

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IX, No. 187, 11th Waning of Thadingyut 1384 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Thursday, 20 October 2022

Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

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

SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends opening of Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022

THE opening ceremony of the Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022 took place at Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, and it was attended by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

Also present at the ceremony were members of the SAC Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun, Mahn Nyein Maung, U Khin Maung Swe, Jeng Phang Naw Taung, U Sai Lone Seng, Lt-Gen Soe Htut, Council Joint Secretary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo, Union ministers, the chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, officials from the Russian Embassy to Myanmar and Russian businesspersons, departmental officials, responsible persons from Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association and guests.

The Prime Minister and those present at the ceremony viewed a video record on production process of jewellery items and preparations to hold the 2022 Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium.



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views the exhibits at the Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022 in Nay Pyi Taw on 19 October 2022.

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2022 Mid-Year Gems Emporium kicks off

THE 2022 Mid-Year Gems Emporium kicked off at Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Local and foreign merchants looked around and viewed the displays of pearl, jade and gem lots in the hall and raw jade lots outside the hall.

In the Gems Emporium, 400 pearl lots, 120 gem lots and 2,150 jade lots are being put on sale under the open tender systems.

The floor price for pearl lots is mentioned in dollars and foreign merchants will have to pay in dollars, yuan and baht currency while local merchants will have to pay in Myanmar kyat. Then, the floor price for gem and jade lots is mentioned in euros and the foreign merchants will have to pay in dollars, euros, yuan and baht whereas the local merchants will have to pay in Myanmar kyat.

Similarly, the jewellery and gemstone shops are crowded with visitors at the Maniradana Jade Hall.

The emporium will be held from 19 October to 25 October. The pearl lots will be on display starting from 19 October and



Merchants are pictured viewing the display at the emporium.



Jewellery lots.



Pearl lots.

on sale on 20 and 21 October, the gem lots will be on display from 19 October to 21 October and on sale on 22 October and the jade lots will be on display from 19 October to 22 October and on sale from 23 October to 25 October. — MNA

277 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 19 October, total figure rises to 629,653

MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **629,653** after **277** new cases were reported on 19 October 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **603,260** have recovered from disease. Death toll reaches **19,472** after one death.

Up to 18-10-2022, 30,664,955 people aged 18 and above and 6,665,475 people aged 18 and under were vaccinated.

According to the study of people who had COVID-19 and people who died of COVID-19 from 28-1-2022 to 15-10-2022, 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

Public Notice

1. The Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to effectively curb corruption.
 2. The ACC used SMS on the mobile phone to ask the public who seek services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via Short Code No “1111” for feedbacks, including the Public Feedback Programme-PFP.
 3. According to the PFP, the right replies of the citizens via Short Code No “1111” will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.
 4. Therefore, the public should make a reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at Short Code No “1111” and such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.
- Anti-Corruption Commission*
Answer “1111” to fight against corruption
Answer “1111” to improve services
Let’s work together to eliminate corruption towards prosperity

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

Create chances for youth for pursuing higher education

REGARDING the pursuit of higher education, matriculates are needed to be encouraged to go more to technological universities and computer universities. Arrangements are being made to open more agricultural institutes, livestock breeding institutes and technical high schools to enable the production of human resources required for agriculture, livestock breeding and technical businesses.

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

SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends ...

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The Senior General and party viewed jade and gem lots and pearl lots displayed in the hall and uncut jade lots outside the hall. The Senior General gave guidance responding to the reports of officials.

The Myanmar Gems Emporium has been held since 1964 to sell excavated gems and jewellery for earning foreign exchange for the State and bene-

fitting the economy of citizens. At the current emporium, the floor prices of pearl lots were set as US dollar, and foreign gem merchants need to pay US dollar, yuan and baht and local gem merchants, kyat. Foreign gem merchants must pay US dollar, euro, yuan and baht for payment for floor prices of gem and jade lots and local merchants, kyat. The lowest floor price of pearl lots are set at US\$1,000, gem lot



The 2022 Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium is in progress yesterday.



The Senior General looks round the pearl lots at the emporium.

euro 500, jade finished lots euro 1,000 and uncut jade lots euro 5,000.

The emporium will last from

19 to 25 October to sell 400 lots of pearls, 120 lots of gems and 2,150 lots of jade to local and foreign gem merchants through

open tender. Moreover, private jewellery shops are open at the hall. — MNA

2,301 acres set for winter sunflower oil crop in Kayah State

THE hybrid sunflower type 1, a winter sunflower, has been cultivated on 2,301 acres in Kayah State, with the cooperation of the Department of Agriculture, relevant departments and farmers, under the supervision of Kayah State.

There are over 2,300 acres of winter sunflower plantation including a model plantation. The department sold a three-kilogramme seed cap of hybrid sunflower type 1 and a bag of pearl fertilizer to each of 2,301 farmers at a lower rate in Loikaw on 13 September. Thus, the winter sunflower has been planted in the second week of September and can be harvested around the end of October.

“Since working together with the state government, we have achieved success in the

agricultural sector. We conducted awareness programmes for farmers and supported them. The acreage has been increased to expand the plantation more than the previous year. We educated farmers on seed, fertilizer and technology knowledge. We succeed in planting rice and sunflower in the rainy season. The ability to expand sunflower cultivation this year has resulted from the cooperation between state government, departments and cultivators,” added Daw Nan Lwin Lwin Sein, the Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture, Kayah State.

To produce more oil crops this year as in other regions and states, the state government and related departments are making an effort through the coordinated action of farmers,

in rice and oil crops cultivation of the state and allowance of state financial support. In addition to rainy-season rice crops, more than 59,000 acres of corn, an industrial crop, were planted. Among perennial crops such as coffee, Konjac and avocado, 65,000 saplings of all crops except Konjac were distributed by the department free of charge to farmers with the state government budget for the development of the agricultural sector both in the state and the border, at the end of June.

The agricultural sector is being provided with financial support from the state. The Department of Agriculture is helping farmers to get income from perennial crop cultivation and seasonal crop cultivation in Kayah State by selling seeds,



The sunflower plantation in Kayah State. PHOTO: KANU

seedlings and fertilizers at an affordable price. About two thousand and three hundred acres of

winter sunflower oil crops will be harvested by the end of October. — Nyein Thu(MNA)/ GNLM

Efforts are being made to understand different isms as much as possible setting aside different opinions and cooperating with those organizations in a common attitude: Vice-Senior General Soe Win



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses the first meeting of the Central Committee on Observing the Diamond Jubilee Independence Day 2023 in Nay Pyi Taw on 19 October 2022.

CHAIRMAN of the Central Committee on Observing the Diamond Jubilee Independence Day 2023 Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win attended the first meeting of the central committee at the Union government office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

In his speech, the Vice-Senior General underscored that in looking back at the history of the nation, although governments have changed ruling the nation one after another since the independence was regained in 1948, dogmatism, racism, different concepts and trust based on religions were born together with the independence due to the

divide-and-rule administration of colonialists from the time when the country lost its independence to date. Setting aside the different opinions, all need to join hands in upholding the common trust. Since its taking responsibilities of the State, the State Administration Council formed the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee, Work Committee and Committee. And then, NCA signatories and non-signatories were invited in April 2021 and the government has been holding peace talks with individual groups to restore perpetual peace. The Prime Minister himself met with them to discuss policy affairs and the working committee and negotiation committees have been holding with

those groups to seek solutions. The Prime Minister adopted two national work processes for ensuring the prosperity of the nation and the sufficiency of food. Efforts are being made to understand different isms as much as possible and set aside different opinions and cooperate with those organizations in a common attitude. Now, the Union based on multiparty democracy and federalism will be built. The 75th Anniversary of Independence Day will be celebrated in line with the above-mentioned policies.

It is necessary to implement the building of the Union based on multiparty democracy and federalism in addition to two national work processes adopted by

the Prime Minister for changing the situation of the people to enjoy the fruits of development and prosperity of the State.

