THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

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

As Tatmadaw is a primary organization to defend the State, Tatmadaw members are the main armed forces for protecting the State: Vice-Senior General

State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Thray Sithu Soe Win takes the salute of the cadet companies at the Passing-Out Parade of the 9th Intake of the graduate female cadet course in Hmawby in Yangon yesterday.

THE Passing-Out Parade of the 9th Intake of female graduate cadet course took place at the parade ground of the Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School (Hmawby) in Yangon yesterday morning, with an address by Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Thray Sithu Soe Win, on behalf of State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Maha Thray Sithu Min Aung Hlaing.

The ceremony was also attended by Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of the Vice-Senior General, senior military officers and their wives, instructor officers from studies and training departments of the school as parents and guardians of cadets and guests.

The Vice-Senior General took the salute of the cadet company and inspected the flag bearer and graduate cadet company. The cadet companies saluted the Vice-Senior General with slow-march past and the quick-march past.

The Vice-Senior General presented the best cadet award to cadet Theint Nanda Aung of the 9th Intake of female graduate cadet course.

On behalf of State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Maha Thray Sithu Min Aung Hlaing, the Vice-Senior General delivered a speech. He said: In building the defence capability, the Tatmadaw has established training depots to turn out female military personnel to enhance the role of women and participate in the Tatmadaw. Graduated female officers are allowed to further study master's courses and doctoral courses in their respective subjects.

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Five National Objectives of Diamond Jubilee Independence Day

1. To ensure cementing the discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democratic system and build the Union based on democracy and federalism;
2. To utmost strive for ensuring prosperity of the nation and food sufficiency as national work processes;
3. To build a better State and socioeconomic life in accord with the theme "Keep Moving Forward to Achieve Our Goal" focusing on interests of the State and ethnic national people;
4. To initiate national solidarity and peace of the Union with a firm vow;
5. To successfully hold the free and fair multiparty democratic general elections and emerge an electoral system in which all ethnic nationals would participate proportionately.

Public Notice for elimination of violence

1. SO called "CRPH", "NUG" and "PDF" terrorist groups are unlawfully committing killings of monks, teachers, civil servants and general people and looting under the pretext of saying "for the people".

2. Not rendering of encouragement support and assistance to the "CRPH", "NUG" and "PDF" terrorists that are committing intimidations, killings and destructive activities could be construed as protecting lives and property of general public.

3. Giving information secretly relating to bearing of their arms, ammunition and terrorists to authorities could be tantamount to protecting lives and property of innocent people.

Ceremony to commission graduates of 9th Intake of Female Cadet Course (Hmawby) held

The commissioning ceremony for graduates of the Ninth Intake of Female Cadet Course is in progress.

THE ceremony to commission graduates of the 9th Intake of Female Cadet Course of the Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School (Hmawby) took place at the Myawady Hall of the training school yesterday morning.

Military Appointment-General Lt-Gen Lin Aung of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, Commandant of the Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School (Hmawby) Brig-Gen Min Min Soe and graduate cadets attended the ceremony.

At the ceremony, Military Appointment-General Lt-Gen Lin Aung presented certificates of appointment as commissioned officers to female graduate cadets and then delivered a speech.

Female graduate cadets were appointed to the rank of second lieutenant at the ceremony. The training school (Hmawby) has been conducting the officer training course for female graduates since 2014 for turning out qualified staff officers for Tatmadaw. So far, the school has conducted nine intakes for female graduates. Female graduate officers will be assigned to the respective corps of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air). — MNA/MKKS

7 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 27 December, total figure rises to 633,624

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **633,624** after **seven** new cases were reported on 27 December 2022 according to the Ministry of Health.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **608,253** including **thirty-two** new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country remained unchanged at **19,490** on 27 December with no 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

COVID-19 vaccine drive continues in various states, regions

VACCINATION programmes are being carried out in full swing in various regions and states as the vaccination programme is one of the most important activities in the prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19 disease.

Yesterday, doctors and nurses from public hospitals, medical teams from the Tatmadaw, relevant healthcare workers in collaboration with volunteers gave COVID-19 vaccines to 2,376 people from twenty-six townships in Ayeyawady Region, and 136 people from Taungoo Township in Bago Region, respectively. —MNA

A local from Kyaunggon Township in Ayeyawady Region gets COVID-19 vaccine shot on 27 December.

Our historical duty to build a genuine and disciplined democratic State

"It is our historical duty to build a genuine and disciplined democratic State holding pragmatic views on the events experienced in the past and with each of us having understanding and trust."

(Excerpt from the message sent by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the 74th Anniversary of the Shan State Day on 7 February 2021)

Scenic Beauty of Bagan. **PHOTO BY U NAY LINN (IPRD)**

As Tatmadaw is a primary organization to defend the State ...

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They have to pursue relevant subjects of all corps from experiences, from advanced courses, senior officers and workmates to serve the assigned duties. If so, they will have to skillfully serve the assignments in their respective sectors.

They have to further study the advancement of military equipment and military science in line with the current era to practically apply their knowledge and skills. And, they have to always take training to dutifully serve the assignments and to have health, fitness and skilfulness.

Only when individual capability improves will the whole organization be higher. So, they have to take individual training, collective training and joint operation training for the improvement of individual and organizational capabilities.

The Vice-Senior General inspects the graduate cadet company at the event.

The Vice-Senior General presents the best female cadet award.

> Only when individual capability improves will the whole organization be higher. So, they have to take individual training, collective training and joint operation training for the improvement of individual and organizational capabilities.

As Tatmadaw is a primary organization to defend the State, Tatmadaw members are the main armed forces for protecting the State. So, they have physical and mental health and fitness to discharge State defence and security duties.

After taking the salute of cadet companies, the Vice-Senior General left the parade ground.

After the ceremony, the Vice-Senior General received the best cadet awardee Cadet Theint Nanda Aung, excellent award winner for shooting Cadet Hsu Yi Kyaw, excellent award winner for physical strength Cadet Khet Khet Oo and excellent award winner for military parade Cadet Soe Thawda Lin at the parlour of the school and gave words of honour.

In the evening, the Vice-Senior General had the graduation dinner of the 9th Intake of female graduate cadet course together with the graduate officers and attendees together.

After enjoying the music entertainment, the Vice-Senior General presented cash awards to the military band of the training school.

The Vice-Senior General and party enjoyed the entertainment of the Myawady Entertainment Troupe under the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare together with the graduate officers at the Thabin hall. — MNA

PR system should be practised for broader representation

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

(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the 7th Anniversary of Signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) on 15 October 2022.)

SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win inspects training depot, local regiments and units, Tatmadaw factories in Hmawby Station

State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win views the breeding farm of the training depot yesterday in Hmawby.

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win inspected the Tatmadaw (Army) Warrant Officer and Non-Commissioned Officer Training Depot in Hmawby Station yesterday morning.

The Vice-Senior General inspected offices, trainee lecture halls and training halls of the training office of the depot and left necessary instructions.

The acting commandant of the depot reported on the implementation of four military building tasks and training affairs. The Vice-Senior General attended to the needs.

The Vice-Senior General and party had lunch together with female trainees of the computer diploma sergeant/clerk (female) course of the training depot.

He then inspected raising layers, breeding broilers and pigs and seasonal crop farms of the training depot.

At the Tatmadaw Football Factory in Hmawby, the Vice-Senior General heard reports on the functions of the factory from factory manager Daw Kathy and gave instructions on manufacturing quality football and volleyball products, seeking market shares for the products, raising the sale of products, maintaining of machines and operating the factory at full capacity and attended to the needs.

The Vice-Senior General inspected the production process of footballs and presented cash assistance for employees of the factory through the factory manager.

