THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

1. The Union Election Commission will be reconstituted and its mandated tasks, including the scrutiny of voter lists, shall be implemented in accordance with the law.
2. Effective measures will be taken with added momentum to prevent and manage the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Actions will be taken to ensure the speedy recovery of businesses from the impact of COVID-19.
4. Emphasis will be placed on achieving enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement.
5. Upon accomplishing the provisions of the state of emergency, free and fair multiparty democratic elections will be held in line with the 2008 Constitution, and further work will be undertaken to hand over State duties to the winning party in accordance with democratic standards.

As the strength of the nation lies within, encouragement must be given to local manufacturing to develop socioeconomic life

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met MSME businesspersons from Mon State at the state hall in Mawlamyine yesterday morning.

Reports on needs for further development of MSME in Mon State

The Mon State chief minister reported on the implementation of MSME industries, functions of industrial zones and future plans whereas local businesspersons discussed requirements for operating MSME and other manufacturing processes.

Clarifications to respective sectors

Union ministers responded to discussions of businesspersons, disbursement of loans and needs to pay back the debts to the State, formation of cooperative societies to increase the income of rural people and successful undertaking of agricultural tasks, implementation of contract farming system and development of export volume.

Economic driving force will help the improvement of political and defence capacity

In his speech, the Senior General said that a country

SEE PAGE-3

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks into the industrial products manufactured by MSME industries in Mon State on 18 October 2022.

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL
Myanmar delegation departs for 1st International Far-East Science and Atomic Ray Technology workshop in Russian Federation
PAGE-2

NATIONAL
MoIP Union Minister receives UNHCR regional representative
PAGE-6

LOCAL BUSINESS
Myanmar ships over 5,000 tonnes of rohu worth $6.449 mln to Bangladesh during April-August period
PAGE-7

CURRENT AFFAIRS
Questionable bank accounts to be frozen and nationalized
PAGE-10

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

Statement of Federation of All Myanmar Theravada Buddhists and the Sasana Nuggaha Association for Border and Hilly Regions (Central)

FEDERATION of All Myanmar Theravada Buddhists and the Sasana Nuggaha Association for Border and Hilly Regions (Central) are deeply saddened by the fact that three pilgrims were killed and 19 others wounded in the brutal attack of KNLA Brigade 1 and PDF terrorists, subordinates of NUG and CRPH using heavy and small weapons at the Kinmunchaung bus terminal at the foot of the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township, Mon State, on 12 October 2022.

Now, it is on the occasion of the Thadingyut festival and it is the holy place, Kyaiktiyo Pagoda is visited by not only Myanmar citizens but also Theravada Buddhists from the country or abroad, so such a violent attack affects the propagation of Sasana.

Federation of All Myanmar Theravada Buddhists and the Sasana Nuggaha Association for Border and Hilly Regions (Central) which have been carrying out the Buddha Sasana-related measures for more than a decade, issue this statement opposing and strongly condemning that violence.

Federation of All Myanmar Theravada Buddhists and the Sasana Nuggaha Assocition for Border and Hilly Regions (Central)

515 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 18 October, total figure rises to 629,376

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 629,376 after 515 new cases were reported on 18 October 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 603,014 have recovered from disease.Death toll still stands at 19,471 without more casualties.

According to the study of people who had COVID-19 and people who died of COVID-19 from 28-1-2022 to15-10-2022, it has been found that 90.4 per cent of Covid patients and 80.9 per cent of Covid deaths are not vaccinated at all or fully vaccinated, respectively.

Status of COVID-19 injection	COVID-19 Patient	Death with COVID-19
People have no vaccination and have not been fully inoculated.	90.4 %	80.9 %

According to the international study, it is found that people who have been vaccinated do not suffer severely from the disease, need not to be hospitalized and are unlikely to die. If they have received booster shots, the death rates can be reduced more. Therefore, it is a must for people aged five and above to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

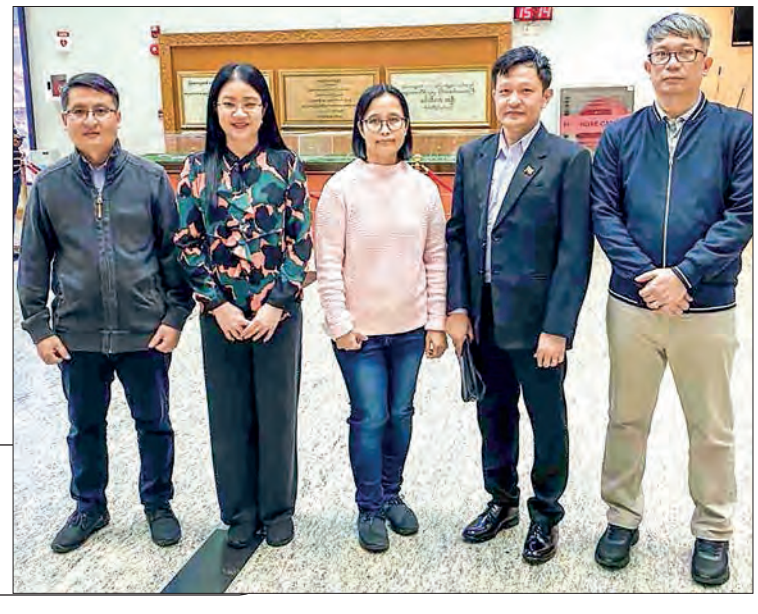
The Ministry of Health is giving free vaccinations to all people aged five and above. Booster shots of vaccine are being given to students between the ages of 12 and 18 and people aged 18 and over. Therefore, people should contact local health centres and village/ward administration offices to receive vaccinations.

The information about COVID-19 disease can be seen on the Ministry of Health official website www.moh.gov.mm. —MNA

Myanmar delegation departs for 1st International Far-East Science and Atomic Ray Technology workshop in Russian Federation

FIVE specialists from the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Health departed for the 1st International Far-East Science and Atomic Ray Technology Workshop to be held in Ulan-Ude, the Republic of Buryatia, the Russian Federation, from Yangon by air yesterday evening.

This invitation was made during the Prime Minister's working visit to the Russian Federation. At the workshop, specialists from nations in the world, including Myanmar, will discuss the diagnosis and cure of diseases with atomic ray technology. Then, Myanmar specialists will have an opportunity to exchange their experiences with the international experts and this will contribute a lot to medical care in Myanmar. — MNA



Myanmar delegates are seen before leaving for the Russian Federation.

Individual skills of applying their knowledge will benefit the State

THE graduates must have skills to apply their experiences of social and knowledge from their respective majoring subjects in practical arenas. As individual skills of applying their knowledge will benefit the State.

(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)

As the strength of the nation lies within, encouragement must ...

FROM PAGE-1

must have economic, political and defence capacity. The economic driving force will help the improvement of political and defence capacity. Even if the countries have economic might but they may face unrest due to political crises. Whenever the people have requirements, the country may face unrest. Myanmar faced unrest due to a downtrend in the economy and a diversity of political attitudes in 1988. It is necessary to improve the economy so as to stabilize politics.

Prioritize internal manufacturing based on agriculture and livestock farms

As the strength of the nation lies within, encouragement must be given to local manufacturing based on agriculture and livestock farms to develop socio-economic life. As the products for the local people can be produced at home, it can solve the high prices of goods. Hence, encouragement is being given to micro, small and medium-scale enterprises. Producing import substitute goods at home will improve businesses at home and abroad.

Agriculture and livestock products and raw natural resources must be efficiently utilized

Local raw materials must be utilized in the manufacturing process. As Mon State has the least pre-acre yield of paddy, efforts must be made for increasing the per-acre yield of paddy. Only when the per-acre yield of paddy is high, it will help local food sufficiency and export of products. It is necessary to raise the production rate of rubber. As rubber industries will produce tyres for vehicles and motorcycles to meet the local demand, it will be beneficial for the state. The State will provide necessary assistance for the production. Arrangements are being made to build a seaport and an international airport in Mawlamyine for improving the inflow of travellers and commodities to the Mawlamyine region in the future.

State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets MSME business people in Mon State yesterday.

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Minimizing consumption of fuel and ensuring sufficiency of electricity

Foreign exchange is spent on the import of fuel for vehicles and motorcycles. Hence, efforts are being made to electricity-fired public transport system to save fuel. If so, minimizing the cost of fuel will benefit the State.

Encouragement to domestic manufacturing

Encouragement is being given to adequate manufacturing of foodstuffs and personal goods. Due to controlling the import process, local industries have gained momentum in production, creating job opportunities. Although the country's economy declined in 2018-2019, it has become stable again now.

