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The Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council: Five-Point Road Map

1. Priority will be given to fully realizing peace, stability and rule of law throughout the Union to safeguard the socioeconomic life of the people.
2. People-centred development work that enhances socioeconomic well-being will be undertaken to ensure the country's prosperity and food security.
3. Processes will further continue to consolidate a genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system and build a Union based on democracy and federalism.
4. Priority will be accorded to work aligned with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement, in order to achieve enduring peace for the entire nation.
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.

Allotment of expenditure will depend on earned income in the 2023-24 FY: Vice-Senior General



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win presides over the coordination meeting on the submission of the Union budget for the 2023-2024 Financial Year in Nay Pyi Taw on 9 March 2023.

LOCAL consumption of fuel needs to be reduced as much as possible to reduce spending on foreign exchange and avoid higher charges, said Vice-Chairman of Financial Commission Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the coordination meeting on the submission of the Union budget for the 2023-24 FY at the SAC Chairman Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

In his speech, the Vice-Senior General said that Union level organizations, Union ministries and Nay Pyi Taw Council are to discuss necessary measures of the earmarked budget of the

Union under the financial rules and regulations based on the five-point road map and 12 objectives of the SAC.

Now is the time the infection of Covid-19 can be completely controlled. So, domestic businesses are being operated as usual. Hence, it is expected that income would be earned in the 2023-24 financial year more than the 2022-23 FY. Allotment of expenditure will depend on earned income in the 2023-24 FY, and all need to properly control the budget deficit.

The government will spend the budget on salaries and allowances of public service personnel, wages, maintenance charges, so-

cial protection costs and ordinary expenditures and infrastructure costs. Hence, expenditures for education and health sectors, agriculture, livestock and transport can help develop the socioeconomic life of the people, and the development of electric power and energy sectors on priority.

About fuel consumption, the Vice-Senior General noted that now is the time the prices of fuel across the world is rising. Hence, local consumption of fuel needs to be reduced as much as possible to reduce spending on foreign exchange and avoid higher charges. This year, the Vice-Senior General underscored that fuel consumption will be scrutinized not

only for administrative measures but for industries. Ordinarily, the use of fuel will not be allowed for the construction of new offices and staff housings but it depends on regional situations as well as security measures.

The Vice-Senior General urged some ministries to openly discuss the instructions of departmental heads and the additional reports. It was known that the Ministry of Planning and Finance has comprehensively coordinated the planned budgets of departments and enterprises. But, those departments and enterprises have a chance to amend the budgets based on work requirements if necessary.

Secretary of the Financial Commission Union Minister U Win Shein reported on budgets for 2023-24 FY submitted by Union level departments and organizations whereas Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win presented reports on the Union budget for 2023-24 FY.

Auditor-General of the Union U Tin Oo explained auditing measures over the incomes and expenditures. All meeting participants discussed their budget accounts and the financial commission secretary focused on supplementary discussions.

The meeting ended with a concluding remark by the Vice-Senior General. — MNA/TTA

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Objectives of 78th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day

- To serve primary duties of Tatmadaw for successfully safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes, and protecting the State Constitution and shielding the genuine disciplined multiparty democratic system
- To emphasize agreements in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) as much as possible for the restoration of the durable and perpetual peace across the nation as ceasing of armed conflicts is an actual requirement for realizing the multiparty democratic system
- To safeguard the national interest of the State, lives and property of people, and to put a strenuous effort on respective corners in times of natural disasters.
- To provide the necessary assistance by Tatmadaw for holding a free and fair multiparty democratic general election upon completion of undertakings in accord with the provisions of the state of emergency for the emergence of the Union based on democracy and federalism.

Public Notice for Submitting Objection

TAI-LENG Nationalities Development Party (TNDP) with its headquarters located at Ah La Wa-13, Arlawigon Ward, Ywathitgon Village-tract, Mohnyin Township, Mohnyin District, Kachin State applied on 8-3-2023 to be allowed to continue to exist and register as a political party under Section 25 of the Political Parties Registration Law.

In such an application, it is reported that the party name, flag and emblem will be used as described.

Under Rule 14 (d) of the Registration of Political Parties, it is hereby announced to the public that those who wish to



The flag design of the Tai-Leng Nationalities Development Party (TNDP)



The emblem of the Tai-Leng Nationalities Development Party (TNDP)

object to the name of the party, the flag and the emblem to be used by that organization may submit their objection to the Union Election Commission with valid evidence within seven days from the date of this announcement.

Union Election Commission

Art, cartoon, poster and computer painting competitions to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 28 and 29 March



A Basic Education Middle School level art competition is being held at the Pauktaw Township in Sittway District, Rakhine State in 2022 to commemorate the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

ART, cartoon, poster and computer painting competitions will be held to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

education High School in Latha Township and information technology institutes on 28 and 29 March.

Yangon Region Drug Abuse Control Committee Chairman Minister for Security and Border Affairs Colonel Win Tint said at the coordination meeting of organizing the competitions held on 7 March that the contestants need to compete actively as it is the contest held as a public campaign to raise awareness among students and young adults to avoid drugs.

The competitions will be organized in three levels and it is necessary for teachers to train the students in advance who will participate in the competitions, he added.

— TWA/CT

Call for Nominations for ASEAN Prize 2023

THE ASEAN Secretariat is calling for nominations for the ASEAN Prize 2023, a prestigious regional award, which aims to acknowledge the inspiring and outstanding achievements of an individual or organization in fostering the ASEAN identity, promoting the ASEAN spirit and championing the ASEAN way.

Nominees should have exceptional merit in contributing to the following designated focus areas: -

- Collaboration between ASEAN Member States;
- Collaboration between ASEAN and the world;
- People-to-people engagement among ASEAN Member States;
- Economic integration and promotion of standards between ASEAN Member States; or
- Excellent contribution to ASEAN Community Building.

A Judging Committee, consisting of eminent high-level members, including incumbent and former ASEAN Secretaries-General, will select a recipient who will be awarded the ASEAN Prize Trophy and a monetary prize of US\$20,000.

Submissions for ASEAN Prize 2023 are open from now until 28 April 2023. The nominee must be an ASEAN citizen or an ASEAN-based organization. The nomination form for ASEAN Prize 2023 can be downloaded at the ASEAN Secretariat website <https://asean.org/nomination-form/>. The nominee must submit the duly filled-in form to the ASEAN Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office No 9, Nay Pyi Taw, or dgasean@gmail.com and arnns.mofa@gmail.com no later than the deadline.

1 new case of COVID-19 reported on 9 March, total figure rises to 633,950

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 633,950 after one new case was reported on 9 March 2023 according to the Ministry of Health.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached 614,438, including 12 new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country remained unchanged at 19,490 on 9-3-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. — GNLM

Plan is underway to open agriculture institutes and livestock breeding institutes at BEHSs in each district

- During the period that we are taking the responsibilities, arrangements are being made to open agriculture institutes and livestock breeding institutes at basic education schools in each district.
- The opening agriculture institutes and livestock breeding institutes can cause turning out skilful human resources for agriculture, livestock breeding and industrial sectors.

(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with entrepreneurs from MSMEs in Pyay District on 4 October 2022)

Seminar on Capacity Building on Reform Requirement of Implementing New Trends of International Investment Agreements (IIAs) opened

THE opening ceremony of the hybrid seminar, namely “Capacity Building on Reform Requirement of Implementing the New Trends of International Investment Agreements (IIAs)”, funded by the ASEAN-Japan Centre, was held by the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with an opening speech by MIFER Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw.

The seminar aims to raise awareness and insightful knowledge on developing trends and reforms of IIAs, to enhance technically the capacity of the officials from the investment-related agencies in the area of reform agenda in IIAs, and to apply practically the inputs throughout the capacity building

ing program at their workplace. The seminar will continue on 10 March 2023.

Dr San San Lwin, Professor of Law Department at the University of East Yangon, and Dr Kabir Duggal, Senior International Arbitration Advisor to Arnold & Porter, discussed matters related to the New Trend of International Investment Agreements: Full Protection and Security, Public Policy Exceptions, Impact of Exclusion and Inclusion of Taxation Measures, the determinants of reducing investment disputes and strengthening matters on Right to Regulate, Definition of Investment and Investor, National Treatment, Most-Favoured Nation Treatment and Fair and Equitable Treatment



MIFER Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw speaks on the occasion of the seminar opening ceremony yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

to the participants.