The factory manufactures 74,000 footballs for adults, 62,000 volleyballs for adults and 152,000 footballs for youths, totalling 288,000 per year.

At Tatmadaw Biscuit and Noodle Factory (Hmawby), factory manager Major Kyaw Phyo Wai (Retd) reported on a brief history of the factory and the production process. The Vice-Senior General gave instructions on the production of quality products, seeking market shares for products, systematic packaging for attracting consumers, operating the factory at full capacity, maintenance and distribution of foods to the market as well as Tatmadaw families at fair prices and fulfilled the needs.

They then viewed the production process of biscuits and noodles and presented cash assistance for staff through the factory manager.

The Vice-Senior General and party inspected local regiments and units in Hmawby Station, cordially conversed with the families, coordinated with officials for necessary measures and presented cash awards to them. — MNA

The Vice-Senior General presents cash awards at Hmawlay Station.

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish **"Letter to the Editor"** that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Award ceremony for SAC Chairman Cup Inter-Ministerial Volleyball (Men/Women) Tourney held

SAC Member General Mya Tun Oo presents the first prize to the Ministry of Defence team.

IN commemoration of the 2023 Diamond Jubilee Independence Day, the final matches of the SAC Chairman Cup Inter-Ministerial Volleyball (Men/Women) Tourney were held at Wunna Theikdi Stadium B in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

State Administration Council Members General Mya Tun Oo, Jeng Phang Naw Taung, U Moung Har, U Sai Lone Seng, Saw Daniel, Dr Banyar Aung Moe and U Shwe Kyein, Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Min Thein Zan, deputy ministers, Tatmadaw officers, departmental officials, officials from the Myanmar Volleyball Federation, and sports fans attended the ceremony.

In the final match of the women's volleyball, the Ministry of Defence team beat the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs team 3-0.

In the final match of the men's volleyball, the Ministry of Defence team made a 3-1 win over the Ministry of Home Affairs team.

Afterwards, the awarding ceremony continued, and Deputy Minister U Myo Hlaing presented awards to the best female athletes in line with the position.

Deputy Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Aung Lin Tun gave away awards to the best male athletes for their respective positions.

Union Minister U Min Thein Zan awarded the team of the Ministry of Border Affairs with an honorarium of K1 million which won million the fourth prize in the women's volleyball competition.

Next, the Ministry of Immigration and Population team, which won the fourth prize in the men's volleyball tournament, was presented with an honorarium of K1 million by SAC Member U Shwe Kyein.

Then, SAC Member Dr Banyar Aung Moe presented an individual medal and honorarium of K1.5 million to the team of the Ministry of Home Affairs, which won the third prize in the women's volleyball competition.

SAC Member U Sai Lone Seng awarded individual medals and a K2 million cash prize to the team of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, which won second place in the women's volleyball competition.

SAC Member Jeng Phang Naw Taung awarded individual medals, a trophy and a K3 million cash prize to the Ministry of Defence team which won the championship title of the women's volleyball competition.

SAC Member Saw Daniel presented the team of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, which won the third prize in the men's volleyball tournament, with individual medals and an honorarium of K1.5 million.

SAC Member U Moung Har presented an individual medal and an honorarium of K2 million to the Ministry of Home Affairs team that won the second prize in the men's volleyball tournament.

State Administration Council Member General Mya Tun Oo presented the first prize to the Ministry of Defence team with an individual medal, an honorary cash prize of K3 million and a trophy. – MNA/KZL

Handover ceremony of National Theatre (Yangon) held

THE handover ceremony of the National Theatre (Yangon) under the Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture was held yesterday morning.

The major renovation of the National Theatre (Yangon) has been implemented with the assistance of the People's Republic of China.

Union Minister U Ko Ko of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, Yangon Region Minister for Natural Resources U Zaw Win, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai, officials from the Chinese Embassy and Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture and engineers from the Beijing Construction Engineering Group Co Ltd attended the ceremony.

Union Minister U Ko Ko, Yangon Region Minister for Natural Resources U Zaw Win, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai and Commercial Attaché Mr Tan Shu Fu cut the ribbon to open the National Theatre (Yangon).

Later, a video clip on the renovation of the National Theatre was shown and the Chinese ambassador gave a congratulatory speech.

Afterwards, the Chinese ambassador handed over the documents relating to the completed renovation of the National Theatre (Yangon) and exchanged presents.

Union Minister U Ko Ko thanked China on behalf of Myanmar for handing over the National Theatre (Yangon) in time for observing Diamond Jubilee

Union Minister U Ko Ko, the Chinese ambassador and officials cut the ceremonial ribbon at the handover event.

Independence Day. Then, the Union minister and invitees viewed the renovated National Theatre. The renovation of the National Theatre (Yangon) cost 173 million Chinese Yuan. It is like a new modern theatre complete with all the essential facilities.—MNA/MKKS

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

SPTT holds talks with delegation of 5 PPST-member EAOs

THE State Peace Talks Team-SPTT conducted a discussion with the delegation of five Ethnic Armed Organizations, members of the Peace Process Steering Team-PPST, at the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

State Administration Council Member Union Minister at the Government Office Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee-NSPNC Peace Talks Team Leader Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and members — SAC Member Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun and NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naung — and NSPNC members Lt-Gen Min Naing, Lt-Gen Win Bo Shein, Lt-Gen Aye Win and Colonel Wunna Aung attended the meeting.

Moreover, the leaders of ethnic armed organizations-EAOs who participated in peace processes and NCA procedures, those who participated in NCA signing ceremonies — Patron Phyar Tan Khun Okkar from the Pa-O National Liberation Organization-PNLO, Vice-Chair Saw Mra Yazar Linn of the Arakan Liberation Party-ALP, Commander-in-Chief Saw Steel of the Democratic Karen Benevolent Army-DKBA, Vice-Chair Dr Naw Kapaw Htoo of the Karen National Union/Karen National Liberation Army-KNU/KNLA (Peace Council), Vice-Chair Kyar Phu of the Lahu Democratic Union-LDU and representatives of peace talks also participated in the meeting.

The meeting between the State Peace Talks Team and the delegation of five EAOs is underway in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, SPTT Leader Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, and Patron Phyar Tan Khun Okkar of PNLO on behalf of the participating ethnic armed organizations, gave their greetings.

Afterwards, plans to be discussed in the peace talks were negotiated in detail and adjourned at the first meeting after participants agreed on eight plans. The second meeting will be held on 28 December and the discussions will continue according to the plans approved by both sides in the peace talks. — MNA/CT

Rakhine State Stability, Peace and Development Work Coordination Committee holds 3/2022 meeting

The meeting 3/2022 of the Rakhine State Stability, Peace and Development Work Coordination Committee is in progress yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

THE Rakhine State Stability, Peace and Development Work Coordination Committee held a coordination meeting 3/2022 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Committee Chair Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, Vice-Chair 1 Union Minister for International Cooperation U Ko Ko Hlaing, Vice-Chair 2 Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Thet Thet Khine, committee members, deputy ministers and officials. The Rakhine State Minister for Security and Border Affairs joined the meeting via videoconferencing.

First, Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung talked about the ongoing work plans conducted by the four work committees including the coordination committee, ministries concerned and Rakhine State Government and better resolutions for the completion of current works and future work plans.

He also urged to accelerate the reception of displaced persons from Rakhine State and state development programmes and other measures to promote the security, socioeconomic status, economy, education and health sectors of locals.

Next, vice-chairs 1 and 2 reported on the peace, stability and socio-economic development in Rakhine State, readmission and resettlement of displaced persons, international cooperation, humanitarian assistance and relocation of the returnees.