This year's national objectives of the 75th Anniversary of Independence Day are: to be firm in the discipline-flourishing multiparty democracy and build the Union based on democracy and federalism, make utmost efforts for implementation of the national work processes for the prosperity of the nation and food sufficiency, build a better nation and socio-economic life in line with the motto: Keep Moving Forward to Achieve Our Goal focusing on the interests of the State and the people, to strive for forging the national unity and peace of the Union with the firm

vow, to successfully hold the free and fair multiparty democracy general election and to establish the electoral system for proportionate representation of ethnic people. All officials need to actively participate in the tasks for successfully holding the Diamond Jubilee Independence Day.

Central committee members discussed the formation of relevant subcommittees, future plans and the successful hold of the Diamond Jubilee Independence Day. The secretary of the central committee sought approvals for the formation of the organizing committee and work committees.

After attending to the needs, the Vice-Senior General gave a concluding remark. — MNA

Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was reconstituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

The following telephone numbers, fax and email address can be reached to safely report information in connection with illegal trade.

Auto telephone number - 067 409 883
Mobile phone - 09 404339969
Fax - 067 409 886
Email address - antiillegaltradeinfo@gmail.com

Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee

Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was reconstituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

Regarding the "request for money from departmental organizations in conducting trade", the following numbers can be reached to safely report such information.

Auto telephone number - 067 409 881
Mobile phone - 09 699611116
Fax - 067 409 887
Email address - antiillegaltradeoffice@gmail.com

Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee

MoHA Union Minister inspects Insein Prison where parcel bombs went off

MEMBER of the State Administration Council Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Soe Htut inspected Insein Prison in Yangon Region together with relevant officials yesterday.

During the visit, the Union minister scrutinized the prison situation as the bombs inside the parcels from terrorists exploded inside and outside of the parcel reception office near the prison gate at 9:40 am and it killed three prison staff and five visitors who delivered the parcels to the prisoners, and another 18 including five prison staff and 13 civilians were wounded.

Then, the Union minister met and comforted families of



Union Minister Lt-Gen Soe Htut inspects the Insein Prison.

deceased and injured prison staff and provided cash assistance. He then presided over a meeting on

security issues and instructed necessary measures based on the reports of prison officials.



The MoHA Union Minister encourages the injured from the blast.

In the evening, the Union minister and party went to Insein General Hospital and comforted

the injured prison staff and people, and also provided necessary assistance. — MNA

Blast occurs at Insein Central Jail, leaves 8 dead and 18 injured



Ravages are seen in the aftermath of the blast.

AN explosion happened at the Insein Central Jail in Yangon at 9:40 am yesterday morning,

killing and hurting some prison staff and civilians. The security forces rushed



The parcels which blasted at Insein Gaol.

to the scene and found that the terrorists' mine in the parcels went off inside and outside of the building where parcels for prisoners are accepted. The

building is situated at the gate of the central jail. Prison guards Kyaw Zin Oo, Chit Moe Wai and Poe Ei San, Daw Thin Thin Cho aged

54, Ma Yoon Mi Mi Kyaw aged 10, and Daw Thein Kywe aged 56, and two unidentified women died on the spot.

A total of 18 people were injured and they were sent to Insein General Hospital for necessary treatment. Then, the security forces cleared the blast area and they found a hand-made mine from a parcel and defused it.

Investigations are being made so that the terrorists who killed and injured the prison guards and innocent civilians can be prosecuted under the law. — MNA

Illegal timbers, medicines, foodstuffs, consumer goods, toilet accessories, motorbike parts and vehicles confiscated

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

A combined team led by Myanmar Police under the supervision of the Sagaing Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force made inspections on 17 October.

Officials captured K70,704,900 worth of motorbike parts, made-in-India foodstuffs, consumer goods and medicines without official documents from a Yuton car (estimated value of K35 million) at the Ohntaw junction of

Sagaing township. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

Afterwards, a combined team captured an unregistered Nissan Murano car (approximately K5 million) near the junction of the Yangon-Mandalay highway in Hlegu township. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

In addition, a total of 1.1274 tonnes of illegal teak logs worth K52,000 in Hlegu township was seized and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

Similarly, a total of 1.5806 tonnes of illegal sawn teak

worth K995,676 was nabbed in Thayet township. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

A combined team captured a total of 7.5700 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K529,900 in Pathein township and the action was taken under the Forest Law. An unregistered Toyota Succeed car (estimated value of K3 million) was seized in Pyapon township. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

The Yepu Permanent Checkpoint confiscated K7,645,000 worth of cosmetics, foodstuffs and other con-

sumer goods without official documents from a Jin Bei mini-bus (approximately K18 million) heading from Muse to Mandalay.

On 18 October, the Mayanchaung Permanent Checkpoint nabbed 232 crock pots worth K1,888,060 that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from a Hino Profia car (estimated value of K40 million) heading from Myawady to Yangon. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

On 19 October, the Kawka-reik (Tadakyoe) Combined Checkpoint confiscated K1.5

million worth of toilet accessories without official documents from a vehicle heading from Myawady to Yangon and the action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

A total of 23.4390 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K7,487,310 was seized in Toun-goo, Pyay and Thayawady districts and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

Therefore, 15 arrests estimated at K191,802,846 were made on three consecutive days from 17 to 19 October, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA

Myanmar joins Chinese Language Training and Capacity Building Workshop, and coordination meeting on promoting Myanmar-Russia tourism cooperation

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Htay Aung joined the Chinese Language Training and Capacity Building Workshop jointly organized by the ministry and Beijing-based ASEAN-China Centre (ACC) and the coordination meeting on promoting cooperation of the tourism industry between Myanmar and Russia via videoconferencing yesterday.

During the Workshop, the Union Minister said the ministry is working with the ACC to ensure tourism development. The country expects Chinese tourists in this open season. The tourism research project and baking training courses are being conducted as human resource development projects under the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation



The coordination meeting on promoting cooperation of the tourism industry between Myanmar and Russia is in progress online yesterday.

with the help of China.

Then, Secretary-General Mr Shi Zhongjun of ACC delivered a speech and Chinese experts explained the criteria for tourist guides, potentials in the Chinese tourism industry and advertising for ordinary and innovative tourism.

Speaking at the coordination

meeting on promoting cooperation of tourism industry between Myanmar and Russia, the Union minister said the country permits one-year visa-free travel for Russian travellers starting July 2022. The government wants to accelerate the cooperation in the tourism sector to develop the socioeconomic results between

Myanmar and Russia and government and private cooperation in the Myanmar-Russia tourism sector.

Then, Deputy Chairperson Nana Margushevna Gvichia of the Committee on the Development of Tourism of St. Petersburg discussed the tourism cooperation and Chairman U Yan Win

of the Myanmar Tourism Federation explained the tourism cooperation of private sectors.

Afterwards, the director-general of the City Tourist Information Bureau of St. Petersburg Government Financial Institution and the director-general of the St. Petersburg Convention and Exhibition Bureau briefed the preparations to facilitate the visitors and holding of travel fairs and meetings. The Union minister then expressed thanks after the attendees exchanged views on the discussion.

At the meeting, Myanmar officials presented a five-minute documentary featuring Myanmar tourist destinations and cultural heritages of ethnic people.

— MNA

Farmers, millers, merchants, companies eye favourable year in exporting rice to Bangladesh under rice quality supervision

OVER 30 Myanmar companies are exporting rice to Bangladesh and the farmers, millers, merchants and companies reap proper profits this year in rice exports due to the strict export rice quality control measures of the Ministry of Commerce.

Previously, low-grade rice was included in rice export and the companies that exported quality rice faced losses. Currently, due to the supervision of the ministry concerned, the rice bags contain company logos and claim that they pass the quality control and are high-grade rice to be milled, so Myanmar's rice export volume increases for its better export quality rice including the ones exported to Bangladesh.

The monsoon paddy is grown in Yangon, Bago (east/west), Ayeyawady regions and other regions and states. Yadanatoe and Manaw Thukha rice enter the local market mostly and the transactions are good. The Bayintnaung rice wholesale centre receives about 100,000 rice bags of Sin Thukha and Yadanatoe daily. As it meets the estimated farming acres of paddy, some regions produce over 100 baskets of monsoon paddy per acre and some produce not more than 70/80 baskets per acre approximately de-

spite their low production rate for the rainfalls. The farmers harvested Manaw Thukha and Yadanatoe successfully and a large amount of Kayin Ma Rice exported to the EU market will enter the Bayintanung wholesale centre by the end of October.