The opening ceremony was attended by MIFER Deputy Minister Dr Wah Wah Maung, permanent secretaries, directors-general, high-ranking officials and officials from relevant ministries, totalling 130 participants. – MNA



The ICRC delegation calls on Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Union Health Minister receives ICRC Director of Operations, Asia-Pacific Regional Director

UNION Health Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win received International Committee of the Red Cross-ICRC Director of Operations Mr Martin Schuepp, Asia-Pacific Regional Director Ms Christine Cipolla, ICRC Resident Representative Ms Elean Ajmone Sessera and the delegation yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

Both sides frankly discussed matters related to the current cooperation status and future cooperation of ICRC, humanitarian aid being carried out in Myanmar reaching those in real need, coordination with the ICRC personnel and financial utilization.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Minister Dr Aye Tun, the directors-general and officials from the Ministry of Health. — MNA/TS

Daily newspapers available online

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MoIC Union Minister inspects relocation of IDP camps, NVC issuance with Heads of Diplomatic Missions of ASEAN, neighbouring countries, representatives of AHA Centre in Rakhine State

UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Ko Ko Hlaing in his capacity as Vice-Chairman 1 of the Rakhine State Stability, Peace and Development Work Coordination Committee, accompanied by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin, led a team comprising of the officials and diplomats of ASEAN countries, China, India and Bangladesh embassies and representatives of the AHA Centre to inspect the vocational training schools, relocation of IDP camps and issuance of NVC (National Verification Card) in Rakhine State yesterday.

On arrival at the OSWSC (One Stop Women Support Centre) in Sittway Township, the Union Minister and party com-



Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing and party pay observation tours at the Kyaukpyu Gas-fired Power Plant Project in Rakhine State.

pyu airport by Tatmadaw aircraft and went to Kyauktalon IDP and met with personnel in charge of camps and families.

During the meeting, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Khun Thant Zaw Htoo and District Administrator U Ye Lin Maung explained the relocation of IDP camps and procedures.

Then, the Union minister provided Family Kits for 375 households at the IDP camp while the Rakhine State Chief Minister gave school uniforms to students through the in-charge person of the Kalapike-seik Post-Primary School.

The Border Affairs Deputy Minister also provided K10.5 million (K1.5 million each) to seven households who have not received specific shelters at the new location.

Rakhine State Security and Border Affairs Minister Colonel Kyaw Thura also handed over the hospital supplies to an official of Ohn Taw dispensary.

The Union minister and party then observed the Kyaukpyu Gas Power Plant Project.

In the afternoon, they checked the granting of NVC by the township Immigration and Population Department at Thetkaepyin IDP camp in Sittway Township.

They then went to the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project where the Chief Port Officer reported on the project. They also viewed the jetty. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing and party are pictured during their observation tours in Rakhine State yesterday.



ported the women and children and provided household items, foodstuffs and toys.

The Union minister and

party then went to a vocational training school in Sittway township and community and social integration (multiplier course)

and inspected the training processes.

They also met with the local ethnic females and women from

IDP camps at basic tailoring training courses and provided commodities.

They then arrived at Kyauk-

Census to be taken using mobile tablet

THE ground population will be enumerated from house to house with the use of mobile tablets on 1 October 2024, said U Myint Kyaing, Union Minister of the Ministry of Immigration and Population and Chair of the Central Census Commission.

He also said the census will be taken simultaneously throughout the country for 15 days from 1 to 15 October 2024. Census questions also need to be compact and preparing the questionnaire must be in line with basic principles and rec-

ommendations published by the United Nations.

The nationwide census was completed between 9 and 31 January and the facts and figures have also been entered into the e-ID software. —TWA/KZW



Union Information Minister meets members of National Literary Award Selection Committee, Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Selection Committee, attends fund-giving ceremony for orphans

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn met with the members of the National Literary Award Selection Committee and the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Selection Committee yesterday in Yangon.

Speaking at the meeting, the Union minister said the successive governments focused on the literary award-giving ceremonies and the State-level ceremonies were held two times in the term of the State Administration Council and the Chairman of SAC Prime Minister awarded the winners in person.

In selecting the Lifetime Award for Literary Achievement, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award, the ministry participated in these processes showing goodwill besides serving the duties. The doyen literati are also urged to carefully select the person who should win the lifetime literary award and give supervision for de-

velopment of the literary field.

Then, the director-general of the Printing and Publishing Department and chairpersons of committees discussed the award selection processes, management, book lists and other matters.

The Union minister then attended the fund-granting ceremony for orphans (abandoned children) as a gesture of hailing the 78th Anniversary of Armed Force Day held at the Film Development Centre of Information and Public Relations Department in Bahan Township in the same evening.

During the ceremony, the Union minister talked about orphans across the nation, the protection of these children under systematic parenting scheme, the creation of a warm community with sympathy and support for their education and lives to become outstanding and reliable people for the country and supports of government and ministries concerned to the youth's development Parahita



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn speaks on the event to provide funds for orphans in hailing the 78th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day in Yangon yesterday.

and other organizations.

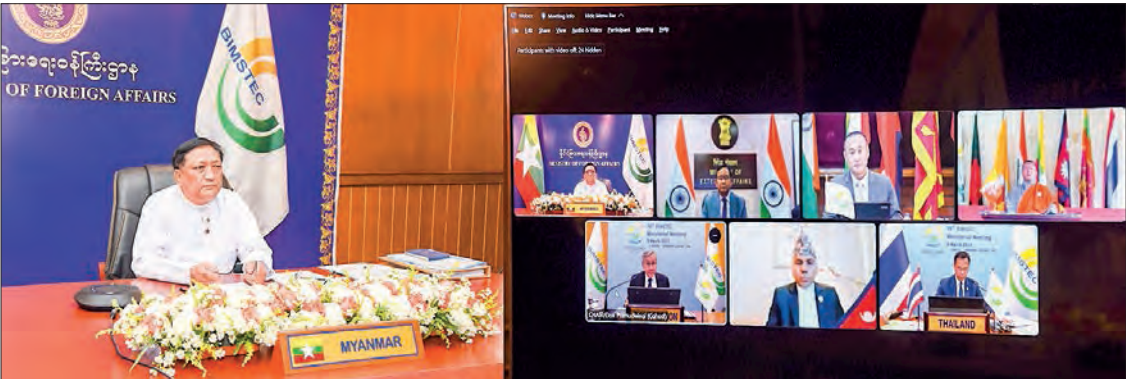
He continued that the “Future of Stars” show with the participation of famous singer Myanmar Pyi Thein Tan and orphans aged between 4 to 20 was held at MICC-II in Nay Pyi Taw on 22 December 2022 aiming to support the orphans and the children born into poverty.

It should work together for the abandoned children to ensure their education and job opportunities and to walk through life with confidence.

Then, Myanmar Pyi Thein Tan briefed them on the fund-raising activities.

Afterwards, the Union minister, chairpersons of the Myanmar Press Council, Myanmar Motion Picture Organization and Myanmar Music Association (Central), and EC members of the Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central) provided cash assistance to officials from 10 monastic schools and Parahita organizations. — MNA/KTZH

MoFA Deputy Minister participates in 19th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting



Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myo Htut joins the 19th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting virtually yesterday.

DEPUTY Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Myo Htut participated in the 19th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting which was held virtually yesterday from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Don Pramudwinai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, and attended by the Ministers/State Minister of External Affairs/Foreign Affairs and External Trade of the other BIMSTEC Member

States which are Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka as well as by the Secretary-General of BIMSTEC.

Mr Don Pramudwinai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand delivered a welcome statement and other Heads of Delegation of BIMSTEC Member States made their statements respectively.

In his statement, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myo Htut expressed his appreciation to Thailand for its tremendous efforts in

holding this important meeting and also congratulated Thailand for its excellent chairmanship which brought to the successful endorsement of “BIMSTEC Bangkok Vision 2030” and the “Rules of Procedures (RoP) for various BIMSTEC Mechanisms. He also commended the work of BIMSTEC SOM Leaders and BIMSTEC Permanent Working Committee (BPWC) for finalizing Rules of Procedures (RoP) for various BIMSTEC Mechanisms i.e., Core, Sectoral and

External Relations as well as for finalizing the ToR for Eminent Persons’ Group (EPG) on the Future Directions of BIMSTEC.

