

## 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.

## Relevant organizations at home carrying out waste management have to improve systematically separate disposal system and separate waste collection system: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views round the display on the ceremonial occasion of World Environment Day 2023 yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

UNDISCIPLINED disposing of plastic waste can pollute freshwater sources and reduce water quality, said Chairman of the State Administration Council

Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the ceremony to mark the World Environment Day 2023 at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi

Taw yesterday morning.

Speaking of the accasion, the Senior General said that in accord with this year's theme: Solutions to Plastic Pollution, all countries need to solve sub-

sequent problems of plastic pollution and initiate a circular economy which can minimize the environmental impacts and volume of waste. Undisciplined disposal of plastic waste can

pollute freshwater sources and reduce water quality. Plastic waste then changes into microplastic.

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## 2 special criminal appeal cases passed judgements; 2 civil appeal cases heard

A special appeal tribunal consisting of Chief Justice of the Union U Htun Htun Oo and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union U Aung Zaw Thein, U Myo Maung, U Tin Hone, and U Thein Ko Ko was convened yesterday morning at the Supreme Court and, a total of four cases – two special criminal appeal cases No 13/2022 (Magway) and 14/2022 (Mon), and two special civil appeal cases No 1/2023 (Yangon) and 2/2023 (Shan) – were heard following the COVID-19 prevention and control guidelines. — MNA

## Donation notification via SMS text message for people affected by Cyclone Mocha

- For the people affected by Cyclone Mocha that occurred in Myanmar on 14 May 2023, well-wishers will be able to send donations via SMS (message) through mobile phones that are widely used by the public to make it more convenient.
- It is announced that generous mobile phone users can text “500” to 9090 through their mobile phones and donate at a rate of K500 per time starting 7 June 2023.

## Public Notice for Elimination of Violence

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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 increase of death rate due to the disease.

## Announcement for local and foreign well-wishers to donate cash to cyclonic storm Mocha victims

- AN announcement has been issued that well-wishers wishing to make donations for people who fell victim to the extremely severe cyclonic storm Mocha which hit Myanmar on 14-5-2023 can donate cash to Myanmar account OA-011834 and foreign account 1DA-0300086.
- In this announcement, it is duly mentioned that our commitment to receiving donations extends to additional electronic payment systems and mobile payment systems. Further updates and notifications will be made in due course.
- It has been announced that donations can be made to the previously announced phone number and to the account that was opened, and since it can be confusing to donate with a phone number, we have already made it possible to donate with a QR code instead of the phone number.
- Donations can be made through KBZ Pay or Wave Money. If you wish to donate, please scan the QR codes provided by both KBZ Pay and Wave Money. To contribute, enter the code included within the respective QR codes.
- People make donations through CB Pay, AYA Pay, OK \$, UAB pay and Citizens Pay which are widely used to enhance convenience for donors. To donate, please scan the QR code and enter the code provided within it.
- The well-wishers can contact the following persons for further information: -



| Nay Pyi Taw                                                                                               | Yangon                                                                                                                             | Mandalay                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Daw Lei Lei Aye<br>Director-General<br>Department of Disaster Management<br>067-3404050<br>09-2021491     | U Than Soe<br>Director<br>Department of Disaster Management<br>Office of Yangon Region<br>Department<br>09-250123885               | U Aye Min Thu<br>Director<br>Department of Disaster Management<br>Office of Mandalay Region<br>Department<br>09-420708827 |
| U Win Shwe<br>Deputy Director-General<br>Department of Disaster Management<br>067-3404048<br>09-254170011 | Daw Than Than Win<br>Deputy Director<br>Department of Disaster Management<br>Office of Yangon Region<br>Department<br>09-420740160 |                                                                                                                           |
| Daw Phyu Phyu Win<br>Director<br>Department of Disaster Management<br>067-3404316<br>09-43054844          |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                           |

National Disaster Management Committee

# Nation's strength lies within

WHATEVER challenges the country is faced with, efforts will have to be made for realizing two national policies: the prosperity of the State and the sufficiency of food with the concept that the strength of the nation lies within.

*(Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the meeting 2/2022 of the financial commission held on 24 November 2022)*

## Relevant organizations at home carrying out waste management have to improve systematically separate ...

FROM PAGE-1

Plastics cause pollution in the atmosphere, ground and water of the natural environment and pose danger to animals from both land and water areas throughout the period starting from the manufacturing process to the disposing one. Generally, more than 50,000 plastic particles per year flow into the body of each person across the world, according to the UN Environment Program.

Rivers and creeks carrying plastic waste flow into the sea to cause ocean pollution and marine debris. According to the surveys, some 199 million tonnes of plastic can be seen in the oceans. If humans do not change plastic manufacturing, use and disposal systems, the inflow volume of plastic waste into the marine ecosystem will reach 19-23 million tonnes per year, and it will triple in 2040, according to the UNEP.

The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022 released by the Food and Agriculture Organization-FAO



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing speaks on the commemorative occasion of World Environment Day 2023 yesterday.



mentioned that the volume of water creatures and water resources declined due to extreme capturing of water creatures, water pollution and weak management. Plastic waste from discarded, lost and unused fishing nets in the oceans become a global challenge.

Myanmar participated in the Bangkok Declaration on

Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Region and the ASEAN Framework and cooperates with ASEAN countries in implementing the ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Member States (2021-2025).

Myanmar adopted six goals for the National Waste Man-

agement Strategy and Master Plan for Myanmar (2018-2030), focusing on solving the problems of plastic pollution. Being a member of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, Myanmar conducts the import and export of plastic wastes under the Environmentally Sound Management.

The Senior General stressed the need to reduce the use of waste including plastic waste causing environmental pollution as much as possible and encourage the development of domestic MSME businesses which recycle plastic waste. Moreover, an emphasis must be placed on restricting the import of waste from foreign countries. Relevant organizations at home carrying out waste management have to improve the systematically separate disposal system and separate waste collection system.

The message of the UN Secretary-General to the 2023 World Environment Day and the message of the UNEP were presented.

The Senior General presented the good environmental management town award to Zabuthiri Township, the good environmental management village award to Maye Ohnbin-su Village of Mawlamyinekyun Township of Ayeyawady Region, the good environmental management factory award to Global Earth Seafood Processing Plant and Cold Storage Facility Global Earth AGRO and AQUA Industry Public Company Limited through officials.

SAC Joint Secretary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo awarded prize-winning schools in the national clean and green school award (high school level), SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo to those from the primary school level, SAC Member Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun to winners in the World Environment Day commemorative open article contest and SAC Member Union minister Lt-Gen Soe Htut to those from the open essay contest respectively.

The Senior General visited the booths to mark the 2023 World Environment Day. — MNA/TTA



The Senior General looks into the display at the event yesterday.

# SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win pays homage to remains of SSMNC Chairman Bhamo Sayadaw, inspects preparations for final rites ceremony

**C**HAIRMAN of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Patron of Bhamo Monastery in Mahanwesin Ward of Mahaaungmye Township in Mandalay Region Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa, aged 94, vasa 74, passed away at 11:11 pm on 25 May (Thursday), 7<sup>th</sup> waxing of Nayon, 1385 ME.

The Vice-Senior General together with SAC members Dr Kyaw Tun and Khun San Lwin, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Ko Ko and Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Myo Aung, paid homage to the remains of Sayadaw yesterday morning.

The Vice-Senior General also paid homage to State Ovadacariya Presiding Patron of Mandalay's Masoeyein Taikthit Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Vasettha Bhivamsa and members of the Sangha and supplicated preparations for holding the final rites of the Bhamo Sayadaw.

The Vice-Senior General and party offered alms to members of the Sangha and shared



SAC Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win pays homage to remains of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman Bhamo Sayadaw yesterday.

merits gained. The Vice-Senior General and party offered meals to members of the Sangha.

The Vice-Senior General inspected the preparations for the final rites ceremony, the route for conveying the remains of Sayadaw, the cremation process,



The Vice-Senior General inspects the venue for the cremation.



The Vice-Senior General presents donations to Sayadaws from the Bhamo Monastery.

the construction of the incineration chamber and the plan to set ashes adrift into the water and fulfilled the requirements.

The final rites ceremony of the Sayadaw which will commence at 2 pm on 6 June and ashes will be set adrift into the water at 5.30 am on 7 June will be broadcast live on MRTV HD Channel, MRTV Farmers' Channel, MRTV Parliament Channel, MWD HD Channel, MWD Variety HD Channel, Maha Bawdi Channel and Buddha Channel.

