THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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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.

# Adequate manufacturing from regions and states will help stabilize the commodity prices: Senior General

State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses the meeting on enhanced manufacturing of basic foodstuffs on 12 June 2023 in Nay Pyi Taw.

PRODUCERS need to arrange appropriate prices of goods for the consumer people, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting on increased manufacturing of basic foodstuffs at the SAC Chairman Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

In his address, the Senior General said it is assumed that monetary manipulation and attempts of seeking political gain of unscrupulous persons affect higher prices of goods than the appropriate prices.

The Senior General highlighted that although there are many ways and means for reducing the production cost, these cannot be implemented cent per cent. Higher transport charges, high prices of fuel and difficulties in transportation based on security measures trigger higher prices of commodities. The transport charge for goods by car is still higher. Rail transportation can reduce transport costs. As such, authorities of regions and states have to emphasize public transport measures.

All regions and states have to effectively spend capital from the State economic promotion fund on operating agriculture and livestock farming tasks so as to contribute to the food supply of relevant regions. Regions and states need to produce a sufficient volume of food supplies to prioritize the balance of supply and demand.

The Senior General stressed the need to efficiently utilize the land plots for agriculture and livestock farming tasks in regions and states. Only when they operate systematic agriculture and livestock farms will the volume of products increase.

The Senior General underscored that it is necessary to consider a reform process for the retail trading of commodities. In a bid to reduce commodity prices, the production volume must be raised for setting appropriate prices of goods in the country.

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# Myanmar Daily Weather Report

**(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 12 June 2023)**

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 13 June 2023:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing and Mandalay Regions, fairly widespread in Magway Region and (Northern and Southern) Shan, Chin and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavyfalls in Taninthayi Region and Rakhine and Mon States and isolated heavyfalls in Upper Sagaing, Magway, Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Squalls with rough seas are likely at times in off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35-40 mph. Wave height will be about 8-10 feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Increase of rain in Upper Sagaing, Bago and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Shan, Kayin and Mon States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 June 2023:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 June 2023:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 June 2023:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

## Second 10 Days Weather Forecast for June 2023

**Issued on 11-06-2023**

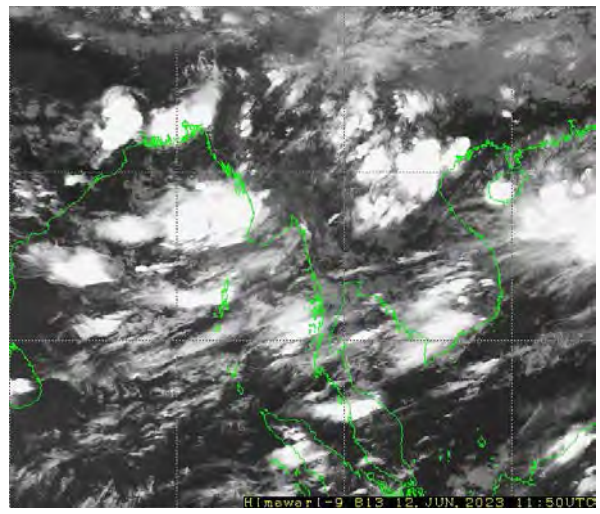
**Bay of Bengal Conditon**

A low pressure area may form over the Bay of Bengal. Monsoon will be strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**Rain condition and Rainy Day**

Rain or thundershowers will be above normal in Upper Sagaing, Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Northern and Eastern Shan, Chin, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, below normal in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Regions, and about normal in Lower Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and Southern Shan and Rakhine States.

Rainy days are expected about 7 to 10 days in Upper Sagaing, East Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayin, Mon States and 3 to 6 days in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, West Bago Regions and Kayah State.—DMH




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

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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*

## MSMEs encouraged to substitute imported goods and increase exportation

— It is necessary to encourage rural businesses called agriculture and livestock farms.
-- If rural people develop their socioeconomic lives, the demand for rural businesses will increase.
-- If so, money circulation will improve, and the State economy will develop.
-- As such, MSME businesses are being encouraged to substitute imported goods and increase the export volume.

*(Excerpts from the discussion by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at a meeting with MSME businesspersons of Kachin State held on 13 December 2022)*

# Adequate manufacturing from regions and states will ...

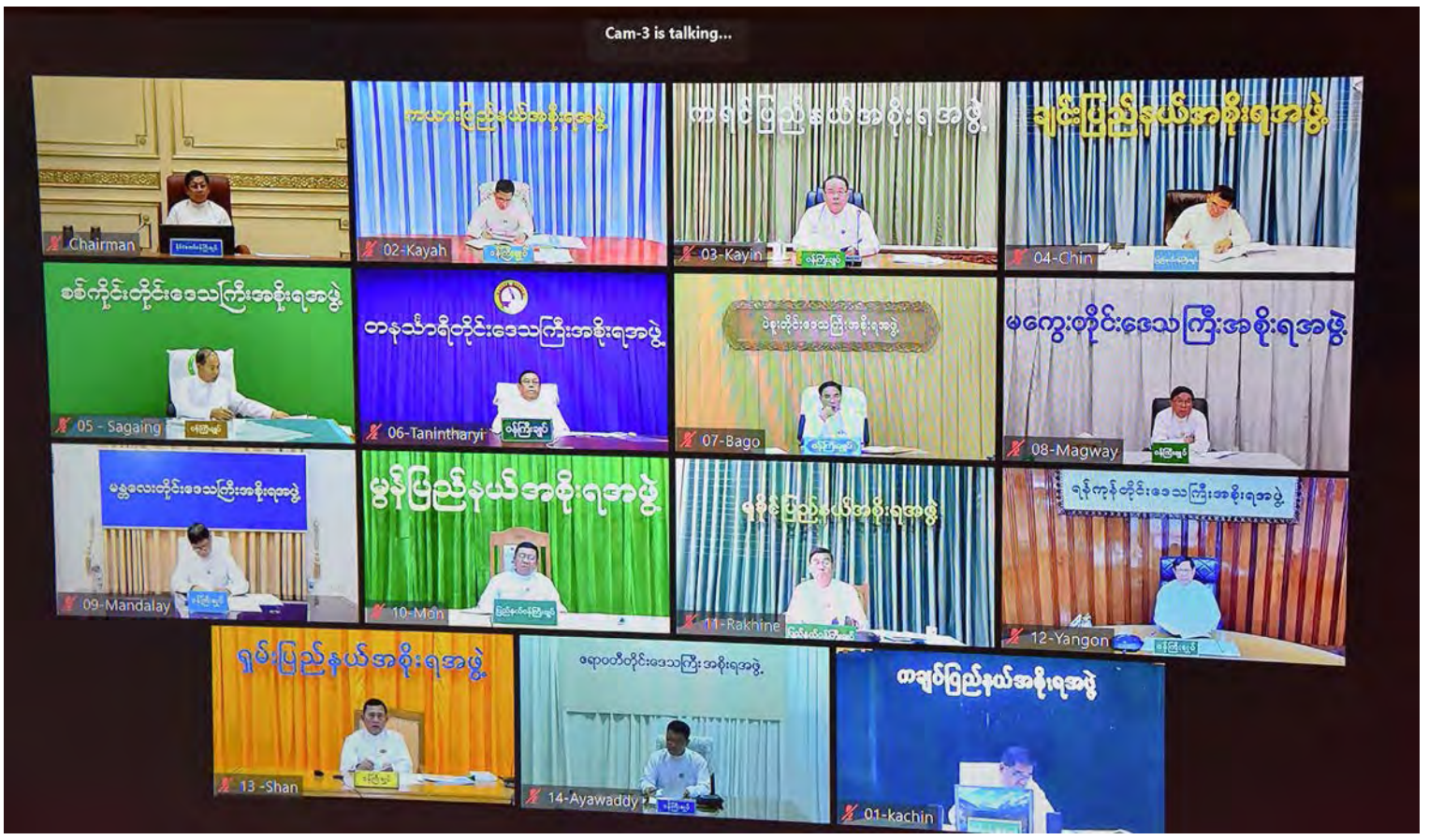
FROM PAGE-1

Deputy Minister for Commerce U Nyunt Aung reported on plans to ensure correct commodity prices and flow of commodities.

The Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, region and state chief ministers presented clarifications on arrangements for region-wise food sufficiency, production, and efforts to increase the production of agriculture and livestock farming products through the State economic promotion fund.

Council members, Union ministers, senior military officers and deputy ministers reported on the transport of goods by train, ship and plane, taking severe action against greedy businesspersons who raise prices of goods due to their selfishness, operation of military-owned agricultural and livestock farms of regiments and units to sell products to families of the Tatmadaw and locals at reduced prices, and efforts of MSMEs to develop commodity production so as to meet the local demand.

With regard to the reports, the Senior General said that it is necessary to use rail transport and waterway transport for unimportant goods. Aviation service should be used in the transport of commodities. It is necessary to control brokerages in regions and states. If all the feedstuffs can be produced at home, such an act will reduce the high prices of meat, fish and eggs to some extent.




The chief ministers of 14 states and regions join the meeting online yesterday.

Food sufficiency is of importance for the Union. Hence, not only paddy but other crops must be cultivated to have a larger per-acre yield. If manufacturing measures are taken through the combined cooperative system, success will be achieved.

In his concluding remarks, the Senior General said that all regions and states have to carry out development tasks. To do so, they have to manage manufacturing to earn income. Products must be high quality not only for the domestic market but for foreign ones.

Manufacturing must be controllable for commodity prices. Manufacturing can contribute to the smooth circulation of currency and the development of the regional economy and the State economy.

Taking lessons from weaknesses in the past, it is necessary to strive for the improvement of the State economy in a correct way. Adequate manufacturing from regions and states will help stabilize commodity prices. Producers need to arrange appropriate prices of goods for the consumer people. Although prices of inputs such as fuel and fertilizers decline more than the previous year, prices of commodities are still higher.

The Senior General underlined that the manufacturing of goods must be raised for ensuring a strong currency value in Myanmar and a lower inflation rate. Primarily, it is necessary to control existing commodity prices based on increased production. — MNA/TTA

## 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.

## Daily newspapers available online

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

*News and Periodicals Enterprise*

# Union Ministers inspect rehabilitation processes in Sittway Tsp

Union Ministers led by Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung inspect the restoration of the damaged U Raj Mingala Bridge that connects Sanpya ward and Natseik village of Ponnagyun Township yesterday.

THE donation ceremony of water purifiers and accessories to Sittway University by the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) and the launching ceremony of the soy milk feeding project for students of basic education schools in Sittway Township were held at the convocation hall of Sittway University yesterday.

Union Ministers Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, U Myo Thant and Dr Thet Thet Khine, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin, Deputy Ministers, departmental officials, Chairman of MCEF U Shein Win and members, Rector and members of the faculties of Sittway University, township education officers, headmasters, teachers and students of basic education schools of Sittway Township attended the events.

During the ceremonies, Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung expressed words of thanks to those who actively participated in rehabilitation processes in Mocha-hit Rakhine State together with the government.

It is such a wonderful activity as the MCEF participates in education and health-related rehabilitation processes in Rakhine State, donates water purifiers and launches soy milk feeding programmes for children across the nation. Access to clean water is crucial after the storm. The government is also arranging to ensure clean water for storm victims.

He then expressed gratitude to MCEF for its donations to Rakhine State.

The MCEF Chairman clarified the donation and handed over K35 million worth of water purifiers and related materials for Sittway University and soy milk feeding programme books for basic education students to Deputy Minister of Education Dr Moe Zaw Tun.

Then, Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and party inspected the repairing of buildings of Sittway University, a learning session for students and a demonstration of grinding soybean.

On arrival at No 7 BEHS in Padalade Village of Sittway Township, the Union minister and party observed the completed maintenance of school buildings, classrooms and school compound. They then gave vegetable biryani meals to the headmistress.

They went to BEHS (Branch) of Amyintkyun Village and inspected the school compounds and provided backpacks and vegetable biryani to students.

They then headed to the rural health centre in Kuntaung Village of Ponnagyun Township to inspect the healthcare services of medics and they comforted patients and provided vegetable biryani meals.

They also paid homage to Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pandita of Myoma Pariyatti Monastery in Ponnagyun Township and Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nandasara of Metta Ooyin Parahita Monastery and donated offerings and cash and regular cash assistance of the Department of Social Welfare for Parahita Monastery.

They then inspected the repairing of school buildings, classrooms and learning sessions of BEHS (Branch) in Alelsu Ward and BEHS in Sanpya Ward of Ponnagyun Township and provided the needed assistance.

During the visits to schools, the Union Minister said the government is focusing on the development of the education sector and supporting the needed assistance to open the schools in Rakhine State as usual in school opening season despite the damages due to Mocha. The students should try hard now to pursue higher education by joining the universities that they like when they complete their basic education. To do so, they should have a sound health condition to study well and do exercises daily to be fit.

They also checked the Mocha-hit U Raj Mingala bridge that connects the Sanpya ward of Ponnagyun Township and Natseik village and instructed responsible personnel to conduct maintenance as quickly as possible.

On arrival at the industrial training school for young ethnic people in Ponnagyun Township, they oversaw the maintenance and gave proper instructions.

Then, the Union Minister and party attended the collective cultivation ceremony and handover ceremony of monsoon paddy seeds held at Kuntaung Village of Ponnagyun Township.

Speaking at the event, the Union Minister said the government provides the needed assistance for the rehabilitation processes of Rakhine State in a timely manner and it will also help in cultivation processes and fulfil the need for rice seedlings to the local farmers to launch the agricultural activities in time in monsoon. Only peace and tranquillity bring momentum to rehabilitation processes. Therefore, all should work together for the peace, tranquillity and development of Rakhine State.

Then, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Tin Htut clarified the collective cultivation and monsoon paddy seeds handover ceremony.

The Union ministers and deputy ministers also provided bags of paddy seeds to the farmers and enjoyed the demonstration of cultivation using the tractors.

In the evening, the Union Minister and party went to Kaladan Multi-Modal Port of Sittway and inspected the departure of the Kaladan II ship that will go to MraukU, Myebon and Minbya townships and the Kaladan VI ship that will head to Rathedaung, Buthidaung and Maungtaw townships carrying relief items including teak and bags of rice. — MNA/KTZH

Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and party warmly greet students at the BEHS (Branch) in Alelsu Ward of Ponnagyun Township yesterday.

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

# Union Commerce Minister attends BIMSTEC Business Conclave

UNION Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo, currently in Kolkata in India to attend the BIMSTEC Business Conclave at the invitation of the Ministry of External Affairs of India and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry-FICCI, on 12 June attended the trade and investment opportunities seminar sponsored by the Engineering Export Promotion Council-EEPC of the Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Union Minister U Aung Naing Oo joins the trade and investment opportunities seminar in Kolkata, India yesterday.

The seminar was attended by Union Commerce Minister U Aung Naing Oo, Director-General U Thant Sin Lwin of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, the UMFCCI chairman, the chairperson of the Myanmar Pulses and Sesame Entrepreneurs Association and traders, EEPC Chairman Mr P K Shah, Vice-Chairman Mr Aakash Shah and Regional Affairs Chairman Mr B D Agarwal, EEPC officials, Indian investors, businesspersons and guests among others.

During the meeting, Union Minister U Aung Naing Oo discussed the situation and prospects of boosting bilateral trade, opportunities to enhance investments, and cooperation on the use of Kyats and Rupees in bilateral trade. He also answered the queries raised by the attendees.

Afterwards, the Union minister visited the ETG Processing Plant in Kolkata, which is a factory that produces value-added pulses imported from abroad. — MNA/TS

# MoE Union Minister arrives back in Yangon from Kazan, Russian Federation

Union Minister Dr Nyunt Pe is seen being welcomed by officials at Yangon International Airport.