Turning out qualified human resources to benefit regions and State

At a time when students have passed the KG+9, they will have to further learn technical, agriculture and livestock high schools in districts. They will have the chance to continue attending the institutes and universities. If so, qualified human resources can be turned out in respective fields.

Tourism sector

Only when a pleasant environment can be created will tourists be attracted. Likewise, domestic and traditional foods prepared hygienically will attract travellers.

Disciplined lifestyle will have to enjoy development

With regard to tax, some EAOs are involved in the illegal trade process. This illegal trade causes loss to the State. As such, the government restricts illegal trade as much as it can and officials need to seize unregistered vehicles and motorcycles. People should participate in all measures taken under disciplines for the development of the nation. The Senior General viewed the display of foodstuffs, personal goods, industrial products, traditional goods, textiles and traditional medicines and asked about markets for these products. —MNA

The Senior General views round the display.

Classic fine arts and music emerge across the world till today whereas Myanmar's classic fine arts, literature and music have emerged for many years: Senior General

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing graces the dinner with his presence in honour of the 23rd Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition in Nay Pyi Taw on 18 October 2022.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the ceremony to present certificates of honour in conjunction with the dinner in honour of the 23rd Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition at Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General said that various ethnics residing in Myanmar have different traditions and customs, culture and fine arts. Literature, culture and fine arts of respective ethnic nationals are flourishing on a grand scale throughout history. Hence, it is necessary to preserve the literature, culture, customs and traditions for existence.

Classic fine arts and music emerge across the world until today whereas Myanmar's classic fine arts, literature and music have emerged for many years.

The committee was formed with maestros who set the invaluable songs and melody as the State norms in 1953 not to cause further diversity. They could set 169 classic songs in line with the State norms as part of preserving the noble cultural heritage.

New-generation artistes need to conserve national characteristics and strengthen friendly relations among ethnic and national people. They have to pass their culture and customs on to posterity so as to cement a nationalistic spirit and Union spirit. Maestros also hand over their experiences to new generations.

The Senior General and the Vice-Senior General presented certificates of honour to members of the panel of judges for relevant competition genres, managers of the region and state teams and masters of ceremonies respectively.

Member of the panel of judges Myinmu Maung Naing Moe spoke words of thanks.

The Senior General and attendees had dinner in their honour. Before and during the dinner, artistes from the Fine Arts Department entertained the attendees with songs and dances.

A total of 1,838 contestants from regions and states participated in the 23rd Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions. —MNA

The Senior General presents the certificate of honour to the judge for singing genre.

The Senior General gives the certificate of honour to the judge for composing category.

> Various ethnics residing in Myanmar have different traditions and customs, culture and fine arts. Literature, culture and fine arts of respective ethnic nationals are flourishing on a grand scale throughout history. Hence, it is necessary to preserve the literature, culture, customs and traditions for existence.

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SAC Vice-Chair Dy PM Vice-Senior General Soe Win attends prize-giving ceremony of 23rd Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition

STATE Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, in his capacity as the patron of the leading committee on organizing the competition, addressed the prize-giving ceremony of the 23rd Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition held at the Conference Hall of the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win speaks on the occasion of the prize-presenting event of the 23rd Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In his address, the Deputy Prime Minister said that the State Administration Council had to make considerable efforts to be able to hold the competition successfully after a five-year hiatus and that it was due to the cooperation of responsible personnel of the leading committee, working committees, sub-committees and regional and state governments, members of the panel of judges and instructors.

The Vice-Senior General presents the prize of honour to the ethnic cultural troupe.

He said that he was glad and proud of the contestants from regions and states who won the prizes individually or in groups and that he also appreciated the efforts of the contestants who did not win any prizes.

He continued to say that the purpose of holding the competition was to preserve the traditional cultures of national brethren living in the country and hand them down to future generations. Nowadays, there are fewer and fewer people who can appreciate classical and country songs but it is heartening to note that some artistes post these songs on social media and it is important for all of us to prevent traditions and cultures of national peoples from extinction, he added.

He went on to say that the teachings of the Buddha are still in existence because of the strong belief and constant practice of the people who hand these teachings down to the younger generations. In the same way, we will have to try to preserve the good and valuable customs, traditions, arts and cultures of our daily social life.

Finally, the Vice-Senior General expressed his thanks to all those concerned for the success of the competition, including responsible personnel of the leading committee, working committees, region- and state-level organizing committees, members of the panel of judges and all the enthusiastic youths who took part in the competition. He also expressed his belief that such national-level performing arts competitions will turn out outstanding and promising artistes who will preserve traditional cultural heritage.

Then, the Deputy Prime Minister gave away the prizes of honour to the cultural troupes of various indigenous peoples from regions and states.

The prize-giving ceremony was also attended by members of the State Administration Council, the Union Chief Justice, the Chairman of the Union Election Commission, Union Ministers, Union-level officials, Supreme Court Judges, members of the Constitutional Tribunal, UEC members, deputy ministers and members of the Union Civil Service Board. — MNA

MoD Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo gives the prize.

MoTC Union Minister Admiral Tin Aung San presents the prize.

SAC Member Mahn Nyein Maung gives the prize.

MoIP Union Minister receives UNHCR regional representative

UNION Minister U Myint Kyaing of the Ministry of Immigration and Population received Ms Hai Kyung Jun, regional representative of UNHCR, in the meeting hall of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, they discussed the projects being implemented according to the MoU signed between the Ministry of Immigration and Population and UNDP-UNHCR for the good of local people in Maungtaw and Buthidaung, Rakhine State.

Then, they discussed cooperation between the MoIP and other ministries for the development of the Rakhine State, bilateral cooperation between Myanmar and Bangladesh for accepting the displaced people from Rakhine State, the matter relating to the extension of the stay and travel permit for UNHCR employees in Maungtaw and Myanmar's preparations for accepting the displaced persons. —MNA

MoIP Union Minister U Myint Kyaing meets the UNHCR regional representative in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Information Working Committee on Resettlement and Closure of IDP Camps holds 1st coordination meeting

The first coordination meeting of the Information Working Committee on Resettlement and Closure of IDP Camps in progress.

THE first coordination meeting (1/2022) of the Information Working Committee on Resettlement and Closure of IDP Camps was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, the Committee Chairman Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Tint said the government provides food, accommodation, healthcare, education and necessary assistance to the internally displaced persons at the temporary camps. However, they should return to their regions if the situation is good and safe. The government also provides transport services, financial assistance and rations to them on their return home.

If they return to their regions in a good condition, the number of displaced persons will decrease and proper arrangements can be made for their welfare, and it should conduct educational programmes for them.

Then, the working committee secretary and members reported on the ongoing work plans and the Committee Chairman concluded the meeting. — MNA

24th meeting of ASEAN SLC for financial integration held virtually

THE 24th ASEAN Senior-Level Committee-SLC for Financial Integration meeting was held in a hybrid format at 7 am on 18 October, and Deputy Governor Dr Linn Aung of the Central Bank of Myanmar participated in the meeting.

Firstly, deputy governors from the Monetary Authority of Singapore and Bank of the Lao PDR co-chaired the meeting and gave opening speeches. Then, they presented the current macroeconomic conditions of the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office – AMRO and the Asian Development Bank-ADB, and the development of the global and regional financial state.

Then, relevant working committees clarified the growth regarding the ASEAN Interoperable Data Framework and the ASEAN Multilateral Payments Connectivity Initiative Plan.

The 24th meeting of ASEAN SLC on financial integration is underway online.

In the afternoon, the representative from the ASEAN secretariat conferred on prioritized subjects and their growth for the financial integration, and processes of the ASEAN Economic Community-AEC.

The final progress of the ASEAN Banking Integration Framework- ABIF, the Capital Account Liberalization-CAL), the Capital Market Development-CMD, the Financial Inclusion-FINC, the Financial Services Liberalization-FSL, the Payment and Settlement System-PSS and the Steering Committee on Capacity Building – SCCB, was explained by respective working committees, and deputy governors gave their guidance.

Later, co-chairs of the Senior-Level Committee Working Group interpreted the information regarding sustainable finance and the ASEAN Cybersecurity Resilience and Information Sharing Platform-CRISP.