— MNA/TTA

# Donation ceremony held for monastic school maintenance, rehabilitation efforts in Rakhine State

THE Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture organized a cash donation ceremony at Shwe Zedi Monastery in Kyaung Tet Lan Ward of Sittway for the maintenance of school buildings of monastic schools in Sittway Township yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by Secretary of Rakhine State Monastic Schools Supervisory Body Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Dr Bhaddanta Ariyavamsa, Head Sayadaws of monastic schools, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, U Myo Thant, and Dr Thet Thet Khine, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin, deputy ministers and departmental officials.

First, officials and attendees took me five precepts from



Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung attends the coordination meeting on relief and rehabilitation efforts in Rakhine State yesterday.



Head Sayadaw of Min Kyaung Monastic School (BEPPS) Bhaddanta Nyana and the MoRAC deputy minister reported on the donation.

Then, the Union ministers,

the Rakhine State chief minister and deputy ministers donated offerings and cash for nine prerequisites to Lead Sayadaws of seven monastic schools.

At the ceremony, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture donated K120 million to Sittway's seven monastic schools that were destroyed by Cyclone Mocha. There are 1,555 students at these seven monastic schools in the 2023-2024 academic year.

Then, Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and party attended the donation ceremony of cash and relief items for rehabilitation of cyclone-hit areas held at the Rakhine State government office.

At the ceremony, Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khine received K5 million worth of medicines donated by Lucky Asia International Co Ltd.

Then, Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung together with Union Ministers Dr Thet Thet Khine and U Aung Thaw, and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin attended the coordination meeting on rehabilitation programmes held at the Rakhine State government office.

During the meeting, the officials of working committees and Deputy Ministers reported on the rehabilitation processes, competition and ongoing work plans. Then, Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung pointed out the

needs regarding the cleanup activities, adequate dust bins in city areas and awareness programmes for systematic waste disposal.

Of 1,233 mobile stations of four telecom operators in Rakhine State, 904 stations failed due to Cyclone Mocha. Only 329 stations provided services and the maintenance of underground and overhead fibre cables, microwave links and mobile communication stations was conducted, and 855 mobile stations (totalling 1,184 stations and 96.03 per cent) have been repaired on 5 June and communication services resumed in Rakhine State. — MNA/KTZH



MoEP staff are seen repairing electric cables in Sittway yesterday.

## MoE Union Minister leaves for International Forum of Education Ministers in Russia

UNION Minister for Education Dr Nyunt Pe, together with Deputy Permanent Secretary Dr Kyaw San Win, left Yangon for Kazan, the Russian Federation, to attend the International Forum of Education Ministers to be held from 7 to 9 June and they were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by rectors and responsible personnel yesterday evening.

The Forum will be held under the theme of “Shaping the Future” and the participants will exchange views on opportunities for shaping the future of education. — MNA/MKKS



Union Minister Dr Nyunt Pe is seen leaving for the International Forum of Education Ministers in the Russian Federation yesterday.

## MoIC Union Minister receives Chinese Ambassador



U Ko Ko Hlaing, Union Minister for International Cooperation of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr Chen Hai, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on further consolidation of the existing friendship and promotion of bilateral cooperation between Myanmar and China, the maintenance of peace and stability along the border between Myanmar and China,

disaster relief supplies of the Chinese government to affected areas in Myanmar caused by Cyclone Mocha, and closer collaboration between the two countries in regional and multilateral contexts particularly ASEAN and the United Nations. — MNA

# MoI Union Minister views agriculture, livestock breeding in Ayeyawady Region

THE government is implementing the activities for prosperity and food security of the nation as two national tasks.

With the aim of successfully implementing these tasks, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn and Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win visited Wah Wah Win Agriculture and Livestock Company in Nyaungdon and Maubin townships of Ayeyawady Region on 4 June and viewed round the production and export processes.

First, Chairman of Wah Wah Win Agriculture and Livestock Company U Shwe Kyaing reported on rohu fish farming tasks, maintenance of fish farms, milk cow farms, production of milk and dairy products, natural fertilizers, fish sauce and fishery export to



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn views round the Wah Wah Win Agriculture and Livestock Company in Ayeyawady Region yesterday.

foreign markets.

Then, the Union Minister highlighted the guidance of the Prime Minister regarding the

prosperity and food security of the nation and the role of the ministry in implementing the 12 Objectives of the country using supportive

media ways.

He also added that agriculture and livestock breeding is a major business of the country

and will support the development of these businesses through the media sector.

The Ayeyawady Region chief minister clarified the implementation of the agriculture and livestock breeding tasks and fishery export, which is being carried out in the region.

The Wah Wah Win Agriculture and Livestock Company is located in the Thaungzar village-tract, Htaneer village-tract of Maubin Township and Kyunoo village-tract of Nyaungdon Township. The company cultivates about 100 acres of summer paddy yearly and there are over 7,000 acres of fish farming areas with about 15 million fish. Moreover, it breeds 438 cows including Holstein Friesian and Brahman and produces about 700 visses of milk a day. — MNA/KTZH

# Union Constitutional Tribunal Member attends AACC board member countries meeting, international symposium

MEMBER of the Union Constitutional Tribunal Dr Malar Aung participated online yesterday in the Asian Association of Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Organizations (AACC) Board Member States Meeting and International Symposium, hosted by the Constitutional Court of Mongolia.

Chief Justices and chairs from 20 AACC member countries attended the meeting of the member countries of the board.

Afterwards, the meeting of the member countries of the board and an international symposium were held under the title of Protection of Human

Rights within the Constitutional Review and the Chief Justices, Chairs and members of the Chief Justices of the Constitutional Courts from Mongolia, Indonesia, the Russian Federation, Republic of Korea, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Thailand, Turkiye, including Myanmar presented papers.

At the International Symposium, Union Constitutional Tribunal Member Dr Malar Aung read a paper entitled “The Improvement of the Protection of Human Rights within Constitutional System in Myanmar”: Many national brethren live together in Myanmar; All those ethnic groups must not

be discriminated against one another in any way, and all basic rights of citizens are guaranteed equally by the constitution; Myanmar has signed regional and international treaties on human rights. In protecting the basic rights of the citizens in accordance with the constitution, they are protected by means of appeals to the Union Constitutional Tribunal through parliamentarians and In addition, it was presented and discussed that protection is provided through the application of a message to the Supreme Court of the Union.

Participating member countries continued to read and



Union Constitutional Tribunal Member Dr Marlar Aung participates in the AACC board member countries meeting and international symposium online yesterday.

present their country-specific papers, and the meeting was adjourned in the evening. — MNA/TS

## Announcement on release of 2023 Matriculation Examination Results

1. The 2023 matriculation examination results will be released at 6 am on 9-6-2023, Friday.
2. The lists of results will be put on notice boards at the designated schools in respective townships at the same time.
3. Arrangements will be made to access the results on [www.myanmarexam.org](http://www.myanmarexam.org) at 4 am on the same day.
4. In addition to the announcement through the website, the Radio Myanmar will also announce the pass lists of the exam centres which are located in remote areas and other areas with little or no Internet access on the same day.
5. The people are requested to systematically adhere to the COVID-19 health rules and regulations of the Ministry of Health in coming to see the pass list at respective exam centres.
6. For further information, the public can contact 01 653509 and 01 653467 of the Department of Myanmar Examinations on 9-6-2023, Friday.

Department of Myanmar Examinations  
Ministry of Education

## 64 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 5 June, total figure registers 639,239

MYANMAR'S COVID-19-positive cases rose to **639,239** after **64** new cases were reported on 5 June 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. Therefore, a total of **10,687,433** laboratory samples were examined to date and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached **639,239**. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **618,204** including **43** new recoveries. The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered **19,494** on 5-6-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. COVID-19 information can be browsed on the internet page [moh.gov.mm](http://moh.gov.mm) of the Ministry of Health. — GNLM

Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Union Election Commission  
Announcement No 26/2023

3<sup>rd</sup> Waning of Nayon 1385 ME  
5 June 2023

Allowing Danu National Democracy Party to register as political party

AS of 5 June 2023, Danu National Democracy Party, with its headquarters located at No 10/64, Cherry Street, Ward 10, Kalaw, Shan State (South), has been allowed to register under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law. The registration number of the Danu National Democracy Party is 21.

