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Sunday, 16 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 speech addressed by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the 7th Anniversary of Signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA)

Esteemed national brethren of the Union,

Today is the 7th Anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA signed by the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and ethnic armed organizations. On this 7th Anniversary Day, I extend greetings to all with the wish that may all national brethren be physical and mental well-being with focusing on the restoration of peace to which they all aspire.

Today's most basic and primary need of our country is to ensure peace and stability of the State. Our Union was established by our ethnic nationals according to the history passed its life span under the rule of another country for more than 100 years. Colonialist British systematically laid down the plans to instigate solidarity and united strength of our ethnic nationals. They manipulated our ethnics to see each other to be enemies. The colonialists had been committing instigation and divide-and-rule policy to cause disunity among the ethnic nationals until they unavoidably allowed independence for



our country.

Whatever they committed instigation, we all regained independence based on patriotic spirit, Union spirit and Panglong spirit. However, subsequences of instigation committed by the colonialists have been till today affecting the country. They attempted to

influence Myanmar in various ways and means in the post-independence era. The situations of unstable areas of the country were triggered by consequences of instigations and further continuous attempts of the colonialists. We, our national brethren have been solving these evil legacies for more than 70 years.

Esteemed national brethren,

I, on my part, talked about the NCA issue whenever I held meetings on peace issues. It is because NCA is the most basic factor to operate the peace process which is important for our country. NCA was not drawn by a single person or an organization but by the government, the Tatmadaw and all ethnic armed organizations based on initial proposals of EAOs through negotiations. Moreover, it is an agreement signed by some international countries and organizations. Only when we all walk on the approved tract will a peaceful and prosperous State, we all aspire to be firmly built. Only when all ethnic national brethren hold a face-to-face meeting to solve the peace issues of our country without any interference from the external will it achieve success. Whenever those at home and abroad do not wish to benefit from Myanmar's peace process, our peace talks will not reach the goal we aspire to. Hence, all ethnic national brethren need to notice that they should never follow criticisms leading to destruction for peace.

SEE PAGE-3



Pyin Oo Lwin
NAN MYAING
Pure Arabica Coffee

Sales Department- Ph-085 2021740, 09 30529111
STARMART Nine Mile Showroom- (9)mile, Pyay Road, Yangon. Ph-09 263147385
KHA YAE PIN MART - Mingalardone, Pyay Road, Yangon. Ph- 09 671443555
STARMART MANDALAY Wholesale -Corner of 26th st and 66th st , Mandalay.Ph-09 661702244
STARMART Nay Pyi Taw Yangon- Mandalay Highway Road, Ywar Gauk Ward, Pyinmanar.Ph- 09 685119077



SAC Chair PM Chairman of National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing sends video message marking 7th anniversary of Signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA)

STATE Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing sent his video message to the seventh anniversary of Signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) celebrated at the National Reconciliation and Peacemaking Centre in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by SAC member, Union Minister of the Ministry of Union Government Office, National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and committee members Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers, special guests from the cabinet, Hluttaw, Tatmadaw, ethnic armed organizations-EAOs and political parties who participate in peace processes and NCA procedures, chairpersons, vice-chairpersons, secretaries, central executive members and central committee members of NCA signatories: ALP, DKBA, KNU/KNLA-PC, LDU, NMSP, PNLO, and RCSS.

After presenting the video message sent by SAC Chairman Prime Minister Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee Chairman Lt-Gen Yar



The seventh anniversary event of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) is in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Pyae spoke on the anniversary occasion.

Then, the MC briefed the NCA processes and anniversary occasions.

Afterwards, those who participated in peace processes and NCA procedures, witnesses of NCA signing occasions – Vice-Chairman of UPWC and Union Minister (retired) U Aung Min, UPWC Vice-Chairman and MP of first Pyithu Hluttaw U Thein Zaw, Union Attorney-General (retired) U Tun Tun Oo, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo (retired) and Work Group leader of political parties and SNDP Chairman U Sai Aik Pao also addressed.

Moreover, the leaders of ethnic armed organizations-EAOs who participated in peace processes and NCA pro-

cedures, those who participated in NCA signing ceremonies – Khine Soe Naing Aung (ALP), Phyar Than Khum Okkar (PNLO), Padoh Shwe Maung (KNU), representatives of NCA signatories- ALP Vice-Chair-

person Saw Mra Razar Lin, DKBA's Saw Kyaw Than Htay, KNU/KNLA-PC Vice-Chair Dr Naw Ka Paw Htoo, LDU Chairman Kyar Saw Lamon, NMSP Vice-Chair Nai Aung Min, PNLO Vice-Chair Khun Hun

Tin and RCSS Central Executive Committee member Sao Saung Han made remarks.

Similarly, National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee members Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Khin Maung Yi, Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing, former MPC Senior Advisor U Hla Maung Shwe, JMC-U members U Pyae Sone, U Maung Maung Nyein and Sai Myo Thant made speeches.

Then, the persons and leaders of EAOs who cooperated in peace processes and NCA procedures were presented with gifts and the event was concluded. Officials hosted lunch after taking commemorative photos. —MNA



Celebration attendees pose for the documentary group photo at the event.

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

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)

The speech addressed by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister ...

FROM PAGE-1
Esteemed ethnic national brethren,

Today's government of the State Administration Council prioritizes practical and possible measures in implementing the peace process. The Tatmadaw released 21 statements for ensuring ceasefire and perpetual peace from 21 December 2018 to date for suspending the military operations. Currently, the Tatmadaw is assuming the State's responsibility. This being so, I myself, as the capacity of Head of the State and the Tatmadaw, am holding the meetings with ethnic armed organizations. So far, I have met with 10 ethnic armed organizations two times. At the meetings, all accepted and agreed on two policies of our government to strengthen the multiparty democratic system and build the Union based on democracy and federalism. All ethnic armed organizations openly discussed their wishes, anticipations and aspirations. We also discussed appropriate and possible future plans for restoring sustainable strengthening and firm peace. I'd like to inform you all about bringing good results from all meetings to the people and the State.

Esteemed ethnic national brethren,

We would have two basic factors for the continuation of implementing the peace process. These are: to firmly stand for the nationwide ceasefire agreement-NCA and firmly stand for the Constitution (2008). I have explained why we should stand for the NCA. Likewise, the Constitution (2008) was not drawn by the wish of a single person or an organization. It was drawn on a wider scale by eight delegates of political parties' group, representatives-elect group, ethnic nationality group, farmers group, workers group, intellectuals/intelligentsia group, government service personnel group and other invited persons group. In drafting the constitution, a total of 702 representatives from eight groups held discussions to draw it at the National Convention which had been convened for more than two years from September 1993 to 1996. The number of delegates was extended to 1,086 at the second National Convention held from May 2004 to April 2007. In selecting the delegates to the National

Convention, the formation of delegation selection committees, voting of these committees, and designation of criteria for delegates were undertaken under democratic practices, except for delegates from the political parties' group and the representative-elect group. It was seen that in adopting 104 basic principles which are the primary essence and life of the Constitution, the National Convention widely discussed more than 900 pages of 22 papers submitted by all groups and sought approvals. The historical records were made that these approvals were sought by leaders from some ethnic armed organizations, leaders of political parties and ethnic parties including NLD and delegates who were involved in the other invited person group. In approving the Constitution, the referendums were held in May 2008 when 98.12 per cent of the people across the nation cast votes, 92.48 per cent of those who cast votes as part of approving it under the democratic practices. Those who attended the National Convention and who cast vote for the Constitution (2008) are still alive today. So, our government is discharging State duties in line with the Constitution. I'd like to firmly say that our efforts following the Constitution and our standing for it are to safeguard the Constitution which emerged under the democracy and safeguard the democratic system the people aspire to as well. Hence, I'd like to urge all ethnic national brethren to safeguard the democratic system in cooperation with the government and walk on the tract of peace.

Esteemed ethnic national brethren,

I am implementing two national work processes, two political work processes, a five-point roadmap and nine objectives which are actual needs of the State.

In this regard, there are many points to be emphasized for ethnic national brethren. The fourth point of the five-point roadmap was inserted that "Emphasis will be placed on achieving enduring peace for the entire nation with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement." These will shape national causes and political causes. To do so, the peace process must be adopted.

With regard to peace, the government formed the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee, the Work Committee and the Negotiation Committee to implement the peace process. The Negotiation Committee has held meetings with ethnic armed organizations, political parties and peace negotiator groups 88 times. At the meetings, political anticipations of relevant organizations, attitudes and wishes were openly discussed.

Esteemed ethnic national brethren,

In building the Union based on democracy and federalism involved in the two political work processes, it is necessary to remember the saying of the national leader of the State General Aung San. At a time when the new Bamar State related to the Union system, General Aung San asked for establishing the Union or Unitary State. At that juncture, it must be Union. If so, efforts will be made for the development of all ethnic nationals. Hence, it is necessary to notice the speech of General Aung San on the topic of the Union.

Our country is formed with eight major national races and more than 130 ethnic nationals. All ethnic nationals have an equal term of rights. The existing Constitution mentions the rights of ethnic affairs. Our government will continue efforts for enabling ethnic people to have deserved rights and entitlements.