Afterwards, responsible persons from the Central Bank of the Philippines and the Monetary Authority of Singapore presented the update on the ASEAN Swap Arrangement-ASA and the Terms of Reference –TOR, respectively. It is reported that co-chairs of the meeting made conclusion remarks after deputy governors guided necessary instructions on presentations. — MNA

LOCAL BUSINESS

Myanmar ships over 5,000 tonnes of rohu worth $6.449 mln to Bangladesh during April-August period

MYANMAR conveyed 5,160 tonnes of rohu worth US$6.449 million to Bangladesh through two cross-border posts in the first five months (April-August) of the current financial year 2022-2023, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

However, the border trade has come to a halt since September amid transport security concerns, according to the Maungtaw border post.

Rohu is processed in Yangon and they are sent to the Sittway border post by cold-storage trucks or ships after pre-shipment inspection. Then, they are shipped to Bangladesh by motorboats. Myanmar has begun exporting rohu to Bangladesh through Sittway and Maungtaw border posts since 2016.

Apart from sufficient consumption, excess supplies of fisheries products are exported to foreign markets. Preparations are made for selling fish at the Shwepadauk fish market.

Agriculture and livestock are the backbones of Myanmar's economy. Commercial fish farming businesses are found in some townships in Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady regions. Two-year-old rohu grows two to five kilogrammes at the farming ponds. Those rohu weighing below two kg are sent to domestic markets. The large ones are exported to external markets. As rohu has grasped market shares in the international markets, farmers have expanded rohu farming more than before.

Approximately 1,000 tonnes of rohu from Yangon city are delivered to Sittway and Maungtaw border posts in Rakhine State with Bangladesh. Rohu from the other two cities is also sent to the border via sea route and road transport.

Rohu and other dried commodities such as onion, tamarind, ginger, and dried plum are shipped to Bangladesh through Rakhine State, while wide striped longyi for men (Palaykat Pasoe – cotton sarong for men), plastic gallon containers, footwear and construction materials are imported to Myanmar. Exports surpass imports in cross-border trade between Myanmar and Bangladesh.

The value of border trade between Myanmar and Bangladesh amounted to $16.229 million in the first half of the current FY, comprising exports worth $16 million and imports worth $0.03 million, as per the statistics released by the Ministry of Commerce. — KK/GNLM

New company registration takes at least more than one week

IT takes at least over one week to register a company. Earlier, a company could be incorporated in one day, according to the Business and Finance Consulting Team of Myanmar Enterprise Solutions.

Shareholders and directors of the new companies are also parts of other entities. If those entities are suspended or struck off from the register, the registration process takes longer.

The founders of the companies are no longer granted to set up a new one if they have not dealt with the old ones first which have been suspended as they are blacklisted.

At present, a total of 3,700 companies have been struck off the register in the past nine months as they failed to submit annual returns (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO under 430 (F) of Myanmar Companies Law, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

As a result of this, directors and shareholders of the companies are required to strictly adhere to the laws than before. They should not have stayed as the company strike off, and should have followed a systematic dissolution process.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Brazilian SunAmerica Company offers to buy Myanmar tyres

BRAZILIAN-BASED SunAmerica Company has proposed to buy Myanmar tyres, according to Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization (MyanTrade).

SunAmerica Company based in São Paulo, Brazil offered to purchase Myanmar tyres. They showed a keen interest in the 13-14-inch-tyre which are found in Myanmar's markets.

This company is accredited by the National Institute of Metrology Quality and Technology. They import the tyres of motorcycles and bicycles from Sri Lanka, China and Pakistan.

Therefore, MyanTrade called for tyre manufacturing factories in Myanmar to join in exportation to Brazil. Those enthusiastic companies can contact MyanTrade through phone numbers 067-3408622 and 067-3408623.

Trade is one of the main factors that drive economic growth. Trade promotion activities play a pivotal role in trade development. To implement trade promotion services effectively, the MyanTrade was organized on 1 April 2016.

The vision of MyanTrade is to become Myanmar a competitive nation in regional trade by enhancing Myanmar's businesses through sustaining an export-led growth strategy.

Moreover, the goals of the MyanTrade are to improve the capacity of the local companies to have effective competitiveness in the regional and global markets, boost Myanmar trade and exports and protect local products with a geographical indication certification. — NN/GNLM

OPINION

Showcase firm and standard cultural heritage to the world

THE cultural region must be improved to meet the international level for enabling foreign observers to know Myanmar's history. It is necessary to show off the firm history of Myanmar to the world.

Ancient cultural zones and heritage are significant for the development of the tourism industry. Hence, it is necessary to arrange the transport services to be provided to the visitors and allocation of the plots for shops. Systematic management and arrangements must be expressed as the capacity of Myanmar to the world.

Sri Ksetra city was the largest among other ancient Pyu city-states as well as the oldest one. It is located in Hmawza Village, five miles southeast of Pyay in the Bago Region. The wall of the city is 14 kilometres long, four metres wide and 10 metres high. Currently, there are 17 villages in the wall including Hmawza Village.

> In excavation, archaeological sorts of evidence were found as originals at the ancient Pyu cities. Three ancient pagodas are located in a tripartite shape outside the walls of Sri Ksetra city. Bawbawgyi Stupa is located in the south of the city, Phayagyi Stupa in the northwest and Phayama Stupa in the northeast.

Ancient Sri Ksetra city has been facilitated with Pyu buildings, a cemetery, a hillock, temples, stupas, a palace, gates, moats and walls. The Department of Archaeology has been taking responsibility for conducting research in the excavation of the ancient city since 1907. Ancient cultural heritage was left by humans and the nations which have been undertaking civilization in successive eras.

The word heritage is defined as the tangible and intangible elements which have been carrying cultural characteristics and historical importance of the society to date. The long history of Myanmar has been covering the shreds of evidence of civil housing in all parts of the nation since the Pyu era. Some ancient Pyu city-states are still existent and some of them had disappeared. Thanks to the concerted efforts of archaeologists and historians, Myanmar's ancient heritage cities could be discovered one after another.

UNESCO, one of the important agencies of the United Nations, designated three ancient Pyu city-states Sri Ksetra, Beikthano and Hanlin at the 38th session of the World Heritage Congress held from 15 to 25 June 2014. They were recognized as the first-ever world heritage sites of Myanmar.

In excavation, archaeological sorts of evidence were found as originals at the ancient Pyu cities. Three ancient pagodas are located in a tripartite shape outside the walls of Sri Ksetra city. Bawbawgyi Stupa is located in the south of the city, Phayagyi Stupa in the northwest and Phayama Stupa in the northeast.

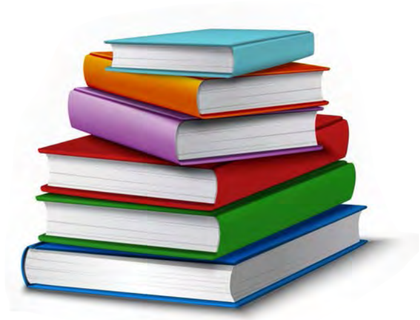
In truth, Sri Ksetra, an ancient Pyu city-state, the world heritage site too, showcases the origins of civilization in Southeast Asia as well as the firm and standard history of Myanmar which can be dubbed as one of the world's cultural zones.

■

ARTICLE

All About LANGUAGE Learning

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)



Language learners have to keep physical needs for language learning at hand: dictionaries, reference books, encyclopedias, and internet resources. **ILLUSTRATION CREDIT OF FREEPIK**

BY A linguistic nature, languages are constantly changing day by day. What I mean is that languages are forever altering more and more in spoken or written forms solely because languages are naturally in common. This even shows that language is arbitrary; as a result, we must have been using right only the standard form agreed upon by almost everyone with regard to languages as it is. Subsequently, there will be more in language learning rather than language acquisition. We can often see that language is living – for example, English is a living language. There are usually found new slangs, idioms, collocations, metaphors, terms, reformed usages, and outdated words to be arising in living-language expressions. Since a language is also not a subject, the language should not be learnt as a subject only. Of course, language learning ought to be more advanced than subject learning. Here, I would like to present comparisons between language learning and subject learning, physical needs for language learning, behavioural requirements for language learning, learning a language from different points of view, my English learning, and useful tips on language learning, as far as I know.

As was stated above, language learning is not all the same as subject learning. Subject learning may be done within limits, but language learning might never come to an end. For a subject is chiefly based on convergent facts and figures while a language has primarily relied upon diverse thoughts, feelings, and writings of different people. Only because of this does unlimited language learning need both continuous learning and life-long learning, yet subject learning may or may not call for these two types of learning; learning of subjects is mainly conditional upon a learner's learning rate. And there is still another important point that I want to add. This is the problem of not only teachers instructing languages merely as a subject but also learners studying so, particularly for exams. When the language is considered simply a subject by them, learners' linguistic achievement will become as ineffective and inefficient as teachers' instructional methods of language. Then, language learners will even have had enough of studying languages, especially if language study hours are getting longer. Thus, all language teachers and learners had better try to dissociate languages from subjects.