Sd/Thein Soe  
Chairman  
Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Union Election Commission  
Announcement No 27/2023

3<sup>rd</sup> Waning of Nayon 1385 ME  
5 June 2023

Allowing People's Pioneer Party to register as political party

THE People's Pioneer Party, with its head office at No 63, lower block of Latha street in No 3 Ward of Latha Township in Yangon Region, has been approved to make registration starting 5 June 2023 under Section 9 of Political Parties Registration Law.

The registration number of People's Pioneer Party is 22.

Sd/Thein Soe  
Chairman  
Union Election Commission

Equity market sees highest trading value in May

THE equity trading value of the seven listed companies on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) grew in May 2023, according to the monthly report released by the exchange.

Trading of 75,810 shares valued at K310.99 million was recorded on the exchange in January 2023 and the trading volume rose to 122,859 shares in February, with an estimated value of K381.69 million. The equity market saw 95,517 shares with an estimated value of K278.1 million traded on the exchange in March. The trading value touched a low of K175.956 million with 69,365 shares in April. The value reached the highest of K438.319 million with 153,436 shares in May.

At present, shares of seven listed companies — First Myanmar Investment (FMI), My-

anmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), TMH Telecom Public Co Ltd (TMH), the Ever Flow River Group Public Co Ltd (EFR) and Amata Holding Public Co Ltd (AMATA) were traded in the security market.

The share prices per unit stood at K8,000 for FMI, K2,800 for MTSH, K7,400 for MCB, K1,450 for FPB, K2,500 for TMH, K2,450 for EFR and K5,000 for AMATA in May 2023.

The equity trading volumes were recorded 11,743 shares of FMI worth K95.302 million, 68,267 shares of MTSH worth K194.497 million, 5,888 shares of MCB worth K41.551 million, 62,241 shares of FPB worth over K90 million, 2,543 shares of TMH worth K6.34 million, 1,127 shares of EFR worth K2.8 million and



The photo taken in December 2022 shows the front view of the office building of the Yangon bourse.

1,627 shares of AMATA worth K7.7 million respectively last month.

Furthermore, block trading of YSX can be done with the minimum order quantity (10,000 stocks) or with the stocks of trad-

ing value of K30 million starting from 1 September 2022.

The Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar (SECM) has allowed foreigners to invest in the local equity market since 20 March 2020. Foreign

participation would entail better capital inflows, long-term and sustainable investment, encourage good corporate governance, and support market orientation, YSX stated.

Moreover, YSX stock investment virtual series 2022 launched in December through the YSX YouTube channel and other social media platforms every week-end of December 2022, including three sessions; Insights talk with listed companies, Investment presentations by securities companies and Panel discussion with market experts.

The YSX was launched in 2016 to improve the private business sector. It disseminates rules and regulations regarding the stock exchange and knowledge of share trading through stock investment webinars and training courses. — KK

Illegal timbers, consumer goods, industrial materials and vehicles confiscated

A combined team led by District Forest Department impounded a total of 5.764 tonnes of illegal timbers (worth K400,946) in Myaungmya district on 30 May and action was taken under the Forest Law.

In addition, a combined team led by Township Forest Department nabbed a total of 6.181 tonnes of illegal timbers (worth K927,270), a Tayokeni engine worth K250,000, a Honda water pump worth K50,000 and a wooden boat worth K700,000 in Kyunsu township and a combined team led by a sub-inspector of police Karathuri Police Station captured a Hijet car (approximately K3.5 million) without official documents near Pyidaungsu highway in Karathuri

township on 1 June. The action was taken under the Forest Law and the Export and Import Law.

An on-duty team under the supervision of the Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradica-

tion Task Force made a surprise inspection at 47/2 Milepost on Mandalay-Lashio road and confiscated four kinds of goods worth K8.1 million including 600 elastic ropes without official doc-

uments from a Toyota HiAce car (approximately K25 million), five kinds of goods worth K4.41 million including 800 kilogrammes of rubber gloves without official documents from a Higer minibus (approximately K20 million) and 10 kinds of goods worth K25,412,500 including 96 small fans that exceeded the quantity mentioned in the Import Declaration (ID) from a Mitsubishi Fuso tractor head and a trailer (estimated value of K80 million) heading to Mandalay from Muse on 1 and 2 June. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

The Muse District Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force seized four kinds of goods worth K3,124,500 including two sets of

Gree air conditioning outdoor units that were piled up by the side of the road beyond the Sinphyu border in Muse township on 2 June. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

An on-duty team nabbed 54 Daichi electric rice cookers (worth K1.89 million) from a vehicle heading to Yangon from Myawady at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) combined checkpoint on 2 June and action was taken under Customs procedures.

Therefore, 11 arrests (estimated value of K173,765,216) were made on 30 May, 1 and 2 June, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS



Confiscated illegal goods in Mandalay Region.

OPINION

Unite strength in growing and conserving trees

MONSOON tree-growing ceremonies take place in various urban and rural areas across the nation as rainwater makes soil soft. Myanmar yearly grows hundreds of thousands of saplings in a variety of species in order to green the environment and try to improve climatic conditions as much as possible.

Growing trees aim to green the environs, beautify the urban and rural areas, reduce temperature and help store underground water. Trees can help improve the atmosphere of the society with emission of oxygen and absorption of carbon dioxide as part of reducing air pollution. Practically, only when trees and saplings that are grown at the ceremonies successfully thrive will they help society with greening environments.

All the countries throughout the world are facing the problems

The saplings grown at the ceremonies must be nurtured to be grown successfully. As such, before holding the tree-growing ceremonies, relevant authorities and departments must have to draw the master plans for nurturing the saplings during the limited period. If not, the endeavours poured out in growing saplings and establishment of forest plantations will be in vain. So, united strength from the people is useful for nurturing the saplings for future benefit.

physical and mental happiness as well as control a water circle in the urban area so as to conserve underground water for ensuring the supply of drinking water. Moreover, forest areas can create pleasant environments for travellers and businesses. Moreover, forests and trees can effectively protect the landscape and cultivable lands, ease the impacts of natural disasters and contribute to existence of the life on land.

The saplings grown at the ceremonies must be nurtured to be grown successfully. As such, before holding the tree-growing ceremonies, relevant authorities and departments must have to draw the master plans for nurturing the saplings during the limited period. If not, the endeavours poured out in growing saplings and establishment of forest plantations will be in vain. So, united strength from the people is useful for nurturing the saplings for future benefit.

■

An Interview with a Veteran Correspondent  
Ex-Chairman of Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Japan

By U AC

**Q: A bit about yourself pls.**

I am Khaldon Azhari. I am a journalist based now in Japan. I represent some Arabic media and Pan Orient News. The latter is also my company, set up in America, with a branch in Japan. I cover mainly East Asia countries and their issues. I am also a chemical engineer but I like to work in the media. It is my passion and my direction.

**Q: This being the first time in Myanmar, how was your impression prior to this visit?**

Before I get here, the impression was, the same as in the news headlines. Myanmar seems to have some issues, first with the Rohingyas (illegal Bangladeshi immigrants) people, then with the sanctions and finally the attacks by the Myanmar military. So, it is rather not positive news, especially when it comes to the clashes with the Muslim people. The initial impression was that there was a religious cleansing as it was projected mainly in the digital media. There was also news about a military coup that toppled a democratically elected government in Myanmar. With all these going around, it is rare to find any positive or nice news about Myanmar.

There was also ASEAN expression of concerns about Myanmar and Japan condemning this or that. It is mostly negative in the last few years. I personally do not believe any place is 100 per cent negative. There is always a background to each issue and each story. This year, I put myself to explore the countries that have issues with the UN and that include Myanmar and I am so glad that I started here.

**Q: What actually was the objective of this trip?**

The objective of this trip was to see firsthand the situation and to see the daily life of the people in Myanmar, not necessarily the political issues or policies and how the society is working out. The first thing to know about a country is to see the people going about their normal lives. I have an extremely good feeling about my first impression of the country.

It is very smooth, peaceful and normal. I do not feel I am in any special situation or environment. It looks very much like people are going on about their daily lives, I noticed especially families on the motorcycles. It is very nice to see, even though it looks dangerous for riders. Anyway, the impression is very good and it looks much like a traditional society. I may be very conservative but I like the traditional society.

**Q: What were your unique experiences during this trip?**

So far my trip is not finished yet. I visited some resorts. I feel that the nature factor is very beautiful in this country. I see trees everywhere. Life goes very smoothly here. I do not feel stressed out at all. There is a very relaxing ambience everywhere. Unlike living in a big city such as Tokyo, it is not stressful here. I do not mean any positive or negative about that. Just the lifestyle. So far I do not have any reasons to leave Myanmar soon. I would rather stay longer to explore the country more.

