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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.

SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing watches final match of Defence Services C-in-C's Trophy B-class Football Tournament of 2022 Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Sports Competitions



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing watches the final match between the North-East Command team and the South-East Command team in the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy B-class Football Tourney of 2022 Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Sports Competitions in Nay Pyi Taw on 22 November 2022.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing enjoyed the final match between the North-East Command team and the South-East Command team in the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy

B-class Football Tournament of 2022 Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Sports Competitions was held at Zeyathiri Tatmadaw Sports Ground yesterday afternoon.

Both teams could pose pressure on each other by controlling the football in the final match. In the 87th minute, the

North-East Command team scored the winning goal, with a 1-0 win over the South-East Command team.

Likewise, the novice boxing events in the respective weighing class took place at the Transit Centre in Nay Pyi Taw, the Taekwondo event in the respective weighting class at Zeyathi-

ri Gymnasium (A) including semifinal matches and A-class single's dancing and A-class teamwise dancing events, and Myanmar martial arts event including Bando attack event, single sword attack, double sword attack event and Pencak Silat events and Tatmadaw martial arts event at Zeyathiri Gymna-

sium (C). These sports competitions were attended by senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), officers, other ranks and families, members of the panel of judges, athletes and spectators. Senior military officers presented prizes to individual winners. — MNA

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State Administration Council approves Law Amending the Union Tax Law 2022

THE State Administration Council enacted the Law Amending the Union Tax Law 2022 as its law number 48/2022 on 17 November 2022 signed by Chairman of the State Administration Council Senior General Min Aung Hlaing under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

The law mentioned that provisions in Sections 3 and 4 of this law shall be effective from 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023. The provision of Section 5 must be effective from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Table 12 (a), (b) and (c) of Section 11 (a) shall use “except Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV)” instead of “except electric vehicles”. Table 46 must be mentioned after table 45 in Section 14 (a) of the law.

Section 23 of the law must be added with Section 23-a that it shall levy 25 per cent of income tax over the total net profit of the persons involved in the oil and natural gas exploration without exemption under Section 6 of the Income Tax Law however provisions of Section 23(a) are mentioned.

The Law Amending the Union Tax Law 2022 will be expressed in the State-owned daily newspapers. — GNLM

30 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 22 November, total figure rises to 633,075

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **633,075** after **30** new cases were reported on 22 November 2022 according to the Ministry of Health.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **607,495** including **83** new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country remained unchanged at **19,487** on Tuesday with no new deaths 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

18th ASEAN-PAC Heads' Meeting held, attended by ACC Chair-led Myanmar delegation



Anti-Corruption Commission Chair U Than Swe and delegates pose for the documentary group photo at the meeting in Cambodia yesterday.

THE Myanmar delegation led by Chairman U Than Swe of the Anti-Corruption Commission attended the 18th Principals' Meeting of the ASEAN Parties Against Corruption (ASEAN-PAC) which was held at the Hyatt Regency Phnom Penh Hotel in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, yesterday.

At the meeting, Vice-Chairman Mr Yonn Sinat of the Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU) and Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen gave welcoming speeches. Then, an alternate Chairman of the ASEAN-PAC, ACU Chairman Mr Kittinitikosabindit Om Yentieng made his opening speech.

The meeting was attended by heads of the anti-corruption agencies from ASEAN-PAC member countries and 59 representatives including Chairman U Than Swe of the Anti-Corruption Commission.

Chairman U Than Swe signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of the ASEAN-PAC along with ASEAN member countries.

Next, he met Chairman of ACU Cambodia Senior Minister Mr Kittinitikosabindit Om Yentieng and signed the MoU after having a friendly and open discussion on cooperation in anti-corruption issues.

The MoU was signed between the two countries to exchange information regarding anti-corruption, perform corruption prevention processes such as surveys, corruption risk assessment and promoting integrity, and open technology-assisted professional courses. — MNA

78 Myanmar workers leave for Thailand under MoU system

MYANMAR sent 78 migrant workers to Thailand under the MoU system through the Kawthoung border on 21 November evening.

With the arrangement of People Diligence Services Co Ltd, an overseas employment agency (Thailand), 78 Myanmar workers are to work for Thailand companies: Tangnam Glass Co Ltd, PMC Cards (Thailand) Co Ltd, Kanathai Industrial Co Ltd, Wesco Chemical Thailand Co Ltd, and T.P Group Interfoods Co Ltd under a two-year contract.

The Kawthoung district labour office, Kawthoung district immigration and population office and responsible organizations made necessary departure processes for workers and transported them to Thailand. — Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)/GNLM



MoU workers undergo departure processes at the Kawthoung border.

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Rice and rice products prioritized to promote export volume

RICE and rice products are prioritized in the national export strategy being implemented for promoting the export volume. The vision for the promotion of the rice export strategy is to produce and export rice which will be high quality for rural development and increased income as well as sustainable development suitable for the natural environment.

(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the opening ceremony of Myanmar Rice Conference-2022 on 6 October 2022.)

A plan was set to convey the Union flag to respective regions and states once every five years: Vice-Senior General

ALL participants need to successfully implement five national objectives of the 76th Anniversary of Union Day to be able to shape perpetuity of unity among ethnic national brethren of the Union for sharing the future together, said Chairman of the Central Committee on Organizing the 76th Anniversary of Union Day 2023 Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the first meeting of the central committee at the Office of the SAC Chairman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Senior General said that as the Diamond Jubilee Union Day was successfully marked on 12 February 2022, arrangements are being made to hold the Diamond Jubilee Independence Day on a grander scale. The 76th Anniversary of Union Day will be held as usual similar to the 74th Anniversary celebration.

Conveyance of the State flag of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to regions and states to spend a night is one of the essences of the celebration. At the ceremony to mark the Diamond Jubilee Union Day,



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win presides over the first meeting of the Central Committee on Organizing the 76th Anniversary Union Day 2023 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.



the Union flag kept in Yangon City was conveyed to Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on a grand scale. As a plan was set to convey the Union flag to respective regions and states once every five years, discussions must focus on such a measure.

The Vice-Senior General urged all to discuss necessary measures for the successful holding of the ceremony as the central committee, the management committee and subcommittees for organizing the ceremony have been

formed. He underlined holding of the ceremonies in line with the Covid-19 protocols without weakness in security measures.

Chairman of the management committee Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Tin Oo Lwin reported on the progress of work by the management committee.

Officials from relevant subcommittees presented reports on the successful holding of the 76th Anniversary of Union Day. In his response to the reports,

the Vice-Senior General coordinated necessary measures. Central Committee members Union ministers and those present took part in the discussions.

In conclusion, the Vice-Senior General said that as cultural troupes will arrive in early February 2023, relevant officials need to make necessary preparations. Erection of posters must be undertaken and the progress of work must be reported in time. The Vice-Senior General noted that all par-

ticipants need to successfully implement five national objectives of the 76th Anniversary of Union Day to shape perpetuity of unity among ethnic national brethren of the Union and to share the future together, to forge the spirit on perpetual existence of the Union in mind, to end armed conflicts among ethnics which emerged together with the independence and to ensure perpetual existence of the Union with unity of all ethnics, to restore perpetual peace through unity. — MNA

National Lifetime Award for Literary Achievement, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award ceremony for 2021 to be broadcast live

THE National Lifetime Award for Literary Achievement, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award ceremony for 2021 will

be held at MICC-II in Nay Pyi Taw at 9:30 am on 23 November. The ceremony will be broadcast live on MRTV-HD, MRTV News, MWD, MWD

Variety, MITV, MOI Website, MOI YouTube, MRTV Website, MRTV Web & App and aired live on Radio Myanmar at 9:20 am on that day. — 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.

10th Meeting of Task Force to facilitate provision of Humanitarian Assistance to Myanmar through AHA Centre held

THE 10th Meeting of the Task Force to facilitate the provision of Humanitarian Assistance to Myanmar through the AHA Centre was held at 10:00 am on 22 November 2022 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

The Meeting was chaired by U Ko Ko Hlaing, Union Minister for International Cooperation and Chairman of the Myanmar Task Force and attended by Vice-Chairpersons of Task Force, Dr Thet Khaing Win, Union Minister for Health, and Dr Thet Thet Khaing, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and members of Myanmar Task Force from the respective ministries.

The Meeting followed up on the conduct of the Joint Needs Assessment for the implementation of the Phase 2 Humanitarian Assistance Delivery Arrangement: Life Sustaining and coordinated among the concerned Ministries in facilitating the swift and smooth on-ground procedures. The Meeting also discussed the ways forward for the provision of broader humanitarian assistance to the people in need throughout the country. — MNA



MoH Deputy Minister virtually attends 2nd ASEAN Digital Public Health Conference



SUPERVISED by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Brunei, the second ASEAN Digital Public Health Conference was held with a hybrid method at the Empire Hotel in Brunei yesterday. The Minister of Fi-

nance and Economy (2), the Minister of Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Mr Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman greeted and the Secretary-General of the ASEAN Mr Lim Jock Hoi gave an opening speech. Deputy Minister for Health

Dr Aye Tun joined the discussion on the title Building a Resilient ASEAN together with the ministers and deputy ministers of Health from Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. They discussed using digital technology, the success of ASEAN countries during the Covid-19 pandemic and the difficulties encountered.