Then, respective work committees and ministries gave explanations on immigration, preparations for readmission, cooperation with the United Nations and other international organizations, humanitarian assistance and utilization of the fund HARWC (Humanitarian Assistance and Resettlement Work Committee). — MNA/KTZH

MoIP Union Minister receives Ambassador of Nepal to Myanmar

UNION Minister U Myint Kyaing of the Ministry of Immigration and Population met Ambassador of Nepal to Myanmar Mr Harishchandra Ghimire and delegation at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They discussed good bilateral relations between Myanmar and Nepal, visa-free entry and exit, and the status of being able to provide necessary assistance to Nepali citizens who have been in Myanmar. They cordially and openly talked about conditions that will enable them to communicate with each other on immigration issues. —MNA/TS

Pathein Umbrella Industry at the Ayeyawady Region booth (left) and environmental conservation (above).

Youth and Literary Arts Exhibition continues its second day

THE Youth and Literary Arts Exhibition as a gesture of hailing Diamond Jubilee Independence Day continued its second day at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

A large number of ministries' staff, families, students, youths and children visit in the exhibition.

The booths of the Ministry of Science and Technology featured innovations of technological universities such as fire detection systems, indoor gymnasiums, quality checks on crops on smartphones or laptops, AI robots and hydroponics.

Moreover, it included displays of a digital city to uplift the living standard, sensor-based communication systems between humans and animals, power transmission using tesla coil, oil refinery, IT-based Ayeya Farming Solutions, networking, automatic colour mixing and filling machines and so on.

Similarly, the Ministry of Information and the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture opened book shops for students and young people.

Students perform song and dance entertainment.

Besides such programmes, the exhibition became more alive for its special entertainment movie programmes – Kyee Myat Thaw Myanmar (Noble Myanmar), Never Shall We Be Enslaved (Thu Kyun Ma Khan Pyi) and Nga Ba and singing sessions of artistes.

Moreover, officials displayed the movie-making materials of Kyi Myat Thaw Myanmar film, the first 3D film in Myanmar.

Moreover, MRTV arranged a news studio where people can read news like news announcers and take photos.

The News and Periodicals Enterprise also explained to visitors that they can read the Myanma Alinn, Kyemon (The Mirror) and The Global New Light of Myanmar which covers local and international news on www.mdn.gov.mm website and Mobile Application for free any time.

The booths of the Ayeyawady Region also featured the making of Pathein Umbrella and the region's food.

The Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association also displayed the records of their activities in promoting the health, education and living standard of women and children across the nation.

The event also included fun fair games and quizzes of ministries concerned with youths and children and award-giving programmes.

Moreover, students and youths were interested in the displays of Nay Pyi Taw Police Force as they featured security, the rule of law and criminal cases, public services, capacity building, cartoon displays of traffic rules and regulations, actions on gambling and other matters.

It also included photo displays of the "Hlapa Thaya Pyi Myanmar" (Beautiful and Pleasant Myanmar) colour photo contest marking Diamond Jubilee Independence Day and photos of the writers of the 20th century.

The festival intends to encourage students to read books and journals, know the benefits of literature, uplift patriotic spirit and dignity through arts with the knowledge of the history of independence and know peace, stability and development of the country including the lovely culture of rural regions and to love their regions and states via photo contests and to understand activities of ministries concerned through the booths. Therefore, students, youths and children should participate in the event without fail. – Myo Sett Thit/KTZH

The Ministry of Home Affairs booth.

Students look into the exhibits. **PHOTOS: KO HTEIN, KO AYE THAN**

Grasp an opportune time for uplifting capability

THE development of a country depends on driving forces of politics and economy together with higher defence capability. If so, such a country can protect itself by striving for achieving political progress and booming businesses in both private and State sectors.

No matter what political system is exercised to accelerate the political driving force, if unity among the nationals can be forged politically, the country will progress as expected. Moreover, only when the economic driving force is sharpening will the nation be wealthy.

Everybody can see global countries are trying their best to possess a better driving force in the economic sector. It is because the countries among other global countries are powerful in the international arena because of having better economic driving force. As such, they dare to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, especially small countries without any strengths in political, economic, military and other various sectors.

> All in all, a country which possesses a booming economy is able to create chances for people to earn increased incomes from their businesses as well as their jobs. The strong economic driving force will contribute much to accelerating the political and military driving forces. That is why now is the time for the entire Myanmar people to revitalize their capability for shaping the nation as well as themselves to be a powerful country and people in the international arena.

Furthermore, many countries have been building themselves up with higher and higher defence capabilities for the purpose to stand tall among global countries without the need to fear the influence and invasion of other countries. In some cases, many countries are making vigorous efforts to achieve powerful military might for the purpose to set up their alliances or subordinate groups and to interfere in internal affairs with reliance upon their military capability. Actually, it can be seen that any country which can upgrade its military capability will have to manage its sovereignty independently.

The primary requirement to develop the nation depends on political peace and stability as well as economic development. The country which possesses the aforesaid development measures is sure to thumb up in its community due to its situation reaching the stronghold to step up itself for possessing the powerful driving forces.

Currently, every country across the world is always striving for developing its economy. As such, Myanmar should not stop its efforts before meeting the missions. Hence, every Myanmar people should understand that only when the entire people pour out their industry, perseverance and courage will the motherland of Myanmar have an improvement in all sectors.

All in all, a country which possesses a booming economy is able to create chances for people to earn increased incomes from their businesses as well as their jobs. The strong economic driving force will contribute much to accelerating the political and military driving forces. That is why now is the time for the entire Myanmar people to revitalize their capability for shaping the nation as well as themselves to be a powerful country and people in the international arena.

■

Greetings from Suzuka YOSHIDA in Tokyo

Best Wishes for a Successful and Rewarding Year!

MYANMAR is on the way to building the state.

The legitimate military who knows how bloody the war is wants to step into the bright world.

On the contrary, the group who does not understand their history wants to have guns and blood.

We Japanese have a long bloody history of 900 years so few people hope to begin the war. Of course, I will accept it if it is set up in a neighbouring country.

Hope Myanmar has a relationship between the people and the Tatmadaw where common understanding and suffering are shared with no guns.

Then full of joy will come to you and surround you with champagne-gold colour.

■

Blue Grotto Illumination in Tokyo. Photographed by the author.
Diverse people coming from many countries are enjoying the beautiful illumination at the end of 2022.

Champagne-gold Illumination in Tokyo **PHOTOGRAPHED BY THE AUTHOR.**

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 27 December 2022)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is generally fair over the North Bay of Bengal and a few cloud to partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 28 December,2022: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread in Kachin State, scattered in Upper Sagaing Region and Northern Shan State and isolated in Mandalay Region and Chin, Eastern Shan States. Degree of certainty is (60%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (5 - 7) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions and Shan, Kayah States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 December 2022: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 December 2022: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 December 2022: Partly cloudy.

People's lives, business recovering from COVID-19

THE bustling traffic is back on the city streets, diners are consuming steaming meals again in restaurants, tourist destinations are buzzing with visitors, and factories are working against the clock to make up for delays caused by COVID-19.

Such are the signs that life and business are picking up pace around China amid the widespread adjustment in epidemic response following the release of 10 optimized measures on 7 December to better coordinate anti-virus efforts and economic development.

WARMING SERVICE MARKETS

As China continues to optimize its epidemic prevention measures, restaurants in many places nationwide have resumed dine-in services, bringing back the hustle and bustle.

Waiters at a restaurant in Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, are busy serving crispy baked buns and delicious chicken stew for customers, who sit at a safe distance from other groups.

The manager of the restaurant said that although the customer flow has not yet returned to normal, the resumption of sit-down meals has already boosted the confidence of the staff.