There was one incident that I like to mention. As we were coming down from Nay Pyi Taw City to the airport, our car got a tyre puncture. The two people who were just passersby on the road stopped their makeshift vehicle and helped us change the tyre. That was amazing. They just did it and left. They did not expect anything and did it enthusiastically. I felt this represents the nature of the feelings of the people and they like to help each other without expecting anything in return. It was a very special experience.

I also met some ministers here. I have firsthand experience with their explanations of the current situation and these sounded very reasonable to me.

**Q: As a correspondent, what would you say are the most common misconceptions about Myanmar?**

I wanted to tell you what happened to me when I told some of my close friends and family members that I was going to Myanmar. They all expressed immediate concerns and feared that I was

endangering my life. It was not like I might be robbed or lions might attack me in the jungle. It is an expression of the life-threatening atmosphere in Myanmar. Of course, I personally do not think so because every time there is media hype about something, we know that is not exactly the case. They actually told me it was dangerous and that I might be killed because I was a Muslim.

I do not think there is anywhere in the world where you might be killed because you belong to a particular religion. I was really surprised at how much these people have these negative images of Myanmar embedded in their minds. It's unbelievable.

Yes, there might be clashes somewhere for whatever reason, but it does not mean that the whole country is in a danger zone for people belonging to certain religions. I know that without any evidence, this kind of conception is wrong. This is hype, propaganda or fake news. I know that for a fact. But I wanted to experience myself and I have zero concern about my safety from this kind of threat. So far it is absolutely the opposite of the outside world's conceptions. Actually, I feel too safe here.

**Q: Why do you think this type of misconception happens?**

Obviously because of what happened during the Rohingya problem. There was a lot of reporting about it in an exaggerated way. It was reported as if there was a religious cleansing, based on your ID. 'Show me your id. If you are a Muslim, you are killed on the spot.' That was the conception.

I remembered I saw a video once, that claimed somebody is burning a Muslim kid alive. I went on to check the authenticity of the video and we realized it was absolutely edited. I then realized somebody was trying to ignite confrontation. Maybe there were some clashes, of course, it happened everywhere. I do not want to say anything about it because I was not there. I was not following these news stories. I have no real opinion about it.

The way they projected the

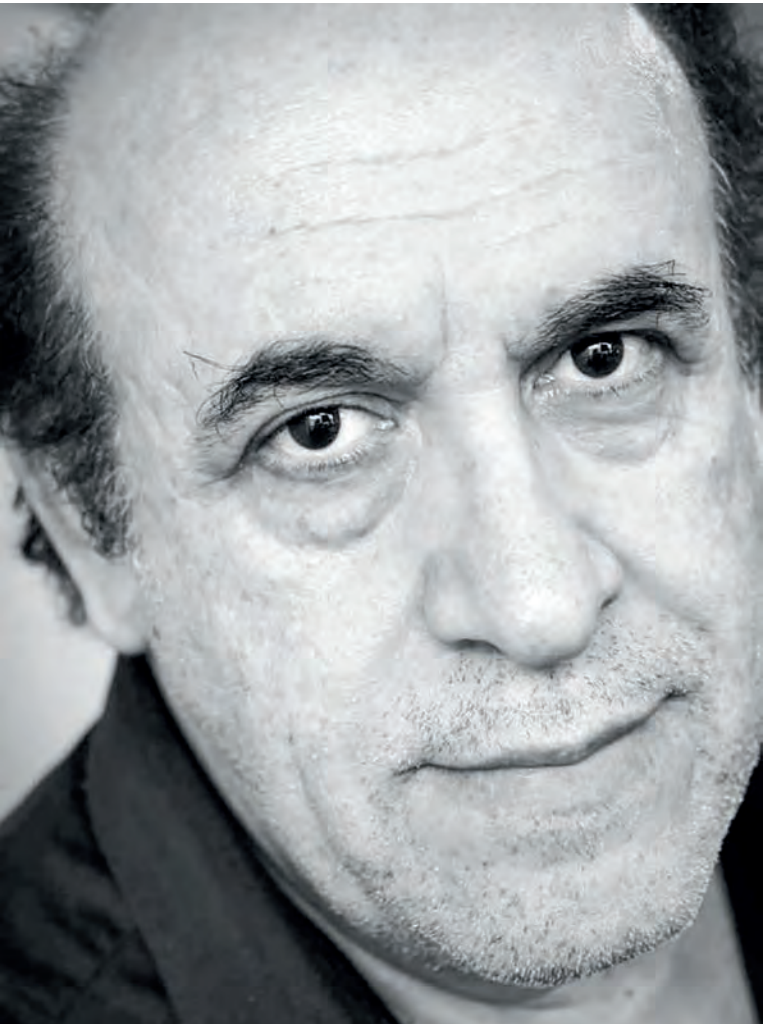


PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE / FCCJ.ORG

event as religious cleansing, I felt it was not correct. I know there are many Muslims living normally in Myanmar. There are many mosques there. And I am doing Friday prayers after a couple of hours. If there is cleansing, it should have been done long ago. And the mosques would not be here in the first place.

I saw on some reports that there was an ethnic problem. It happened everywhere. I would like to cover more on the issue. As a journalist, you have to find the truth and report the truth. We report - you decide. We are not part of any party, basically.

**Q: What approach should Myanmar take to address these?**

The approach is very clear. Just open it up. Let the international media come and see firsthand the situation and report on it. Because second hand reporting from people with agenda or with too many religious feelings or from people with half information are very dangerous. If I go there, I would interview people,

and I will see what is happening on the ground. Yes, there might be tragedies. But our mission is to find out why these tragedies took place and if it is just disputed between ethnic people, it happened all over the history of mankind.

The first thing for the Myanmar government, is to open up for foreign media, especially from the countries related to the issue, i.e., Muslim countries. Invite journalists, representatives and media-tion parties from these countries, to come and see, talk to both sides and let's solve the problem. If it is a complicated ethnic problem, as I read, then Myanmar should show that we are trying to solve it.

I heard from the Minister for International Cooperation that they are starting to have the returnees back to Myanmar. That is a very good action to solve the problem. If the government allows the stakeholders to come here and participate in the negotiations and help at least, that would be very helpful to show the good intentions and the fact that we are not what you say.

**Q: How about immediate steps?**

Of course, I am not in a position to tell the Myanmar government what to do. But if I were in such a position, I would send missions to all Islamic countries. And I would invite immediately some representatives from these countries, and I explain to them on the ground what happened and I would allow the free exchange of opinions. I will let them take photos and interview anyone they want. Total openness. That will help to restore trust immediately, which is the first ingredient to have a new start. Myanmar has a good potential to have good relations with countries all over the world, including Muslim countries and especially Arab countries.

The best way is to talk to each other. Human exchanges are very crucial at this point. Instead of letting the parties who have nothing to do with the conflict report about it, we can set the narrative.

**Q: What would u say to those who said the Myanmar government is killing Muslims across the country??**

I think this is absolutely not true. I could not say anything to them because I do not think they are going to be listening to me. It seems they are going on with their agenda regardless of the facts. I seriously do not believe Myanmar has any interest in killing Muslims. Absolutely not.

Yes, there might be some issues in the Rohingyas topic. I heard that they came from Bangladesh a long time ago and settled. They came from British India to participate in farming. So there is the historical background. And it is normal to have clashed with the locals. It's human nature actually. We cannot avoid that. If Myanmar wanted to kill these people, they would not let them come in, in the first place.

Myanmar people did not come from some other place and settled here. They are the original people, unlike Israel, e.g., I think this kind of media propaganda or social media spreading of fake news, you have to see who is behind it. Any videos of any at-

tack can be created in any studio across the world. I can be in a studio in New York and present as if I am in Myanmar. The government here, should also chase to some extent, those who are behind these fake media stories and try to establish facts and show this is not what is going on.

Of course, I cannot say something happened or nothing happened, but it does not make sense that the government is killing people that easily. It seems to me that a problem suddenly broke out somewhere and it developed. Maybe it surprised everybody so no appropriate steps were taken to solve it on the spot. Then it escalated and outside forces ignited the escalation to a whole new level.

I think we need to talk to the right people and show that the country is normal like any other country. That problem is a problem yet it is not like what the outside world thinks, basically. I like to go to that area and explore myself in the future.

