

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. X, No. 61, 15th Waning of Nayon 1385 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Saturday, 17 June 2023

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.

Tatmadaw members have to thoroughly understand the important role of the geographical condition of Myanmar and the political landscapes of global countries: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets junior officers serving at offices and departments of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

IT is necessary to take lessons from the history of the country for benefiting the State, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with junior officers serving at offices and departments of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) yesterday morning.

Tatmadaw and national politics

First, the Senior General in

his address said that national politics are defined as the preservation of cultural characters and national characters of the State as well as safeguarding the national interest of the State. National interest and national politics of the State focus on the implementation of Our Three Main National Causes: non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

As Tatmadaw members are protecting the national interest and serving the national

politic duties, everybody needs to correctly know the history of the country in successive eras. Only when they correctly know the history of the country can they dutifully serve the national politics. Hence, it is necessary to take lessons from the history of the country for benefiting the State.

Tatmadaw members have to thoroughly understand the important role of the geographical condition of Myanmar and the political landscapes of global countries. **SEE PAGE-3**

“... As Tatmadaw members are protecting the national interest and serving the national politic duties, everybody needs to correctly know the history of the country in successive eras. Only when they correctly know the history of the country can they dutifully serve the national politics. Hence, it is necessary to take lessons from the history of the country for benefiting the State.

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council

Law Amending National Food Law (2023)
State Administration Council Law No 52/2023

14th Waning of Nayon 1385 ME
16 June 2023

THE State Administration Council has enacted this law under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

1. This law shall be called the Law Amending National Food Law (2023).

2. The expression "Department of Health" stated in Sections 9, 10 and 35 of the National Food Law shall be substituted by the expression "Food and Drug Administration Department".

I hereby sign under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Sd/Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Chairman
State Administration Council

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council

Order No 36/2023

14th Waning of Nayon 1385 ME
16 June 2023

Appointment and
Duty Assignment of Chief Justice of
Magway Region High Court

THE State Administration Council has appointed and assigned U Myint Thein to the duties of Chief Justice of Magway Region High Court under Section 419 of the Constitution.

By Order;

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

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

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 dona-

tions 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 Director-General Department of Disaster Management 067-3404050 09-2021491	U Than Soe Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Yangon Region Department 09-250123885	U Aye Min Thu Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Mandalay Region Department 09-420708827
U Win Shwe Deputy Director-General Department of Disaster Management 067-3404048 09-254170011	Daw Than Than Win Deputy Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Yangon Region Department 09-420740160	
Daw Phyu Phyu Win Director Department of Disaster Management 067-3404316 09-43054844		

National Disaster Management Committee

Emphasis needed to improve the public economy

IT is necessary to focus on the improvement of the public economy rather than the economy of a group in order to develop the domestic econmy. Hence, the gov- ernment is enhancing the work process of businesses beneficial for the majority of the people.

(Excerpts from the speech by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at a meeting with officials from associates of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on 23 December 2022)

Tatmadaw members have to thoroughly understand the important role of the geographical condition of Myanmar and the political landscapes of global countries: Senior General

FROM PAGE-1 Political changes in the State

Tatmadaw harmoniously joined hands with the democratic government elected in the first multiparty democratic election in 2010. In the tenure of the democratic government in the second term, elected in the 2015 election, Tatmadaw gave suitable advice and help to the government based on political

experiences but its effective- ness was weak. In the outbreak of Covid-19, as the government faced crises, Tatmadaw helped solve the problems. With regard to the 2020 election, Tatmadaw stressed the need to be a free and fair election many times but attempts were made for winning the election through unscrupu- lous ways and means. Later, in making attempts to grab the State power by convening the

Hluttaw, Tatmadaw took State responsibilities in accord with the constitution.

The last point of the five- point roadmap of the State Administration Council: Upon accomplishing the provisions of the state of emergency, free and fair multiparty democrati- c elections will be held in line with the 2008 Constitution, and further work will be undertak- en to hand over State duties to

the winning party in accordance with democratic standards will be implemented without fail for ensuring peace and stability of the State and development.

Needs for emphasizing indi- vidual serving duties with- out losing ambitions

Everybody wishes for life improvement and they are al- ways trying hard to possess knowledge and skills essential

for development. They all have to initiate proper lifestyle and physical movement for ensuring health and fitness.