The deputy minister stated that Myanmar as a Lead Country for the Agriculture and Food Security Sector of BIMSTEC had prepared the “Plan of Action on Strengthening BIMSTEC Agricultural Cooperation (2023-2027)” in consultation with the BIMSTEC Secretariat and also welcomed the adoption of the said Plan of Action at the Second BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture on 10 November 2022. He also highlighted that Myanmar successfully hosted the “Regional Seminar on Food Security and Sustainable Food Systems in BIMSTEC” in January 2023 with the participation of all Member States in order to explore ways and means for food security in the BIMSTEC region.

He also reiterated the importance of adhering to princi-

ples enshrined in the BIMSTEC Charter by all Member States while intensifying the commitment and cooperation under the BIMSTEC Framework.

Heads of Delegation considered and adopted the Report of the Twenty Third Session of the BIMSTEC Senior Officials Meeting held virtually by Thailand on 8 March 2023. They also approved/endorsed the various BIMSTEC Agreements and other important documents including BIMSTEC Bangkok Vision 2030, Rules of Procedure (RoP) for BIMSTEC Mechanisms, Terms of Reference for Eminent Persons’ Group on the Future Directions of BIMSTEC and Inclusion of Blue Economy, Mountain Economy and Poverty Alleviation under the purview of reconstituted sectors/sub-sectors of BIMSTEC Cooperation. They also adopted the Joint Statement of the Nineteenth BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting by consensus. – MNA

Over 160,000 students take English on 2nd day matric exam

A total of 161,681 students took the English exam on the second day of 2022-2023 matriculation examinations across the country.

There are five foreign exam centres and 858 local exam centres and 161,681 students out of 179,843 applicants take the English exam, accounting for 89.9 per cent. — MNA/MKKS



Waw, Bago Region.



Minbu (Sagu), Magway Region.



Thazi, Mandalay Region.



Wa Self-Administered Zone, Shan State (East).



Nyaungshwe, Shan State.



BEHS 1 Bahan Township, Yangon Region.



BEHS 6 Botahtaung Township, Yangon Region.



Ottarathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw.



Ngayokekaung, Patheingyi District, Ayeyawady Region.



Left: Monghsat, Shan State (East)
Right: Ngapali, Thandwe District, Rakhine State.

LOCAL BUSINESS

Over 1,200 Myanmar food processing businesses submit over 2,200 applications to GACC within 15 months

A total of 1,244 Myanmar food processing companies and factories submitted over 2,200 applications to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) within 15 months, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

According to GACC Decree 248 and 249, GACC registration is mandatory for food exporters starting from 1 January.

Those individuals executing edible oil, oilseeds, stuffed pastry products, edible bird's nest and related products, edible grains, grains milling industrial products and malt, fresh and dehydrated vegetables, dried beans, plant species, nuts and seeds, dried fruits, unroasted coffee and cocoa bean, special dietary food excluding milk-

based formula, functional foods, bee products, aquatic products including farm products, animal products and animal feed and livestock animals businesses need to apply for GACC licence to place their goods in China's market.

The relevant authorities for the registration with GACC are the Agriculture Department, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the Fisheries Department and the Food and Drug Administration.

Between 1 December 2021 and 3 March 2023, 2,235 applications by 1,244 factories have been forwarded to the GACC through the Agriculture Department (2,094 applications), the Fisheries Department (118), the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (14) and the

Food and Drug Administration Department (nine).

Exporters can directly access China International Trade Single Window through <https://cifer.singlewindow.cn> by creating accounts for those food groups which are not listed on those aforementioned 18 groups.

As of 24 February 2023, a total of 1,826 applications have been successful in registering with the GACC with the approval of the competent authority.

Regarding the registration of the importing companies, the Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine under the GACC will check quarantine access for the imported grains (raw coffee beans, cocoa beans, vegetables, spices, edible grains, pulses, oil crops and herbal animal prod-



GACC inspects salmon imported at Beijing Airport. PHOTO: CHINA CUSTOMS

ucts and plant for their origins.

The companies cannot directly proceed with registration and they need to carry out this step through competent authorities and departments

concerned by sending an email via dapq@customs.gov.cn or submitting a letter to the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar or Myanmar Embassy in China. — NN/EM

Myanmar to export 100,000 tonnes of onions in FY 2023-2024



Trucks loaded of onions seen in Monywa. PHOTO: MYO WIN TUN

MYANMAR aims to deliver 100,000 tonnes of onions to external markets in the 2023-2024 financial year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The country has planned to ship 300,000 tonnes of onions during the April-June period, 15,000 tonnes during the July-September period, 20,000 tonnes during October and December 2023 and 35,000 tonnes during January-March 2024 period to external markets. The onion output is estimated at over 1 million tonnes per year. Beyond self-sufficiency, the onions are exported to foreign countries. More than 80,000 tonnes have been shipped to global markets so far.

Myanmar's onions are purchased from Viet Nam, Thailand,

Bangladesh and China.

The supply of new onions in the markets brings down the prices. The onion prices moved in the range between K1,000 and K1,750 per viss depending on the producing areas (Seikphyu and Myittha), according to Yangon Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Bayintnaung Commodity Depot).

On 14 February, the Union Minister for Commerce gave a remark at the coordination meeting on the promotion of onion exports and price stability in the domestic market. There are over 170,000 acres of onions across the country, with an estimated production of 1 million tonnes. He also talked about promoting interest for the growers, having fair prices for

the consumers and boosting exports in harmony with domestic consumption. Officials from Myanmar Onion, Garlic and Culinary Crop Producers and Exporters Association also discussed the export barriers and export conditions through the seaborne and land borders and called for the government's support for market expansion.

Additionally, to effectuate sustainable development in the onion export sector, government-to-government pacts to the potential markets including the Philippines, getting easy and quick access to the phytosanitary certificates, raising awareness of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) among the growers, promoting onion exports and domestic market stability were also highlighted at the meeting.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation's 2018-2019 FY statistics, onion cultivation covered over 170,000 acres. The yield rate was over 3,600 viss per acre. Mandalay Region accounts for 36 per cent of onion outputs in the country, while Sagaing Region, 32 per cent and Magway Region, 26 per cent. — NN/EM

Prices of fuel oil, gold and dollar on 9 March 2023

Fuel Oil Price (Yangon)

Octane 92	K2,145
Octane 95	K2,230
Diesel	K2,205
Premium Diesel	K2,285

All of the prices are based on per litre.

Gold Price

The reference price of high-purity gold set by YGEA	K2,138,300 per tical
High-purity gold in the gold market	K2,829,000 per tical

US Dollar Vs Kyat

A US dollar set by the Central Bank of Myanmar	K2,100
A US dollar in the forex market	K2,865 to K2,880

The above prices may change from time to time.

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OPINION

Grasp the chance to generate electricity through wind power

ENERGY security is crucial for the improvement of the socioeconomic life of all citizens in Myanmar as energy is an important driving force to operate all sectors of Myanmar including manufacturing industries as well as electrify the whole nation.

But, energy sources such as bio-fuel, coal, crude oil and natural gas are limited in most global countries except renewable energy. So, the majority of global countries are trying to utilize renewable energy such as hydropower, solar power, wind power and nuclear energy.

Myanmar is seeking ways and means to fulfil the requirement of electricity for the people. In so doing, electrification projects are being implemented one after another across the nation using various sources such as hydropower, solar power, wind power and nuclear power. It is because an efficient supply of electricity will help improve the living standard of the people as well as increase the productivity of all industries.

The success of implementing the wind power project will open a new page of the electrification history of the nation. If so, the electricity of wind power renewable energy will help improve the socioeconomic life of the people and the development of the nation.

fully implement the national electrification plan-NEC by 2030.

Concerning the implementation of the projects, An wind power project is scheduled to generate 150 megawatts, the Gwa wind power project, 100 megawatts and the Thandwe wind power project, 110 megawatts to be able to feed it into the national grid to electrify the whole nation. In this regard, these projects must be implemented in line with the existing law, bylaws and procedures issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation so that environmental and social impacts can be avoided.

According to the schedules, it is necessary to strive for generating electricity from three all projects by 2025. Hence, the construction of necessary infrastructures must be undertaken in time. Among them, the Gwa wind power project is expected to generate 50 megawatts of electricity for the first phase in the coming December.

The success of implementing the wind power project will open a new page of the electrification history of the nation. If so, the electricity of wind power renewable energy will help improve the socioeconomic life of the people and the development of the nation.

NATURAL resources refer to any material or substance that occurs naturally and can be exploited for economic gain. They include minerals, timber, water, oil, natural gas, and arable land, among others. The presence or absence of natural resources can have a significant impact on a country's economic and social development.