The deputy minister said that Myanmar has added the vaccination of Covid-19 to ASEAN through the VMIS system, and all ASEAN countries have been able to verify the vaccination record of Myanmar and the Covid-19 vaccination information has been brought using digital technology.

The conference was held from 22 to 23 November and the specialists discussed digital public health cases. — 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

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Answer "1111" to improve services

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Myanmar attends 12th International Forum ATOMEXPO 2022 in Russia



MYANMAR delegation led by Union Minister for Electric Power U Thaung Han and Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Myo Thein Kyaw, cur-

rently in Russian Federation, attended the opening ceremony of the 12th International Forum ATOMEXPO 2022 in Sochi together with Myanmar Amba-

sador to Russia U Lwin Oo on 21 November.

The forum was attended by Nuclear experts, governmental officials, relevant personnel of

NGOs and business people from 74 countries.

First, Chairman Alexey Likhachev of Rostom delivered an opening speech.

Then, the participants studied the modern gallery and scale models of the nuclear industry displayed at the forum and took commemorative photos.

During the Plenary Session held at Sirius Park of Science and Art, Myanmar delegates participated under the topic of “Nuclear Spring: creating a sustainable future”. Then, Chairman Alexey Likhachev of Rosatom read out the message sent by Russian President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin.

Next, the attendees discussed the role nuclear energy plays in solving the tasks on the global nuclear agenda, the contribution of nuclear technology to economic development without affecting the environ-

ment and social sectors and the potential in education and job opportunities.

Myanmar delegation met with Chairman Alexey Likhachev of Rosatom separately to discuss small-scale hydropower, wind power, nuclear power plants and human resource subjects and signed the Non-Disclosure Agreement.

Established in 2009, the ATOMEXPO Forum was held annually and is a key forum for IAEA and Europe, Latin America, Asia and African countries.

It creates its goal for reductions in carbon dioxide emissions using nuclear energy to facilitate a green transition.

At the forum, the documents were signed by Belarus, Burundi, Zimbabwe, Myanmar, and Uzbekistan. The programme of the forum included some 40 events and over 4,000 people took part in the events. —MNA

CRIME NEWS

Illegal timbers, medications, electronics, foodstuffs, consumer goods, car parts and machine parts confiscated

A combined inspection team under the supervision of the Yangon Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force conducted inspections on 18 November, according to information.

Officials confiscated over K1.137 billion worth of medications without official documents in Dagon township of Yangon Region. The action was taken under Customs Procedures.

A combined team under the management of the Shan State Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force seized over K17 million worth of foodstuffs, consumer goods, car parts and machine parts near the Kyinsankyawt checkpoint in Shan State. The action was taken under Customs Procedures.

Similarly, on 19 and 20 November, an on-duty team captured computer parts and 47 old mobiles worth K7.7 million without official documents during the inspection of passenger luggage at the

Yangon International Airport. The action was taken under Customs Procedures.

On 21 November, an on-duty team impounded K1.25 million worth of motor-bike tyres without official documents from a vehicle heading from Myawady to Yangon at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) Combined Checkpoint and 150 old bicycles worth K2,794,050 without official documents at the Myawady (OSS) Trade Zone. The action was taken under Customs Procedures.

On 22 November, a total of 68.7892 tonnes of illegal teak and hardwood was nabbed in the Toungoo and Nyaunglebin districts. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

A total of eight arrests (approximately K1,192,843,880) were made on five consecutive days from 18 to 22 November, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA

6th meeting of Poverty Reduction Joint Working Group – JWG among Mekong-Lancang countries



THE Director-General of the Rural Development Department, the focal department for Mekong-Lancang poverty reduction, and officials attended the 6th meeting of Joint Working Group (JWG) for Mekong-Lancang Cooperation (LMC) on Poverty Reduction in Thailand held with a virtual conference system.

Director-General Mr Xin Jiamin of NRRA of the Peo-

ple's Republic of China and the Deputy Director-General of the Community Development Department of Thai delivered opening speeches.

Afterwards, U Thein Lwin, Director-General of the Rural Development Department, the focal department for Mekong-Lancang poverty reduction, and officials exchanged ideas and experiences on poverty alleviation and rural devel-

opment, implementation of the five-year plan (2018-2022) for the poverty reduction sector of Mekong-Lancang Cooperation, and the plans for the 2023-2027 plan.

The Director-General of the NRRA of the People's Republic of China and officials of the Mekong-Lancang Poverty Reduction Joint Working Group-JWG attended the meeting. — MNA

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Kampaiti border trade earns US\$1.881 mln in Nov 2nd week

MYANMAR'S trade via the Kampaiti border reached US\$1.881 million in the second week of November, according to figures from the Ministry of Commerce.

In the first week of November, the country exported 1,900 tonnes of tissue-culture bananas loaded on 76 trucks through Kampaiti.

The tissue banana season starts in November and the export volume in November is higher than in October. The

Kampaiti border trade earned \$1.881 million – 1.575 million in exports and 0.306 million in imports during the second week of November.

The country mainly exports tissue-culture bananas and imports iron, engines, machines and related materials, iron and steel construction materials, wires, plastic, garments, finished clothes and other commodities.

Currently, the five-year Kampaiti Business Park Pro-



Lorries loaded with tissue-culture bananas are seen near the Kampaiti border.

ject is being implemented by Myanmar Heng Ya Investment Development Company Limited in the Kampaiti region under the permission of the Myanmar Investment Commission.

The project contains six

zones and there are shops in Zone E, and the concrete paving processes – 131.6 metres in length, 30 metres in width and 250 millimetres in height – have been carried out in Zone B since October. —TWA/GNLM

Over 200 repatriated Myanmar nationals from Thailand enter Myanmar via Kawthoung



Repatriated Myanmar migrant workers are seen on 21 November.

IT is reported that 210 Myanmar nationals who were arrested in Thailand for various reasons were repatriated to Kawthoung on 21 November.

The 210 repatriated workers — 170 males and 40 females — were transferred by the head of the Immigration Department and officials from

Ranong, Thailand, to Kawthoung for the first time this month. Myanmar health officials and Red Cross members conducted COVID-19 tests with RDT (Test kit) and other necessary tests on returnees. The Migrant Resource Centres-MRC provided personal goods to Myanmar nationals as well.

The returnees (men and women) have to stay separately under surveillance for three days at three quarantine centres in Kawthoung Township. Then, they will be

sent to their homes if they are not infected with the COVID-19 virus. The officer in charge of the Ranong Labour Office urged Myanmar nationals to enter Thailand officially next time since the registration programme is already in place in Myanmar.

On 21 October 2022, 178 Myanmar migrant workers who were arrested in Thailand for various reasons and had been released from their sentences, were repatriated to Kawthoung via Ranong, Thailand. — TWA/GNLM

YCTA (temporary) to select ECs to form official organization

THE selection for the Yangon City Taxi Association's executive members will be held at the office of the YCTA (temporary) in Dagon Myothit (North) Township from 8 am to 12 pm on 3 December, it is learnt.

The YCTA (temporary) was formed on 12 January 2022 to provide better service to commuters and improve the management of taxis in Yangon region, according to the Yangon Region Transport Committee (YRTC).

Joint Secretary U Lyan Ciint Mang of the YRTC said that the YCTA (temporary) is a vehicle owners association and will be an official organization once they get the permission to form an association and report it back to the regional government.

The YRTC has invited city taxi owners to vote in the executive election. City taxi owners can register at the YCTA and apply for membership. It is reported that they can be elected as an executive in the Yangon City Taxi Association. There are more than 65,000 city taxis with Yangon licence plates and over 20,000 city taxis with regional licence plates in Yangon, according to the statistics released by YRTC in early 2022. — TWA/GNLM

Weekly market update of dry groceries

DURING the week ending 22 November, Yangon's Bayint Naung Wholesale Market saw an entry of newly harvested monsoon onions and Chinese onions and old summer onions. Chinese onions flowed into the markets at a cheaper rate. Although the wholesale reference price of palm oil increased, the market price and the delivery order price declined. The prices of black gram and pigeon peas also decreased.

Onion

On 22 November, 120,000 visses of onions from various regions flowed into the Yangon market.

The prices of old summer onions stood at K3,000-K4,400 per

viss of onions from the Seikphyu area, K3,800-K4,800 from the Myingyan area and K2,200-4,200 from the Myittha area, whereas Chinese onions moved in the range between K2,600 and K3,400 per viss.