UNION Minister for Education Dr Nyunt Pe and Deputy Permanent Secretary Dr Kyaw San Win arrived back in Yangon on 11 June by air after attending Education Forum held in the Kazan in the Russian Federation and were welcomed back by officials from the Ministry of Education.

Union Minister Dr Nyunt Pe met the Russian education team led by the Minister of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation and discussed matters related to the exchange of students, teachers, and scholars of Russian language teaching, the signing of MOU and the opening of the Russian Language Centre.

The title of the forum was "Shaping the Future" to promote future education was held with the aim of exchanging experiences and opinions and cooperating among education ministers from different countries across the world in Kazan of the Russian Federation and attended by 22 ministers of education and educational representatives. — MNA/TS

# China's humanitarian assistance for Mocha victims arrives

A Tianjin air cargo plane carrying humanitarian assistance from the People's Republic of China for Mocha victims arrived at the Yangon International Airport yesterday morning.

Chairman of the Yangon Region Natural Disaster Management Committee Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and ministers, Chinese Ambassador Mr Chen Hai and officials attended the ceremony to hand over the relief aid held at the airport.

Included in relief supplies that arrived yesterday were 10,000 mosquito nets and 10,000 blankets worth $47,500. — MNA/MKKS

The documentary group photo of the handover event of Chinese humanitarian aid to Mocha victims.

## 40 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 12 June, total figure registers 639,702

MYANMAR'S COVID-19-positive cases rose to 639,702 after 40 new cases were reported on 12 June 2023 according to the Ministry of Health.

Therefore, a total of 10,740,541 laboratory samples were examined and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached 639,702.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached 618,640 including 74 new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered 19,494 on 12-6-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. COVID-19 information can be browsed on the internet page moh.gov.mm of the Ministry of Health. — GNLM

# Senior military officers, officials oversee rehabilitation tasks in Rakhine State

UNDER Section 11 of the Natural Disaster Management Law, the State Administration Council declared the areas damaged by Cyclone Mocha as areas affected by natural disasters and assigned senior military officers to oversee rehabilitation efforts in the areas mentioned in the announcement.

Lt-Gen Lu Aye, currently in Kyaukpyu in Rakhine State, along with officials, provided exercise books and stationaries to students in monasteries in Pikeseik ward and the extended ward and they inspected cleaning processes performed by local Tatmadaw members, Myanmar police force and fire brigade members in district court in Asoeya ward.

Lt-Gen Aye Win, currently in Buthidaung in Rakhine State, along with officials, inspected healthcare services to the locals and provided supplies to representatives from six village-tracts at the office of the Ywama village administrator. Then, he arrived at Sasana Alinyaung monastery and donated corrugated iron sheets, rice and cash donated by the natural disaster management committee.

Brig-Gen Aung Kyaw Moe, currently in Sittway, met locals from Mingan and Satyonsu wards and provided foodstuffs and relief items. — MNA/KZW

Lt-Gen Lu Aye warmly greets schoolchildren while providing school supplies in Kyaukpyu yesterday.

# Tatmadaw relief teams exert rehabilitation efforts

Healthcare services are provided for locals in Mawthee village yesterday.

TO facilitate relief and rehabilitation activities in areas affected by natural disasters, the Tatmadaw has deployed relief teams consisting of local security forces. In cooperation with social relief organizations, they are actively assisting in the affected areas.

Relief teams in Sittway are cooperating with medical staff to provide medical treatments to locals in Mawthee village. Similarly, relief troops in Sittway are cooperating with locals to clean damaged buildings, and fallen trees in Yaychanpyin village in Sittway.

Relief teams in Kyaukpyu cleaned fallen trees in the district court. Similarly, relief teams in MraukU cleaned fallen trees in Shwetaung Monastery and provided healthcare services to locals in Zinamanaung Monastery.

The relief teams that arrived in Kyauktaw cleaned fallen trees in urban areas. — MNA/KZW

# Foodstuffs, commodities sold at fairer prices in Mocha-hit Sittway

TATMADAW members of the local battalions under the Western Command and officials sell essential foodstuffs at lower prices for the convenience of residents and departmental staff affected by Cyclone Mocha in Sittway to buy foodstuffs at fairer prices.

Foodstuffs such as rice, edible oil, salt, meat, fish, egg, dairy products, vegetables, onions, garlic, and products of Tatmadaw factories and MEC such as instant noodles, biscuits, and canned food in addition to the foodstuffs, electronic devices and construction materials of private entrepreneurs were sold at lower prices than the market prices at U Ottama Park in Sittway yesterday.

Locals and families of the departmental staff enjoyed buying foodstuffs and expressed thanks to officials for selling them at low prices during difficult times.— MNA /KZW

Sittway residents are seen buying foodstuffs at reasonable prices yesterday.


## Public Notice

1. The Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to effectively curb corruption.
2. The ACC used SMS on the mobile phone to ask the public who seek services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via Short Code No "1111" for feedbacks, including the Public Feedback Programme-PFP.
3. According to the PFP, the right replies of the citizens via Short Code No "1111" will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.
4. Therefore, the public should make a reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at Short Code No "1111" and such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

*Anti-Corruption Commission*
*Answer "1111" to fight against corruption*
*Answer "1111" to improve services*
*Let's work together to eliminate corruption towards prosperity*

# Illegal timbers, fuel oil, machinery and vehicles confiscated

Confiscated illegal goods in Mandalay Region.

THE on-duty teams under the Kachin State Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force captured 12 Kobelco excavators (worth K960 million), six Volvo excavators (worth K480 million), 12 Hyundai excavators (worth K960 million), seven Sany excavators (worth K560 million), three Cat excavators (worth K240 million), a Zoommlion excavator (worth K80 million) and a Sumitomo excavator (worth K80 million) that were ownerless near Kawayang village in Moegaung township on 8 June. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

Similarly, a combined team under Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force confiscated 8,768 gallons of illegal diesel (worth K61,376,000) without official documents from a Moe Myint Kyel oil tanker and a CB which carried the diesel at Paypin jetty on 10 June. The action was taken under Customs Procedures.

A total of 0.21 tonne of illegal teak and 1.992 tonnes of illegal hardwood (worth K1,134,800) was seized in Kyaukdaga and Yedashe townships on 10 June. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

A Toyota Land Cruiser (worth K35 million) without official documents was impounded at the Sakhata 8 combined checkpoint in Shwebo township on 11 June and action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

Therefore, five arrests (estimated value of K4,157,510,800) were made on 8, 10 and 11 June, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

Seized illegal vehicles in Sagaing Region.

# Information about car accident in Ayutthaya, Thailand

THE VOA Burmese Facebook page stated that " four undocumented migrant workers from Myanmar died when their vehicle flipped over and caught fire while trying to evade arrest of police in Ayutthaya, Thailand, on 1 June 2023".

Concerning that case, the labour diplomat in Bangkok of Thailand enquired the Ayutthaya police station about the event, and victims on 4-6-2023 and received the information as follows;

(a) the van carrying nine Myanmar migrant workers from Mae Sot flipped over at full speed at the exit of Ayutthaya and caught fire. Four people including the driver died and six were injured, they were transported to Bang Pa-in Hospital for medical treatment
(b) three Myanmar women and a Thai driver were included in the accident and it was difficult to identify these four deceased people and the DNA tests are being conducted.
(c) the injured people said they paid 25,000-30,000 baht to the brokers in Myanmar to work in Thailand, where their relatives live, by taking buses.

The labour attache is making arrangements to ensure suitable rights for the deceased and injured people by cooperating with the regional police station and to repatriate Myanmar migrant workers after the hearings.

The Ministry of Labour also announced on Myanma Alinn and the Mirror dailies on 13-5-2023 not to go abroad illegally for work as the workers can face human trafficking for illegal entry into Thailand, breaking of human rights, not getting full protection as per the law and other losses in human rights and also released information about going abroad legally as it ensures the protection of workers' rights under the law, it cannot occur human trafficking, the workers can go freely in respective countries and work safely.