As an example, one country, which is well-known for its abundant natural resources, is Brazil. Located in South America, Brazil is the largest country in both the continent and the southern hemisphere. The country has a rich variety of natural resources, some of which are unique to Brazil.

One of Brazil's most valuable natural resources is its fertile land. Brazil has some of the most productive agricultural lands in the world, and the country is a major exporter of soybeans, coffee, sugarcane, and other crops. This has helped Brazil's economy grow and has created many jobs for its citizens.

Brazil also has a vast reserve of minerals, including iron ore, gold, bauxite, and copper. The country is one of the world's largest producers of iron ore, and the mineral is a significant contributor to Brazil's economy. The gold and copper mines are also essential for the country's economy, with many companies actively engaged in mining operations.

In addition to minerals and agricultural land, Brazil is also blessed with abundant water resources. The country is home to some of the world's largest rivers, including the Amazon and the Paraná. Brazil's water resources are essential for generating electricity through wind power with the assistance of China to successfully implement the national electrification plan-NEC by 2030.

tricity, with hydroelectric power stations accounting for around 60% of the country's electricity generation.

Another vital natural resource in Brazil is its vast forests. The Amazon rainforest covers over 60 per cent of the country and is one of the most biodiverse regions in the world. The forest is home to countless species of animals and plants and plays a critical role in regulating the planet's climate. The Brazilian government has implemented policies to preserve and protect the rainforest, recognizing its importance for the planet's ecological balance.

For the above reasons, it is not strange Brazil is a country that is rich in natural resources. The combination of fertile land, vast mineral reserves, abundant water resources, and vast forests has contributed significantly to the country's economic growth and development. However, Brazil must balance the exploitation of these resources with protecting the environment and the rights of its citizens.

Now, let us have a glance at our country, Myanmar, also known as Burma, is a country in South-east Asia with a rich variety of natural resources. The country is blessed with abundant natural resources, including timber, minerals, oil, natural gas, and arable land. Here, let us explore some of Myanmar's most significant

natural resources.

1. **Timber:** Myanmar is known for its vast forests, which cover over 40 per cent of the country. The country's forests are home to a wide variety of tree species, including teak, which is highly prized for its durability and beauty. The timber industry is a significant contributor to Myanmar's economy, with timber exports generating billions of dollars in revenue each year.

2. **Minerals:** Myanmar has a rich variety of minerals, including jade, rubies, sapphires, and gold. Jade is one of the most val-

uable minerals found in Myanmar, and the country is the world's largest producer of high-quality jadeite. The mining of precious stones and metals is an important part of Myanmar's economy, providing employment and generating significant revenue.

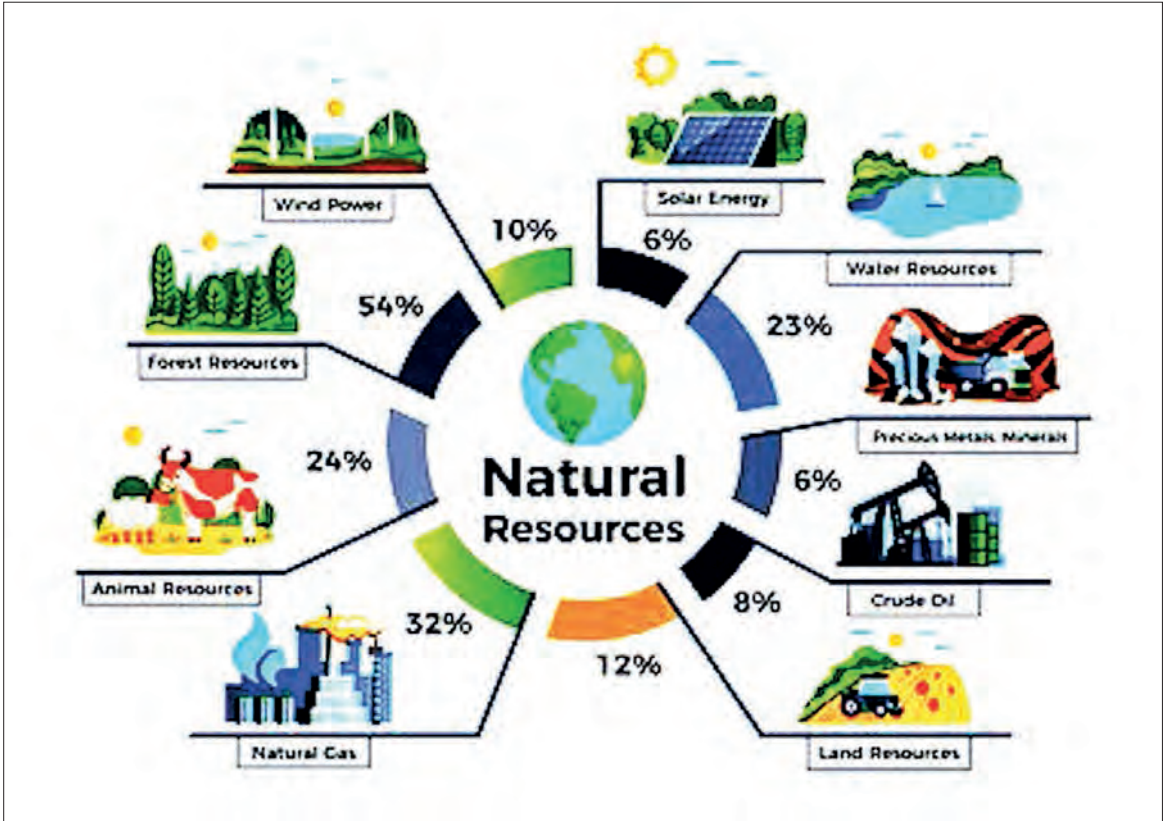
3. **Oil and natural gas:** Myanmar has significant reserves of oil and natural gas, making it an important player in the energy sector. The country's offshore gas fields are a significant source of revenue for the government, and Myanmar is the largest exporter of natural gas to Thailand. The

oil and gas industry is a major employer, with many international companies investing in Myanmar's energy sector.

4. **Arable land:** Myanmar has fertile land that is well-suited for agriculture. The country is a significant producer of rice, with the crop accounting for a significant portion of Myanmar's agricultural exports. Other crops grown in Myanmar include corn, beans, and wheat. Agriculture is a vital sector of the economy, providing employment and contributing significantly to the country's food security.

The Natural Resources and A Country

By Junior Thinn



5. **Water resources:** Myanmar is home to several major rivers, including the Ayeyawaddy, Chindwin, and Thanlwin. The country's rivers are an important source of water for irrigation and hydroelectric power generation. Myanmar has significant hydropower potential, and the country is working towards developing its hydroelectric power industry.

Moreover, as Myanmar is a country rich in natural resources, the country's abundant natural resources provide significant economic opportunities, but also present challenges in terms of managing them sustainably. Myanmar must work to balance the exploitation of its natural resources with protecting the environment and the rights of its citizens, ensuring that its natural resources benefit both present and future generations.

What is more, Myanmar is also rich in natural resources, including oil, natural gas, timber, minerals, and arable land. However, the country has faced significant challenges in managing its natural resources sustainably. Maintaining the spending of natural resources in Myanmar requires a comprehensive approach that includes several key strategies.

1. **Develop a comprehensive natural resource management plan:** Myanmar needs a well-designed and comprehensive natural resource management

plan that outlines how the country's resources will be used, protected, and managed sustainably. The plan should be developed with input from all stakeholders, including government agencies, communities, and civil society organizations.

2. **Strengthen regulatory frameworks:** Myanmar needs to strengthen its regulatory frameworks to ensure that natural resources are exploited in a sustainable manner. The government should establish and enforce regulations that ensure that companies that exploit natural resources operate in a responsible and sustainable manner. This could include implementing environmental impact assessments and establishing penalties for non-compliance.

3. **Promote transparency and accountability:** Transparency and accountability are crucial in ensuring that natural resources are managed sustainably. Myanmar should establish mechanisms for transparency and accountability, such as publishing information about natural resource revenues and ensuring that companies that exploit natural resources are transparent in their operations.

4. **Engage local communities:** Local communities should be involved in the management of natural resources. Myanmar should engage with communities and ensure that they have a say in how natural resources are used,

protected, and managed. This could include providing training and support for community-led natural resource management initiatives.