Language learners have to keep physical needs for language learning at hand: dictionaries, reference books, encyclopedias, and internet resources. Whatever they are, those needs must undoubtedly be of the three characteristics, i.e., readily available, valid, and reliable. If dictionaries are categorized according to their description, there may be three sorts of dictionaries – monolingual dictionaries, multi-lingual dictionaries, and technical dictionaries. Every language learner should have bought and collected all those three kinds of dictionaries for use if possible. If so, they will find it quick and convenient to study a language with language-to-language learning or translation learning. Nevertheless, some language teachers occasionally advise learners to throw away their own dictionaries. That advice would not be appropriate for young learners of foreign languages but for native ones. Even editors and researchers have got to hold various dictionaries. A language learner who does not need to look up vocabulary in the dictionary must have got adequate listening and reading one way or another, for instance, by reading a wide variety of books or having lived in language-speaking countries for a long time. In order to avoid common mistakes in writing or subject matter and un-language expressions, language learners can accumulate heaps of reference books published from Oxford, Longman, Cambridge or whatever. Advanced learners of language look reasonably sceptical about several encyclopedias and internet resources sometimes.

To my way of thinking, there are five stages of behavioural requirements for successful language learning, which means experience, memorization, conceptualization, creativity, and productivity. Seeing a language as a subject, learners tend to know the language by heart and then recite it by the book without the above-mentioned stages, that is to say, rote learning. All their efforts in language learning will, consequently, have been in vain. The more experience learners have gained in language learning, the more accuracy and fluency they will be able to build up in that language. Great memorization, which is dependent on the brain, makes a learner's mastery of language developed as soon as possible, committing a thesaurus to memory in particular. Right concepts on languages can be obtained from good teachers, excellent books, and even learners themselves. After a learner has studied any language pretty well, he must be able to give his creation and own products over this language as much as he can do for certain. If not so, it will be generally assumed that he is the very failure as a language learner.

Language learning can be done from three points of view _ literature, language, and linguistics _ so far as I am concerned. From the literary point of view, language learning is frequently based on its respective forms of writing, history, and criticism. Learning languages as a language, needless to say, is related to their four skills, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing. By Oxford, linguistics is the scientific study of language or of particular languages. Phonetics and Semantics are the most popular branches of linguistics among language scholars. I got to know that interjection is virtually impossible to be a part of speech in language thanks to linguistics, for linguists advocate that even the only person does not always utter the same exclamation in similar situations in which he has to take action. In fact, the forms, history, criticism, skills, and branches of a language will be interlinking with one another, directly or indirectly. Nonetheless, most language learners would prefer to concentrate on one field of study in which this study might be too much for them from time to time.

My prolonged learning journey of English is still going on towards the end of my life. Owing to its final consonant sounds, I have been interested myself in English since I was at school. At first, I learned the meaning of English words by rote, together with their spelling, pronunciation, and parts of speech. However, I could not grasp vocabulary usage in English except that I had read English textbooks out over and over again. Frankly enough, I was never satisfied with my English throughout my student life of mine. In spite of this, I think that I showed more curiosity about English in my high school student life on two teachers' accounts. The first one was U Khin Maung Win who taught me a love of English with an enjoyable language learning environment. The second one was U Hla Kyi who also influenced me like an encyclopedia of English. Fortunately for me then, I had the opportunity to learn English from Saya Thet Zaw (Meiktila), who was a great critic of English grammar as well as being an authority on English, during my life as a university student. Just because of him, I felt as if I had made a U-turn on my road to learning English. He gave chapters and verses about common and current mistakes in English writing. He recommended making essential use of an English-to-English dictionary, giving up a word-for-word translation in language, and studying English at the rate of one hour a day for six months on end as well, if anyone wishes to be a success as an English learner.

Finally, I shall, to my knowledge, leave a few handy tips on language learning here. The most fundamental units of a language are not single words or phrases—these are just sentences. That is why sentence-based learning must be carried out on languages through mass reading material. Contextualized meaning, which ought to be well conducted in the reading matter where necessary, should promote language learners' guessing ability to absorb the sense of words, not bluffing. In addition, learners can do sentence reading in clusters or chunks such as phrasal verbs, idiomatic expressions, and dialect words. And personally speaking, I do not like to study all the language skills at the same time as the majority of language learners do. Certainly, listening skill acts directly on speaking skill and reading skill on writing skill. It can be seen repeatedly that some language learners have a desire to be able to speak without having listened to enough and others to write without enough reading. That is quite wrong. Actually, listening goes before speaking, and writing comes after reading. Therefore, if someone wants to speak, learn to listen first; if he wants to write, learn to read first. As a language learner, a long journey to language learning will never be at an end indeed.

■

A woman, wearing a face mask as a preventive measure against the spread of the COVID-19 novel coronavirus, walks along the promenade at Marina Bay in Singapore. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

World agencies team up to tackle emerging health threats

THE world organizations for human and animal health, food and the environment issued their first joint action plan on Monday aimed at detecting and tackling the next potential pandemic.

Shaken by the Covid-19, the four agencies teamed up to combat emerging health threats by targeting the links between ecosystem degradation, food system failures, infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance.

The so-called One Health Joint Plan of Action "aims to create a framework to integrate systems and capacity so that we can collectively better prevent, predict, detect, and respond to health threats", the agencies said.

"This initiative seeks to improve the health of humans, animals, plants, and the environment." The plan was launched by three United Nations agencies — the Food and Agriculture Organization, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) — plus the World Organization for Animal Health.

It is hoped that the five-year (2022-2026) plan will strengthen collaboration, capacity and coordination, which should "strengthen the world's defences against epidemics and pandemics such as Covid-19", said WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

Three-quarters of all emerging infectious diseases originate in animals, the WHO said when announcing the partnership back in May 2021.

The plan focuses on expanding capacities on emerging and re-emerging zoonotic epidemics; endemic zoonotic, neglected tropical and vector-borne diseases; food safety risks; antimicrobial resistance; and on the environment.

Degradation

"Everyone has the right to a clean and healthy environment — the foundation of all life on Earth," said UNEP executive director Inger Andersen. "The current pandemic unequivocally demonstrates that the degradation of nature is driving up health risks across the board," she said.

The joint document said there was an "urgent need to reassess and transform the interactions between humans, animals, plants and the environment they share".

The plan said economic development had often come at the expense of ecosystems, a healthy environment and animal welfare.

With the global human population projected to reach eight billion in 2023, those pressures on natural systems are "tremendous" and expected to grow.

The pandemic revealed "vulnerabilities at all levels", according to the joint plan.

"Future pandemics will emerge more often, spread more rapidly, do more damage to the world economy and kill more people than Covid-19, unless there is a transformative change in the global approach to our relationship with the environment and how we tackle disease emergence, spillovers and spread."

SOURCE: AFP

CURRENT AFFAIRS

104th Cetiyingana Monastic Examination of Shwedagon Pagoda to be held starting from 19 November

THE 104th Cetiyangana Monastic Examination will start from 19 November to 25 November, according to the Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees.

This year, the examination will include the religious verbal excam according to the orders of the Ovadacariya of Shwedagon Pagoda's Treasure's Board of Trustee.

Candidate monks can take the application forms at the Shwedagon Pagoda Treasurer's Board of Trustees office during office hours and can put in their applications before 7 November.

Cetiyangana Pariyatti examinations were successfully held at Shwedagon Pagoda from the 67th to the 103rd. Every year, there are more than 100 candidates, but only about ten pass.

Dhammacariya Gandhavasaka and Cetiyingana Bhivamsa titles are bestowed on successful candidates in both examinations. — TWA/GNLM

The 103rd Cetiyangana Pariyatti Dhamma Nuggaha examination was held.

Questionable bank accounts to be frozen and nationalized

TEMPORARY deposit and withdrawal bans and permanent account closure are being conducted for suspicious accounts of bank contacts, stated the Myanmar Banks Association.

Suspicious information about people communicating with the bank, regarding money laundering, violence and financial support which was requested by the financial intelligence unit through the Central Bank of Myanmar, was presented promptly by members of the Myanmar Banks Association. According to the statement, it is learnt that reporting additional information requested from law enforcement and the CBM, prohibiting temporary deposits and withdrawals from the bank accounts of suspicious bank contacts, and permanent account closure to those accounts according to instructions of the financial intelligence unit and the CBM, were being conducted.