The Senior General stressed the need for them to be loyal to themselves, their employment, their families and the State. They must have high beliefs and concepts over themselves, Tatmadaw and the State. — MNA/TTA

SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win attends cash donation for Mocha-hit monasteries, monastic education schools in Rakhine State

A ceremony to donate cash to the fund for damaged monas- teries and monastic education schools hit by Cyclone Mocha in Rakhine State took place in the cave of Lawkananda Pagoda in Sittway yesterday morning.

Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Depu- ty Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win offered alms to Presiding Patron of Nanda Rama Pariyatti Buddhist Learn- ing Centre Agga Maha Pandi- ta Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nanda Siri.

Deputy Minister for Reli- gious Affairs and Culture Daw Nu Mra Zan donated K106 mil- lion for Mocha-hit monasteries



SAC Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win and congregation observe the Five Precepts at the cash donation event for Mocha-hit monasteries, monastic education schools in Rakhine State yesterday.

and monastic education schools to Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin.

Sittway's TatU Sutaungpy- ae Pariyatti Buddhist Learning Centre Presiding Patron Maha

Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Sayadaw Nanavamsa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

At the ceremony, YwaU

Monastery Sayadaw Saddham- ma Jotikadhaja Dr Bhaddanta Vijjobhasa Lankara of Paun- glaunglay Village in Kyaukse Township donated K2 million, U Wai Chin Hai and family of

Hanley Group from Laukkai of Shan State (North) K100 mil- lion and U Sithu Win and family of Guardian Academy Private School K 4 million respectively. — MNA/TTA

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

Unity can be forged to overcome any natural disasters and dangers: Vice-Senior General

CHAIRMAN of Natural Disaster Management Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win yesterday inspected the progress of rehabilitation tasks in MraukU, Minbya and Kyaukpyu and met departmental personnel, town elders, relief teams and Parahita teams at General Administration Department offices separately.

Local authorities and senior military officers assigned to supervise rehabilitation tasks reported on losses and damage in the storm and rehabilitation progress. The Vice-Senior General attended to the needs.

Speaking on the occasions,



The Vice-Senior General donates rice and alms to the Minbya monastery.

it is necessary to lever up the meat and fish, agriculture and livestock sectors of the state.

Unity can be forged to overcome any natural disasters and dangers. As such, the government, Parahita teams and people are to join hands in taking post-storm rehabilitation measures. The Vice-Senior General then presented foodstuffs to departmental personnel, relief teams and Parahita teams.

He also donated rice and alms to monasteries in MraukU, Minbya and Kyaukpyu.

The Vice-Senior General inspected the repairing of public hospitals damaged in the storm and other damaged buildings in MraukU, Minbya and Kyaukpyu. He then comforted members of the Sangha and locals receiving medical treatments at the hospitals and presented food and cash assistance.

While in Minbya, the Vice-Senior General viewed the learning of students at the Basic Education High School and fulfilled the needs of teachers.

The Vice-Senior General inspected local military battalions and police battalions in MraukU, Minbya, Kanni, Sittaw and Kyaukpyu and spoke words of encouragement to Tatmadaw members and families as well as police members and families.



The Vice-Senior General comforts members of the Sangha at Kyaukpyu General Hospital.



The Vice-Senior General cordially greets families of Tatmadaw members in Kanni.



Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets departmental personnel, town elders, relief teams and Parahita teams at the General Administration Department in MraukU.



The Vice-Senior General views the agriculture and livestock sector in Sittway.

the Vice-Senior General said that as the towns severely affected by the storm faced loss and damage in manufacturing and services, other towns with minor

loss and damage should apply their strong points to enhance productivity. If so, they can supply consumer goods, personal goods and general products to

the townships facing the downgrading of the economy in the storm and can save the GDP of these townships on one hand. Only when Rakhine State pos-

sesses development of GDP will per-capita income increase. If so, demand will be high and develop the economy of the state. During the rehabilitation period,

He attended to the needs and presented foodstuffs, seeds and cash awards to them. — MNA/TTA

Political parties allowed to be established continue applying for registration

THOSE who want to establish a political party are applying to the Union Election Commission by stating the name of the party they want to establish.

To date, 13 groups have applied for the right to establish a party. Among the groups that applied, seven political parties have been allowed to establish.