Esteemed ethnic national brethren,

The word federalism is a concept of sharing power and authority with different regions, states, ethnicities and national races. It means integration and sharing. Political parties including ethnic parties represent the people who support them. So, there are different representations and efforts are being made to practice the proportional representation (PR) system to widely represent the parties and ethnic nationals.

At the peace talks, I explained it to leaders of ethnic armed organizations. The full number of ethnic representatives has to arrive at the Hluttaw which is a political platform for fulfilling the needs of ethnic nationals in democratic ways. If so, anticipations and aims of

relevant ethnic nationals will be openly and transparently discussed, decided and implemented through concerted efforts. If necessary, we have to amend some provisions of the Constitutions to implement the possible demands and wishes of ethnics. For example, Myanmar has formed the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw. The proposals and bills sent by Amyotha Hluttaw representing ethnics may be different from that of Pyithu Hluttaw. If different opinions are decided by voting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw formed with the majority of representatives mostly winning it. If we build the Union based on democracy and federalism, we need to consider the ethnic affairs for these cases.

Hence, assuming that a separate legislative power is entrusted to relevant Hluttaw as part of emphasizing the rights of ethnics to ensure the check and balance in the legislative estate, it will be the best. It must adopt to mandate the Pyithu Hluttaw and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for the enactment of the laws. We must amend the existing Constitution to do so. If so, all ethnic nationals will have to enjoy the essence of democracy and the Union system.

Esteemed ethnic national brethren,

On the occasion of the 7th Anniversary of signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), I myself would like to urge all-

- to make concerted efforts for analyzing the advantages and disadvantages of peace and stability based on experiences along our route for ensuring better essence of NCA,
- to regard the Our Three Main National Causes and deeply follow the commitments of NCA to ensure the success of building the Union based on democracy and federalism,
- to nurture ourselves and our environment to become the persons with mindsets of good citizens endowed with knowledge of national politics and loyalty of citizens,
- to organize and lure remnant organizations to sign the NCA as much as possible so as to post a historical milestone.

Thank you all.

SAC members attend ethnic/traditional dance contests

STATE Administration Council Members Saw Daniel and Dr Banyar Aung Moe enjoyed the competition of contestants in the ethnic/traditional dance event which was held at the Plenary Hall of the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II(MICC-II) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Dance troupe contestants from regions and states delivered their artistic performances portraying the ethnic and traditional choreography, ethnic and up-country cultures, traditions and social lives.

The contestants from regions and states participated



SAC members watch the ethnic and traditional dance competition.



in the promotion of native honour singing took place at the Signing Room and the Donmin contests were held at the News Briefing Room of the MICC-II in Nay Pyi Taw. Those interested attended the competitions. —MNA

MoI Union Minister makes inspection tours in Ayeyawady Region

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, accompanied by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win on Saturday inspected the Community Centre construction site in Pantanaw Township, monsoon paddy harvesting processes in Kyaunggon Township and comforted the MSMEs in Pathein Industrial City Project following the instruction of the Prime Minister.

On arrival at the Pantanaw Community Centre construction site began in early October on the Yangon-Pathein Road, the project in charge briefed the construction.

The two-storey Community Centre is constructed using K582.6 million of the State budget and is to be completed in March 2023.

The Union minister and the chief minister then went to a 50-acre model commercial Sin Thukha paddy field of 2022-2023 in Kyaunggon Township and the regional agricultural department head explained the paddy seedlings production and usage of green manure and harvesting processes.

There are 118,016 acres of monsoon paddy in Kyaunggon Township and the model field produces an average of



Union Information Minister U Maung Maung Ohn and Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win view round workplaces of the MSMEs in Pathein (above and below photos).

115 baskets of paddy (dried) per acre.

At noon, Pathein Industrial City Project Vice-Chairman U Soe Thura clarified the project proposal, progress and completion, ongoing processes and proper assistance at the meeting hall.

Then, the Union minister said Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing instructed that the MSMEs should penetrate the global economy not making efforts only for their regions. For power needs, it can generate by

as well as selling to the National Grid of the government. It should make efforts through coordination to the challenges in overcoming them.

Then, the regional chief minister talked about the prioritized rice and paddy industries, and direct rice export via Pathein Industrial City Project to save expenses and make profits.

Afterwards, the Union minister and party visited the garment factory of Vent Dest Pathein Co Ltd which is operating with about 800 local workers and exporting quality garments

officials reported on the rice production using a 500 kVA transformer employing about 50 employees, 75,000 tonnes of rice exported to the EU, African countries, China and the local market in 2021-2022, the expectation to export between 150,000 and 200,000 tonnes of rice to EU, African countries, China and other countries, 20,000 tonnes to Bangladesh and distribute 25,000 tonnes in the local market, and explained the preparations for temporary jetty where exports rice to Bangladesh directly.

The Union minister and party then went to the Shwesar Pathein Umbrella workshop that operated in 1942, Nay Min Private Salt Factory, Shwemyinpyan Halawa Factory which runs with 30 workers and distributes products from nine major places across the nation and No (5) Fertilizer Factory that produces about 500 tonnes of urea in Pathein Township.

The Union minister watched the performance of the match (7) of Group (d) of “Tu Shin Hnwal Pyaw Gita Pwal Taw” singing contest Season 2 at MRTV in Yangon and cordially greeted the artists on Friday night. — MNA

using solar and wind and it will meet the needs by installing in each factory or industrial zone to European countries.

When they arrived at the Ayeya Hintha Rice Mill, the



Discussions on power cooperation between Myanmar and Russia continue

UNION Minister for Electric Power U Thaung Han, Union Minister for Energy U Myo Myint Oo, currently in Moscow, the Russia Federation for the opening ceremony of the Russian Energy Week International Forum, along with Myanmar Ambassador to Russia U Lwin Oo, met the delegation led by Chairman of the Management Board Mr Leonid Mikhelson from Novatek company and extended the invitation for investment in oil and gas exploration and production on the morning of 13 October.

In the afternoon, the Myanmar delegation discussed with Mr Nikolay G. Shulginov, Minister of Energy of the Russian Federation, and party on the follow-up implementation matters deliber-

ated by the heads of state from both countries on the previous visits, the importation of fuel oils to Myanmar, construction of oil refinery and investment in the energy sector.

Afterwards, Deputy Director-General Mr Machekhin from RusHydro company clarified the power generation activities in Russia and other countries, hydropower engineering and geological engineering at the meeting with the Myanmar delegation.

Next, MoEP Union Minister U Thaung Han offered to collaborate on technical issues related to hydropower since Myanmar have ample resources for hydro-electric generation.

In the evening, Union Minister for Energy U Myo Myint Oo



Myanmar and Russia keep discussing collaboration in the power and energy sectors in Moscow.

discussed investment matters and potentialities in the energy sector of Myanmar with the delegation led by Mr Rodionov, Deputy Director-General for Foreign Economic Relations from LLC Sigma company and President Mr Alexander Ilin from Prometey company.

The delegation led by Union Energy Minister U Myo Myint Oo also received Chief Executive

Officer Mr Mikhail Potapov under the joint stock company – Foreign Economic Corporation Prodnortorg and discussed matters in connexion with the importation of fertilizers from Russia.

Union Minister for Electric Power U Thaung Han, Union Minister for Energy U Myo Myint Oo and Myanmar Ambassador to Russia U Lwin Oo met General Director Mr Alexey Yakovlev from Inter RAO-Export company, which is a major power generation company in Russia. As a gesture of goodwill relations between the two countries, the Myanmar delegation signed the Notice to Proceed (NTP) with PTG Energy company for the development of the Middle Paunglaung hydropower project. — MNA

12th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting and ASEAN related meetings held

THE Myanmar Education Delegation led by Union Minister for Education Dr Nyunt Pe attended the 12th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting - 12th ASED, the sixth ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting – the sixth APT EMM and the sixth East Asia Education Ministers Meeting – the sixth EAS EMM held in Hanoi, Viet Nam from 13 to 14 October.

The opening ceremony of the 12th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting was held on the morning of 13 October at the Grand Ballroom of Meliá Hanoi Hotel in Hanoi, Viet Nam.

Deputy Prime Minister of Viet Nam Mr Vu Duc Dam, and ASEAN Deputy Secretary General and Viet Nam Minister of Education and Training Mr Nguyen Kim Son delivered opening remarks. Ministers of Education from 10 ASEAN member countries, and representatives and officials from the ASEAN Secretariat attended the meeting.

They took turns to address the (Joint efforts to reimagine learning and building resilience



The 12th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting and ASEAN-related meetings are in progress.

of education systems in ASEAN and beyond in the new context) and exchanged views.

Next, officials approved the Declaration on ASEAN Digital Transformation Education Systems to be submitted to the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits.

Officials presented the re-opening of schools, records of the Declaration of Recovery and Resilience, ASEAN-Russian Federation Education Cooperation Process (2022-2026), ASEAN-Hungary Education Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding and ASEAN Higher Education Implementation Roadmap.

Then, they discussed and approved the joint statement of the 12th ASEAN Education Ministers' Meeting, and agreed to host the 13th ASEAN Education Ministers' Meeting in 2024, and the meeting was adjourned.

Afterwards, the Myanmar delegation led by the Union minister attended the Gala Dinner hosted in the evening.