In addition, it issued that cases of closing doubtable accounts and to be kept as national property were handed over to the state according to the decision of the court.

In late September, nine private banks were examined whether they comply with the standards on money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) as recommended by the Financial Action Task Force-FATF. — TWA/GNLM

An undated picture of the Myanmar Banks Association Office.

Nearly 6 mln gallons of oil unloaded at Terminals of Thilawa Port

TANKERS carrying nearly six million gallons of fuel oil are unloading cargoes at terminals in Thilawa Port located in Thanlyin, according to the Supervisory Committee on Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

Moreover, 0.44 million gallons of petrol and over 5.5 million gallons of diesel from two tankers were unloaded at the terminals of Thilawa Port on 17 October.

The Yangon Thilawa Oil Storage Tank distributed fuel oil to filling stations sufficiently up to 16 October. As the fuel oil prices are slightly down in international markets this week, oil prices in the domestic market remained stable, according to the committee.

Additionally, 2.18 million gallons of diesel and 4.74 million gallons of premium diesel were unloaded at the Thilawa Port Terminals on 12 October and a tanker carrying 6.13 million gallons of diesel docked at Thilawa Port. — TWA/GNLM

Weekly update of Bayintnaung commodity prices

ACCORDING to sources at the Bayintnaung Market, onion price is changing in the market. The chilli price rose to K 22,000 per viss. The price of black gram and chickpea is on the increase and palm oil and rice prices decreased between 12 to 18 October.

Onion

This week, the onion price reached a record high and the amount of onion that came into the market was four times higher than normal and so the price is down again. Seikphyu and Monywa onion prices are low because 180,000 visses entered the market on 18 October. On 15 October, the price of onion in Seikphyu was K3,100-3,400-3,600-3,700 per viss. Myingyan Kansint onion was K3,300-3,600-3,750-4,000 per viss. The prices continually fell on 17 and 18 October. Onion prices of Seikphyu, Myingyan and Monywa were between K2,900 and K3,800.

Potato

Chinese potato was K2,250 per viss and Shan Aungpan potato was between K1,600 and K2,150 per viss on 18 October.

Chilli

On 18 October, the wholesale price of Moe Htaung chilli price was K14,000-15,000 per viss, cold storage chilli price was K18,000-19,000 per viss, Myitwa cold storage chilli price was K22,000 per viss, Sinphyukyun cold storage pepper is K21,500 per viss and new bell pepper was K20,000 per viss.

Rice

The price of new monsoon Low-grade rice was K40,000-41,000 per bag, export broken rice was priced at K39,000-39,500 per bag, K44,000 per bag of double-cropping price, K46,000 per bag of 90-day rice, the Shwebo Pawsan was priced at K80,000- 90,000 per bag while K60,000-63,000 per bag of Pathein-Myaungmya rice, K58,000-60,000 per bag of Pyapon Pawsan, K47,000 per bag of Pawkywe. The old rice is priced cheaper at K2,000-3,000 per bag than the new one.

Cooking Oil

The Yangon-based palm oil reference prices rose K3,960 per viss from 17 to 23 October. The price of exchange wholesale is K6,100-6150 per viss in Bayintnaung and K6,300 in Nyaungpinlay market on 17 October. On 18 October, the price remained.

Beans

On 18 October, the black gram (FAQ/RC) was priced at K1,845,000 per tonne, SQ/RC was priced at K 2,165,000 per tonne, the pigeon pea (Red/RC) was priced at K1,975,000 and the half of Chickpea price was K 4000-4,250 per viss. The black gram (FAQ/RC) price falls under K1.8 million, the price rose again this week. — TWA/GNLM

HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

Trump aides blocked accurate Covid information: US probe

FORMER US president Donald Trump's administration prevented health officials from providing accurate information about Covid-19 in a bid to back up his overly optimistic view of the outbreak, according to a congressional report released Monday.

Senior staff at the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) told investigators Trump aides bullied staff and tried to rewrite their reports in a bid to align guidance with the president's public downplaying of the crisis.

Officials took "unprecedented steps to insert political appointees into the publication process and rebut CDC's scientific reports, including drafting op-eds and other public messaging designed to directly counteract CDC's findings," the report said.

Investigators interviewed a dozen current and former CDC officials as well as senior administration figures for the 91-page document released by the House select subcommittee on the coronavirus crisis.

The panel describes how Trump appointees at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) tried to take over the CDC's weekly scientific journal, the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), editing or blocking articles they believed might prove harmful to Trump.

Trump appointees had sought to "alter the contents, rebut, or delay the release" of 18 MMWRs and a health alert, succeeding on at least five occasions.—AFP

Senior staff at the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) told investigators Trump aides bullied staff and tried to rewrite their reports in a bid to align guidance with the president's public downplaying of the crisis. **PHOTO: TAMI CHAPPELL / AFP**

Chemical hair straighteners may cause uterine cancer: study

WOMEN who frequently use chemical hair straightening products could face more than twice the risk of uterine cancer compared to those who never use them, according to a new study published Monday.

The findings, published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, have particular relevance for Black women, who make up a majority of users of straightening products in the United States.

Scientists lauded the work, calling for action even though more work is required to confirm the conclusions, in what is an understudied area of research.

Lead author Alexandra White, a cancer epidemiologist with the National Institutes of Health led the study, told AFP it grew out of her previous research that found a link between permanent hair dye and straighteners and breast and ovarian cancers.

"We know that these straighteners contain many different chemicals, including endocrine disruptors, and we would expect them to have adverse health effects for hormone sensitive cancers," she said.

"That led us to extend our previous work, just focusing on uterine cancer."

Uterine cancer accounts for three per cent of all new cancers but is the most common cancer of the female reproductive system, with more than 65,000 new cases and 12,500 deaths are expected in 2022.

The outlook is generally good if the cancer is caught early, but treatment often involves removing the uterus, which would preclude child-bearing.

The new paper relied on data from more than 33,000 US women aged 35-74 who took part in the Sister Study, which is led by the government and designed to identify risk factors for cancer and other conditions.— AFP

Women who reported using hair straightening products in the past year were almost twice as likely to develop uterine cancer compared to women that never used them, the researchers found. **PHOTO: AFP**

1.4 million Canadian adults report prolonged COVID-19 symptoms

Travellers are seen at Toronto Pearson International Airport in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, on 20 June 2022. **PHOTO: ZOU ZHENG/XINHUA**

ABOUT 1.4 million Canadian adults indicated they had symptoms at least three months after a positive COVID-19 test or suspected infection, Statistics Canada said on Monday.

Of those who indicated a previous positive test or a suspected infection for COVID-19, 14.8 per cent experienced symptoms at least three months after their infection, the national statistical agency said, adding that this translated into about 1.4 million Canadian adults or 4.6 per cent of the Canadian population aged 18 years and older.

In partnership with the Public Health Agency of Canada, the statistical agency released the first nationally representative insights on Canadians who experienced long-term symptoms after testing positive for COVID-19 or suspecting a prior COVID-19 infection.

According to the agency, a higher percentage of women reported prolonged symptoms compared with men. No significant differences by age group were found in the percentage of Canadian adults reporting prolonged symptoms. Fatigue was the most reported unresolved symptom, followed by cough, shortness of breath and brain fog, said the agency. —Xinhua

Methanol-laced drinks claim dozens of lives in Peru

AT least 54 people have died in Peru over the past month after they consumed bottled drinks containing methanol, a toxic form of alcohol, the South American country's health ministry said Monday.

The ministry said it had registered 117 cases of methanol poisoning since mid-September. Of those, 54 people died.

"It is the highest figure (of methanol poisoning) in recent years," the head of the ministry's National Center for Epidemiology, Eduardo Ortega, told AFP.

On Sunday, the ministry had urged people not to consume vodka/passion fruit- and pina colada-flavoured drinks sold in two-litre plastic bottles under the name Punto D Oro after tests revealed them to contain methanol, an ingredient in windshield washer fluid and antifreeze.

It warned the drinks posed "serious damage to the health of people who ingest them".

This came after dozens of intoxication cases were reported at hospitals in and around the capital Lima.

According to the website of the Methanol Institute, a global trade association, "unscrupulous enterprises or individual" sometimes deliberately add methanol to alcoholic drinks as a cheaper alternative to safe and consumable ethanol.—AFP

ECONOMY
WORLD

UK PM Truss 'sorry' for economic 'mistakes' but vows to stay on

A shopper walks past a store of the clothing and food retailer Marks and Spencer in central London. **PHOTO: AFP**

EMBATTLED UK Prime Minister Liz Truss on Monday apologized for going "too far too fast" with reforms that triggered economic turmoil, but vowed to remain leader despite a series of humiliating climbdowns.

