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Myanmar rejects politicized country-specific resolution based on one-sided allegations

THE resolution entitled “Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar” was adopted at the Third Committee of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the United States on 16 November 2022 without the participation of lawful representatives of Myanmar.

Myanmar always opposes country-specific resolutions and mandates which are created against the principles of impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity in the promotion and protection of human rights.

The lengthy resolution yearly co-sponsored by the EU and the OIC contains not only repetitive and unfounded allegations but also unrealistic tasks for the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar with the political aim to interfere in the internal affairs of a sovereign state. Moreover, its devised additional scheme to facilitate a dialogue between the General Assembly and the so-called “IIMM” is simply to heighten pressure on Myanmar. Myanmar has officially stated that it does not recognize the so-called “IIMM” since its establishment by the Human Rights Council’s resolution 39/2 adopted on 27 September 2018.

Indeed, the resolution adopted at the Third Committee originated from the aftermath of the August 2017 incident in northern Rakhine State. Nonetheless, it has intentionally left the root causes of that incident and the reality of the ground situation. In fact, the mass displacement started in

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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.

CBM announces resumption of Chinese Yuan, Thai Baht for export earnings

EXPORT earnings can be made in Chinese Yuan and Thai Baht in addition to the US dollar, the Central Bank of Myanmar notified.

The CBM’s notice takes effect on those export items; various pulses (green gram, black gram, chickpea and pigeon pea), edible oil crops (peanut and sesame), corn, rubber, fishery products (fish, shrimp, crab, eel) and livestock products (live cattle, hides, frozen meat and dried meat).

The traders need to apply for a licence to make Yuan or Baht payments. As per the US dollar policy, 65 per cent of earnings must be exchanged for local currency at the CBM’s reference foreign exchange rate, while exporters can use 35 per cent of export earnings or sell them on to others with an over-the-counter rate within one month.

The procedures for border



Export earnings can be made in Chinese Yuan and Thai Baht in addition to the US dollar. The photo shows containers to be exported are being handled at the port.

trade such as (100 per cent TT advance payment) and circular letter system have not been eased, according to the statement. Those companies that fail to deposit export earnings in local accounts will face a lawsuit.—TWA/GNLM

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No 75/2022

11th Waning of Tazaungmone 1384 ME
18 November 2022

Pardon Order

THE State Administration Council Chairman has granted pardons to the following members of ethnic armed organizations who are serving prison sentences at their respective prisons, jails and camps under the Code of Criminal Procedure Article 401 (1) "to serve the new punishment together with the remaining punishment to which he was sentenced this time if more offence is committed" in commemoration of the National Victory Day which falls on 10th Waning of Tazaungmone 1384 ME (17 November 2022) as well as to ensure national unity and internal peace.

- (1) BaMa/22/00384/Ka Htay Shay (son of) U Aung Kyaw Zin, AA
- (2) BaMa/22/00385/Ka Aung Naing (son of) U Maung Phyu Thaung, AA
- (3) BaMa/22/00386/Ka Zaw Zaw Naing (son of) U Maung Aye Khin, AA
- (4) MaKaNa/22/00291/Ka Kyaw Than Win (aka) Shwe Win (son of) U Tha Oo, AA
- (5) SaTa/21/00043/Ka Kyaw Min Naing (son of) U Shwe Thein, AA
- (6) SaTa/22/00170/Ka Tin Maung Soe (son of) U Maung Maung Hla, AA
- (7) SaTa/22/00193/Ka Than Myat Htay (son of) U San Tun Phyu, AA
- (8) BhaThaTa/21/00091/Ka Zaw Than Win (son of) U Nga Tan Chay, AA
- (9) BhaThaTa/22/00109/Ka Khin Maung Hla (son of) U Chat Kyee, AA
- (10) BhaThaTa/22/00108/Ka Kyaw Naing (son of) U Kyaw Thaung Sein, AA
- (11) ThaTa/20/00301/Ka Nyi Nyi Zaw (son of) U Saw Maung, AA
- (12) KaPha/22/00181/Ka Kyaw Htay Hlaing (son of) U Shwe Thein, AA
- (13) KaPha/22/00182/Ka Hla Maung Win (son of) U Aung Tun, AA
- (14) KaPha/22/00183/Ka Zaw Htay (aka) Supar (son of) U Hla Shwe Maung, AA
- (15) AhSa/20/18340/Ka Maung Nu Sein (aka) Naing Naing (son of) U Aung Par Hla, AA
- (16) LaRa/21/00242/Ka Soe Tint (son of) U Tin Aye, AA
- (17) LaRa/21/00243/Ka Kyaw Min Tun (son of) U Saw Thein Maung, AA
- (18) MaKaNa/21/00706/Ka Kun Baw Bran Meng (son of) U Kun Baw Tan, KIA
- (19) MaKaNa/21/00872/Ka Khan Ram (son of) U Dee Dan, KIA
- (20) MaKaNa/21/00875/Ka Sharwel Lord Aung (son of) U Sharwel La Ja, KIA
- (21) MaKaNa/21/00289/Ka Seng Baw Laseng (son of) U Seng Baw Zaw Aein, KIA
- (22) MaNya/22/00382/Ka Tuu Aung (son of) U In Bway Tuu, KIA
- (23) BaMa/22/0039/Ka Gam Aung (son of) U Seng Aung, KIA
- (24) BaMa/22/00040/Ka Naw Seng (aka) Maran Naw Seng (son of) U Maran Ladwe, KIA
- (25) BaMa/22/00110/Ka Waphaing Dweli (son of) U Waphaing La, KIA
- (26) BaMa/22/00163/NaKa Sein Hla Aung (son of) U Tun Sein, KIA
- (27) BaMa/22/00165/Ka Aung Pe (son of) U Pyi Pyan, KIA
- (28) BaMa/22/00166/Ka Zin Lin Aung (son of) U Htay Maung, KIA
- (29) BaMa/22/00167/Ka Lin Htet Soe (son of) U Phoe Nyo, KIA
- (30) BaMa/22/00168/Ka Chit Maw (son of) U Tun Nyo, KIA
- (31) BaMa/22/00242/Ka Pyone Cho (son of) U Than Kyaw Oo, KIA
- (32) BaMa/22/00243/Ka Naing Htet Oo (son of) U Kyaw Min Oo, KIA
- (33) LaRa/21/00960/Ka Tang Gun (aka) Gun Aung (son of) U Mar Shaung, KIA
- (34) LaRa/22/00576/Ka Gum Aung (aka) Gum Aung (son of) U Sharwel, KIA
- (35) KaTa/22/00713/Ka Li Saw (aka) U Law Ye, RCSS/SSA
- (36) ThaPa/22/00194/Ka Phoe Thar (aka) Sai San Hlan (aka) Zaw Ma (son of) U Tin Win, RCSS/SSA
- (37) ThaPa/22/00195/Ka Tun Shwe (son of) U Awam Pwint, RCSS/SSA
- (38) ThaPa/22/00196/Ka Sai Pi (son of) U Nay Win, RCSS/SSA
- (39) ThaPa/22/00197/Ka Sai Oo (aka) Aik Oo (son of) U Kaung, RCSS/SSA
- (40) AhSa/21/05323/Ka Maung Maung Tun (aka) Atun Lay (aka) Saw Tun Lay (son of) U Laphar Ae, KNU/KNLA
- (41) LaRa/12/00614/Ka Aung Shwe (aka) Aung Mai (son of) U San Kyu, KNU/KNLA

By Order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant- General
Secretary

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No 76/2022

11th Waning of Tazaungmone 1384 ME
18 November 2022

Withdrawal of criminal cases

THE State Administration Council Chairman has permitted to withdraw of the cases opened against the following members of ethnic armed organizations in commemoration of the National Victory Day which falls on 10th Waning of Tazaungmone 1384 ME (17 November 2022) as well as to ensure the national unity and internal peace.

- (1) SaTa/22/00191/Kha Soe Min (son of) U Maung Soe Win, AA
- (2) MaKaNa/22/00546/Kha Yein Bawm (son of) U Chan Yein, KIA
- (3) BaMa/22/00334/Kha Naw Garoung (son of) U Gaw Lu Htwel Shaung, KIA
- (4) BaMa/22/00333/Kha Gum Ja Naw (son of) U Marit Tu, KIA

By Order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant- General
Secretary

Myanmar National Human
Rights Commission
Statement 4/2022

1. The Chairman of the State Administration Council issued Order No 70/ 2022, 71/ 2022, 72/ 2022, 73/ 2022, and 74/ 2022 on 17 November 2022, under which a total of 5,774 prisoners serving sentences in respective prisons, jails and camps, and other five prisoners have been pardoned. Furthermore, the cases opened against 11 artistes have been allowed to be withdrawn, and the prison sentences of four foreign prisoners have been remitted and they have been deported. These humanitarian actions of the Chairman are steps in the right direction. Despite the expressions of different motives underlying these actions, the stark facts remain that the relevant families are certainly pleased to be reunited with their family members.

