TAKE THE POSITION OF TOP RICE EXPORTER COUNTRY

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IX, No. 181, 5th Waning of Thadingyut 1384 ME | www.gnlm.com.mm | Friday, 14 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.

SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing continues his attendance for choice of arms for 65th Intake of DSA

State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing continues attending the choice of arms for the 65th Intake cadets at the Defence Services Academy in PyinOoLwin on 13 October 2022.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday morning continued attending the choice of arms for cadets of the 65th Intake of Defence Services Academy at the DSA in PyinOoLwin.

Also present at the choice of arms together with the Senior General were Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Maung Maung Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Moe Aung, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Aung, senior military officers

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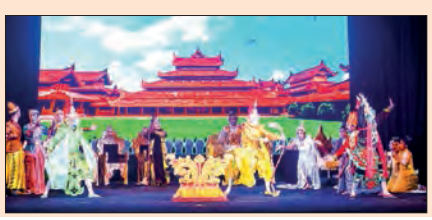

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Statement of National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee

1. The National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee has learnt three pilgrims were killed and 19 others injured, after the KNU/KNLA Brigade 1 and PDF terrorists, subordinates of NUG and CRPH, arrived at the Kinmunchaung bus terminal of Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State by car from Hsaungnainggyi and launched a brutal attack using heavy and small weapons for no reasons at about 10:45 am on 12 October.
2. Being an NCA signatory, the KNU/KNLA is responsible to take care of and protect the public despite the disagreement with Tatmadaw, and the committee strongly condemns this disgusting and brutal attack using heavy and small weapons on the Kinmunchaung bus terminal, where the pilgrims were waiting for the bus to visit Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Thadingyut festival.
3. They breached the provisions in Chapter 3 of NCA: Protection of Civilians and so serious action shall be taken against those who launched brutal attacks on unarmed people.
4. The Hsaungnainggyi in Kyaikto Township where they came from to attack the Kinmunchaung bus terminal of Kyaiktiyo Pagoda is under the control of KNU/KNLA Brigade 1. Regarding this attack, the KNU/KNLA is responsible as they support the terrorist acts by conducting military training and terrorist training to PDFs. It is obvious that they are mainly responsible according to the comments of pilgrims, locals and evidence.
5. Therefore, the statement is issued urging the KNU/KNLA to investigate the KNLA Brigade 1 members and PDF terrorists, subordinates of NUG and CRPH, and take actions openly and transparently in line with the law for their attack that left three dead and 19 wounded.

National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee

Statement of Myanmar War Veterans Organization

1. Terrorists attacked the Kinmunchaung bus terminal near Kyaiktiyo Pagoda with heavy weapons and small arms, and we are terribly saddened to hear that three pilgrims were killed and 19 others were injured due to the attack. It is an abominable incident that terrorists committed inhumane acts of terrorism intending to destroy the nation and the people by taking advantage of the time during the month of Thadingyut when the people come to worship the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda and do good deeds in Kyaikto Township of Mon State on 12 October 2022 morning.
2. Myanmar War Veterans Organization strongly condemns the terrorist groups that have committed such inhumane acts of violence.

Myanmar War Veterans Organization

Mon State Information Committee Statement

1. It is heartbreaking to hear that 19 people were wounded and three killed as Brigade1 of KNLA and so-called PDFs, subordinates of NUG and CRPH attacked the Kinmunchaung bus terminal with both heavy and small arms for no reason while pilgrims were going to visit Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State on the morning of 12 October 2022.
2. Mon State Information Committee issued this statement that it cannot accept at all such horrible acts of terrorism targeting the public who are peacefully making pilgrimages.

Mon State Information Committee

Statement of Myanmar-India International Business Federation

1. Terrorists committed armed attacks near the Kinmunchaung bus terminal of the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State on 12 October 2022. It is displeased to hear that three pilgrims were killed and 19 others wounded in the terrorist attack.
2. Myanmar-India International Business Federation issued this statement strongly condemning the terrorists who committed armed attacks on innocent people including monks, missionery and teachers while on their way to worship the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda and make good deeds.

Myanmar-India International Business Federation

All Myanmar Hindu Central Council Statement

1. It saddens us to hear those 19 pilgrims were injured and three women dead due to the terror attack at the Kinmunchaung bus terminal in Kyaikto Township of Mon State with both heavy and small weapons while pilgrims were going to visit Kyaiktiyo Pagoda on 12 October 2022.
2. All Myanmar Hindu Central Council strongly condemns this disgusting and inhumane act of terrorism targeting innocent pilgrims.

All Myanmar Hindu Central Council

Statement of Mon State Sangha Nayaka Committee

1. It was shocking news that 19 innocent pilgrims were injured and three died due to the inhumane attack by Brigade1 of KNLA and so-called PDFs, subordinates of NUG and CRPH near the Kinmunchaung bus terminal while pilgrims visiting the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State on the morning of 12 October 2022.
2. Mon State Sangha Nayaka Committee issued this statement regretfully expressing that the inhumane acts of violence targeting innocent pilgrims who are peacefully performing their pilgrimage during the Thadingyut season were unacceptable.

Bhaddanta Sasana, Chairman
Mon State Sangha Nayaka Committee

Statement of Mon State Interfaith Friendship Organization

1. Mon State Interfaith Friendship Organization is deeply unpleasant by the fact that 19 innocent pilgrims were injured and three women were killed as a result of the terrorist attack by KNLA Brigade1 and so-called PDF terrorists under NUG and CRPH on the Kinmunchaung bus terminal at the foot of the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State on 12 October 2022.
2. The organization expresses sympathy and sadness for the bereaved families.
3. Armed attacks against pilgrims without arms are inhumane acts.
4. Mon State Interfaith Friendship Organization strongly condemns the terror acts.

Mon State Interfaith Friendship Organization

Myanmar Islamic Association Statement

1. Myanmar Islamic Association is deeply saddened by the fact that innocent pilgrims were injured and killed as a result of the terrorist attack at the Kinmunchaung bus terminal in Kyaikto Township of Mon State on the morning of 12 October 2022.
2. Myanmar Islamic Association was sorrowful for bereaved families of the dead and injured persons in terror attacks.
3. Myanmar Islamic Association strongly condemns the inhumane attack targeting the religious and faith measures.

Myanmar Islamic Association

Statement of Mon State Hoteliers Association

1. Terrorists attacked the Kinmunchaung bus terminal near Kyaiktiyo Pagoda with heavy weapons and small arms, and we are terribly sorrowful to hear that three pilgrims were killed and 19 others were wounded due to the attack.
2. Our Hoteliers Association expressed the strong condemnation of this disgusting and inhumane act of terrorism targeting innocent pilgrims.

Mon State Hoteliers Association

Socioeconomic life of the rural people will improve

IF the co-operative societies are extensively formed region- and state- wise with those who will really do their businesses, the socioeconomic life of the rural people will improve. Likewise, the industrial businesses are also required to be encouraged and supported to enable the manufacturers to direct their effort towards the production of personal goods and construction materials to ensure domestic sufficiency.

[Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the third-day coordination meeting held on 10 August 2022 in regard to matters relating to the activities being carried out by the Union Government]

SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing continues his attendance ...

FROM PAGE-1

from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko Oo, the commandant of DSA and officials. They scrutinized and chose the appropriate corps of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) for the cadets depending on their outstanding performances in literature and military subjects as well as their natural bent, diligence and industry.

In the afternoon, the Senior General had lunch together with cadets at the cadet mess hall of Bayintnaung Battalion and cordially greeted the cadets.