Garlic

The wholesale prices of the Kyukok garlic variety were K3,325 per viss on 22 November, while the local garlic from Shan State (Aungban area) moved in the range between K2,900-K3,900 per viss.

Potato

New Chinese potatoes entered the Yangon markets at cheaper rates, with K1,900 per viss of Chinese potatoes. Old

Chinese potatoes were priced at K2,400 per viss while the local potato from Shan State (Aungban area) was valued at K1,900-K2,150 per viss.

Chilli pepper

Monsoon chilli pepper price dipped. The Yangon market saw a large supply of chilli peppers from various regions.

On 22 November, the wholesale prices of chilli peppers were K17,000-K17,300 per viss of Shan long chilli pepper, K16,500 for the Indian Moehtaung variety. The bell pepper from Shan State fetched K21,000 per viss. The long chilli peppers processed at cold storage were priced at K21,000 per viss and the bell peppers were

valued at K31,000 per viss.

Palm oil

The wholesale reference price of palm oil in the Yangon Region this week was up by K30 per viss compared to the last week's price. The reference price for a week from 21 to 27 November was set at K4,380 per viss.

Consequently, the wholesale prices of palm oil barrels were K5,600-K5,750 per viss on 22 November.

Rice

On 22 November, glutinous rice prices were K95,000-K98,000 per viss. The prices of high-grade Pawsan stood at K85,000-K94,000 per bag from the Shwebo area, K62,000-K67,000 from

Patheingyi/Myaungmya areas and K58,000-K62,000 from the Pyapon area, while the prices of other rice varieties were K49,000 of short-mature rice (90 days), K46,000 for rice grown under the intercropping system and K42,000-K43,000 for monsoon low-grade rice.

Pulses

The prices of various pulses stood at over K1,726,000 per tonne of black gram (Fair Average Quality/RC), K2,036,000 per tonne of black gram (Special Quality/RC), K1,895,000 per tonne of pigeon pea (red gram) RC and K4,100-K4,300 per viss of chickpea on 22 November. — TWA/GNLM

LOCAL BUSINESS

YGEA to offer training courses on gold business free of cost in Dec

YANGON Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association (YGEA) will offer training courses on gold business free of charge at its office at No 42/50 on Shwebontha Street, Pabedan Township between 1 and 10 December.

The respective experts will share education and knowledge about gold mining, gold refining, gold trading, laws to prevent money laundering and corruption, opening gold shops and refineries, gold mortgage, gold rate calculation, gold/silver coins and jewellery.

Those interested can take out enrolment forms free of charge at the office of the association. As the number of trainees is limited, they can contact YGEA's contact number 09450049282 for further detail.

At present, pure gold fetched K2,658,000 per tical (0.578 ounce

or 0.016 kilogramme) in the domestic market.

The domestic gold price is on the rise as it is influenced by the global gold spot price (US\$1,744 per ounce).

YGEA raised the reference price of the yellow metal to K2,054,000 per tical tracking global gold spot price.

However, there is a large gap of K600,000 per tical between the YGEA price and the market price.

YGEA calculated the price depending on the Central Bank of Myanmar's reference exchange rate of K2,100, with some addition. The dollar was exchanged at K2,900 in the black market.

Therefore, there is a large gap between the YGEA price and the market price based on the black-market dollar rate.

Meanwhile, YGEA called for the gold shops in Yangon Region



Jewellery is seen at the gold outlet in Yangon.

to sell pure gold at K2,530,000 per tical, according to its notification released on 30 October 2022.

The soaring dollar exchanging at over K4,500 pushed up the pure gold price to a record-high

of K3.7 million per tical in late August. —NN/GNLM

Palm oil wholesale reference price gradually increases



To meet the oil sufficiency in the domestic market, about 700,000 tonnes of cooking oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia.

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil in the Yangon market has rebounded, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The price stood at K3,880 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes) in the second week of October. Then, the reference price has gradually risen to K4,380 per viss in the second week of November.

The Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Ma-

laysia and Indonesia including transportation cost, tariff and banking service, and issuing the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil on a weekly basis.

The reference prices of palm oil in the Yangon market were set at K4,380 per viss for this week from 21 to 27 November.

Despite the reference price, the current market price is too high.

If those edible oil retailers and wholesalers are found overcharging, storing inventory intentionally and attempting unscrupulous action to manipulate

the market, they will face legal action under the Special Goods Tax Law, MoC released a statement.

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

At present, mobile market trucks operated by oil importing companies, in coordination with Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association, were back to business in some townships on 17 July to offer palm oil at a subsidized rate. They sell palm oil at K4,400 per viss to consumers directly. However, there are limited sources of supply although they directly sell palm oil at a reference rate depending on the volume quota.

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

Myanmar registers trade deficit of \$678.226 mln as of 11 November

MYANMAR'S trade gap widened to US\$678.226 million between 1 April and 11 November of the current financial year 2022-2023 compared to the year-ago period. Higher exports and lower imports resulted in a trade surplus of \$315.991 million in the corresponding period of the 2021-2022FY, according to data provided by the Ministry of Commerce.

While exports were estimated at \$10.072 billion, imports were valued relatively low at \$10.751 billion over the past seven months. Compared to the FY2021-2022, exports showed an increase of over \$1.376 billion, while import value was up by \$2.37 billion.

Myanmar's maritime trade value edged up to \$16 billion over the past seven months from \$12.29 billion recorded in the same period last year yet the country witnessed a small drop of \$62.637 million in border trade as cross-border trade with the main trade partner China has not returned to normal amid the strict virus policy.

Myanmar exports agricultural produce, animal products, minerals, forest products, and finished industrial goods, while it imports capital goods, raw industrial materials, and consumer goods.

The country's export sector relies more on the agricultural and manufacturing sectors. The Ministry of Commerce is trying to reduce the trade deficit by screening luxury import items and boosting exports. The country mainly imports essential goods, construction materials, capital goods, hygienic materials and supporting products for export promotion and import substitution. —KK/GNLM

Analyze the mindsets of readers for invaluable life

READING can change the mindsets and life of readers. The readers who have intentionally or unintentionally changed their mindsets will be capable of changing the manuals of society to be better than now. It is the best advantage of reading.

Anyone can read any literature and any subject. Various genres of literature they read will comprise toxic and non-toxic knowledge. Hence, the readers should not initially apply the knowledge from their reading. While reading more and more, they have to possess the skill of analysis of the topics of the literature they read. If so, they will have the skills to choose the best literature appropriate for them. It is the best point.

In the further step, the readers can attain enlightenment in the physical and mental worlds of society while discarding unnecessary things from their minds. The reader has a life but the reading is perpetual.

The readers will have the chance to do critical thinking beyond the relevant political isms. They can analyze the political isms, and renew, revise and amend such isms in their frames of mindsets without disturbing society as well as other companions. Whenever most people see an object as a square shape, those readers are able to eye it as a square shape object or a cubic object based on their analysis and initiative skills.

Everybody should read literature. And, they have to deeply analyze and criticize it. If so, they will have knowledge from reading. The lifespan of a human is very short. During the period, readers can see the number of confined things through the literary window.

In the further step, the readers can attain enlightenment in the physical and mental worlds of society while discarding unnecessary things from their minds. The reader has a life but the reading is perpetual.



AS ENGLISH is an international language, people learn it worldwide. When I was young, one of my teachers told us that there is only one key to open the bank of knowledge of the world. At that moment, I did not understand those words very well. However, the higher my grades, the more I understand it. When I joined the university, the atmosphere of my knowledge got wider and wider and I quite understand the importance of learning the English language. It was in 1973–77 and it was somewhat difficult to learn it at heart’s content because books and documents associated with the English language cannot obtain as much as one’s needs.

Later, internet access could be used in our country widely, we got familiar with eBooks and e-book readers. Here, I would like to introduce eBook readers. EB-book readers are excellent devices for students and learners. Reading eBooks is just like reading a normal book without having to hold the book or turn the pages. These devices save students energy. Before eBook readers, students had to carry many heavy books with them each day. However, eBook readers are extremely lightweight and usually weigh less than a pound. eBook readers are more efficient and convenient than regular books. They are wireless, so students can use them anywhere. They are comfortable to hold and are clear even in bright sunlight. My friend has an eBook reader, and she convinced me to buy one. Finally, purchasing a new book for an eBook reader is simple and cheap. There are now millions of eBooks available, and many eBooks cost less than traditional books. eBook readers have certainly made students’ lives much

Moreover, the readers’ minds are able to be beyond the time frame. Their minds can move from the past to the present and then to the future in a short time. As such, those readers are capable of opening the treasury of knowledge not only at present but in the past. And, they have the chance to utilize these treasures for their life without the need to fear any action to be taken by the authorities.

The readers will have the chance to do critical thinking beyond the relevant political isms. They can analyze the political isms, and renew, revise and amend such isms in their frames of mindsets without disturbing society as well as other companions. Whenever most people see an object as a square shape, those readers are able to eye it as a square shape object or a cubic object based on their analysis and initiative skills.