Among the seven political parties allowed to be established, the National Interest Development Party (NIDP) applied to the Commission yesterday to register as a political

party under the Registration of Political Parties Rule 7 within 30 days from the date of approval for the establishment of the party.

The Union Election Commission is processing the verification. — MNA/KZL

U Myat Thet Oo appointed as Ambassador of Myanmar to Lao People's Democratic Republic

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Myat Thet Oo, Ambassador of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Lao People's Democratic Republic. — MNA

MoH organizes monsoon tree-growing ceremony 2023

THE Ministry of Home Affairs organized its annual monsoon tree-growing ceremony for 2023 at the compound of the Expressway Police Station in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister Lt-Gen Soe Htut, a member of the State Administration Council, along with senior officers, their spouses, and departmental staff under the Ministry of Home Affairs, attended the ceremony. During the event, Union Minister Lt-Gen Soe Htut delivered remarks emphasizing the significance of tree planting.

Following the remarks, the Union minister and his wife planted a teak sapling as a symbolic gesture of their commitment to environmental conservation.

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Toe Yi and his wife, Deputy Minister Chief of the Myanmar Police Force Maj-Gen Zin Min Htet and his wife, the permanent secretary and spouse, as well as senior officers and their wives, also planted trees in designated areas.

Subsequently, accompanied by officials, the Union minister and his wife observed and encouraged the ongoing tree-planting activities.

During the ceremony, the ministry successfully planted



Union Minister Lt-Gen Soe Htut views round the monsoon tree growing ceremony 2023 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

1,200 saplings, including teak, Odorata Roxb), among others, efforts of the region. — MNA/ironwood, and Thingan (Hopea contributing to the greening MKKS

42 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 16 June, total figure registers 639,905

MYANMAR'S COVID-19-positive cases rose to **639,905** after **42** new cases were reported on 16 June 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. Therefore, a total of **10,768,270** laboratory samples were examined and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached **639,905**.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **618,877** including **55** new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered **19,494** on 16-6-2023 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

MoEP Union Minister attends International Economic Forum 2023



Union Minister U Thaung Han attends the second-day International Economic Forum 2023 on 15 June in the Russian Federation.

U Thaung Han, Union Minister for Electric Power, attended the second day of the International Economic Forum 2023 (SPIEF'23) on 15 June held in St Petersburg, Russia, along with U Lwin Oo, Myanmar Ambassador to the

Russian Federation.

In the morning, Union Minister U Thaung Han and Myanmar Ambassador to the Russian Federation U Lwin Oo conducted feasibility studies of wind power projects of the Minhla (116 MW) and Mindon

(56 MW) in Magway Region and Popa (200 MW) wind power projects in Kyaukpataung Township and NyaungU Township in Mandalay Region through MoU between Nova Wind JSC and Primus Advanced Technologies Ltd and also attended the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Electric Power of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar including Zeya & Associates Co Ltd and Nova Wind JSC.

Then, the Union minister met Mr Alexey Likhachev, Director-General of Rosatom, and discussed more cooperation in the electricity production sector.

Next, the Union minister met the CEO of Roscongress, Alexander Shatirov, and discussed cooperation in the field of solar power generation. — MNA/TS

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ဆက်သွယ်မှု နံပါတ်

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Myanmar delegation participates in 26th St Petersburg International Economic Forum



Deputy Prime Minister U Win Shein-led Myanmar delegation joins the 26th St Petersburg International Economic Forum in the Russian Federation on 14-17 June 2023.

THE Myanmar delegation, led by Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein, including Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations (MIFER) Dr Kan Zaw, Union Minister for Electric Power U Thaung Han, and Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar Daw Than Than Swe, attended the 26th St Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF'23) held from 14 to 17 June in St Petersburg, the Russian Federation.

On the first day of the forum, on 14 June, the Myanmar delegation held a meeting with officials from FESCO Transportation and Logistics, a Russian company. They discussed potential cooperation in transport, logistics, and sea communication between the Vladivostok port in Russia and Myanmar's ports.

Subsequently, the Myanmar delegates engaged in discussions with Mr Anton Kobayakov, Adviser to the Russian President and Deputy Chairman and Executive Secretary of the

Roscongress Foundation, and Mr Alexander Sergeevich Shatirov, Director of Roscongress Investments Fund. The topics covered during the meeting included refinery, solar plant, and paper pulp factory construction in Myanmar, fuel procurement, bilateral trade and investment enhancement, cooperation in tourism, agriculture, mining, industry, electricity, energy, culture, and education sectors.