The Sin Thukha and Yadanatoe rice enter the rice wholesale centres in Yangon and two-thirds of rice produced from the Ayeyawady Region are transported to the wholesale centres in Patheingyi more than to the ones in Yangon, and the permitted companies can export rice direct to Bangladesh via Patheingyi.

Due to a rise in demand in Bangladesh, the sales of the same type of rice are good in the local market. This year, the rice can be sold in cash or by communicating with banks as the people do not need to wait one week or 10 days for payment, over 30 companies which are permitted to export rice to Bangladesh get solid market shares in the rice export sector.

"It is convenient for all as they can export rice under an instant payment system this year. The Ministry of Commerce also scrutinize the export rice quality and put the company logos on rice bags. Therefore,



Rice bags are loaded into the hatch of the vessel at No 1 Ahlon International Port Terminal. PHOTO: KANU

it can be known if something happens, and it seems a measure to control the quality. The monsoon paddy production rate is fine and the high-grade rice can be exported and so this year is the best time for the farmers and export companies," said U Than Oo, secretary of the Bayintnaung Rice Wholesale Centre.

In the local paddy market, the price is K1 million per 100 baskets for wet paddy and K1.2 million per 100 baskets for dry

paddy. The farmers get good profits and it also makes better profits in the local rice procurement sector and export sector. The government makes arrangements by cooperating with the banks to withdraw the payment after the products are shipped, and it is more convenient for the exporters in exporting rice and broken rice to China, the Philippines, Bangladesh and EU countries without any financial difficulties unlike like previous year.

The country has sufficient rice for local consumption. The rice demand except for Shwepyithar declines in the market. The G-to-G pact between Bangladesh and Myanmar for rice exports benefits the people from the rice industry and the supervision on the export quality of the department concerned also claims Myanmar's rice quality creates business opportunities for farmers including exporters. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/GNLM

LOCAL BUSINESS

Myanmar's coconut sees robust demand in Bangladesh

BANGLADESH'S demand for Myanmar's coconuts has picked up, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar has opened two border posts with neighbouring Bangladesh; Sittway and Maungtaw to facilitate and promote bilateral cross-border trade, raise trade awareness, eradicate illegitimate border trade and enhance the livelihood of the communities in the two border areas.

The new export/import items are also increasing following the strong trade on the border between Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Myanmar commenced exports of dried coconut in the 2020-2021 Financial Year (October 2020 to September 2021), with 16 tonnes. The export volume rose to 798 tonnes in the six-month

(mini-budget) period (October 2021-March 2022).

Myanmar's export of dried coconut registered 888 tonnes in the first half (April-September) of the current FY (2022-2023). There is a steady demand from external markets.

In addition to dried coconut, Myanmar delivered 319 tonnes of fresh coconuts to Bangladesh through the Maungtaw border trade post in the first half of the current FY, with an estimated value of US\$0.128 million.

It is commonly used in religious events beyond health benefits. That being so, there is a steady demand from Bangladesh for Myanmar's coconut.

Coconut's health benefits are quick digestion, good cholesterol level, anti-ageing, rich in



There are three types of coconuts cultivated in the southern Rakhine State, delta and coastal regions of Myanmar; tall, dwarf and orange coconut.

copper and iron, killing bacteria and viruses, hormone balancing, nutritional facts, better memory, bone health and metabolism. The coconut water content is around

200-1,000 millilitres in one coconut. Coconut water boosts the immune system and has other benefits. It is widely used in making traditional snacks. The

coconuts produced from Yangon Region and Manaung, Kyaukpadaung and Thandwe in Rakhine State are sent to Bangladesh through the Maungtaw border trade post.

There are three types of coconuts cultivated in the southern Rakhine State, delta and coastal regions of Myanmar; tall, dwarf and orange coconut. They can be grown at least 27 °C and under rainfall ranging from 30 to 70 inches. It yields between seven and ten years for tall coconuts, while coconuts can be harvested within three to five years for dwarf coconut trees and orange coconuts produce fruits within five to seven years. A tree can produce about 100 coconuts on average. The yield rate per acre is 5,000 coconuts for 50 trees. — NN/GNLM

Corn prices rebound tracking foreign demand



Myanmar exported 2.3 million tonnes of corn to foreign trade partners in the 2020-2021 financial year. The majority of them were sent to Thailand and the remaining went to China, India and Viet Nam.

THE prices of corn edged up on the back of strong foreign demand, said U Aye Chan Aung, chair of the Myanmar Corn Industrial Association.

The prevailing corn price has inched higher to K1,080 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes) on 18 October.

Foreign demand and Kyat depreciation against the US dollar are contributing factors to the price rise, he said.

"The exporters are purchasing large volumes. The price of corn has gradually risen on the foreign demand. When the Kyat-dollar exchange rate slid to K2,500-2,600, the corn dipped below K1,000 per viss in the Yangon market. When the dollar is exchanged at K2,900, the price

slightly climbs to K1,080 per viss," he elaborated. At present, Viet Nam and the Philippines are purchasing Myanmar corn by sea, according to the Myanmar Corn Industrial Association.

"Myanmar primarily exports them to the Philippines, followed by Viet Nam. Myanmar grasped 75 per cent of the market share in the Philippines, said U Aye Chan Aung.

Thailand gives green light to corn imports under zero tariff (with Form-D), between 1 February and 31 August. However, Thailand imposed a maximum tax rate of 73 per cent on corn imports to protect the rights of their growers if the corn is imported during the corn season of Thailand.

The directive released on 30 June said that transactions for the exports of agricultural products including corn, rice, bean and oil crops are to be made in dollars instead of Yuan-Kyat/Baht-Kyat. Therefore, the export earnings of the corn have to be exchanged for the US dollar according to the reference rate of the Central Bank of Myanmar (K2,100).

The US dollar is valued at over K2,900 in the unofficial exchanges, indicating a large gap between the regulated rate and the unofficial rate.

At present, the proposals of 112 companies have been forwarded to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China for Myanmar's traders to ship corn through a legitimate trade channel, according to the association.

Myanmar exported 2.3 million tonnes of corn to foreign trade partners in the 2020-2021 financial year. The majority of them were sent to Thailand and the remaining went to China, India and Viet Nam.

At present, corn is cultivated in Shan, Kachin, Kayah and Kayin states and Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. Myanmar has three corn seasons – winter summer and monsoon. The country produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corn every year. — NN/GNLM

FDA warns of 6 products of Mie Sedaap instant noodles made in Indonesia

THE Food and Drug Administration under the Ministry of Health issued a warning about six products of Mie Sedaap instant noodles made in Indonesia.

As those Mie Sedaap instant noodles with certain expired dates can be possibly imported into Myanmar through an illegitimate trade channel, FDA Myanmar issued warnings about those instant noodles to the consumers.

The Singapore Food Agency issued a recall for Mie Sedaap instant noodles due to the presence of Ethylene Oxide. Those Mie Sedaap products are removed from the markets.

According to the FDA's statement, Ethylene Oxide is an antimicrobial pesticide which is used to sterilize spices at food processing factories. Maximum residue limits (MRL) of ethylene oxide should not exceed 50mg/kg (50ppm) in the food products in Singapore, while the European

Union imposes an MRL of ethylene oxide at 0.1mg/kg. The consumption of ethylene oxide can cause health risks in the long term.

Mie Sedaap with the certain expired date is not found in the Myanmar market yet. However, it might be illegally imported into the country. Therefore, consumers are advised to check those expired dates if they buy Mie Sedaap products. The FDA Myanmar has warned not to import and distribute those products in the markets. The products will be seized and those importers and distributors will face legal action under the provisions of Section 28 (A) of the National Food Law. — TWA/GNLM



The picture shows Mie Sedaap instant noodles recalled due to the presence of pesticides.