**Q: In terms of responding to international propaganda or fake news, so far Myanmar has been on the defensive side. Why would you not recommend being defensive all the time?**

Because you are dealing with adversaries who are going to attack regardless of whether you are right or wrong. But as they say in soccer or football, the best way for defence is attack. But in Myanmar's case, the best way for the attack is to attack. You need to attack the case; you need to go forward very aggressively and you have to set up immediate goals and present them powerfully.

I think you need to take steps every day, e.g., if there is a G7 meeting coming, you need to send a pre-emptive message to G7. If there are sanctions and you think these are unfair, you send them a message, instead of waiting until they send messages of condemnation. We should act proactively instead of just reacting to negatives from others.



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 5 June 2023)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 6 June 2023:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Southern Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states, fairly widespread in Magway Region and Eastern Shan and Kayah states and scattered in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Chin, Rakhine and Mon states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD:** The Cumulonimbus clouds are developing in over the whole country. The area along the Cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance these phenomena.

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Squall with rough seas are likely at time in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (35-40) mph. Squall with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (30-35) mph. Wave height will be about (9-11) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and (7-9) feet off and along Rakhine Coast.

# Tatmadaw (Navy) transports supplies to people in Mocha-hit Rakhine State

A 29-metre landing craft from Tatmadaw (Navy) transported 1,000 rice bags weighing 14 tonnes from Essar Jetty in Sittway to Pauktaw yesterday morning.

Another two landing crafts shipped 14 tractors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation from Yaychanpyin Port to Angumaw Port yesterday morning. — MNA/KZW

Tractors are seen being discharged from Tatmadaw's landing craft yesterday.



## Tatmadaw senior officers provide foodstuffs, cashes to storm-victims



LT-GEN Phone Myat from the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Commander of the West Command Maj-Gen Htin Latt Oo, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Toe Yi and responsible personnel assigned in rehabilitation and construction work provided foodstuffs and

Lt-Gen Phone Myat from the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) is pictured providing food in Ponnagyun yesterday.

cash assistance to the local security forces and their families in Ponnagyun in Rakhine State.

Then, they met members of the Myanmar Police Force, fire brigade members, departmental staff and their families and locals and provided foodstuffs and cash. Then, biryani meal boxes were also donated by the SkyNet family, Myanmar Licensed Contractors Association (MLCA), MLCP public company, and MICA.

Next, Lt-Gen Phone Myat and party donated biryani meal boxes in the crowded places in Ponnagyun. And they inspected the distribution of purified drinking water produced by Tatmadaw's water purifier truck and the local medical team of the Western Command provided healthcare services to the local people. Finally, they inspected the repair work on the roof of No 1 Basic Education High School. — MNA/KZW

## Bangladesh's naval vessel arrives at Yangon to deliver humanitarian aid

A vessel of Bangladeshi Navy, BNS Somudra Joy (F-28), carrying relief supplies and foodstuffs to provide humanitarian aid for the storm-battered areas arrived at MITT bridge in Thilawa Port, Yangon yesterday afternoon.

Chargé d'affaires of the Bangladeshi Embassy to Myanmar Mr ASM Sayem, the defence attaché of Bangladesh to Myanmar and officials, senior officers and officials from the Tatmadaw Navy welcomed the ship.

The ship carried a total of 120 tonnes of foodstuffs, tents, medicines and water-purifying tablets.

Arrangements are being made to deliver the relief aid to the storm-battered areas as soon as possible. — MNA/KZW



The Bangladeshi naval vessel carrying humanitarian aid arrives at Thilawa Port yesterday.

## Tatmadaw (Air) continues transporting foodstuffs, relief items to Rakhine State



Relief goods are seen being loaded aboard the Tatmadaw aircraft yesterday.

THE relief aid and food items contributed by the families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and well-wishers, and relief supplies provided by the National Disaster Management Committee for local communities affected by Cyclone Mocha in Rakhine State are being transported by Tatmadaw aircraft and helicopters.

A total of 7.965 tonnes of foodstuffs and relief goods donated by the families of Tatmadaw

(Army, Navy and Air) were delivered from Mingaladon Airport to Sittway Airport by a plane of Tatmadaw (Air).

A total of 3,135 Tatmadaw members and departmental staff who will help in rehabilitation work and 471 tonnes of supplies were helicoptered to the storm-battered areas.

Officials in the respective areas received relief items and will distribute them to storm victims. — MNA/KZW



People are seen queuing at the gate to enter the 2021 Mechanical Components and Materials Technology Expo in Japan.

## Myanmar entrepreneurs invited to participate in Japan's SME exhibition

BUSINESS representatives from Myanmar have been invited to participate in the 35<sup>th</sup> Manufacturing World Japan: New Value Creation Exhibition in Mechanical Components and Materials Technology Expo 2023, which will be held in Tokyo, Japan.

The exhibition is Japan's largest exhibition of small and medium enterprises, and machinery and equipment spare parts and manufacturing techniques will be on display.

The expo will be held at the Tokyo Big Sight East Hall from 21 to 23 June. There will be a total of 1,750 booths at the expo and SME Support Japan has also invited SME entrepreneurs from Myanmar to participate in it.

Entrepreneurs who want to participate in the exhibition can contact the Trade Development Division of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization under the Ministry of Commerce via email at [mctradefair@myantrade.gov.mm](mailto:mctradefair@myantrade.gov.mm) or phone numbers 067 408622 and 067 408623. — TWA/CT

## Onion price on downward trend despite foreign demand

TRADERS involved in border trade are purchasing summer onions to be exported to China and Thailand. Moreover, there is a high potential for Bangladesh to buy them as well. Yet, the price recorded in early June is still lower than that of May, traders stressed.

The onion price touched the highest of above K2,000 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes) in the Seikphyu, Pakokku and Myingyan markets in May. Nonetheless, the price dipped below K2,000 per viss on 4 June, the market data of those areas showed.

Next, the large-sized onions fetched up to K2,300 per viss in Yangon's wholesale market on 6 May. The price touched a high of K2,100 per viss on 5 June. The price of onions is not that high in the Yangon market despite the foreign demand.

Earlier, the traders stored

the summer onions at a low price. This year, they are closely observing the market price to stockpile them as the price is still higher compared to the previous years.

The farmers are keeping them in hand for now. They deliver the onions to the domestic markets based on the daily

prices.

The prices of onions usually hit a higher peak at the end of December on the back of strong demand by foreign countries. The prices rocketed to K3,500-3,700 per viss in 2015 and 2019. The price moved in the range between K4,400 and K5,100 per viss in early December 2022.

During the harvest season of summer onion, the price was only K800 per viss. This year, it fetched K1,500 per viss. Thus, I could make a handsome profit this year, Ko Khin Maung, an onion trader from Pale township told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM). — TWA/EM



The photo shows onions flooding in the Seikphyu market.

## MFF to sell fish farms from Aquaculture Project Zone in Htantabin Tsp in instalment

THE Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) stated that arrangements are being made to sell the fish farming ponds from the Aquaculture Project Zone in Htantabin Township through an instalment plan.

The project zone is on 1,200 acres and organized as breeding zones A and B. The project period is from May 2023

to May 2025 and will provide technical and marketing support to buyers. Currently, fish farming ponds are initially set to be sold in instalments for one to five years at a rate of K20 million per acre.

The Steel Stone Group is in charge of the aquaculture zone project, and the areas of fish farming ponds range

between five acres to 15 acres and above.

In addition, one-acre, two-acre, and three-acre hatching farms are also planned to be implemented, and those who are interested in working in the fishery industry will be able to purchase them with a long-term instalment system, starting from one acre.

During the fish harvesting season, fishery products can be transported by land from the farms to both the Sanpya Fish Market in Kyimyindine Township and the Shwe Padauk Fish Market. Additionally, transportation by water is available via the Hlaing River and the Bawle Creek. — TWA/CT

## Rubber prices fluctuate in domestic market tracking int'l rubber prices

THE prices of rubber are moving up and down following international rubber prices. Trade is going regularly at present, rubber traders highlighted.

The international rubber price climbed from US\$1,650 to \$1,700 per tonne, causing the rubber price to increase to K1,410 per pound from K1,350 in the domestic market.

Myanmar can export only raw materials. China accounts for approximately 70 per cent



The photo shows weighing sundried rubber for packaging.

of Myanmar's overall rubber exports and the remaining is sent to Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, the Republic of Korea,

India and Japan.