2. The Commission hopes that similar positive steps will be taken in the future as well in the interests of peace, development, and stability of the nation.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
18 November 2022

Laptops provided to Union
Election Commission

WITH the Union Election Commission (UEC) continuing to carry out preparatory tasks for electoral processes in holding a free and fair multiparty democracy general election, New Starlight Construction Co Ltd provided 50 laptops worth K125 million to the Union Election Commission to ensure the successful holding

of the general election, voter registration and electoral processes. The donation ceremony was held at the meeting hall of the Union Election Commission yesterday morning. It was attended by the UEC chairman and members, officials and New Starlight Construction Co Ltd. — MNA

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

Development of MSMEs will revitalige State economy

THE economy of our country is based on agriculture and livestock. Both developed and developing countries mainly carry out SME industries. Hence, efforts are being made for the development of MSMEs so as to resurge State economy.

(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with entrepreneurs from UMFCCI and MSMEs in Yangon Region on 3 October 2022)

Myanmar rejects politicized country-specific resolution based on one-sided allegations

FROM PAGE-1

late September 2017, following threats, killings and coordinated attacks committed by the so-called ARSA (aka) Aqua Mul Mujahidin terrorist group in northern Rakhine State. Such terrorizing acts forced and threatened the community to flee from their villages. It is also necessary to recognize that numerous cases of killings and terrorist activities have occurred in Cox’s Bazar camps. Accordingly, the displaced persons who have been facing life-threatening challenges in these camps are reluctant to take part in the repatriation process.

Myanmar stands ready to receive those who are verified as displaced persons from Rakhine State in accordance with the existing laws and bilateral arrangements between Myanmar and Bangladesh. Myanmar has been granting citizenship status to eligible persons in accordance with the 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law and through the verification process like in many other countries. Meanwhile, Myanmar reiterates its position that it does not recognize the invented term “Rohingya” which has never existed in legal and historical records of the country.

The issue of northern Rakhine State was a made-up crisis, backed by some countries through wealth, power and media to destabilize the country. The resolution adopted at the Third Committee of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly is politically motivated, ignoring the complexities of the issue and challenges Myanmar is facing. It is unbalanced, non-objective and non-pragmatic.

While the resolution calls for an immediate cessation of violence and violations, it fails to condemn the terrorist attacks committed by the so-called NUG and PDFs which have claimed the lives of over 4,000 unarmed civilians including more than 100 children. The said resolution itself amounts to hate speech and may arise more polarization and escalation of tension among different communities in the country. Adoption of such a resolution with fictitious allegations will not contribute to any practical solution for Myanmar.

Myanmar expresses its gratitude to the friendly countries which dissociated themselves from the adoption of the resolution. Meanwhile, Myanmar cannot accept intrusive elements contained in the resolution which interfere in the internal affairs of the sovereign State. Due to sweeping allegations and unacceptable calls contained in the resolution as well as Myanmar’s consistent position against the country-specific resolutions, Myanmar categorically rejects the whole resolution and dissociates itself from the adoption of it. Furthermore, Myanmar also unconditionally objects to the participation, remarks and action made by Kyaw Moe Tun who is representing the terrorist group, the so-called NUG, at present.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
18 November 2022

Myanmar delegation on study tour of Leningrad Nuclear Power Plant (NPP), Power Machines and Konstantinovsky Palace in St Petersburg



MoST Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Kyaw views round the Konstantinovsky Palace.



MoEP Union Minister U Thaung Han makes study fours at the Leningard Nuclear Power Plant.

ACCOMPANIED by Myanmar Ambassador to Russia U Lwin Oo and officials, the Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Electric Power U Thaung Han and Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Myo Thein Kyaw, currently in the Russian Federation,

studied Leningrad Nuclear Power Plant (NPP), power machines and Konstantinovsky Palace in Saint Petersburg on 17 November.

On arrival at Leningrad Nuclear Power Plant (NPP), the Myanmar delegation led by the Union Ministers was

greeted by the plant manager and officials. And the factory manager, Lavrentiyev Pavel and officials explained information on the management of the facility, research work and conditions used in sectors such as pharmaceutical manufacturing on nuclear technol-

ogy and environmental safety issues.

After that, the Myanmar delegation led by the Union Ministers studied the Leningrad Metal Machine of Power Machines. The plant assistant manager Ivan Grosse presented about the plant. Then, the

delegation asked back and studied the production of power generators in the factory.

Finally, the Myanmar delegation arrived at the Konstantinovsky Palace and they looked around the palace. — MNA

MoH Union Minister speaks online at 8th China-ASEAN Forum on Dentistry



Union Health Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win virtually joins the eighth China ASEAN Forum on Dentistry yesterday.

THE 8th China-ASEAN Forum on Dentistry opening ceremony in Guangxi, the People's Republic of China yesterday morning. That is held via the hybrid method and the Chair of the Forum Prof Hongbing Liao greeted the forum and Union Minister for of Health Dr Thet Khaing

Win spoke with a video keynote speech.

The Union minister expressed he is proud and happy that the China-ASEAN Forum on Dentistry has been successfully held for the 8th time since 2008. The slogan of this forum is All on "Cloud Silk Road" for Oral Health and found to be consistent health exchanges and cooperation during the post-Covid era. The cooperation between the University of Dental Medicine Yangon, the University of Dental Medicine Mandalay and Guangxi Medical University Hospital and the College of Stomatology is rising. Today is the official signing ceremony of the MoU on education and medicine between the Department of Medical Services of the Ministry of Health and Guangxi Medical University, College of Stomatology will be held online and it will be a special day.

Then, Director-General of the Department of Medical Services of the Ministry of Health Dr Myat Wunna Soe and Rector of the Guangxi Medical University, College of Stomatology Prof Hongbing Liao signed MoU on dental education and clinical collaboration online.

The forum is going to be held from 18 to 19 November and dental technicians from the People's Republic of China, ASEAN countries and Myanmar attended.

Next, the Union minister accompanied by the deputy minister, directors-general and the deputy permanent secretary is going to meet the staff at the Department of Public Health and had lunch together. — MNA

SAC Information Team holds 21st Press Conference

THE 21st Press Conference of the Information Team of the State Administration Council took place at the Ministry of Information yesterday.

Leader of the Information Team Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun, member of the Union Election Commission U Khin Maung Oo, spokespersons of relevant departments and representatives of departmental information teams replied to queries raised by the media.

First, the Leader of the Information Team explained the conferring of honorary titles and medals, pardon to the prisoners, matters related to ASEAN, financial and trade affairs, the education sector, implementation work in shaping Union Territory Nay Pyi Taw into Green City, Clean City and

Smart City as per the guidance of State Head and terror acts through Power Point Presentation and video clips.

Then, UEC member U Khin Maung Oo reported on the actions taken against those who participated in lawless cases, voting frauds and procedures of 2020 general election, compiling and checking of basic voter lists, polling stations and materials for polling stations estimate and ongoing work plan of UEC through Power Point Presentation.

Then, the Leader of the Information Team, the UEC member and representatives of the departmental information team replied to queries raised by media personnel and the press conference was concluded.



The 21st Press Conference of the Information Team of the State Administration Council is in progress yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

The press conference was also attended by SAC's information team members, representatives of relevant ministries, officials from the Tatmadaw Information Team, guests, and reporters from local news agencies, daily newspapers, local TV stations, and local-based foreign news agencies. The full interview will be published later, it is reported. — MNA

The people are urged to receive vaccination of Covid-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of Covid-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increasing of death rate based on the disease.



The 21st Press Conference of the SAC Information Team is in progress.

Govt repays US\$1.495 bln debt using State income without new foreign loans

THE government repays debt of \$1.495 billion using State income without taking further loans from foreign countries, said Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun at the 21st Press Conference of the Information Team of the State Administration Council.

"The government conscientiously pays back the capital and interest of foreign loans yearly to date like the first government term of democracy," he said.

The Information Team leader continued that " The current government makes loan repayment of \$1.495 billion using the State income."