The information for oversea employment including the needed data, procedures and lists of licensed oversea employment agencies can be received by contacting Union Territory, Region/state, district, township offices, Department of Labour (head office) Nay Pyi Taw Ph No-167-430183 and 067-430284 in addition to the website of the Ministry of Labour www.mpl.gov.mm, the Safe Migration Telegram Channel and the Safe Migration Facebook Page of the Department of Labour.

As such, the information regarding the actions conducted for the accident of the car that carried undocumented Myanmar nationals in Ayutthaya of Thailand was released.

*Ministry of Labour*

# CBM suspends licences of two exchange counters in Dawei for three months

THE Central Bank of Myanmar announced on 10 June that the licences granted by the CBM to two exchange counters opened in Dawei, Taninthayi Region, were suspended for three months.

Shwe Wei Phone Myint Co Ltd and Shwe Nan Taw Wyn Co Ltd in Dawei, which have been granted the money changer licence by the CBM, did not follow the instructions and violated Section 22 of the Foreign Exchange Management Law. Thus, the CBM has announced that the money changer licences will be suspended for three months starting 9 June under Section 35.

It has also been informed that no purchases, sales, or exchanges of foreign currency are allowed at these two exchange counters.

Also on 19 September 2022, the money changer licence of Family Moe Paing Co Ltd was suspended for three months for not following the instructions issued by the CBM. — TWA/CT

The Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon Branch).

# OPINION

## Improve the socioeconomic life of people with the least unemployment

CURRENTLY, as many developing countries are facing the problems of shortages of employment, if low-income countries are not capable of managing employment and social security provisions, their unemployment problems will worsen, according to a report recently released by the International Labour Organization-ILO.

The unemployed can be defined as persons of workable age seeking jobs and those wishing to do jobs. Types of the unemployed comprise those who were sacked from employment, those who withdrew from employment, those who had experienced employment seeking jobs and those who start seeking jobs.

Number of the unemployed is larger at a time when the State economy is on a downward trend. It is difficult to solve the circle of unemployment. The unemployed are facing depression and social problems due to a long spare time. Unemployment may lead to mental problems, harming the economic, social and health issues of individuals as well as the whole society. Moreover, the unemployed may become victims of human trafficking as a subsequence of shortage of employment.

Relevant governments have to firmly adopt the proper policies on labour and employment affairs so as to solve the labour problems. They have to create new employment opportunities for citizens as part of remedying the downward trend of the State economy without relentless efforts. They need to provide assistance for the loss of socioeconomic life of labour in all kinds of crises on priority while striving for recovery of the economic sector which faced terrible losses.

The report on statistics related to labour affairs released by the Ministry of Labour in March 2023 mentioned that Myanmar faced 0.17 per cent of unemployment rate in 2020, 1.33 per cent in 2021, 2.53 per cent in 2022 and 3.69 per cent in 2023. As the unemployment rate has been gradually increasing since 2020 to date, it is necessary to carefully tackle the unemployment problems of the country.

The outbreak of Covid-19 fuelled the increasing amount of unemployment in Myanmar. Moreover, current complicated problems in the country help raise the number of unemployed. As they cannot seek jobs at home, they go abroad for work. It is a problem of brain drain.

A press release issued by the Ministry of Labour stated that more than 216,000 Myanmar labour went abroad to work from 1 February 2021 to 28 February 2023. Those labour were legally sent to foreign countries with the issuance of the Overseas Worker Identification Card-OWIC. However, the number of other labourers who go to neighbouring countries in various illegal ways is expected to be the larger number.

Relevant governments have to firmly adopt the proper policies on labour and employment affairs so as to solve the labour problems. They have to create new employment opportunities for citizens as part of remedying the downward trend of the State economy without relentless efforts. They need to provide assistance for the loss of socioeconomic life of labour in all kinds of crises on priority while striving for recovery of the economic sector which faced terrible losses.

# ARTICLE

## In Need of a Wolf Warrior

By U AC

Propaganda, misinformation, and fake news have the ability to divide public opinion, fuel violent extremism and hate speech, and, in the long run, erode trust in democratic systems. So far, Myanmar has been so defensive in its approach that the fake news and negativities are drowning out the facts. ILLUSTRATION: **PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/FREEPIK**

WHAT do Jaishankar, Wang Yi and the latest Qin Gang have in common? They belong to the clan of what media termed as the wolf warriors.

Even though internet defines wolf warrior diplomacy as confrontational and combative, with associated policies on social media and in interviews, as well as using physical violence against protestors and dissidents, this approach has been a breath of fresh air for many non-Western countries, trying hard to stand on its own two feet, fighting propaganda and fake news agenda.

Russia has been for years, trying to fight Western agenda. Do you ever notice that most of the villains in Hollywood action movies and in James Bond films are Russians? China created the wolf warrior approach. India now has its own warriors. Even African countries are following suit. We could see how Namibia President talking back aggressively to President of German parliament or Congo President shutting down French's Macron at a press conference, following the examples of the big three. The West simply cannot get rid of their colonial attitudes and the feeling that they are superior beings and hence Asians and Africans should somehow kowtow to them. That innermost feeling propels them into thinking that they always have a right to be above everyone else or be the judge in the international community and have a free-pass to meddle in the internal affairs of other countries.

The Western world participation in internal conflicts of individual nations were undeniable, waging proxy wars or turning countries into failed states, in the context of planting democratic trees that would bear fruits of democracy. Look at Iraq, Syria, Libya in the recent past. I am sure citizens these three beautiful countries are so full enjoying the fruits of democracy tree planted by the Americans. Vietnamese people were once eating oranges given by the Americans during the 1970s, those with the term 'agent' in front.

According to a recent article in the Economist, since 1991, there has been a 12-fold increase in proportion of civil wars involving foreign forces. Foreign meddlers have fewer costs - their own cities not destroyed, so they have less incentive to make peace. Plus, weapons to fuel the wars came mainly from the West, beefing up the coffers of their weapon manufacturers. As Murdoch said at Fox trial, "It's not about red or blue, it's all about the green!".

Civil wars are already concentrated in hot, poor countries; as the climate grows harsher, the belt of bloodshed around the equator will surely grow wider. And based on cost benefit analysis, conflicts outside of the West, created more benefits for the West. Cost is minuscule as most went towards underground activities, rights groups and NGOs, to encourage more infighting and hatred, through propaganda and fake news stories. We always wonder why it took China less than a month to facilitate peace between Saudi and Iran (Sunni and Shia) when it took the West forever. Maybe they do not want them to have peace.

### How about Myanmar?

With all the western world media only having negative views about Myanmar, it is high time that we train our own group of wolf warriors to confront and combat the fake news and undue influence, underneath the veil of democracy. As I mentioned in my previous 'Where the West got it Wrong' article, they refused to even listen to the election's fraud, let alone acknowledge it. They continued to support NNCP terrorists, despite undeniable evidence of their terrorist activities and put forward one sided resolutions, accusations and sanctions against the current administration.

When asked about how Myanmar should respond in such circumstances, ex-FCCJ chairman, Khaldon Azhari said, "Because you are dealing with adversaries who are going to attack regardless of whether you are right or wrong. …. 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." Otherwise, Myanmar keeps on getting bullied by the West as well as some countries of ASEAN.

So far, Myanmar has been so defensive in its approach that the fake news and negativities are drowning out the facts. We need our own pack of wolf warriors, who would fight back, be it at press conferences, meetings, panels or seminars. We need more wolf warriors courageous enough to stand tall in front of a hall full of audience and speak the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. We need fearless fighters who would be proactive to fight for Myanmar's interest all the times.

We do not need civil servants who just issue statements, denying this, objecting that, in the confined spaces of national press. We do not need Associations who would issue statements at government request condemning terror attacks, while not daring to speak at all, in front of an international crowd or explain about the reality in Myanmar to a wider audience. See the empirical evidence of how far being reactive has carried us. Nowhere!