In the related meetings, the 6th ASEAN Plus 3 Education Ministers' Meeting was held on the morning of 14 October. The co-chairs of the meeting, the Minister of Education and Training of

Viet Nam and the Minister of Education of the People's Republic of China, gave opening speeches and the ASEAN Plus 3 Education Ministers took a documentary group photo.

Then the Education Ministers from Plus 3 countries: the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and Japan, representatives and the ASEAN Deputy Secretary General made speeches and discussed and approved the joint statement of education ministers from the 3 ASEAN countries.

In the afternoon when the 6th East Asia Education Ministers' Summit was held Viet Nam's Minister of Education and Training opened the meeting and participants took a group photo.

Afterwards, the Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN presented and discussed the ASEAN meetings held after the 5th East Asian Education Ministers' Summit and the Minister of Education and Training of Viet Nam gave a speech on behalf of the ASEAN member countries.

Next, the education minis-

ters from East Asian countries: Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Korea, Russia and the United States, representatives and the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN made speeches and exchanged views.

At the meeting, the joint declaration of the 6th East Asian Education Ministers' Summit was discussed and approved, and the meeting concluded successfully.

Then, the Ministry of Education and the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Association (SEAMEO) signed the Letter of Engagement for the Southeast Asia Basic Education Learning Literacy Measurement (SEA-PLM). The Myanmar Education Delegation led by Union Minister Dr Nyunt Pe, Deputy Minister Dr Zaw Myint and Deputy Director-General Dr Zeya Tun, Director-General of the Department of Higher Education Dr Win Tun who attended the ASEAN high-level officials' meeting in advance, and Rector of Yangon University of Foreign Languages Dr Kyi Shwin arrived back home yesterday afternoon. — MNA

MoH delegation to attend practical training workshop on child healthcare in St. Petersburg

SIX members of the delegation including paediatricians led by Director of the Public Health Department (Child Health) Dr Theingi Aung left Yangon International Airport for the Russian Federation through Bangkok by flight No PG-704 at 8 pm on 15 October. They will attend the practical training workshop on child healthcare to be held in St. Petersburg, the Russian Feder-

ation from 15 to 30 October 2022.

The workshop will be attended by paediatricians from countries around the world, including Myanmar. In the workshop, there will be an exchange of views among the participating professionals, such as improving medical knowledge and expertise in child health medicine and infectious diseases.

As the Ministry of Health is

working to cooperate internationally in the field of medicine, it is also cooperating with the Russian Federation in the health sector, and the two countries are sending health experts to each other. — MNA

The photo shows delegates from the Ministry of Health who will attend the practical training workshop on child healthcare to be held in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation.



Statement of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization

1. Terrorists attacked the Kinmunchaung bus terminal near the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda with both heavy weapons and small arms, and we are terribly sorrowful to hear that three pilgrims were killed and 19 others wounded due to the attack.
2. Our Myanmar Motion Picture Organization expressed strong condemnation of this disgusting and inhumane act of terrorism targeting innocent pilgrims as they intended to harm the people by taking advantage of the time when devotees came to worship the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda and make good deeds.

Myanmar Motion Picture Organization

Statement of Interfaith Friendship Association (Taninthayi Region)

1. We are saddened to hear about the deaths and injuries of innocent pilgrims due to the unprovoked shootings by armed terrorist groups at the Kinmunchaung bus terminal of Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State on the morning of 12 October 2022.
2. Interfaith Friendship Association (Taninthayi Region) issued this statement strongly condemning the terrorist group that committed inhumane violence with a mean and petty attitude that wants to destroy the peace and prosperity of meritoriousness at the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda during the Thadingyut season.

Interfaith Friendship Association (Taninthayi Region)

Statement of Myanmar Evangelical Christian Alliance (MECA)

MYANMAR Evangelical Christian Alliance (MECA) issued the following statement regarding the death of innocent pilgrims.

1. We Myanmar Evangelical Christian Alliance share our condolences with all the families concerned as innocent pilgrims died and were injured due to the armed attacks of terrorist groups near the Kinmunchaung bus terminal at the foot of Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State on the morning of 12 October.
2. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar is a country where people of all ethnicities live together in peace, freely professing their religions according to their beliefs. Missionary monks, missionary persons and innocent people are shot and killed by terrorist groups for no reason. Myanmar Evangelical Christian Alliance issued this statement by requesting not to attack, kill and destroy religious buildings and religious areas that are not related to the military.

Myanmar Evangelical Christian Alliance (MECA)

Statement of Young Men's Buddhist Association (Kachin State)

1. It is known that terrorist PDFs attacked the Kinmunchaung bus terminal of Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State with small weapons, grenades and 60 mm, and 40 mm weapons on the morning of 12 October 2022 while pilgrims were preparing to visit the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda.
2. Innocent pilgrims, monks, men, children and women were shot by terrorist PDFs, and a total of 19 people, including women and children, were injured and three women died.
3. Our Kachin State Young Men's Buddhist Association expressed strong condemnation of this abhorrent and inhumane act of targeting innocent pilgrims.

Young Men's Buddhist Association (Kachin State)

Statement of Young Men's Buddhist Association (Kayah State)

1. It is known that terrorist PDFs attacked the Kinmunchaung bus terminal of the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State with small weapons, grenades and 60 mm, 40 mm weapons on the morning of 12 October 2022 while pilgrims were preparing to visit the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda.
2. Innocent pilgrims, monks, men, children and women were shot by terrorist PDFs, and a total of 19 people, including women and children, were injured and three women died.
3. Our Kayah State Young Men's Buddhist Association expressed strong condemnation of this abhorrent and inhumane act of targeting innocent pilgrims.

Young Men's Buddhist Association (Kayah State)

Statement of Interfaith Friendship Organization (Mandalay Region)

1. It is saddening to hear about the deaths and injuries of innocent pilgrims due to the attacks of terrorist armed groups at the Kinmunchaung bus terminal of Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State while the pilgrims were visiting the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda on the morning of 12 October 2022.
2. Interfaith Friendship Organization (Mandalay Region) stated that it is completely unacceptable and strongly condemns the terrorist armed groups which attacked innocent people who come to make pilgrimages peacefully at the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda during Thadingyut.

Interfaith Friendship Organization (Mandalay Region)

Statement of Young Men's Buddhist Association (Kayin State)

1. It is known that terrorist PDFs attacked the Kinmunchaung bus terminal of the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State with small weapons, grenades and 60 mm, and 40 mm weapons on the morning of 12 October 2022 while pilgrims were preparing to visit the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda.
2. Innocent pilgrims, monks, men, children and women were shot by terrorist PDFs, and a total of 19 people, including women and children, were injured and three women died.
3. Our Kayin State Young Men's Buddhist Association expressed strong condemnation of this abhorrent and inhumane act of targeting innocent pilgrims.

Young Men's Buddhist Association (Kayin State)

Statement of Young Men's Buddhist Association (Mon State)

1. It is known that terrorist PDFs attacked the Kinmunchaung bus terminal of the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township of Mon State with small weapons, grenades and 60 mm, and 40mm weapons on the morning of 12 October 2022 while pilgrims were preparing to visit the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda.
2. Innocent pilgrims, monks, men, children and women were shot by terrorist PDFs, and a total of 19 people, including women and children, were injured and three women died.
3. Our Mon State Young Men's Buddhist Association expressed strong condemnation of this abhorrent and inhumane act of targeting innocent pilgrims.

Young Men's Buddhist Association (Mon State)

Illegal timbers, edible oil, consumer goods, industrial materials and vehicles confiscated

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

On 13 October, a combined inspection team led by the Yangon Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force inspected a warehouse at the Hlinethaya Industrial Zone 3, according to information, and captured a total of

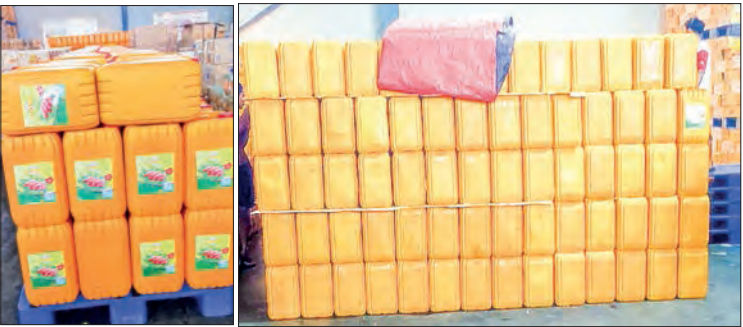
33.149 tonnes of edible oil worth K62,930,000 without official documents. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

On 14 October, an on-duty team under the management of the Customs Department conducted inspections at the Myanmar Industrial Port Container Checkpoint and confiscated K6,652,924 worth of clear float glasses that exceeded the

Import Declaration (ID) from a container. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Similarly, the Myawady (OSS) Trade Zone nabbed K7,140,000 worth of 4,000 kilograms of galvanized steel pipes that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) from a vehicle. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

On 15 October, Myanmar



Confiscated illegal goods in Yangon Region.



Seized illegal timbers in the Myawady Trade Zone.