Amend provisions of the Constitution where necessary

IT IS necessary to amend some provisions mentioned in the Constitution to be able to implement the appropriate points of demands by the ethnic people, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing who is in the capacity of Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee.

At the ceremony to mark the 7th anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), the Senior General sent a video message to the ceremony to mark the 7th Anniversary of NCA on 15 October.

Eight main ethnics and more than 130 national races are residing in Myanmar. All ethnics have to enjoy equal terms of rights. The Constitution (2008) has mentioned the rights of ethnics. The government

will strive for ethnics to have appropriate rights, which the Senior General granted.

To be able to demand the rights of ethnics, 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, the anticipations and aims of relevant ethnic nationals can be openly and transparently discussed, decided and implemented through concerted efforts. If necessary, some provisions of the Constitution must be amended to implement the possible demands and wishes of ethnics.

must be amended to implement the possible demands and wishes of ethnics.

Practically, 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 the Union based on democracy and federalism is built, it is necessary 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. The existing Constitution must be amended to do so. If so, all ethnic nationals will have to enjoy the essence of democracy and the Union system.

■

IN the world of strategy and strategic thinking, a legend was borne around the time of Buddha himself. To call that era the golden age of philosophers would be an understatement. Confucius, Lao Tzu, from the east and Archimedes, Aristotle, and Plato from the West are all born around that era, between 500-300 BC. That legend was none other than the brilliant Sun Tzu.

Sun Tzu’s art of war was studied in the top military schools today. His strategic thinking was an elective subject in top MBA schools. In some countries, top brasses of the military have to go through a course in the Art of War, just to get promoted.

At this very point in time, Myanmar is facing pressures from the West and ASEAN, the latter following an agenda and similar narratives of the West, based on fake news and misinformation. These fake news agencies, such as Khit Thit, Mizzima, and Irrawaddy, created many fake stories, and presented misleading information, as part of their payback for a 20 per cent share of terrorism campaign funds.

Myanmar’s Art of War

By U AC

“Know yourself, know the other side, you will not be defeated”, Sun Tzu said. Myanmar at this point in time is of limited power, influence and resources. Even our ASEAN neighbours, who signed a treaty not to interfere in each other’s internal affairs take advantage of this weakness, to put pressure upon us, through non-invitation to group events, regularly issuing statements of utmost concern, not treating us as equals in meetings,

announcing declarations just to embarrass us, etc. Some countries such as Malaysia, went as far as, blatantly showing support for the terrorist exile government. When the narratives that arise out of facts, figures and evidence are not up to the liking of the West and the fake media groups, they resort to the attacks of the characters, name callings and slander of the current administration and Myanmar leaders. Yet it is best that

Myanmar does not appease these other sides, all hell-bent on making sure the corrupt NLD government comes back to bankrupt the country and run to the likes of the Western world. Our sovereignty is at stake here.

Taking another leave from Sun Tzu’s book, “Do not enter into alliances until we know the design of your neighbours”. The design here means the internal workings, plans, objectives, strengths and

weaknesses of our neighbours. E.g., the basic designs of Bangladesh and Myanmar are so different that we can never be allies.

“On the grounds of intersecting highways, join hands with your allies” was another of Sun Tzu’s famous quotes. Myanmar is at the point intersections of geopolitical highways, due to its location. The interests of many powerful countries are being contested here. In such instances, it would be wise, as Sun Tzu suggested to ally with some of them, to strengthen our nation.

The current allied movement with Russia is one of the best moves of the current administration. Myanmar and Russia’s interests are very much intertwined now. With very good existing relations between India and China, Myanmar can strive towards economic development, without heeding incessant threats of western and ASEAN-sponsored sanctions. Those who followed the meeting between UN Special Representative and Senior General Min Aung Hlaing would note that the Myanmar leader has not forgotten the fact that WHO has not provided a

single Covid vaccine in the period of utmost medical needs in Myanmar in 2021. This is a sad example of how world organizations are being used as a tool to further the political agenda of the West.

In addition to Sun Tzu, Myanmar also has its own strategy for use in difficult times: “When the English are in difficulties, it is a point of advantage for the Burmese.” The saying came about during the fight for independence when the English were having a difficult time during WWII, Myanmar independent fighters went to Japan secretly to ask for help, asking the Japanese to come and fight the British out!” The same strategy can be applied here. At the time, when the West is busy with the economic, energy and Ukraine crisis, and at the time when ASEAN unity and support are an all-time low, now may be the time to completely rid ourselves of dependence upon them. Self-sufficiency and cementing further strategic alliances with the Bear, the Panda and the Elephant would probably be recommended by Sun Tzu, too.

■

High hopes for nasal Covid vaccines despite ‘disappointing’ trial

NASAL vaccines could still be a powerful future weapon in the fight against Covid-19 despite “disappointing” recent trial results for an AstraZeneca spray, experts say.

By entering the body the same way as the virus, nasal vaccines aim to build immunity in the mucous membrane that lines the nose and mouth.

This could block people from getting infected in the first place — and also potentially hamper those who have Covid from spreading it further.

That would represent a huge boost compared to traditional shots in the arm, which have proved very effective at preventing severe Covid but perform far less well when it comes to stopping transmission.

Last month China became the first country to approve a needle-free Covid vaccine, an aero-

solized mist inhaled through the nose and mouth using a nebulizer device, while India greenlit a homegrown nasal drop vaccine days later.

With some wondering when Western nations would catch up, last week Oxford researchers revealed the results of a phase 1 trial for a simple nasal spray using the AstraZeneca vaccine.

However, the vaccine promoted mucosal antibodies only in a minority of the participants, and the immune responses were weaker compared to those from traditional vaccines, according to a study published in the journal eBioMedicine.

Don’t be ‘too downhearted’

“The nasal spray did not perform as well in this study as we had hoped,” said the trial’s chief investigator, Sandy Douglas of Oxford University.

“This was quite different from

recent data from China, which has suggested good results can be achieved by delivery of a similar vaccine deep into the lungs with a more complex nebulizer device,” Douglas said in a statement.

“One possibility is simply that the majority of the nasal spray vaccine ends up being swallowed and destroyed in the stomach — delivery to the lungs could avoid that.”

Connor Bamford, a virologist at Queen’s University Belfast, told AFP that it was important to “not be too downhearted” about the AstraZeneca results.

He said that working out exactly why the nasal spray fell short could help researchers discover how to make a future version more effective.

Unlike AstraZeneca, successful nasal vaccines used for other diseases such as polio, rotavirus and influenza are all live vaccines, which means they replicate inside



Boxes of anti-COVID-19 nasal spray are sold at a pharmacy in Bangkok on 1 Oct. PHOTO: AFP

the nose, Bamford said, potentially pointing a way forwards for researchers.

Eric Tartour, an immunol-

ogist at the European Hospital Georges Pompidou in Paris, said that while the AstraZeneca results “are indeed disappointing”,

he did not think the news “dampens hope for nasal vaccines”.

It was “reassuring” that the AstraZeneca, Chinese and Indian

nasal vaccines have not shown any serious side effects, he added.

Around 100 different intranasal Covid vaccines are under development worldwide, according to analysis by health data firm Airfinity and Nature last month, with some 20 being tested on humans.

Russia and Iran have also approved nasal vaccines. However, like China and India, they have not published trial data showing that their vaccines stop transmission in a peer-reviewed journal.

And with falling inoculation rates worldwide leading some countries to destroy millions of expired doses, the demand for a new Covid vaccine remains unclear.

‘Wake up and lead’

For example, in 2020 France’s Pasteur Institute and biotech firm TheraVectys developed a nasal vaccine candidate that was found to block transmission and produce antibodies for different variants in tests on animals, according to chief scientific officer Pierre Charneau.

However, the vaccine has not “aroused enough interest from funding agencies or ‘Big Pharma’ to hold trials on humans”,

so the firm has turned its focus back towards cancer vaccines, Charneau said.

US biotech firm Meissa Vaccines has developed a nasal vaccine shown to produce an immune response in phase 1 trials on humans, said its chief scientific officer Martin Moore.

So how long could it take for such a nasal vaccine to be made available to the public? It depends, Moore said.