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In the further step, the readers can attain enlightenment in the physical and mental worlds of society while discarding unnecessary things from their minds. The reader has a life but the reading is perpetual.

easier.

Suppose, you are someone who is actively interested in maintaining or improving your level of English. We hope you feel good about it – and you should! Because the good news is that you are doing so much more for yourself than just learning a language. Here, we will tell you exactly why this is – and we’re not making it up. It’s all scientifically proven.

Go with the flow

Do you know that feeling when you’re focused on what you’re doing? You forget the world around you and are just “in the zone”. Psychologists call this the “flow” state and it’s very good for our mental health because it pushes out negative thoughts and stress. “Flow” can be achieved by doing creative activities like painting, by engaging in physical activity such as running, or by learning. When we are engaged in a lesson, or in learning by ourselves, we can enter the flow state and give our brains a break from the stresses of everyday life

Feel better about yourself

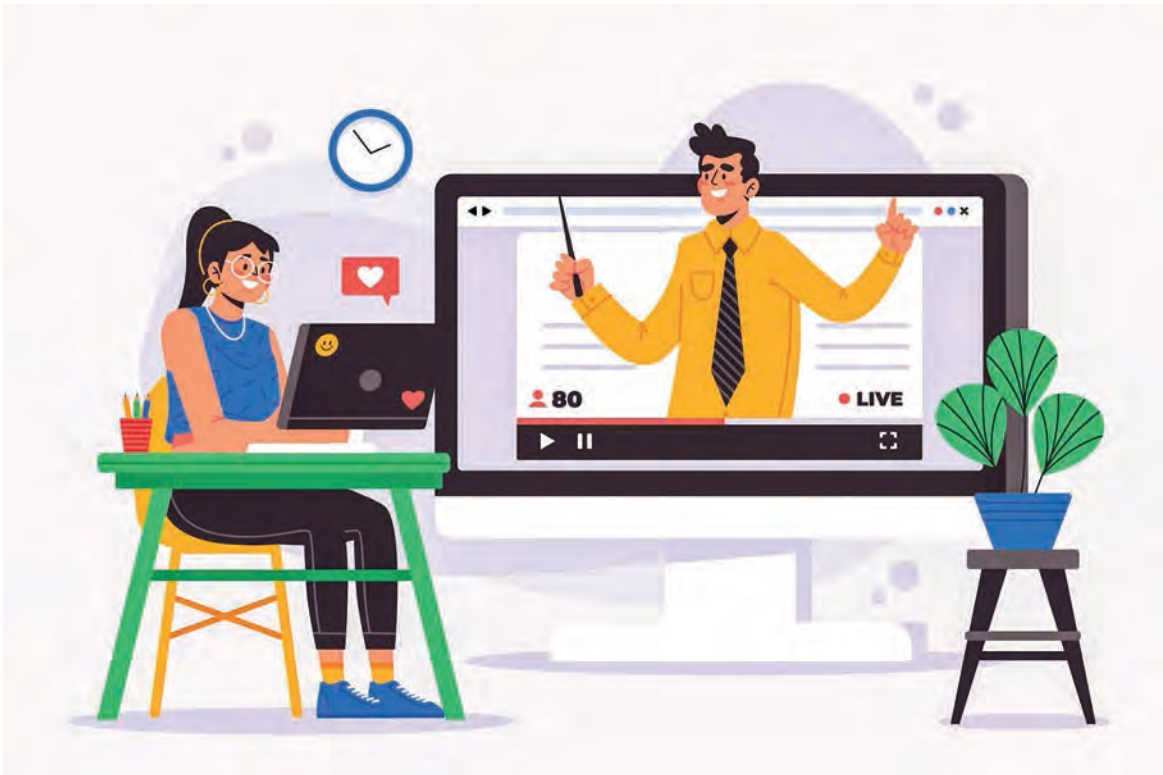
Would you like to feel better about yourself? Then do not go on a diet or sign up for the gym – learn something instead! A study at University or a College or by self-study found that learning makes us feel better about ourselves. It also helps us to feel more able to deal with life’s challenges. “There is robust evidence that adult learning leads to increases in self-esteem and self-efficacy,” says the lead researcher of the study.

Boost your brain function

Learning is good for the brain. Learning anything is a good way to stay mentally sharp, but it seems

Why We Should Learn Language

By Yin Nwe Ko



Learning English opens a window to other cultures - without you having to leave your home. **ILLUSTRATION CREDIT: FREEPIK**

that language learning has extra benefits. In tests, people who speak more than one language are better at remembering lists and sequences. They are also more perceptive to their surroundings

and better able to zoom in on important information.

Open a window to new cultures

Learning English opens a

window to other cultures – without you having to leave your home. You can appreciate the lyrics of more songs, watch a wider variety of television on different streaming services and even understand

untranslatable jokes on Twitter. If you’d like to experience “culture” in a more formal sense, try watching live streams of fantastic new theatre through its website.

Make more money

It’s obvious: speaking the global language is good for your career and income. English not only helps you to find a job but is often also essential to climb the career ladder. If you want to rise to the top in any business or profession, you need English. And, of course, with these better jobs comes more money. According to the English language course provider, employees with good English can usually expect to make 25 to 35 per cent more money than those without it.

Stay Social

Social contact is good for us, and speaking a language is an inherently sociable activity. There are a lot of ways to spend time with people while learning or practising your English, and it does not have to be in an evening class. Look for other English-speaking groups, such as an English Stammtisch, book group, crossword club, “knit and natter” group, or sports team in your area. With so many activities now available online, you can join in live with a Zumba class in Australia, a crafting tutorial in the US, or a book club hosted in Canada – the world is your oyster!

Learn more than English

If you already understand English, you can learn other things that are taught through the medium of English. It could be a short online video showing you how to mend your washing machine. It might be a TED Talk. You might want to try an online self-study course. Or, you may

even consider applying for a full university course by distance learning. English is the key to opening these doors to education.

Stay mentally fit in older age

It almost seems too good to be true, but speaking good English (as well as your native language) can help ward off dementia. Research published in the journal of the American Academy of Neurology shows that bilingualism delays the age of the onset of dementia by 4.5 years, regardless of your general level of education.

Be better informed on world affairs

As well as checking out the world news from your local news service, why not try looking at what commentators are saying from the ground in those different countries? English is the main language of international journalism, so if you can read English, you can find out what is happening anywhere. The BBC World Service has been broadcasting news and reports on current affairs from around the globe since 1932 and is now available online.

Better than a midlife crisis

Learning a new language, or refreshing your “school English”, is a great hobby in middle age or as you approach retirement. A study carried out by the UK’s Institute for Employment Studies found that 80 per cent of language learners in their 50s and 60s reported a positive impact on at least one of the following aspects of their lives: their enjoyment of life, their self-confidence, how they felt about themselves, their satisfaction with other areas of

life and their ability to cope with everyday problems.

It is like sex and chocolate, but better

A study in the scientific journal Current Biology found that learning the meaning of new words activates a part of the brain called the ventral striatum, also known as the brain’s reward centre. You get the same “hit” of pleasure as when you have sex, eat chocolate or play a game of poker. And learning a new language has zero calories and is less risky than some other activities

Goal!

Achieving our goals makes us happy. Those goals can include completing a language course at an adult education college, passing a language exam, or simply watching a movie without subtitles. When we make progress towards our goals, our subjective well-being and our sense of happiness and satisfaction increase. This motivates us to set new goals, which make us happier, and so on. It’s a virtuous circle.

In brief, in the current period that the people who are learning the English language are so abundant that we do not dare to look down upon anyone. We can see the youths, especially the kids learning English everywhere. Moreover, many adult learners can also be seen. To say frankly, I am still doing it although I am at a certain age in which my body can no longer follow wherever my mind goes. Therefore, I would like to urge the ones who are in the same boat to keep learning the English language happily as long as our health lets us do.

Reference: The Spotlight 2022



Beijing sees record Covid cases as China outbreak spirals

CHINA’S capital Beijing posted a record number of new Covid cases on Tuesday, with the city hunkering down under restrictions that have sent schools online, closed many restaurants and forced employees to work from home.

More than 28,000 new infections were reported nationwide — nearing the record high since the pandemic began — with Guangdong province and the city of Chongqing logging over

16,000 and 6,300 cases respectively, health authorities said.

New cases in Beijing have also jumped in recent days, more than doubling from 621 on Sunday to Tuesday’s 1,438 — a pandemic record for the city.

The last major economy still welded to a zero-tolerance Covid policy, China enforced snap lockdowns, mass testing and quarantines to control outbreaks to great success in the earlier stages of the pandemic.

But the latest spiralling outbreak is testing the limits of that playbook, with officials keen to avoid citywide lockdowns like Shanghai’s two-month ordeal in April, which marred the finance hub’s economy and international image.

Three elderly Beijing residents with underlying diseases died from Covid over the weekend, authorities said, marking China’s first Covid deaths since May.