As Reagan said, at the Challenger disaster memorial in 1986, "the future belongs to the braves"! The three great dynasties of kingdoms of Myanmar were started by three brave kings, namely, Anawrahta, Bayint Naung and Alaung Paya. Whether we want to be infamous like King Thi Baw or renowned and celebrated like the former three, it is up our current generations of leaders to determine, how our current strategies and actions would be recorded in history. The future is in our hands. Most of our leaders would agree that the search for a talented pack of wolf warriors is critical, be it a small step yet it would be a giant step towards securing a place for Myanmar to stand tall in this world. ■

## Cheap diabetes drug slashes risk of long COVID, study finds

Metformin is a prescription medication commonly used to treat type 2 diabetes. It belongs to a class of drugs called biguanides and works by reducing the amount of glucose produced by the liver and increasing the body's sensitivity to insulin. PHOTO: PUBLIC DOMAIN

PEOPLE who took a cheap diabetes drug after testing positive for COVID-19 had a 40 per-cent lower risk of getting long COVID, a US-based study said Friday.

The finding was hailed as a potential "landmark" in the fight against the still little-understood condition, which the World Health Organization estimates affects 1 in 10 people who get COVID-19.

The study said it was the first randomized, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial – considered the gold standard in research – to show that taking a drug can prevent long COVID.

It tested a drug called metformin, which was originally developed from the French lilac flower, and has been the most common medication used to treat type 2 diabetes across the world for decades.

This means the drug is known to be safe, as well as being inexpensive and widely available.

The study covered 1,126 overweight or obese people in the United States, half receiving metformin and half a placebo in the days after testing positive for COVID-19.

After 10 months, 35 of the participants who took metformin were diagnosed with long COVID, compared to 58 for the placebo group, representing a 40 per-cent reduction in risk.

The trial was conducted between December 2020 and January 2022, meaning it included the Omicron variant, which research has suggested causes long COVID at a lower rate than previous strains.

The team behind the COVID-OUT trial had previously shown that metformin reduced coronavirus patients' risk of emergency department visits, hospitalizations and death by more than 40 per cent.

Carolyn Bramante, a researcher at the University of Minnesota and the new study's lead author, told AFP that "our data show that metformin reduces the amount of SARS-CoV-2 virus" in patients.

The research was published in the Lancet Infectious Diseases journal.

### 'Profound'

Jeremy Faust, a doctor at Harvard Medical School not involved in the study, said in a linked comment piece that if confirmed, the findings "are profound and potentially landmark" for long COVID.

Frances Williams, an epidemiology professor at King's College London, pointed out that 564 people had to take the drug "to prevent 23 hypothetical cases".

"This means 24 people would need to take metformin to prevent one case of long COVID," she said, adding that this was a lot of drugs to stop such a poorly understood condition.

The researchers cautioned that they did not test metformin on people who had already been diagnosed with long COVID, so the findings did not mean it could be used to treat the condition.

The study also found that the antiparasitic drug ivermectin, which was the subject of misinformation throughout the pandemic, as well as the antidepressant fluvoxamine did not prevent long COVID.

Tens of millions of people have been estimated to have had long COVID, in which numerous and sometimes debilitating symptoms last or recur three months after infection that can then drag on for years.

The most common symptoms include fatigue, breathlessness, and a lack of mental clarity called brain fog.

*Source: AFP* ■

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

## MCEF donates water purifiers, related materials to Mocha-affected Sittway University

The deputy minister for education presents a certificate of honour to the MCEF chair for the donations of the latter (L) to the Sittway University yesterday.

THE Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) donated water purifiers and related materials to the Sittway University affected by Cyclone Mocha at the convocation hall of the university at 9 am on 12 June.

Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung gave his opening speech at the ceremony, and MCEF Chairman U Shein Win clarified the donation.

Then they continued the programme of donating soybean milk to basic education schools in Sittway.

Afterwards, Deputy Education Minister Dr Moe Zaw Htun accepted the documents on the water treatment plant worth K35 million and the soybean milk feeding project handed over by the MCEF and the certificates of honour. Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin gave a word of thanks.

Later, the students present at the ceremony were fed soybean milk, and the MCEF Chairman stated that the MCEF is planning to feed children from basic education schools soy milk for one month.

At present soy milk will be fed to children of the schools in township headquarters, and later it is planned to feed the children of basic education schools in the townships of the state. — TWA/CT

## CB Bank ATM allows daily withdrawal limit to K1 million for users

CB Bank recently announced that CB Bank ATM users can withdraw up to K1 million per day.

For the convenience of CB Bank's customers, it was announced through their social media page that the amount that can be withdrawn from CB Bank's ATMs throughout Myanmar has been increased starting 12 June.

Users can withdraw up to K1 million from CB Bank's ATM daily, and in addition, cash withdrawals can also be made with MPU cards of other banks according to the limits of relevant banks. —TWA/KZW

An announcement of increasing withdrawal amount of cash seen for users of CB Bank ATM.

MoIP personnel enumerate household census at a family house.

## Above 87% of nationwide demographic survey work completed

ACCORDING to the data from the Ministry of Immigration and Population, more than 87 per cent of the field survey work for the ground population census has been completed in all regions and states.

The current statistics gathered by regions and states were checked by the officials of the township immigration offices, filled into the e-ID server online, and corrections on differences in the information are being made.

The ministry is also conducting surveys in some townships that remain to be surveyed due to the security measures. The ministry conducted a household census of 11.9 million households compared with the list extracted by the e-ID software and 2.8 million households from the ground survey, accounting for 87.92 per cent of completion rate as of 31 May 2023. — TWA/CT

## MoEA invites tenders from national entrepreneurs to upgrade Union National Races Village

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs, national entrepreneurs will be invited to open tenders for upgrading the Union National Races Village in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region.

The upgrading of the village will be made in the 2023–2024 financial year, and the repair work of the labyrinth circuit and the paths in the bamboo forest at the deer farm in the village, fountain installation work, and dredging works near the jetty will also be carried out.

The entrance of the Union National Races Village.

These activities will be implemented with union funds and capital expenditures, and national entrepreneurs have been invited to tender. The Union National Races Village started to sell the tender proposals on 12 June, and the proposals must be submitted by 27 June. — TWA/CT

# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Sugar price on upward spiral

The rise in local sugar prices is attributed to the high sugar global market price at a current level of US$680 per tonne. The photo shows the production of raw sugar at the sugar mill.

THE price of sugar continued its upward trend in the domestic market and it touched a high of about K3,300 per viss.

The rise in local sugar prices is attributed to the high sugar global market price at a current level of $680 per tonne.

Additionally, low stock in the domestic market and lack of sugar import from foreign markets drove the price up.

Following the soaring sugar price, intending to facilitate sugarcane growers, Ngwe Yee Pale Sugar Company has planned to contribute K200,000 per acre in advance for those new sugarcane growers for the 2023-2024 season.

In the 2023-2024 season, new advanced machines will be added. Moreover, sugarcane expansion is also expected on account of soaring sugar prices. That being so, sugar export will grow for sure, according to Myanmar Sugar and Sugarcane Products Association.

Myanmar's annual sugar production is estimated at 450,000 tonnes. Myanmar earlier sent sugar to China and Viet Nam beyond self-sufficiency. At present, it is delivered to Viet Nam only, said U Win Htay, vice chair of the association.

Sugar export to China via border was conducted under the state-level Memorandum of Understanding. However, it came to a halt suddenly due to the COVID-19 policy in China. Therefore, the sugar industry called for a government-to-government agreement to legally export sugar to China under quota, he continued.

At present, Myanmar's sugar is shipped to Viet Nam and it can be granted tax exemption by presenting the Certificate of Origin. Only three registered Myanmar companies are entitled to sugar exports to Viet Nam so far.

Sugarcane is commonly found in the upper Sagaing Region, followed by the northern Shan State. It is also found in the western and eastern Bago Region, Yangon Region and Mandalay Region.