Myanmar sent 2,537 tonnes of rubber worth \$3.215 million to foreign markets by sea between 20 and 26 May, with 2,016 tonnes to China, 260 to India, 200 to the ROK and about 60 to Malaysia.

Meanwhile, the country delivered over 1,140 tonnes of rubber worth \$1.351 million to the neighbouring countries, comprising 806 tonnes to Thailand and 337 to China.

Seaborne trade is the main

channel for rubber exports. The country aims to meet the rubber export target of 300,000 tonnes in 2023 and around 200,000 tonnes have been shipped to external markets already.

"The price at the beginning of the rubber season is quite good. The local rubber price is heavily reliant on international prices. Earlier, the prices stood at K1,080 per pound of Ribbed Smoked Sheet RSS-3 and K1,100 per pound of RSS-5. The price

surged to K1,400 per pound of RSS-3 and K1,300 per pound of RSS-5 in early June," Ko Aung Myo, a rubber trader from Mawlamyine told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

It is mainly cultivated in southern Myanmar: Mon State and Taninthayi Region. It is also found in Yangon and Bago regions and Kayin State. There are over 10.64 million acres of rubber across the country. — TWA/EM

# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Myanmar ships over 110,000 tonnes of rice in May 2023-2024 FY

MYANMAR exported more than 110,000 tonnes of rice and broken rice to foreign markets in May of the current financial year 2023-2024, including 46,786 tonnes of rice and 63,920 tonnes of broken rice, according to Myanmar Rice Federation.



Myanmar's export earning swelled to over \$809.135 million from 2,164,681 tonnes of rice export in the 2021-2022 FY. Export rice bags are seen being organized in the warehouse.

The majority of rice exports are conducted through seaborne trade. Myanmar sent 102,801 tonnes of rice and broken rice by sea, whereas the border saw exports of 7,905 tonnes.

Myanmar shipped a total of 87,648 tonnes of rice and broken rice to external markets in April, including 47,888 tonnes of rice and 39,760 tonnes of broken rice.

The volume of rice exported in the past two months totalled 198,354 tonnes, with an estimated value of US\$84 million.

Myanmar aims to achieve a rice export target of 2.5 million tonnes in the current FY and generate income of US\$1 billion from the rice exports, as per the MRF's report.

Myanmar bags \$853.472 mil-

lion from 2.26 million tonnes of rice exports in 2022-2023 FY.

Myanmar primarily sent rice and broken rice to China (over 775,000 tonnes), followed by Belgium (323,000 tonnes), Bangladesh (239,000 tonnes) and the Philippines (202,000 tonnes).

Myanmar has been making concerted efforts to grow 10 per cent yearly in the rice export sector. To raise foreign income, it has been prioritizing the export of high-grade rice and boosting export volume, MRF stated.

Myanmar's export earning swelled to over \$809.135 million from 2,164,681 tonnes of rice export in the 2021-2022 FY. – NN/EM

### Declining palm oil wholesale reference price for Yangon Region persists

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market continued to fall, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The reference price was set at K3,960 per viss from 29 May to 4 June. For the week ending 11 June, the price was set lower at K3,790 per viss. The figures showed a decrease of K170 per viss compared to that of the previous week.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia including transport costs, tariffs and banking services, and issuing the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil every week.

Compared to the reference price, the palm oil market price is too high.

If those edible oil retailers and wholesalers are found overcharging, storing inventory intentionally and attempting unscrupulous action to manipulate the market, they will face legal action under the Essential Supplies and Service Act, MoC released a statement.

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

At present, mobile market trucks operated by oil importing companies, in coordination with Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association, were back to business in some townships on 17 July 2022 to offer palm oil at a subsidized rate. They offer palm oil at a fairer price to the consumers directly depending on the reference price. However, there are limited sources of supply although they directly sell the palm oil at reference rate depending on the volume quota.

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

### Pigeon pea price in high peak



Black grams that India primarily purchases are commonly found only in Myanmar, whereas pigeon peas, green grams and chickpeas are grown in African countries and Australia,

THE price of pigeon peas hit an all-time high of over K3.3 million per tonne, according to the Yangon Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Bayintnaung).

The prices stood at K2.985 million per tonne on 1 June and then, it jumped to K3.33 million per tonne on 5 June. The figures showed a sharp rise of K345,000 per tonne of pigeon peas within a week. Similarly, the black gram price also peaked at K2.345 million per tonne in the market.

Strong foreign demand stimulated the price hikes of black gram and pigeon peas in the market.

Strong foreign drove the prices up. India forecast Myanmar's black gram output is estimated at 650,000 tonnes. This year, the yield rate dropped by half owing to a reduction in sow-

ing acres and threats of invasive pests, the growers said.

As a result of this, Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association notified on 12 May 2023 that growers should primarily cultivate green grams and pigeon peas during this year's pulses season.

There is a strong market share of black grams and pigeon peas in India. Most of the growers also select them as main crops.

India notified that the free import policy of black grams (urad) and pigeon peas (tur) extended up to March 2024, bringing more benefits to the stockholders in the supply chain including growers and exporters. Therefore, they should be selected as the main crops this year, the association mentioned.

Myanmar bagged over

US\$1.4 billion from over 1.9 million tonnes of various pulses exports in the past financial year 2022-2023, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics indicated.

Myanmar primarily exports black grams, green grams and pigeon peas to foreign markets. Of them, black grams and pigeon peas are mostly conveyed to India while green grams are shipped to China and Europe.

India has growing demand and consumption requirements for black grams and pigeon peas. According to a Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and India signed on 18 June 2021, India will import 250,000 tonnes of black grams and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas (tur) from Myanmar for five consecutive years from 2021-2022 financial year to 2025-2026 FY. 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.

Black grams that India primarily purchases are commonly found only in Myanmar, whereas pigeon peas, green grams and chickpeas are grown in African countries and Australia, Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association stated. — NN/EM

# Viet Nam’s food, beverage companies remain upbeat despite downturn

WHILE worries about a possible recession have led to shrinking consumer buying power, the food and beverage businesses in Viet Nam remain optimistic about their performance this year, Vietnam News reported on Monday.

Helped by low franchising fees, Chinese Mixue, whose snowman-logo shops sell ice cream, bubble tea, and a variety of drinks, has reached 1,000 locations



This photo taken on 14 March 2023 shows an engineer checking the control monitor at a Trung Nguyen coffee roastery facility in Viet Nam’s central highlands Buon Ma Thuot city, Daklak province. PHOTO: AFP

in Viet Nam over the past five years, far ahead of other foreign and home-grown brands that had previously dominated the market.

Economic jitters seemed to have also failed to dilute the coffee habits of Vietnamese customers as coffee chain Highland Coffee’s store count has grown 63.5 per cent from 2021 to around 600 shops; Trung Nguyen has almost doubled its stores to 620 from only 308 stores in

early 2021.

Tea and coffee chain Phuc Long, owned by Vietnamese retail giant Masan Group, has expanded quickly from 80 stores in 2021 to more than 900 stores, including 132 flagship stores and more than 770 kiosks through a network of supermarkets and convince stores nationwide.

Unlike the business strategy amid a recession when companies rely on its low-priced menu to

retain consumers, tea and coffee chains plan to ride out the expected economic downturn using digital orders and delivery, according to a survey by iPOS.vn, a provider of software and hardware solutions in the field of restaurant and cafe management.

The report noted that 82.8 per cent of food and beverage companies in Viet Nam have embarked on digital transformation. — Xinhua

## Air travel to soar near record in 2023: industry group



Passengers wait in line to board a KLM Royal Dutch Airlines flight during the SkyTeam Alliance 2023 Sustainable Flight Challenge at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) in Los Angeles, California on 17 May 2023. PHOTO: AFP

AIRLINES will fly 4.35 billion passengers this year, close to the 2019 record as the industry bounces back from the Covid pandemic, an industry group said on Monday.

The sector will also be back in the green, with net profits forecast to reach \$9.8 billion in 2023, or double previous estimates, boosted by the end of China’s Covid restrictions, according to the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The association added that its 2022 losses were half as bad as previously estimated at \$3.6 billion.

“Airline financial performance in 2023 is beating expectations,” IATA director general Willie Walsh said in a statement during the association’s annual general meeting in Istanbul.

“Stronger profitability is supported by several positive developments. China lifted Covid-19 restrictions earlier in the year than anticipated,” Walsh said. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NITHI BHUM VOY.NO. (273N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NITHI BHUM VOY.NO. (273N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-6-2023** 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

## France announces massive state aid to chips factory

FRANCE is ploughing 2.9 billion euros (\$3.1 billion) of public money into a factory to make microchips, officials said on Monday, heating up a global race for the lucrative market.