While the capital has so far avoided a blanket shutdown, there have been widely enforced snap lockdowns of individual buildings and long PCR testing queues due to the requirement for a 24-hour negative test for entry to most public spaces.

Over the weekend, authorities advised residents to stay and home and not travel between districts. And on Monday required travellers to the city to test more times after they arrive.

Many tourist attractions, gyms and parks have been closed, with large-scale events such as concerts cancelled.

China declared its most significant easing of coronavirus measures to date on 11 November, billed as an “optimization” to limit the economic and social impact of zero-Covid measures.

Among the steps was a reduction of compulsory quarantine times for international arrivals.

Multiple Chinese cities can-

celled mass Covid testing last week but some later reinstated them, underlining the difficulty of controlling the fast-spreading Omicron variant.

Shijiazhuang, which had previously cancelled mass testing, began a partial lockdown Monday after cases surged, while several districts of southern epicentre Guangzhou also locked down the same day.

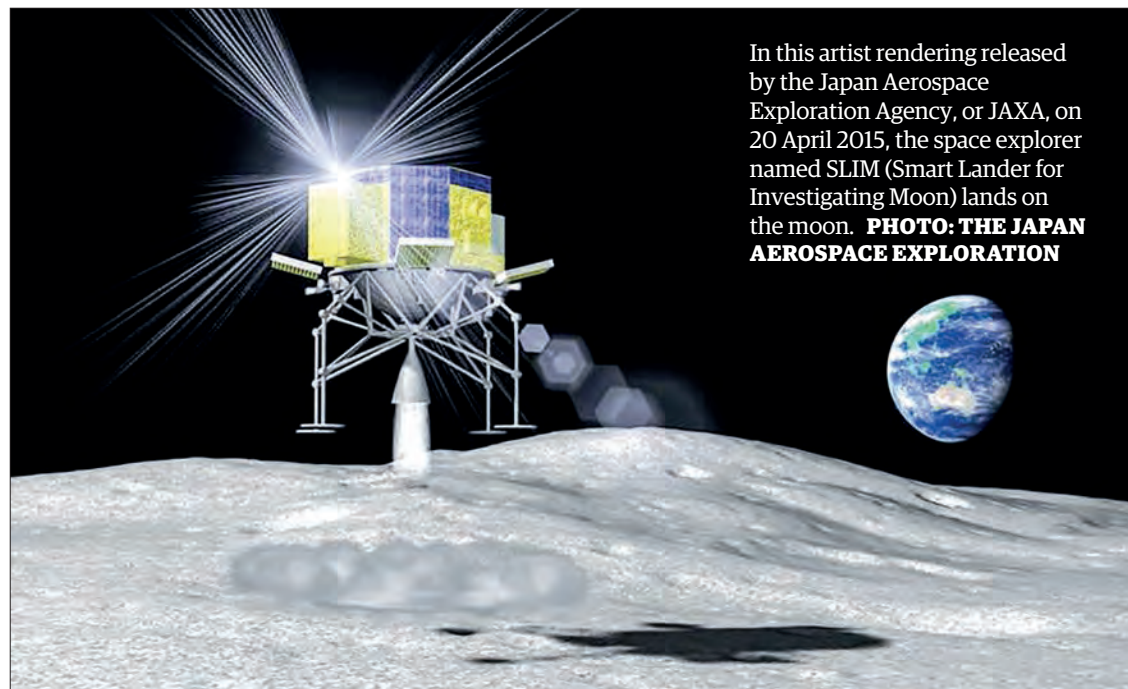
SOURCE: AFP



Beijing: People queue to test for coronavirus at a swab collection station on Sunday. **PHOTO: AFP**

SCI/ENVIRON WORLD

Japan space agency gives up on landing Moon probe



In this artist rendering released by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, or JAXA, on 20 April 2015, the space explorer named SLIM (Smart Lander for Investigating Moon) lands on the moon. **PHOTO: THE JAPAN AEROSPACE EXPLORATION**

JAPAN'S space agency said Tuesday it has given up on landing the country's ultra-small space probe on the Moon after communication with the lander failed to stabilize following its launch last week.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency said the Omotenashi lander could not receive transmissions from Earth to correct its trajectory and position, as its solar cells kept facing away from the sun. Attempts to correct its position

and orbit were also unsuccessful, the agency said.

Tatsuaki Hashimoto, a professor at JAXA, called the development a "failure beyond failure" at a press conference following the decision to forgo the moon landing.

Development costs for the probe were 800 million yen (\$5.6 million), he said.

JAXA hoped the box-shaped lander, measuring 11 centimetres in length, 24 cm in width, and 37 cm in height and weighing

12.6 kilogrammes, would have become the country's first probe to land on the lunar surface.

The Omotenashi, touted as the world's smallest lunar lander, was launched Wednesday from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida on the US megarocket Space Launch System.

After the launch, the lander was successfully separated from the rocket and started to travel toward the Moon.—Kyodo

Australia ready to support Indonesia, Solomon Islands after earthquakes: PM



Villagers salvage items from damaged houses following a 5.6-magnitude earthquake that killed at least 162 people, with hundreds injured and others missing in Cianjur on 22 November 2022 **PHOTO: AFP**

AUSTRALIAN Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has declared the government stands ready to provide aid to Indonesia and the Solomon Islands after the nations

were hit by earthquakes.

A total of 162 people were killed after a 5.6-magnitude earthquake hit Indonesia's West Java province on Monday, officials said.

The quake also caused heavy damage to many houses, buildings and infrastructure facilities. The tremors were strongly felt in the national capital Jakarta.

An earthquake with a magnitude of 7.0 jolted 18 kilometres southwest of Malango, the Solomon Islands at 02:03:07 GMT on Tuesday, the US Geological Survey said. Addressing the parliament on Tuesday, Albanese said he has reached out to the leaders of both nations to offer Australia's support. "With more than 2,000 homes damaged, I have conveyed through to my friend President Joko Widodo Australia's condolences at this tragic loss of life and we will stand ready to provide our friends in Indonesia with support as Australia always does," he said.—Xinhua

Who will become history's first 'parastronaut'?

THE first astronaut — or astronauts — with a physical disability could be announced as soon as Wednesday, according to the European Space Agency.

People with physical disabilities have previously been excluded from one of the most exclusive and demanding jobs on Earth — and beyond — due to strict selection requirements.

Guillaume Weerts, the ESA's head of space medicine, told AFP that the agency's "parastronaut project" required "a complete change in philosophy" about the concept of medical aptitude, which originally came from the military and the selection of fighter pilots.

After carrying out a feasibility study, the ESA said potential candidates could include people who have deficiencies

in their lower limbs, whether from amputation or congenital defects.

Shorter people of up to 1.3 metres (4.3 feet) tall or those with different leg lengths were also eligible to apply.

The educational and psychological requirements for the candidates remained the same as for any other astronaut. Applications closed in June 2021.

The ESA is expected to name between four to six new European astronauts — without disabilities — during its ministerial council in Paris on Wednesday. While Weerts said the parastronaut project runs somewhat separately, "there is a real possibility that as part of the announcement one or more people with disabilities" will also be presented.—AFP



An astronaut goes on a spacewalk outside the International Space Station. **PHOTO: AFP**

To strengthen ties, ancient Maya gifted neighbours a spider monkey

SEVENTEEN hundred years ago, a female spider monkey was presented as a treasured gift — and later brutally sacrificed — to strengthen ties between two major powers of pre-Hispanic America, according to a new study. The paper, published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), compared the offering by Maya elites to Teotihuacan to China's panda diplomacy that accompanied the normalization of Sino-US relations in the 1970s. By using multiple techniques — including extraction of ancient DNA, ra-

diocarbon dating and chemical dietary analysis — researchers were able to reconstruct the life and death of the primate, finding she was likely between five and eight years of age when buried alive. "It's such an exciting time to be doing archaeology because the methodology is finally here," lead author Nawa Sugiyama of the University of California, Riverside told AFP. The work began with Sugiyama's surprising discovery in 2018 of the animal's remains in the ruins of Teotihuacan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in the arid Mexican Highlands. —AFP

HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

Bacterial infections the ‘second leading cause of death worldwide’

BACTERIAL infections are the second leading cause of death worldwide, accounting for one in eight of all deaths in 2019, the first global estimate of their lethality revealed on Tuesday.

The massive new study, published in the Lancet journal, looked at deaths from 33 common bacterial pathogens and 11 types of infection across 204 countries and territories.

The pathogens were associated with 7.7 million deaths — 13.6 per cent of the global total — in 2019, the year before the Covid-19 pandemic took off.

That made them the sec-

ond-leading cause of death after ischaemic heart disease, which includes heart attacks, the study said.

Just five of the 33 bacteria were responsible for half of those deaths: Staphylococcus aureus, Escherichia coli, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Klebsiella pneumoniae and Pseudomonas aeruginosa.