Later in the evening, the Myanmar delegation attended a working dinner hosted by Mr

Sergey Yurievich Glazyev, Minister in charge of Integration and Macroeconomics of the Eurasian Economic Commission. They discussed ways to enhance trade, economic investment, and cooperation between Myanmar and the member states of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), as well as regional economic integration within the EAEU.

During the second day of the forum, on 15 June, the Myanmar delegation participated in a seminar titled "On the Road to Recycling: From Waste to Resources." Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw served as a panellist and discussed waste management reform, infrastructure needs for waste management, Myanmar's activities for sustainable development of the natural environment, laws and procedures related to waste management, strategic waste management projects, environmental issues stated in the Investment Law, challenges, and ongoing work plans.

Furthermore, the MIFER Union Minister and the Minister in charge of Integration and Macroeconomics of the Eurasian Economic Commis-

sion signed a Memorandum of Cooperation.

The Myanmar delegates also attended the EAEU-ASEAN Business Dialogue, where the MIFER Union Minister discussed economic cooperation opportunities between the EAEU and ASEAN, visions for infrastructure development projects, digitalization, and investment opportunities in Myanmar.

Around noon, the Myanmar delegation met with the Russian Minister of Economic Development, Mr Maxim Reshetnikov. They exchanged views on developing economic cooperation between Russia and Myanmar, discussed future work plans, and reviewed the progress made in matters discussed during the 3rd Meeting of the Intergovernmental Russian-Myanmar Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation. They also expressed their intention to hold the 4th meeting in Russia by the end of 2023.

Finally, the Myanmar delegation visited the CentreInform JSC at the Governor's Lounge forum, where they discussed information services, information security, business opportunities in Myanmar, import procedures, and imports. — MNA/KTZH

CBM Governor engages in productive discussions at 26th St Petersburg International Economic Forum

DAW Than Than Swe, the Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, had a fruitful meeting with Ms Elvira Nabiullina, Chair of the Bank of Russia, during her participation in the 26th St Petersburg International Economic Forum.

The discussion revolved around capacity-building initiatives and financial cooperation, with a particular focus on utilizing local currencies, establishing contact banks with in commercial banks of both countries to bolster economic collaboration, and facilitating mutual payments through the integration of payment cards.

At the forum, Governor Daw Than Than Swe highlighted Myanmar's progress in digital payment development, including QR Code Payment transactions, prerequisites for enhancing digital payments in cross-border transactions, and

ongoing implementations. Her presentation, titled "Russia – Asia, IS the World Going Digital?", shed light on the current state of Myanmar's digital payment landscape.

Notably, on 17 February, 2023, an important memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the Myanmar Payment Union (MPU) and the National Payment Card System (NSPK) of Russia. Building upon this agreement, on 15 June, during the 26th St Petersburg International Economic Forum, U Min Wint Oo, the Chief Executive Officer of Myanmar Payment Union (MPU), and Vladimir Komlev, the Chairman of the Management Board and Chief Executive Officer of the National Payment Card System (NSPK), signed the Payment Systems Interaction Agreement for the MPU-NSPK Project.



CBM Governor Daw Than Than Swe holds talks with Ms Elvira Nabiullina, Chair of the Bank of Russia.

This significant milestone aims to enhance digital payment solutions in the tourism sector between Myanmar and Russia. It is anticipated that Russian tourists will be able to

utilize their cards in Myanmar before the conclusion of 2023, further promoting seamless financial transactions between the two nations.

The successful engage-

ments at the forum signify Myanmar's commitment to advancing its digital payment ecosystem and fostering stronger economic ties with Russia. — MNA/MKKS

Myanmar delegation participates in UN Meetings on Anti-Corruption

LED by Dr Htay Aung, Chairman of the Myanmar Anti-Corruption Commission, a delegation from Myanmar attended the 14th United Nations Anti-Corruption Convention Review Working Group Meeting and anti-corruption inter-governmental task force meetings virtually.

During the country-specific discussion program on the second day of the meeting, held on 13 June, Chairman Dr Htay Aung highlighted Myanmar's successful completion of the first cycle of the Convention's implementation review process. He emphasized that Myanmar had amended and enacted its anti-corruption law in accordance with modern systems, aligning with the recommendations provided. The recommendations from the summary report of the second review cycle are also re-

ceiving serious consideration.

