug the weight of 50 blue whales over a stretch of canal between Poland and Berlin.

The powerful concrete elevator — the country's largest — is designed for big modern barges, and began welcoming ships for the first time on Wednesday.

The engineering feat in Niederfinow, eastern Germany, measures 133 by 46 metres (145 by 50 yards) and stands at 55 metres tall.

German Transport Minister Volker Wissing said it was "taking inland waterway transport into the future".

The lift around 50 kilometres (31 miles) from Berlin takes a few minutes to hoist boats over a height of 36 metres — allowing them to travel smoothly from the Polish port of Szczecin to the German capital.

With its mesh of metal cables, the huge concrete structure rises up against a backdrop of green fields by the Oder-Havel Canal in the state of Brandenburg.

The lift was built to replace an old one in the same location, commissioned in 1934 but no longer sufficient for modern maritime traffic. —AFP

Inflation puts squeeze on Spain's legendary lunch menu

DREAMT up in the 1960s to attract tourists, Spain's three-course "menu del dia", or set lunch menu, has long been seen as the best deal in town.

But with inflation hovering around 10 per cent, its affordability is under threat as restaurants seek ways to economise. For a starter, main course and dessert or coffee (or both), bread and a drink, the average price is around 12.8 euros ($12.60), according to figures from Hosteleria de Espana, Spain's main hostelry association representing the hotel and restaurant industry.

Offered by almost every Spanish restaurant, its price makes it a popular option in a country where people frequently eat out. "Everyone chooses it," says Sara Riballo, who is in her 30s, sitting on a terrace in central Madrid.

"We eat out several times a week and we usually go for the set menu because it's better value for money, it's quicker and it's quite varied," agrees her colleague Estefania Hervas. Spanish restaurants serve up on average four million "menus del dia" every day in the country of 47 million people, the hostelry association says. The idea was first cooked up nearly six decades ago when Spain was under the dictatorship of Francisco Franco.A ministerial order was issued that all restaurants must offer a "tourist menu" to cater to the growing waves of foreign visitors to the Spanish coast.

The decree was written into Spain's official state bulletin, stating that the menu must from 1 August 1964 include, as a "minimum", a soup, a main course, a dessert, a glass of wine and some bread. —AFP

Lebanon years away from gas riches despite Israel deal: analysts

LEBANON is nearing agreement with Israel over a maritime dispute involving offshore gas fields, but the cash-strapped country still faces an uphill struggle towards unlocking potential hydrocarbon riches, analysts say.

"A deal would mark one step forward but it does not mean that Lebanon has become a gas- or oil-producing country," said Marc Ayoub, an associate fellow at the American University of Beirut's Issam Fares Institute.

"We are talking of a timeline of five to six years… before the first gas" if commercially viable reservoirs are in fact found, the energy expert told AFP, describing the timeframe as "optimistic".

With the demand for gas rising worldwide because of an energy crisis sparked by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Lebanon hopes that an offshore discovery would ease its current unprecedented financial downturn.

But more than a decade since it declared its maritime boundaries and an Exclusive Economic Zone, it still has no proven natural gas reserves.

One well drilled in 2020 by a consortium of energy giants TotalEnergies, Eni and Novatek showed only traces but no commercially viable gas deposits.

Further test drilling, in a block near the border, has been hampered by the maritime border dispute between Lebanon and Israel, which are technically still at war.

Following years of US-mediated negotiations, the rival states now appear to be nearing agreement after a draft proposal from Washington at the weekend was welcomed by both sides. —AFP

OPINION

Beef up the operation of MSMEs to produce quality products

MICRO-, small-, and medium-scale enterprises are being operated in urban areas whereas raw materials are being produced in rural areas. MSMEs are creating employment opportunities for people from both urban and rural areas.

In this regard, MSMEs in Myanmar operate production based on crops produced from rural areas using other materials imported abroad. In the work process from the raw materials to the finished goods, MSMEs need to recruit skilled labours and seek production techniques.

These industries can manufacture high-quality products with the use of raw materials, modern techniques and machinery. Depending on the success of the production, the scale of businesses can be upgraded from micro-scale enterprises to small-scale enterprises, then to medium-scale ones step by step.

> Domestic raw materials are most important for MSME industries to attract local people by showing quality products made of local raw materials for customers to take pride in the products of their regions. Taking a pivotal role in enhancing the socioeconomic status of the people, MSME industries should try hard to operate production with momentum with the creation of jobs for people of basic strata.

In operating the MSME industries, domestically produced quality raw materials should be used for manufacturing quality rural products to attract consumers and meet the market demand. It means that the quality original one can help produce quality products. In this regard, it is necessary to always supervise the quality and prices of the products manufactured by MSME industries so as to have farm market shares. Hence, the manufacturing process of products from the raw materials to the packaging process needs to meet the set standards in order to maintain the quality and standards of products.

If any products can penetrate the market as successful trademarks, they will have a high demand for raw materials and finished goods, boosting productivity. In consequence, it will help increase employment opportunities as well as beef up the flow of commodities. As such, it can reduce the reliance of businesspersons on imported raw materials.

To have such a status, MSME industries need to well organize the employees and technicians for operating the businesses. They have to conduct research and development measures for their production process and the quality of products. They have to steadfastly monitor the preference of customers over their products so as to revise the production process for more quality products while making attempts to stabilize the prices of goods for the interests of customers.

Domestic raw materials are most important for MSME industries to attract local people by showing quality products made of local raw materials for customers to take pride in the products of their regions. Taking a pivotal role in enhancing the socioeconomic status of the people, MSME industries should try hard to operate production with momentum with the creation of jobs for people of basic strata.