Police Force seized an unregistered ANBO motorbike (estimated value of K250,000) in Shwebo township and the action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

A combined inspection team confiscated 50 cartons of duty-free Benson cigarettes worth K50 million from a Nissan car (estimated value of K28 million) at the Kyeye Combined Checkpoint of Monywa township and the action was taken under

the Customs Procedures.

Afterwards, a total of 39.9942 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K15,136,054 was captured in the Toungoo, Nyaunglebin and Thayawady districts and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

Therefore, nine arrests (approximately K170,108,978) were made on three consecutive days from 13 to 15 October, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA

Performing Arts Competition continues its fifth day

THE 23rd Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition (Central Level) continued at designated venues in Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory yesterday.

Contestants from regions and states participated in the singing competition of the Promotion of Native Honour men's amateur level (second level) event which took place at the Signing Room of the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi Taw.

The traditional dance contest was held at the Plenary Hall of the MICC-II and contestants from states and regions participated in it.

The marionette play troupe contest was held at Yinkyayhmu Yadana Hall of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture. The marionette troupe representing Ayeyawady Region took

part in the amateur level (first class) event.

Contestants participated in the amateur level (first class) Ramayana drama event at the training theatre of the ministry.

Contestants also joined the higher education level song composing contest at Yinkyayhmu Yadana Hall of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture.

Likewise, contestants from regions and states competed in the amateur-level (first and second class) Oh Si (Myanmar tradition drums) at the training theatre of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture.

Contestants also took part in the amateur-level men's (first class) Donmin contest, basic education level boys' and girls' (aged 10-15) events, amateur-level (second class) men's contest, higher education level women's contest and basic edu-

cation level men's (aged 10-15).

Then, contestants participated in the amateur-level (second class) men's flute contest, basic education level men's (aged 10-15), higher education level men's, amateur-level (first class) men's and basic education level men's (aged 15 to 20) events.

Contestants from regions and states compete in the amateur-level (first class) men's narration of religious and historical stories contest.

These events were watched by Union-level persons, deputy ministers and ethnic affairs ministers of regions and states and officials. — MNA

Singing contest (right) and playing flute competition (far right).



Myanmar traditional drum competition.



The ethnic traditional dance contest (Rakhine).



The drama troupe competition (Bago Region).



The Marionette play contest (Ayeyawady Region).

Pick out outstanding performers to be wonderful artistes

ONE Myanmar saying goes Politeness can bring wealth. Good fortune can be mentioned that the 23rd Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition based on the politeness of the traditional culture will bring wealth to Myanmar society and Myanmar citizens.

The value of a country can be based on its economic, educational and defence power as well as cultural affairs in the role of high historical value. Myanmar is endowed with a long-lasting cultural history of all ethnic people. Hence, all citizens should take pride in the opportunity of living in Myanmar.

Myanmar ethnic people are adoring and preserve national culture as they are high in national prestige and integrity. They

are in fine tradition to hand over cultural heritages to new generations. The prestige of a race depends on literature, fine arts and cultural standards. Literature and fine arts are outstanding measures for the people.

Firm pieces of evidence showed that Myanmar’s fine arts have been booming since the Pyu era. A record mentioned a 35-member Pyu artiste delegation made a goodwill visit to China in 802 AD. At that time, the Chinese governor recorded dancing postures of Pyu dancers and musical instruments in pictures, according to the Tang dynasty history. The Pyu orchestra was formed with 22 kinds of musical instruments, the flute of which can be played seven tunes of melodies.

Myanmar people were skilful in playing musical instruments for more than 2,000 years. Stone inscriptions in Bagan, Pinya, Inwa, Toungoo, Nyaungyan and Konbaung eras mentioned the playing of musical instruments and beautiful postures of dancing. They created literature in poems to be inverted into songs to be used for dancing.

eras mentioned the playing of musical instruments and beautiful postures of dancing. They created literature in poems to be inverted into songs to be used for dancing.

Moreover, dramas and plays are also interrelated to entertain performances to audiences. In successive eras, artistes created wonderful works of songs, dancing and music playing. Their skills in composing songs were amazing. Myanmar forefathers translated or referred to the original poems or songs from other countries into fine arts works in the Myanmar language without losing the main theme of Myanmar’s traditional culture. As such, they could leave a large number of cultural heritage to posterity.

At present, the 23rd Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition is in progress, aimed at discovering infamous outstanding artistes at professional, amateur, higher education and basic education levels. They will be reliable artistes in the future for the country in showing their skills and excellent performances for serving the people. How satisfactory!

Post-Covid travel rebound, discounted airline tickets lead to huge rush at Delhi immigration

SUDDEN opening of international borders with various countries including Malaysia, Thailand, Bhutan and Viet Nam leads to a surge in tourist numbers and long queues at the immigration clearance at Delhi’s Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA). The tourism sector, especially in the Asia Pacific, remains one of the most affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The governments of the respective countries have taken measures to make economic and business easier. Several countries, including Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Bhutan and the Middle East’s United Arab Emirates, have opened their borders to tourists after a gap of almost two years. “The passengers from Viet Nam, Thailand

and Malaysia, especially tourists, are the most travelling at the moment. Many airline companies have announced their discounted airfares these days,” an airport official told ANI.

The rush hour for international travellers witnessed huge crowds on Tuesday midnight with arriving passengers waiting in long queues to clear their immigration at the Delhi airport. “There was a huge crowd at the Delhi airport on Monday night where people queued up for more than half an hour for immigration clearance,” a UK passenger told ANI.

Recently, several airline companies have announced discounted airfares to attract tourists after a long gap of a year. In a recent announcement, Vietnamese-based airline Viet

Jet inaugurated two new routes between Ahmedabad and Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City after easing Covid regulations and opening borders. “VietJet is making it easier and affordable for Indians, and how travellers from Ahmedabad, to visit Hanoi, the capital of Viet Nam, and Ho Chi Minh City, an economic icon.

Prices starting from 23,000 INR round trip,” the airline company said in a statement. A Delhi-based tour and travel companies are also selling their short-haul destinations instead of Europe and other western countries due to visa delays. “For two years, people were not able to go out due to Covid, now the market is open, so visa is not available to go to Europe quickly, so people go to places like short-haul destinations...

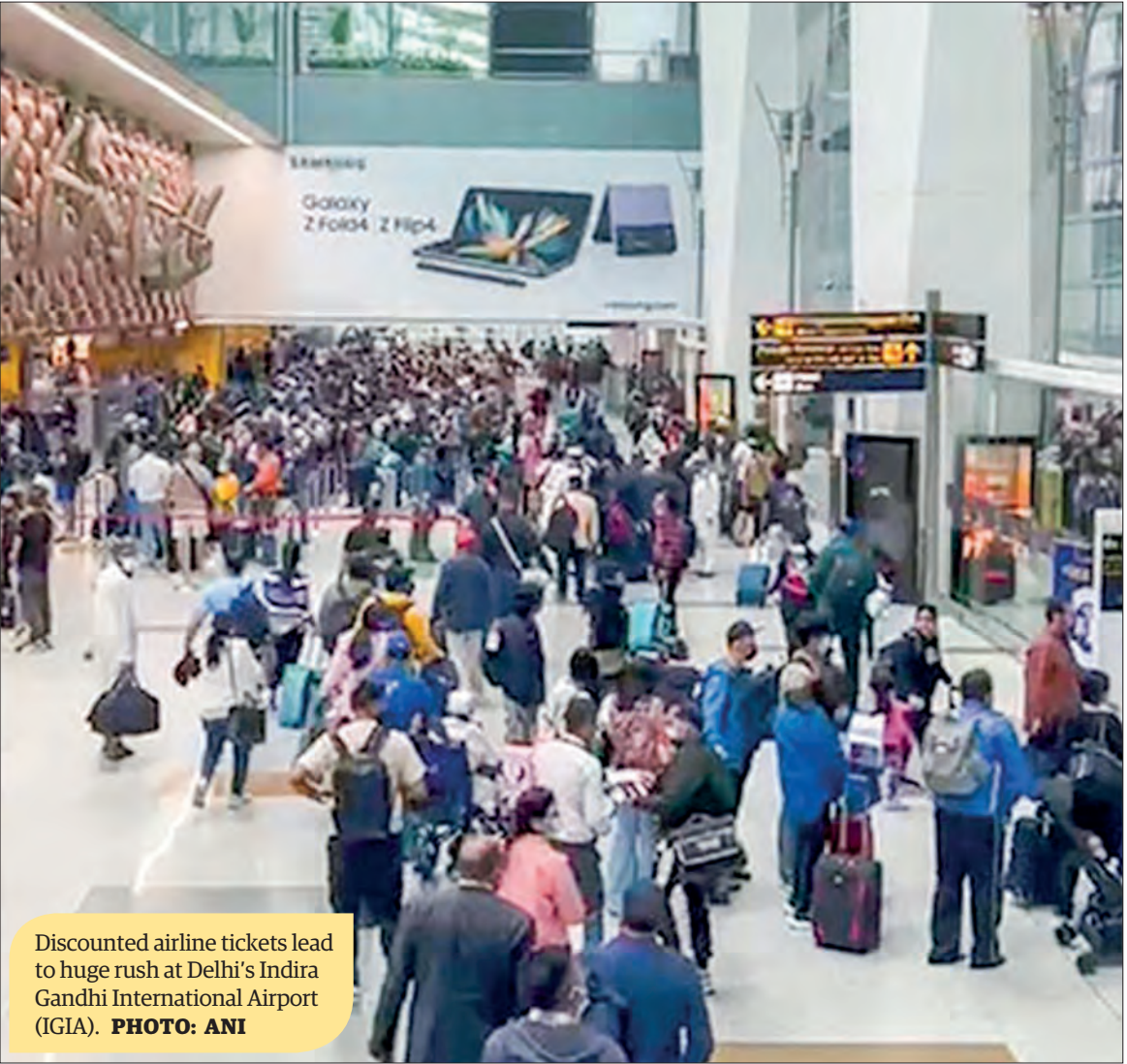
Viet Nam, Malaysia, Bhutan, UAE and alike. At present, we have demand from short-haul countries only,” Manoj Matta, head of oriental vacation, told ANI.