"I do want to accept responsibility and say sorry for the mistakes that have been made… we went too far and too fast," she told the BBC.

However, she said that she was "completely committed to delivering for this country" despite questions over who was now in control of government policy.

Her government on Monday axed almost all of its debt-fuelled tax cuts unveiled last month to avert fresh market chaos.

The shock move by new finance chief Jeremy Hunt — parachuted into the job on Friday to replace sacked Kwasi Kwarteng — leaves Truss's position in a precarious state, with Conservative MP Roger Gale saying that Hunt was "de facto prime minister".

Hunt estimated the tax changes would raise about £32 billion ($36 billion) per year, after economists estimated the government faced a £60-billion black hole. He also warned of tough spending cuts.

The chancellor of the exchequer said no government could control markets — but stressed his action would give certainty over public finances and help secure growth.

"The prime minister and I agreed yesterday to reverse almost all the tax measures announced in the growth plan three weeks ago," Hunt told parliament, flanked by a grim-faced Truss.

The chancellor also announced the formation of an economic advisory council, featuring four experts outside of government. —AFP

South Africa's crippling port, rail strike ends

SOUTH Africa's logistics utility Transnet said on Monday that labour unions had accepted a wage deal ending a weeks-long strike that crippled the continent's most industrialised economy.

In a statement, the state logistics firm said the United National Transport Union (UNTU), the majority union, agreed to a six per cent wage hike offer, down from their demand of almost eight percent.

Transnet vowed to immediately start implementing a recovery plan following the strike action, which stranded mineral and fresh fruit exports.

"The company's priority in the immediate is clearing any backlogs across the port and rail system," it said.

Workers at the company, which operates the freight rail network and ports in Africa's most advanced economy, downed tools on 6 October.

The strike cost mining firms 815 million rand ($45 million) in exports a day, according to the Minerals Council South Africa, an industry group.—AFP

Cargo vessels are seen at the Port of Durban harbour in Cape Town on 27 July 2021. **PHOTO: RAJESH JANTILAL / AFP**

Saudi defends oil policy in face of US charges

SAUDI Arabia has rejected US accusations of aligning itself with Russia amid the Ukraine war by making oil production cuts to drive up crude prices, insisting it was purely a business decision.

"We are astonished by the accusations that the kingdom is standing with Russia in its war with Ukraine," the Saudi defence minister, Prince Khaled bin Salman, tweeted late Sunday.

The Saudi-led OPEC+ cartel — which includes Russia — has angered Washington by deciding to cut production by two million barrels per day from November, adding further pressure on soaring crude prices.

"It is telling that these false accusations did not come from the Ukrainian government," Prince Khaled wrote. "Although the OPEC+ decision, which was taken unanimously, was due to purely economic reasons, some accused the kingdom of standing with Russia.

"Iran is also a member of OPEC, does this mean that the kingdom is standing with Iran as well?" he asked, referring to Saudi Arabia's regional rival.

In a speech broadcast on Sunday night, Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud insisted his country was "working hard, within its energy strategy, to support the stability and balance of global oil markets".

The United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, which like Saudi Arabia are US allies as well as OPEC partners, also defended the cartel's decision as a "technical" move. —AFP

Saudi security guard the entrance of the oil processing plant of the Saudi state oil giant Aramco in Abqaiq in the oil-rich Eastern Province. **PHOTRO: AFP/FILE**

Australia backs plan for intercontinental power grid

AUSTRALIA touted a world-first project Tuesday that could help make the country a "renewable energy superpower" by shifting huge volumes of solar electricity under the sea to Singapore.

Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong met Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese in Canberra to ink a new green energy deal between the two countries.

Albanese said the pact showed a "collective resolve" to slash greenhouse gas emissions through an ambitious energy project.

He name-checked clean energy start-up Sun Cable, which wants to build a high-voltage transmission line capable of shifting huge volumes of solar power from the deserts of northern Australia to tropical Singapore. Sun Cable has said that, if successful, it would be the world's first intercontinental power grid. "If this project can be made to work — and I believe it can be — you will see the world's largest solar farm," Albanese told reporters. —AFP

'A turning point': Japanese fashion after Kenzo, Miyake

AT Tokyo's prestigious Bunka Fashion College, students concentrate in silence that is broken only by the sound of scissors and sewing machines as they strive to emulate the global success of alumni like Kenzo.

The loss of greats Kenzo Takada and Issey Miyake heralds the end of a fashion era, decades after Japanese design revolutionized Parisian catwalks in the 1970s and '80s.

And the French capital remains a goal for emerging talent like Bunka graduate Takuya Morikawa, whose streetwear-inspired tailoring made its Paris Fashion Week debut two years ago.

Students of Tokyo's prestigious Bunka Fashion College are striving to emulate the global success of alumni like Kenzo. **PHOTO: AFP**

Morikawa, 40, hopes his shows at the industry's top event will lead to "an amazing future, beyond my wildest dreams".

Before launching his label TAAKK in 2013, Morikawa spent eight years at Miyake's studio, where he worked on runway collections and the famous "Pleats Please" line, but also harvested rice and made paper to learn about traditional craft methods.

He told AFP he was saddened by Miyake's death this summer, but implored younger designers not to feel disheartened.

"We need to do our best to not let these designers' deaths impact the fashion world. If that happens, it means we're doing our job badly," he said.

One of the big names picking up the baton is Nigo, who shot to fame in the 1990s with his streetwear brand A Bathing Ape.

The designer, who also studied at Bunka and whose real name is Tomoaki Nagao, was named artistic director at Kenzo last year, after founder Takada died of Covid-19 in 2020.—AFP

BP to buy US renewable gas firm for $4.1bln

BP has agreed to buy US renewable gas producer Archaea for $4.1 billion to help the British oil giant reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050, the pair said on Monday.

The London-listed energy major is flush with cash after recent surges in oil prices that have triggered calls for the cash-strapped UK government to massively enlarge a windfall tax on British energy giants.

Chief executive Bernard Looney said in a statement on Monday that the acquisition of Archaea would create "a real leader in the biogas sector, and support our net zero ambition".

Houston-based Archaea produces renewable natural gas equivalent in amount to about 6,000 barrels of oil per day.

BP will pay $3.3 billion in cash plus around $800 million in debt, while the purchase remains subject to regulatory and Archaea shareholder approvals.

The UK energy titan is attempting to pivot towards cleaner fuels to help tackle climate change.

In June, BP said it was taking a 40.5 per cent stake in an Australian energy project being billed as one of the world's largest renewable power stations.

But energy majors are often faced with charges of corporate greenwashing, especially by environmentalists.—AFP

Lufthansa expects higher profits as air travel booms

GERMAN airline giant Lufthansa on Monday significantly raised its earnings forecast for 2022, citing "strong demand" for air travel in the months ahead.

The group now expects adjusted operating profits (adjusted EBIT) of "over one billion euros ($980 million)", it said in a statement, double its previous target of "at least" 500 million euros.

Lufthansa said the optimistic outlook was "based on the positive development in the third quarter, the current booking situation, which continues to reflect strong demand for air travel in the coming months and the expectation of another record result from Lufthansa Cargo in 2022".

Lufthansa's freight division made a profit of €482m in Q2, up 48% on last year. **PHOTO: THOMAS LOHNES / AFP**

Third quarter revenues almost doubled year-on-year to 10.1 billion euros, according to preliminary results released by Lufthansa.

Strike action by pilots and ground staff over the July-to-September period cost the airline around 70 million euros, it added.—AFP

Credit Suisse to pay $495 mln in US to settle securities case

CREDIT Suisse said Monday it would pay $495 million to settle a row over mortgage-backed securities dating back to the 2008 financial crisis.

Switzerland's second-biggest bank said it had agreed with New Jersey authorities to make the "one-time payment... to fully resolve claims" for compensation, and said it had already provisioned the amount. In the claim filed in 2013, Credit Suisse was criticized for not having provided sufficient information on the risks relating to $10 billion of mortgage-backed securities.