"We are so glad that the customer flow has rebounded," said Hu Jianglong, deputy director of the management committee of the Jiefangbei central business district in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality.

The customer flow in this commercial complex has reached around 70 per cent of the normal state.

The film market is also thawing. Currently, over 9,800 cinemas are in operation across the country, accounting for around 80 per cent of the total number, according to professional box office tracker Dengta Data.

The reviving market saw "Avatar: The Way of Water" exceed 723 million yuan (about 103 million US dollars) at the box office after 11 days of screening on the Chinese mainland.

In the retail market, a manager with the Wulin Intime department store in the eastern city of Hangzhou said that during the weekend of 17 to 18 December, the department store scored growth in both customer flow and sales, with both rising over 20 per cent from the previous week.

The tourism market has seen a resurgence in many places, especially some warm cities in the south. Data from Alibaba's travel branch Fliggy shows that shortly after the release of the 10 optimized measures, the real-time search volume and booking volume of domestic air tickets and hotels increased substantially.

In the southern coastal city of Sanya, the bookings of some hotels saw a threefold increase from the previous week. On 18 December, the Sanya Phoenix International Airport carried out 319 passenger flights, an increase of over 134 per cent over Dec. 7, while the passenger throughput was 42,765, an increase of 187 per cent over 7 December.

"As policies continue to be optimized, the willingness of tourists to travel has recovered, boosting the confidence of the whole industry. We will seize the opportunity of New Year's Day and the Spring Festival holiday to launch more preferential products to help the industry revive," said Zheng Conghui, chairman of the Sanya Tourism and Culture Investment Group.

INDUSTRIAL RECOVERY

Companies have accelerated resuming production in the Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area (BDA), also dubbed Beijing E-Town, which is home to many high-tech firms in the capital city.

At a plant of one of its key enterprises, SMC Investment Management China Co Ltd, staff are monitoring the operation of machines in its manufacturing and assembly workshops.

The company has seen stable performance in recent days and is well prepared for the strong order demand and economic recovery in the coming year, said Ma Qinghai, general manager of the wholly-owned subsidiary of Japan's pneumatic component manufacturer SMC Corporation.

"All-out efforts have been made to help companies expand capacity," said Kong Lei, director of the BDA Administrative Committee.

The BDA has taken tailored measures for companies within the area, including coordinating accommodations for employees, providing epidemic prevention supplies, facilitating personnel recruitment, streamlining supplies and logistics, funding assistance and cost reduction, according to Kong.

People visit Shancheng Alley of the Jiefangbei business district in Chongqing, southwest China, on 24 December, 2022. **PHOTO: XINHUA/TANG YI**

SOURCE: Xinhua

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Weekly market update of dry groceries

DURING the week from 21 to 27 December, the prices of onion, palm oil, chilli pepper, tamarind, black gram and pigeon pea declined. Processed tamarind is priced only at K1,900 per viss.

Onion

The Bayintnaung wholesale market saw the entry of 150,000 visses of new onions, leading to a price decrease. The prices moved in the range of K1,750 and K2,700 per viss depending on the quality, size and producing areas.

On 26 December, the price of onions from the Myittha area hit the highest of K2,700 per viss in the Mandalay market. Trading came to a halt in some warehouses on 27 December.

The wholesale price of onions from the Myingyan area was only K2,000 per viss following a supply of 153,200 visses of onions, while those from the Pakokku area were also priced at K2,000 per viss after the entry of 15,120 visses of onions.

Garlic

The wholesale price of the Kyukok garlic variety was K3,400 per viss on 27 December, while the local garlic from Shan State (Aungban) fetched K3,600-K5,000 per viss.

Potato

The Yangon market saw a supply of 66,000 visses of potatoes on 27 December. The prices of potatoes stood at K2,350 per viss of old Chinese potatoes and K1,750 per viss of new Chinese potatoes, while the prices of Shan potatoes moved in the range between K1,700 and K2,100 per viss.

Chilli pepper

The wholesale prices of chilli peppers were K14,500 per viss of Shan long chilli pepper and K12,000 for the Moehtaung variety. The prices of bell peppers were K14,000-14,500 per viss for the Sinphyukyun area.

Palm oil

The wholesale reference price of palm oil in the Yangon Region this week was down by K55 per viss compared to the last week's price. The reference price for a week from 26 December to 1 January was set at K4,360 per viss.

Consequently, the wholesale prices of palm oil slid to K5,200 per viss on 27 December, according to the Nyaungpinlay market.

Rice

The prices of sticky rice were K80,000-K85,000 per bag.

Meanwhile, the prices of high-grade old Pawsan stood at K90,000-K98,000 per bag from the Shwebo area, K69,000-K71,000 from Pathein/Myaungmya area and K67,000-K68,000 from the Pyapon area, while the new Pawsan varieties were KK2,000-K72,000 per bag depending on the production regions. The prices of other varieties were K51,000 for short-mature rice (90 days), K47,000 for rice grown under intercropping system and K41,000-K42,000 for monsoon low-grade rice.

Pulses

The prices of various pulses stood at over K1,707,500 per tonne of black gram (Fair Average Quality/RC), K1,897,500 per tonne of black gram (Special Quality/RC), K1,734,000 per tonne of pigeon pea (red gram) RC, K4,050-K4,250 per viss of chickpea and K2,830-K3,000 per viss of green gram (Kayan Shwe Wah variety) in Yangon markets. —TWA/EMM

Private banks offer hire purchase programmes, auto loans, home loans for seafarers, beneficiaries

SOME private banks are offering auto loans to own a car and home loan programmes under hire purchase agreements with low deposits.

On 23 December, AYA Bank revealed how the bank buys foreign income of the seafarers with a high exchange rate and introduced the AYA card promotion programme for its debit card, credit card and prepaid card holders, auto loan and home loan programmes, AYA Sompo insurance services and benefits for the beneficiaries of the seafarers, at an event held at headquarters of Myanmar Seafarers Federation.

Additionally, Yoma Bank will also offer the best rate for the seafarer in foreign inward remittance. Opening Flexi Everyday Account of the Yoma Bank, service fee exemption for foreign income remittance and hire purchase system and home loan programme with low deposit and service fee exemption benefits for the seafarers will be provided, as per its statement.

The federation will hold an event regarding banking services for seafarers on 30 December 2022.—TWA/EMM

The picture shows the home loan advert of the AYA Bank.

Hydropower and solar energy of Kanyin reservoir to produce 29.9 MW of electricity

A general view of the Kanyin reservoir in Ingapu Township.

UNION Minister of Electric Power U Thaung Han, during his inspection tour of the Kanyin reservoir in Ingapu township of Ayeyawady region on 23 December, said that, according to the pre-feasibility studies, 29.9 megawatts of electricity can be produced from hydropower and solar energy from the reservoir.

In addition, the Union minister underscored that the technological needs will be fulfilled with the arrangements of the regional government as soon as possible.

The wind energy project is being implemented in Ayeyawady Region and it should be launched as soon as possible for the socioeconomic development of the region, Union Minister U Thaung Han added.

The Kanyin Dam Project was built in the 2002-2003 financial year and was completed in the 2011-2012FY, and the irrigation system was started in the 2017-2018FY. —TWA/MKKS

Number of ferry trips between Pansodan and Dala reduced

The Cherry ferry.

THE number of trips of Cherry passenger ferries that run daily from Pansodan jetty to Dala jetty has been reduced since 26 December. Owing to the trip reduction, locals who usually use the Cheery ferry service are experiencing difficulties in travelling.

Before the Covid-19 period, there were 48 round trips per day and the number was reduced to 42. After the explosion onboard the ship on 18 December, the number of trips was again reduced to 40. The fare was K100 per head, but starting from 1 August 2022, it was changed to K200 per head.