ARTICLE

THREAT TO MYANMAR STABILITY

By U AC

ONE year has passed since the current administration took control of the government due to NLD and its appointed elections committee's failure to investigate significant voting fraud. A lot has happened since then; many innocents were assassinated for supporting the new administration, many were killed for refusing to support NNCP (NUG, NLD, CRPH, PDF) terrorists, many businesses were destroyed due to social punishment decided by street justice, many civil servants murdered for simply not supporting the CDM movement, many monks executed simply for being in an area where the terrorists operate. Bombing campaigns against public infrastructure have hurt many services; banks, schools, hospitals, bridges, roads, terminals, and petrol stations are all not spared. The most impacted ones remained the bombing of telecom and electricity transmission towers. All could be easily destroyed with a single explosive device, yet the restoration of services back to normal would take months.

Maybe due to lack of education or judgement, Myanmar people are easily swayed by fake news, gossip and misinformation. Yet, most are beginning to realize the crimes that NNCP terrorists have committed as well as the rampant corruption that happened under the NLD administration. Now the crimes stated above have been put under control and the country is now on a clear path towards prosperity in the coming years.

Yet the challenging issue that Myanmar is facing right now is not any of the above described. This is not to advocate that tackling terrorism and cyberterrorism should not be on top of the priority list. Yes, stamping out terrorists should be number one on the to-do list of the government because the people and businesses would not prosper as long as they are around. Because of the terrorist activities against major businesses in Myanmar, the economy contracted quite significantly in 2021. World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Asia Development Bank put the GDP contraction figures between 15-20 per cent. Yet the actual numbers might be higher. For the current year 2022, the three international organizations put the forecast around three per cent as GDP growth. The country's output and productivity have ground to a halt last year. Combined with an increase in import costs due to Kyat depreciation, fuel cost increases, and rises in logistics fares, the country is facing significant cost-push inflationary pressures. Factoring in businessmen's and general traders' expectations of inflation, we now have a recipe to enter into a period of high inflation.

How does hyperinflation set in, in the first place?

Myanmar has now all the right ingredients.

Tax revenues reduction: Due to CDM and general boycott against the new government of last year, a significant population of people refuses to pay taxes they owed to the government and even electricity that they personally consume. Combined with the lower government income from corporate taxes due to economic contraction, a sizeable portion of the government's revenues would be missing for 2021 and 2022.

Quantitative easing: In order to keep the economy growing and save the banking sector (so far no banks have gone out of business, since the change of government), the government has to print more money, especially since the banks no longer allow cash withdrawals on demand. This adds more money to the hands of the people and businesses as cash in hand. Not trusting the banks, people are still holding onto this cash or converting them into gold or the US dollar and holding onto these.

Cost-push increases: Myanmar is essentially an import-dependent country. From raw materials to construction equipment to consumer electronics, imports are an essential part of the country's economic machine. The fuel and dollar cost increases hit the imports hard. Even the locally made products are not spared either, due to the former increase. Bricks, sand and gravel for construction are produced locally, not affected by the exchange rate, yet, the prices for these are now nearly twice as much as a year and a half ago.

These three ingredients, once they take shape, will have the multiplier effect, seeding further inflation and eventually a hyperinflationary environment. If uncontrolled, it can lead to the collapse of the currency and finally the economy.

What actions can the government take?

Obviously, drastic situations called for drastic measures. Every action in economics comes with a side effect. The government can mitigate these yet they cannot be avoided.

The government can use wage and price controls to fight inflation, but the downside would be a likely recession and further job losses. The State Administration Council (SAC) is doing it right. CBM is funding the purchase of fuel, edible oil, etc., to stem the tide of cost-push price increases, through discounted exchange rates. Labour market wages have been left to operate without interference. The upward pressure on wages is still not in existence at this level, due to structural employment arising from the economic contraction.

The government can employ a contractionary monetary policy by reducing the money supply within the economy and through increased interest rates. For this to happen, the banking system has to be back to normalcy. As long as the banks refused to allow cash withdrawals on demand, the government has to augment the supply shortage through the printing of more money, thereby rising inflationary pressures. Some banks are working to get back as close to normal as possible, yet there are some below par, that still refuses withdrawals of any kind. These banks no longer have a role to play in society and the government must take tough action to shut them down or let them be absorbed by a larger organization. SAC has the hard task of having to restore consumer and business people's confidence in Myanmar commercial banks and shutting down those errant banks would be one of the mandatory steps. So how does the government find out which banks are taking consumers for a ride. Simple, just look at the percentage that consumers have to give for cash withdrawals (CWD) to bank staff or brokers (illegal activity, of course). While mainstream banks such as AYA, KBZ and CB are running at less than two per cent, a smaller bank such as GTB still attracts around seven per cent as a CWD percentage charge. The rate is a reflection of how difficult it is to make a CWD out of a bank. The higher the rate is, the more difficult it is to take your own cash out of the bank that you once trusted.

The last tool that the government could use is to increase the reserve requirement of banks on the amount of money banks are legally required to keep with the central bank. The more money banks are required to hold back, the less they have to lend to consumers, which would consequently result in decreased spending in the economy. Again, this tool may not be suitable for Myanmar at this point in time, as the banks may be having a liquidity crisis and may not be able to accommodate an increase in reserve requirements. At the same time, not much lending is happening in the economy at this point in time, so an additional inducement to reduce spending may not be essential at this point in time.

Actions to be taken at an individual level

While it is the action of the government, CBM governor and Finance Minister that would halt the hyperinflation in its track, at the micro level, there are actions that we as individuals can take to mitigate the negative impacts of hyperinflation.

Reduce transport expenses: With crude prices hitting the roof and the US dollar following in the same direction, an oil-importing country like Myanmar, is facing significant increases in fuel prices. Ways to limit the increase would be to cut down unnecessary travel, carpooling, trying to organize, accomplish multiple tasks along the same route, switching to a more fuel-efficient car, etc. Every little thing helps and every little saving in fuel consumption will be keenly felt at month end. Take care of the pence and the pounds will take care of themselves.

Stop buying new things: New products, new items or new arrivals may look and feel good, yet they come with newly inflation-adjusted prices. Worse, the sellers may even input the expected higher inflation of the future into the products. The trick here is to look at second-hand products of good condition and quality. Social media pages such as Yangon Connection maybe a good start. People sell everything from used office furniture to household goods to generators. The sellers bought these goods at pre-inflation prices and these goods are being sold at a discount to that. You can even haggle and prices can go really low sometimes.