Europe and the United States have both passed so-called Chips Acts to boost investment in the sector as fears grow that China could gain a stranglehold on global supply.

Chips, also known as semiconductors, are vital for every electronic device, from smartphones to electric cars, and con-

trol of supply chains has become a major priority for the world’s biggest trading blocs.

France’s economy ministry said the state aid was the biggest subsidy it had offered since 2017.

The funding would go towards a 7.5-billion-euro project announced last year to be run by European multinational ST-Microelectronics and US company GlobalFoundries.

The European Chips Act has loosened the rules on state aid that usually forbid such gen-

erous outlays, as it aims to unlock 43 billion euros of investment and for the bloc to produce 20 per cent of the world’s chips by 2030.

Europe currently accounts for less than 10 per cent of the global total, with most of the world’s chips being made in Taiwan.

The French ministry said the project, in the Alpine town of Crolles near Grenoble in southeastern France, would boost European production capacity by almost six per cent by 2028. — AFP

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY  
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE  
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)  
(9/2023-2024)

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

| Sr No. | Tender No.       | Description                                                                 | Remarks |
|--------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| (1)    | DMP/L-147(23-24) | Accessories for Volvo Tractor (73) Items                                    | Ks      |
| (2)    | DMP/L-148(23-24) | Accessories for F-1600 Mud Pump EX ZJ 70L Drilling Rig (12) Items           | Ks      |
| (3)    | DMP/L-149(23-24) | Accessories for SJS Serva Cementing Unit (35) Items                         | Ks      |
| (4)    | DMP/L-150(23-24) | Accessories for F 1000, K 700 and W 440 Mud Pump EX Drilling Rig (3) Groups | Ks      |
| (5)    | DMP/L-024(23-24) | 400-510 KW Gas Engine Generator Complete CAP (Retender)                     | Ks      |
| (6)    | DMP/L-066(23-24) | Welding Electrode (2) Items (Retender)                                      | Ks      |

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qtty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from **6 June, 2023** at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications and Commercial Quotation with Original Bid Bond in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than 13:00 pm on 20, June 2023.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time – **20-6-2023, 13:00 pm**

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ph No. + 95 67 – 411206

# GLOBAL AFFAIRS

## Pope's peace envoy heads to Ukraine

ITALIAN Cardinal Matteo Zuppi headed to Kyiv Monday as Pope Francis' peace envoy for two-day talks with the Ukrainian authorities on the war with Russia, the Vatican said.

Zuppi, the head of the Italian bishops' conference, "will pay a visit to Kyiv as Envoy of the Holy Father" from 5 to 6 June, it said in a statement.

"The main purpose of this initiative is to listen in depth to

the Ukrainian authorities about possible ways to achieve a just peace and support gestures of humanity that contribute to easing tensions," it said.

The Vatican said in May that Francis had asked Zuppi to lead a peace mission to try and "help ease tensions in the conflict in Ukraine".

The move came "in the hope, which the Holy Father has never given up, that this can in-

itiate paths of peace," Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni said at the time.

Francis first spoke of a possible mission on his return from a trip to Hungary in April, though gave no details.

Zuppi, 67, was elected head of the Italian Episcopal Conference last year, and hails from the Sant'Egidio Catholic Community, which specializes in diplomacy and peace efforts. — AFP



President of the Episcopal Conference of Italy, Italian Cardinal Matteo Maria Zuppi (C) attends the 77th General Assembly of the Italian Bishops' Conference (CEI) on 25 May 2023 in The Vatican. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Heavy rain, floods kill 3, destroy 990 houses in central Japan

FLOODS have claimed three lives and damaged about 990

houses after record torrential rains pounded a wide swath of



People use their umbrellas to shelter from the rain as they walk through Shibuya district in Tokyo on 2 June 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

Japan's Pacific coast, local media reported Monday.

In central Japan's prefectures of Aichi and Shizuoka, where the typhoon brought record heavy rains starting Friday, damage confirmation and restoration were still underway, according to the national news agency Kyodo.

A 74-year-old male resident from Iwata City, who was earlier reported missing, was confirmed dead on Monday, according to local police.

His body was found on the coast of Fukuroi in Shizuoka prefecture on Sunday, which brought the death toll to three in both prefectures. — Xinhua

## 'The more, the merrier': Trump boosted by bloated 2024 race

WITH three denizens of the Republican establishment launching presidential campaigns this week, the race for the 2024 nomination has begun to resemble the sprawling 2016 field that proved a huge boon to unfancied outsider Donald Trump.

This time the 76-year-old tycoon is the runaway front-runner but the conventional wisdom remains the same: the larger the chasing pack, the more likely he is to win by dividing the anti-Trump vote.

Former New Jersey governor Chris Christie, who was trounced by Trump in 2016, is

expected to launch a fresh tilt at the White House on Tuesday, a day ahead of ex-vice-president Mike Pence and North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum.

Christie, who will announce in New Hampshire, presents a novel challenge as the only contender so far willing to land genuinely damaging blows on Trump as he makes his case for four years in the Oval Office.

The 60-year-old Newark native has already begun needling his former friend, arguing last month that the former reality TV star and real estate tycoon was "afraid" of debating serious opponents. — AFP

## EU diplomat expresses solidarity with Gaza victims of last wave of tension

AN EU diplomat on Sunday expressed solidarity with the victims of the last wave of tension that broke out in May between Israel and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) in the Gaza Strip.

"The reason we are here is to find out what happened and to talk with the affected people and their families," Sven Kuhn von Burgsdorff, the EU Representative in Palestine who chaired a high-ranking delegation of representatives of EU missions, told reporters near one of the destroyed houses in the northern Gaza Strip.

The EU delegation, consisting of 20 ambassadors,

came to Gaza from Israel to assess the humanitarian situation. They toured destroyed houses and listened to testimonies.

"The European missions' representatives expressed their condolences to the victims of the tension, and it became clear from our information that the victims were mainly civilians," Burgsdorff said.

He added that the European delegation "are looking forward to completing a report explaining what happened" during the last tit-for-tat military escalation between Israel and the PIJ. — Xinhua

## Snowden leaks at 10 years: more data more controls

IN 2013 US intelligence contractor Edward Snowden stunned the world with revelations that the massive US spy apparatus was secretly sucking up communications and private data on people around the world, from the lowest social media poster to the phone calls of German chancellor Angela Merkel.

Snowden showed no one was safe from electronic prying by the National Security Agency, least of all Americans, whose private communications were supposedly constitutionally protected.

Ten years later, Snowden sits in exile in Moscow and US intelligence still collects huge amounts of private electroni-

cally stored and transmitted information.

But his revelations had lasting impact, advancing privacy protections in Europe and America and accelerating use of encryption. After Snowden's leaks, "in almost every Western democracy, there was a historic debate about the relationship of citizens and the state mass surveillance programmes, whether oversight of those programmes was adequate," said Ben Wizner of the American Civil Liberties Union and an attorney for Snowden.

### Global digital dragnet

A boyish 29-year-old NSA systems administrator, Snowden downloaded thou-

sands of NSA and CIA documents showing the extent of the global data collection dragnet that took off after the 11 September 2001 attacks.

Documents that Snowden gave to journalists in secret Hong Kong meetings showed how US intelligence worked with Britain's GCHQ and other agencies to build files on billions of people without any grounds for suspicion.

They showed the US was able to tap into the phones of allied leaders and that the NSA had a programme called Prism that collected user data from internet giants like Google and Facebook — with and without their agreement. — AFP

## US and India agree defence industry cooperation plan

THE United States and India agreed a roadmap for military industrial cooperation Monday, as New Delhi seeks to reduce its reliance on key arms supplier Russia in the face of tensions with China.

“We established an ambitious new roadmap for defence industrial cooperation, which will fast track high priority co-development and co-production projects,” US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin said as he wrapped up an overnight visit to New Delhi.

But analysts warned that such pledges needed to be backed up by concrete action.

Moscow and New Delhi

have been allies for decades, with Russia by far India’s biggest arms supplier.

Now India -- which has not condemned Russia for its invasion of Ukraine -- is looking to diversify, both by broadening its sources of imports and ramping up domestic production.

Western countries, including the United States and France, are negotiating multi-billion-dollar contracts, and diplomats say India is placing a high priority on technology transfer as part of any deal.