Some businesses are suspended as the government does not receive any foreign loans. The government focuses on State development without taking foreign loans and financial assistance. The former governments took international business loans and development finance. The support of international countries is crucial to a developing country, he added. — TWA/GNLM

DO price of palm oil declines in Yangon edible oil market

THE palm oil market is expected to be sluggish in mid-November 2022 during the winter, Ko Maung Ko, a buyer at Nyaungpinlay market told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

The price of Delivery Order (DO) decreased from K5,950 per viss on 16 November to K5,750 on 18 November.

The demand for palm oil is estimated at 1,500-2,000 tonnes (7,000-10,000 barrels) per day in the domestic market, said an official of the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers Association. From 17 March, the new dealers were seen in the market and the demand was up by 4,500-5,000 tonnes. On 18 March, the association decided to sell palm oil to regular buyers only.

The wholesale price increased by K300 per viss then. In mid-2022, the price indicated a sharp rise of K4,000 per viss compared to the reference price. It is hard to purchase palm oil in the market as of early October. The price is headed for fall from mid-October and the market is

slow-moving. The market is cool these days, Ko Thet Tun, a dealer who sends the oil to regions outside Yangon, told the GNLM. The subsidized scheme in each ward in Lanmadaw Township offers the cheaper rate of palm oil and eggs by mobile market trucks. Yet, the consumers mostly buy only eggs, Ko Myo Win told the GNLM.

The retail price of palm oil was K6,200 per viss at Nyaungpinlay market. The wholesale reference price in Yangon was set at K4,350 for this week, showing a gap of about K2,000 against the market price.

The DO was priced at K5,750 per viss on 18 November, which is K1,400 per viss higher than the reference price. The palm oil was valued at around K6,000 per viss in the wholesale market. The price difference between the reference price and the market price narrows to below K2,000 per viss, while there is a gap of K1,400 per viss between the DO price and the reference price.

The demand is remarkably dropping these days. The purchase order



Edible oil is seen being sold at a grocery.

from the regions outside Yangon has also fallen. As the traders have decent stocks in hand while the price is falling, they do not buy large quantities. The demand dropped by half, said a seller.

Many ships carrying palm oil are docking at the terminals in Yangon Port as of early November. The supply is exceeding the demand for sure. The price movement is not seen in the foreign market as well.

Those resellers are facing losses as it is in the bear market. They do not dare to take a risk to buy larger volumes than the demand. The stable foreign exchange rate and unchanged prices in external markets are contributing factors to the slow market.

The importers reduce the DO price to under K6,000 per viss, as per the oil market reports. The chance of getting the DO of the palm oil at the wholesale reference price of K4,350 is still less and the DO can be bought at the market price.

The price of palm oil with 18-litre jerry cans is still high despite the decrease in the price of palm oil with containers. The palm oil market price stood at around K6,000 per viss in the wholesale market, while the branded palm oil fetched K67,000-K70,000 per jerry can. The palm oil prices were only K6,150 per viss in Myingyan and Meiktila areas on 18 November, a dealer Ko Win Tun stressed. — TWA/GNLM

26 companies apply for electric vehicle import permits

A total of 26 companies apply for electric vehicle import permits and the government has not approved them yet, said Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun, Leader of the Information Team of the State Administration Council at the 21st Press Conference yesterday.

On 11 November, the Ministry of Commerce released a statement regarding the import rules for electric vehicles (EVs) in the pilot project.

The ministry said the importing companies must comply with the following facts if they do not hold business licences for showrooms in the pilot project to help support the electric



File photo shows battery electric vehicles (BEVs) manufactured from the Thadukan Industrial Zone.

vehicle and related businesses.

The companies must register with the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration whether it is a joint venture or wholly citizen-owned business. They must show

sales contracts with export companies for each brand.

They have to be sought approval from the national-level leading committee on the development of electric vehicles and related business. There must be an EV warranty, spare

parts availability, and service and maintenance of those vehicles.

The companies must seek permission from the Ministry of Commerce to register with the Road Transport Administration Department.

The notification takes effect on electric vehicles and buses for transport. They must be Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs). The rules in the statement are effective between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023. Further amendments are to be made if necessary. The Ministry of Commerce released this Notification No 62/2022 on 11 November 2022. — TWA/GNLM

Myanmar earns over US\$1 billion in trade surplus

LEADER of the Information Team of the State Administration Council Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun stated that Myanmar amounted to over US\$1 billion of trade surplus under the government of the State Administration Council at the press conference of SAC on 18 November.

Despite the trade deficit under the last government, the current State's trade value resulted in a positive trade balance of over US\$1 billion, he added.

A trade surplus of

\$677.226 million was recorded, as exports surpassed imports in both the six months duration of the 2021-2022 Financial Year and the FY2020-2021. The data showed a trade deficit of more than \$1.3 billion in the 2019-2022FY.

Myanmar uses border and maritime trade channels in international trade. Over \$1 billion of trade surplus resulted from shipping more tonnes of rice, broken rice, beans and pulses than before. — TWA/GNLM

MoHT Union Minister meets civil servants who study in Russian Federation



UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Htay Aung met the civil servants from ministries who studied in the Russian Federation at Nila hall of the ministry for the second time online yesterday morning.

In the meeting, the Union minister expressed that although Myanmar and Russia are geographically far apart if airlines can fly, it would be a great support for more Russian tourists to visit. To make the Russian people more aware of

Myanmar’s destinations, the ministry is working to promote and advertise in Russia’s Ural Airlines in-flight magazine. In addition, the ministry and private associations are planning to participate in the tourism exhibitions to be held in Russia. He also mentioned help and advice on the plans to be carried out to promote the tourism market.

Then, the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Science and Technology, attendees

from the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Defence reported on cooperation plans of respective ministries, opening of Russian language courses and advice to support the convenient trip of Russian tourists.

Finally, the directors-general of respective ministries reported on the two countries’ tourism cooperation and plans to continue. And the Union minister discussed the recommendations back. — MNA

47 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 18 November, total figure rises to 632,957

MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **632,957** after **47** new cases were reported on 18 November 2022 according to the Ministry of Health.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **607,265** including **24** new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country reached **19,487** on Friday with one new death reported from the pandemic.

According to the research, it is found that people who have been vaccinated do not suffer severely from

the disease, need not to be hospitalized and unlikely to die. If they have received booster shot, the death rates can be reduced more.

As such, the people need to follow the new normal way in living with Covid. Hence, all the people above five have to fully receive Covid-19 vaccination inoculated by the Ministry of Health free of charge. Six months after the vaccination, they have to take booster jabs at relevant health centres and ward/village administration offices without fail.

Moreover, they have to wear masks while in

closed chambers and public places. They need to often wash hands with soap and water or the hand gel containing alcohol (at least 60 per cent) for 20 seconds.

People need to follow the social distancing rule and avoid the crowds as much as possible. While not wearing masks, if they cough and sneeze, they need to cover mouth and noses with elbows in line with the personal hygienic ways.

Covid-19 information can be browsed on the internet page moh.gov.mm of the Ministry of Health. —MNA

CRIME NEWS

Illegal teak, foodstuffs, consumer goods and vehicles confiscated

SUPERVISED by Customs Department, an on-duty team conducted inspections on 16 November.

Officials captured K17,598,866 worth of foodstuffs that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) from a Hino Profia Truck (estimated value of K35 million) in front of Bago Industrial Zone on Myawady-Hpa-an-Yangon Road. The action was taken under Customs Procedures.

Similarly, an inspection team under the management of Mandalay Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force nabbed 143 cartons of Cocktail worth K3,432,000 near 18/4 Milepost on Mandalay-PyinOoLwin Road on 16 November, K9,065,000

worth of clothes and foodstuffs without official documents from a Hyundai Express Bus (approximately K20 million) at the Letpanhla-Singu Temporary Checkpoint on 17 November. The action was taken under Customs Procedures.

On 17 November, a total of 8.4942 tonnes of illegal sawn teaks worth K5,606,172 in Taungup township of Rakhine State and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

In addition, at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) Combined Checkpoint confiscated 90 rice cookers worth K1.8 million and 42 cartons of detergent powder worth K1.26 million without official documents from two ve-



Officials check the confiscated sawn teak.

hicles on 17 and 18 November and action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

A total of 28.4768 tonnes of illegal teaks was captured in Pyu, Yedashe and Ottwin townships and the action was taken under the Forest

Law.