5. **Invest in sustainable infrastructure:** Myanmar should invest in sustainable infrastructure that supports the sustainable use of natural resources. This could include investing in renewable energy sources, building sustainable agriculture practices, and supporting the development of sustainable mining practices.

6. **Diversify the economy:** Myanmar should work towards diversifying its economy to reduce dependence on natural resources. This could include investing in other tourism, manufacturing, and services sectors.

In sum, maintaining the exploitation of natural resources in Myanmar requires a comprehensive approach that includes the development of a natural resource management plan, strengthening regulatory frameworks, promoting transparency and accountability, engaging local communities, investing in sustainable infrastructure, and diversifying the economy. These strategies can help Myanmar manage its natural resources sustainably, ensuring that they benefit both present and future generations.

Reference: Geographic magazine

Way India's pharma sector gained trust during Covid-19 was unprecedented: PM Modi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said the way India's pharma sector has gained trust the world over during the Covid-19 pandemic was unprecedented.

He made the remarks addressing a post-Budget webinar on the subject of 'Health and Medical Research'.

"The way India's pharma sector has gained trust the world

over during the Covid-19 pandemic was unprecedented. We have to capitalize on this", the Prime Minister said.

This was the ninth of the series of 12 webinars being organized by the government. The objective behind hosting the webinars is to seek ideas and suggestions for the effective implementation of the initiatives announced in the Union Budget 2023.

Notably, India not only catered its own population with life-saving vaccines, but also supplied vaccines worldwide. Under Vaccine Maitri, India supplied vaccines to 100 countries and provided drugs to around 150 countries during the pandemic.

During the webinar, PM Modi also said his government's focus is to use more technology in the health sector.

"We wish to provide timely healthcare to all citizens through digital health ID system. 10 crore teleconsultations have been made through government's eSanjeevani telemedicine service," PM Modi said.

Further, PM Modi also said one of the main focuses of the government is that people should get testing facilities and better primary health care near their

homes.

"Critical health infrastructures are being set up in small cities and townships under PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission. Not only small cities are getting hospitals, ecosystem related to health sector has also been developed," he added.

SOURCE: ANI



Foreign envoys take a tour of Bharat Biotech facility where its Covid-19 vaccine Covaxin is being developed, in Hyderabad in December 2020. PHOTO: ANI

CURRENT AFFAIRS



The photo shows a basic grocery outlet.

Weekly market update of dry groceries at Bayintnaung Wholesale Centre

DURING the week ending 7 March 2023, the price of palm oil significantly dropped. The price of chickpeas went up.

Onion

Bayintnaung Wholesale market saw the entry of 180,000 visses of onions on 7 March 2023. The prices moved in the range of K1,000 and K1,750 per viss depending on the quality, size and producing areas (Seikphyu and Myittha) that day.

On 7 March, 45,000 visses of onions were supplied to the Pakokku market and the highest price of onion was K1,000 per viss in the wholesale market. The price of onions from the Myittha area was K1,450 per viss.

With about 50,000 visses of onions flowing into Myingyan depot on 6 March, the onions were priced at K850-1,000 per viss.

Garlic

On 7 March, the prices stayed at K3,300-3,900 per viss depending on varieties and qualities, whereas Kyukok garlic fetched K3,600 per viss.

Potato

The prices of local potatoes from Sinphyukyun and Pakokku areas moved in the range between K1,200 and K2,100 per viss.

Chilli pepper

The wholesale prices of chilli peppers were K10,000-14,000 per viss for the long chilli pepper and Moehtaung variety. The prices of bell peppers from the Sinbyukyun area and delta regions were K14,500-16,000 per viss.

Rice

The rice price is flat for the moment. The prices stood at K5,100 per bag for summer rice grown under double-cropping system and Hnanka varieties, K57,000 for low-grade short-matured summer rice (90 days), K67,000 for Pawsan rice from Bogale, K70,000 from Pyapon, K74,000 from Myaungmya, K84,000 for old Pawsan rice from Myaungmya and K87,000 for new Pawsan rice from Shwebo area respectively.

Palm oil

The wholesale reference price of palm oil in the Yangon Region remained unchanged for two consecutive weeks. The reference price for a week from 6 and 12 March is set at K4,600. However, the wholesale market price dropped to K6,500 from K7,400 per viss. Although the reference price stayed the same for this week, the market price was down by K1,000 per viss. On 7 March, it was sold at K6,450 per viss in the wholesale market.

Pulses

The prices of various pulses stood at K1,863,000 per tonne of black gram (Fair Average Quality/RC), K2,063,000 per tonne of black gram (Special Quality/RC), K2,180,000 per tonne of pigeon pea (red gram) RC, K3,915 per viss of green gram and K4,250 -4,600 per viss of chickpea in Yangon markets. — TWA/EM

Yangon Zoological Gardens to hold children party

THE Children’s Party of Yangon Zoological Gardens will be held from 10 to 12 March with singing, dance, a cat-walk show and other many kinds of concerts and competitions.

Children under 15 can compete in the competitions and those who want to take part in the competitions will have to send in the forms before 10 March, according to Yangon Zoological Gardens.

There will be a magic show, animal show and kids’



The entrance of the Yangon Zoological Gardens.

talent show in the Children’s Party and children can have their photos taken with cute and tame animals. — TWA/MKKS

RTAD re-announces new embossed vehicle number plates need to be installed by end of March



A traffic police inspects the number plate of a vehicle.

THE Department of Road Transport Administration has re-issued a notification regarding the installation of new embossed number plates.

State-owned departmental vehicles, highway vehicles, city buses, taxis and trucks must be installed with new embossed number plates and it is also sug-

gested that the new embossed number plates should be changed and installed at or before the time of licence renewal by contacting the relevant offices of the Road Transport Administration Department.

The Department of Road Transport Administration added that the new number plates will have the number representing the township and a description of the car brand and model.

The use of new number plates can prevent the use of number plates on other illegal vehicles and the township where the vehicle is located can be known. —TWA/KZW

Famous singer Twantay Soe Aung passes away

FAMOUS Myanmar singer Twantay Soe Aung passed away at 2:30 am on 9 March, his son Twantay Hein Kyaw confirmed.

“My father, the famous singer Twantay Soe Aung, passed away at 2 o’clock this morning. There is nothing left to say in my heart, I’m going crazy, father. He left me early,” Singer Twantay Soe Aung’s son revealed on his social network page.

Singer Twantay Soe Aung died while being treated at Yangon General Hospital due to hypertension. He was 61 years

old at the time of his death.

He entered the music world with his first solo series with mandolin, “Ko Ko Loh Khaw Par” (Call Me Ko Ko)”, and gained popularity in urban and rural areas, and sang more than 100 songs.

Twantay Soe Aung was born in Kyongyi Ward, Twantay, to parents who made a living from farming.

Fans, mandolinists, Myanmar song singers and singers expressed their condolences for the demise of Twantay Soe Aung on social media. — TWA/KZL



Star singer Twantay Soe Aung.

Public Notice for
Elimination of Violence

1. Declaring themselves to be “for the people”, the so-called CRPH, NUG and PDF terrorist groups are lawlessly killing Buddhist monks, civil servants including schoolteachers, and members of the general public, as well as looting and robbing.
2. Not encouraging, supporting, or assisting “CRPH”, “NUG”, and “PDF” terrorists, who are intimidating and killing people and committing destructive activities, is to protect the lives and property of the general public.
3. Giving information secretly to the authorities on terrorists and on the possession and transport of weapons/ammunition is tantamount to protecting the lives and property of innocent people.