Subprime mortgages, credit granted to borrowers often with poor credit histories or insufficient income, were packaged into financial products and sold to investors.—AFP

ကိုသန်မြန်အောင် ၉/မဟာမ(နိုင်)၀၀၂၂၉၄ ၏နေအိမ် မမြမြလှိုင် (ဘ)ဦးဟင်မြင့်(ခ)လင်မင်တိုက် ၈/မကန(နိုင်)၁၅၅၈၇၂ နှင့် အများသိစေရန် ကြေညာခြင်း

မကွေးမြို့၊ တောင်တွင်းလမ်း၊ အောင်စေတနာ(စီ)ရပ်၊ အမှတ် (C-17)နေ ဒေါက်တာမေအောင်၊ ပါမောက္ခ(ငြိမ်း)၏ လွှဲအပ်ညွှန်ကြားချက်အရ အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ကြေညာ အပ်ပါသည်-

ကိုသန်မြန်အောင်သည် မကွေးမြို့၊ တောင်တွင်းလမ်း၊ အောင်စေတနာ(စီ)ရပ်၊ အမှတ် (C-17)နေ အိမ်ထောင်ဦးစီး ဒေါက်တာမေအောင်၏ ဇနီး ဒေါ်အမာတင်နှင့် ကိုသန်မြန်အောင် အပါအဝင် သားသမီးမြေး (၆)ဦး၏ အိမ်ထောင်စုလူဦးရေ စာရင်းမှာ ဒေါက်တာမေအောင် လက်ဝယ်တွင် ရှိမှန်းသိပါလျက် မကွေးမြို့နယ်၊ အလုပ်သမား၊ လူဝင်မှုကြီးကြပ်ရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ အင်အားပန်ကြီးဌာန ဦးစီးမှူးရုံး၌ ဒေါက်တာမေအောင်၏ အိမ်ထောင်စု လူဦးရေစာရင်း ဟောက်ဆုံးကြောင်း မမှန်မကန် တင်ပြပြီး မမြမြလှိုင်နှင့် သားဖြစ်သူ စံရွှေထွန့်တို့(၂)ဦးအား ထည့်သွင်း၍ လူဦးရေစာရင်းမိတ္တူ ထုတ်ပေးရန် ဒေါက်တာ မေအောင်အားအသိမပေး၊ သဘောတူခွင့်ပြုချက်မရှိဘဲ ၂၇-၂-၂၀၁၈ ရက်တွင် လျှောက်ထားခဲ့သည်ကို ဒေါက်တာမေအောင် သိရှိကန့်ကွက်ချက်အရ မြို့နယ်မှူးရုံးက ၁၄-၈-၂၀၁၈ ရက်စွဲပါ စာအမှတ် ၁၀၂/မ-၁(ပစ-၁၀)၁၀၂၃/အမတဖြင့် လူကြီးမင်း၏ လူဦးရေ(၈) ဦးပါ အိမ်ထောင်စု လူဦးရေ စာရင်းအား ပြန်လည် သိမ်းဆည်းပြီး မူလလူဦးရေ စာရင်းအတိုင်း ဆက်လက်ထားရှိ ခဲ့ကြောင်း လူကြီးမင်းတို့ သိရှိကြပြီးဖြစ်ပါသည်။

သို့ပါ၍ ဒေါက်တာမေအောင်၏ အိမ်ထောင်စု၏ အိမ်ထောင်စု လူဦးရေစာရင်းတွင် ပါဝင်ခြင်းမရှိသူ မည်သူကိုမဆို အထက်ပါ နေအိမ် ဥပစာတွင် ဆက်လက်နေထိုင်ခြင်း နေထိုင်ရန် ဧည့်စာရင်း တိုင်ကြားခြင်း စသည်တို့ကို အိမ်ထောင်ဦးစီး ဒေါက်တာမေအောင်က လုံး၀(လုံး၀) သဘောတူ ခွင့်ပြုမည် မဟုတ်ကြောင်း၊ မလိုက်နာပါက ဥပဒေအရ ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူသွားမည် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း အသိပေးကြေညာလိုက်သည်။

ဒေါက်တာမေအောင်၏ လွှဲအပ်ချက်အရ-

ဒေါက်တာမေအောင်	ဦးစောမြင့်ကို	ဦးပြေငြိမ်း
၉/မထလ(နိုင်)၀၆၉၇၉၁	LL.B,WIPO(Switzer Land)	LL.B,WIPO(Switzer Land)
ပါမောက္ခ(ငြိမ်း)	နိုဗြီပဗ္ဗလစ်၊ တရားလွှတ်တော်ရှေ့နေ	တရားလွှတ်တော်ရှေ့နေ

Ph.၀၉-၄၂၀၇၆၅၀၇၈၊ ရန်အောင်(၁)၊ မကျီးတောရပ်၊ နေပြည်တော်၊ ပျဉ်းမနားမြို့

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GLOBAL AFFAIRS

France braces for nationwide strike amid fuel shortage tensions

A tank truck leaves the Total Energies refinery site, in Mardyck, northern France, on 13 October 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

FRANCE on Monday braced for nationwide transport strike action as the government and unions remained in deadlock over walkouts at oil depots that have sparked fuel shortages.

Leading unions have called for strikes Tuesday in their biggest challenge yet to President Emmanuel Macron since he won a new presidential term in May.

The move comes after workers at several refineries and depots operated by energy giant TotalEnergies voted to extend their strike action, defying the government which has begun to force staff back on the job.

Motorists scrambled to fill tanks as the fuel strike, which has lasted for nearly three weeks, cripples supplies at just over 30 per cent of France's service stations.

The government, increasingly impatient with the striking workers, said it was forcing key staff back to work.

"The time for negotiation is over," Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire told the BFMTV broadcaster Monday.

The government said it would begin to requisition workers at the Feyzin depot in southeastern France on Monday, having already employed the same strategy at the Mardyck depot in the north of the country.

Fuel workers voted to continue stoppages at several refineries run by TotalEnergies, the coordinator for the hard-left CGT union Eric Sellini said, rejecting a pay package agreed between the group's management and mainstream unions.

Three out of seven of the country's oil refineries and five major fuel depots (out of around 200) are affected, the government said.—AFP

US says 'confident' Pakistan can secure nukes after Biden uproar

THE United States said Monday that it had confidence in Pakistan's ability to control its nuclear arsenal after President Joe Biden expressed alarm, leading Islamabad to summon the US ambassador.

"The United States is confident of Pakistan's commitment and its ability to secure its nuclear assets," State Department spokesman Vedant Patel told reporters.

"The US has always viewed a secure and prosperous Pakistan as critical to US interests and, more broadly, the US values our long-standing cooperation with Pakistan," he said.

Biden made the off-the-cuff remarks on Pakistan's nuclear programme Thursday while at a private Democratic Party fundraiser in California where he began to discuss challenges facing President Xi Jinping of China, a close ally of Pakistan. "And what I think is maybe one of the most dangerous nations in the world: Pakistan. Nuclear weapons without any cohesion," Biden said, according to a White House transcript.—AFP

Death toll from Russia plane crash rises to 13 as search ends

AT least 13 people, including three children, were killed after a military plane crashed into a residential area of Yeysk in southwest Russia, Russian news agencies said Tuesday as the search for survivors ended.

"Rescuers have finished excavating the roubble (...) In total, 13 people died, including three children, while 19 people were injured," according to the ministry of emergency situations, quoted by Russian agencies following Monday's crash.

Russian President Vladimir Putin was informed of the fire and ordered "all necessary assistance be given to casualties from the military plane incident," the Kremlin told the state-run news agency TASS.

The fire that engulfed a nine-storey residential building has been contained and is almost extinguished, regional governor Veniamin Kondratyev said on Telegram.

Oksana, a local resident who declined to give her last name, said the area had been cordoned off.

"There could be an explosion. Everything is burning inside. There is smoke," she told AFP.

She said she was stuck in traffic when she heard the news.

"I'm in shock obviously. My child was alone at home. We already used to go to sleep with fear everyday -- Mariupol is just across from us," she said.

Residence block engulfed by flames

"On 17 October 2022, while taking off to carry out a training flight from the military airfield of the Southern Military District, an Su-34 aircraft crashed," the ministry said.—AFP

The wreckage of a Sukhoi Su-34 military jet lie at the crash site in the courtyard of a residential area in the town of Yeysk in southwestern Russia on 17 October 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Abrams tanks are seen at the railway station near the Pabrade military base in Lithuania on 21 October 2019 as the United States began deploying a battalion. **PHOTO: PETRAS MALUKAS /AFP/FILE**

US extends battalion in Lithuania as Russia fears persist

THE United States will extend its rotation of a heavy tank battalion in Lithuania, which sees no reduction in the threat from Russia since Moscow's invasion of Ukraine, Lithuanian officials said Friday. Lithuanian Defence Minister Arvydas Anusauskas said that the battalion, in the town of Pabrade since 2019, will stay at least until the start of 2026. In a statement after meeting US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin in Brussels, Anusauskas said the decision implements "one of the most essential objectives put forward by the sitting government: we have a persistent military US presence in Lithuania."