Therefore, 11 arrests (at an estimated value of K103,732,526) were made on three consecutive days from 16 and 18 November, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA

Drugs seized in some townships across Myanmar

DRUGS were seized in Myitkyina, Hmawby and Mongmit townships, according to Myanmar Police Force. A combined team consisting of members of the Anti-Drug Police Force stopped and searched a motorbike driven by Zaw Aung (aka) Aung Aung and an X-Trail car driven by Ma Laphai Ja Aung on municipal road in Yuzana Ward of Myitkyina township. A total of 2.2 kilogrammes of heroin were found.

At 4 pm on the same day, Myanmar Police Force searched the house of Thet Naing Oo (aka) Baekyaw and found Thet Naing Oo (aka) Baekyaw, Yan Lin Lin (aka) Yangon and Ma

Micho with 2,000 stimulant tablets in Myawady.

At 1 pm on the same day, Myanmar Police Force examined a suspected Hla Htay near Sathwataw village in Hmawby township and captured 5,800 stimulant tablets.

In addition, at 11 am on the same day, a combined team including members of the Anti-Drug Police Force examined a motorbike driven by Naw Naw (aka) Arrti on Mongmit-Man-tong road in Mongmit township and seized 59,000 stimulant tablets.

The suspects are prosecuted under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, it is learnt. — MNA

LOCAL BUSINESS

Nine Yangon jetties bustling with activities depending on abundant fish resources

Nyein Thu (MNA)



Fishing boats are pictured at the port. PHOTOS : KANU

HERE is a remarkable rise in income from fishery exports as Myanmar is rich in fishery resources. Nine jetties in Yangon are crowded with fish trawlers and ships for exports.

Fuel oil price surge is hurting businesses and marine fishing by fish trawlers significantly dropped in the Southeast Asian nations, resulting in low employment for the workers engaged in the fishing industry. Fish catch peaks in August-November in the Myanmar sea. Myanmar's fisheries industry is overcoming challenges posed by volatile fuel oil prices with domestic consumption and exports to neighbouring countries. Operators of

fishing trawlers, workers and cold storage businessmen are doing a roaring trade.

U Maung Maung Soe, chair of the offshore fishing vessel owners' association, said: "The fishing business has been thriving so far due to the abundance of fish and shrimp resources. They are sent to cold storage for exports beyond local consumption. Fish paste and dried fish can be processed as well. The fish are at peak harvest season in November and December. The fish catch will decline in January. Fishing trawlers from Yangon go fishing in Rakhine State and Ayeyawady coastal regions. Those fishing vessels in the Myeik area, Taninthayi Region experience

low fish catch. According to the fish volume in the tender, fish are sent to cold storage for processing. They are distributed to wholesale centres for local consumption. Twenty per cent of fish catch goes to the fish paste and dried fish businesses. As fishing businesses are regularly running, there is no need for concerns over fish supply to local markets and exports to neighbouring countries. A strong market share is required for sustainable development in Myanmar's fisheries sector.

There are over 3,000 offshore fishing vessels and 10,000 inshore fishing vessels across Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions. About 2,500 fishing trawl-



Fishery workers are seen loading/ unloading fish catch.

ers including over 700 offshore trawlers from Yangon Region set off to sea for marine fishing.

Small head ribbon fish and yellow croaker caught from Myanmar sea are primarily exported to China. China constitutes 70 per cent of Myanmar's fishery export, while local consumption accounts for 10 per cent and 20 per cent goes to the dried fish business. The price of diesel climbed to K560,000-570,000 per barrel so all fishing trawlers cannot run the business in the open season. However, those fishing trawlers operating in Ayeyawady Region and Rakhine State are getting large volumes of fish.

During the current season, fishing trawlers from Yangon and Myeik areas are separately hunting hilsa. The hilsa is shipped to China and Thailand. Then, they are re-exported to third countries by value-adding with the preserved cans. Myanmar is still content with neighbouring markets for the past four decades. If Myanmar can grasp a strong foreign market share beyond the regional countries, offshore fish-

ing trawler operators and cold storage owners are anticipated for that particular day for Myanmar's fisheries sector. The companies in the neighbouring countries directly export value-added fish products rather than fishing and processing. Local entrepreneurs are endeavouring to manufacture value-added products to meet the market's demand for a brighter future for Myanmar's fishery industry.

The State is prioritizing the livestock sector and helping to implement a strong market for fishery product exports and value-adding processes. Upon completion of this market, it will bring about business opportunities for the local fish and shrimp farmers.

During the open season, thousands of fishing trawlers from the Yangon, Myeik and Kawthoung areas are seen along the Myanmar sea. The fish catch is high and traders receive good prices. Thus, nine jetties in Yangon are occupied by fishing trawlers.

Translated

Corn price on gradual rise

THE price of corn has gradually moved up to over K1,160 per viss, according to the corn market.

The price rebound is tracking the Kyat depreciation against the hard currency US dollar and the strong demand by exporters.

Myanmar shipped corn to Viet Nam and the Philippines by sea, according to Myanmar Corn Industrial Association.

A total of 112 companies have been given the go-ahead for maize export and some companies commence exporting, said

U Aye Chan Aung, chair of the association.

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 pro-



The country produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corn every year.

duce including corn, rice, bean and oil crops are to be made in dollars instead of Yuan-Kyat/Baht-Kyat.

Therefore, export earnings of the corn have to be exchanged

for US dollars according to the reference rate of the Central Bank of Myanmar (K2,100), making the traders tough financially.

Nonetheless, there is a large gap between the regulated rate

and the unauthorized dealing rate of the US dollar (over K3,000).

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

OPINION

Widen the scope of public knowledge through high-standard literary works

LITERATURE can be used in decorating the lifestyle of the people, their socio-economic status, the real history of the nation, and the evolution of the world and nature of the humans. Especially, the literature can reflect the images of people in past and present as part of fortifying the mental strength and souls of humans and society.

Indeed, literature has been manipulating human society with peace and war. It controls the past, the present, and the future of society. It shakes the nation and society as well as the world. Literature can upgrade or degrade society. Only when the literature of the people and the nation improve will the nation develop.

Literature of relevant countries shows the living standard of the people and their qualifications. Myanmar's literature is not the downgrade, and literary works such as poems, novels, and literary creations can keep abreast of other countries.

This year, the National Lifetime Awards for Literary Achievement and the National Literary Awards were presented to relevant winners. The National Lifetime Awards for Literary Achievement was given to the doyen literati annually. Such a kind of award was presented to four doyen literati this year in a bid to recognize and honour their lifelong literary careers as well as encourage the new generation of writers.

This year, relevant winners were awarded in the Sarpay Beikman manuscript award contest. Those winners created the best literary

works for widening the scope of knowledge of the people through literature. Myanmar's literary arena creates many kinds of literary awards for writers and authors to create high-class literary works for the people.

The best works in relevant genres were chosen from the already published books in a calendar year to award the writers in national literary awards. Such an award can catch the applause of readers and writers in the literary arena. It is an effort of the governments in successive eras to improve the Myanmar literary standard.

As the government presents the National Lifetime Awards for Literary Achievement, the National Literary Awards, and the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award to the deserved writers for their excellent literary performances, all literati need to serve the literary duties for the interests of the State and the people with their literary creation capability while paving the way to the new generation youths to be able to read the high standard books and literature in the future.

■

Cambodia's Royal Palace to be reopened for tourists from next month

NATIONAL and international tourists will be allowed to visit the Royal Palace from 1 December 2022 onwards...

The Royal Palace, the most popular tourist spot in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, will be reopened for the public from 1 December after a closure for more than two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"National and international tourists will be allowed to visit the Royal Palace from 1 December 2022 onwards," Royal Palace Minister Kong Sam Ol said in a letter released to the media on Friday. According to the Ministry of Tourism, the beautiful towering spires of the buildings at the Royal Palace are a great example of classic Khmer architecture found in Cambodia.

Tourists are welcome to visit the Throne Hall (Preah Tineang Tevea Vinichhay), where coronations and official ceremonies take place, the ministry said.

The gardens are beautifully manicured, and buildings on the palace grounds include the



The throne hall inside the Royal Palace complex. PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA

Temple of the Emerald Buddha (Wat Preah Keo Morakot), Stupas, the Royal Dining Hall, the Chan Chhaya Pavilion and a French building that was a gift from Napoleon III, the ministry added.

Among the numerous interesting buildings, within the 183,135-square-metre compound is the Khemarin Palace, or the "Palace of the Khmer King", which is the official residence of current King Norodom Sihamoni, the ministry said, adding that the Khemarin Palace is in a protected part of the compound and not opened to the public.

The number of international tourists to Cambodia has increased at a faster-than-expected pace, prompting the kingdom to lift its target to two million tourists for 2022, up from earlier forecast of one million, Tourism Minister Thong Khon said.