At the local military hospital in PyinOoLwin, the Senior General cordially comforted the officers, other ranks, members of the Myanmar Police Force and members of the people's militia (local) who were injured in discharging duties for stability of the State, security, the prevalence of law and order and asked about individual injuries and medical treatments. Then, the Senior General fulfilled their needs and presented foodstuffs.

The Senior General inspected the completion of the radiation and cancer ward being built in the compound of the hospital and responded to the reports of officials, instructing them to systematically install water and power supply facilities, carry out construction tasks meeting the set standard for easily moving patients from one place to another, ensure timely completion of the building in time and left other necessary instructions.

On arrival at the National Kandawgyi Garden, the Senior General and party viewed the inflow of water to the lakes in the garden, greening tasks, and nurturing trees and flowery plants under care by car. — MNA

The Senior General comforts the patient at the military hospital in PyinOoLwin.

The Senior General views the construction of the radiation and cancer ward at the military hospital in PyinOoLwin.

Video message on 7th anniversary of NCA from Chairman of National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to be broadcast

THE video message on full text of address to mark the 7th anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA from Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing will be broadcast live on MRTV HD, MRTV-News, MRTV NRC, MWD HD, MWD Variety, MWD Education, Knowledge and Sports, MRTV Website, Radio Myanmar Shwe FM, Padamyar FM, Cherry FM, FM Bagan, Mandalay FM, Pyinsawady FM and Thazin FM at 9 am on 15 October 2022. — MNA

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

Preparedness and preparations are basic factors to reduce possibility of natural disaster risks: Vice-Senior General

A total of 95 countries across the world have been facilitated with Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) till April 2022 according to the monitoring for implementation of Sendai Framework, said Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the ceremony to mark the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction yesterday morning.

State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win speaks on the occasion to mark the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction in Nay Pyi Taw on 13 October 2022.

At the ceremony held at Max Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw, the Vice-Senior General said the commemorative ceremonies of natural disaster risk reduction have been held yearly since 13 October 2010 by setting the annual prioritized sectors over the missions, visions and work arenas mentioned in the Hyogo Framework (2005-2015) and the Sendai Framework (2015-2030).

This year's ceremony must be observed in accord with the theme "Early Warning and Early Action for All". The theme urged all to promptly and immediately implement the functions for ensuring natural disaster risk reductions.

The Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 (GP2022) held in Bali of Indonesia this year prioritized discussions on strengthening public-centred early warning and early action for all disasters, the correctness of data on natural disasters, financial resource management and effectiveness of natural disaster management.

In order to implement the early warning systems, priority 4 of the Sendai Framework comprises communication and information systems for monitoring natural disasters, mass communication technologies, disaster risk reduction and emergency contact procedures, investments for improvement of public-centred forecasting natural disasters and early warning systems, the important role of public participation, use of simple and cheap machinery for an early warning system in conformity with the needs of users, and enhancement of emerging the media to broadcast early warnings for disasters.

A total of 95 countries have been facilitated with Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) till April 2022 according to the monitoring for implementation of the Sendai Framework.

As Myanmar is a country facing possibly natural disasters and high damage and loss, it needs to have a good early warning system for natural disasters. Primarily, it is necessary to implement a public-centred early warning system to minimize loss and damage in disasters.

At present, the mobile application Myanmar Disaster Alert (MDA) has been developed for disseminating notices for natural disasters and disaster awareness through mobile phones, people will have easy access to information about natural disasters in time.

Preparedness and preparations are basic factors to reduce the possibility of natural disaster risks. Only when the early warning is released in time will the people in individuals or families move to safer places and will officials carry out systematic management for disaster risk reduction.

The climate change data shows that the average temperature of the globe could increase by 4 to 7 degrees Fahrenheit and sea level could rise from 28 centimetres to 97 centimetres in 2100 with severe storms and tidal waves, larger emission of carbon and much acid formation in oceans.

Myanmar faced 748 outbreaks of fire, 161 flooding, 1,502 storms, and 1,178 times of disasters including earthquakes, totalling 3,589 within 18 months. The government provided more than K3,647 million for over 1.5 million disaster-hit victims.

Myanmar stands third in the vulnerability to climate change according to the report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. As such, it is necessary to reduce natural disaster risks, systematically respond to disasters and minimize loss and damage as per the early warnings.

Depending on the nature, resources and experiences of the country, it is necessary to persistently contact ASEAN countries as well as the international community, follow international frameworks and agreements and apply advancements of technologies in disaster risk reduction.

Then, a video clip of a message sent by the Head of UNDRR Ms Mami Mizutori was shown.

Vice-Chair of the management committee Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khaing reported on measures for the reduction of natural disaster risks.

The Vice-Senior General visited the exhibition on natural disasters and viewed rescue equipment. —MNA

The Vice-Senior General looks into the exhibits at the event yesterday.

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SAC Vice-Chair Dy PM Vice-Senior General Soe Win enjoys competition of marionette play event

PATRON of the Leading Committee on Organizing the 23rd Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win watched the competition of marionette troupe play event at Yinkyayhmu Yadana Hall of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

At the marionette play am ateur level (first class) event, the Zeyathiri marionette troupe representing Sagaing Region presented performances with full dancing methods under the title of "Ngapada Akkhaya" (five-stanza letter). The Patron of the leading committee, Union level persons, the chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, deputy ministers, officials and members of the panel of judges watched the competitions.

State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win watches the competition of the marionettee troupe from Sagaing Region yesterday.

The Performing Arts Competition started in 1993, and the marionette contest commenced in 1998 with the event of Vidhura Jataka. Thanks to the competition, the marionette profession which faded out for some time re appeared. The marionette profession was designed to disappear together with the Performing Arts Competitions which were not held for many reasons. This year's competition comprises the marionette play event in order to preserve Myanmar's traditional cultural heritage and Myanmar 's marionette professions . —MNA

23rd Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition continues

THE Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition continued for the third day in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning. Contestants from Rakhine, Kachin and Shan states and Taninthayi, Bago, Sagaing, Yangon, Mandalay, Magway and Ayeyawady regions participated in "Maha Gita" (Classical Songs) singing competitions at women's amateur level (second class), and contestants from Bago, Yangon, Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi regions and Shan and Kayin states took part in basic education level boy's (aged 10 to 15) event. These competitions were held in the Banquet Hall of the Myanmar International Convention Centre II.

Madolin and Myanmar traditional harp competitions.

Modern song competitions at women's (amateur-level first class) for men's higher education level and basic education level for women's aged 15 to 20 were held in the Signing Room of the Myanmar International Convention Centre II.

Ngapada Akkhaya (five-stanza Jataka of Marionette play competition (amateur level first class), the Ramayana of mario nette competition (amateur level first class), the Myanmar Folk dance competition (amateur level first class) for men, (amateur level second class) for women and basic education level competition for girls aged 10 to 15 were held in the Plenary Hall of the MICC II.

Higher education level song composing competitions and amateur level (first class) composing competitions were held in the Yinkyayhmu Yadana Hall of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture.

Myanmar orchestra troupe competitions for basic education level women (aged 15 to 20), (amateur level first class) for women and amateur level (first class) for men were held in the Wunzin Min Yaza Hall of the National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw).

Myanmar solo orchestra competitions (amateur level second class) for women, basic education level for girls (aged 10 to 15), higher education level for women and higher education level for men were held at the training theatre of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture.

Xylophone competitions (amateur level first class) for men, (amateur level first class) for women, basic education level for boys (aged 10 to 15) and higher education level for men's women's events were held at the Mini Theatre of the National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw).