Illegal timbers, foodstuffs,
consumer goods, communication
devices, industrial materials and
vehicles confiscated

MAUNGTAW township Customs Department under the management of the Rakhine State Illicit Trade Eradication Task Force nabbed 426 cartons of illegal foreign cigarettes worth K2,130,000 at the Kanyintaw creek in Pyathat village, according to Hlabawsa Police Station on 6 March. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

In addition, a combined team seized a total of 5.396 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K188,860 from a Hino auto (approximately K5.5 million) near Uto village on Yangon-Pyay Road in Taikkyi township and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

The on-duty team confiscated 21 kinds of goods including (Wireman and Saga PVC pipes) worth K104,423,497 at the Asia World Port container checkpoint on 6 March, and six kinds of goods worth K10 million at the Yangon International Airport (Import Desk) on 7 March including TIT Oberron Poly Screw 5.5 mm packet. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

Two kinds of goods (including 15,270 kilogrammes of the evaporator) worth K24,350,250 on 7 March and a Cheng Long tractor-head and a trailer worth K70 million at the No 2 Highway junction on Yangon-Hpa-an road. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 7 March, the Muse district illicit goods prevention team at the Sinphyu checkpoint in Muse township seized four kinds of goods (including wireless routers) worth K25.5 million from a Toyota Alphard (approximately K16 million) that were smuggled from China and 21 Oppo AB 2020 mobile phones and 100 various (used) mobile phones worth K6.23 million without official documents from a passenger who returned to Myanmar from Ruili, China. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

An unregistered Hero Honda 100 motorbike worth K150,000 was seized in Tamu township and an unregistered Isuzu car worth K2 million was captured in Sagaing township. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

A total of 4.93 tonnes of illegal teak worth K3,253,800 was seized in Homalin township and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

Therefore, 15 arrests (estimated value of K282,366,659) were made on three consecutive days from 6 to 8 March, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

Ten more EV chargers arrive at
Myanmar Industrial Port



The picture shows EV chargers imported by Asia Pacific Automaker Corporation Co Ltd.

CHINA-MANUFACTURED 10 electric vehicle chargers (60 kW) imported by Asia Pacific Automaker Corporation Co Ltd turned up at Myanmar Industrial Port.

Under the approval of the national-level committee leading the development of electric vehicles and related business,

this shipment is the fourth batch. They were also claimed in line with the Customs procedures on the goods’ arrival date.

The importation of the EV charger is exempted from Customs tariffs to enhance the electric vehicle sector in the domestic auto market.

The charging stations have started to run at Thabyaygon market in Nay Pyi Taw on recent days. Moreover, the construction of the charging stations in five townships in Yangon city and on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway is underway. — TWA/EM

Over K4 bln worth of stimulant tablets
seized in Tachilek

OVER K4 billion worth of stimulant tablets were captured in Tachilek township in Shan State (East), Myanmar Police Force stated.

A combined team consisting of members of the Security Force examined a Nissan diesel 12-wheel auto driven by Sai Aung Latt accompanied by Wai Yan Htun heading to Tachilek from Kengtung at the Mae Yang checkpoint in Tachilek township at noon on 4 March.

Officials captured 10,170,000 stimulant tablets worth K4.068 billion in the yellow polyethylene bags that were hidden in onions and groceries in the car. After interro-



Two offenders are seen along with seized drugs and a lorry.

gation, the offenders admitted the seized drugs were carried from Mongping to Tachilek.

Police took legal action

against the offenders and an investigation is underway to identify the perpetrators of the crime chain. — MNA/MKKS

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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.

Notice for change of distributor

We, **Eastchem Co.,Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following product , which registered under Pesticide Registration Board , Myanmar, from **MYANMAR AWBA GROUP COMPANY LIMITED** to **LIONCHEM (MYANMAR) PTE. LTD.** If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next two weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration No:
1	Aba-Ema 82 WDG	Abamectin 52 g/kg + Emamectin 30 g/kg WDG	P2020-3483
2	Ace 500 EC	Acetochlor 50% EC	P2018-2659
3	AMENI 240 OD	Atrazine 180 g/l + Mesotrione 40 g/l + Nicosulfuron 20 g/l OD	E2021-5327
4	Amine 500	2,4-D Amine 500 SL	F2020-2176
5	Amine 720 SL	2,4-D Amine 720 SL	F2020-2666
6	Archer Plus 50 WP	Nitenpyram 40 % + Flonicamid 10% WP	E 2021-5376
7	Aterkil 200 OD	Emamectin Benzoate 40 g/l + Spinosad 160 g/l OD	E2022-5561
8	Atra 500	Atrazine 50% SC	F2020-2667
9	Atra 800 WP	Atrazine 80 % WP	F2020-2664
10	Bemstar 750 DF	Tricyclazole 750 g/kg DF	F2022-3490
11	Bicoaloo 700 WG	Nitenpyram 20% + Pymetrozine 50% WG	P2020-5160
12	Butanil 550 EC	Butachlor 275 g/l + Propanil 275 g/l EC	E2021-5213
13	Chani 300 OD	Bensulfuron-methyl 20 g/l + Pretilachlor 280 g/l OD	P2021-5250
14	CITIUSA 550 WP	Isoprothiolane 40% + Tricyclazole 15% WP	E2021-5345
15	Cleanshot 200 EC	Cyhalofop-butyl 120 g/l + Metamifop 80 g/l EC	E2021-5215
16	Cleanup Super 480 SL	Glyphosate 480 g/l SL	F2020-2670
17	Clinger 10 EC	Cyhalofop butyl 10% EC	F2020-2669
18	Coach 330 OD	Cyhalofop-butyl 300 g/l + Ethoxysulfuron 30 g/l OD	E2021-5217
19	CPP Killer 58 EC	Chlorpyrifos 48% + Cypermethrin 10% EC	P2018-2661
20	Dime 400 EC	Dimethoate 40% EC	F2020-2668
21	Director 120 SC	Chlorfenapyr 100 g/l + Emamectin -benzoate 20 g/l SC	E2021-5219
22	Eranyl	Propanil 350 g/l + Clomazone 120 g/l EC	E2021-5214
23	Feme 250 SL	Fomesafen 250 g/l SL	P2020-5033
24	FLUMIMAX 525 EC	Acetochlor 500 g/l + Flumioxazin 25 g/l EC	E2021-5325
25	Gold Check 50 EC	Lambda 50 g/l EC	F2022-3487
26	Golden Fuji 400 EC	Isoprothiolane 400 g/l EC	P2020-4925
27	Hexado 50 SC	Hexaconazole 5% EC	F2020-2665
28	Koler 450 EC	Propanil 300 g/l + Cyhalofop-butyl 150 g/l EC	E2021-5216
29	Long Time 800 WP	Diuron 800 g/kg WP	P2017-3486
30	Morclean 200 OD	Bispyribac-sodium 40 g/l + Cyhalofop-butyl 160 g/l OD	E2021-5211
31	Moshini 200 WP	Dinotefuran 200 g/kg WP	F2022-3485
32	Nomicet 350 WP	Quinclorac 300 g/kg + Bispyribac-sodium 50 g/kg WP	E2021-5212
33	Nominate 100 SC	Bispyribac sodium 100 g/l SC	P2020-4940
34	Omega 400 SC	Fenoxanil 200 g/l + Oxolinic Acid 200 g/l SC	E2021-5343
35	PROTOCOL 280 EC	Picoxystrobin 200 g/l + Cyproconazole 80 g/l EC	E2021-5344
36	Ramec 200 SC	Methoxyfenozide 180 g/l + Emamectin benzoate 20 g/l SC	E2021-5221
37	Reclone 200 SL	Diquat dibromide 200 g/l SL	P2021-5335
38	RUNTO 300 SC	Thiamethoxam 150 g/l + Spirotetramat 150 g/l SC	E2022-5560
39	SOLAR 260 OD	Terbutylazine 200 g/l + Mesotrione 40 g/l + Nicosulfuron 20 g/l OD	E2021-5326
40	Sulfaron 250EC	Carbosulfan 200 g/l + Chlorfluazuron 50 g/l EC	E2021-5218
41	Tatoo 100 G	Metaldehyde 100 g/ kg G	F2022-3488
42	Top Care 400 SC	Tricyclazole 400 g/l SC	P2020-5053
43	Transit 700 WP	Niclosamide 700 g/kg WP	F2022-3489

Lionchem (Myanmar) Pte., Ltd
Address: HANDARWADDI STREET, NO.569, ROOM NO.B-1, 123-QUARTER,
DAGON MYOTHIT (EAST) TOWNSHIP, YANGON REGION, MYANMAR.