"Cambodia's full reopening of its borders to all travellers, high COVID-19 vaccination rates and tourism development strategies are key to attracting tourists to the kingdom," Khon told Xinhua.

SOURCE: Xinhua

Teens who knew more knowledge about COVID-19 reported better well-being

WHILE nearly all the teens, 98.1%, used social media in some form, those who had good COVID-19 knowledge and checked social media less frequently also reported the lowest levels of anxiety.

According to a poll, youths who correctly answered more COVID-19 test questions reported less stress, worry, and unhappiness, as well as less loneliness and fear of missing out or FOMO.

For the study, published in the Journal of Child and Family Studies, Washington State University researchers surveyed 215 teens ages 14-17 across the US in July 2020 during the early months of the pandemic.

Lower depression, anxiety and stress

"Knowledge was a good thing. The teens who did better on our quiz tended to report lower depression, anxiety and stress — just across the board," said corresponding author Chris Barry, a WSU psychology professor. "This is a one-time snapshot, so we don't really know cause and effect, but one presumption is that having accurate information was connected to feeling a little bit more ease during that time."

Barry and co-authors Zeinab Mousavi and Brianna Halter had participants first answer true or false questions about COVID-19, such as the ways that the virus spreads and its health risks. While there were some low

scores on the test, the majority of the participants did well with an average score of 15 out of 18 correct, and 21.9 per cent got all the answers correct. The participants then answered a range of questions about their well-being as well as their social media use.

Social media

While nearly all the teens, 98.1 per cent, used social media in some form, those who had good COVID-19 knowledge and checked social media less frequently also reported the lowest levels of anxiety.

While it is difficult to know the reason behind this connection, the researchers said that one possibility was that teens with less accurate COVID-19

knowledge might have used social media more to find answers and in the process, absorbed more misinformation which contributed to their anxiety.

Social media likely has a mixed effect on teens' well-being, said Mousavi, a research assistant in Barry's lab and the first author on the study. "There are so many factors with social media," she said. "For instance, it's good that you are staying connected with your friends and getting some information, but maybe at a certain point it is making some things worse, giving you more anxiety, rather than helping you cope with the situation."

Level of lockdown measures

The researchers also sur-

veyed the teens' parents to assess the level of lockdown measures the adolescents were under. They found that the more restrictive quarantine measures were associated with negative well-being for the teens, but that teens' perceptions of the lockdown were particularly important for well-being. This indicates that perhaps the more that adolescents understood the reason for such measures, or perceived there to be some benefits, the more positive they felt in general, said Barry.

The findings underscore the need for parents and educators to give teens information, especially in times of crisis, he added.

"In thinking about adoles-

cent development in general, one of the things that we recommend from a developmental psychology perspective is open communication, so for the pandemic, that means honest, accurate information," Barry said.

Feelings of isolation

He also suggested that parents not only acknowledge the stress and feelings of isolation that may come with something like quarantine but also help teens make the most of the situation. For example, if their kids are missing out on events that were cancelled, parents could help them find other ways to socialize with friends or engage in recreational activities. They should also try to emphasize

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 18 November 2022)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (17:30) hrs M.S.T today, the Low Pressure Area over Southeast Bay of Bengal still persists. It is likely to move West-Northwest wards and gradually concentrate into a Depression over South Bay of Bengal during next (48) hrs. It is likely to reach North Tamilnadu-Puducherry and South Andhra Pradesh coasts (India) around (23.11.2022). Weather is a few cloud over the North Bay of Bengal and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 19 November 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and (Southern and Eastern) Shan and Mon States, fairly widespread in Kayah, Kayin States, scattered in Bago Region and Rakhine State and isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway Regions and Northern Shan, Chin States. Degree of certainty is (100%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Sagaing Region and Kachin State.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (35) mph. Wave height will be about (8-10) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuations of isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and (Southern and Eastern) Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19 November 2022: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19 November 2022: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR Mandalay AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19 November 2022: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region and widespread in Yangon Region.



According to a poll, youths who correctly answered more COVID-19 test questions reported less stress, worry, and unhappiness, as well as less loneliness and fear of missing out or FOMO. PHOTO: FOR REPRESENTATIONAL ILLUSTRATION ONLY/FREEPIK

any potential positive sides of lockdowns, mindset matters," he said.

"In an unusual situation like

SOURCE: ANI

Japanese to be crew of US-led Moon-orbiting space station

JAPAN and the United States signed an agreement Friday to send a Japanese astronaut to Gateway, a lunar-orbiting space station to be built under NASA leadership, in exchange for the Asian country providing logistic transport and other support.

The Japanese astronaut put on the space station under the deal will not be landing on the Moon, however. Such a possibility is to be determined through consultations in the future.

Gateway is part of NASA's Artemis programme, a multilat-

eral project originally intended to return humans to the Moon by 2024. The target date for the lunar landing has been delayed with NASA hoping for 2025 at the earliest.

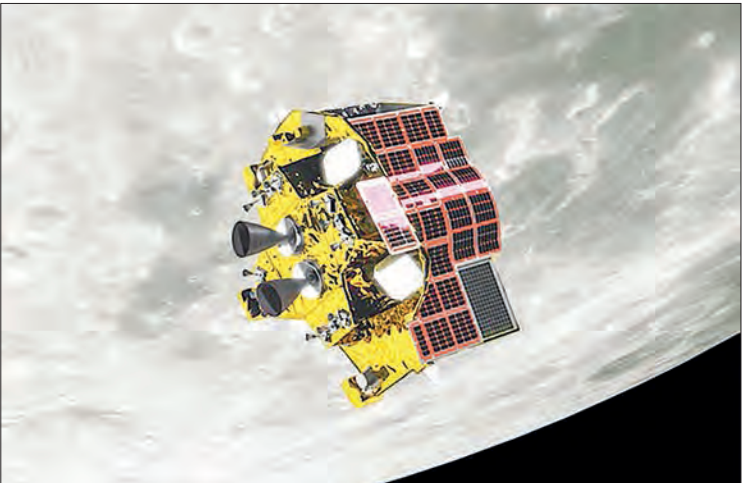
Keiko Nagaoka, the minister of education, culture, sports, science and technology, and Bill Nelson, NASA administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, signed the document during an online meeting.

The minister said she wanted strengthened relations between the two countries re-

garding lunar exploration, and Nelson called Japan an important partner.

The two countries agreed that the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency will give support including batteries for Gateway's Habitation and Logistics Outpost module, and transport provisions using its unmanned aircraft. Japan aims to start sending four tonnes of materials from around 2030.

Japan is aiming to become the second country after the United States to land a person on the Moon.—Kyodo



Japan's Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM) is one of several Moon and Mars exploration initiatives underway by the country.
PHOTO: JAPAN AEROSPACE EXPLORATION AGENCY

Climate change 'main threat' for world heritage sites



Mohenjo Daro was once the centre of a powerful civilization. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

ONE of the world's first cities came close to being wiped off the map during tragic floods this summer in Pakistan. Though Mohenjo Daro survived, it has become a symbol of the threat global warming poses to humanity's cultural heritage.

Built in around 3000 BC by the Indus civilisation in modern-day South Asia, Mohenjo

Daro was not swept away by the floods, most likely thanks to the genius of its designers.

Perched high above the Indus river, the city was equipped with a primitive drainage system and sewers, meaning much of the floodwaters could be evacuated.

Nearly 1,600 Pakistanis died in the floods and 33 million oth-

ers were affected in a disaster "probably" made worse by global warming, according to World Weather Attribution, a network of researchers.

The ancient metropolis "could have disappeared with all the archaeological traces" it contains, said Lazare Eloundou Assamo, the director of the World Heritage programme at UN agency UNESCO.

The Pakistani site was "a victim" of climate change and was "very lucky" to still be around, exactly 100 years since it was first discovered in 1922, Assamo said.

Fortunately, "the situation is not catastrophic" in Mohenjo Daro, said Thierry Joffroy, a specialist in brick architecture who visited the site on behalf of UNESCO.

Despite ground sinking in some areas and water damage to some structures, the site "can be repaired", Joffroy said.—AFP

Wildlife summit could upend Hong Kong's shark fin trade

HONG Kong's controversial shark fin trade may face its biggest shakeup in years if conservationists get their way in securing tighter regulations at an international wildlife conference in Panama. The city is one of the world's largest markets for shark fin, which is viewed by many Chinese communities as a delicacy and often served as a soup at expensive banquets.