Mandolin competitions (amateur level second class) for men and women, higher education level for men, and basic education level for men and women (aged 15 to 20) took place in the News Briefing Room of the MICC II.

State-level officials, ministers for Ethnic Affairs and ministers for Social Affairs of regions and states, advocates-general, officials from relevant departments, artistes and those interested watched the competitions. — MNA

Only the physical and mental development of children can shape the future of the State well: Vice-Senior General

State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses the fifth coordination meeting of the Myanmar Child Labour Eradication National Committee yesterday.

IF social protection tasks including child labour measures are on the rise, protection will cover the occurrence of child labour, said Chairman of the Myanmar Child Labour Eradication National Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the fifth coordination meeting of the national committee at the Ministry of Labour in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The national-level action plan on eradication of Myanmar's child labour was set as a 15-year plan with the first five-year plan to collect firm and exact data, raise awareness and capacity, create education and vocational learning opportunities, fortify amendments for legal affairs and implementation, remove and remedy the child labour from the worst employment and create better livelihoods for families starting from January 2019.

During the first five-year plan period (2009-2023), industrial production and trade sectors are being prioritized in Kayin and Mon states and Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions for eradication of child labour.

The outbreak of Covid-19 caused poverty. So, families without any assistance pushed a larger number of children into workplaces. Hence, they are forced to work, mostly in dangerous workplaces. Especially, girls are forced to work as housemaids under exploitation. Social protection is essential for the majority of child labour, and the policies related to education, social protection, justice and the labour market must be emphasized.

The global survey showed a one per cent increase in poverty rate causes at least 8.7 per cent of child labour in the countries. There were 160 million children across the world in 2020, 6.5 million of whom are employed in precarious workplaces. The survey also showed that in 2022, there are some 8.9 million child labour across the world.

It is necessary for all to cooperate in the creation of social protection, job opportunities for poor families, proper jobs for adults and plans for sending all school-age children to schools, an inspection of free education and labour affairs, and the rule of law. If social protection tasks including child labour measures are on the rise, protection will cover the occurrence of child labour.

Only the physical and mental development of children can shape the future of the State well. After 2023 when the five-year plan period ends, the national committee members need to promptly carry out the review and implementation of the weak and strong points in line with the action plan in cooperation with relevant ministries.

Vice-Chairpersons of the national committee Union Ministers Lt-Gen Soe Htut and Dr Pwint San discussed the implementation of the national-level action plan.

Secretary Deputy Minister for Labour U Win Shein reported on the accomplishment of the minutes of the fourth meeting and the progress of eight work committees.

National committee members Union ministers participated in discussions on respective sectors of the action plan.

The Vice-Senior General coordinated necessary measures on discussions and reports and gave a concluding remark. — MNA

SPTT, NMSP delegation continue peace talks

THE second-day meeting between the State Peace Talks Team and the delegation led by the Vice-Chairman of the New Mon State Party (NMSP) was held at the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on the morning of 13 October.

State Administration Council Member Union Minister at the Government Office Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee-NSPNC Peace Talks Team Leader Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, SAC Member Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun, NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naung and Vice-Chairman of New Mon State Party (NMSP) Nai Aung Min, Joint Secretary Nai Win Hla and Central Executive Committee member Nai Banyar Lei attended the meeting.

During the second-day meeting, NSPNC member Lt-Gen Win Bo Shein presented the agreements included in Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the Union Accord along with the findings and whether they comply with the 2008 Constitution and the existing laws. Next, the participants exchanged their attitudes bluntly.

After that, they discussed general issues and adjourned the second-day meeting. The third-day meeting will be held on 14 October, it is learnt. — MNA

The second-day peace talks between the State Peace Talks Team and the New Mon State Party is in progress on 13 October 2022.

MMPO holds ceremonies marking 102nd Myanmar Motion Picture Day

MYANMAR Motion Picture Organization held the Motion Picture Lifetime Achievement Award giving ceremony, the opening ceremony of the Myanmar Motion Picture Museum and the 45th respect-paying ceremony to aged film artistes in honour of the 102nd Myanmar Motion Picture Day at its office in Yangon yesterday.

The events were attended by Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Nyunt Win Swe, and patrons and artistes of the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization.

During the ceremony to present the Motion Picture Lifetime Achievement Award, Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn said the 13 October 1920, the day on which the film "Metta Hnint Thu Rah" screened at the cinema, was designated as the Myanmar Motion Picture Day, and it reaches 102 years today.

On such a significant day, two veteran artistes will be presented the Lifetime Achievement Award for their outstanding performance in the Myanmar film industry.

The Union minister added that the government is implementing the development of the film industry and will present Academy Golden Statues with a five-tical gold star to the winners of the Lifetime Achievement Award this year.

He then urged all related persons from the movie industry to maintain the good traditions of Myanmar motion picture history while striving for the development of the sector.

Then, the Academy Golden Statues with a five-tical gold star were presented to Lifetime Achievement Awards winners Academy Nyunt Win and Academy Aung Lwin.

Afterwards, the Union minister and party unveiled the Myanmar Motion Picture Museum by cutting the ceremonial ribbon. The Vice-chairman 1 of the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization explained the history of the museum and renovation measures.

Union Information Minister U Maung Maung Ohn and dignitaries cut the ceremonial ribbon to inaugurate the Myanmar Motion Picture Museum yesterday in Yangon.

During the ceremony of the 102nd Myanmar Motion Picture Day and the 45th respect-paying ceremony to aged film artistes, K5 million donated by the Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister, K3 million by the Union minister and staff, K15 million by the chief minister of the Yangon Region government and donors and K7.35 million by Forever Group Co Ltd were presented to the patrons and executive committee members.

At noon, the Union minister met Myanmar Libraries Foundation Patron U Kyaw Hsan, Chairman U Nyunt Swe and executive committee members at the meeting hall of the Central Press in Botahtaung Township and discussed the proper assistance to be provided by the Union minister to develop the libraries and reading skills of people.

In the evening, the Union minister hosted a dinner party for Motion Picture Lifetime Achievement Award winner Academy U Aung Lwin and artistes at Sky Star Hotel in Tamway Township. — MNA

Myanmar discusses power cooperation with Russia

Union Electric Power Minister U Thaung Han and Union Energy Minister U Myo Myint Oo attend the opening ceremony of the Russian Energy Week International Forum in Moscow.

UNION Minister for Electric Power U Thaung Han and Union Minister for Energy U Myo Myint Oo attended the opening ceremony of the Russian Energy Week International Forum together with Myanmar Ambassador to Russia U Lwin Oo Wednesday and observed the displayed booths of Russian companies.

The Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister U Thaung Han met CEO Mr Alexander Konyukhov of JSC "Power Machines" Company. During the meeting, Mr Alexander Konyukhov discussed the production of machines for hydropower, atomic power and thermal power by the company and its exports to world countries and Myanmar.

Then, the Union minister said the government knows the Power Machines exports to Myanmar for hydropower plant by JSC "Power Machines" Company. There are certain places that generate 6 MW hydromatrix and 66 MW low head in Myanmar and so proper joint ventures can be made with Myanmar companies.

In the afternoon, the My anmar delegation attended the plenary session of the Russian Energy Week International Forum in which Russian President Vladimir Putin made the speech.

Moreover, Union Minister U Myo Myint Oo met Deputy CEO for International Business Mr Pavel Oderov of Gasprom Neft Company and discussed the work processes of the company and investment in Myanmar's oil drilling, oil refinery, fertilizer factory and oilfield tools sectors.