Lithuania, along with neighbouring Poland and fellow Baltic states Latvia and Estonia, has been at the forefront of support to Ukraine since Russia attacked on 24 February. The invasion renewed fears in nations formerly under Moscow's control. They have cheered on recent Ukrainian successes in taking back land.—AFP

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Sweden's new PM Kristersson, 'locksmith' to the far-right

Members of the Swedish parliament applaud after the vote to elect the new Swedish Prime Minister. **PHOTO: JONATHAN NACKSTRAND/AFP**

SWEDEN'S conservative leader Ulf Kristersson was on Monday elected prime minister in parliament, heading the first government supported by the far-right Sweden Democrats.

With horn-rimmed glasses, clean-cut looks and a trim physique, the 58-year-old leader of the conservative Moderate party campaigned in Sweden's September general election with pledges to fight crime and soaring electricity prices.

A former gymnast, he is often photographed living an active life, running or walking in nature with his dog Winston, the Welsh springer spaniel he got after losing Sweden's 2018 election.

Back then, Kristersson had vowed he would never negotiate with the nationalist and anti-immigration Sweden Democrats -- then seen as "pariahs" on the country's political scene -- and subsequently failed to oust the Social Democratic government in power since 2014.

Fast forward four years and he has had his revenge -- after a major U-turn.

Kristersson launched exploratory talks with the Sweden Democrats in 2019, a cooperation that has deepened in the years since then, persuading the Moderates' traditional centre-right allies to follow suit. His critics have accused him of "selling out" to the far-right. Kristersson has defended the tie-up as "my side of politics".— AFP

Scholz extends life of Germany's remaining nuclear plants

CHANCELLOR Olaf Scholz on Monday ordered all three of Germany's remaining nuclear power plants to stay operational until mid-April, breaking an impasse that had caused a rift among his coalition partners as an energy crisis looms.

Germany had initially planned to exit nuclear power by the end of the year, but Russia's war in Ukraine and skyrocketing power prices since then have forced a rethink.

"The legal basis will be created to allow the operation of the nuclear power plants Isar 2, Neckarwestheim 2 and Emsland beyond 31 December 2022 until 15 April 2023," Scholz said in a letter to cabinet ministers seen by AFP. Economy Minister Robert Habeck from the traditionally anti-nuclear Greens had recently said two of the three plants would be kept "on standby" until next spring, to help secure energy supplies if needed, in a major U-turn for the Greens.

A cooling tower of the Emsland nuclear power plant. **PHOTO: AFP**

But that did not go far enough for fellow coalition partner, the liberal FDP, who insisted the third plant, in Emsland in northern Germany, should also stay online. —AFP

Israel vexed as Australia reverses recognition of 'capital' Jerusalem

AUSTRALIA said it would no longer recognize west Jerusalem as Israel's capital Tuesday, a policy reversal that prompted a curt rebuke from the Jewish state.

Foreign Minister Penny Wong said the city's status should be decided by Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, unwinding a contentious decision by the previous conservative government.

In 2018, Australia's then-Prime Minister Scott Morrison followed US president Donald Trump's lead in unilaterally recognizing west Jerusalem as the Israeli capital.

The move caused a domestic backlash in Australia and friction with neighbouring Indonesia -- the world's most populous Muslim-majority nation -- temporarily derailing a bilateral free trade deal.

"I know this has caused conflict and distress in part of the Australian community, and today the government seeks to resolve that," Wong said.—AFP

Six men go on trial over Vienna jihadist shooting

SIX men accused of helping a gunman who carried out Austria's first deadly jihadist attack go on trial in a Vienna court on Tuesday.

On 2 November 2020, convicted Islamic State sympathiser Kujtim Fejzulai went on a shooting rampage in downtown Vienna, killing four and wounding 23 others before police shot him dead.

In the wake of the EU member's deadliest shooting in decades, the Austrian government and in particular its intelligence service were accused of failing to monitor the Islamist movement in the country.

According to the federal prosecutors' charge sheet seen by AFP, the six defendants — all men aged between 21 and 32 years old — were not directly involved in the deadly attack, but are suspected of actively helping Fejzulai prepare for the shooting.

The six men — four Austrians, a Chechen and a Kosovar — are accused of "enabling ... or otherwise promoting" the execution of the crimes "due to their shared affiliation with the radical Islamist scene and the terrorist organization IS Islamic State," the confidential court document said.

The accused face charges ranging from participating in terrorist crimes in connection with murder to involvement or membership in a terrorist group.—AFP

Four people were killed and 23 others wounded in Austria's first deadly jihadist attack. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

GLOBAL AFFAIRS
Sweden's new PM Kristersson, 'locksmith' to the far-right
PAGE-15

SPORT

RRY team wins Men's pennant cup basketball tourney

The RRY team competes against the MOHA team in the men's pennant cup basketball finals. **PHOTO: BALA SOE**

THE men's and women's pennant cup basketball finals organized by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and the Myanmar Basketball Federation were held at National Indoor Stadium 1 in Yangon yesterday.

In the women's finals, the MOHA team smashed the Power team by 61:36 points.

In the men's finals, the RRY team crashed the MOHA. team with 92:77 points.

Women's championship winner MOHA, first-runners up Power team, men's championship winner RRY team, and first-runners up MOHA., second-runners up Sam Par Oo team, and best male athletes were awarded by Myanmar Basketball Federation Vice-president U Maung Maung Myint and officials, Deputy Commander of the Municipal Police Colonel Myo Aung, and Police Colonel Soe Lin Aye from Drug Enforcement Division, MPF.

RRY team who won the pennant cup basketball tourney and the MOHA team who won the women's event were awarded the trophy by U Myint Thein, the vice president of the Myanmar Basketball Federation. — Bala Soe/GNLM

Aung La N Sang to fight against Japanese Okami on 19 November

Aung La N Sang (right) and Okami (left) scream in victory in their previous MMA fights. **PHOTO: ONE CHAMPIONSHIP**

AUNG La N Sang will take on Japanese fighter Okami in the middleweight class challenge of the ONE Championship: ONE 163 event to be held at Singapore Indoor Stadium in Singapore on 19 November.

There were reports that the two would fight since last year, but it was only possible to fight on 19 November.

Aung La N Sang has just returned from his previous fight against Russian Vitaly Bigdash in February 2022.

Aung La N Sang previously held the middleweight and light-heavyweight world titles but was defeated in October 2020 and April 2021, and only participated in the challenge fights.

Aung La N Sang won a fight against Brazilian Leandro in July 2021 after losing the world championship belt but lost on points against Russian Vitaly Bigdash in February 2022.

This match is the second challenge fight for Aung La N Sang in 2022, and for Japanese Okami, it is the return of the challenge after 2019. —Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs

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

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

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

2. Economic affairs

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

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

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

3. Social affairs

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

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

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

Man City stumble gives Spurs, Chelsea hope of Premier League title fight

MANCHESTER City's first defeat of the season has given the rest of the Premier League hope that the title race is not a foregone conclusion as Tottenham and Chelsea seek to close at the top of the table on Wednesday.

The arrival of rampaging forward Erling Haaland to supplement Pep Guardiola's squad, which has won the English top flight four times in the past five years, made City even stronger favourites to win the league again.

However, a rejuvenated Arsenal have opened up a four-point gap at the top of the table, while Spurs have kept pace with the defending champions.

Arsenal and City were supposed to be facing off this midweek in a top-of-the-table clash.

But that match has been postponed due to rescheduling caused by the death of Queen Elizabeth II last month, with the Gunners instead facing PSV Eindhoven in the Europa League. —AFP

Qatar to host 2023 Asian Cup after China's Covid pull-out

WORLD Cup hosts Qatar will stage the 2023 Asian Cup, the Asian Football Confederation said on Monday, after China withdrew earlier this year because of Covid.

China in June 2019 won the bid to host the event but pulled out in May because of its "zero-Covid" policy, leaving the AFC scrambling to find a new host for its flagship men's 24-team football tournament.

The tournament had been due to be held in 10 Chinese cities from 16 June to 16 July next year.

South Korea and Indonesia were the other two countries in the running after China's withdrawal, but Qatar got the nod.

"The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) executive committee has today confirmed the Qatar Football Association (QFA) as the host association for the AFC Asian Cup 2023," the Malaysia-based AFC said in a statement.—AFP