While domestic consumption has shrunk after years of activist campaigning, Hong Kong remains a vital trade hub for shark fins — both legal and illegal — headed for the Chinese mainland and Southeast Asia.

"Last year, over 90 per cent of shark fin imports in Hong Kong were re-exported, and a major market is mainland Chi-

na," said Loby Hau, oceans sustainability assistant manager at WWF-Hong Kong.

The city regulates its shark fin trade using an international treaty on endangered species, meaning certain types of fins must have export permits showing they were sustainably captured. The latest meeting of the 184-nation Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which began in Panama on Monday, may add protections for two major shark families. Researchers say the proposals, if passed, will protect a huge number of shark species and place further pressure on Hong Kong's law enforcement, which is already battling a surge in illicit shark fins.—AFP



More than 73 million sharks enter the global shark fin trade each year, primarily to make a luxury food item called shark fin soup, although conservationists believe the demand for this soup is waning in China and Hong Kong. **PHOTO: WILDAID HK**

Battle to save ghostly Balkan lynx from extinction

IN mountains overlooking an azure lake in southeast Albania, wildlife experts are tracking the Balkan lynx as part of last-gasp efforts to save the species from extinction.

The "forest ghost" which lives in tree-covered mountains straddling Albania, Kosovo and

North Macedonia, is now among the world's most endangered mammals, scientists warn.

The victim of deforestation and poaching, there are less than 40 of these solitary wild cats in the three Balkan countries, analysis last year showed. Albania is home to fewer than 10, down

sharply from more than 200 in the 1980s. "We are very much concerned that if we do not manage to raise its numbers and distribution very soon, we will lose it forever," said Manuela von Arx of the Swiss foundation Kora, which is a part of the Balkan lynx recovery programme.—AFP

HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

IOC, WHO announce joint programme for physical activity



Physical activity is any activity that involves moving your body. It includes everyday activities as well as organized sports and exercise.
PHOTO: RAISING CHILDREN NETWORK

THE International Olympic Committee (IOC) and World Health Organization (WHO) announced Thursday a joint programme aiming to increase physical activity.

The three-year programme targets on those adolescents and adults that are not undertaking sufficient physical activity, according to a recent report from WHO.

The programme has three objectives, including supporting more people, particularly women and girls to be more active; enhancing knowledge of the multiple benefits of regular physical activity, and strengthening and investment in community sports, the IOC announced in a press release.

“(The programme) strengthens the role of sport in contributing to the global target of a 15 per cent reduction in physical inactivity by 2030 and fostering healthy and active lives,” the release said.—Xinhua

New Zealand study finds online retailers fail to display alcohol health warnings

LESS than one third of alcoholic beverages sold online in New Zealand display mandatory health information and warnings, according to a new study from the University of Auckland.

New Zealand law requires that manufacturers display specific health information on their products to meet the relevant food standards code, but there is currently no obligation for retailers to make this information visible to customers, according to the study published on Friday in the journal of Drug and Alcohol Review.

Researchers said this is a significant policy gap that needs to be addressed, and noted that voluntary health warnings, such as those relating to drink-driving and pregnancy, were rarely visible online.

Given the individual and societal harm caused by alcohol, alcohol beverages in many countries are required to display health information and warnings on all product packaging, said Natalie Walker, an associate professor of the University of Auckland, who was the author of the study.

This study examines the presence, type and location of

mandatory and voluntary health information and warnings consumers are exposed to when entering online alcohol retail shopping environments in Britain and New Zealand, Walker said.

Using an observational study design, 1,407 randomly sampled alcoholic beverages from 14 online alcohol retailers (seven per country) were reviewed to ascertain the visual presence or absence of mandatory and voluntary health information and warnings, she said.

The result showed that

British online alcohol retailers were more compliant than New Zealand retailers in showing mandatory health information. For instance, alcohol by volume percentage was visible on 92 per cent of alcoholic beverages sold online in Britain, compared to 31 per cent in New Zealand.

Online retailers in both countries had a low proportion of alcohol products with viewable mandatory information, and voluntary health warnings were rarely present or viewable, according to the study.—Xinhua



New Zealand law requires that manufacturers display specific health information on their products. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE/EUROCARE.ORG**

Danish drugmaker to supply monkeypox vaccine to Europe

DENMARK'S Bavarian Nordic, the lone laboratory manufacturing a licenced vaccine against monkeypox, said Thursday it had signed a deal to supply European nations with up to two million doses of the jab.

A joint procurement agreement was penned with the European Commission's Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA), Bavarian Nordic said in a statement. The arrangement allows EU members and countries in the European Economic Area (EEA) as well as some Balkan states to purchase the vaccine.

“So far, 14 eligible countries have already confirmed their participation in the joint procurement, indicating an initial demand of a total of

approximately 700,000 doses for delivery in 2023,” the drugmaker said, adding that 330,000 doses had been purchased and distributed through HERA since July this year, when cases peaked. Experts and health authorities have warned against claiming victory too soon.

The World Health Organization (WHO) decided on 1 November that the spread of the disease still met the “criteria for a Public Health Emergency of International Concern”, a designation it was first given on 23 July. Since monkeypox began spreading beyond the West African countries where it has long been endemic six months ago, it has killed 36 people out of more than 77,000 cases across 109 countries, the WHO says.—AFP



This video screengrab shows the manufacturing line of a test production of a generic vaccine in the Bavarian Nordic factory of Kvistgaard. Danish company Bavarian Nordic is currently the lone laboratory manufacturing a vaccine already approved against monkeypox. **PHOTO: BAVARIAN NORDIC / AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

WHO says urgent funds needed to support Uganda Ebola response

THE World Health Organization (WHO) on Thursday said urgent funds are needed to support the Ebola response in Uganda and the readiness in neighbouring countries.

Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa told reporters here that only 20 per cent of the 88.2-million-US dollar appeal has been collected. “We plead that time is of the essence,” Matshidiso said as she concluded her three-day trip here where she was observing the country's Ebola response. She said since the Sudan strain of the virus was announced in the country on 20 September it has now been detected in a ninth district, which has a large urban population. She noted that cities favor the spread of the virus due to their highly-mobile residents and often crowded environments. WHO figures show since 20 September when Uganda declared the Ebola outbreak, to date, there have been a total of 141 confirmed and 22 probable Ebola infections in Uganda, and 55 confirmed and 22 probable deaths.—Xinhua

ECONOMY WORLD

Xi's visit a milestone in China-Thailand ties, says Chinese ambassador

CHINESE President Xi Jinping's visit to Thailand, his first as the Chinese head of state, is of milestone significance in guiding and advancing bilateral relations, Chinese Ambassador to Thailand Han Zhiqiang has said.

From Thursday to Saturday, Xi will attend the 29th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting here in the Thai capital and visit the country at the invitation of Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha of the Kingdom of Thailand.

Under the new historical conditions, China-Thailand relations face unprecedented development opportunities with huge potential and broad prospects, Han said in a recent joint

interview with Chinese and Thai media.

He believes that Xi will work with leaders of Thailand to chart the course for and inject strong momentum into the long-term development of China-Thailand relations, making the visit a new milestone in the history of bilateral ties. Noting that people of the two countries have enjoyed a long history of friendly exchanges, he also said that since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the two countries have worked together to tackle it and drive economic recovery, writing a new chapter of relations in which China and Thailand share weal and woe.

This year marks the 47th anniversary of China-Thailand diplomatic ties and the 10th an-



A logo of APEC 2022 is pictured on a street in Bangkok, Thailand, 16 Nov 2022. PHOTO: XINHUA/WANG TENG

niversary of the China-Thailand comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership.

The ambassador said China is Thailand's largest trading partner, largest export market

for agricultural products and a major source of foreign investment.—Xinhua

S. Korea, Saudi Arabia agree to boost energy and defence ties

THE leaders of South Korea and Saudi Arabia agreed Thursday to boost ties in key sectors such as energy and defence, with the oil-rich kingdom signing a slew of deals including a \$6.7 billion petrochemical agreement.

President Yoon Suk-yeol met with Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in the South Korean capital Thursday, with the pair announcing a plan to transform bilateral ties into a "strategic partnership".

Bin Salman, the kingdom's 37-year-old de facto ruler, often referred to as MBS, arrived in Seoul late Wednesday after attending the Group of 20 summit in Bali, Indonesia.



Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is in the South Korean capital. PHOTO: POOL/AFP

He is on a multi-stop Asian tour, in a likely bid to shore up the Gulf nation's ties with its biggest energy market.