He called for the world to put similar resources into creating a nasal vaccine as it did into the first round of Covid jabs, which were developed and deployed en masse in less than a year — the fastest rate in history.

“If there was a Warp Speed 2.0, and there should be, our vaccine could be available to the public with a similar timeline,” Moore said.

“Reducing transmission is the best way to gain control over the virus,” Moore said. “The challenge is proving that a nasal vaccine can actually do this,” he added.

“The upside to our health and economies is enormous. Western countries need to wake up and lead.”

SOURCE: AFP



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 19 October 2022)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

SPECIAL FEACTURES: According to the observations at (18:30hrs MST today, the Tropical Storm “Nesat” over the South China Sea centered at about (170) nautical miles East of Dong Hoi, Vietnam. It is likely to move West-Northwestwards and weaken into Tropical Depression and will cross upper Vietnam coast around morning of (21.10.2022).

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 20 October, 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Chin State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State, scattered in Magway, Taninthayi Regions and Rakhine State and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Taninthayi Region. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squall with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (30- 35) mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (8-10) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and (4-7) feet off and along Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Region and Chin, Rakhine States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20 October 2022: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Yangonites can access municipal services through City Pay app: YCDC



Yangon City Bank is located in the Yangon City Development Committee's Building. (Yangon City Hall)

YANGONITES can get access to municipal services, utility bills and payments with City Wallet through the City Pay app of the Yangon City Bank (YCB) under the Yangon City Development Committee.

Yangon City Bank offers banking services such as saving accounts, current accounts, fixed deposit accounts, payment orders, issuing bank-certified

cheques, loans, overdraft loans, term loans, interbank transfers, ATM cards (MPU Debit Card), Bank Guarantee, foreign currency transaction and exchange and utility payment.

Furthermore, the My City app is also a municipal community app for Yangonites. The online payment is available for utility payment and tax by YCDC through YCB Gateway

that integrates with AYA i-banking, AYA Pay, KBZ i-banking, KBZ Pay, CB Pay, UAB Sai Sai Pay, MAB, AGD One Pay, OK \$, Mytel Pay, Wave Money and MPU Debit Card. The payroll service can be used with the MPU Debit Card system. Additionally, IBFT Inter Bank Fund Transfer, Inter Bank Transfer for clients of YCB Bank, e-commerce platform, online payment for the service of YBPS Yangon Building Permit System and YCB City Pay Wallet for the utility bills and services for building permits, land management, piping permit, registration for pets can be done with City Pay through My City App.

The YCB was opened on 2 April 1993 at the extended six-storey building owned by the YCDC in Kyauktada Township, with an aim to facilitate the economic growth of the municipal community. YCB was established wholly with a capital of K32 million from the YCDC. — TWA/GNLM



The 14th Flower Festival was convened in PyinOoLwin in 2019.

PyinOoLwin to hold 15th Flower Festival in Dec 2022

THE flower festival will be held in PyinOoLwin Township of Mandalay Region for the 15th time in December 2022, according to the governing body of National Kandawgyi Botanical Garden.

The flower festival will run for a month from 15 December to 15 January. Various flowers will be displayed at the festival, the Butterfly Museum, the Ingyin (sal tree) Museum, the Fossil Museum and the Orchid Garden. It is planned to hold the market festival selling local products, sweater fabrics, handicrafts and souvenirs, orchid flower competitions, flower decoration contests, photo contests and entertainment programmes.

Although the annual flower festival was held at the

National Kandawgyi Botanical Garden in PyinOoLwin Township, the last time it was held was in 2019 due to the local COVID-19 infections. The 2019 Flower Festival added features of a sunflower maze representing Myanmar, a tulip flower display representing the Netherlands, a rose flower display representing the UK and a lily flower display representing Italy.

The flower festival is held to become the famous festival of Myanmar and to be able to enjoy seasonal flowers in one place, as well as to help enhance Myanmar's flower planting and production business sector. It is said that the purpose of the event is to promote the tourism sector and strengthen the development of the region. — TWA/GNLM

Hundreds of trucks stranded on Myawady-Kawkareik Asia Road

HUNDREDS of trucks are stranded on the Myawady-Kawkareik Asia Road in Myawady Township of Kayin State after shootings occurred, truck driver Ko Tun Win Latt, who was stuck in the traffic jam, told the GNLM.

The fighting erupted starting from the evening of 18 October on Myawady-Kawkareik Asia Road and continued until the evening of 19 October.

"The cars cannot move anymore as the clashes occurred at Tawnaw waterfall. We drive in a row and cannot turn around but the private cars do so," he said.

The entry and exit of vehicles on Asia Road are suspended and many trucks are also stranded at the No 2 Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge.

These trucks depart from the Myawady border trade camp to transport products across the nation and are stuck at the No 2 Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge due to the clashes.



Trucks are seen being stranded on the Myawady-Kawkareik Asia Road on 19 October.

As the trucks are stranded for a long time, it can cause huge losses if they are loaded with perishable foodstuffs, said the merchants. "The entry and exit are closed and hundreds of trucks are trapped and it causes traffic jams. Some drive here as they don't know the situation. When they arrive here and face traffic congestion, they return. Such happenings cause delays

in goods flow. We don't want the fighting anymore. Now, it was closed for two days. We don't know how long they will suspend. If it takes certain months, the perishable products can make losses," driver Ko Zarni Win told the GNLM.

In April, some trucks were set on fire while facing traffic jams after the fighting. — TWA/GNLM

181 fire outbreaks logged in Yangon within 9 months

DURING the last nine months of 2022, there were 181 outbreaks of fire in Yangon Region, causing a loss of approximately K947 million, stated Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein.

The chief minister said so at the opening ceremony of the No 3 Fire Safety Management (Special) Course conducted by the Myanmar Fire Services Department, on 17 October.

A total of 52 trainees are attending the training course. Chief Minister U Soe Thein commented that the course was opened with the purpose of educating people on how to react promptly in the face of fire and natural disasters. A statement from the Department of Fire

Services said that 1,129 fires broke out all over the nation between January and August 2022, leaving 72 dead, and 101 injured. As a result, K404.565 million was lost and 8,011 people were left homeless. In 2021, there were 2,107 fire outbreaks across the nation, causing a loss of over 33 billion kyats, with 105 casualties and 151 wounded.

Seventy per cent of disasters are fire hazards. It can be seen that, although the frequency of fires is decreasing, the amount of losses is increasing.

The main causes of fire are stove fire and negligence. These two causes account for 83 per cent of fires, according to the statistics of the Department of Fire Services. — TWA/GNLM

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 PDF's. 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

Application for Import Health Certificate to be processed through E-Submission system

FOOD and Drug Administration (FDA Myanmar) of the Ministry of Health announced on 17 October that Import Health Certificate (IHC) applications will be screened and accepted through the E-Submission system from the first week of November.

According to FDA Myanmar's announcement, the Food Division of the Food and Drug Administration received and verified the import health certificate application through the MACCS system manually.

In turn, it was announced that starting from the first week of November, the IHC application will be screened and accepted through the E-Submission system.

There are four steps in applying for Domestic Import Health Certification. In step 1, the import permit applicant must obtain an application from the Food

and Drug Administration (FDA) under the Ministry of Health and apply with other necessary documents.

Other documents to be submitted are an import approval certificate for each type of food product to be imported, health certification issued by the relevant country's food and beverage control department/organization, or weekly laboratory tests of production for the food to be imported, documents imported by ship, aircraft, and vehicle, and import declaration issued by the Customs Department, and product shipment record.

The Customs Department will take samples of the products after arriving at the port, and send them to the FDA for laboratory testing in 2 Step.

In the case of food samples or large packages that are not sent in original packaging, a photo-

graph of the product or a sample of the brand must be included.

The size of the sample to be sent is 1,500 grammes. When taking material samples and conducting tests, the amount of samples taken for testing is different depending on the type of material.

FDA will send a rejection letter to the applicant for applications with incomplete information (or unsuccessful laboratory test results) in 3 Step.

In 4 Step, FDA will issue an import health certificate to applicants who have submitted a complete and correct application and laboratory test results. The applicant can go and collect the import health certificate and the process will be completed.