Have a backup plan for every home appliance, in case of breakdown: That would force us to think about whether we really need to buy new items in an instant. Air conditioner alternative fan, Generator alternative solar, TV alternative of YouTube or Netflix, should be considered in case of equipment breakdowns, saving your money from high product prices.

Gold and silver are very inflation proof, so it would be wise to consider converting part of your cash into these two inflation-proof assets.

Buy household supplies that are long-lasting, right now. Prices are going to go up later and you are definitely going to require these items. Baking soda, washing liquids, detergent, bleach, vinegar, insect repellent, etc., are examples of such items.

Commit yourself to lesser to no restaurant outings: As inflation sets in, the cost of everything would go up, including meals and dining. One of the best ways to shield yourself against the increases would be to stop going out to eat altogether. These include food delivery services too.

Convert your Kyats into stable currencies. It may sound non-nationalistic, yet it remains one of the solutions. Hard currencies seldom suffer from hyperinflation and holding notes in these currencies would be a wise move during the inflationary period.

Find new sources of income: Because of high inflation, your purchasing power has definitely gone down. Hence an alternative source of income or every single extra income would help at least maintain your current purchasing power.

Grow your own source of food and water supply: These are the staple items in your daily basket of necessities. If you have your own sources for that, you definitely would be better protected from increases in daily essentials. For those with land spaces, it would be a good idea to start your own homestead, with livestock and agriculture up and running.

Beef up home and personal security: We have not got the confirmed police statistics yet, but if the news is indicative of the general populous, more petty crimes are happening every day across major cities. These can suddenly escalate into muggings and robberies. So safety can security should be upgraded during this high inflationary environment.

Stay positive: High inflation would not be with us forever. It would be gone in a year or so. The world would go on. Businesses would continue. Some would come out better, some would be much worse. Keeping yourself in a positive frame of mind would keep you away from depression and encourage you to excel during this difficult period.

Good luck and get prosperous in the years ahead!

■

World Teachers' Day highlights need to transform education

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed that teachers are the engines at the heart of global education systems, the statement said

TEACHERS are at the heart of education, and their valuable work must also lead to better salaries and working conditions, the heads of three UN agencies and a partner organization said on Wednesday.

The statement comes in their joint message to mark World Teachers' Day, celebrated annually on 5 October.

The international community has committed to transform education - a process that must be led by teachers.

A critical partner

That's the firm belief expressed by Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UN educational and cultural agency, UNESCO; Gilbert F. Houngbo, Director-General of the International Labour Organization (ILO); Catherine Russell, Executive Director at the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), and David Edwards, General Secretary of Education International.

"Today, on World Teachers' Day, we celebrate the critical role of teachers in transforming learners' potential by ensuring they have the tools they need to take responsibility for themselves, for others and for the planet," they said.

"We call on countries to ensure that teachers are trusted and recognized as knowledge producers, reflective practitioners, and policy partners."

Fulfill the promise

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed that teachers are the engines at the heart of global education systems, the statement said.

Without them, it is impossible to provide inclusive, equitable and quality education to every learner. Teachers are also essential to pandemic recovery and preparing learners for the future.

"Yet unless we transform conditions for teachers, the promise of that education will remain out of reach for those who need it most," the partners warned.

SOURCE: UN News

A UNICEF-supported teacher provides children with psychosocial support sessions at an integrated learning centre in east rural Aleppo, Syria. **PHOTO: DANIELLE DEEB/UNICEF**

SCI/TECH/ENVIRON WORLD

Wakata embarks on 5th space mission, a record for Japan astronaut

Japanese astronaut Koichi Wakata attends a press conference in Tokyo on 21 July 2022, ahead of his fifth space mission from the fall of 2022. **PHOTO: KYODO**

KOICHI Wakata embarked on his fifth space mission, marking a new record among Japanese astronauts, aboard a US SpaceX ship that was successfully launched from Florida on Wednesday.

The 59-year-old is one of the four astronauts taking part in NASA's fifth crew rotation mission to the International Space Station using the US commercial spacecraft. The team will travel to the orbiting laboratory for a six-month science and technology research mission.

"It was a smooth ride and I see all the three happy faces here," the veteran Japanese astronaut, clad in a sleek white spacesuit, said after the liftoff.

NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said in a press release that missions like Crew-5 are "proof we are living through a golden era of commercial space exploration".

Hiroshi Sasaki, vice-president of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, told a joint press conference with NASA and other officials later that he hopes Wakata's "rich experience in space" will be shared with the other crew members and help bring a "fruitful outcome".

Wakata's four previous space flights include US Space Shuttle flights in 1996, 2000, and 2009, and a Russian Soyuz flight in 2013. It will be his third long-term expedition at the ISS.

Space Exploration Technologies Corp., founded by tech billionaire Elon Musk, developed the Crew Dragon as a successor to NASA's costly Space Shuttle transportation system that was in service for 30 years through 2011.—Kyodo

Ursa Major: Voting starts in Fat Bear Week

AMERICANS are weighing their options this week and deciding where to cast their ballot in the only contest that really matters: Fat Bear Week.

The annual poll will see thousands of people glued to webcams watching bears in Alaska stuff themselves with salmon as they ready for hibernation. The creatures in Katmai State Park "could easily be eating 100 pounds (45 kilogramms) or more of fish in a day," former park ranger Mike Fitz, who thought up the vote, told AFP.

"It's common for them to eat 20 or more salmon in a day."

In a series of head-to-head elimination contests, voters are looking for the creature that appears to have piled on the most pounds to help it get through the lean months of winter.

A solid reserve of chubbiness is vital to survival.

During five months of deep sleep, the bears do not wake to eat, drink or even go to the toilet, emerging famished — and a lot thinner — in the spring.