The agreement will fast-track technology cooperation and co-production in areas including air combat and land

mobility systems, the “undersea domain”, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, the US Defence Department said.

The initiative “aims to change the paradigm for cooperation between US and Indian defence sectors”, it said, and “could provide India access to cutting-edge technologies and support India’s defence modernization plans”.

India has displaced China as the world’s most populous country this year, and relations between the Asian giants have been strained since a deadly high-altitude border clash in June 2020. — AFP



This handout photograph taken on 5 June 2023 and released by the Indian Ministry of Defence shows India’s Defence Minister Rajnath Singh (R) and US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin (L) during their meeting in New Delhi. **PHOTO: INDIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE / AFP**

## Indonesia volcano draws thousands for ritual sacrifice

THOUSANDS of Hindu worshippers scaled an active Indonesian volcano on Monday to toss livestock, food and other offerings into its smoking crater.



This aerial picture shows members of the Tengger sub-ethnic group gathering to present offerings at the crater’s edge of the active Mount Bromo volcano as part of the Yadnya Kasada festival in Probolinggo, East Java province on 5 June 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

ter in a centuries-old religious ceremony.

Swarming the thin rim around the basin of Mount Bromo, devotees heaved goats,

chickens and vegetables slung across their backs up to the dusty peak as part of the Yadnya Kasada festival.

Every year Tengger tribe members from surrounding highlands gather at the top of the volcano -- famed for its stunning sunrise views -- in hope of pleasing their gods and bringing luck to the Tenggerese, an Indigenous group in eastern Java.

Slamet, a 40-year-old farmer who like many Indonesians goes by only one name, brought a baby cow as an offering.

“We have a lot of cows back home and this one can be considered excess, so we are bringing it here... to return it back to God,” he told AFP. — AFP

## Cambodian PM says AUKUS becoming concern for ASEAN over nuclear proliferation

CAMBODIAN Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen said on Monday that the tripartite AUKUS alliance, a military pact among the United States, Britain and Australia, is becoming a concern for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Under the AUKUS alliance, which was announced in September 2021, Australia will be able to build nuclear-powered submarines with technology provided by the United States and Britain.

“The small-scale alliance relevant to nuclear-powered submarines among the US,

Britain and Australia is becoming a concern for ASEAN and countries in the region because ASEAN is a nuclear weapon-free zone, and we oppose nuclear weapon proliferation,” he said in a speech during the graduation ceremony of nearly 6,000 students at the Royal University of Law and Economics.

Hun Sen said this military alliance is the “starting point of a very dangerous arms race” in the region.

“I think if this situation continues, the world will face a bigger danger,” he said. — Xinhua

## Trains resume service 51 hours after deadly India crash

PASSENGER and freight trains were running again on Monday at the site of India’s deadliest train disaster in decades, which officials said was caused by failures linked to signal systems.

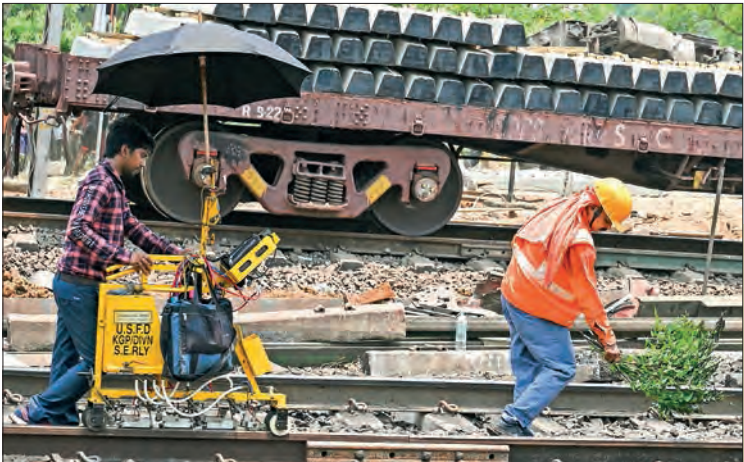
Trains rumbled past the debris of smashed carriages from Friday night’s crash near Balasore in the eastern state of Odisha, where at least 275 people were killed and hundreds injured.

Officials had initially re-

ported 288 deaths, but the Odisha state government has since revised the toll to 275 after some bodies were mistakenly counted twice.

Of the 1,175 injured, 382 were still being treated in hospital, authorities said on Sunday.

However, many fear the death toll could still rise with medical centres overwhelmed by the number of casualties, many in serious condition.



Green netting was erected on either side of the tracks, shielding the crumpled carriages pushed down the embankment from the view of travelling passengers. — AFP

Workers inspect the newly restored tracks at the accident site of a recent three-train collision near Balasore, about 200 kilometres (125 miles) from the state capital Bhubaneswar in the eastern state of Odisha, on 5 June 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

Pope's peace  
envoy heads to  
Ukraine

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# SPORT

## 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.

## Modric, Lloris among 'more than 10' Saudi targets: source

SAUDI Arabia is hoping to lure a swathe of world-famous footballers including Luka Modric and Hugo Lloris, a source close to the negotiations has told AFP, after snagging Cristiano Ronaldo and launching bids for Lionel Messi and Karim Benzema.

"More than 10" seasoned players including N'Golo Kante and Roberto Firmino have been approached, the source said, by the oil-rich kingdom which has ambitions of hosting the World Cup and is betting on sport to help revamp its austere image.

According to Saudi sources and state media this weekend, delegations flew to Paris and

Madrid to secure the signatures of Messi and Benzema after their final games for Paris Saint-Germain and Real Madrid.

But the Saudis are also "in contact with more than 10 players, many of them won the World Cup or the Champions League, to join the Saudi league next season", said the source close to the talks, on condition of anonymity.

In addition to Messi, "the list includes Benzema, (Sergio) Ramos, (Angel) Di Maria, Modric, Hugo Lloris, Kante, Firmino, (Jordi) Alba and (Sergio) Busquets". — AFP

## MIU beat VUC 7-2 in Futsal League Champion Play-Off match

MIU FC shaped a big 7-2 win against VUC FC in the first Champion Play-Off match of MFF Rhino Futsal League 2022 played in Yangon yesterday.

VUC FC won 2-1 in the first half, but MIU FC made a comeback action to end the match with a sweet victory.

As MIU FC won that match, they will have to play again in the second match of the final stage of the Champion Play-Off Match on 7 June.

If MIU FC wins that match again, MIU FC will win the championship, and if VUC FC wins, the final match of the Champion Play-Off Match will be played again on 9 June, the Myanmar Football Federation stated.

The entrance fee for the upcoming Champion Play-Off match is set at K2,000 and will be shown live on the MFF Futsal Facebook Page, the MFF stated. — KZL



MIU FC player (blue) controls the ball with his heel during the Champion Play-Off match of the MFF Rhino Futsal League 2022 against VUC FC on 5 June 2023. PHOTO: MFF

## XII ASEAN Paralympic Games: Myanmar wins gold medals in swimming, track & field

MYANMAR sports teams won gold, silver and bronze medals in swimming and track and field events in the XII ASEAN Paralympic Games held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, yesterday.

Track and field competitions were held at Morodok Techo National Stadium Complex, Phnom Penh, Cambodia at 8:00 am and Myanmar's Htet Htet Aye picked the first gold medal in Women's F55

Petanque Event by beating second-placed Viet Nam and third-placed the Philippines.

Next, Sein Phaw garnered another gold medal in the Women's F64 shotput event with a win over Indonesia (first-runner-up), and Cambodia (second-runner-up).

Law Lar Win grabbed the silver medal in the Women's T64 long jump event while Wai Wai Thin picked another silver in the Women's T44 long jump event.

Soe Wai, Aung Myint Htay, Thura Zaw, and Aung Myint Myat won one bronze medal in the Men's Relay (4x100) metres Event.

In turn, Aung Myint Myat grabbed another gold medal for Myanmar in the Men's Freestyle 400-Metre Swimming Event.

Next, Min Htoo picked one more gold in the Men's 50 Breast Stroke Metre Swimming Event.

Next Myanmar's No Zin and Kyaw Htoo won one silver medal each in the Men's 200-metre freestyle and 50-metre back stroke Swimming events.

Myanmar has won four gold medals, seven silver medals, and two bronze medals totalling 13 medals in the XII ASEAN Paralympic Games. — MNA/KZL



One of the Myanmar's gold medallists receives the gold medal in the XII ASEAN Paralympic Games yesterday.