In March this year, India’s the Ministry of Civil Aviation has resumed 100 per cent full service for international passengers flying. India’s Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia had said, “All regular international flights will operate at 100 per cent capacity as the COVID situation in India has now improved. Besides, this company got fed up with virtual meetings and hence had started venturing out for their off-sites, be it dealer-incentive tours or conferences or launch events, etc.

Another factor contributing to this is the students travelling

abroad. “Owing to visa issues, currently, we have demand for short-haul countries only,” Manoj Matta, head of Oriental Vacations and Journeys, told ANI. Passengers from India as well as foreigners filed complaints about immigration chaos and mismanagement strategies at the Delhi airport through social media. Last year, Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has taken cognizance of the mismanagement of the crowd at IGI, resulting in a chaotic situation. Jyotiraditya Scindia convened a high-level meeting with officials from IGI Airport (DIAL), Airports Authority of India, (AAD), Immigration and Covid-19 Testing Lab Company attending the meeting.

SOURCE : ANI





Book Title	- Sar Yay Thu Doe Ah Kyaung Hnit Thu Doe Sar Myar Ah Kyaung
Writer	- Maung Khin Min (Danubyu)
Publishing House	- Sansathawda
Publication Date	- September 2022
Price	- K4,000

Sar Yay Thu Doe Ah Kyaung Hnit Thu Doe Sar Myar Ah Kyaung

THIS book is published by Sansathawda Publishing House and the serial is No 128. Saya Maung Khin Min writes books mostly concerned with Linguistics. Nonetheless, this book is not based on linguistics. As Saya is famous in the literary world, he is very often asked by writers to write forewords for their books. As Saya is kind-hearted and humble enough to provide his forewords to all writers without any discrimination. He does

not mind the prestige and/or popularity of the writers, and thus, he always writes the forewords upon being asked by the writers. This being so, there are a total of 300 forewords, and as there are some readers who have called upon Saya to publish his forewords collectively, he has decided to publish this book.

He has already published a book titled, “Kyun Daw Sayam-yar, Kyun Daw Yay Phaw Myar

Hnit Thu Doe Sar Myar Da Ze Da Zaung”.

This book is the second collection of his forewords.

This book is composed of nine parts: 1. Biographical Record; 2. Myanmar Language and Literature; 3. Linguistics; 4. Introduction to Literature; 5. The Philosophy of Literature and the Scene of Literature; 6. Novel/Play; 7. Poem; 8. Thoughts on the Works of the Fiction; and 9. Youth/Wisdom.

You can read 65 forewords under the said categories.

Concerning his collected forewords, Saya said that he has to flip over the pages to get an idea of what he should write and how he ought to present his foreword, that he then has to put together his train of thoughts as in playing the jigsaw puzzle and that the memorable events of the writer for whom he is going to provide the foreword, the background or the backdrop of the book he has written and the opinion of the foreword writer are all to be included in his forewords. The length of the forewords varies, nevertheless. He said he has just to share his experience in the introduction of the book to the readers. Upon observing Saya’s forewords, it is found that he lays focus more on his personal feelings and opinions than on his research outlook. He is found to be emotional in writing the forewords. Nevertheless, he has not forgotten read-worthiness.

Saya Maung Khin Min said that he believes that his forewords can motivate the readers to be somewhat curious about their lives and their writings.



Book Title	- Kyundaw Set Ywe Yay Gyin Thaw Wut Htu Myar
Writer	- Mya Than Tint
Publishing House	- Maha Sarpay
Publication Date	- September 2022 (7 th Edition)
Price	- K6,000

Kyun Daw Set Ywe Yay Chin Thaw Wut Htu Myar

THIS book has revealed that magazines are quite influential in the field of literature in those days. It is said so because of the fact that most famous writers have been produced by great magazines, which offered their valuable pages to the new writers to try their pen. The magazines were the platforms for the new writers to hone their skills.

This book is one of the bestsellers of Mya Than Tint, a great writer. The title of the book is: “Kyun Daw Set Ywe Yay Chin Thaw Wut Htu Myar”.

These stories were carried in the Shumawa magazine. Nowadays, magazines have become endangered species. It is quite certain that this kind of extinction will do great harm to the literary world.

As his stories were very much to the taste of the readers of those days, the collections of these stories had turned into a book. The success of this book is evident in its publishing of the book seven times already. In these stories, the writer embodies the characters from the

novels he is obsessed with, and he writes in the form of a dialogue between his two favourite characters. There are ten stories which were all published between 1920 and 1945.

The characters that the writer is fascinated with and the plots and the themes he has no good feeling towards are changed with some additions to enliven the stories. And this is the reason why this book has become a bestseller.

Sayagyi Mya Than Tint has put one paragraph from a

novel by French writer Somerset Maugham in his story. This paragraph is about a marine navigator. But Sayagyi was not contented with a short story, and so, he said he had extended it to a novel, which is known as “Daunt Gyin Lay Ta Nay Yar”.

There is another French writer named Barzel. He has one character named Dr Vien Shun. He was so obsessed with the character that he muttered to those people around to get Dr Vien to him when he was suffering from a moribund disease. He wanted his doctor in his novel because he believed that his disease could be cured by him.

This book has included an extension of the stories. One story he has turned into a novel is nothing but Dah written by Min Swe, May by Dagon Taryar, Ah Yay Daw Bon Tat Thar by Ye Tun Lin, Thu by Shwe Lin Yon, The Bont Ein by Maha Swe, Thabeik Hmauk Kyaung Thar by Thein Pe Myint, Nay Nyo Nyo by P Moe Nin, Kawleik Kyaung Thar by Zawana, Myat Lay Shwe Dar Bo by Zeya and Pantha Ma SaU by Thakin Ba Thauang.

LOCAL BUSINESS

Myanmar manufacturing sector attracts \$129 million from China in H1

A total of 29 foreign enterprises pumped US\$129 million into Myanmar's manufacturing sector in the first half of the current financial year 2022-2023, including capital expansion by the existing enterprises, as per the statistics released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Myanmar attracted foreign direct investments of \$1.24 billion from 39 enterprises during the April-September period. The majority of the investments were brought into the manufacturing sector. The power sector received \$702.4 million from six projects, while one enterprise put \$29 million in the real estate sector and two other foreign enterprises made an investment of \$378 million in the service sector respectively. Additionally, the livestock and fisheries sector saw a capital expansion of \$1.545 million.



The office of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration-DICA.

The manufacturing enterprises and businesses that need a large labour force are prioritized to create job opportunities for the local community, according to Myanmar Investment Commission.

Although some labour-intensive enterprises faced finan-

cial hardship amid the COVID-19 negative impacts and the political changes, the industry is now returning to normal after the COVID-19 vaccination program for the workers, as per the HIS Markit's September report.

In a bid to boost factory productivity with a healthy

workforce in the garment industry, Mobile Medical Check to garment workers took place in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw, supported by UNICEF Myanmar.

Moreover, Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association has organized Labour Law Awareness and WCC Training

since July 2022, with the support of UNICEF Myanmar. It aims to provide the soft skills needed for industrial development and create a better workplace for garment workers.

Additionally, the association will be launching the voluntary labour compliance assessment-VLCA Online System in November 2022.

Myanmar's manufacturing sector is largely concentrated in garment and textiles produced on the Cutting, Making, and Packaging basis, and it contributes to the country's GDP to a certain extent.

Myanmar has drawn foreign direct investment of more than \$647.127 million from 49 enterprises in the past mini-budget period (October 2021-March 2022). Of them, 40 foreign enterprises put investments in the manufacturing sector, pumping an estimated capital of \$202.667 million. — KK/GNLM

Kyat-dollar exchange rate hits K2,900 in market despite CBM's reference rate of K2,100



A Kyat-dollar exchange rate rose to K2,900 in the black market, while the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) set the reference exchange rate at K2,100.

In order to strengthen the domestic currency in the local forex market, the CBM set the currency trading band at 0.3 per cent for Kyat to fluctuate between these two specified upper and lower exchange rates for transactions, selling or buying on 10 August 2022.

Therefore, financial institutions including banks and informal money exchanges

set a dollar value of K2,100 for buying and K2,106 for selling.

In spite of the trading band, the dollar transaction was made with the buying price of K2,930 and the selling price of K2,980 in the grey market.

Additionally, the hard currency US dollar hit a high of over K4,500 in the forex market at August-end.