Defending champion Otis, who has four titles to his name, tips the scales at around 1,000 pounds. This year, he faces a hefty challenge for the overall crown from a bear dubbed 747 — named after Boeing's enormous plane, and himself a former champ.—AFP

Bear-ly there: by the time hibernation is over, bears will be shadows of their former selves, so gorging on salmon ahead of the winter is crucial to survival. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Renewables grow to meet global electricity demands: study

ELECTRICITY generation from fossil fuels would have risen by four per cent if not for boosts in wind, solar and hydropower as the world's energy demand grew in the first half of 2022, a study found Wednesday.

Renewable energy sources are seen as crucial in global efforts to combat climate change, with huge falls in the unit costs of wind and solar helping to speed their move into the mainstream.

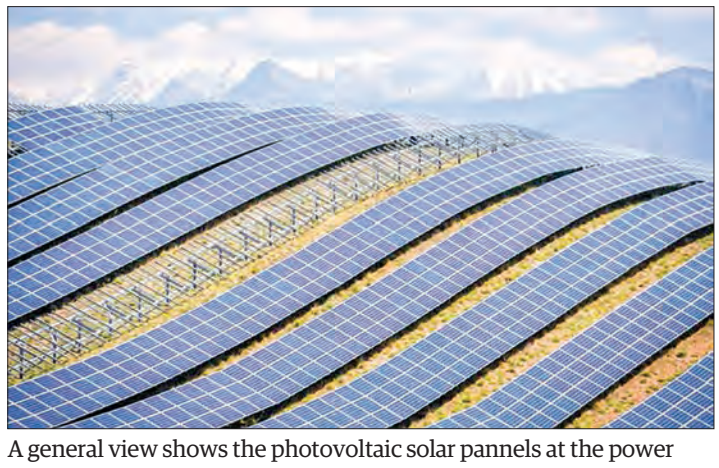
But with global electricity demand continuing to grow, increases in renewables are so far acting to limit the amount that the world turns to fossil fuels to meet those extra needs.

In its new analysis, energy think tank Ember compared data from the first six months of the year — which included the Russian invasion of Ukraine — and the beginnings of the international energy crisis.

It found that global electricity demand grew by 389 terawatt hours (TWh) in the first half of 2022, while together wind, solar and hydro increased by 416 TWh.

Ember said this prevented a possible four per cent increase in power generation from polluting fossil fuels, while avoiding $40 billion in fuel costs and 230 Mt CO2 in emissions.

"We are closer to the tipping point where renewables are able to meet that increase in global electricity demand as the world moves towards being more electrified," said Dave Jones, Ember global programme lead. —AFP



A general view shows the photovoltaic solar pannels at the power plant in La Colle des Mees, Alpes de Haute Provence, southeastern France. **PHOTO: GERARD JULIEN / AFP /FILE**

Huawei, Austrian drone maker Dronetech deepen partnership in smart farming

CHINESE tech giant Huawei said on Tuesday that it will deepen its partnership with leading Austrian drone maker Dronetech in 5G-powered smart farming.

The two companies, which began their cooperation in the field in 2021, said their collaboration is entering a second phase called "Digital Sky".

In this phase, Huawei will provide cloud computing services on top of 5G to support real-time artificial intelligence (AI) analysis. Meanwhile, Dronetech's drones, equipped with high-resolution cameras and sensors, will survey the land and objects to capture images and data that will be processed by AI and provide instant findings to the users, according to a press release by Huawei.

The Chinese tech company said the technology will help farmers detect small insects, monitor crop status, predict harvests and optimize the use of water, chemicals and pesticides.—Xinhua

HEALTH WORLD

WHO probing Indian cough syrup after 66 children die in The Gambia

THE World Health Organization (WHO) issued an alert Wednesday over four cough and cold syrups made by Maiden Pharmaceuticals in India, warning they could be linked to the deaths of 66 children in The Gambia. The UN health agency also cautioned that the contaminated medications may have been distributed outside of the West African country, with global exposure "possible".

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters that the four cold and cough syrups in question "have been potentially linked with acute kidney injuries and 66 deaths among children".

"The loss of these young lives is beyond heartbreaking for their families." Tedros said that WHO was also "conducting further investigation with the company and regulatory authorities in India."

According to the medical product alert issued by WHO Wednesday, the four products are Promethazine Oral Solution, Kofexmalin Baby Cough Syrup, Makoff Baby Cough Syrup and Magrip N Cold Syrup.

"To date, the stated manufacturer has not provided guarantees to WHO on the safety and quality of these products," the alert said, adding that laboratory analysis of samples of the products "confirms that they contain unacceptable amounts of diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol as contaminants."—AFP

WHO said that information received from India's Central Drugs Standard Control Organization indicated that the manufacturer had only supplied the contaminated medications to The Gambia. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE/AFP**

Nobel winner's ingenious chemistry could lead to cancer breakthroughs

Vaccitech is deploying anti-coronavirus technology to revolutionize conventional cancer treatments. UK-based Vaccitech plc is a biotechnology company developing vaccines and immunotherapies for infectious diseases and cancer, such as hepatitis B, HPV and prostate cancer. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE /AFP**

"ALL kinds of crazy things" is how Carolyn Bertozzi, a 2022 Nobel laureate, describes her life's work. Actually performing "chemistry in cells and in people".

When she started her research in 1997, the Stanford professor was aiming only to observe the evolution of certain molecules on the surface of cancer cells.

Today, thanks to her discoveries, at least two companies — including one she co-founded — are developing innovative cancer treatments.

The multitude of applications made possible by her findings are impressive: delivering treatments with extreme precision, understanding better how drugs act inside the body, visualizing certain bacteria, to name a few. "I can't even really enumerate them. The vast majority of those applications I would never have foreseen," she told AFP in an interview.

The Nobel Prize committee recognized Bertozzi's pioneering advances on Wednesday, making her only the eighth woman to win the chemistry prize, at just 55 years old.—AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Uganda health worker dies of Ebola, raising toll to 10

UGANDA on Wednesday confirmed the death of a health worker from Ebola, bringing the total number of fatalities from the highly contagious virus to 10.