People who commute between Yangon and Dala, Twantay and Kawhmu townships of Yangon South District and townships in the Ayeyawady Region mainly rely on the ferry service. Cherry ships, which were donated by Japan, run every 20 minutes. —TWA/KZW

LOCAL BUSINESS

Black gram price down by over K100,000 per tonne within 2 weeks

Myanmar shipped over 1.6 million tonnes of different varieties of pulses, especially black grams, with an estimated worth of US$1 billion, to other counties in the FY2018-2019.

BLACK gram price slipped to K1,707,500 from K1,838,000 per tonne within two weeks, showing a sharp drop of over K100,000 per tonne.

The fluctuation of black gram prices is positively related to the Kyat-dollar exchange rate and India's demand, the traders said. At present, Kyat slightly appreciated at around K2,840 against the US dollar compared to the previous months.

In late August, the dollar against Kyat peaked at K4,500 in the black market. Following that, the black gram price reached a record high of K2.1 million per tonne.

Additionally, the price of black gram (urad in India) is falling in the Chennai market in India. Trading is slow-moving amid the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Next, the newly harvested Myanmar black gram is expected to be exported to India in March 2023. Myanmar traders do not want to sell old stocks at a reduced price on low inventory, as per a report cited by Agri World Mumbai.

Myanmar bagged over US$900 million from more than 1.1 million tonnes of pulses exports over the past eight months in the current financial year, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics showed.

Myanmar conveyed over 1,169,861 tonnes of various beans and pulses worth $917.691 million to foreign trade partners between 1 April and 16 December 2022 in the current financial year 2022-2023. The country shipped 1,010,265.463 tonnes of pulses and beans valued at $806.717 million to foreign markets by sea, and over 159,595 tonnes valued at $110.974 million were sent to the neighbouring countries through land borders.

Myanmar exported over 2 million tonnes of various pulses worth US$1.57 billion to foreign trade partners last financial year 2020-2021. The country shipped 1.24 million tonnes of pulses and beans valued at $966.4 million to foreign markets through the sea route, and 786,920 tonnes worth $604.3 million were sent to the neighbouring countries through land borders.

Myanmar primarily exports black gram, green gram and pigeon peas. Of them, black gram and pigeon peas are mainly sent to India while green grams are shipped to China and Europe.

India has growing demand and consumption requirements for black gram and pigeon peas. According to a Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and India signed on 18 June 2022, India will import 250,000 tonnes of black gram and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas (tur) from Myanmar for five consecutive years from 2021-2022 financial year to 2025-2026FY. This G-to-G pact will not affect the pulses' annual quota set by India. Myanmar's exporters are also entitled to deliver the pulses to India under that annual quota.

Myanmar yearly produces approximately 400,000 tonnes of black gram and about 50,000 tonnes of pigeon peas. Myanmar is the top producer of the black gram that is primarily demanded by India, while pigeon peas, green grams and chickpeas are cultivated in Australia and African countries besides Myanmar.
—NN/EMM

Around 180 truckloads flow through Myawady Border Trade Zone

THE Myawady Border Trade Zone has been handling approximately 180 trucks carrying exports and imports these days, according to the Ministry of Commerce. An average of 45 truckloads of agricultural produce, fishery products and CMP are exported to the neighbouring country daily via Myawady Trade Zone.

Among the exported agricultural produce are chilli pepper, onion, rice flour, cabbage, broken rice, black gram, dried lotus pollen, cauliflower, dried trumpet seeds, groundnut, watermelon seeds, rubber and sesame.

Similarly, fishery products — red snapper, grouper, hilsa shad, long tongue sole, dorab wolf-herring, Indo-pacific Spanish mackerel, crab, climbing perch, spiny eel, shrimp and Indian tassel fish — are being exported.

Men's shorts, women's coats and jackets, women's long pants, temperature sensors, recovered paper, transformer main, green bottle cullet, footwear and shoes are included in CMP exports as well. Among them, the most exported products are CMP, onion, rice flour, chilli pepper, groundnut, fishery products, rubber, aluminum scrap and fish paste.

Myanmar export products — onion, rice flour and chilli pepper commonly used in the food industry — have a great demand from Thailand since tourism in Thailand has resumed during the post-COVID period. It is reported that Aluminum scrap is being purchased for reproducing finished products by melting it.

In addition, fishery products are being shipped to Bangkok through Mae Sot. Priority is given to the quick arrival of fishery products to the other country, through the trade route, the trade zone and the BCF Bridge II. In the same way, green products such as onions, chilli pepper and cabbage are exported through the trade zone.

Cotton rolls, construction materials, industrial raw materials, pharmaceutical products, motorcycle spare parts, shoes, ready-made garments, fruits, foodstuffs, cosmetics, shoe accessories, gas, lubricant, household appliances, animal feed, bikes, stationery, motorcar spare parts and electrical equipment are being imported to Myanmar.

Most imported items are garments, ceramic tile, foodstuffs, household appliances, animal feed, paint, factory equipment, industrial raw materials and cosmetics.

It is reported that importers and traders are importing the products with caution, due to the price changes in Thai Baht earlier this month.
— NN/CT

Prices of fuel oil, gold and dollar on 27 December 2022

Fuel Oil Price (Yangon)

Octane 92	K1,970
Octane 95	K2,055
Diesel	K2,300
Premium Diesel	K2,380

All of the prices are based on per litre.

Gold Price

The reference price of high-purity gold set by YGEA	K2,127,000 per tical
High-purity gold in the gold market	K2,683,000 per tical

Dollar Price

A US dollar set by the Central Bank of Myanmar	K2,100
A US dollar in the forex market	K2,830 to K2,850

The above prices may change from time to time.

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ECONOMY
WORLD

RCEP facilitates China-Viet Nam trade growth amid gloomy world outlook

DESPITE a gloomy global picture featuring rising fuel prices and inflation, and disruptions to supply chains, two-way trade between China and Viet Nam has this year achieved high growth thanks to the implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

"Since RCEP went into effect on 1 January 2022, especially after China recently allowed import of a number of Vietnamese agricultural products such as durian, (edible) bird's nest, sweet potato and passion fruit, Vietnamese enterprises nationwide, including our company, have found big opportunities to export new products to its northern neighbour," Dinh Gia Nghia, deputy general director of Dong Giao Foodstuff Export Joint Stock Company in the northern Ninh Binh province, told Xinhua in December.

To increase export turnover to RCEP member countries, including China, Vietnamese firms must innovate technology, improve designs, and improve product quality, Nghia said. "RCEP has become a launching pad for us to increase product output and quality, as well as the quantity and the value of exports." His statement was echoed by both local farmers and officials of provinces that export fruits.

"I have just sold five tonnes of Ri6 durian to traders for nearly 80,000 Vietnamese dong (3.3 US dollars) per kilogramme, doubling the price in the same period last year, thanks to the adoption of stricter cultivation standards," said Nguyen Van Hai, a veteran farmer in Cai Lay district in the southern province of Tien Giang.—Xinhua

Aerial photo taken on 3 January 2020 shows vehicles waiting to pass the port of the Friendship Pass on the China-Vietnam border in Pingxiang, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. **PHOTO: CAO YIMING/XINHUA**

Scandal-hit reconstruction minister dismissed in blow to Japan PM Kishida

Japanese reconstruction minister Kenya Akiba (C) arrives at the prime minister's office in Tokyo on 27 December 2022. He is expected to step down from his post later in the day over a political funds scandal and his ties with the controversial Unification Church. **PHOTO: KYODO**

JAPAN'S scandal-hit reconstruction minister Kenya Akiba stepped down on Tuesday, effectively dismissed by Prime Minister Fumio Kishida over scandals in a fresh blow to his Cabinet that has seen four of its members forced to leave their ministerial posts within around two months.