The Union minister also discussed the investment for the oil refinery in detail with Head of the Department for Oil and Gas Project Outside Tatarstan Mr Aleksandr Fedorov of Taneco Company, a subsidiary of Tatneft Company.

The two Union ministers and Myanmar ambassador held discussions with Deputy Director-General of the State Atomic Energy Corporation Mr Nikolai N. Spasskiy of Rosatom Company in the evening.

They discussed successful cooperation works, signing of MoU and approval of the roadmap in former visits, the first outcomes to be results by the end of this year, study tour to the Generation 3 Plus Nuclear Reactor and Information Centre in St. Petersburg.

Then, Union Minister U Thaung Han focused on the Myanmar-Russia nuclear energy cooperation. – MNA

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OPINION

Take the position of top rice exporter country

MANY global countries including Myanmar are facing challenges to the insufficiency of food triggered by climate change and political instability. However, the difficulties of global countries at present occur good opportunities for the countries producing agro-based foods similar to that of Myanmar.

As Myanmar needs to strive for boosting the production of export-quality products so as to improve the growth of the State economy, priority must be given to the expanded cultivation of quality and high-yield paddy strains and the increase of export volume.

In the summer paddy cultivation season, the government will disburse special loans to farmers at K200,000 per acre of summer paddy, totalling K140 billion for implementing the contract farming system. Such loans should be spent on the purchase of inputs such as quality strains of paddy seeds and fertilizers. So, all stakeholders need to systematically cooperate with each other in implementing the plan. Production of paddy aims to produce quality paddy and the milling process must be done for the production of good quality grains meeting the set standards.

> In truth, Myanmar's export quality rice must have the capacity to keep abreast of other countries standing atop the rice exporter countries. To do so, the quality of Myanmar's rice must be high. On the other hand, rice mills and rice warehouses must have a higher standard for their functions. Likewise, farmers must do proper processes of cultivation, harvesting, threshing and winnowing and storage without chemical residues, pests and dust.

Before regaining independence, Myanmar was a country exporting the largest volume of rice across the world, grasping a large market share of the world rice market. After regaining independence, successive governments have been emphasizing local oil sufficiency. Due to such a policy, the country declined to a low level from the world's top rice exporter country.

After many decades, the country faced changes in policies of rice, allowing businesspersons to independently trade rice at home in 2003, and they were fully allowed to export rice to the foreign market in the 2007-08 financial years. In the 2017-2018 financial year, more than 3.6 million tonnes of rice to the foreign market, reaching the list of five world's top rice exporter countries list.

In truth, Myanmar's export quality rice must have the capacity to keep abreast of other countries standing atop the rice exporter countries. To do so, the quality of Myanmar's rice must be high. On the other hand, rice mills and rice warehouses must have a higher standard for their functions. Likewise, farmers must do proper processes of cultivation, harvesting, threshing and winnowing and storage without chemical residues, pests and dust.

As part of efforts to develop the State economy, all businesspersons including exporters, farmers and the government need to join hands in uplifting Myanmar's exporter position to the world's top export country by selling quality rice to the international market. ■

ARTICLE

Myanmar and ASEAN

By U AC

ASEAN was formed in 1967. Members signed the ASEAN Charter in Bangkok, legitimizing the grouping. The Charter itself stood as a legally binding agreement among members; the key salient points being to prosper based upon principles of democracy, rule of law and good governance, plus a more critical, non-interference in the internal affairs of others. Obviously, the latter point has been a bone of contention between Myanmar and some of the more outspoken countries of ASEAN, especially when it comes to Myanmar's internal affairs.

Current Relationship

The current relationship between ASEAN and Myanmar seems to be based on the fundamental belief that the Myanmar military is good for nothing, ruthless, killing innocents, and the current government is doing nothing good for the country. The reality cannot be further from the truth. Without the military takeover on January 31, 2021, we would have a government in place through fraudulent elections and voting fraud, the continuation of corruption at the very top level of the past five years (more than 90 per cent of NLD ministers are now in jail for corruption!), brought the country down to a path of losing its national identity through the uncontrolled entry of illegals from neighbouring state in the west.

Yet, ASEAN is doing as much as possible, at every single event to embarrass the current Myanmar government. Unless Myanmar follows what the West and ASEAN dictate, they will not accept Myanmar in its current state. The West and ASEAN continue to believe in the fake news put up by exile media and their related terrorist organizations (NNCP - NUG, NLD, CRPH, PDF), without any form of fact-checking whatsoever. They are indirectly supporting the killing of innocent people and targeted assassinations, as these fake news items on Facebook pages are filled with people encouraging them to kill and murder anyone who fights for the truth and hence, not in line with their ideology.

In the middle of September, a retired military officer/an ambassador was assassinated in the Hlaing township of Yangon by terrorists. They have been watching his movements and his house for three consecutive days, before finally carrying out the murder. Even though the perpetrators are now in custody, it is an undeniable example of a net loss for Myanmar, where the life of an educated, learned person, who has contributed and who still can contribute to the nation, has to be exchanged with some worthless terrorists who steadfastly believe that only killing would help their cause for democracy. Exactly, on the contrary! It is becoming unmistakably similar to BCP (Burmese Communist Party) actions of the 1950s or the Pol Pot/Khmer Rouge era actions of the 1970s. Through their continued support, be it direct or indirect, of the terrorist organizations, ASEAN countries are contributing significantly to the instability and insecurity in Myanmar, while ridding of the talented and good people of Myanmar at the same time. Evidently, the ASEAN policy of constructive engagement is no longer on the table.

Anti-Myanmar Push

Within ASEAN itself, two or three specific groups have evolved. The first group, distinctly anti-Myanmar, believes that the current government should simply give the power back to the party that had cheated in the 2020 elections, or at least negotiate with them, to put in a process of handing the power back to a corrupt government. They include Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and possibly Brunei. E.g., Singapore's foreign minister has clearly stated that the country does not recognize the current government. Malaysia's foreign minister has met leaders of terrorist organizations more than a couple of times as a show of support for them, possibly to continue their terrorist activities in Myanmar. Indonesia's parliament is also trying to put forward some actions to punish Myanmar, in the middle of September.

At every ASEAN meeting, Myanmar is neither invited nor invited in full. Yet, they are quick to issue statements and announcements admonishing Myanmar, or expressing statements of grave concerns for the happenings here. Yet they are the ones supporting the terrorist groups, at least indirectly. They talked about democracy in Myanmar, yet, a lot more ASEAN countries are less democratic than Myanmar. Think about private newspapers or criticisms against leaders in some of these countries!

Some countries obviously sit on the fence; Thailand being a prime example.

The rest of the ASEAN is in line with the principle of non-interference and would like Myanmar's internal issues to be addressed internally.

In addition to their support for illegal terrorist organizations, ASEAN seems to be acting as a lapdog for the US. At the ASEAN summit and 121 meetings, the US continues to push ASEAN, especially Singapore to restrict Myanmar government access to funds from its banks, with the sole objective to make the government fall. The very fact that ASEAN is allowing being dictated by the US is worrying.

There are three reasons for this incessant anti-Myanmar push by some ASEAN countries: these country leaders being in good relations with the leaders of the previous corrupt government, some members being under the obvious influence of the West, especially the US, and due to lack of good communication by the current government, to the world on salient factual points.

How should we proceed?

Here, Sun Tzu's Art of War would be handy.

Sun Tzu said, "On the grounds of intersecting highways, join hands with your allies". This is the situation Myanmar is in now. At the junction of intersection highways, both geographically and politically, with possible attacks on various fronts. And the government's actions are in line with Sun Tzu's recommendations. We have three very good allies, the Bear, the Panda and the Elephant. China is our largest trading partner and Russia and India are already becoming reliable partners on the world stage.