Consequently, the CBM sold dollars at its auction market for the sectors in need, to control the soaring dollar. A total of \$443.8 million were sold

at an auction rate in 2021 as well.

Last 28 September 2021, a dollar value hit a peak of over K3,000 in the black market, pushing pure gold up to K2.22 million per tical.

Under the guidance of the Central Committee on Ensuring Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods, the Monitoring and Steering Committee on Gold and Currency Market was formed on 17 December 2021 as gold and currency market stability play a crucial role in the trade facilitation.

The objectives of the committee are inspecting and prosecuting market manipulation, checking if there is compliance with payment rules in the domestic market, and proceeding against those unscrupulous traders who intend to interfere with the free and fair operation of the market under the existing laws, by-laws and regulations in line with the official directives, illegal foreign currency holding, illegal trade and taking legal actions against price manipulators. — NN/GNLM

Wanet Elephant Camp packed with homegrown visitors during Thadingyut

WANET Elephant Camp attracted 300 homegrown visitors during the three-day Thadingyut Festival (8-10 October).

Wanet Elephant Camp is on the way to Yeywa Dam between Mandalay and Pyin Oo Lwin. The camp attracts visitors with the natural scenic beauty of the mountains, the superb facilities and fun activities with the elephants, said U Toe Aung, assistant manager of Wahnet and Deedote elephant camps under the Myanma Timber Enterprise.

"Visitors came to the elephant camp for relaxation in the forest and enjoyed the elephant feeding experience. The camp was crowded with visitors throughout all three days", he

added.

There are three male elephants and five female elephants at the camp. Normally, only the four elephants provide service. During the Thadingyut Festival, all the elephants serve the guests at the camp.

"The visitors have to go into the small forest of teak, raintree and neem trees. They enjoy forest bathing benefits as well. Our staff preserve the forest and fulfil the facilities", he continued.

The visitors can observe the natural scenery by elephant ride, elephant feeding and taking photos with elephants. A short trip is estimated at K3,000 while an elephant ride for long-distance costs K5,000. — Maung Aye Chan/GNLM



Visitors are seen enjoying elephant rides.

HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

Japan set to scrap remarriage restrictions on pregnant women

JAPANESE cabinet ministers on Friday approved the scrapping of a law that stipulates women pregnant at the time of a divorce must wait 100 days before marrying again.

The law, in place for more than a century, does not apply to men and was originally intended as a way to aid the identification

of the father who is financially responsible for a newborn baby.

Critics have campaigned for a withdrawal of the 1896 law — which had banned remarriage for six months until being revised in 2016 — calling it outdated and discriminatory.

The change will also remove a rule that grants parents the

right to “discipline children to whatever necessary extent”.

The government will submit the revised civil code to the current parliamentary session that ends on 10 December and the change is expected to be enacted in 2024 if passed, local media said.

Japan consistently ranks low in the World Economic Forum’s annual Global Gender Gap report, which takes political empowerment into account as well as health, education and economic participation. In 2022, the country was placed 116th out of 146 ranked.



File photo of a pregnant woman. PHOTO: AFP/YOSHIKAZU TSUNO

In Kentucky, abortion issue generates new breed of activists

LEAH Martin ended up in the emergency room “because of the immense stress” of being denied an abortion in her US home state of Kentucky.

Due to this “horrible” experience, she is now going door-to-door against a state ballot initiative that would cement Kentucky’s near total ban on abortions.

Scott Van Neste, a pastor, sharply opposes the procedure. Surrounded by his eight children, Van Neste has begun attending demonstrations to protect the state’s anti-abortion law.

Surprisingly, the two have something in common: They are new to the activist sphere.

Newfound activism may be a wildcard as US voters cast ballots 8 November in a variety of national, state and local races as well as on hot-button ballot initiatives.

Since the Supreme Court in June overturned the constitutional right to abortion and restored states’ ability to ban the procedure, the issue has become

a major ballot question.

Only four states have decided to hold referendums exclusively on abortion, decoupling the issue from platforms and political parties, and opening the door to citizens who are not very political to get involved in what is, for them, a matter of “values”.

For Martin, it’s a personal issue.

In June, the 35-year-old and her husband joyfully learned that

they were expecting a second child. Unfortunately, at 12 weeks of pregnancy, the doctors detected a chromosomal abnormality.

“It was 100 per cent certain that the baby would not live past 10 months at the absolute most,” she told AFP.

The news came after the Supreme Court ruling, and the conservative Kentucky state legislature had just prohibited abortions.—AFP



Activist demonstrate during a national day of protest in support of abortion rights in Louisville, Ky, on 14 May 2022. PHOTO: LEANDRO LOZADA/AFP

4,500 health workers died battling COVID-19 in Brazil



Health-care workers wearing protective clothing visit an island community an hour and a half away from Melgaco by speedboat, on 28 May 2020. PHOTO: TARSO SARRAF / AFP

AS many as 4,500 health workers died in Brazil after contracting COVID-19 while working to save lives during the pandemic, a global federation representing public service workers said Thursday.

Among the victims were 1,184 nurses, and eight out of 10 were women, according to Public Services International (PSI), which is associated with the International Labour Organization.

The deaths were registered between March 2020 and December 2021, according to a PSI report which, based on

official data, was compiled to analyze public policy amid an event of such magnitude in Brazil and other countries.

With 687,026 COVID-19 deaths so far, Brazil has the world’s second-highest death toll, after the United States, and the third-largest COVID-19 breakout, after the United States and India, according to figures released by the Brazilian Health Ministry.

The PSI gathers more than 700 trade unions representing 30 million workers in 154 countries, according to its website.—Xinhua

1.4 million children malnourished in South Sudan: charity

ABOUT 1.4 million children under the age of five are suffering from malnutrition in South Sudan, caught in the grip of widespread flooding and inter-communal conflict, the British charity Save the Children said Friday.

It said the world’s youngest country, which has a largely rural population, is reeling from “its worst hunger crisis” since independence from Sudan in 2011.

“The situation has deteriorated in recent months with more than 615,000 people impacted by an unprecedented fourth consecutive year of large-scale flooding, destroying homes, crops,” Save the Children said in a statement.

Cases of malaria and snakebites are also soaring, it said, with children and women

particularly hard hit.

The flooding coupled with a vicious cycle of often deadly interethnic conflict has uprooted thousands of people from their homes, the charity said, urging the international community to not “overlook South Sudan or to divert funding to other crises”.

Around 909,000 people have been affected by flooding across nine out of 10 states, the UN’s Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said Tuesday.

South Sudan, like many countries in sub-Saharan Africa, has suffered from the fallout of the war in Ukraine which has sent global prices of food and fuel soaring.

The value of the local currency has also slumped by nearly 40 per cent this year, Save the Children said.—AFP

ECONOMY
WORLD

Singapore’s economy grows 4.4% in Q3

SINGAPORE’S economy expanded by 4.4 per cent on-year in the third quarter of 2022, the government said Friday while warning of ongoing global challenges such as inflation.

Economists often see the performance of the city-state’s open, trade-driven economy as a barometer for global trading activity.

The Q3 reading was slightly lower than the previous quarter’s 4.5 per cent, according to advance estimates released by the trade ministry.

“The expansion was underpinned in part by a stronger-than-expected recovery in the domestic-oriented and travel-related sectors as more Covid-19 restrictions abroad and locally were relaxed,” the Monetary Au-

thority of Singapore said Friday.

Singapore has removed all Covid restrictions, except for mask-wearing inside buses and metro trains, after vaccinating most of its population of nearly six million and deciding to live with the coronavirus.

On a quarter-to-quarter basis, Singapore’s economy expanded by 1.5 per cent, avoiding a technical recession by reversing the 0.2 per cent contraction in Q2.

However, manufacturing output and financial services weakened because of softening external demand, according to the central bank.

The MAS said it would further tighten monetary policy to fight inflation — its fifth such move since October 2021.—AFP



People stand along the pier next to the Merlion statue in Singapore on 16 August 2021. PHOTO: AFP

S.Korea’s import price rebounds in September



This general view shows containers stacked in the southern port of Busan, 450 kilometres southeast of Seoul. PHOTO: BYUN YEONG-WOOK/AFP/FILE

PRICE for imported goods to South Korea rebounded in September due to the local currency’s depreciation to the US dollar, central bank data showed Friday.

cy’s depreciation to the US dollar, central bank data showed Friday.

The import price index gained 3.3 per cent in September from a month earlier, after skidding 2.6 per cent in July and 0.9 per cent in August each, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK).

The rapid fall in the South Korean currency versus the greenback raised energy import cost. The won/dollar exchange rate averaged 1,391.59 won per dollar in September, up from 1,318.44 won in the previous month.

Price for imported raw materials increased by 3.4 per cent in the cited month on a higher price for mining and agricultural products that offset cheaper crude oil.—Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

UK finance minister flies back early to face budget storm

UK finance minister Kwasi Kwarteng is flying back early from meetings with finance chiefs in Washington, the Treasury said Friday, amid reports of more U-turns over his uncoded budget that rocked markets.

Kwarteng spent two days in Washington for the annual gathering of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, and had been due to leave Saturday.—AFP

Yen hits lowest level against dollar since 1990

THE yen on Thursday dropped to the lowest level against the dollar since 1990 after US inflation data indicated more aggressive interest rate hikes from the Federal Reserve.