Kishida has tapped Hiromichi Watanabe, who served as reconstruction minister between 2018 and 2019, as Akiba's successor, the prime minister told reporters after Akiba handed in his resignation. "I take it seriously and my responsibility for having appointed the minister," the prime minister said. Akiba, who has been embroiled in political funds and other scandals, has met growing calls to quit before a regular parliamentary session begins in late January, not just from opposition parties but also from within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to which he belongs. Akiba's effective dismissal by Kishida is seen as prompted by the desire of the government and ruling party to avoid deliberations on the fiscal 2023 budget and other key bills from being hampered by opposition attacks on the minister.—Kyodo

Japan to import 2 million tonnes of LNG a year from Oman

JAPANESE trading houses Mitsui & Co, Itochu Corp and electricity firm Jera Co have broadly agreed with the government of Oman to import over two million tonnes of liquefied natural gas a year from the Middle East country, Japanese government sources said Tuesday.

Against the backdrop of energy supply disruptions due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, oil and gas explorer Inpex Corp. also announced the same day it has signed a 20-year agreement with Venture Global LNG to import one million tonnes per annum of LNG from the United States, one of the world's leading LNG exporters. The government sources said Mitsui, Itochu and Jera, a joint venture between Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings Inc and Chubu Electric Power Co, will procure LNG from 2025 for about 10 years.

Japan currently imports about 1.9 million tonnes of LNG, or about 2.6 per cent of total LNG imports, from Oman.—Kyodo

Tunisia to raise new taxes to close budget deficit

TUNISIA'S finance minister unveiled a budget Monday aiming to use new tax revenues to claw the deficit back to near five per cent of GDP, as the cash-strapped country awaits an international bailout.

The 2023 budget comes as the North African country grapples with eye-watering public debt, shortages of goods from sugar to petrol and inflation at nearly 10 per cent.

The latest plans aim to cut the budget deficit from 7.7 percent of gross domestic product to 5.2 per cent, Finance Minister Sihem Boughdiri told journalists. The state, saddled with a crippling public wage bill and politically sensitive subsidies, is set to take in around 46.4 billion dinars ($14.8 billion), Boughdiri said.

It will need to borrow some 23.5 billion dinars to cover state needs for the coming year, she added.

To find the cash, it will seek more than $4 billion from overseas as well as some $3 billion from local banks, according to the fiscal plan.

To boost revenues, the government has imposed a new tax of half a percent on real estate assets worth over three million dinars ($960,000). Cash payments of over 5,000 dinars will be taxed at 20 per cent, while taxes on some professional services such as legal services will be hiked to 19 per cent, up from 13 per cent.

The budget is based on assumptions of 1.8 per cent GDP growth, oil at $89 a barrel and a deal with the International Monetary Fund for a $1.9 billion bailout loan.—AFP

People walk past Saint-Vincent de Paul Cathedral on Habib Bourguiba Avenue in Tunis on 14 December 2021, one day after Tunisia's president extended his monthslong suspension of parliament until new elections in December 2022, while calling for a July referendum on constitutional reforms. **PHOTO: FETHI BELAID/AFP**

Markets rise after China ends travel quarantine

EUROPEAN and Asian markets advanced on Tuesday after China said it would end quarantines for overseas arrivals, spurring hopes for the revival of the world's second-largest economy. China has abruptly reversed its strict pandemic restrictions even as a surge in infections overtakes the country.

The curbs had torpedoed the economy and sparked nationwide protests. The latest easing will see three years of border controls end on 8 January, when Beijing downgrades Covid-19 to a Class B infectious disease.

People in China have since gone rushing to search for overseas flights, with the reopening set to be a boon for the travel industry.—AFP

China said it would scrap mandatory quarantine on arrival, further unwinding years of strict virus controls.
PHOTO: AFP/FILE

South Africa fuel tanker blast death toll climbs to 18

THE death toll from a fuel tanker explosion in a South African city east of Johannesburg last week has climbed to 18, regional health authorities said on Monday. A truck carrying liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) got stuck under a bridge in Boksburg on Saturday, causing a leak and explosion that initially killed 10 people and unleashed widespread damage. A further eight people have since died of severe burns and injuries, the regional health department said in a statement.

Nine of the 18 victims worked at the nearby Tambo Memorial Hospital, including a driver and eight nurses, after the explosion blew out its windows and collapsed its roofs. A total of 37 people on the hospital site, including 24 patients and 13 staff members, sustained severe burns and were taken to other hospitals.—AFP

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Jo Malone, Inc., a company incorporated and existing under the laws of Delaware, and having its principal office at 767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153, United States of America, hereby declares that the Company is the Owner and Sole proprietor of the following Trademark:

RODIN

The above Trademark is used in respect of "Cosmetics, fragrances, skin care, hair care, nail care" in **Class 3**, "Bags including tote bags and cosmetic bags" in **Class 18**, "Brushes, sponges, powder puffs, dusting brushes and the like" in **Class 21**, "Retail store services and online retail store services featuring cosmetics, non-medicated skin care preparations, fragrances, haircare preparations" in **Class 35** and "Beauty consultation services (in the selection and use of cosmetics, toiletries and beauty treatment) in **Class 44**.

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the above Trademark or other infringements whatsoever thereto will be dealt with according to law.

Daw Kyi Nyein Chan (H.G.P)
For Jo Malone, Inc.
c/o **Baker & McKenzie Limited**
Suite 28, Level 14, Junction City Tower,
No. 3/A Bogyoke Aung San Road,
Pabedan Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Dated: **28 December 2022**

In the matters of the Insolvency Law 2020, and
HAVAS BAREFOOT COMPANY LIMITED
(In Members' Voluntary Winding-up)
[Under Section 147 of Insolvency Law & Rules 9 & 15 (b) of Insolvency Rules]

Pursuant to Section 156 (b) of the Myanmar Companies Law the following resolutions were passed as Special Resolutions, on 22nd December, 2022 by the sole Member of Havas Barefoot Company Limited.

(1) Resolved that the Company be and is hereby wound up voluntarily as Members' Voluntary Winding-up under the Insolvency Law.

(2) Resolved that Daw Hnin Su Mon (B.Com, C.P.A, D.B.L, ACCA, Member of Myanmar Association of Insolvency Practitioners Inc.), holder of Citizenship Scrutiny Card No. 12/Ma Ya Ka (Naing) 114749, Senior Manager of WIN Consulting Limited of Room No. 2D, 1st Floor, Rose Condominium, No. 182/194, Botahtaung Pagoda Road, Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar, be and is hereby appointed as Liquidator of the Company for the purpose of such winding-up and be authorized to carry on the business of the Company to such extent and for such period as may be necessary for the beneficial winding up thereof and be granted such other powers as may be deemed fit or proper.

S/d Liquidator of Havas Barefoot Company Limited (In Members' Voluntary Winding-up)

In the matters of the Insolvency Law 2020, and
HAVAS BAREFOOT COMPANY LIMITED
(In Members' Voluntary Winding-up)
[Under Section 201 of the Insolvency Law & Rule 87 of the Insolvency Rules]

Notice to Creditors for Proof of Debts or Claims

Notice is hereby given that the Creditors of Havas Barefoot Company Limited (In Members' Voluntary Winding-up) (Company Registration Number-113958286) are required to submit a Proof of Debt or Claim in the prescribed form together with supporting documents and evidences at Room No. 2D, 1st Floor, Rose Condominium, No. 182/194, Botahtaung Pagoda Road, Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar or email address: hninsumon@winthinassociates.com on or before **12-1-2023**, failing to which their claims will be excluded from the benefit of a distribution made before its debts or claims are admitted and objecting to that distribution.