The latest death comes two weeks after the government declared an outbreak. Health Minister Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero said that a 58-year-old anaesthetic officer had died of Ebola early Wednesday. "The late Margaret is the fourth health worker we have lost in the current Ebola outbreak," the minister said on Twitter, following the deaths of a Tanzanian doctor, a health assistant and a midwife.—AFP

Syria reports 39 dead in cholera outbreak

SYRIA'S health ministry has recorded 39 deaths from cholera and nearly 600 cases in an outbreak spreading in the war-ravaged country that the United Nations warned is "evolving alarmingly".

A total of 594 cases have been recorded across 11 of its 14 provinces since late last month, the health ministry said late Tuesday.

"The situation is evolving alarmingly in affected governorates and expanding to new areas," the World Health Organization warned Tuesday. Most of those who have died are in the northern province of Aleppo, and it was not immediately clear if the dead were included in the overall case tally.—AFP

In Morocco hills, cannabis farmers bet on budding industry

IN the hills of northern Morocco, vast cannabis fields are ready for harvest, but farmers complain that a government plan to market the crop legally is yet to deliver them any benefits.

The marginalized Rif region has long been a major source of illicit hashish smuggled to Europe while Moroccan authorities, wary of social unrest, have often turned a blind eye.

Growers now hope that a change in the law last year will help them profit legally from medicinal cannabis, increasingly used to treat conditions including multiple sclerosis and epilepsy.

Morocco — the world's top producer of hashish according to the United Nations — lies on Europe's doorstep and is potentially well placed to become a top legitimate exporter.

But a domestic crackdown on growers, slow progress in issuing licences for legal production and strong competition from European operators has left Rif farmers out in the cold.

"We're still attached to this plant, but it has stopped giving us anything," said Souad, a cannabis farmer in the village of Azila.—AFP

The marginalized region has long been a major source of illicit hashish smuggled to Europe while Moroccan authorities, wary of social unrest, have turned a blind eye. **PHOTO: FADEL SENNA / AFP**

ECONOMY
WORLD

WTO slashes 2023 global trade forecast as recession looms

THE World Trade Organization on Wednesday dramatically lowered its global trade forecast for 2023, as Russia's war in Ukraine and other shocks take their toll on the world economy.

Presenting a revision of their annual trade forecast, WTO economists said they expected the volume of global merchandise trade to grow 3.5 Per cent this year, which is slightly higher than their expectations in April.

But they forecast it would grow by only one per cent in 2023 -- dramatically down from their expectations of 3.4-per-cent growth six months ago. "The picture for 2023 has darkened considerably," WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala told reporters in Geneva. "Today the global economy faces multi-prong crises. Monetary tightening is weighing on growth across much of the world." As for the global economy as a whole, WTO economists stuck with their April forecast of 2.8-per-cent GDP growth this year, but said growth in 2023 was now expected to be just 2.3 per cent -- down a full percentage point from the previous forecast.

By way of comparison, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development has maintained its 2022 forecast at three per cent, and expects 2.2 per cent growth next year.

The International Monetary Fund meanwhile forecasts growth at 3.2 per cent this year and 2.9 per cent in 2023.

'Overly optimistic'

The WTO pointed out that its April forecasts were presented only weeks into the start of Russia's full-scale war in Ukraine, making them very uncertain.—AFP

WTO economists said they expected the volume of global merchandise trade to grow 3.5 per cent this year. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

EU signals shifts towards price cap on imported gas

Europe is facing an energy crunch as the price of electricity generation skyrockets because of a massive surge in the price for gas. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

THE EU is "ready to discuss" a price cap on imported gas to bring down soaring energy costs, European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen said Wednesday.

Her comment, to the European Parliament, signalled a shift in tone in Europe after powerhouse EU country Germany had expressed worries that a broad price cap might divert supplies for Europe.

It comes after 15 EU countries -- more than half the bloc -- made a joint call for the EU to impose a price ceiling on how much it would pay for gas piped or shipped in, as the northern hemisphere winter bears down.

Europe is facing an energy crunch as the price of electricity generation skyrockets because of a massive surge in the price for gas. Russia, which used to be Europe's main gas supplier, has turned off the taps after being hit by EU sanctions over the war in Ukraine that, while not touching gas, crimped sales of its more lucrative oil exports.

"We are ready to discuss a cap on the price of gas that is used to generate electricity," von der Leyen told MEPs sitting in Strasbourg, France.

"This cap would also be a first step on the way to a structural reform and overall reform of our electricity market."

She added that "we also have to look at gas prices beyond the electricity market".—AFP

OPEC+ angers US with major oil output cut

SAUDI Arabia, Russia and other top oil producers agreed on a major cut in production on Wednesday to boost crude prices -- a move denounced by the United States as a concession to Moscow that will further hurt the global economy.

The 13-nation OPEC cartel headed by Riyadh and its 10 allies led by Moscow agreed to reduce output by two million barrels per day from November at a meeting in Vienna, the group said in a statement.

It is the biggest cut since the height of the Covid pandemic in 2020, raising fears that it will turbocharge oil prices at a time when countries are already facing soaring energy-fuelled inflation.

Saudi Arabia's energy minister, Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman, defended the move, saying the cartel's priority was "to maintain a sustainable oil market", at a press conference following OPEC+'s first in-person meeting since March 2020.

But the decision drew a swift rebuke from US President Joe Biden, who had made a controversial trip to Saudi Arabia in July under pressure as Americans faced rising prices at fuel stations.

The timing is also bad for Biden's political agenda as it comes ahead of US midterm elections next month.

"It's clear that OPEC+ is aligning with Russia with today's announcement," White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said aboard Air Force One.

National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and top economic advisor Brian Deese said in a statement that Biden was "disappointed by the shortsighted decision by OPEC+".—AFP

International oil benchmark Brent rose three per cent after the news that the producer group was considering cutting supply, to $87.67 per barrel. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ MAZEN MAHDI/ AFP/FILE**

Micron unveils new $100 bln New York semiconductor plant

MICRON announced Tuesday it will invest up to $100 billion to build semiconductors in New York state, capitalizing on US policies to boost domestic manufacturing of key goods.