One dollar was worth 147.67 yen following the stronger-than-expected inflation number, which comes as Japan’s central bank holds off from hiking interest rates.—AFP

Eurozone ‘coming closer’ to contraction in 2023, says ECB

UNCERTAINTY about Russian energy imports is pushing the eurozone closer towards a contraction in 2023, a senior European Central Bank official said Friday.

“What we considered as our downside scenario in September, is coming closer to the baseline scenario,” ECB vice-president Luis de Guindos told Lithuanian business weekly Verslo ziniios.

The downside scenario from the ECB’s September projections would see the euro area economy shrink by almost one per cent next year, while the baseline scenario forecast growth of 0.9 per cent.

“The difference between the baseline and downside scenarios lies in the evolution of energy supplies from Russia,” De Guindos said.

“The assumption under the baseline scenario is that 20 per cent of energy deliveries would continue to be supplied, whereas the downside scenario assumes a total cut-off.”

Russia has drastically reduced gas supplies to Europe in recent months, in a move seen as retaliation for Western sanctions over Moscow’s war in Ukraine.—AFP



The downside scenario from the ECB’s September projections would see the euro area economy shrink by almost one per cent next year, while the baseline scenario forecast growth of 0.9 per cent. PHOTO: AFP

L.A. expects stronger trade ties with China through China’s import expo

LOS Angeles expects to boost stronger trade ties with Shanghai and other parts of China through the fifth China International Import Expo (CIIE), said Los Angeles Deputy Mayor Erin Bromaghim on Thursday.

Addressing a seminar regarding the CIIE, to be held in Shanghai in November, Bromaghim said both Los Angeles and Shanghai are at the center of vibrant economies and home to biggest ports of the two countries.

From sports to public transportation and manufacturing, there is lot of cooperation underway, she noted. “A lot of companies from Los Angeles



People visit the 4th China International Import Expo (CIIE) in east China’s Shanghai, 5 Nov 2021. PHOTO: XINHUA

are expected to join the CIIE, to showcase what we produce in California, and seek greater business opportunities with China,” Bromaghim told Xinhua.

Bromaghim said the city of Los Angeles expects to work closely with all oth-

er partners from the state of California to promote the CIIE, in a bid to boost stronger partnership with Shanghai and other parts of China.

Calling California an active participant of the CIIE, Chinese Consul -

General in Los Angeles Zhang Ping said the Bay Area Council has hosted the California Pavilion at the CIIE for the last four consecutive years and many California-based companies presented their products and services at the expo which have attracted a lot of Chinese customers. California-based companies such as AECOM have successfully entered China’s market after participating in the CIIE, Zhang said.

Zhang expressed the hope that California will continue to have its presence in this year’s CIIE with more Southern California companies joining the event.—Xinhua

Volkswagen plans joint venture with China’s Horizon Robotics

VOLKSWAGEN is investing 2.4 billion euros (\$2.3 billion dollars) in a joint venture with China’s Horizon Robotics, the German auto giant said Thursday, despite a growing debate over Berlin’s economic relationship with Beijing.

The partnership with VW’s software arm, Cariad, is intended “to speed up customization of automated driving solutions for the Chinese market”, the group said in a statement.

Ralf Brandstaetter, a member of the management board for Volkswagen in China, said the move was “a central cornerstone of our strategy to realign and further strengthen our

activities in our most important market worldwide”.

Cariad will hold a 60 per cent stake in the new company, with the deal set to close in the first half of 2023. As part of its transition to electric vehicles, Volkswagen has long been investing in China and has already created several joint ventures there, particularly in the field of batteries. However, the German government’s relationship with Beijing has been soured lately by China’s strict zero-Covid policy, the escalation of tensions over Taiwan and concern over human rights issues in the Muslim-dominated Xinjiang region.—AFP

Ex-head of US electric truck firm found guilty of fraud

THE former head of Nikola, a start-up making electric- and hydrogen-powered trucks, was found guilty of fraud on Friday for misleading investors about his company’s alleged progress and capabilities in order to raise more money.

After a trial that began in mid-September in a Manhattan federal courthouse, jurors found Trevor Milton, 40, guilty on three out of four counts.

“Trevor Milton lied to Nikola’s investors — over and over and over again,” said Damien Williams, US

Attorney for the Southern District of New York.

“That’s fraud, plain and simple, and this office has no patience for it... Let this case serve as a warning to anyone who plays fast and loose with the truth to get investors to part with their money. It won’t end well.”

Prosecutors accused the entrepreneur of having exaggerated the number of orders placed and the company’s ability to produce hydrogen and having lied about prototypes.

They said instead of holding a traditional pub-

lic offering, Nikola went public by merging with an already listed company (known as a Spac, or Special Purpose Acquisition Company) which meant there were fewer constraints about releasing important information.—AFP



A Nikola Two truck, as presented by the Nikola truck company, whose former chief executive has been found guilty of fraud. PHOTO: NIKOLA MOTOR/AFP

Brazil judge fines Apple \$20 mln over chargerless iPhones

A Brazilian judge fined Apple \$20 million Thursday for selling iPhones without chargers, calling it an “abusive practice” that forces customers to buy an additional product.

The decision, which can be appealed, came

after Brazil’s justice ministry slapped a separate fine of nearly \$2.5 million on Apple in September over the same issue and barred the US tech giant from selling its iPhone 12 and 13 models without chargers. The new

fine — 100 million reais — was awarded by a Sao Paulo civil court judge as damages in a lawsuit filed by the Brazilian Consumers’ Association. Apple stopped including outlet chargers with new iPhones in October 2020,

saying it wanted to help reduce electronics waste.

But the move effectively “requires consumers to purchase a second product in order for the first to work,” Judge Caramuru Afonso Francisco wrote in his ruling.—AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V VENUS C VOY.NO. (2226S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V VENUS C VOY. NO. (2226S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-10-2022** 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.

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Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

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GLOBAL
AFFAIRS

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Defiant Putin says Russia 'doing everything right' in Ukraine

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin said Moscow was "doing everything right" in its nearly eight-month invasion of Ukraine despite a string of embarrassing defeats against Kyiv's forces, who will receive \$725 million in new US military assistance.

Putin's comments Friday came hours after Kremlin-installed officials in the southern Kherson region urged residents to leave as Kyiv said its soldiers were advancing on the oblast's

main city.

Moscow also hinted at the extent of the damage dealt to the Crimea bridge — the sole land connection between its mainland and the annexed Ukrainian peninsula — following a blast last Saturday, saying it could take many months to complete repairs.

"What is happening today is not pleasant. But all the same, (if Russia hadn't attacked in February) we would have been in the same situation, only the condi-

tions would have been worse for us," Putin told reporters after a summit in the capital of Kazakhstan. "So we're doing everything right," he insisted.

He did, however, acknowledge that Russia's ex-Soviet allies were "worried."

Putin said there was no need for further massive strikes against Ukraine at present and claimed the Kremlin did not intend to destroy its pro-Western neighbour.— AFP



A file photo taken on 12 June 2022 of a Ukrainian serviceman in a trench between the southern cities of Mykolaiv and Kherson. **PHOTO: GENYA SAVILOV /AFP**

EU eyes trade with 'reliable' partners after war shock

THE European Union is looking for trade pacts with "reliable partners" to combat supply shocks, said the bloc's trade commissioner on Thursday, pointing to its energy problems after Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Europe is facing an energy crunch, with the price of electricity generation skyrocketing on a surge in gas prices after Moscow's invasion.

"Russia is using its energy supplies as a weapon of blackmail and manipulation," EU trade commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis told reporters in Washington after meeting US Trade Representative Katherine Tai.

Russia has cut gas supplies to Europe in suspected retaliation



Europe has found itself over a barrel as fossil fuel deliveries from Russia dry up. **PHOTO: AFP**

tion against Western sanctions over the war in Ukraine, and Europe's hunt for gas has grown in urgency as winter approaches.

Countries like Germany

have been hit especially hard, with a large portion of gas supplies coming from Moscow prior to the Ukraine conflict.—AFP

Ireland examines neutrality stance after Ukraine war: minister

RUSSIA'S invasion of Ukraine is forcing Ireland to rethink its long tradition of military neutrality, the country's European Affairs Minister Thomas Byrne has told AFP.

Public opinion may not be ready for membership of the US-led NATO alliance yet, Byrne said in an interview during a visit to France, even though there is no doubt as to where Irish sympathies lie.

"Russia invading Ukraine, totally against the UN charter, against the basic principles of territorial integrity, put the Irish people very firmly, instinctively on the side of right there," he

said. "We're not neutral when it comes to an invasion like that, but we're neutral when it comes to joining a military alliance," he said.

Irish neutrality has sometimes caused consternation among its EU allies and elsewhere, but Byrne said there were strong historic reasons for its stance. "For a lot of our history, as an independent country, we were overshadowed in our own minds by the British attempt at conscription in 1918," which sparked angry protests from Irish nationalists and became a factor for the country's independence in 1922.—AFP

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

Ex-PM Khan says Pakistan by-election 'a referendum' on his popularity

FORMER Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan is a candidate for seven of eight national assembly seats up for grabs in a key by-election Sunday, a vote he says is "a referendum" on his popularity.