Liquidator of Havas Barefoot Company Limited (In Members' Voluntary Winding-up)
Daw Hnin Su Mon (B.Com, C.P.A, D.B.L, ACCA, Member of Myanmar Association of Insolvency Practitioners Inc.)

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Kabushiki Kaisha Miyake Design Jimusho (also trading as Miyake Design Studio), a company incorporated in Japan, which is located at 1-23 Ohyama-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, Japan, is the owner of the following trademark:

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Reg. No. 5542/2018

In respect of **Class 18:** Leather and imitations of leather; animal skins and hides; luggage and carrying bags; umbrellas and parasols; walking sticks; whips, harness and saddlery; collars, leashes and clothing for animals; bags; handbags; briefcase; document folders; shoulder bags; backpacks; wallets; business card cases; wallets; key cases; pocket purse (purse); vanity cases; leather bags; tote bags; clutch bags; bags with drawstrings; empty bags for jewelry made of textile material; bags (empty) for makeup, keys and other personal items; beach bags; shopping bags; parts and accessories for the aforementioned goods.

Kabushiki Kaisha Miyake Design Jimusho (also trading as Miyake Design Studio) claims the trademark rights and other relevant intellectual property rights for the mark as mentioned above. Kabushiki Kaisha Miyake Design Jimusho (also trading as Miyake Design Studio) reserves the rights to take legal measures against any infringer who violates its intellectual property or other legal rights in accordance with the concerned laws of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Daw Khin Myo Myo Aye, LL.B., Advocate (14833)
For **Kabushiki Kaisha Miyake Design Jimusho (also trading as Miyake Design Studio)**
Tilleke & Gibbins Myanmar Ltd. No. 1608, 16th Floor, Sakura Tower, 339 Bogyoke Aung San Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com
Dated: **28 December 2022**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V RICH SEAWAY VOY.NO. (041N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RICH SEAWAY VOY.NO. (041N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-12-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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GLOBAL AFFAIRS

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Ukraine aims to hold peace summit this winter: FM

UKRAINIAN Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said Kyiv is counting on holding a summit to discuss the peace plan for Ukraine by the end of February, the Interfax-Ukraine news agency reported Monday.

"The UN could be the best platform for holding this summit," Kuleba said, suggesting that UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres could be a possible mediator for the peace negotiations.

Kuleba said he believes that Russia is not ready for peace talks, though the minister pointed out that "every war ends as a result of the actions taken on the battlefield and at the negotiating table." While commenting on the recent visit of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to the United States, Kuleba said he was "absolutely satisfied" with its results. Zelensky put forward a peace plan for ending the Russia-Ukraine conflict at the G20 summit in Indonesia last month. —Xinhua

A Ukrainian soldier checks a wrecked Russian tank outside a village east of Kharkiv on 1 April. **PHOTO: SERGEY BOBOK/AFP**

Ukrainian drone downed in Russian air base, 3 killed: agencies

Russian air defence troops downed a Ukrainian drone as it approached an air base in southern Russia and three people died after being struck by debris, Russian news agencies said Monday.

It was the second attack on the Engels base this month. Engels, in the southern Saratov region, lies more than 600 kilometres (370 miles) from Ukraine. —AFP

WORLD: TOP STORIES

Falsehoods plague elections as voters tackle Trumpian tactics

Fired up by false claims of fraud, supporters of Donald Trump stormed the US Capitol in January 2021 in a bid to overturn his defeat to Joe Biden. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

FROM the United States to Brazil and Israel, a barrage of election-related misinformation hammered voters around the world in 2022, but many pushed back against the conspiracy-laden Trumpian tactic of sowing distrust in the democratic process.

A tsunami of falsehoods flooded Twitter, Facebook, TikTok and YouTube — from "deep fake" videos to doctored photos seeking to manipulate voters — with pro-democracy activists accusing the platforms of doing too little to combat the menace.

Candidates around the world borrowed from Donald Trump's playbook in peddling unfounded allegations of election fraud, but in countries such as the United States and Brazil many voters appeared to reject the narrative.

Defying widespread predictions of a Republican "red wave" in the November midterms, several of Trump's handpicked candidates lost in close-fought races, with observers saying their continued refusal to accept the 2020 election result may have put off voters.

Republican leaders and supporters "seem to be coming to terms with the way that embracing conspiracy theories has led to poor candidate selection, inefficient voter mobilization, voter cynicism, and a host of other ills," Mike Caulfield, a research scientist at the Center for an Informed Public at the University of Washington, told AFP.

"Many will try to wean their supporters off election fraud conspiracy theories… It's going to be a very tough problem to solve."

Likewise, the Brazilian election, which led to a tense runoff in late October after an inconclusive first round, was awash in disinformation as far-right incumbent Jair Bolsonaro echoed Trump's election fraud claims without evidence.—AFP

Dozens injured in Iran factory blast: state media

AN explosion on Monday at a factory in northwest Iran has injured at least 65 people, state media reported.

The blast at a paint factory in the Shahid Salimi industrial zone in East Azerbaijan province was caused by a gas leak, official news agency IRNA said. It said "22 people were treated on the spot and the rest were transferred to medical centres". Vahid Shadinia, a spokesman for the province's emergency services, told IRNA more than 20 of those injured had been taken to "specialized hospitals" in the provincial capital Tabriz. Shahid Salimi, located in the city of Azarshahr, is the largest industrial zone in northwestern Iran.—AFP

Belarus activist athlete sentenced to prison in absentia

A Belarusian court on Monday sentenced the country's former champion swimmer and government critic Aliaksandra Herasimenia to 12 years in prison in absentia, a rights group said.

Herasimenia, who in her career won Olympic medals and retired in 2019, has lived in self-imposed exile since autumn 2020 and was not present at the hearing.

The 36-year-old was found guilty on multiple charges, including "calls for sanctions" and other actions "aimed at harming the national security" of Belarus, said the Viasna rights group.

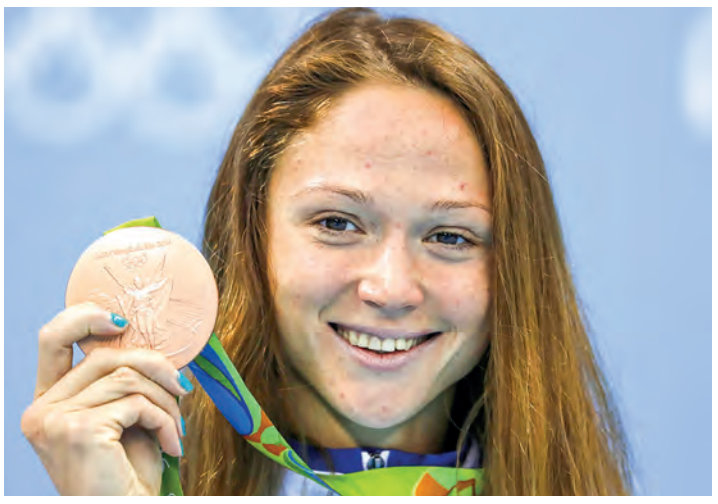
Herasimenia co-founded the Belarusian Sport Solidarity Foundation (BSSF) in the wake of mass protests that erupted in August 2020 against the contested re-election of strongman President Alexander Lukashenko.

The foundation provided financial and legal assistance to athletes targeted by the authorities for their political views.

It also advocated for a boycott of sporting events held in Belarus and called on the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to suspend the ex-Soviet country.

The organization was labelled as extremist in Belarus.