S. aureus is a bacterium common in human skin and nostrils but behind a range of illnesses, while E. coli commonly causes food poisoning.

The study was conducted under the framework of the



Hand washing is advised to prevent infection with the pathogens S. aureus and E. coli, which are behind a huge numbers of deaths every year. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Global Burden of Disease, a vast research programme funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation involving thousands

of researchers across the world.

“These new data for the first time reveal the full extent of the global public health challenge posed by bacterial infections,” said study co-author Christopher Murray, the director of US-based Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation.

“It is of utmost importance to put these results on the radar of global health initiatives so that a deeper dive into these deadly pathogens can be conducted and proper investments are made to slash the number of deaths and infections.” —AFP

Homicide rate of Indigenous victims disproportionately high in Canada: statistics

THE national homicide rate in Canada rose by three per cent in 2021 with that of Indigenous victims remaining disproportionately high, Statistics Canada revealed Monday.

According to the national statistical agency, in 2021, police services reported 788 homicides in Canada. This represented 29 additional homicides compared with the previous year and a third consecutive increase since 2019. Consequently, the national homicide rate rose to 2.06 homicides per 100,000 population, compared with 2020.

Meanwhile, in 2021, police reported 190 homicide victims as Indigenous. This represented 25 per cent of the 752 victims for whom information about Indigenous identity was

available. The homicide rate of Indigenous victims was 9.17 per 100,000 Indigenous people, six times higher than that of non-Indigenous people which was 1.55 per 100,000 non-Indigenous people, the agency said.

Among Indigenous victims, nearly 65 per cent were First Nations, six per cent were Métis, and five per cent were Inuk (Inuit). The Indigenous groups to which the remaining victims belonged were reported by police as unknown, the agency said.

Furthermore, in 2021, 247 homicide victims were identified by the police as being racialized persons. This represented 32 per cent of the 762 victims for whom information about racialized groups was available. —Xinhua



Investigators gather in front of the scene of a stabbing in Weldon, Saskatchewan, Sunday, 4 Sept 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

Recreational use of ‘laughing gas’ rising: EU drugs agency



Protesters stage a mass inhalation of Nitrous Oxide, commonly known as laughing gas, outside the Houses of Parliament in London against the government’s proposed Psychoactive Substances Bill on 1 August 2015. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

RECREATIONAL use of laughing gas is an increasing worry in Europe, the European Union’s drugs agency (EMCDDA) said on Monday, stressing the risk of poisonings, burns and nervous system damage.

“The rise in the recreational use of nitrous oxide in some parts of Europe is a cause for concern,” EMCDDA director Alexis Goosdeel said.

“There is a general percep-

tion among users that inhalation of nitrous oxide is safe.

“Yet we see that more frequent or heavier use of the gas increases the risk of serious harms.”

Nitrous oxide has a variety of legitimate medical, industrial, commercial and scientific functions.

It is used as a food additive and as an anaesthetic.

In recent years, it has also

become more popular as a relaxant that leaves the user feeling euphoric, the EU drugs agency said.

This is because it is easily available, cheap and generally perceived as being “a relatively safe drug”.

“A profitable and expanding supply chain has developed, with specialised internet stores directly promoting the gas for its recreational use or offering it under the guise of its use to make whipped cream,” the study explained.

Heavy and frequent use of the gas has led to a “small but significant rise” in poisonings and other health problems since 2017.

These range from damage to the nervous system (neurotoxicity) because nitrous oxide irreversibly inactivates vitamin B12 in the body, severe frostbite from exposure to the freezing gas, and lung injuries caused by the high-pressure release of the gas from larger cylinders.—AFP

Shionogi’s oral COVID drug given emergency approval in Japan

A panel of the Japanese health ministry granted fast-track approval to Shionogi & Co.’s oral COVID-19 drug on Tuesday.

The medicine for coronavirus patients with mild symp-

toms will be the country’s first domestically produced oral drug against the virus. The decision comes as Japan has recently seen a rebound in the number of daily coronavirus cases. The govern-

ment has eased restrictions on people’s activity including removing its cap on daily foreign arrivals, while also starting a subsidy programme for residents to boost domestic tourism.—Kyodo

ECONOMY
WORLD/AD

Govt panel wants Japan public to pay more for defence buildup

A government panel on Tuesday urged “the whole nation” to shoulder a heavier burden to build up the country’s defence capabilities amid growing security challenges, effectively asking for tax hikes instead of new national bond issuances.

In its proposal submitted to Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, the panel also upheld the ruling Liberal Democratic Party’s contentious plan for Japan to acquire an enemy base strike capability, or a “counterstrike capability”, as “essential” for enhancing Japan’s deterrence.

While highlighting the importance of “securing stable financial resources”, the panel for defence buildup and budget finance



Kenichiro Sasae (L), head of a government panel on Japan’s defence buildup, submits a proposal to Prime Minister Fumio Kishida at the premier’s office in Tokyo on 22 Nov 2022. **PHOTO: KYODO**

ing demanded that the debt-laden government cut expenditures further to help finance expected security cost increases.

Japan’s fiscal health

is the worst among major industrialized economies, with public debt more than twice the size of gross domestic product.

Following the propos-

al’s submission, the Kishida administration is set to ramp up discussions to revise three key defence documents by the end of this year, including the National Security Strategy, which provides the government’s long-term security and diplomacy policy guidelines.

The government is scheduled to compile next month the initial budget for fiscal 2023 through March 2024.

At a meeting between the government and ruling parties later in the day, Kishida said he gained “important advice” from the panel, pledging to show specific fiscal resources needed for the larger defence budget with their scales “by the year-end.”—Kyodo

Infrastructure, cross-border trade platforms bolster China’s opening up

A freight plane carrying over 40 tonnes of cargo including cross-border e-commerce goods took off from Harbin Taiping International Airport and flew directly to Los Angeles in the United States.

This smooth air cargo service is partly attributable to the constant efforts of recent years to improve cross-border infrastructure in northeast China’s

Heilongjiang Province.

With 42 domestic and foreign airlines, 341 routes and 102 destination cities, an air traffic network has been initially formed, with Heilongjiang’s capital Harbin serving as the center. The air traffic network can facilitate connectivity between major Chinese cities and countries such as the Republic of Korea and Singapore.—Xinhua



Employees pack goods for delivery at Suifenhe Area of China (Heilongjiang) Pilot Free Trade Zone, 10 June 2022. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Transferring Distributor for Registered Products

Distribution of following pesticides registered by **ANHUI GUANGXIN Agrochemical Co.,Ltd** is transferring from **Agro Green Land Co.,Ltd** to **Farm Link Co.,Ltd**. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, West Gyogone, Insein Township within (14) days.

Sr	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration	
			Type	Number
1.	Guang Py	Pyraclostrobin 25% SC	Provisional	P 2022 - 4776

Transferring Registered Pesticides

Registered pesticides distributing by **Myanmar Byter Agro Tech Co.,Ltd** in the territory of Myanmar for the product as following are transferring to **Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd** as per mutual consent from both parties. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1	Let Swel 25SC	Pyraclostrobin 25%SC	P2021-4633

Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd.
No.125-127, Kha 11st, Myoe Thit (A+B) Quarter, Inn Sein Township, Yangon.

Transferring Registered Pesticides

Registered pesticides distributing by **Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd.** in the territory of Myanmar for the product as following are transferring to **Myanmar Kete Co.,Ltd.** as per mutual consent from both parties. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1	Byter Gyo Thar 72 WP	Mancozeb 64%+ Metalaxyl 8% WP	F2022-3689
2	Byter Zhongsheng	Zhongshengmycin 3% WP	P2022-4643

Myanmar Kete Co.,Ltd.
No.125-127, Kha 11st, Myoe Thit (A+B) Quarter, Inn Sein Township, Yangon.



Ministry of Planning and Finance
Internal Revenue Department

The Notification for Tax Avoidance, Underpayment of Tax, False or Misleading Tax Information and Tax Evasion

1. In order to clarify to the taxpayers, the terms and provisions of tax avoidance, underpayment of tax, false or misleading tax information and tax evasion, and to publicize the reaction and enforcement on these matters, the Internal Revenue Department issued the public ruling No.3/2022 on 16-11-2022.
2. In this public ruling No.3/2022, the matters defined as including Tax avoidance, negligent or fraudulent underpayment and false or misleading statements of tax information, the actions and circumstances that constitute tax evasion offenses are clarified with examples.
3. Tax evasion offenders shall be taken actions by the Tax Administration Law as well as may also be prosecuted by the Anti-Money Laundering Law, so the public need to know what actions constitute tax evasion.
4. Therefore, it is hereby announced that the public can access and study Myanmar Version in <https://www.ird.gov.mm/sites/default/files/Public%20Ruling%203%202022%20myanmar.pdf> and English Version in <https://www.ird.gov.mm/sites/default/files/Public%20Ruling%203%202022%20english.pdf> in order to fully understand the public ruling that will come into effect on 1-1-2023.