The trip comes as Riyadh

feuds with Washington over the OPEC+ oil cartel's October decision to cut production by two million barrels per day.—AFP

Amazon plans to invest \$2.5 billion in Spain

AMAZON cloud computing unit AWS plans to invest \$2.5 billion in Spain over the next 10 years which will create over 1,300 jobs, the US e-commerce giant said on Wednesday.

The investment will be used to set up and operate a cloud computing hub in Spain, its eighth in Europe, the company said in a statement.

"We are delivering on our promise to build new world-class infrastructure locally to help customers in Spain achieve the highest levels of security, availability, and resilience," AWS vice-president of infrastructure services, Prasad Kalyanaraman, said in the statement.

Cloud computing – storing data, software, and even business functions over the internet – has been taking over tech.

The pandemic has accelerated a shift to relying on the internet for work, education, shopping, socializing and entertainment, fuelling demand for cloud computing.

Amazon said its investment would add €1.8 billion to Spain's gross domestic product over 10 years, in addition to creating over 1,300 jobs. The announcement comes as Amazon is preparing to lay off as many as 10,000 employees around the world, according to a report published Monday in the New York Times.—AFP



US electronic commerce and cloud computing company Amazon's facilities in San Fernando de Henares, the biggest in Spain. PHOTO: OSCAR DEL POZO / AFP

Crypto turmoil 'not a surprise', says ECB

THE recent collapse of a major cryptocurrency exchange platform that has sent shockwaves through the largely unregulated sector is "not a surprise", a top European Central Bank official said on Wednesday.

The popular FTX platform filed for bankruptcy in the United States last week with

a reported \$8-billion hole in its finances, sparking a confidence crisis among investors and dragging down key currencies like bitcoin.

ECB vice-president Luis de Guindos said the FTX failure "is not a surprise", given the "vulnerabilities and the weaknesses" of the burgeoning crypto

industry.

But he said the turmoil remained confined to the crypto asset space and had not yet had any spillover effects. "So far it did not have implications in terms of financial stability for the broader financial markets," de Guindos told reporters in a call.—AFP

Starbucks
staff go on
strike in US
stores over
labour talks

STARBUCKS workers in the United States went on strike at multiple unionized locations Thursday, a move planned to affect over 100 stores in protest against the coffee giant’s approach in negotiating union contracts.

Dubbed the “Red Cup Rebellion”, the one-day strike led by Starbucks Workers United coincides with a popular event in which stores hand out reusable cups with certain purchases.

Instead of the branded cups, staff gave out red union cups to interested customers.

Employees could be seen protesting in the cold near Times Square in New York, chanting and holding signs of Starbucks Workers United, which represents nearly 7,000 employees across the United States.

“It’s something that is worth fighting for,” one of the staff, 18-year-old Jay Tosa, told AFP. The action takes place in “response to Starbucks’ union-busting tactics and refusal to bargain”, Starbucks Workers United said in a statement.

—AFP

China’s Tencent wins first
game licence in 18 months



The last time Tencent obtained a major gaming licence was in May 2021. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

CHINA has granted tech giant Tencent its first licence for a video game in 18 months, ending a dry spell that had threatened its position as the world’s top game maker.

Beijing moved against the country’s vibrant gaming sector last year as part of a sprawling crackdown on big tech companies,

including a cap on the amount of time children could spend playing games.

Officials also froze approvals of new titles for nine months until April.

China’s gaming regulator, the National Press and Publication Administration, on Thursday said it had approved 70 new ti-

ties in November including Tencent’s action game “Metal Slug: Awakening” and a role-playing game “Journey to the West: Return” by rival NetEase.

Licences are mandatory for video games to be published and sold in the Chinese market.

The last time Tencent obtained a major licence was in May 2021. A Tencent subsidiary received a licence in September but it was for a free educational game. Shares in the Hong Kong-listed company closed up more than 0.5 per cent on Friday after the licencing announcement, while NetEase gained more than 3.6 per cent. The approval signals a relaxing of China’s strict attitude towards tech companies.—AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V FU RUN VOY.NO. (2205)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V FU RUN VOY. NO. (2205)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-11-2022** 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 INFINITE PROSPERITY SHIPPING PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V KOTA HIDAYAH VOY.NO. (KHDY0326N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V KOTA HIDAYAH VOY.NO. (KHDY0326N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **19-11-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL LINES

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

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09 454 237 515

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V ALVAN VOY.NO. (SCY1143)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ALVAN VOY.NO. (SCY1143)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **19-11-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:
**M/S LAN AND SEA INTERMODAL LOGISTICS
SDN BHD LINE**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SINAR POMALAA VOY.NO. (097N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR POMALAA VOY.NO. (097N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **19-11-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:
M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V AN HAI STAR VOY.NO. (11/2022)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AN HAI STAR VOY.NO. (11/2022)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **20-11-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **WILMAR** 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 UNI SPRING LOGISTICS HOLDINGS PTE LTD

Japan mulls lethal weapon exports by revising strict rules

JAPAN is considering exporting lethal weapons by revising its strict guidelines on the transfer of defence equipment under its postwar pacifist Constitution, a government source said Thursday.

One of the ideas under discussion is that the government will realize such exports on condition that they would help boost the deterrence of the importing nation and contribute to Japan's security environment, according to the source.

The plan comes as the government has been unable to ship lethal weapons to Ukraine, although it called for anti-tank missiles from Tokyo after Russia's invasion started in late February.

Japan declined the request because of its "three principles" on the transfer of defence equipment, which effectively ban weapons exports except for the purpose of jointly developing or producing them with a foreign country.

For Ukraine, Japan instead

started sending protective gear such as bulletproof vests and helmets in March.

The government is planning to revise the preamble of the principles by stating that exporting weapons is an "important diplomatic and defence policy tool", according to the source.

To enable the Self-Defence Forces to provide other countries with their arms and ammunition, the government is also hoping to amend the SDF Law, the source added.—Kyodo



Ground Self-Defence Force members listen to a speech by Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida during his visit to the GSDF's Asaka base straddling Tokyo and Saitama Prefecture on 27 Nov 2021. **PHOTO: POOL PHOTO /KYODO**

FBI probing cases of bomb-laden drones in US

FBI Director Christopher Wray said Thursday the agency is investigating several cases in which people sought to fly drones equipped with homemade bombs within the United States.

"We are investigating, even as we speak, several instances

within the US of attempts to weaponize drones with homemade IEDs," Wray told a Senate hearing, referring to improvised explosive devices.

Wray said the threat of widely available drones has risen quickly with rapid technological advances "in terms of their

visibility, the speed with which they can move, the distance with which they can move, and also the loads that they can carry".

"These are extraordinarily sophisticated tools that can carry drugs that can launch weaponry, and we must be able to counter it," he said.—AFP

France rejects 'confrontation' in Asia: Macron

PRESIDENT Emmanuel Macron on Friday urged an end to "confrontation" as he outlined his vision for France's engagement with the Asia-Pacific region. Macron is attending the 21-strong Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Bangkok as he seeks to relaunch France's

strategy for the region in the face of growing US-China competition.

France wants to play a stabilizing role in the region to avert confrontation, the French president told a gathering of business leaders on the sidelines of the summit.—AFP

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Ukrainian experts arrive in Poland after missile blast: minister



Police officers stop cars on 17 Nov 2022, at the entrance to eastern Poland village of Przewodow where a missile strike killed two men two days ago, near the border with war-ravaged Ukraine. **PHOTO: WOJTEK RADWANSKI/AFP**

UKRAINIAN experts have arrived in Poland as part of an investigation to determine where

a missile that killed two people was fired from, the Ukrainian foreign minister said Thursday.

"Our experts are already in Poland," said Ukraine's Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba on Twitter.

"We expect them to swiftly get access to the site in cooperation with Polish law enforcement."

A missile struck the Polish village of Przewodow near the Ukrainian border on Tuesday, killing two people and raising fears of an escalation in the conflict.

"Ukraine and Poland will cooperate constructively and openly on the incident caused by Russian missile terror against Ukraine," Kuleba wrote.—AFP

Russian strikes batter grid as first snow hits Ukraine

FRESH Russian strikes hit cities across Ukraine on Thursday, officials said, the latest in a wave of attacks that have crippled the country's energy infrastructure as winter sets in and temperatures drop.

AFP journalists in several Ukraine cites said the new barrage had come with snow falling for the first time this season and after officials

in Kyiv warned of "difficult" days ahead with a cold spell approaching.