Herasimenia had auctioned off a gold medal she won at the 2012 World Championships for over $16,000, using the proceeds to support the foundation.— AFP



The 36-year-old was found guilty on multiple charges. **PHOTO: ODD ANDERSEN / AFP**

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un (front) makes a speech during a plenary meeting of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee in Pyongyang on 26 December 2022. **PHOTO: KCNA/KYODO**

N Korea holds key party meeting, Kim touts boost in national power

NORTH Korea's ruling party convened Monday a key meeting to review its policies in 2022 and discuss a draft budget for next year, with leader Kim Jong Un saying his country's power has "remarkably increased", the official Korean Central News Agency said.

Kim, who presided over the enlarged plenary meeting of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee, said national power has increased in all the fields of politics, the military, the economy and culture through "unprecedentedly arduous and fierce struggle", while also calling for "more exciting and confident struggle policies", KCNA said Tuesday.

His remarks came as Pyongyang continues to face difficulties such as US-led economic sanctions over its missile and nuclear development programs, the COVID-19 pandemic and what is believed to be a deteriorating food supply situation.

The plenary meeting unanimously approved five major agenda items including the review of major policies in 2022, the work plan for 2023 and the draft state budget for next year, KCNA said.

The report did not clarify when the gathering will end, but key decisions are expected to be released over the weekend.—Kyodo

Serbia troops on 'highest level' of alert over latest Kosovo tensions

SERBIAN armed forces were on "the highest level" of alert, Defence Minister Milos Vucevic said Monday, highlighting the Balkan country's increasingly strained relations with neighbouring Kosovo.

Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008, but Belgrade has refused to recognize it and encouraged Kosovo's 120,000 ethnic Serbs to defy Pristina's authority — especially in the north where ethnic Serbs make up the majority. The Serbian army has been put on a heightened state of alert over tensions with Kosovo multiple times in recent years — the last time in November after claiming that several drones entered Serbian airspace from Kosovo.

On 10 December, Serbs in northern Kosovo set up barricades to protest against the arrest of an ex-policeman suspected of being involved in attacks against ethnic Albanian police officers.

The blockades have coincided with a rise in reported shootings, the latest on Sunday, according to NATO-led peacekeeping force KFOR.

"Serbia's president... ordered the Serbian army to be on the highest level of combat readiness, that is to the level of the use of armed force," Defence Minister Milos Vucevic said in a statement.

He added that President Aleksandar Vucic also ordered the special armed forces to be beefed up from the existing 1,500 to 5,000.— AFP

On December 10, Serbs in northern Kosovo set up barricades to protest against the arrest of an ex-policeman suspected of being involved in attacks against ethnic Albanian police officers. **PHOTO: ARMEND NIMANI/AFP**

Ex-S Korea leader Lee Myung Bak granted pardon for corruption crimes

THE South Korean government of President Yoon Suk Yeol decided Tuesday to pardon former President Lee Myung Bak for corruption, sparing him the 15 years remaining on his prison sentence.

Justice Minister Han Dong Hoon said the 81-year-old, who served as president from 2008 to 2013, will be given an amnesty on Wednesday from the "broad perspective" of uniting South Koreans.

Lee's sentence has already been suspended since June after his health deteriorated, and he was temporarily released from prison.

The special pardon granted by Yoon's conservative government to the similarly conservative former president has drawn criticism from progressives in the opposition.

Lee was arrested in 2018 under the government of progressive President Moon Jae In. He was sentenced to 15 years in prison for receiving over eight billion won in bribes, including from Samsung Electronics Co, and embezzling about 24.6 billion won from an automobile parts company he secretly owned.

Former president Lee Myung-bak (R, pictured during his trial in 2018) was serving 17 years for bribery and embezzlement during his time in office. **PHOTO: POOL/AFP/FILE**

An appeals court in 2020 added two more years to his original sentence, determining that the former president had accepted larger amounts of bribes and embezzled more. The longer sentence was finalized by the Supreme Court in the same year.— Kyodo

Three Peru police generals, others arrested in alleged graft plot

AUTHORITIES in Peru arrested three police generals and three other people on Monday for alleged involvement in the corruption case against ousted president Pedro Castillo, the interior ministry said.

A "mega-operation" netted the six who are suspected of involvement of "irregular promotions" in the police force, said a ministry statement.

Three of the six are active police generals suspected of having approved promotions, with Castillo's alleged blessing, in exchange for money.

The operation involved searches in several cities, including two homes in Lima of former defence minister Walter Ayala, also under investigation, said the ministry.

Both Ayala and Castillo have denied the charges.

A former commander of the army, General Jose Vizcarra, and of the air force, Jorge Chaparro, alleged in November that Castillo's government had put pressure on them to promote officers who did not qualify.— AFP

SPORT

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Youth Teams are seen with team officials at the MFF Internal Academy Football Tournament 2022. **PHOTO: MFF**

Pathein Academy Youth Team wins MFF Internal Academy Football Tourney 2022

THE MFF Internal Academy Football Tournament 2022 is being held at the Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) training grounds in Mandalay from 23 to 28 December and Pathein Academy won the U-12 & U-13 tournament, the Myanmar Football Federation stated.

The U-12 & U-13 competition consists of five teams: Yangon Academy, Mandalay Academy, Pathein Academy, and Tatmadaw Academy (A) and (B) teams.

Pathein Academy team played four games and won all the matches with a full of 12 points.

MFF Internal Academy Football Tournament 2022 was divided into two versions: (U-12 & U-13), and (U-14 & U-15).

The tourney is running from 23 December with four matches per day, and the (U-14 & U-15) tournament will end on 28 December, Myanmar football authorities stated. — KZL

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.

Arsenal comeback opens up seven-point Premier League lead

Eddie Nketiah scored as Arsenal opened up a seven-point lead at the top of the Premier League. **PHOTO: AFP**

ARSENAL'S composure to rally from 1-0 down to beat West Ham 3-1 impressed manager Mikel Arteta as the Gunners opened up a seven-point lead at the top of the Premier League on Monday.

Bukayo Saka and Gabriel Martinelli turned the game around in the space of five second half minutes before Eddie Nketiah stepped up in the absence of Gabriel Jesus to seal all three points.

Said Benrahma's first half penalty had given the Hammers the lead, but David Moyes' men remain just one point above the relegation zone in 16th.

"We showed composure and never panicked and did what we had to do to earn the right to win the game," said Arteta.

"We scored at the perfect time and the crowd was incredible, also in the moment we conceded the goal. They kept on believing. When we scored it got loud and we generated the momentum we needed."

Arsenal's momentum towards a first league title since 2004 could have been halted by a six-week break for the World Cup.

Arteta made no allowances for his stars that have been away in Qatar as William Saliba started just eight days after being part of the French squad that lost the final on penalties to Argentina.

However, that decision backfired when Saliba hesitated to allow Michail Antonio latch onto a ball over the top and then dived in on Jarrod Bowen.

Despite Bowen not going to ground immediately, referee Michael Oliver pointed to the spot and Benrahma confidently dispatched the penalty. —AFP

Djokovic, Nadal to kickstart bid for 2023 supremacy in Australia

NOVAK Djokovic and Rafael Nadal kickstart their 2023 campaigns this week in Adelaide and Sydney respectively, with the superstar veterans and great rivals eyeing up yet more Australian Open glory.

With the pair sharing 43 Grand Slam titles between them — Djokovic has 21 and Nadal 22 — the scene is set for an epic showdown at Melbourne Park in January. Nadal is the defending Australian Open champion and Djokovic is a nine-time winner.

Djokovic returns Down Under for the first time since being sensationally detained and then deported ahead of the 2022 Australian Open because of his refusal to get vaccinated for Covid-19.—AFP

Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal begin their 2023 season in Australia. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**