Internal Revenue Department

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Baidu revenue up 2% amid cost-cutting drive

CHINESE internet giant Baidu reported on Tuesday third-quarter revenues of 32.5 billion yuan (\$4.6 billion), representing a year-on-year increase of two per cent.

Its earnings report showed Baidu posted a net loss of 146 million yuan for the three months through September as it reined in costs and trimmed back far deeper losses from the equivalent quarter last year.

Chinese technology majors have struggled in recent months amid an economic slowdown, Covid-19 curbs that have

hammered consumer sentiment, and tighter regulatory scrutiny.

Earnings reports from internet titans, including Alibaba and JD.com, have presented a mixed picture in recent weeks.

“Baidu Core delivered a solid set of financial and operational results in the third quarter, despite the continued challenges posed by the Covid-19 resurgence,” said CEO Robin Li.

The core business “resumed positive growth, driven by a gradual recovery of our online mar-



Baidu's Apollo Go, its robotaxi business, unveiled its next-gen autonomous EV, the Apollo RT6, as the service surpasses one million rides. PHOTO: XINHUA

keting business and the steady growth of our AI Cloud revenue”, Li said, hailing “significant progress in intelligent driving”. “Looking ahead, we expect our mobile ecosys-

tem to continue generating strong cash flow and fund our investment in AI Cloud and intelligent driving, which will help ... drive long-term business growth,” he said.—AFP

Disney seeks old magic in return of ex-CEO

IN a dramatic twist worthy of a “Star Wars” spin-off, Disney ditched CEO Bob Chapek and brought back Bob Iger, Hollywood’s most respected executive, who faces a huge challenge to revive the Magic Kingdom.

Iger’s return comes as Disney is trying to negotiate an uncertain era, where investors have lost faith in some of the most storied names in US media as companies bleed cash in the hunt for customers to streaming platforms.

Disney’s board of directors rehired Iger for a two-year contract that will add to the 15 years he ruled over the company until 2020, when he handed the reins to Chapek.

But Disney’s share price has slumped 40 per cent this year and Chapek was unceremoniously fired after less than three years in the top job, much of it struggling to fill the big shoes left by Iger. Iger’s leadership was extraordinary even by Hollywood’s standards. The 71-year-old led Disney to new frontiers when he bought the Star Wars and Marvel franchises and launched the Disney+ streaming service to rival Netflix head-on.

He also bought 21 Century Fox from media baron Rupert Murdoch and held on to sports network ESPN despite calls to sell it, maintaining an empire that stretched from theme parks to local TV stations and cruise ships.—AFP

Inflation swells Spain’s ‘hunger queues’



Food banks provide help to over 186,000 people in the Madrid region. PHOTO: AFP

WITH a secure job as a bricklayer, Hugo Ramirez never thought he would need the help of charity to feed his family.

But with the cost of living soaring across Europe, the 44-year-old father of

three is one of a growing number of people in Spain turning to food banks to make ends meet.

“We see prices increase every week, even for basic goods,” he told AFP as he stood before wooden crates of fruits and vegetables at the entrance of a residential building in Madrid.

Driven by the war in Ukraine, Spanish food prices jumped 15.4 per cent in October from a year earlier, their biggest increase in nearly three decades, according to the National Statistics Institute.

Sugar was up 42.8 per cent, fresh vegetables rose 25.7 per cent and eggs 25.5 per cent as staple items soared.

In a bid to ease the pressure on squeezed households, Socialist Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez’s government — which faces an election next year — has spent billions of euros on extra welfare spending.— AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (765N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (765N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **23-11-2022** 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 PROGRESS VOY.NO. (N034)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PROGRESS VOY.NO. (N034)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **23-11-2022** 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 INTER ASIA LINES

Transferring Registered Pesticides			
Registered pesticides distributing by Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd. in the territory of Myanmar for the product as following are transferring to Myanmar Byter Agro Tech Co.,Ltd. as per mutual consent from both parties. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.			
No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No
1	Byter Spore	Beauveria Bassiana 15 billion spore/gm SC	P2021-4625
2	Byter Rainger 50 EC	Difenoconazole 25% +Propiconazole 25% EC	P2020-3698
3	Byter Bando	Chlorfenapyr 7.5% + Indoxacarb 2.5% SC	P2021-4699
Myanmar Byter Agro Tech Co.,Ltd. No.125-127, Kha 11 st , Myoe Thit (A+B) Quarter, Inn Sein Township, Yangon.			

Transferring Registered Pesticides			
Registered pesticides distributing by Myanmar Byter Agro Tech Co.,Ltd in the territory of Myanmar for the product as following are transferring to Myanmar Kete Co.,Ltd as per mutual consent from both parties. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.			
No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1	Pymeram 60 WG	Metiram 55%+Pyraclostrobin 5% WG	P2021-4670
2	Byter Kaung Yin	Bacillus thuringiensis 8000 IU/ul SC	P2019-4778
3	Pyraguard 25 EC	Pyraclostrobin 250g/l EC	P2021-4629
Myanmar Kete Co.,Ltd. No.125-127, Kha 11 st , Myoe Thit (A+B) Quarter, Inn Sein Township, Yangon.			

GLOBAL
AFFAIRS

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

Iran says starts enriching uranium to 60% at Fordo plant

IRAN has begun producing uranium enriched to 60 per cent at its Fordo plant, which was reopened in 2019 amid the breakdown of a nuclear agreement with major powers, reports said Tuesday.

“Iran has started producing uranium enriched to 60 per cent at the Fordo plant for the first time,” Iran’s ISNA news agency reported.

An atomic bomb requires uranium enriched to 90 per cent, so 60 per cent is a significant step towards weapons-grade enrichment.

Iran has always denied any ambition to develop an atomic bomb, insisting its nuclear activi-



The interior of the Fordow uranium conversion facility in Qom, Iran. **PHOTO: THE ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION OF IRAN/AFP**

ties are for civilian purposes only.

Under a landmark deal struck in 2015, Iran agreed to mothball the Fordo plant and

limit its enrichment of uranium to 3.67 per cent, sufficient for most civilian uses, as part of a package of restrictions on its nuclear

activities aimed at preventing it covertly developing a nuclear weapon.

In return, major powers agreed to relax sanctions they had imposed over Iran’s nuclear programme.

But the deal began falling apart in 2018 when then US president Donald Trump pulled Washington out of the deal and reimposed crippling economic sanctions.

The following year, Iran began stepping away from its commitments under the deal. It reopened the Fordo and starting enriching uranium to higher levels. —AFP

South African appeal court orders Zuma back to jail

AN appeal court in South Africa said on Monday that former president Jacob Zuma was unlawfully given medical parole from a jail term last year and should return to prison to complete his sentence.

Zuma, 80, had been handed a 15-month term in June 2021 for contempt of court, a move that triggered deadly unrest.

But he served only two months before being given parole for medical reasons that remain unclear.

Parole was granted by the head of South Africa’s prison service, despite an opinion by the service’s medical committee that Zuma did not meet the required conditions. —AFP

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

WHO warns of ‘life-threatening’ winter for millions in Ukraine



Pedestrians walk near Independence Square after the first snow falls of the season in Kyiv on 17 November 2022, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine. **PHOTO: SERGEI SUPINSKY / AFP**

THE World Health Organization on Monday warned that the upcoming winter would be

“life-threatening” for millions of Ukrainians after a series of devastating Russian attacks on

the country’s energy grid.

“Put simply — this winter will be about survival,” Hans Kluge, regional director for Europe at the United Nations’ health body, told reporters during his visit to Kyiv.

“This winter will be life-threatening for millions of people in Ukraine,” he said.

Damage to Ukraine’s energy infrastructure caused by numerous missile strikes “is already having knock-out effects on the health system and on the people’s health”, Kluge said.

He said that the WHO has recorded more than 700 attacks on Ukraine’s health facilities since Russia’s invasion began in February. —AFP

Canadian government issues Ukraine Sovereignty Bond

THE Canadian government launched on Monday the 500 million Canadian dollar (400 million US dollar) Ukraine Sovereignty Bond.

According to a press release issued by the Canadian Finance Ministry, the funds will assist the government of Ukraine so it can continue to provide essen-

tial services to Ukrainians this winter, such as pensions, the purchasing of fuel, and restoring energy infrastructure.

Consistent with the terms of Canada’s financial assistance to Ukraine to date, the funds cannot be used for lethal activities or purchases, and must be consistent with relevant sanc-

tions laws and regulations, the release said.