On the third day, during the meeting on 14 June, the commission chairman actively participated in the discussion on anti-corruption measures and good practices. He highlighted the establishment of Corruption Prevention Teams in ministries, including the Commission Office, as well as in regional and state governments, to carry out corruption prevention activities.

To address corruption in the private sector, a joint statement on anti-corruption has been issued by the UMFCCL. Furthermore, the commission has developed the anti-corruption strategic plan (2022-2025) and is implementing annual agendas based on this plan.

During the meeting held on 15 June, the fourth day, Chairman Dr Htay Aung discussed Myanmar's efforts to

collaborate with international organizations, regional bodies, and foreign countries in the fight against corruption. He highlighted the signing of memorandums of understanding for cooperation, including a forthcoming agreement with the Russian Federation. He also expressed the intention to strengthen cooperation with member countries of the United Nations Anti-Corruption Convention.

In order to enhance communication with the public, the commission is in the process of opening branches in major cities.

Representatives from other countries discussed various topics during the meeting, including the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), sharing good practices, experiences, and approaches to



Chairman Dr Htay Aung of the Myanmar Anti-Corruption Commission attends the UN Meetings on Anti-Corruption virtually.

corruption prevention and law enforcement, the role of audit institutions in combating corruption, evaluation and analysis of anti-corruption methods and policies, as well as financial challenges.

Commission members U Than Soe, U Maung Maung Tint, U Win Ti, and Dr Tun Tun

Oo also participated in the virtual meeting, while two representatives led by Ambassador U Min Thein, Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations and International Organizations based in Vienna, attended the meeting in person. — MNA/KZL

Mandalay Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association takes steps to stabilize gold prices



A supplied photo shows gold jewellery items being showcased at the gold outlet in Yangon.

IN a move to address the volatile gold market, the Mandalay Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association has announced the sale of gold bullion at K3,050,000 per tical (equivalent to 0.578 ounce or 0.016 kilo-

gramme). This initiative aims to stabilize the gold price and bring much-needed stability to the market.

Starting from noon on 16 June, the association began selling gold bullion at the

specified price. Interested buyers, including non-members, are welcome to purchase the bullion at the association's office located on 67th Street between 40th and 41st Streets, Mahamyang 1 Qt. To make a

purchase, individuals need to present their citizenship scrutiny card and household registration document. For more detailed information, please contact the office.

Currently, the price of pure gold in the grey market has surged to K3.13 million per tical due to the rise in the spot gold price and the depreciation of the Kyat against the US dollar.

The spot gold price has reached an impressive US\$1,960 per ounce, while the exchange rate stands at K2,980 against the greenback.

To address the widening gap between the reference price set by the Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association (YGEA) and the unofficial market rate, the YGEA had previously urged gold dealers to trade the precious metal below K2.9 million per tical on 27 April 2023.

Recognizing the need to counteract misleading rumours and market manipu-

lation through social media, the Central Bank of Myanmar issued a warning on 20 March against unscrupulous individuals who engage in such activities.

The gold price in Myanmar is closely linked to the spot gold price and the exchange rate of the US dollar. The surge in the US dollar exchange rate, exceeding K4,500, had driven the gold price to a record-high of K3.7 million per tical in late August 2022.

To mitigate the gold price, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has implemented a competitive bidding system for the sale of gold ingots in Yangon, Mandalay, and Nay Pyi Taw.

Intending to reduce gold prices, both the YGEA and Mandalay Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association have taken the initiative to sell gold bullion provided by their executive members and association members. — NN/EM

Correctly utilize farmlands to produce foods for people

AGRICULTURAL and livestock farmlands are essential for Myanmar. As agricultural and livestock farms are based on farmlands, it is necessary to systematically manage land utilization under the master plan and prescribed laws with the aim of setting future prospects.

The country needs to arrange adequate sown acreage of cultivable lands with the expectation of a 100 million population. Hence, relevant authorities need to supervise the prevention of abusing farmlands in other ways. Anybody needs to take care of avoiding ways and means in expanding residential areas and industrial areas should not take parts of farmlands. It is because

Currently, some people allow their land plots to others as a trading measure. They do not grow any crops on the farmlands but construct buildings and fencing at high prices. Hence, it can be seen that some parts of the farmlands were lost in the agricultural sector. As such, all farmland owners need to avoid inappropriate ways of land utilization for the sake of the food security of the people.