In such an application, the time at the department that receives the documents and samples can be increased by about 1



FDA Myanmar is continuously overseeing and conducting inspections to ensure that the food is of good quality and safe for public consumption.

day, and the time to get approval from the Director General can be increased from a minimum of 1 day to a maximum of 2 days.

It is reported that the sample laboratory test can take a minimum of 1 day to a maximum of 25 days, and the entire application

process can take a minimum of 14 days to a maximum of 31 days.

FDA Myanmar is continuously overseeing and conducting inspections to ensure that the food is of good quality and safe for public consumption. —TWA/GNLM

Chilli pepper price soars to K23,000 per viss



Chilli peppers are seen being put into a sack to be delivered to Yangon markets.

THE price of chilli pepper is the highest among kitchen dry groceries in 2022, Ko Hla Han, an owner of a chilli pepper depot, told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

In early October, there was a weak demand in Yangon's fresh chilli market when the chilli pepper depot set the price high. In mid-October, the price rose again and jumped to K23,000 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes) in the wholesale market, he added.

On 19 October, the prices

moved in the range between K14,500 and 23,000 per viss depending on different varieties (bell pepper, Shankyun, and Moehtaung chilli pepper varieties).

In early September, the prices of long chilli peppers processed in cold storage declined to K14,000-16,000 per viss. The prices increased to K19,000-19,500 per viss in mid-September and 19 October.

The strong demand by Thailand when Myanmar's output of fresh chilli pepper

declined pushed up the price rise. On 13 September, the prices of bell pepper ranged between K17,500-19,500 per viss depending on different varieties. On 19 October, the prices rose to K20,000-23,000 per viss respectively. This year, the prices of chilli peppers stayed elevated. Those growers who cultivated chilli peppers in the second half of the year fetched a handsome price. Especially the dealers who keep them in their hands are prospering. — TWA/GNLM

ECONOMY WORLD

30 tril. yen new stimulus eyed as Japan fights inflation, weak yen



Koichi Hagiuda (C), the policy chief of the Liberal Democratic Party, speaks to reporters at the prime minister's office in Tokyo on 18 Oct 2022. **PHOTO: KYODO**

JAPAN should target around 30 trillion yen (\$201 billion) for a new economic package to be compiled later this month, a senior ruling party lawmaker said Tuesday as the government aims to help ease the pain of accelerating inflation and support the economy.

Koichi Hagiuda, the policy

chief of the Liberal Democratic Party, told reporters after meeting with Prime Minister Fumio Kishida that they agreed that "the size and substance" of the package are important.

Faced with plunging public support, Kishida is scrambling to increase government support for struggling households and

make it more visible by reducing energy bills.

Another key feature would be to expand subsidies for small and midsize companies that raise pay, as Kishida attaches importance to wealth redistribution as part of his push for creating a new capitalism.

"The problem is that we haven't seen wage growth (to keep pace with price hikes)," Kishida told a parliamentary session on Tuesday, adding that the new package would aim to strengthen the economy despite inflation and the weak yen. Russia's war against Ukraine has increased energy, raw material and food prices. Resource-poor Japan has felt the effect magnified by the yen's sharp depreciation as it boosts import costs. The Japanese currency has hit a fresh 32-year low beyond 149 to the US dollar.—Kyodo

UN chief calls for urgent global action on poverty eradication

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday called for urgent global action to reverse the negative trend in poverty eradication.

"As we mark the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, we face a harsh truth: the world is moving backward," he said in a video message played at an event to mark the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, which falls on 17 Oct.

COVID-19 plunged millions of people into poverty, setting back more than four years of hard-won progress. Inequalities are widening. National and household economies are battered by job losses, skyrocketing food and energy prices, and the gathering shadows of a global recession, he said.

At the same time, the climate crisis and raging conflicts are causing immense suffering, with the poorest people bearing the brunt. Developing countries are being squeezed dry, and denied access to resources and debt relief to invest in recovery

and growth. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are being pushed far out of reach, he added.

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is a wake-up call to the world, said Guterres. This year's theme, "Dignity for all in practice", must be a rallying cry for urgent global action: action to invest in people-centred solutions — from health and decent work, to gender equality, social protection,

and transformed food and education systems; action to transform a morally bankrupt global financial system and ensure access to financing and debt relief for all countries; action to support developing countries as they transition from planet-killing fossil fuels to renewable energy and job-creating green economies; action to end conflicts, heal geopolitical divisions and pursue peace; and action to achieve the SDGs.—Xinhua



Street children arrange flowers, thrown away by flower vendors, to sell to customers a day before Valentine's Day in Manila on 13 February. **PHOTO: TED ALJIBE/AFP/FILE**

Mountainous Lesotho finds gold in trout fish farming

IT'S harvest time in Lejone, a small village nestling in mountains in southern Africa more than two thousand metres above sea level.

The yield is not grain or fruit, but rainbow trout — the bounty from an undulating river at the foot of the peaks of Lesotho.

Fishermen haul nets bulging with trout onto a floating platform.

The fish are killed and put on ice, the first step on their

journey to dinner tables in neighbouring South Africa.

The settlement is home to one of Lesotho's two professional fish farms — pioneering ventures in the poor landlocked kingdom. Stephen Phakisi, 59, launched Katse Fish Farms with two partners in 2005.

Today, he chuckles at how the trio leapt into the business with meagre knowledge about some of its unknowns, including the best feed for fattening fish quickly.— AFP



Katse Fish Farms lies more than 2,000 metres above sea level in the mountains of Lesotho. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Indonesia posts trade surplus of nearly US\$ 5 bln in September

INDONESIA recorded a trade surplus of 4.99 billion US dollars in September, with an export value of 24.80 billion dollars and an import value of 19.81 billion dollars, Statistics Indonesia (BPS) reported on Monday.

Non-oil and non-gas commodities still made the largest contribution to the surplus, particularly from mineral fuels, including coal and crude palm oil (CPO), according to the agency. "The surplus was also contributed by stronger government policies, including the extension of the CPO export zero levy," the agency's Deputy for Distribution Statistics and Services Setianto said in a press conference, adding that exports of manufactures, such as vehicles and spare parts, also increased during the month.— Xinhua

French government set to overrule lawmakers in budget standoff

THE French government is poised to wield a rarely used constitutional weapon to force its budget through parliament, where opposition groups have stymied the text for weeks with rival amendments, officials said Tuesday.

The impasse underscores the weakened position of President Emmanuel Macron since his centrist party lost its majority in parliamentary elections last spring, just weeks after his own re-election. Government spokesman Olivier Veran said Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne would "probably" invoke article 49.3 of the constitution on Wednesday, which would end debate and pass the 2023 budget without a vote.—AFP

Japan foreign arrivals in Sept. up near 12-fold from 2021 to 206,500



Visitors in the month were primarily businesspeople, technical interns and international students.
PHOTO: KYODO

THE estimated number of foreign visitors to Japan in September increased 11.7-fold from a year earlier to 206,500, government data showed Wednesday, with the figure likely to jump in the coming months after Japan removed almost all its COVID-19 entry restrictions earlier this month. The figure exceeded 200,000 for the first time since February 2020 but was down 90.9 per cent

from September in the pre-pandemic year of 2019, according to the Japan National Tourism Organization. Visitors in the month were primarily businesspeople, technical interns and international students. Although the government resumed accepting foreign tourists in early September on tour packages that were unaccompanied by tour guides, the

number of visitors entering the country for tourism remained sluggish at 19,013. On 11 Oct, the government removed its cap on daily arrivals and its ban on individual, non-prearranged trips to revive the country's struggling inbound tourism sector. Tourists are no longer required to travel on package tours or obtain a visa if they are citizens of one

of 68 countries and regions with which Japan had a waiver agreement before the pandemic. The lifting of the restrictions "has a tremendous impact. The weak yen is also a tailwind." Koichi Wada, the head of the Japan Tourism Agency, said at a press conference. He expressed hope that tourist numbers are poised to make a full-fledged recovery.—Kyodo