The chip giant, which is based in the western state of Idaho, said it plans to begin construction in 2024 on a project expected to be executed over two decades. New York state is providing $5.5 billion in state incentives over the life of the build-out and the project also expects to utilize tax credits under the Chips Act signed into law by President Biden in August, said a Micron news release.

At an event in Syracuse to announce the investment, New York Governor Kathy Hochul likened the drive to a "fourth industrial revolution" and alluded to an improvement in fortunes for a upstate New York region that had lost thousands of manufacturing jobs in earlier decades.

There is "hope of a better tomorrow," Hochul said.—AFP

India's falling rupee hits all-time low

A sample of the new 2000 INR note is displayed at the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) headquarters in Mumbai on 9 November 2016. **PHOTO: PUNIT PARANJPE/AFP/FILE**

INDIAN rupee has fallen to a record low against the US dollar. The rupee declined last week against the US dollar and is currently close to inching towards 82.

In 2022 so far, the rupee has depreciated 8.9 per cent against the US dollar.

India's central bank, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has burnt forex reserves at a dramatic pace this calendar year to prevent exchange rate volatility, an intervention aimed at defending the currency at a particular level.

According to a report in the local daily Business Line, as the RBI sold dollars to arrest the fall of the rupee, India's forex reserves depleted the most among all emerging economies. Since the beginning of 2022, India's reserves have fallen 13.88 per cent from 633.6 billion US dollars to 545.6 billion US dollars as of 16 Sept.

A multitude of factors, including the ongoing Ukraine crisis, the raising of interest rates by the US Federal Reserve, investors selling Indian stocks to buy foreign ones, are believed to be the reasons behind the falling rupee.

Financial experts argue that as inflation rises across the world and domestic growth slows, investors usually look to sell their Indian assets and put the money into the US markets for better safety and returns.—Xinhua

Spore the merrier: Boom in mushrooms grown on Belgian beer

BELGIUM, a country reputed for its beer, mushrooms nourished on a by-product from the brew are doing booming business.

The high-end fungi grown by a Brussels firm, Eclo, in a disused abattoir are finding their way to gourmet customers — while boosting the circular economy.

The seven mushroom varieties produced by Eclo are mostly sought-after exotic types usually found in Asia, including shiitake, maitake (also known as hen-of-the-woods) and pom pom mushrooms.

They all fetch premium prices on the firm's website, around 22 euros ($22) for a 750-gramme (26-ounce) box.

And the substrate — the substance the spores grow out of — is easy to come by in Belgium: a mix of spent grain left over from the mashing process to make beer, and discarded baguettes and dried bread.

"The beer and the bread don't have any effect on the mushrooms' taste, but we get better yields from them in terms of quantity and quality," explained Quentin Declerck, one of Eclo's founders.—AFP

Beer brewing leftovers are being used to grow mushrooms in Belgium. **PHOTO: AFP**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V GSS YANGON VOY.NO. (152N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V GSS YANGON VOY.NO. (152N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-10-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3218S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3218S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-10-2022** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V AEGEAN EXPRESS VOY.NO. (245N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AEGEAN EXPRESS VOY.NO. (245N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-10-2022** 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 CONTINENTAL SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V NAKSKOV MAERSK VOY.NO. (237W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NAKSKOV MAERSK VOY.NO. (237W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-10-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

Central Committee for Holding Myanmar Gems Emporium
The Information on Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022

1. The significant Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022, under the supervision of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, will be held on October 19 to 25, 2022 at Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw. Genuine Myanmar pearl, gems and rough jade lots will be sold at the Emporium.

2. In accordance with the Myanmar Gem Law, local gems entrepreneurs who got permit to make gems extraction and local gems merchants who got licence to operate the finished gemstone making and dealings will be allowed to attend and purchase the Lots at Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022 according to the terms and conditions.

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

Emporium Central Committee

The Global New Light of Myanmar
www.gnlm.com.mm

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GLOBAL AFFAIRS

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

IAEA chief says on way to Kyiv for nuclear plant talks

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Rafael Grossi talks to the press on a road outside Zaporizhzhia city, after his visit to the Russian-held Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant in southern Ukraine on 1 September 2022. **PHOTO: GENYA SAVILOV / AFP**

THE UN nuclear agency chief on Wednesday said he was travelling to Kyiv to discuss creating a security zone around Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia atomic plant, after Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered his government to take it over. Kyiv and Moscow have for months accused each other of shelling near the site, triggering fears of a nuclear catastrophe similar to the 1986 Chernobyl disaster in Soviet Ukraine.

"On our way to Kyiv for important meetings," International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) head Rafael Grossi wrote on Twitter, saying the need for a protection zone around the site was "more urgent than ever".

He posted his tweet with pictures showing him boarding a train with the Ukrainian Railways logo. Russian forces have occupied the Zaporizhzhia power plant, Europe's largest, since March. Grossi, who also visited the plant last month, has advocated setting up a security perimeter that both sides would commit not to attack. But a decree by Putin on Wednesday stated that the Russian government would "ensure that the nuclear facilities at the plant… are integrated as federal property". Ukrainian state nuclear agency Energoatom slammed the decree, calling it "void, absurd and inadequate".

"Zaporizhzhia NPP will continue to operate in Ukraine, in accordance with Ukrainian legislation, in the Ukrainian energy grid," Energoatom said on social media.—AFP

One injured in attack by Iran-made drones near Kyiv

ONE person was injured in an attack with Iranian-made drones in the town of Bila Tserkva southwest of Kyiv, the region's governor said Wednesday.

"During the night, the enemy carried out strikes with Shahed-136 type kamikaze drones against Bila Tserkva," governor Oleksiy Kuleba said on social media.

Kuleba said there were "six hits and explosions" in the town 100 kilometres south of Kyiv, whose pre-war population was around 200,000.

"One person was injured. Several infrastructure facilities were damaged," he said.—AFP

Nobel Peace Prize could sound alarm over Ukraine war or climate

AS speculation mounts ahead of Friday's much-anticipated Nobel Peace Prize announcement, observers suggest the committee may sound the alarm over the war in Ukraine or climate change.