The by-election is the latest twist in political wrangling that began after Khan's 10 April ouster via a parliamentary no-confidence vote. It comes as the nation grapples with the aftermath of devastating monsoon floods that affected more than 30 million people and left a third of the country under water.—AFP

Sweden's right wing agrees to form govt with far-right backing

THREE Swedish right-wing parties have agreed to form a minority government with the unprecedented support of the far-right Sweden Democrats, conservative leader Ulf Kristersson said Friday.

The incoming government immediately announced plans to build new nuclear reactors to meet Sweden's rising electricity needs.

"New nuclear reactors will be built", the leader of the Christian Democrats Ebba Busch told reporters. Sweden has in recent years shut down six of its 12 reactors and the remaining ones, at three nuclear power plants, generate about 30 per cent of the electricity used in the country today. But the country has struggled to find viable alternative energy sources to replace nuclear power, with renewable energies not yet able to fully meet its needs. The outgoing Social Democratic government, in power for the past eight years, has traditionally been opposed to the construction of new reactors but acknowledged earlier this year that nuclear energy would be crucial for the foreseeable future.—AFP



The incoming government will be made up of the conservative Moderates, Christian Democrats and Liberals, with the far-right Sweden Democrats remaining outside the coalition but providing support. **PHOTO: JONATHAN NACKSTRAND/AFP**

Putin dismisses Macron’s critique of Moscow’s role in Karabakh conflict

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin on Friday dismissed comments from his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron that Moscow was “destabilizing” the peace process between Armenia and Azerbaijan, which for decades have contested the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region.

“I believe that these statements show a lack understanding of the course of the conflict,” Putin said during a meeting of leaders of Commonwealth of Independent States members in Kazakhstan.

He added that Macron’s re-

marks “sounded incorrect” and were “unacceptable”.

Putin said “there will be an opportunity” to “discuss” this with Macron and also invited the leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan to Russia for talks “at any time, in any place”.

“Russia has always sincerely sought to resolve any conflicts, including issues related to Karabakh,” Putin said.

Earlier, Russian foreign ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said France was trying to “drive a wedge into Russia’s relations with Azerbaijan

and Armenia”.

Both Caucasus nations were part of the Soviet Union and Moscow has traditionally tried to mediate the conflict that erupted between the neighbours since the 1990s.

Baku and Yerevan have fought two wars — in the 1990s and in 2020 — over the mountainous region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Russia deployed some 2,000 peacekeepers to oversee the fragile truce but tensions persist despite the ceasefire agreement.—AFP



A view of the newly rebuilt village of Agali in the district of Zangilan, Azerbaijan, 19 July 2022. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ TOFIK BABAYEV / AFP**

India successfully tests ballistic missile from submarine



India’s has been building up its naval power with modern vessels including Arihant-class ballistic submarines and Kalvari-class attack submarines such as INS Vela. Sailors salute as the ceremonial flags and ensign is unfurled onboard the INS Vela, a French designed fourth Scorpene submarine under the Kalvari-class submarine Project-75, during its commissioning ceremony at the naval base in Mumbai on 25 November 2021. **PHOTO: INDRANIL MUKHERJEE / AFP/FILE**

INDIA on Friday successfully tested a ballistic missile fired from its first indigenous nuclear-powered submarine, the defence ministry said, in a boost

for its growing strike capabilities.

The test of India’s “nuclear deterrence capability” makes it one of six countries — alongside the United States, Britain, Russia,

France and China -- with nuclear strike and counterstrike capabilities on land, sea and air.

The submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) underlined India’s push towards building its own military hardware.

The Asian giant is one of the largest arms importers in the world and still heavily relies on hardware from Moscow, its largest and oldest military supplier for decades. The launch “is significant to prove crew competency and validate” the ballistic missile submarines — “a key element of India’s nuclear deterrence capability,” the ministry statement said. It added that “all operational and technological parameters of the weapon system” fired from INS Arihant in the Bay of Bengal had been passed. India has fought wars and has long-standing border disputes with its nuclear-armed neighbors arch-rival Pakistan and China.—AFP

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

Iran slams Macron for ‘meddlesome’ support of protests

IRAN’S government on Friday condemned French President Emmanuel Macron for remarks in which he expressed solidarity with protesters angry over the death of Mahsa Amini.

The Islamic Republic has been rocked by a month of protests since Amini died after being arrested by the morality police in Tehran for allegedly violating the country’s strict dress code for women.

Macron on Wednesday said France “stands by” the protesters in Iran and expressed his “admiration” for women and youths demonstrating in the country, while condemning what he called “repression” by the authorities.—AFP

Indian, S. Korean films win key prize at BIFF

AN Indian movie about an impoverished woman involved in a pyramid scheme has won the key prize at this year’s Busan International Film Festival, organizers announced Friday.

A total of 10 movies were in the running for the high-profile New Currents award at Asia’s largest festival, with two winners selected for the \$30,000 prize. The other recipient of the prestigious award — reserved for first or second-time Asian directors — was a South Korean film about a young carpenter who encounters a series of seemingly trivial but strange events.—AFP

Transformation of London’s iconic Battersea power station unveiled

WITH its four huge white chimneys Battersea Power Station has dominated the London skyline for decades, making it one of the British capital’s most distinctive landmarks.

Now, nearly 40 years after it was finally decommissioned,

it is set to reopen as an office, shopping and restaurant hub plus apartments, in the latest major redevelopment of former industrial sites.

“London’s most meticulous post-industrial building restoration is complete,” said

Ben Walker of LDA Design, which worked on the project.

What has been created on the 42-acre (16-hectare) site was not just a restored building but a “successful new piece of city”, he added.—AFP



Over the years various plans were unsuccessfully floated to redevelop the iconic building as it slowly fell into a state of near ruin. **PHOTO: BEN STANSALL/ 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.

Maradona's 'Hand of God' ball to go up for auction

THE ball that Diego Maradona used to score his infamous "Hand of God" World Cup goal for Argentina against England in 1986 will go under the hammer next month and could fetch up to £3 million.

Bidding will start on 16 November but prospective buyers can register online from 28 October, London-based Graham Budd Auctions said, adding it anticipates the ball to sell for £2.5-£3 million (up to \$3.4 million).

"With the history surrounding the ball, we are expecting this lot to be hugely popular when it comes up for auction," Graham Budd, chair of the auction house, said in a statement.

The 1986 quarter-final be-



The ball that Diego Maradona used to score his infamous "Hand of God" World Cup goal for Argentina against England in 1986 will go under the hammer next month and could fetch up to £3 million. PHOTO: AFP

tween Argentina and England saw a heated build-up because of political tensions following the Falklands war and came to be defined by two contrasting goals scored by the late Mara-

dona.

For the first one, Maradona ran into the box, rose with England goalkeeper Peter Shilton and punched the ball into the net.—AFP

Indonesia task force wants FA chief to resign over stadium disaster



Picture taken on 13 October 2022 shows Indonesian police investigating at Kanjuruhan Stadium in Malang. PHOTO: AFP

THE task force investigating a stadium tragedy that killed 132 people in Indonesia has called on the country's football association chief to resign, a

top minister said Friday. A stampede sparked by police firing tear gas into packed stands took place after a match between home team Arema

FC and rivals Persebaya Surabaya on 1 October in the city of Malang, East Java.

An investigation team was set up as anger rose against the police response after 132 people, including dozens of children, died with many killed in a crush as they rushed for small exits.

"Technically, the government cannot intervene in PSSI, but in a country based on morals, ethics and great culture, it is recommended the PSSI head and all the executive committee members resign as the form of responsibility," the report, handed to President Joko Widodo, said, referring to the football association.—AFP

Shan United's winning streak continues to top MNL competition

THE first day of the Week 16 match of the Myanmar National League 2022 continued yesterday at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon, and Shan United beat Ayeyawady United by 2-1. At the top of the table, the Shan United team went on to win the championship without making any mistakes and were able to get full points. Team Ayeyawady tried to get points in this match, but they lost both rounds and lost their chance to enter the top three teams.

The Ayeyawady team played in this match with most of their core players, while the Shan United team included a full range of local stars, including foreign striker Sunday Mathew. Shan United played an open attack from the start of the game, while the Ayeyawady played the best response. In the 20th minute, Shan United took the lead as striker Sunday Mathew scored a header.

After that, the Ayeyawady tried to equalize, but failed to score until the end of the first half, and equalized in the 57th minute. Striker Yang Kyaw Htwe scored an equalizing goal for the Ayeyawady team. With the goal conceded, the Shan United team changed players and attacked high to get their winning goal. Substitute Zin Min Tun scored the winning goal for Shan United from a corner kick in the 70th minute. Near the end of the match, the Ayeyawady team had a chance to equalize, but Yang Kyaw Htwe could not use it, and the opportunity ended. After this match, Shan United scored 37 points in 14 games while the Ayeyawady team scored 23 points in 14 games. Hanthawady United will play against Yangon United today as the second-day match of the Week 16 Myanmar National League. — Ko Nyi Lay/ GNLM



An Ayeyawady United player (red) blocks the Shan United player (white) during their Week 16 match of the Myanmar National League at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 15 November 2022. PHOTO: MNL