The sugarcane is grown in December-January. It can be harvested from November to February of the following years. The sugarcane growing rotation cycle lasts four years in Myanmar. — NN/EM

## Palm oil set for second weekly decline

A vendor is seen measuring cooking oil for sale.

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market heads for another weekly decline, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The reference price was set at K3,790 per viss from 5 to 11 June. For the week ending 18 June, the price was set lower at K3,750 per viss. The figures showed a decrease of K40 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, palm oil is sold at a higher price in the wholesale market.

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 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


## Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was reconstituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

The following telephone numbers, fax and email address can be reached to safely report information in connection with illegal trade.

Auto telephone number - 067 409 883
Mobile phone - 09 404339969
Fax - 067 409 886
Email address - antiillegaltradeinfo@gmail.com

*Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee*

## Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was reconstituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

Regarding the "request for money from departmental organizations in conducting trade", the following numbers can be reached to safely report such information.

Auto telephone number - 067 409 881
Mobile phone - 09 699611116
Fax - 067 409 887
Email address - antiillegaltradeoffice@gmail.com

*Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee*

Advertise with us/ Hot Line : 09974424848

# ECONOMY
## WORLD

# Saudi FM lauds growing China-Arab cooperation as business conference opens in Riyadh

This photo taken on 11 June 2023 shows the opening ceremony of the 10th Arab-China Business Conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. **PHOTO: SPA VIA XINHUA**

SAUDI Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud said on Sunday that the 10th Arab-China Business Conference is an opportunity to consolidate the historical Arab-China friendship, build a shared future that will benefit both sides, and promote peace and development in the world.

The minister made the remarks at the opening ceremony of the conference, which kicked off in the Saudi capital of Riyadh on Sunday.

The Saudi minister underlined the dedication by Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud to strengthening the long-standing and advanced partnership between the Arab countries and China in all vital investment fields.

He added that the theme of the conference "collaborating for prosperity" highlights the great importance, potential, compatibility and common vision that underlies the investment and trade relations between the Arab world and China.

China is the largest trading partner of Arab countries, and the volume of trade exchange between the two sides reached 430 billion US dollars in 2022, a 31-per-cent increase from 2021, he said.

He further stated that the Saudi-China trade, which makes up about 25 per cent of the total volume of trade exchange between China and Arab countries, reached 106.1 billion dollars in 2022, a 30-per-cent rise from 2021.

Meanwhile, Saudi Minister of Investment Khalid Al-Falih welcomed China's participation in the conference, which he said "is heading towards growth and expansion." — Xinhua

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Sri Lankan migrant workers remit over $2.3 bln in Jan-May

SRI Lankan migrant workers remitted over 2.3 billion US dollars in the first five months of this year, according to the latest data released by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).

The figure marked a significant increase of 75.7 per cent compared to the same period of 2022, the CBSL data showed.

The figures for remittances for 2021 and 2022 were 5.49 billion dollars and 3.8 billion dollars, respectively. – Xinhua

### S Korea's forex trading grows in May

SOUTH Korea's foreign exchange trading grew last month on higher demand for the US and Chinese currencies, central bank data showed on Monday.

The daily average transaction of foreign currencies and foreign currency derivatives in the local inter-bank market came to 35.19 billion US dollars in May, up 0.73 billion dollars from the previous month, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK). – Xinhua

# Construction slowdown threatens Viet Nam's building materials industry

VIET Nam's building materials industry warned of a challenging 2023, with many suppliers on the verge of bankruptcy, due to slow progress in public investment and weakness in the property market, Vietnam News reported on Monday.

Industry experts at a conference held by the Viet Nam Institute for Building Materials highlighted the impact of an economic downturn on construction, imperilling the delivery of new homes and infrastructure projects.

Construction projects are slowing on tighter credit and legal roadblocks, said Le Quang Hung, chairman of the Viet Nam Concrete Association.

Data suggested the appetite of developers to take on new projects was diminishing fast.

In the January-March period, the number of newly-licenced housing projects plummeted 56 per cent, existing development projects plunged 43 per cent, and completed property projects fell 36 per cent from a year ago, according to the Housing and Real Estate Market Management Agency under the Ministry of Construction.

New property companies that opened in the first five months of this year plunged 61.4 per cent from a year earlier, and more than 550 companies were dissolved, up 30.4 per cent over the period, according to the General Statistics Office.

Viet Nam's builders, grappling with funding woes, have suspended more than a thousand projects worth 800 trillion Vietnamese dong (33.7 billion US dollars), said the Viet Nam National Real Estate Association.

Meanwhile, Viet Nam has been slow in disbursing public investment funds. Data compiled by the Ministry of Finance showed only 14.7 per cent of the targeted disbursement amount for 2023 has been disbursed to date, lower than the rate of 18.5 per cent a year ago. — Xinhua

# EU considers aid to Tunisia to boost economy, reduce migrant flows

THE European Union on Sunday said it is considering more than one billion euros in aid to boost crisis-hit Tunisia's economy and reduce the flow of irregular migrants across the Mediterranean Sea.

The North African country, highly indebted and in talks for an IMF bailout loan, is a gateway for migrants and asylum-seekers attempting the dangerous voyages to Europe.

The EU is ready to offer Tunisia 900 million euros in long-term aid plus 150 million euros in immediate support in a bid to "strengthen our relationship", European Commission head Ursula von der Leyen said on a joint visit with the Italian and Dutch prime ministers.

The aid would be contingent on approval of the nearly $2 billion loan currently under negotiation with the International Monetary Fund, according to a document posted on the European Commission's website.

But Tunisian President Kais Saied again on Tuesday rejected what he termed the "diktats" of the Washington-based lender.

Aside from trade and investment, the EU package would help Tunisia with border management and to combat human trafficking, with support worth 100 million euros this year, von der Leyen said.

This handout picture provided by the Tunisian Presidency Press Service shows Tunisia's President Kais Saied (R) shaking hands with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen at Carthage Palace in Carthage on the eastern outskirts of the Tunisian capital on 11 June 2023. **PHOTO: TUNISIAN PRESIDENCY / AFP**

"We both have a vast interest in breaking the cynical business model of smugglers and traffickers," she said. "It is horrible to see how they deliberately risk human lives for profit."

She said other joint projects with the bloc would help Tunisia export clean renewable energy to Europe, and deliver high-speed broadband, all with the aim of creating jobs and to "boost growth here in Tunisia". — AFP

# Stocks advance, dollar down as markets focus on rate calls

MAJOR stock markets mostly advanced Monday, with all eyes on central banks this week and their latest decisions over interest rates as inflation remains high.

The dollar fell against most major currencies, and oil prices slid.

The US Federal Reserve is widely expected on Wednesday to pause its campaign of interest rate increases to give policymakers more time to assess the economic impact of existing hikes and recent banking stresses.

A day later, the European Central Bank will almost certainly deliver another interest rate hike, pressing ahead with its fight against inflation even as the eurozone slides into a recession, according to analysts.

Policy announcements from the central banks of Japan and China are also due this week, after Canada and Australia unveiled rate hikes last week.

The Fed decision will come a day after the release of US consumer price inflation data, which could play a major role in officials' thinking.

"This week will be dominated by an inflation release and whether the Federal Reserve's interest rate decision will be informed by its findings," said Richard Hunter, head of markets at Interactive Investor.

Stocks globally have enjoyed a broadly strong run this month on hopes the US central bank will decide against an eleventh successive hike.

For now, the forecast is for the Fed to hold this month but announce another hike in July.

"With inflation still well over double the target rate for all central banks, can the US Federal Reserve really afford the luxury of a pause, or are they right to be careful given the deflation coming out of China?" said Michael Hewson at CMC Markets.

"Growth is already slowing in China post-Covid, and in Europe, Germany and the EU are already in a technical recession, while the UK probably isn't too far behind." — AFP

# Nigeria's president urges patience after fuel subsidy upheaval

NIGERIA'S new president Bola Tinubu on Monday urged Nigerians to accept more sacrifice in return for later investments after his government ended a long-standing fuel subsidy in a measure that has spiked petrol, transport and food prices.