Prize experts are split over who will get it.

One camp thinks this year's award winner will be a critique of Russian President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine.

The other believes it will highlight the urgent need to combat global heating.

With a total of 343 top-secret nominations this year, the five members of the Norwegian Nobel Committee could also surprise experts and go with a completely different pick.

Henrik Urdal, director of the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), said the Belarusian opposition leader Svetlana Tikhanovskaya and jailed Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny deserved to win the prestigious honour together.

"These are both champions of non-violent pro-democracy activities within their own countries," he said.

"And both Navalny and Tikhanovskaya have also been very strong opponents of the war in Ukraine". Not since World War II has a conflict raged between two countries so close to Oslo, the home of the Peace Prize.—AFP

Young men walk in front of a Russian billboard promoting contract army service in Saint Petersburg last Thursday. **PHOTO: AFP**

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

At least 32 dead including children in Thailand nursery attack

This picture shows police cars parked in Bangkok on 14 Sept. **PHOTO: AFP**

AT least 32 people are dead including children after a man armed with a gun and knife stormed a nursery in northeast Thailand on Thursday, a royal Thai police spokesman said on Thursday. The incident happened at Nong Bua Lam Phu province and the death toll includes 23 children so far, according to a police colonel. The police have issued a search warrant for the main suspect, a 34-year-old former policeman, who is on the run, in possession of a rifle, a pistol and a knife.— AFP

Iran quake injures 500 people

A 5.4 magnitude earthquake in northwestern Iran injured more than 500 people early on Wednesday, most of them lightly, state media reported.

"The quake that hit at a depth of 10 kilometres in West Azerbaijan province has injured 528 people, 135 of whom have been admitted to hospital," the region's governor Mohammad Sadegh Motamedian told state television. The quake and its aftershocks "damaged 500 houses, completely destroying 50 of them, in 12 affected villages," he added. State television aired footage of stores damaged and homes destroyed in the 3:30 am (0000 GMT) quake.

National emergency services spokesman Mojtaba Khaledi told the state broadcaster that 'electricity and water have been cut in some villages' near the cities of Salmas and Khoy, which lie close to the epicentre of the earthquake. Iran sits astride the boundaries of several major tectonic plates and experiences frequent seismic activity.— AFP

N. Korea fires missiles again as US carrier redeployed

NORTH Korea fired two ballistic missiles early Thursday from near Pyongyang towards the Sea of Japan, the sixth round of launches since late September, after a US aircraft carrier was redeployed to the waters, the Japanese government and the South Korean military said.

The launches came just two days after Pyongyang fired a ballistic missile over the Japanese archipelago for the first time in five years, and a day after the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Ronald Reagan was redeployed to the Sea of Japan for a joint drill.

South Korean and US Naval Vessels including aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan take part in a joint exercise off South Korea's coast on 29 Sept. . **PHOTO: SOUTH KOREAN NAVY / YONHAP**

The projectiles fell outside Japan's exclusive economic zone and flew between 350 and 800 kilometres at a maximum altitude of 50 to 100 km, Defence Minister Yasukazu Hamada told reporters, adding there were no reports of damage to Japanese aircraft and ships.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said two short-range ballistic missiles were launched near the Samsok area in Pyongyang between 6:01 am and 6:23 am.

The first one travelled about 350 km while reaching an altitude of about 80 km at a speed of about 5 Mach and the second one flew about 800 km at the maximum altitude of about 60 km at a speed of around 6 Mach, the JCS added.

Speaking to reporters, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida slammed North Korea's repeated firings of missiles over a short span of time as "absolutely unacceptable". Tokyo lodged a protest with North Korea through its embassy in Beijing, Hamada said.

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol vowed to protect his people through his nation's strong alliance with the United States and security cooperation between Seoul, Washington and Tokyo.—Kyodo

Asia's biggest film festival back in top form in 2022

MOVIE stars, directors and fans descended on South Korea's port town of Busan Wednesday as Asia's largest film festival returned at full power post-pandemic, with an Iranian film opening the event.

Top Korean actors and Asian stars including Hong Kong's legendary Tony Leung are set to attend the Busan International Film Festival, which opened with a red carpet event and will run until 14 October.

South Korea has cemented its status as a global cultural powerhouse in recent years, thanks in part to the explosive success of the Oscar-winning film "Parasite" and the Netflix series "Squid Game".

But due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Busan festival was reduced to a fraction of its usual scale in 2020, while last year's edition took place with a number of social distancing measures. But the festival is back with no restrictions for 2022, with high-profile guests such as Japan's famed filmmaker Hirokazu Kore-eda flying in to discuss their latest projects.

"We feel fortunate to be able to play the role of Asia's best film festival again," festival director Huh Moon-young told reporters last month.—AFP

A woman walks past an installation for the 27th Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) at the Busan Cinema Centre in Busan on 5 October 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

Spain govt extends free train travel in 2023 budget

FREE travel on Spanish commuter and medium-distance trains will be extended into 2023, the government said Tuesday, unveiling a draft budget boasting record levels of welfare spending.

The commuter train scheme was introduced on 1 September, with hundreds of thousands of people signing up for a measure initially slated to run until the year's end in a bid to ease soaring costs.

But it will now be extended throughout 2023, the government said Tuesday, allocating a 700 million euros provision to cover the scheme.

Free travel on Spanish commuter and medium-distance trains is included in a draft budget boasting record levels of welfare spending. **PHOTO: AFP**

"Within the budget, six of every 10 euros will be spent on welfare, meaning the state will invest the biggest-ever sum on social spending," Budget Minister Maria Jesus Montero said after the weekly cabinet meeting.

The 2023 draft budget, which was agreed by the Socialists and their hard-left junior coalition partner Podemos, includes an inflation-linked increase in pensions, she said.

It also provides for an extension of the monthly 250 euros housing subsidy for 18 to 35-year-olds who earn below a certain threshold.