"The best defence is a good offence", is another Sun Tzu's quote that Myanmar could use; by not being too defensive and letting others bully. At this point of time, every single policy of dealing with foreign countries seems defensive. Every week, MOFA would issue statements rebutting this and that, trying so hard to defend our position that sometimes, it even sounded desperate. We need to have our own line of attacks, rather than rebuttals all the time. Even China and Russia have their own channels in English, opening attacking lines upon the US and the West, all the time now. We will never will anything just by being defensive.

The last action would be to communicate to the outside world in a language that they can understand. The objective was to have facts, evidence and truths to reach the outside world. At present, the government held press conferences once or twice a month, yet everything explanations and Qs&As are in the Burmese language. Then the whole world has to learn from fake news media groups to read news about Myanmar. Hence, the government must add communication in English to augment the current plan and to positively convey the right messages to the outside world.

The Future

The country must move from a position of defence to a more offensive position. Because there are some people out there, who would bully us and talk bad about us, regardless of how well we do and how good our intentions are. Just think about this; if you got bullied at school, would you just lie down and take it? As recent as the last week of September, the UN Human Rights Chief was quoted as saying that the upcoming Myanmar elections would be a fraud, telling everyone not to assist in the current government's upcoming elections process. How would he even know in advance, drawing conclusions without facts or evidence? An Oracle perhaps!

This is the same UN, that refused to give a single dose of Covid vaccine to Myanmar in 2021, during our dark period of Covid. Talking about using healthcare as a political tool! Just to make the ordinary folks suffer. There are some elements out there who would want Myanmar to be cowed and fall in line with whatever they dictate.

The time to appease everyone all over the world is over. We have to do what is right for Myanmar. We cannot play defence internationally and just be angels. Figuratively, both in English and in Burmese. (In Burmese, 'Angel' has the same pronunciation as being just loud at home and chicken out outside of your home) ■

World failing to address 'dangerous' inequality after Covid: Oxfam

THE world has mostly failed to address a "dangerous" increase in inequality in the wake of the Covid pandemic, anti-poverty campaigners Oxfam said Tuesday.

The charity revealed the findings of its "Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index" (CRI) study, examining actions and policies of governments to tackle inequality in the first two years of Covid.

"Covid-19 has increased inequality worldwide, as the poorest were hit hardest by both the disease and its profound economic impacts," stated the report, which is compiled every two years.

"Yet the CRI 2022 Index shows clearly that most of the world's governments failed to mitigate this dangerous rise in inequality."

The charity assessed 161 governments from 2020 to 2022, after what it called "the biggest global health emergency in a century".

Half of the nations covered cut their spending on social protection and 70 per cent slashed education.

The pandemic slashed consumer spending due to lockdowns, in turn slashing taxation revenues.

However, 143 nations out of the 161 failed to increase taxation on the wealthy — and 11 chose to cut their taxes.

The study added that a small group of governments bucked this trend and took "clear actions" to fight inequality.

This minority put "the rest of the world to shame", it said.

Oxfam also found that two-thirds of countries failed to increase their minimum wage in line with gross domestic product.

And it ranked them in an index based on their actions and policies on three areas: social spending, taxation, and labour.

Norway topped the index as the best performing nation when it comes to tackling inequality.

It was followed by Germany, Australia, Belgium and then Canada. France was ranked 12th while Britain stood at 14th.

'Wake-up call'

The UN and campaigners have previously decried the unequal distribution of vaccines from richer Western countries to lower-income ones, particularly in Africa, putting lives at risk.

Oxfam delivered a withering criticism of most nations, arguing that the pandemic should have been a "wake-up call" to act on poverty in general.

"The explosion of the Covid-19 pandemic and the health, social, and economic crises that ensued have supercharged poverty and inequality," the charity's report concluded.

"The world witnessed sharp increases in poverty for the first time in decades, while the wealth of the richest people and corporate profits soared.

"The pandemic should therefore have been a wake-up call to national and global leaders to introduce policies to tackle inequality aggressively but as this report has shown, with some notable exceptions, governments have shamefully continued with 'inequality as usual'."

And it called upon governments around the world to refrain from austerity measures that would worsen the lot of the poor.

"Governments all over the world, supported by international financial institutions and global funding, need to implement policies which will reduce inequality and protect the incomes of the poor from recession and inflation," it said.

SOURCE: AFP

Norway topped the index as the best-performing nation when it comes to tackling inequality. **PHOTO: AFP**

Myanmar delegation joins 28th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council (ASCC) Ministers Meeting in Cambodia

Union Religious Affairs and Culture Minister U Ko Ko and Myanmar delegation take part in the 28th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council Ministers Meeting in Cambodia.

CAMBODIA hosted the 28th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council (ASCC) Ministers Meeting in Phnom Penh yesterday.

The event was joined by the Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Ko Ko.

Speaking at the event, Dr Hang Chuon Naron, Minister for Education, Youth and Sport of Cambodia said Cambodia has a strong belief in moving forwards to ASEAN values in accordance with the Theme-ASEAN A.C.T: Addressing Challenges Together during the chairmanship.

He also pledged to cooperate for the initial steps such as emergency public healthcare service, natural disasters, the equal education system in the post-COVID-19 period, energy and food security, information, cybersecurity and challenges.

During the 28th ASCC Ministers Meeting, they discussed strategic plans of ASCC, approval of reports to be submitted at the 40th and 41st ASEAN summits, joint declaration (draft) of the 28th ASCC, the priority sectors of Cambodia during the term of chairmanship, 11 reports for the 40th and 41st ASEAN summits including another 20 records and meeting minutes of the 28th ASCC.

Union Minister U Ko Ko then appreciated the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework and the Hanoi Declaration of ASEAN Community post-2025 Vision to implement the strategies of ASCC.

He also added that it also reaches halfway to the 2025 ASEAN Community due to the cooperation of member countries in line with the rules and regulations of ASEAN and the support of the ASEAN Secretariat.

He agreed with the supportive activities for ASCC and priority sectors of Cambodia and welcomed the good drive in the capacity and effectiveness of the ASCC, and he continued that Myanmar agrees with the declarations to be submitted to the 40th and 41st ASEAN summits. — MNA

MoSYA Union Minister receives Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar

UNION Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Min Thein Zan received the delegation led by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

First, the Chinese ambassador said the Chinese government is providing assistance as much as it can to improve the social status and interests of Myanmar and its people and expressed willingness to focus on China-Myanmar cooperation.

Then, the Union minister expressed thanks for conducting joint training programmes in China for Myanmar athletes who will participate in the Southeast Asian games and the 32nd SEA Games to be held in Cambodia and for other kindness of assistance in upgrading work on the National Indoor Stadium 1, Thuwunna to improve Myanmar's sports.

They also discussed the assistance of the Chinese government in Myanmar's sports sector. —MNA

Union Sports and Youth Affairs Minister U Min Thein Zan presents a gift to the Chinese ambassador.

310 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 13 October, total figure rises to 627,638

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **627,638** after **310** new cases were reported on 13 October 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **601,593** have recovered from disease. Death toll reaches **19,469** 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

LOCAL BUSINESS

Myanmar conveys over 983,780 MT of rice to external markets in H1

Myanmar bagged US$700 million from two million tonnes of rice exports to foreign countries in the past 2020-2021 financial year.