According to the release, Canadians who purchase the Ukraine Sovereignty Bond will, in effect, be purchasing a regular five-year Government of Canada bond at roughly the current 3.3 per cent rate of return. —Xinhua

Türkiye plans to produce flour from Russian wheat to supply poor countries: Erdogan

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Monday that his country planned to produce flour from Russian wheat for free delivery to the least developed countries. Erdogan said he had agreed with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on such a plan, in an effort to tackle the global food crisis, semi-official Anadolu Agency reported. “Mr Putin made the following offer to me, ‘Let’s send this grain to the least developed countries, that is, to the poor countries for free.’ We agreed too,” Erdogan was quoted by

Anadolu as saying.

“We even made such a plan that we will buy the wheat if necessary, make it flour in Türkiye, and then send it to the least developed countries,” the Turkish president told reporters on his flight back from Qatar. On 22 July, Russia and Ukraine separately signed a document in Istanbul with Türkiye and the United Nations to ensure grain and fertilizer supplies to the global market amid the Russia-Ukraine armed conflict. The deal was extended last week for another 120 days. —AFP



On 22 July, Russia and Ukraine separately signed a document in Istanbul with Türkiye and the United Nations to ensure grain and fertilizer supplies to the global market. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/AFP/ANATOLII STEPANOV**

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

Serbia, Kosovo leaders to meet over licence plates row

SERBIAN President Aleksandar Vucic and Kosovo Prime Minister Albin Kurti will meet in Brussels to discuss a vehicle licence plates row that has hiked tensions between the former foes, the EU said Sunday.

The talks on Monday will go ahead amid escalating discord between Serbia and its former Albanian-majority province that risks becoming one of the worst regional crises in years.

The main source of tension is Kosovo's 2008 declaration of independence which Serbia does not recognize and encourages the Serb minority to remain loyal to Belgrade. In the latest development, Serbs in northern Kosovo this month resigned from public institutions in protest over the row on vehicle number plates.—AFP

38 killed in central China fire

Thirty-eight people were killed and two were injured in a fire at a factory in central China, state media said Tuesday, with authorities blaming workers for illegal welding.

The fire broke out at a plant in Anyang City in Henan Province on Monday afternoon, news agency Xinhua reported.

Rescue services first received reports of a fire at 4:22 pm (0822 GMT) at Anyang Kaixinda Trading Co Ltd, according to state media.

"After receiving the alarm, the municipal fire rescue detachment immediately dispatched forces to the scene," state broadcaster CCTV said.—AFP

US LGBTQ club attack suspect faces murder, possible hate crime charges

ANDERSON Lee Aldrich, who was overpowered by patrons after opening fire in the club Saturday night, is currently hospitalized while awaiting formal charges, police chief Adrian Vasquez said.

District Attorney Michael Allen said he expects first-degree murder charges to be filed and "if the evidence supports bias-motivated crimes, we will charge that as well".

"There's obviously some evidence," Allen told CNN. "The location is some evidence.

"The fact that these victims were in a specific location that is predominantly frequented by members of the LGBTQ community — that is evidence that we can use," he said.—AFP



Law enforcement officers document evidence in the parking lot the morning after a mass shooting at Club Q, an LGBTQ nightclub in Colorado Springs, Colorado, on 20 November 2022. At least five people were killed and 18 wounded in a mass shooting at an LGBTQ nightclub in the US city of Colorado Springs, police said on 20 November 2022. PHOTO: JASON CONNOLLY / AFP

Japan begins to probe Unification Church, eyes depriving tax benefits



Keiko Nagaoka, minister of education, culture, sports, science and technology, holds a press conference at her ministry in Tokyo on 22 Nov 2022. PHOTO: KYODO

THE Japanese government began investigating the Unification Church on Tuesday, paving the way for requesting a court to consider depriving the controversial group of its status as a religious corporation with tax

benefits. The Cultural Affairs Agency sent its enquiries to the organization, often labelled as a cult, in what was the first case of the "right to question" being exercised under the Religious

Corporations Law. Prior to the start of the investigation, culture minister Keiko Nagaoka on Monday acquired approval to initiate the procedure from a ministerial panel after consultations over questions the government should send to the Unification Church.

The ministry is believed to be eager to look into the group's property, decision-making processes and money flows. Nagaoka called for the Unification Church to reply to the questions by 9 Dec. Prime Minister Fumio Kishida had previously been cautious about conducting a probe into the church amid lingering concerns doing so could violate the right to freedom of religion.

But he decided an investigation should be launched, with approval ratings for his Cabinet having plunged due largely to connections between lawmakers of his Liberal Democratic Party and the organization, founded by a staunch anti-communist in South Korea in 1954.—Kyodo

Colombia resumes talks with powerful ELN guerrilla group

COLOMBIA'S government and the National Liberation Army (ELN), the last recognized rebel group in the country, resumed formal peace talks in Venezuela Monday for the first time since they were suspended in 2019.

The talks are a push by President Gustavo Petro, who in August became Colombia's first-ever leftist leader, and has vowed a less bellicose approach to ending violence wrought by armed groups, including leftist guerrillas and drug traffickers.

In their first meeting, the parties agreed to "resume the dialogue process with full political and ethical will," according to a joint statement.

They added that the talks aim to "build peace" and make "tangible, urgent, and neces-



National Liberation Army (ELN) Commander Pablo Beltran (left) and government representative Otty Patino shake hands after announcing the results of the peace talks. PHOTO: AFP

sary" changes, highlighting the need for "permanent compromises."

The first round of talks will last 20 days.

Colombia has suffered

more than half a century of armed conflict between the state and various groups of left-wing guerrillas, right-wing paramilitaries and drug traffickers.—AFP

Japan begins to probe
Unification Church, eyes
depriving tax benefits

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SPORT

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.

Myanmar wins four silvers, three bronzes in 14th ASIAN Dragon Boat Championship

A total of 15 races were held in the 14th Asian Dragon Boat Championship held in Pattaya, Thailand, from 16 to 22 November, and the Myanmar team competed in 13 races. It is reported that team Myanmar has won a total of 12 medals: nine silvers and three bronzes.

The Myanmar team won silver medals in the 500-metre Men's 22-oar event, 200-metre

Men's and Women's Double 12-oar event, 200-metre Men's 22-oar event, and 200-metre Men's and Women's Double 22-oar event.

Team Myanmar also won bronze medals in 200-metre Women's 12-oar competition and 500-metre Women's 12-oar event.

The Myanmar Rowing Sports Team has gained good

experience in the Asian Dragon Rowing Competition that is currently running and has the advantage of beating the host the Thai team in every match and producing good results. The Myanmar Rowing Federation announced that they will do their best to prepare for the upcoming competitions by completing the strength and power requirements like the team Indonesia.



Myanmar rowers who have won medals hold the national flag in victory.

The Myanmar Rowing Canoeing Federation, which won medals will also compete in the Thailand Traditional Boat and

International Swan Boat Race 2022, which will be held on the Chao Phraya River in Bangkok. — Bala Soe/GNLM

'A bucket of ice water': Argentina cries after World Cup walloping



Argentina's forward #10 Lionel Messi is tackled by Saudi Arabia's defender #17 Hassan Altambakti during the Qatar 2022 World Cup Group C football match between Argentina and Saudi Arabia at the Lusail Stadium in Lusail, north of Doha on 22 November 2022.

PHOTO: JUAN MABROMATA / AFP

GASPS gave way to stony expressions of disbelief, and then tears, as Argentina fans gathered in Buenos Aires watched the hu-

miliation of their football team unfold at the World Cup in Qatar.

"It was a walloping, a bucket of ice-cold water," Carlos Cuera,

26, said of the 2-1 loss to Saudi Arabia. He was still seated in front of a cafe television where fans decked out in their team's white and blue colours gathered from before 7:00 am for the breakfast match in the Argentine capital. "Nobody expected this. We thought the first three matches would be an easy victory, and now it has become more complicated," he said, adding the loss had ramped up pressure ahead of Saturday's duel with Mexico.

Lionel Messi's Argentina side suffered one of the greatest upsets in World Cup history, ending a winning streak that included the Copa America championship.

The proud, football-crazed nation entered the World Cup among the favorites, eight years after they last won the tournament. —AFP

Feisty Tunisia hold Eriksen's Denmark at World Cup

TUNISIA held Denmark to a goalless draw in their World Cup opener on Tuesday, kicking off their Group D campaign with a strong performance against one of the pre-tournament dark horses.

Tunisia have never reached the World Cup knockouts in five previous attempts but Jalel Kadri's side will be encouraged both with a point at Education City Stadium and with how they performed against the fancied Danes.

Since Kadri took charge of the team in January Tunisia have only lost to Brazil and they frustrated Denmark

in front of thousands of noisy North Africans.

Christian Eriksen was largely anonymous on his return to major tournament football after nearly dying on the pitch at the European Championship last year, wilting in the face of ferocious defending.

Denmark had come into the match as favourites but Tunisia tore into their more illustrious opponents from kick-off, flying into tackles.

The massed ranks of Tunisians in the stands created a crackling atmosphere and they cheered every tackle and clearance. —AFP

World Cup 2022 Results
Mexico 0-0 Poland