India’s agriculture under spell of looming heatwaves



Farmers load a tractor with hay bales of finger millet crop on the outskirts of Bangalore on 4 January 2021. PHOTO: MANJUNATH KIRAN /AFP/FILE

INDIA’S agricultural sector has been facing great challenges as the country’s meteorological department predicts a hotter summer this year. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) recently warned of a hotter-than-usual March, April and May in most parts of northeast India, east and central India, and some parts of northwest India. This in turn increases the likelihood of heatwaves occurring over many regions of central and northwest India. Experts said the enhanced probability of the occurrence of a heatwave during March to May season is likely to hit farm production and hike food prices in India. The South Asian country was gripped by record heat in February with an average maximum temperature of 29.66 degree Celsius.— Xinhua

Disaster to destination: Fukushima woos tourists with snow

TOURIST Benjamin Tuffy's family spent their winter holidays in Japan's picture-perfect snow. But they weren't at the country's famed ski resorts in Hokkaido or Nagano — they picked Fukushima. It's a choice officials hope is becoming increasingly popular as they market the region's snow resorts and try to shed the stigma that lingers more than a decade after the 2011 nuclear disaster. Fukushima's ski industry was already struggling with warm winters and a decline in domestic visitors when a tsunami triggered the worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl. Officials worked hard to attract foreign visitors despite the disaster, but then the pandemic struck and border closures kept tourists away for more than two years. — AFP



Inspired by the success of Japan's other snow destinations, Fukushima has tried to promote its plentiful white stuff. PHOTO: AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MSC FORTUNE F VOY.NO. (SB309A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC FORTUNE F VOY.NO. (SB309A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-3-2023** 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 MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V FILOTIMO VOY.NO. (310W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V FILOTIMO VOY.NO. (310W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-3-2023** 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 SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

Panama, Canadian group agree to reopen major copper mine

PANAMA and Canadian giant First Quantum Minerals announced on Wednesday a deal to reopen a major copper mine whose operations had been suspended for three months over a tax dispute.

Work at the Cobre Panama pit, the largest mine in Central America, was shut down in December after the two sides failed to reach an agreement on a new contract, in which Panama wanted to increase by tenfold the amount of tax and royalties First Quantum Minerals paid for the concession.

The two sides said they had "agreed on the final text of the (new) concession contract that will govern the long-term operations of the Cobre Panama Project," said the statement.

The new, renewable 20-year contract envisages "minimum income" of \$375 million for the Panamanian state, some 10 times the amount in the previous contract signed in 1997.

The mine's closure put at risk the jobs of 8,000 people either employed directly or indirectly in the pit's operations.

During the near three-month standoff, those affected protested several times in the capital Panama City. — AFP

JAL cancels cheap domestic ticket sale after surge in website traffic



During the period, customers were still able to buy regular tickets for domestic and international flights scheduled until 11 April as the website for them was operating on a separate system. **PHOTO: KYODO**

JAPAN Airlines Co said Thursday it has cancelled a special campaign that offered domestic one-way tickets for 6,600 yen (\$48) each after its website suffered a glitch caused by a surge in people trying to access the promotion.

The malfunction, which caused a slow internet connection for those trying to access the website, also made it difficult for customers to purchase or reserve normal tickets. The airline announced it was unlikely to hold a similar sale for the foreseeable future.

"We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience caused," JAL said in a comment.

The website began experiencing problems at around 11:50 pm on Wednesday, just before the tickets were due to go on sale, with poor connectivity continuing for about 19 hours before the airline announced it was restored at around 6:35 pm Thursday.

During the period, customers were still able to buy regular tickets for domestic and international flights scheduled until 11 April, as the website for them was operating on a separate system. — Kyodo

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Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein

Dated 10th March 2023

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Announcement of Open Tender

1. Myanmar Securities Exchange Centre Co., Ltd (MSEC) requires a securities trading system in order to make the trading transactions of YSX listed securities by connecting with Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX). Therefore, the interested companies and businesses are invited to submit the open tender.

2. The open tender application form, the request for proposal (RFP) and the rule for open tender will start to be distributed to the interested companies and businesses. The applicants shall submit the open tender application form together with the required documents not later than 28th March 2023.

3. The details can be inquired at the following address;
No. 21-25, Sule Pagoda Road, 1st Floor of MEB Yangon Region Office, Pabedan Township, Yangon Region.
Contact No : 01-8376822 (ext: 111, 115, 116 or 206)
E-mail address : tender@msecmyanmar.com
Inquiry period : 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tender Invitation

GRGI Company Limited will do major renovations to its existing head office building located on Pyay Road, Hlaing Township, Yangon and build a new building at this compound. Therefore, GRGI is looking for interested companies for conceptual design & architectural design works.

For inquiries and more information, pls, contact the Phone No. 09-795825698, 09-43091929 within office hours 8:30 am to 5:00 pm not later than 24-3-2023.

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

Kremlin rejects Nord Stream report as ‘diversion’

RUSSIA rejected reports Wednesday that a “pro-Ukrainian group” with no official ties to the government in Kyiv may have carried out an attack on the Nord Stream gas pipelines last year.

Four large gas leaks were discovered on the pipelines linking Russia and Germany last September, with Moscow and the West blaming each other for “sabotage”.

The report in the New York

Times did not give the source for the intelligence, or name the group that could be responsible, but said officials had seen no evidence implicating Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky.

“It’s clear the people who orchestrated the attack want to create a diversion. This is clearly a well-coordinated media campaign,” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said in comments carried by state-run agency RIA

Novosti.

“This whole story isn’t just weird. It reeks of a monstrous crime,” Peskov added.

Russia said it is being sidelined from probes being carried out by Swedish, Danish and German authorities, which have not pinned the blame on any one country or actor.

“We are still not allowed to participate in the investigation,” Peskov said.—AFP



Pipe systems are seen at the industrial plant of the Nord Stream 1 Baltic Sea pipeline, Lubmin, northeastern Germany, close to the border with Poland on 30 August 2022. PHOTO: ODD ANDERSEN / AFP / FILE

Strikes target Ukraine’s Kharkiv, Odesa regions: officials



A view of the square outside the damaged local city hall of Kharkiv on 1 March 2022, destroyed as a result of Russian troop shelling. PHOTO: SERGEY BOBOK/AFP

STRIKES targeted Ukraine’s eastern Kharkiv region and the southern Odesa region, local officials said Thursday.

For months Russia has been pummeling key facilities in Ukraine with missiles and drones, disrupting water, heating

and electricity supplies for millions of people. “The enemy made about 15 strikes on the city and region. The occupiers once again targeted critical infrastructure facilities,” Kharkiv governor Oleg Syneubov said on social media.

“According to preliminary information, a private residential building in the Kharkiv region was hit,” he said.

Syneubov added that information on victims and the scale of the damage was being “clarified”.

In the region’s main city of Kharkiv, mayor Igor Terekhov said “energy infrastructure” had been targeted and there were “problems” with electricity in some parts of the city. — AFP

NATO chief warns Bakhmut may fall in coming days

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg warned Wednesday the eastern Ukrainian city of Bakhmut might fall to Russia in the coming days following months of intense fighting.

His remarks came as Russia’s Wagner mercenary group, which has spearheaded the attack on Bakhmut, claimed to have captured the eastern bank of the industrial town, devastated in the longest battle since Moscow invaded Ukraine a year ago.

Wagner chief and Kremlin ally Yevgeny Prigozhin said on social media Wednesday that his forces “have taken all of

the eastern part of Bakhmut”, a salt-mining town with a pre-war population of 80,000.

The intense fighting around Bakhmut has been the longest and bloodiest in Russia’s more than year-long invasion, which has devastated swathes of Ukraine and displaced millions of people.

“What we see is that Russia is throwing more troops, more forces and what Russia lacks in quality they try to make up in quantity,” Stoltenberg told reporters in Stockholm on the sidelines of an EU defence ministers meeting.—AFP

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

Three suspected militants killed by Israel undercover unit

THREE Palestinians were shot dead by Israeli border police in the occupied West Bank on Thursday, the Palestinian health ministry said, with an Israeli minister saying the suspected militants fired on the undercover officers first.

The deadly raid came just hours before Pentagon chief Lloyd Austin was due in Israel for talks and after the United Nations urged both sides to end the cycle of violence in the West Bank “immediately”.

The Palestinian ministry announced the “martyrdom



Palestinians inspect the bullet-riddled car in which three suspected militants were shot dead by Israeli undercover agents just hours before Pentagon chief Lloyd Austin was due in Israel for talks. PHOTO: AFP

of three men shot by Israeli forces in Jaba, near the flash-point northern city of Jenin.

Israel’s far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, who is responsible for the border police, praised the undercover officers for “taking out the despicable terrorists, who opened fire at our fighters”.

The health ministry identified the dead men as Sufyan Fakhoury, 26, Ahmed Fashafsha, 22, and Nayef Malaysha, 25. It did not provide further details. — AFP

Biden throws down 2024 gauntlet with populist budget

PRESIDENT Joe Biden will present what amounts to his expected 2024 reelection pitch Thursday with the unveiling of a proposed budget protecting free healthcare for the elderly, while taxing wealthy Americans to help slash the national deficit.