MYANMAR shipped 983,782.7 metric tons of rice and broken rice to foreign trade partners in the first half (April-September) of the current financial year 2022-2023, with an estimated income of US$339 million, according to Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

In the past six months, more than 40 exporter companies delivered over 773,446.7 MT of rice and broken rice to external markets by sea, whereas over 210,335 MT were sent to neighbouring countries via border trade camps.

Myanmar shipped rice and broken rice to regional countries, countries in Africa and European Union member countries through maritime trade. It is also exported to neighbouring countries, China and Thailand through cross-border posts.

Myanmar exported rice to over 20 foreign markets in the past months, mostly to China (123,520 MT) and the Philippines (101,259 MT).

Additionally, Myanmar primarily conveyed over 191,967 MT of broken rice to China and 140,893 MT to Belgium.

The prices of high-grade rice varieties stood at K60,000-90,000 per bag and K35,500-45,000 per bag for low-grade rice varieties.

The prices of low-quality white rice varieties were approximately US$340-360 per MT depending on the different varieties and quality in September. The export price of Myanmar's rice was relatively lower than the rates of Thailand and Viet Nam, according to MRF.

Myanmar has shipped more than 1.4 million tonnes of rice and broken rice to foreign trade partners between 1 October and 31 March in the past mini-budget period (2021-2022), the Myanmar Rice Federation stated.

Myanmar bagged US$700 million from two million tonnes of rice exports to foreign countries in the past 2020-2021 financial year. — KK/GNLM

Palm oil wholesale reference price sinks below K4,000

The local cooking oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. To meet the oil sufficiency in the domestic market, about 700,000 tonnes of cooking oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia.

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil in the Yangon market fell below K4,000 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes), according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

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

The reference prices of palm oil in the Yangon market were set at K3,880 per viss for the week of 11 and 16 October and K4,020 per viss for the week ending 10 October. The reference price this week was down by K140 per viss, capping the decline in the fifth week.

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

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

The Ministry of Commerce is striving for consumers not to worry over the supply of edible oil. The ministry is also trying to secure edible oil sufficiency, supervise the market to offer reasonable prices to consumers and maintain price stability.

At present, mobile market trucks operated by oil importing companies, in coordination with Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association, were back to business in some townships on 17 July in order to offer palm oil at a subsidized rate. They sell palm oil at K4,100 per viss to consumers directly. However, there are limited sources of supply although they directly sell palm oil at a reference rate depending on the volume quota.

The domestic consumption of edible oil is estimated at 1 million tonnes per year. The local cooking oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. To meet the oil sufficiency in the domestic market, about 700,000 tonnes of cooking oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia. — NN/GNLM

Myanmar to deliver over 20,000 tonnes of white rice 5% to Bangladesh

MYANMAR will export more than 20,000 tonnes of long-grain white rice with five per cent broken to Bangladesh, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The MV VTC Ocean which is currently docking at Sule terminal in Yangon Port will deliver 21,300 tonnes of white rice with five per cent broken to Bangladesh.

The shipment happens according to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Myanmar and Bangladeshi governments. The Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) managed this rice export to Bangladesh under the guidance of the Ministry of Commerce.

In 2022, MRF and the Directorate General of Food of Bangladesh's Ministry of Food signed the MoU to buy 250,000 tonnes of long-grain white rice with five per cent broken from Myanmar. The shipment by the MV VTC Ocean is the first batch of this plan.

Additionally, the G-to-G MoU between Myanmar and Bangladesh was inked on 7 September 2017 as well. Bangladesh has agreed to buy 250,000 tonnes of white rice and 50,000 tonnes of parboiled rice from Myanmar between September 2017 and September 2022.

Myanmar sent 100,000 tonnes of rice to Bangladesh each in 2017 for the first time and in 2021 for the second time, as per the sales contract.

For the third time, Bangladesh's Directorate General of Food and MRF signed a sales contract on 8 September in order for 200,000 tonnes of Myanmar's white rice to be exported to Bangladesh.

The MoU signed in 2017 expired this year. Therefore, the ministers from both countries are attempting to extend that MoU for the next five years. — NN/GNLM

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ECONOMY
WORLD/AD

Resilient Russian economy surfs sanctions on oil boom

The receiver station of the Druzhba pipeline between Hungary and Russia at the Duna Refinery of Hungarian MOL Company located near the town of Szazhalombatta, Hungary, on 5 May 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

RUSSIA'S economy may face multiple long-term challenges, but for now energy exports appear to be helping it ride out Western sanctions imposed over the offensive against Ukraine.

Moscow says inflation is easing and employment is virtually full, contradicting the predictions of a catastrophe from many financial experts.

The International Monetary Fund on Tuesday offered some support to Russia's view, saying recession will be less severe than expected due to oil exports and relatively stable domestic demand.

The IMF forecast the Russian economy to contract just 3.4 per cent over the whole year, after contracting 21.8 per cent during the second quarter at a quarterly annualized rate.

It was only in June that the IMF forecast an annual drop of six percent. "The contraction in Russia's economy is less severe than earlier projected, reflecting resilience in crude oil exports and in domestic demand with greater fiscal and monetary policy support and a restoration of confidence in the financial system," the IMF's latest World Economic Outlook report said.—AFP

UK unemployment rate hits fresh low since 1974

THE United Kingdom's (UK) unemployment rate in the three months to August decreased to 3.5 per cent, the lowest since February 1974, as long-term sickness kept some workers out of the labour market, official data showed on Tuesday.

The number of people unemployed for between 6 and 12 months increased in the June-August period, while there were decreases for the short-term (up to six (over 12 months) unemployed, according to the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Meanwhile, the economic inactivity rate for people neither working nor looking for work increased by 0.6 per centage points to 21.7 per cent in the three months. —Xinhua

Photo taken on 15 Feb 2022 shows a sign outside a Domino's Pizza takeaway advertising for recruiting staff in Hampshire, Britain. **PHOTO: TIM IRELAND/XINHUA**

South Korea raises interest rate to tame inflation, support won

SOUTH Korea's central bank on Wednesday hikes its key interest rate by half a percentage point to a decade high as it tries to tackle surging inflation and support the plunging won.

The Bank of Korea (BOK) lifted borrowing costs to three per cent – the highest since 2012 – marking the latest in a series of increases since last year, when they were at rock bottom to fight the impact of the pandemic.

"Additional inflationary pressures and the risks to the foreign exchange sector have increased, affected by the rising Korean won to US dollar exchange rate, while inflation has remained high," the central bank said in a press release.—AFP

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
No.(2) Mining Enterprise
Invitation for Open Tender

1. No. (2) Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservationinvites for tenders to sale for the following materials-

Sr.	Lot No.	Materials Classifies	Weight (M/T)	Ex Work	Tender Closing Date/Time
1	Lot-1	Wolfram Concentrate	20.812	Dawei	26.10.2022 (13:00)pm
2	Lot-2	Tin, Wolfram mixed	10.250		
3	Lot-3	Tin Concentrate	18.080	Myeik	
4	Lot-4	Wolfram Concentrate	10.971	Pyimana	
5	Lot-5	Tin, Wolfram mixed	16.910	Myeik	
6	Lot-6	Tin, Wolfram mixed	6.956		
7	Lot-7	Tin, Wolfram mixed	49.000	Pyimana	
8	Lot-8	Tin, Wolfram mixed	7.973		
9	Lot-9	Tin, Wolfram Sheelite mixed	23.976	Laikaw	

2. No.(2) Mining Enterprise could provide necessary documents to interest companies and contact to No.(2) Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Office Building No.(19),Nay Pyi Taw, Ph:+95-(0)67-3409391, E-mail; metwo@e-monrec.gov.mm, within office hours.