Elected in February in a highly contested vote, Tinubu in his first day in office last month called for an end to the fuel subsidy that costs the government billions of dollars to keep consumer prices of petrol artificially low.

Nigeria is one of Africa's biggest oil producers but has little refining capacity.

Motorbike taxis and motorists queue to buy fuel out of stock at a petrol station at Warewa, Ogun State in southwest Nigeria, on 30 May 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

For decades, it has swapped crude for gasoline that it then subsidises, causing a huge drain on revenue, foreign exchange and contributing to growing debt.

Tinubu's decision has seen petrol prices triple, triggering a spike in transport costs as well as a knock-on impact on food prices and electricity for the many Nigerians who use petrol-run generators for power.

In a national broadcast for Nigeria's Democracy Day, Tinubu said the end of the subsidies was a painful necessity for the country's economic well-being.

"Painfully, I have asked you, my compatriots, to sacrifice a little more for the survival of our country. For your trust and belief in us, I assure you that your sacrifice shall not be in vain," he said.

"The government I lead will repay you through massive investment in transportation infrastructure, education, regular power supply, healthcare and other public utilities." — AFP


## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
**M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (091N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (091N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-6-2023** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
**M.V METHI BHUM VOY.NO. (390W)**

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V METHI BHUM VOY.NO. (390W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-6-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
**M.V MAERSK VALENCIA VOY.NO. (321W)**

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MAERSK VALENCIA VOY.NO. (321W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-6-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
**M.V GENESSIS VOY.NO. (11)**

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V GENESSIS VOY.NO. (11)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-6-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

**Shipping Agency Department**
**Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
**M.V NEGAR VOY.NO. (SCY1151)**

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NEGAR VOY. NO. (SCY1151)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-6-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department**
**Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S LAND AND SEA INTERMODAL LOGISTICS SDN BHD LINE**

# GLOBAL AFFAIRS

## Ethiopia says food aid suspension 'punishes millions'

THE Ethiopian government on Saturday criticized a move by two major aid organizations to halt the sending of food assistance to the country after discovering it was being diverted from those who need it.

The Ethiopian government's spokesman Legesse Tulu told journalists the decision by USAID and the World Food Programme (WFP) "punishes millions".

On Thursday, USAID, the US government's main international aid agency, said it was halting food distribution "until reforms are in place" to the way in which the aid is delivered.

World Food Programme (WFP) staff walk past bags of wheat at a warehouse in Adama, Ethiopia on 12 January 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

The WFP followed suit on Friday, saying it was temporarily halting only some food aid assistance.

The decision will affect millions of Ethiopians facing severe food shortages due to a devastating war in the northern region of Tigray, and a punishing drought in the south and southeast that has also struck Somalia and parts of Kenya.

Last month, USAID and WFP said they would freeze food aid to Tigray after the agencies discovered that shipments were being diverted to local markets.

Neither agency has identified those responsible for taking the aid and reselling it.

However, Tulu said the decision to halt assistance was "political", adding that "to make the government only responsible (for the diversions) is unacceptable".

Ethiopia's government on Friday said in a joint statement with USAID that it was committed to addressing the "deeply concerning revelations of food aid diversion".

Due to conflict and drought, around 20 million people in Ethiopia depend on food aid, the UN's humanitarian agency (OCHA) said in May.

Ethiopia hosts nearly one million refugees, mostly from South Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea. — AFP

## Iran's atomic chief hails nuclear progress despite threats, sanctions

IRAN'S atomic chief said on Sunday that his country has developed "complicated" nuclear technologies under difficult conditions and amid the enemies' threats and sanctions.

President of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami made the remarks in an interview with Iran's state radio channel Radio Goftogoo.

He added that the Iranian youths and scientists have managed to make significant nuclear achievements on the back of their commitments and without dependence on foreigners' capacities.

Turning to Iran's "peaceful uses" of the nuclear technology, he said the government seeks to increase the generation of nuclear electricity and production of radiopharmaceuticals.

Eslami noted that Iran plans to raise its production of radiopharmaceuticals by at least six times.

In an interview with Tehran-based Ettelaat newspaper, which was published on Saturday, the AEOI chief said Iran's enrichment of uranium to a high level of purity was aimed at removing the sanctions. — Xinhua

## Bodies and burial as Sudan fighting resumes after brief truce

MOURNERS gathered to bury the dead and bodies lay in a Khartoum hospital Sunday as deadly shelling and gunfire resumed after the end of a 24-hour ceasefire in Sudan.

Fighting has raged in the northeast African country since mid-April, when army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and his former deputy Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, who commands the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, turned on each other.

The latest in a series of ceasefire agreements enabled civilians trapped in the capital Khartoum to venture outside and stock up on food and other essential supplies.

But on Sunday they gathered on a sandy plot of land in the south of Sudan's capital to bury victims of an artillery strike.

Smoke billows in southern Khartoum on 12 June 2023 as deadly shelling and gunfire resumed after the end of a 24-hour ceasefire in Sudan. **PHOTO: AFP**

Witness told AFP that only 10 minutes after the truce ended at 6:00 am (0400 GMT) on Sunday, the city was rocked again by shelling and clashes. — AFP

## No progress on biases against women in a decade: UN report

DATA tracking biases against women has shown no progress over the past decade, with prejudices remaining "deeply embedded" in society despite rights campaigns such as MeToo, a UN report said Monday.

Among both men and women, "biased gender social norms are prevalent worldwide: almost 90 per cent of people have at least one bias" among the seven analyzed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

These prejudices "are widespread among men and women suggesting that these biases are deeply embedded and influences both men and women to similar degrees", the report says.

The UN agency has updated its Gender Social Norms Index (GSNI) — which takes into account political, economic, education and physical integrity metrics — using data from the World Values Survey, an international project studying how values and beliefs are changing worldwide.

The index shows "no improvement in biases against women in a decade," the UNDP said, "despite powerful global and local campaigns for women's rights" such as MeToo.

For example, 69 per cent of the world's population still believes that men make better political leaders than women, and only 27 per cent believe that it is essential for democracy that women have the same rights as men.

Nearly half the population (46 per cent) believes that men have more right to a job, and 43 per cent that men make better business leaders.

A quarter of the population also think it justifiable for a man to beat his wife, and 28 per cent believe that university is more important for men.

Prejudices create "hurdles" for women and are "manifested in a dismantling of women's rights in many parts of the world," the report said.

"Without tackling biased gender social norms, we will not achieve gender equality or the Sustainable Development Goals," it said.

The lack of progress on gender biases comes as the UN also reports declining human development metrics in general, linked in particular to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Social norms that impair women's rights are also detrimental to society more broadly, dampening the expansion of human development," Pedro Conceicao, director of the UNDP's Human Development Report Office, said in a statement.

"Everyone stands to gain from ensuring freedom and agency for women," he said. — AFP

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

# Nuclear arms spending, arsenals swell as global tensions grow: studies

THE world's nuclear powers, and China in particular, increased investment in their arsenals for a third consecutive year in 2022 amid swelling geopolitical tensions, two reports showed Monday.

The world's nine nuclear-armed states jointly spent $82.9 billion on their arsenals last year, with the United States accounting for more than half of that, according to a new report from the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) meanwhile released a report showing that the total number of nuclear warheads held by Britain, China, France, India, Israel, North Korea, Pakistan, Russia and the United States was down to 12,512 at the outset of this year, from 12,710 at the start of 2022.

While some of that included older warheads scheduled to be dismantled, SIPRI said that 9,576 were in "military stockpiles for potential use" — 86 more than a year earlier.

"We are approaching, or maybe have already reached, the end of a long period of the number of nuclear weapons worldwide declining," SIPRI director Dan Smith told AFP. — AFP

A Russian Yars intercontinental ballistic missile launcher moves along the Garden Ring road after the Victory Day military parade in central Moscow on 9 May 2023. Russia celebrates the 78th anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany during World War II. **PHOTO: AFP**

# Suspicious item sent to Japan court due to try Abe shooter

A suspicious item was delivered Monday to a west Japan court scheduled to try the man indicted for murdering former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, prompting personnel and visitors to evacuate.