It is because abused farmlands cannot produce crops for the whole country. Loss of farmlands will be a threat posed to the food security of the nation.

Currently, some people allow their land plots to others as a trading measure. They do not grow any crops on the farmlands but construct buildings and fencing at high prices. Hence, it can be seen that some parts of the farmlands were lost in the agricultural sector. As such, all farmland owners need to avoid inappropriate ways of land utilization for the sake of the food security of the people.

Section 37 of the Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar stipulates: The Union is the ultimate owner of all lands and all natural resources above and below the ground, above and beneath the water and in the atmosphere in the Union and shall enact necessary law to supervise extraction and utilization of State-owned natural resources by economic forces. So, both authorities and people have to follow the provisions of the Constitution by correctly utilizing their farmlands.

everybody needs to maintain the measures not to reduce or lose farmlands in any way as these areas must be used in producing foods for the forthcoming increased population of the country in the future.

As land resources are a kind of resource that cannot increase more, only when the government can systematically manage land utilization for the livelihoods of the people and development of the State in the future will systematic land utilization exist for new generations. Moreover, officials need to raise public awareness about the disadvantages of abusing the farmlands in other ways.

Farmlands under paddy plantations, seasonal and perennial crops as well as industrial crop plantations are located under limits. Hence, authorities need to restrict the use of farmlands in other ways under rules and regulations. On the other hand, people should not abuse their farmlands as residential plots, industrial land, and plots for

CLIMATE change refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns, these shifts may be natural, but since the 1800s, human activities have been the main driving force of climate change, primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels (like coals, oil, and gas) which produces heat-trapping gases, such shifts can be natural due to changes in the sun's activity or large volcanic eruptions. Climate change is also changing water availability, making it scarer, if followed by global warming, it exacerbates water shortages in already water-stressed risk regions and is leading to an increased risk of agricultural droughts affecting crops, and ecological droughts that increase the vulnerability of the ecosystem...

Causes and effects of climate change are fossil fuel (coals, oil, and gas) consumption, and by far the largest contributors to global climate change, recording over 75 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions. As greenhouse gas emission blanket the earth, they trap the sun's heat. This leads to global warming

and climate change. The world is warming faster than at any point recorded warmer temperatures. are changing weather patterns and the type of climate change is sometimes referred to as autosuggestion, which is just a way of saying "caused by human beings". continuing burning of fossil fuels over the past 150 years has drastically increased the presence of atmospheric greenhouse gases, most noticeably carbon dioxide.

We can't fight climate change without understanding the driving force. At the root of climate change is the phenomenon known as the greenhouse effect, the term scientists used to describe the way certain atmospheric gases "trap" heat that would otherwise radiate upward, from the planet's surface into outer space. On the other hand, we have the greenhouse effect to thank for the presence of life

By the beginning of the mid-to late-19th century, human activity began pushing the greenhouse effects to a new level. The result? -- a planet that's warmer right now than at any other point in human history and getting ever warmer still.

Kolkata-Bangkok highway opening likely in four years

BY S VENKAT NARAYAN
The Times of India

THE trilateral highway connecting Bangkok (Thailand) with Kolkata (India), as part of the BIMSTEC (the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) project, could be ready in the next three to four years.

This was stated by commerce ministers of the various countries

and provinces of this region attending the business conclave organized by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the ministry of external affairs (MEA) in Kolkata on Tuesday.

As per the proposed project plan, the trilateral highway will start from Bangkok and will go through cities like Sukhothai,

Mae Sot in Thailand, Yangon, Mandalay, Kalewa and Tamu in Myanmar before reaching India.

In India, it is likely to go through Moreh, Kohima, Guwahati, Srirampur, Siliguri to Kolkata. The total distance will be a little over 2,800 km. The longest stretch of this highway would be in India with the smallest stretch in Thailand.

The Thailand portion of the highway has already been completed, said Thai vice minister of foreign affairs Vijavat Isarabhak

di. Myanmar commerce minister Aung Naing Oo said that the portion of the highway in his country is likely to be ready in three years.