Tender Committee
No.(2) Mining Enterprise

MYANMA Port Authority
"NOTICE of High Tide"

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 20.11 feet to 20.77 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of October 25th to October 29th, 2022. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V PANJA BHUM VOY.NO. (206W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PANJA BHUM VOY.NO. (206W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-10-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Idled plants fuel German angst about de-industrialization

THE familiar plume of smoke no longer billows from one of the two chimneys at ArcelorMittal's massive steelworks in Hamburg's harbour.

Soaring energy prices have forced operators to partially idle the plant, adding to fears that Germany's industrial companies, the backbone of Europe's biggest economy, are facing an existential threat. Germany is already bracing for a recession as the energy crisis triggered by Russia's war in Ukraine takes its toll, and the latest government forecasts on Wednesday will likely make grim reading.

But some economists say the long-term impact could run far deeper and see entire manufacturing sectors trim production or relocate to countries where running costs are lower, fundamentally reshaping Germany's industrial landscape.—AFP

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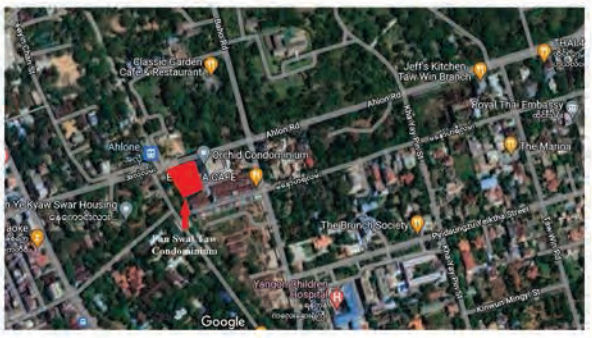

Location Map

Entrance-1&2
(Ahlone Rail-way Bridge)

Private & Public
EV Charger Carpark

Architectural Design Consultant by : ONG & ONG PTE.LTD(Singapore)
Structure Design & Consultant by : KTP International Pte Ltd.
Contact us : 09-940005000
Email : info@uab.com.mm
(Registration Only)
Address : No.228, Ahlone Road, Ahlone Township, Yangon Division.

Foreigner can buy and right to own by law

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Finland hopes new nuclear reactor eases energy crunch

AFTER over a decade of delays, the deafening sound of Finland's new Olkiluoto 3 nuclear reactor finally running its turbine at full power was welcomed with joy — and relief.

The Nordic country is hoping the plant will be able to ease the coming winter's challenges as Europe battles soaring energy prices following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"It has taken a lot of perseverance and years of hard work to get to this point, so we feel pretty good at the moment," Johanna Aho, a spokeswoman for the plant's operator TVO, told AFP.

With a power level of 1,600 megawatts, the Olkiluoto 3 nuclear reactor is now the most powerful in Europe. **PHOTO: AFP**

The almost 300-degree Celsius (572 F) steam gushing from the reactor turns the over 60-metre-long turbine up to 25 times every second, making a visit to the turbine island in protective gear feel as hot as one of Finland's ubiquitous saunas.

More than 12 years behind schedule, on 30 September, Olkiluoto 3 reached full power for the first time since construction began in 2005. — AFP

Russia-Germany oil pipeline partly shut after leak: operator

THE Druzhba oil pipeline linking Russia and Germany has been partly shut after a leak was discovered in Poland, the Polish PERN operator said on Wednesday.

"The cause of the incident is not known for the moment. Pumping in the affected line was immediately stopped. Line 2 of the pipeline is functioning normally," PERN said.

The leak was detected late on Tuesday near the village of Zurawice about 180 kilometres (112 miles) to the west of Warsaw in central Poland.

"PERN emergency services and the state fire service immediately went to the scene to assess the situation, secure the area and start rescue operations," PERN said.

PERN spokeswoman Katarzyna Krasinska was quoted by PAP news agency as saying that the pipeline was mainly supplying two refineries in Schwedt and Spergau in Germany.— AFP

Czechs ban Russians with Schengen visas from entering

THE Czech government said Wednesday it would ban Russian tourists, artists and athletes holding visas for the free-travel Schengen zone issued by any EU member from entering the country.

"This concerns primarily people who enter the Czech Republic at Prague airport," Foreign Minister Jan Lipavsky told reporters, adding the measure would be in force from 25 October. Lipavsky said the Czech Republic was following in the footsteps of Finland, Poland and the Baltic states, which had introduced a similar measure earlier on. In the wake of the recent bombing of civilian targets in Ukraine by the Russian army, "we need to seek solutions that will send a clear signal to the people inside the Russian Federation", Lipavsky said.— AFP

Russian tourists have their passport checked on 28 July 2022 at the Nuijamaa border crossing, Finland. **PHOTO: AFP/ FILE**

France to step up military deployments in eastern Europe

FRANCE will deploy more troops and equipment to Romania in the coming weeks and step up its presence elsewhere in eastern Europe as war grinds on in Ukraine, Defence Minister Sebastian Lecornu said Tuesday.

The decision, by President Emmanuel Macron, "to bolster our defensive position on Europe's eastern flank" will be made as part of France's NATO committment, Lecornu told a Senate panel.

France is in charge of NATO operations for Romania, where it currently has some 350 soldiers along with Belgian and Dutch units.—AFP

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

Brussels recommends Bosnia for EU candidate status

THE European Commission on Wednesday said it was recommending that EU countries give Bosnia candidacy status to join the bloc.

"The Commission recommends that candidate status be granted to Bosnia and Herzegovina by the (European) Council on the understanding that a number of steps are taken," commissioner for enlargement Oliver Varhelyi tweeted after making the announcement to EU lawmakers.

People walk past electoral posters in Sarajevo on 1 Oct 2022, on the eve of general elections in Bosnia. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/AFP**

If the EU, which currently comprises 27 member countries, adopts the recommendation, Bosnia would join seven other nations with candidate status: Türkiye, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania, Moldova and Ukraine.

The process to join the European Union can take many years as candidates implement reforms that have to be rigorously evaluated by Brussels. It can also grind to a halt, which is the case with Türkiye's bid.— AFP

African ministers commit to developing roadmap to boost food security

EIGHT African ministers from the Horn of African region have vowed to develop a comprehensive roadmap to help boost food security amid a looming famine in some countries, a regional bloc said Tuesday.

"The failure of four consecutive rainfall seasons over the last three years has pushed communities in Arid and Semi-Arid (ASAL) areas, which are most vulnerable to recurrent droughts, over the brink," the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) said in a statement issued in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital. The eight IGAD member states are Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda.

The ministers and heads of delegations from IGAD member states who ended their two-day meeting in Nairobi said the roadmap will prioritize scaling up famine prevention, strengthen food systems, enhance resilience, and improve cross-border trade within the region.— Xinhua

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Japan warns N. Korea may have completed nuclear test preparations

JAPANESE Defence Minister Yasukazu Hamada warned Thursday that North Korea may have already completed preparations for its seventh nuclear test, all while conducting a spate of test missile launches that began at the start of this year.

Hamada also said during a parliamentary session that Pyongyang's weapons technology has developed "at a rapid pace," acknowledging it has become "more difficult to intercept" missiles it launches.

He expressed wariness that Pyongyang might conduct its first nuclear test since September 2017 in the not-so-distant future, given the progress of repair work at the nation's only known nuclear test site, in Punggye-ri in the nation's northeast.