Nokia announces new Canada R&D campus

FINNISH telecommunications giant Nokia on Monday unveiled plans for a new research and development centre in a suburb of Canada's capital Ottawa to advance cyber security and mobile technologies. Alongside laboratories, the 26-acre facility in Kanata, west of downtown Ottawa, will include office and residential towers, as well as space for restaurants and retailers. "This is a project that will build a world class R&D hub that will transform the wireless technologies we rely on every day," Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau told a joint news conference with Nokia chief executive Pekka Lundmark. Lundmark said the R&D centre "will be among the top five in the whole world for Nokia", which has operations in more than 30 countries.—AFP

United Airlines bullish on air travel despite inflation

UNITED Airlines reported strong third-quarter results Tuesday and said it does not expect inflation and other macroeconomic headwinds to derail the travel industry's comeback. The major US carrier improved in key revenue benchmarks compared with the comparable pre-pandemic 2019 stretch, making the period "by most metrics, the best operational quarter in our history," as Chief Executive Officer



A United Airlines Boeing 777 aircraft waits to take off at Beijing airport. PHOTO: GREG BAKER / AFP / FILE
Scott Kirby put it. Compared with the 2019 quarter, United had about 10 per

cent fewer passengers and also about 10 per cent lower seat capacity in the just-finished quarter. But revenues were about 13 per cent higher, thanks to lofty ticket prices in the wake of torrid consumer demand. "Despite growing concerns about an economic slowdown, the ongoing COVID recovery trends at United continue to prevail and we remain optimistic that we'll continue to deliver strong financial results in the fourth quarter, 2023 and beyond," Kirby said.—AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V BLUE STAR VOY.NO. (3373)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BLUE STAR VOY.NO. (3373) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21-10-2022 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of TMIT-2 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: 2301928

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S CHUN AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO LTD

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The Pillsbury Company, LLC, a company incorporated under the laws of Delaware Corporation, United States of America and having its registered office at **Number One General Mills Boulevard, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55426, United States of America** is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:



Reg. No.4/7810/2022 (28.9.2022)

In respect of "Flour; mixes for making baked goods; mixes for making pancake or waffle batters; ready-to-eat pastries and desserts; breakfast pastries; frozen pancakes or waffles; frosting; pizza; dough; and pastry filled with eggs and meat and/or cheese" in **International Class 30**.

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Daw La Min May, H.G.P
For The Pillsbury Company, LLC,
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
Level 8A, UFC Tower, Corner of Mahabandoola Road and
Thein Phyu Road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated 20th October 2022 lmm@kcyangon.com

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GLOBAL
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WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

Full-scale Noah's Ark — a showcase for US creationists

A full-sized model of Noah's Ark sitting in rural Kentucky promotes a worldview that draws visitors from across the United States — that the theory of evolution is false. The Ark Encounter and the associated Creation Museum espouse the belief that

God literally created the Earth in six days around 4,000 BC.

Evangelical Christians flock to see the spectacular staging and sharp denunciations of scientific facts such as that dinosaurs became extinct about 65 million years ago.



A massive Noah's Ark housing statues of sheep, deer, and even dinosaurs, the Creation Museum in Kentucky attracts crowds of evangelical Christians with its spectacular staging and highly political messages. **PHOTO: AFP**

Visitors also reflect America's divided politics as the country heads into midterm elections, with creationists often aligned with the Republican Party on issues such as abortion and gay rights.

"Dinosaurs are often used by evolutionists to proclaim their worldview. So we've taken the dinosaurs back, if you will," said Mark Looy, cofounder of the ark amusement park and the museum.

Standing a few steps from a model of an allosaurus skeleton, Looy said the site offers a different view of dinosaurs — that "most of them perished during the flood about 4,500 years ago".

The museum opened in 2007 in Petersburg, Kentucky, financed by a donation campaign and supported by Answers in Genesis, a group that believes in strict creationism.—AFP

Türkiye arrests more than 500 over suspected ties to Erdogan foe



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, once an ally of Gulen, accuses him of having been behind the failed coup against him in July 2016. **PHOTO: AFP**

TURKISH authorities announced the arrests of more than 500 people Tuesday, suspected of links with a preacher accused of having plotted a failed coup in 2016.

Interior Minister Suleyman Soyly said just over 700 arrest warrants had been issued, with 543 people having been detained.

They are suspected of having collected or redistributed money sent from abroad by supporters of US-based preacher Fethullah Gulen.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, once an ally of Gulen, accuses him of having been behind the failed coup against him in July 2016.—AFP

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Poland to buy 288 multiple rocket launchers from South Korea

POLAND is set to sign a framework agreement for the purchase of 288 K239 Chunmoo multiple rocket launchers from South Korea, the Polish defence ministry said on Tuesday.

Under the deal set to be signed by Defence Minister Mariusz Blaszczak on Wednesday, 18 of the rocket launchers will be delivered in 2023 and mounted on Polish Jelcz vehicles.

The ministry said in a statement that the system can carry ballistic missiles with a range of 290 kilometres (180 miles) as well as guided missiles with 80-kilometre range. Poland has

massively stepped up weapons purchases since Russia invaded Ukraine, as well as sending

military aid to Kyiv and taking in millions of Ukrainian refugees.—AFP



Poland is set to sign a framework agreement for the purchase of 288 K239 Chunmoo multiple rocket launchers from South Korea, the Polish defence ministry said on Tuesday. **PHOTO: MILITARY WIKI**

US midterm election: Republicans put Ukraine on the ballot

US Republicans said Tuesday they will not write "a blank check" to war-torn Ukraine if they make the widely expected gains needed to take control of the House of Representatives in the midterm elections.

The warning from House minority leader Kevin McCarthy is the first official signal that Kyiv could be facing a tougher fight for funding as it fends off Russia's invasion, with bipartisan support beginning to wane

in the United States.

"I think people are going to be sitting in a recession and they're not going to write a blank check to Ukraine. They just won't do it," McCarthy told online politics outlet Punchbowl News. McCarthy hopes to become House speaker — the third-most senior position in US politics behind the president and vice president — if Republicans take over the House next year.—AFP

Fifty metres of Nord Stream pipe destroyed: video

AT least 50 metres of the Nord Stream 1 pipeline has been destroyed or buried under the seafloor, following an explosion assumed to be from sabotage, underwater images published Tuesday showed.

In videos published by newspaper Expressen, a mas-

sive tear and twisted metal can be seen on the Nord Stream 1 pipeline 80 metres down.

According to the newspaper, the videos that were filmed on Monday show how over 50 metres of the pipeline is either missing or buried under the seabed, and long tears can be

observed on the seabed leading up to the burst pipe.

"It is only an extreme force that can bend metal that thick in the way we are seeing," Trond Larsen, drone operator with the Norwegian company Blueye Robotics, told Expressen.—AFP

Canada sanctions Russian journalists, actors

CANADA announced new sanctions on Monday against 34 Russian journalists, actors and television presenters, as well as state-owned national TV Zvezda, calling them "propaganda agents" for their government.

The list includes Vladimir Mashkov, best known in the West for his work in the films "Behind Enemy Lines" and "Mission Impossible", Pav-

el Gusev, editor-in-chief of the Moscow daily Moskovskij Komsomolets, and Kirill Kleimyonov, head of the news division at Russia's state-owned Channel One.

Ottawa accuses them of "spreading false narratives that serve as pretexts for the Russian regime's unjustifiable war" in Ukraine, according to a statement.—AFP

NEWS
IN BRIEF

Russia prepares to toughen anti-gay law in conservative push

RUSSIAN lawmakers Monday called for the toughening of a strict anti-gay law and the Kremlin ordered expensive patriotic education projects as Moscow presses with a conservative drive at home while its troops fight in Ukraine.

The lower house of the Russian parliament, the Duma, held a consultation session on amendments to the 2013 law that bans exposing minors to what authorities deem "gay propaganda".

The draft bill would take it further by also banning the "denial of family values" and the "promotion of non-traditional sexual orientations" to all ages.

Lawmakers argued the law needs to be toughened amid Russia's intensified confrontation with the West and as its armed forces battle next-door.