Isarabhakdi said that the trilateral road connectivity up to Kolkata is on track. "The highway, set to start in Bangkok, will conclude in Kolkata. As far as the Thailand portion is concerned, the highway is almost complete."

According to the Thai minister, a lot depends on Myanmar as well as the Indian portion. The Myanmar commerce minister

told The Times of India that it has restarted work on the trilateral highway. "I guess it would be two-three years," he added.

West Bengal's commerce and industries minister Shashi Panja, who was present at the conclave, said that the state is looking forward to this road link.

The Kolkata-Bangkok trilateral highway.

What is Climate Change and its effects on people

By U Win Sein



Humanity has the money and technology it needs to slash its greenhouse gas emissions but must act now to avert a full-blown climate catastrophe. Rescue crews assist stranded residents Tuesday in a flooded Merced neighborhood, California on 10 January 2023. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/JOSH EDELSON/AFP/FILE

on Earth; without it, our planet would be cold and unlivable.

By the beginning of the mid-to late-19th century, human activity began pushing the greenhouse effects to a new level. The result? -- a planet that's warmer right now than at any other point in human history and getting ever warmer still.

Global warming has in turn dramatically altered natural cycles and weather patterns, and in fact that would

include extreme heat, protracted droughts, increased flooding, more extreme storms, and rising sea levels. Taken together, these miserable and sometimes, deadly effects are what have come to be known as climate change

Discussing that human beings causing climate change isn't about shaming people, or trying to make them feel quality for their choice, it's about defining the problem, so that

we arrive at effective solutions, that we must honestly, address its origins—even though it can sometimes be difficult or even uncomfortable, to do so. Modern human civilization has made extraordinary productivity leaps and jumps, some of which have led to the currently overheated planet. Or by harnessing the same ability to innovate and attaching it to a renewed sense of shared responsibility, we can

find ways to ease down the pressure on the planet.

Fight climate change and chart a course towards a more just, equitable, and sustainable future by getting rid of the following three main causes of climate change.

- Burning fossil fuels
 - Cutting down forests
 - Farming live stocks
- By which, we are increas-

ingly influencing the Earth's temperatures and the immediate two top factors relevant on timescales of temporary to enhance changes are; changes in volcanic activity and changes in solar radiation in terms of the Earth's energy balance. These factors primarily influence the incoming energy

What are greenhouse gases? Greenhouse gases (also known as GHGs) are gases in the Earth's atmosphere that trap heat. During the day, the Sun shines through the atmosphere, warming the Earth's surface. At night the Earth's surface cools, releasing heat back into the air, but some of the heat is trapped by the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. That's what keeps the Earth's temperature at an average of 14 C (57 F).

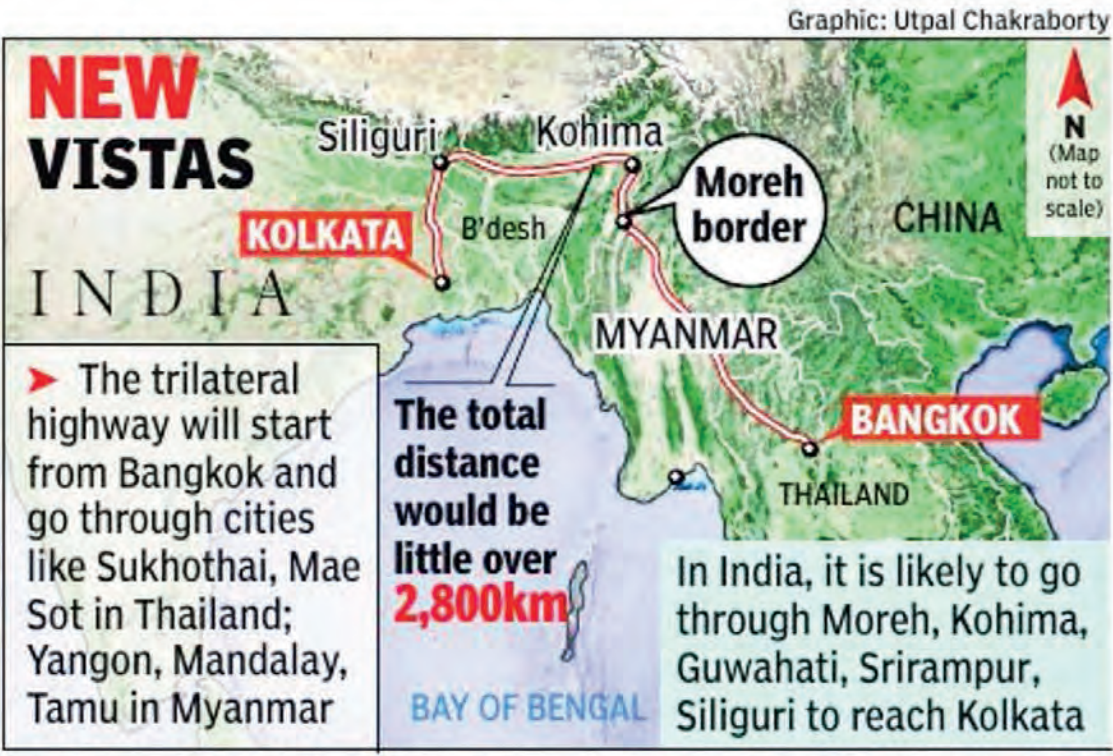
The gases act like the glass walls of a greenhouse, hence the name greenhouse gases. Without this greenhouse effect, the temperature would drop to as low as -- - 18 C (- 0.4 F) -- too cold to sustain life on Earth.