North Korea has repeatedly fired missiles, including a recent ballistic projectile that was the first to fly over the Japanese archipelago in five years. Pyongyang is banned from using ballistic technology and carrying out nuclear tests under UN Security Council resolutions. The launch last week of the intermediate-range ballistic missile, which Japan's Defence Ministry said travelled about 4,600 kilometres, has fuelled fears that North Korea could engage in further military provocations. Earlier Thursday, North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency reported leader Kim Jong Un oversaw the test-firing of two long-range strategic cruise missiles in person the previous day.—Kyodo

North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un (C, pictured 10 October 2022) has vowed to develop the country's nuclear forces at the fastest possible speed. **PHOTO: KCNA/AFP**

Crisis-hit Iraq makes latest bid to elect president

LAWMAKERS in crisis-hit Iraq meet Thursday for their fourth attempt this year to elect a state president and break a year-long gridlock marred by deadly violence that has deepened economic woes.

Oil-rich Iraq has yet to form a new government after general elections more than a year ago that were brought forward by a wave of mass protests against endemic corruption, rampant unemployment and decaying infrastructure.

Supporters of Iraq's Coordination Framework rally in the Green Zone. **PHOTO: FILE AHMAD AL-RUBAYE/AFP/FILE**

This week, the United Nations mission said that "the protracted crisis is breeding further instability" in the war-scarred country, warning of "divisive politics, generating bitter public disillusion".

Parliament is due to convene from 11:00 am (0800 GMT) in Baghdad's Green Zone, the capital's fortified government and diplomatic district that was recently the site of large protest camps set up by rival factions.—AFP

Italy parliament meets in step towards new government

Meloni will almost certainly be nominated prime minister -- the first woman to take the job in Italy. **PHOTO: AFP**

ITALY'S parliament meets for the first time Thursday since the far-right won elections last month, a key step in the process of forming a government.

Giorgia Meloni's Brothers of Italy party, which has neo-fascist roots, secured a historic 26 per cent of the vote in September 25 polls. But she can only form a government with her fractious allies, Matteo Salvini, head of the far-right League, and Silvio Berlusconi, founder of right-wing Forza Italia.

The three leaders have been tussling over the formation of a cabinet able to manage the myriad of challenges facing the eurozone's third-largest economy, notably soaring inflation and an energy crisis linked to the war in Ukraine.

"We cannot waste any time, the situation in Italy is not easy," Meloni said Wednesday ahead of talks with Salvini and Berlusconi, whose parties secured nine and eight per cent of the vote respectively.— AFP

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

UK sends police, navy ship to crime-hit Caribbean territory

THE UK government said Tuesday it had dispatched armed police and a Royal Navy support ship to its Caribbean territory of Turks and Caicos to quell surging "gang violence".

London said the 24 highly-trained specialist firearms officers and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessel were sent after a "major surge" in crime which has seen 15 fatal shootings since early September.

An American tourist, who worked as a civil rights activist in the United States, was among the latest victims at the weekend after gunmen opened fire on a vehicle.

The spike in violence is believed to be linked to the arrival of organized criminal gangs from elsewhere in the Caribbean, according to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) in London.

The UK, which is responsible for the safety and security of the islands' 50,000 residents, said the detachment of police officers from the neighbouring Bahamas were already on active duty after arriving on Friday.

The FCDO added discussions were under way with other nearby states on additional support. "In parallel, the UK is providing a package of longer-term support to build local capacity on areas including intelligence gathering, firearms training and border control," it noted.—AFP

Catalan leader unveils new govt after coalition crisis

SEVEN new faces entered Catalonia's regional administration on Tuesday, now a minority government following a crisis that saw the hardline JxCat withdraw from the separatist coalition.

"We are turning a new page and will continue working with total determination," said regional leader Pere Aragones of the left-wing ERC party following his government's first meeting without JxCat.

JxCat decided to quit the coalition after 55 per cent of party activists voted to leave against 42 per cent who wanted to stay.

Although JxCat's departure left ERC running a minority government with just 33 of the Catalan parliament's 135 seats, Aragones ruled out early elections, quickly moving to restructure his cabinet.

Four of the new ministers are from ERC and three from other allied separatist parties.—AFP

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SPORT

India Olympic medallist to stand trial for murder

TWO-TIME Indian Olympic medallist Sushil Kumar will stand trial for allegedly murdering a fellow wrestler during a stadium brawl last year, a lawyer said Thursday.

Kumar and 17 others were charged by a Delhi court on Wednesday, more than a year after they were arrested over the death of 23-year-old junior grappler Sagar Dhankar following a long rivalry between two groups of wrestlers.

The court said investigators were able to produce enough evidence to proceed against Kumar, who has said he is innocent and accused police of framing him.

Prosecutors accuse the 39-year-old champion of being a "kingpin" in the sensational murder case of May 2021 that shocked India's sports fraternity.

He has been charged with murder, kidnapping, rioting and using deadly weapons. Two of the accused are still on the run, according to prosecutors.

Indian Olympic medallist Sushil Kumar is escorted by police after his arrest in May last year. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Kumar was arrested after a week-long manhunt following the deadly brawl that was fuelled by personal and professional rivalry between the two players.

Prosecutors allege Kumar and the other accused beat Dhankar and his friends with clubs and other weapons outside a Delhi stadium and left the victim to die.

He was seen in a video -- which prosecutors say is authentic -- assaulting the former junior wrestler, who died in hospital. Pardeep Rana, a lawyer representing one of the accused, said his client was arrested on trumped-up charges.

"We will disprove the allegations before the court," Rana told AFP.—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.

Inoue to fight Butler for undisputed bantamweight crown in December

A victory against WBO champion Paul Butlet would make Naoya Inoue (left) the first undisputed boxing world champion from Asia. **PHOTO: AFP**

JAPAN'S Naoya Inoue announced Thursday that he will fight Britain's Paul Butler in December when all four bantamweight world championship belts will be at stake.

The 29-year-old Inoue, nicknamed "Monster", holds the WBC, WBA and IBF bantamweight belts and is aiming to become undisputed world champion by capturing Butler's WBO title on 13 December in Tokyo.

"I want my name to go down in international boxing history, and to change Japan's boxing history," the unbeaten star said at a press conference to announce the showdown.

"Paul Butler is an extremely well-rounded fighter, with no obvious weak points," Inoue said.

"In the fight, I want to weaken him little by little with my boxing, before taking him down.

"I will demonstrate the overwhelming difference in strength between us, and unify the four organizations." A victory would make Inoue the first undisputed world champion from Asia and only the ninth since the four-belt era began in 2004. Earlier this year, Inoue became the first Japanese fighter to top Ring Magazine's prestigious pound-for-pound rankings as the best fighter across all weight divisions, before dropping to second behind heavyweight champion Oleksandr Usyk. Inoue repeated his aim to move up from bantamweight (118lb, 53.5kg) to super-bantamweight (122lb, 55kg) after he unifies the belts. He has said previously that he will retire when he turns 35.—AFP

Nordic countries launch bid to host women's Euro 2025

FOOTBALL federations in the Nordic countries on Wednesday announced they had submitted a joint bid to host the women's European Championship in 2025.

The bid by Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and Finland stressed their vision to "inspire to build truly equal opportunities for women's football across Europe", the organizations said in a statement.

"All Nordic football associations agree about the importance of organizing major championships in our countries, and together we have great ambitions for the development of women's football," Karl-Erik Nilsson, president of the Swedish Football Association, said.—AFP

England players celebrate with the trophy after winning the Women's Euro final at Wembley Stadium, in London, UK, 31 July 2022.
PHOTO: CFP/XINHUA