Alexander Khinstein, a senior lawmaker and the head of the Duma's information committee, said the Ukraine offensive had given the proposed law "new relevance". —AFP

World's largest book fair kicks off in Frankfurt

THE 74th Frankfurt Book Fair, the largest of its kind in the world, along with numerous stages on the exhibition grounds and more than 2,000 events, opened here on Tuesday evening.

The book fair is projected to draw roughly 4,000 exhibitors from 95 countries and regions. More than 110 exhibitors from the Chinese mainland have been registered, according to the book fair's catalog.

Meanwhile, the organizers stressed that the world's largest book fair should be a place of discourse and togetherness in times of crisis and instability, said Juergen Boos, president and CEO of the Frankfurt Book Fair, noting that "presence helps against polarization". —Xinhua

In Brazil, Bolsonaro's far-right echoes Trump's

"BOLSONARISMO", the Brazilian far-right movement built around President Jair Bolsonaro, shares much in common with ultra-conservatives in power in Europe -- Hungary, Poland and soon Italy -- but is closer to Donald Trump and the US alt-right.

Whether or not Bolsonaro wins his uphill fight for re-election against veteran leftist Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in Brazil's 30 October runoff, the far-right's arrival in power in Brazil, as elsewhere, is linked to deep social upheaval, analysts say.

"All these far-right movements are rooted in an economic



A supporter holds up a portrait of Brazil's far-right President Jair Bolsonaro at a rally. **PHOTO: AFP**

and social crisis that is growing worse by the year: rising ine-

quality, declining income for the working and middle classes," says Christophe Ventura, a Latin America specialist at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS).

"That has triggered the rise of widespread mistrust."

The response, he says, has followed a similar pattern internationally: a rejection of "rotten and incompetent" traditional politicians in favor of "virtuous citizens and a more authoritarian government" to right the wrongs unleashed by globalization and free trade -- blamed for all ills. —AFP

Singapore bans film on religious and LGBTQ issues

A Singapore film on religious and LGBTQ issues that premiered in New York this year has been banned in the city-state because it could create "social division", authorities said.

The movie *Look At Me* by Singaporean film-maker Ken Kwek "exceeded the film classification guidelines" and cannot be screened locally, according to a statement issued Monday by regulator Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA).

The film premiered in July at the New York Asian Film Festival, where it was in competition for Best Feature and won a Special Jury award for Best Performance.

IMDA's statement, issued jointly with the country's culture and interior ministries, said the

film "denigrates a religious community and has the potential to cause enmity and social division in Singapore's multi-racial and multi-religious society". It revolves around a lead character who takes offence at a male pastor's stand on homosexuality and posts an "incendiary" comment on social media which goes viral.

Tensions arise, with the protagonist "plotting a revenge attack" on the pastor, who is also portrayed as engaging in an act prohibited by his religious faith.

"The context may be seen to be suggesting or encouraging violence against the pastor," IMDA said.

The team behind the movie said in a statement they were disappointed with the decision and will lodge an appeal.

"*Look At Me* is a work of cinematic fiction. The film seeks to entertain and encourage conversations on important social issues that are relevant to Singapore," they said. The team voiced

hope that Singapore residents will be able to watch the film, which it said had been selected for screening at the Singapore International Film Festival in December. —AFP



Singaporeans gather at Speakers' Corner for the Pink Dot gay pride parade. The city state's continued opposition to changes in the law bucks moves elsewhere in the region. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ ROSLAN RAHMAN/AFP**

Tigray rebels say Ethiopian forces take control of key city



Tigrayan rebels said Tuesday that Ethiopian and Eritrean forces had taken control of the strategic city of Shire in northwestern Tigray. **PHOTO: AFP**

TIGRAYAN rebels said Tuesday that Ethiopian and Eritrean forces had taken control of the strategic city of Shire in northwestern Tigray.

"These invading forces have taken control for the moment of some areas including Shire," the Tigray Central Command said in a statement, adding that the rebels were in a "life or death" struggle.

It said the joint forces had entered the city of about 100,000 people on Monday, adding: "The enemies are massacring our people with heavy weaponry/

armaments in the areas it invades". The Shire area had been the scene of an offensive by Ethiopian and Eritrean troops as intense fighting was reported in Tigray, triggering deep alarm in the international community.

It is not possible to verify battlefield claims as Tigray is under a communications blackout and access to northern Ethiopia is restricted for journalists.

UN chief Antonio Guterres warned Monday that the situation in Ethiopia was "spiralling out of control" as the fighting raged. —AFP



Yadanabon beat Myawady 1-0 in MNL Week 16

MANDALAY-BASED Yadanabon FC thrashed Myawady FC with a lone goal in their Week 16 match of Myanmar National League 2022 at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

Head coach U Maung Maung Aye's Myawady FC lined up youth players including Captain Myat Thu Aung, Goalie Tun Nanda Oo, and Striker Soe Min Oo.

Meanwhile, Yadanabon FC showcased its core players: Zaw Ye Tun, Goal Keeper Pyae Phyto Thu and veteran players Myo Ko Tun and Zaw Ye Tun.

Yadanabon was forced to play at the start with neat and tidy tackling, but Myawady became the aggressor with a potent and sustained attack.

Taking advantage of Myawady's freezing defence line, Yadanabon got an ice-breaker at the 20-minute-mark,

and it was scored by star player Myo Ko Tun.

After 1-0, the match became a good and exciting one for football fans. The match intensified in the second half with equal play. Though Myawady tried more for their equalizers, the strikers could not convert their near-goal chances

in the early minutes' mark.

There were no more goals till the final whistle and the single goal was enough for team Yadanabon to celebrate their victory in the Week 16 of the domestic league. — GNLM



A Myawady player (red) slips when kicking the ball as the Yadanabon player (blue) protects it with his body during their Week 16 Myanmar National League 2022 match at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 19 October 2022. PHOTO: MNL

Euro kings Italy nursing World Cup wound as another rebuild begins



Roberto Mancini has another rebuilding job on his hands after failing to qualify for the World Cup. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

ITALY are still hurting as the European champions sit on the sidelines while the rest of international football's elite prepares to descend on Qatar for the upcoming World Cup.

Roberto Mancini will once again have to watch the tournament on television as he begins another Azzurri rebuild while all eyes are on the Gulf.

And the determined coach of the four-time world champions is not hiding the hurt that

missing out for the second time in a row has brought one of football's most important countries.

"The World Cup is a cut that will bleed right to the end, we can only heal it by winning the next one," he said after drawing England in qualifying for Euro 2024.

Italy's pain has been doubled because Mancini had heralded their comeback to the pinnacle of the international game, creating a formidable

team unit from the ashes of the 2018 World Cup qualification disaster.

His arrival after the misery of Gian Piero Ventura's tenure which ended with play-off devastation at the hands of Sweden was like a ray of sunshine for a country plunged into darkness.

The 57-year-old threw away the dusty old rule book which said Italy teams needed to be stodgy, cynical and disciplined, and built a team that didn't just win, but won with style.

Their triumph at Euro 2020 was supposed to be the consecration of Italy's return to the top table, but instead the partying of the warm summer nights led to a hangover which dragged well into this year and past their shock play-off defeat to North Macedonia.

By the time Italy were left shell-shocked by former Palermo man Aleksandar Trajkovski in his old stadium, back in March, a once cocksure 'Nazionale' were already badly off-form.—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.

Man Utd's Greenwood released on bail after attempted rape charge



Manchester United forward Mason Greenwood. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

MANCHESTER United footballer Mason Greenwood was Wednesday released on bail, days after being charged with attempted rape.

The 21-year-old forward was also charged with controlling and coercive behaviour and assault at the weekend.

He appeared at Manchester Magistrates' Court on Monday and was remanded in custody. A bail application was held in private at Manchester's Minshull Street Crown Court on Wednesday. Following the hearing, a

spokesman for the court said bail had been granted, with conditions not to contact witnesses, including the complainant, and to reside at a specified address.

Greenwood, who did not appear for the short hearing, is due to appear in court again on 21 November.

All three charges relate to the same woman.

The player was first held in January over allegations relating to a young woman after images and videos were posted online.—AFP