The Democrat’s speech in Philadelphia will throw down the gauntlet to Republicans. They insist the priority is cutting the deficit without tax raises, but have yet to say what expenses they’d reduce instead. — AFP

Italian cabinet to meet near deadly shipwreck site

ITALIAN Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni will hold a cabinet meeting Thursday near the site of a deadly shipwreck, as a debate rages over whether the right-wing government's migration policies cost lives.

Meloni is expected to pay homage to the victims of the 28 February disaster, in which at least 72 people died when the overcrowded boat they were travelling on sank in stormy weather just off Calabria.

Grief in Cutro and Crotona, the towns nearest the shipwreck, is still raw, with relatives arriv-

ing from afar to claim their dead and bodies still this week being spotted out at sea or washed up on beaches.

Meloni's arrival follows an appeal by Crotona mayor Vincenzo Voce, who Saturday said the community, "struck by immense pain, has waited for a message from you, a call, a sign, which has not come".

Far-right Meloni's Brothers of Italy party won elections last year on a pledge to curb sea arrivals, and the ruling coalition, which includes Matteo Salvini's League, has clamped down on

migrant rescue charities.

Critics say the government's policy of treating migrant boats in the Central Mediterranean -- the world's most dangerous crossing -- as a law enforcement issue, rather than a humanitarian one, may have fatally delayed the rescue last month.

Meloni and Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi have rejected accusations they failed to intervene to save the boat, which set off from Türkiye and was carrying Afghan, Iranian, Pakistani and Syrian nationals.— AFP



Italian prosecutors have opened an investigation into February's shipwreck. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Canada's first Indigenous governor-general decries online abuse



Canada's Governor-General Designate Mary Simon arrives for her installation ceremony on 26 July 2021 in Ottawa, Canada. Simon is now the 30th Governor-General of Canada and first indigenous governor. **PHOTO: DAVE CHAN / AFP / FILE**

CANADA'S first Indigenous governor-general, Mary Simon, denounced Wednesday racist and sexist abuse that led her to block comments on her official social

media accounts.

A sampling of the remarks were highlighted in a video posted on her Instagram account, calling her a "treacherous bitch",

"a worthless piece of meat", "trash", various farm animals and a vulgar slang for women's genitals.

Other comments insulted her Indigenous heritage and her appearance.

"The reality is that women — particularly those in leadership positions, high-profile women, Indigenous women and girls, women from ethnic minorities, and 2SLGBTQI+ individuals — are threatened every day online and on social media, and in their daily lives as well," Simon said in a statement marking International Women's Day.

Two spirits, or 2S, is an umbrella term used by North American Indigenous people for gay, lesbian or transgender. — AFP

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

French Senate votes to raise retirement age from 62 to 64

FRANCE'S Senate voted Thursday to raise the retirement age by two years to 64, as the government moves to overhaul the country's pensions system in the face of strong opposition from labour unions.

The conservative-dominated legislative body voted in favour of a decisive article to raise the age of retirement by 201 votes to 115.

Debate will resume later on Thursday over a controversial amendment to the bill.—AFP

Nigeria postpones local state election after court ruling

NIGERIA'S electoral agency said on Wednesday it had postponed a weekend governorship election by one week following a court decision over machines used in voting tallies.

The so-called BVAS machines are at the centre of a legal dispute over last month's contested presidential election which results show Nigeria's ruling APC party candidate won, but the opposition claims was marred by massive tampering.—AFP

Use post-quake goodwill to boost Syria peace process: UN

THE post-earthquake goodwill that helped unblock aid deliveries in Syria should be applied at the political level to help advance efforts to end the country's 12-year conflict, the UN said Wednesday.

"The status quo cannot be acceptable," Geir Pedersen, the UN special envoy to Syria, told reporters in Geneva.

The catastrophic 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria last month, killing more than 50,000 people, provided a "wake-up call to the

world that the Syrian tragedy is far from over," he said.

The quake came nearly 12 years into Syria's civil war which has devastated swathes of the country, killed nearly half a million people and displaced millions more. In northwest Syria, where nearly 6,000 people were killed by the February tremor, the immensity of the earthquake tragedy helped shift long-stuck positions to facilitate getting aid into rebel-held areas in the northwest of the country. More

border crossings were opened to facilitate aid shipments from Türkiye, and efforts were made to crank up aid deliveries from government-held areas into the rebel-held northwest.

The United States and the European Union have also eased sanctions to ensure the aid could flow in unencumbered. Pedersen hailed that "in the aftermath of the earthquakes, humanitarian steps from all sides have moved beyond previous positions, even if temporarily."—AFP



An aerial view shows medics at the Maram camp, for the internally displaced, in Syria's northwestern Idlib province on 7 March 2023 during a vaccination campaign. **PHOTO: AFP**



Myanmar to compete in 19th Asian Games

MYANMAR will compete in the 19th Asian Games to be held in Hangzhou, the People's Republic of China, according to the press conference of the Asian Games held at 3 pm yesterday at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Yangon.

"The Fun Run is held in all Asian countries to commemorate the 19th Asian Games to be held in Hangzhou, the People's Republic of China. Our country is the 15th country to do so. By doing this, people will be able to know a certain extent about the Asian Games. As for the Asian Games, it will be based on the upcoming SEA Games.

"Since the Asian Games will be held in September after the SEA Games, the players will not



need to train separately and will be selected based on the standards that will be held at the SEA Games," said U Tun Myint Oo, Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department.

An event will be held in Myanmar in commemoration of the 19th Asian Games at Kyaikkasan Stadium, Tamway Township, Yangon Region starting from 8 am on 10 March. — Bala Soe/KZL

Kane bemoans another trophyless season for Spurs

HARRY Kane said Tottenham "should be winning trophies" and not settling for a top-four finish in the Premier League after they crashed out of the Champions League.

Spurs drew 0-0 with AC Milan at home on Wednesday to lose their last-16 tie 1-0 on aggregate.

That followed a dismal FA Cup defeat to Championship side Sheffield United and a loss at Wolves that weakened Tottenham's grip on fourth place in the Premier League. Defeat against Milan ensured Tottenham will complete a 15th season without silverware. Kane, who broke the club's all-time goalscoring record earlier this season, was adamant that Spurs need to be doing more than just challenging for the top four, which ensures qualification for the Champions League.

The 29-year-old England captain is out of contract at the end of next season and realistically has one last chance to sign for an elite club that will guarantee him the chance to win regular trophies. Asked whether a top-four finish is enough, Kane said: "I don't think so. Where we're at as a club, we should be winning trophies. That's always the aim." — AFP

Tottenham striker Harry Kane in action against AC Milan. **PHOTO: AFP**



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council: Twelve 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 prioritize 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.
- (d) To ensure peace, stability, rule of law, and the safe and smooth functioning of transport networks across the Union.

2. Economic affairs

- (a) To enhance development based on agriculture and livestock using modern production techniques and to 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 assure support for the sustainability of Micro-, Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) that prioritize import substitution, export production, and the use of domestically produced raw materials, in order to increase domestic production and generate employment opportunities.
- (d) To advance the socioeconomic life of the people, in order to ensure the country's prosperity and food security.

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 people and preserve and safeguard their faiths, beliefs, culture, and characteristics of patriotic nationalism.
- (c) To strengthen basic health care in order to achieve the emergence of a health system that enhances the longevity and health of the entire nation.
- (d) To comprehensively promote the education sector to make it capable of producing the human resources necessary for building a modern, developed, and progressive democratic nation.

New South Korea coach Klinsmann 'felt for Son' at World Cup

NEW South Korea coach Jürgen Klinsmann wants to get Son Heung-min firing and smiling again, saying Thursday he "felt for him" at the World Cup.

Son won last season's Premier League Golden Boot but then struggled through the Qatar World Cup with a facial fracture and has been far from his best this term at Tottenham.

As a former Tottenham forward himself and now coach of South Korea, German legend Klinsmann has taken a keen interest in Son's faltering form for club and country.

The 58-year-old told his introductory press conference in

Paju, near Seoul: "As a former Tottenham player I watch almost all the games from Tottenham and so I am a big fan of Sonny, there's no doubt.

"But I think this is a normal period that every player goes through, little ups and downs.

"I can give him encouragement and the motivation to enjoy himself and whatever role and however he plays on the field," Klinsmann added.

Klinsmann will see the 30-year-old Son when he takes charge of South Korea for the first time with a home friendly against Colombia on March 24.—AFP