The incident also prompted the Nara District Court to cancel its first pretrial proceedings for the case of Tetsuya Yamagami, who has been indicted for shooting Abe during an election stump speech in July last year.

The 42-year-old defendant had been expected to attend the afternoon session, when court officials, prosecutors and lawyers were set to narrow down issues and go over evidence and set the trial schedule.

A cardboard box, which the police say was about 33 centimetres in length, 28 cm in width and 26 cm in height, set off a metal detector at the court.

The police are working to identify what was in the box.

Outside the court, dozens of evacuated people were seen near the court building's entrance gate, while many police officers were on alert in and outside the court premises. — Kyodo

People evacuating from the Nara District Court wait outside the building after a suspicious item was delivered on 12 June 2023. **PHOTO: KYODO**

# Japan to stay on high alert over possible N Korea projectile launch

JAPAN'S top government spokesman said Monday the nation will remain vigilant for any projectile fired by North Korea, with the comments coming after the expiration of a window designated by Pyongyang to launch a satellite-carrying rocket.

With North Korea pledging to go ahead with a launch in the near future following a failure on 31 May, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno said at a regular press conference that Japan must "stay on high alert" in case a projectile falls into its territory.

On Sunday, Japan's Defence Ministry said it extended an order instructing the Self-Defence Forces to destroy any North Korean projectile that could fly over Japanese territory. Matsuno did not specify how long the period will be prolonged.

North Korea has been condemned for using ballistic missile technology to launch a satellite as it violates UN Security Council resolutions aimed at thwarting the nation's nuclear and missile development.

Pyongyang notified Japan and the International Maritime Organization in late May that it was planning on launching a satellite between 31 May and midnight Saturday. — Kyodo

# 'I'm hungry,' Colombia child tells rescuers after 40 days in jungle

COLOMBIAN television broadcast emotional images Sunday of the moment when four children who survived in the jungle for 40 days after a plane crash met their rescuers.

The images, taken on a mobile phone, show the four weary children, the smallest in the arms of one of the rescuers.

The Huitoto Indigenous children — ages 13, nine, five and one — were found alive Friday by rescuers, having wandered alone in the Amazon rainforest since the crash of a small Cessna 206 plane in which they were travelling with their mother, the pilot and another adult.

All three adults died in the accident.

In the video released Sunday, the children seemed to be emaciated from their time spent in the wilderness. Their rescuers — Indigenous members of the search group — are seen singing, smoking tobacco — a plant considered sacred among many jungle residents — and celebrating.

Interviewed on public broadcast channel RTVC, the Indigenous rescue team that found the children in the jungle recounted the first moments of the meeting.

"The eldest daughter, Lesly, with the little one in her arms, ran towards me. Lesly said: 'I'm hungry,'" said Nicolas Ordonez Gomes, one of the search and rescue crew.

"One of the two boys was lying down. He got up and said to me: 'My mom is dead.'" — AFP

# India's Mumbai hit by Cyclone Biparjoy, flight operations affected

FLIGHT operations in India's financial capital Mumbai were affected Sunday evening due to inclement weather conditions as cyclone Biparjoy intensified, officials said on Monday.

Heavy rain and gusty winds lashed Mumbai after cyclonic storm Biparjoy over east-central and adjoining northeast Arabian Sea intensified into extremely severe cyclonic storm.

Several flights in Mumbai airport were cancelled or delayed and some were forced to abort landing, and hundreds of passengers had to wait for hours for their flights, local reports said. "Inclement weather conditions and the temporary closure of runway 09/27 at the Mumbai airport, in addition to other consequential factors beyond our control, have resulted in delays and cancellation of some of our flights," read a statement released by Air India on Sunday night.

High tidal waves were also witnessed at Mumbai's Marine Drive on Monday, and thunderstorm alert has been issued for some districts in coastal Maharashtra. — Xinhua

# SPORT

**GLOBAL AFFAIRS**

Nuclear arms spending, arsenals swell as global tensions grow: studies

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## 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.

# Athletes who competed in 17th Southeast Asia Bodybuilding & Physique Sports Championships come back home

THE Myanmar honourable athletes who competed in the 17th Southeast Asia Bodybuilding & Physique Sports Championships, held from 8 to 12 June, in Batam, Indonesia arrived back at the Yangon International Airport yesterday afternoon.

Chairman of the Myanmar Bodybuilding and Physical Fitness Sports Federation, officials, and the public welcomed back the athletes.

The Myanmar Sports Team includes team Administrator U Kyaw Than, Coach U Min Zaw Oo, and athletes: Pyae Phyo (55-kilogramme event), Aung Than Htay (80-kg event), Hein Htet Kyaw (85-kg event), Hein Htet Zaw (Men's Athletic Physique 165-centimetre event), Nyein Chan (Men's Sports Physique 175cm event), and Mi Mi Kyaw Naing (Women's Model Physique 160-cm event)

Nyein Chan won first place in the Men's Athletic Physique 175 cm event, while Hein Htet Zaw garnered third in the Men's Athletic Physique 165 cm event.

Next, Mi Mi Kyaw Naing grabbed second place in the Women's Model Physique 160 cm, and Hein Htet Zaw, and Mi Mi Kyaw Naing secured third place in the Mixed Pair event.

In turn, Pyae Phyo gained second place in the 55-kg event while Aung Than Htay also won the second in the 80-kg event.

Hein Htet Kyaw secured the third in the 85-kg event.

Myanmar won one gold, three silver and three bronze medals in the 17th Southeast Asia Bodybuilding & Physique Sports Championships. — MNA/KZL

# Uruguay prepares to celebrate first Under-20 World Cup title

URUGUAY on Monday prepared to welcome home their latest, and long-awaited, world champions, as the under-20 team headed home after winning their age-group World Cup in Argentina.

Luciano Rodriguez scored the winner in the 86th minute as Uruguay beat Italy 1-0 in the Diego Maradona stadium in La Plata, some 60 kilometres from Buenos Aires, on Sunday night.

It was Uruguay's third appearance in the under-20 final after losing in 1997 to Argentina and on penalties in 2013 to France.

Uruguay have won two senior World Cups and two men's Olympic football golds, but the last triumph was in 1950. It was Italy's first final in a competition started in 1977 and dominated by South American teams. Argentina have won six times and Brazil five times. — AFP

# Final bout of Shwe Aunglan Lethwei tourney to be held on 18 June

An advertisement for the SkyNet Shwe Aunglan Lethwei Championship final bout is to be held on 18 June.

THE final bout of the Shwe Aunglan Lethwei Tournament will be held on 18 June, and the winner will get the championship belt, according to the tourney organizers.

The semifinal fights of the tourney were held on 11 June with a total of six bouts: two bouts of 60 kg, two bouts of 63.5 kg, one bout of 67 kg, and one challenge bout.

In the first bout of the 60 kg event, Kyauk Ke (Yamanya Armhan) beat Saw Mu Htay Gay (YMA) in the 18 seconds of the first round.

In the second bout of the 60 kg event, Thant Zin (Tawwun Ayeya) defeated Kyaw Ye Min (Al Kanyaw) by points after completing the five rounds.

In the first bout of the 63.5 kg event, Seinlonechaw (Aung Naing Thu) won over Byatgha (Kyarphyu) by points after completing the five rounds.

In the second bout of the 63.5 kg event, William (Doe Yoeya) celebrated a victory over Aung Zaw Hein (Shwe Koke Ko) by points.

In the 67 kg bout, Htet Naing Aung (Pa Nga) beat Kanyaw Kwee (Cement Factory) in the third round.

In the four-round challenging fight, Kyel Sin Tun (Lehtwei Warriors) beat Aung Bo Hein (Kyarphyu) in the second round. —TWA/KZL