Such inflation relief measures will be largely funded by a new temporary "solidarity tax" that will be imposed on those whose net income exceeds three million euros over the next two years, bringing in some 1.5 billion euros. —AFP

Turkish Cypriots give UN peacekeepers ultimatum: report

THE self-declared Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus has given peacekeepers on the island a deadline of one month to leave if the United Nations does not recognize its existence.

Established in 1964, UNFICYP is one of the longest-running UN peacekeeping missions in existence.

"Our hospitality has its limits: either they sign a military agreement with the TRNC or they leave," the Turkish daily Hurriyet on Wednesday quoted Turkish Cypriot foreign minister Tahsin Ertugruloglu as saying. "We decided to give them another month. It is not the Greek Cypriot government who will approve of your mission in the north. It is us," Hurriyet quoted him as saying to the UN force.

Turkish troops invaded the eastern Mediterranean island in 1974 after a Greek-engineered coup seeking to unite it with Greece, and tens of thousands of soldiers from mainland Türkiye are still posted in its northern third.

The TRNC was unilaterally declared in 1983 and is recognized by Türkiye alone.

UNFICYP's presence is dictated by a mandate issued by the UN Security Council, which is renewed every six months at the end of January and July. Ertugruloglu said UN peacekeepers have two camps in the north.

UNFICYP, which said on Wednesday it had not received any notification from the TRNC, was established to prevent clashes between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.—AFP

SPORT

GLOBAL AFFAIRS
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Myawady edge GFA 5-1 in MNL Week 14

GFA FC player Mg Lio (white) blocks the Myawady player from getting the ball during their Week 14 Myanmar National League match at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 10 October 2022. **PHOTO: MNL**

MYAWADY FC thumped the GFA FC 5-1 in the Week-14 match of the Myanmar National League played yesterday at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

The win for Myawady was mostly brought about by the union play of all the young local players.

Both teams played energetically from the kick-off amidst the hot weather.

Upon some weakness of the GFA's defence line, Myawady players put more pressure on the opponents throughout the game.

An opener for team Myawady was scored by Naing Zin Htet at 21 minutes and the second goal for the team was finished by Htet Linn Aung at 37 minutes.

Just before the end of the first half, Thet Wai Moe scored the third goal for the Myawady team at 43 minutes and the first half was dominated by the team.

In the second half, the Myawady players were still able to connect with each other and played with understanding.

The fourth goal for the team Myawady was scored by Thet Wai Moe at 51 minutes and Kaung Sithu scored the fifth or winning goal for the team at 69 minutes.

The single goal for the GFA FC was scored by expatriate player Kalep at 83 minutes.

There were no more goals till the final whistle and the big win was sure for team Myawady.

The win has built some confidence level of Myawady FC in dreaming for their upcoming results in the 2022 Myanmar National League. — GNLM

Qatar hopes World Cup flying headdress will be 2022 vuvuzela

La'eeb, the official mascot for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. **PHOTO: FIFA/AFP**

QATAR wants the 2022 World Cup mascot of a flying white headdress to symbolize football's showcase tournament, just as the noisy vuvuzela horn did when South Africa hosted it in 2010. A flying keffiyah headdress named La'eeb, meaning super skilful player in Arabic, is the official World Cup mascot and is omnipresent on billboards across Qatar and on television. "La'eeb is a fun and mischievous character who comes from the mascot-verse, a parallel world where all tournament mascots live," world football's governing body FIFA said in its announcement."He will bring the joy of football to everyone."—AFP

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs

(a) To build a Union based on democracy and federalism, through a disciplined and genuine multiparty democratic system that is fair and just.

(b) To emphasize the achievement of enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA).

(c) To continue implementing the principle of peaceful co-existence among countries through an independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy.

2. Economic affairs

(a) To enhance production based on agriculture and livestock through modern techniques and strengthen all-round development in other sectors of the economy.

(b) To develop a stable market economy and promote international investment in order to enhance the economic development of the entire National people.

(c) To promote and support local businesses to create employment opportunities and increase domestic production.

3. Social affairs

(a) To ensure a strong and dynamic Union spirit, the genuine spirit of patriotism.

(b) To respect and promote the customs and traditions of all National peoples and preserve and safeguard their cultural heritage and national characteristics.

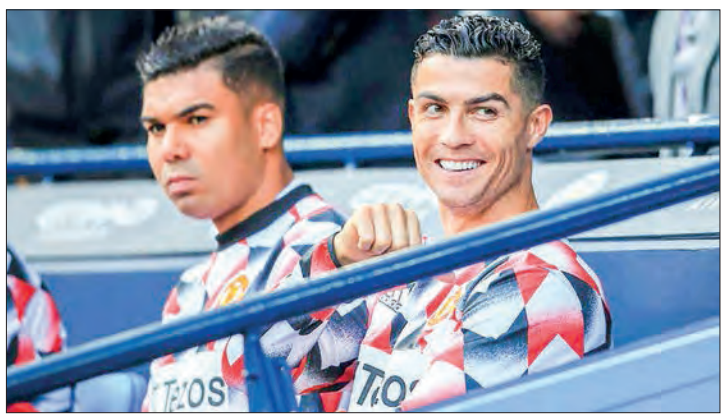
(c) To enhance the health, fitness and education quality of the entire nation.

Ronaldo happy at Manchester United despite frustrations, says Ten Hag

ERIK ten Hag admitted Wednesday on that Cristiano Ronaldo is frustrated when he is not playing for Manchester United but insisted he is happy at Old Trafford.

The summer transfer window was dominated by speculation over the 37-year-old's future after the club's disappointing campaign in 2021/22.

Ronaldo reportedly received an eye-watering offer from Saudi Arabia, but no Champions League giants made their move for the Portugal attacker, who missed United's pre-season tour of Thailand and Australia due to a family issue.—AFP



Manchester United's Portuguese striker Cristiano Ronaldo (R) sits on the bench during the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and Manchester United at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, north west England, on 2 October 2022. **PHOTO: LINDSEY PARNABY / AFP**