The salvoes of Russian missiles this week came as officials announced good news Thursday on the extension of the agreement allowing Ukraine to export grain through the Black Sea, which aims to help the global supply of food.—AFP



A pedestrian walks during first snow fall in the western Ukrainian city of Lviv, on 17 November 2022, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine. **PHOTO: AFP**

Sweden confirms Nord Stream pipeline sabotage: prosecutor

SWEDISH officials confirmed Friday that the September blasts which destroyed sections of the Nord Stream pipelines carrying natural gas from Rus-

sia to Germany under the Baltic Sea were acts of sabotage.

"The analyses conducted found traces of explosives on several foreign objects" found

at the sites of the blasts, prosecutor Mats Ljungqvist who is leading the preliminary investigation said in a statement.—AFP

N. Korea fires ICBM, likely lands in Japan’s exclusive economic zone

NORTH Korea test-fired an ICBM-class missile on Friday that likely fell within Japan’s exclusive economic zone off its northern territory, the Japanese government said, with Prime Minister Fumio Kishida condemning it as “totally unacceptable”.

The missile, which flew for some 69 minutes, could potentially travel over 15,000 kilometres and reach the US mainland if it had taken a normal trajectory, Japanese Defence Minister Yasukazu Hamada told reporters.

South Korea’s military said the projectile fired from Pyongyang’s Sunan area was an intercontinental ballistic missile and flew at a maximum speed of

Mach 22, or 22 times the speed of sound.

It flew around 1,000 km on a lofted trajectory and reached an altitude of up to 6,000 km, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno said in Tokyo, adding the government did not issue an order to destroy it.

“North Korea is repeating provocations at an unprecedented pace, and they are totally unacceptable,” Kishida told reporters in Thailand’s capital Bangkok, where he took part in the annual summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

Kishida added there were no reports of damage to aircraft or vessels.—Kyodo



Photo taken on 10 Oct 2020, shows what appears to be a new type of intercontinental ballistic missile seen at a military parade in Pyongyang. PHOTO: KOREA MEDIA /KYODO

Three sentenced to life for flight MH17 downing

A Dutch court on Thursday sentenced three men to life imprisonment over the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 over Ukraine in 2014, in the early stages of a war that eight years later would put the world on edge.

Russians Igor Girkin and Sergei Dubinsky and Ukrainian Leonid Kharchenko were found guilty in absentia of murdering all 298 people on board and of bringing down the Boeing 777 with a Russian-supplied missile. A fourth man was acquitted.

Moscow slammed the “scandalous” verdict as politically motivated, while Ukraine’s President Volodymyr Zelensky — battling a full-scale Russian invasion after years of low-level fighting in the east — praised it as “im-

portant”.

Relatives of MH17 victims blinked away tears as the verdicts were read out in a courtroom packed with families who had travelled from around the world for the end of the two-and-a-half-year trial.

“The court calls the proven charges so severe that it holds that only the highest possible prison sentence would be appropriate,” head judge Hendrik Steenhuis said.

“Imposing these sentences cannot take away the pain and suffering, but there’s hope that today clarity has been provided about who is to blame.”

But none of the suspects was at the high-security court on the outskirts of Schiphol Airport, where the doomed plane took off, after Russia refused to extradite them.— AFP



Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 was shot down in eastern Ukraine killing all 298 passengers and crew on board. PHOTO: AFP

Upstarts challenge elderly political elite in Nepal election

SHOUTING matches with public officials and undercover sting operations on corrupt bureaucrats helped Nepali television host Rabi Lamichhane tap into widespread discontent over an elderly, back-scratching political leadership.

The bombastic journalist is one of several young upstart candidates who will contest the Himalayan republic’s election on Sunday against the familiar faces that have strode the corridors of power for decades.

An elite club of parliamentary veterans taking turns as leader — at a time when the economy is teetering — has fuelled perceptions that the government is out of touch with



Former television host Rabi Lamichhane waves during a campaign event ahead of Nepal’s general election. PHOTO: AFP

Nepal’s problems.

“People say, ‘we have been cheated, there is discrimination, we have to pay bribes, we don’t

have access to drinking water, we don’t have jobs’,” Lamichhane told AFP during a campaign pit stop.—AFP

W.Africa coastal states eye more cooperation over Sahel jihadism

WEST African coastal states on Thursday held their first major talks on boosting cooperation against jihadist violence spilling over from the Sahel after more countries announced they would pull their peacekeepers out of Mali.

Gulf of Guinea neighbours Benin, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Togo are confronting increased risks from Islamic State-allied

and Al Qaeda militants waging war over their northern borders in the Sahel.

As part of the so-called Accra Initiative, representatives of coastal states, the European Union and others met in the Ghanaian capital for talks on security and intelligence cooperation.

Ghana’s National Security Minister Albert Kan-Dapaah

said collaboration was needed as the threat from extremism is “more widespread than previously thought and transcending borders”.

“The threat landscape has consistently changed,” he said.

In the first quarter of 2022, Africa recorded 346 attacks, almost half of which were in the west of the continent, he said.— AFP



Aung La N Sang to fight against Yushin Okami tonight



ONE Championship's former champion Aung La N Sang (Right) and Japanese fighter Yushin Okami (Left). **PHOTO: ONE CHAMPIONSHIP**

FORMER two-division ONE World Champion Aung La N Sang will finally have his chance to face Japanese MMA icon Yushin Okami in the ONE 163 event at Singapore Indoor Stadium tonight.

"Ever since his trilogy bout with former middleweight king Vitaly Bigdash in February, "The Burmese Python" has been fine-tuning his skills at Sanford MMA in Florida and patiently waiting to make his inevitable

return," ONE Championship organizers said.

Upon the thriller, Aung La N Sang expressed his feeling.

"I feel like I have a mission now," Aung La N Sang said.

"He's one of the Asian mixed martial artists I looked up to in the last 10 years and he's fought in different high-level organizations, so he's a great one to test myself with.

"Stylistically, I think he's problematic for me. He's long and he has more range as a grappler, and that's the kind of fight that I have problems with. And so this is stylistic, for him, a good matchup, and for me, I feel like it's a good matchup too. I've been working on my weaknesses, and I think this fight is going to be a great fight for me to rebound and be on the right path in my attempt to get my [middleweight] title back," Aung La added.

Their fight will be broadcast live on ONE Championship's YouTube Channel and ONE Mobile Application.—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.

Shan United and Yangon United book tickets to AFC Cup

SHAN UNITED, who won the 2022 MNL Championship, and Yangon United, who won the second prize, will be allowed to compete in the AFC Cup next season, 2023-2024.

Starting next season, Myanmar clubs will only be allowed to compete in the AFC Cup among the club competitions organized by the Asian Football Confederation. The domestic league champion will be allowed to compete directly from the group stage, while the runner-up or the knockout champion will have to start from the qualifying stage.

Therefore, the Myanmar National League champion Shan United will be allowed to compete



Shan United, Champions of the Myanmar National League 2022, has the opportunity to enter the AFC Cup next season. **PHOTO: THAW GYI**

directly from the group stage, while the runner-up Yangon team will have to start from the qualifiers. Starting next season, the Asian Football Confederation will hold the Asian-level club competi-

tions from August to May, similar to the European Football Confederation (UEFA), and the 2023-2024 AFC Cup, which will be held from August 2023 to May 2024.

The Shan United team has

the opportunity to compete in the AFC Cup for the fourth time, while the Yangon team has the opportunity to compete for the eighth time.

Shan United started com-

peting in the AFC Cup in 2018, 2019, and 2020 and the team was allowed to compete again in the 2023-2024 competition but withdrew in the 2021 and 2022 seasons.

Meanwhile, Yangon United was allowed to compete in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2019, and 2020 seasons.

The Shan United team has won four times in the last five seasons in the domestic league competition and has achieved consecutive successes. Next season, Shan United will make many pre-season preparations to achieve victory in the Asian-level club competition. — Ko Nyi Lay/ GNLM

World Cup chiefs ban beer sales as Ronaldo jets in

WORLD Cup chiefs on Friday banned beer sales around stadiums in a stunning u-turn just two days before kickoff as Cristiano Ronaldo prepared to jet in to Qatar.

Alcohol is largely prohibited in the Islamic nation

but the organizers sparked anger from fans with their dramatic decision.

Football's world governing body FIFA said beer would not be sold to fans around any of the eight World Cup stadiums following discussions with the hosts.

"A decision has been made to focus the sale of alcoholic beverages on the FIFA Fan Festival, other fan destinations and licenced venues, removing sales points of beer from Qatar's FIFA World Cup 2022 stadium perimeters," FIFA said in a statement.—AFP