Human activities are changing the Earth's natural greenhouse effect with a dramatic increase in the release of greenhouse gases. Scientists agreed greenhouse gases are the cause of global warming and climate change. Since the industrial

revolution, human beings have been releasing larger quantities of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. In the following century, that amount increased dramatically with a knock-on-door effect of global warming. Global temperature has accelerated in the past 30 years and is the highest since the record began

CO2 is released through natural processes, such as volcanic eruptions plant respiration and animal and human being breathing the CO2 concentration has increased by 50 per cent, since the industrial revolution began in the 1800s due to human activities like the burning of fossil fuels and large-scale deforestation. Due to its abundance, CO2 is the main contributor to climate change.

As climate change is derived mainly from the involvement of Human activity, so also leads to having brought about many weather patterns, followed by extreme heat to disturb the weather patterns. We, all human beings, knowingly understood that our activities in a scrambling manner to compete with each other in producing a greater amount of consumer goods, drying up our resources that do not recognize the problem of competition has made us contribute greater disturbances to the atmosphere, with overheated temperature, that would be leading us to the "Doomsday" of severe heat that would consume the human race on Earth forever.



Tatmadaw senior officers, officials oversee rehabilitation work 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 appointed senior military officers to supervise rehabilitation activities in the areas mentioned in the announcement.

Lt-Gen Aye Win currently in Buthidaung in Rakhine State along with officials inspected healthcare services to the locals in Dapyuchaung village and provided supplies to representatives in five village-tracts. Furthermore, they met departmental officials, ward administrators and locals in the meeting room of the General Administration Department.

Brig-Gen Aung Thu Oo, currently in Kyauktaw, along with officials paid homage to Bhaddanta Nandasara in the precinct of Maha Kangyishin Pagoda and donated rice, edible oil, foodstuffs and other substances. — MNA/KZW

Lt-Gen Aye Win provides relief supplies to representatives in five village-tracts of Buthidaung Township yesterday.

Affordable prices for essential goods, commodities in Mocha-affected Sittway

LOCAL battalions under the Western Command, along with officials, have taken the initiative to sell essential foodstuffs at reduced prices, providing convenience to residents and departmental staff affected by Cyclone Mocha in Sittway. This effort aims to ensure that individuals have access to food at fair and affordable prices during these challenging times.

A wide range of foodstuffs, including rice, edible oil, salt, meat, fish, eggs, dairy products, vegetables, onions, and garlic, as well as products from Tatmadaw factories and MEC such as instant noodles, biscuits, and canned food, were available for purchase at lower prices compared to the prevailing market rates. Additionally, electronic devices and construction materials from private entrepreneurs were also offered at discounted prices at U Ottama Park in Sittway.

Locals and families of departmental staff expressed their gratitude for being able to buy essential foodstuffs at affordable prices during this difficult period. They appreciated the efforts of the officials in providing relief and support through the provision of necessary goods. — MNA/KZW



Sittway residents seen purchasing foodstuffs at reasonable prices yesterday.

Successful 8th MAF-RTAF Air Working Group Meeting strengthens bilateral cooperation

THE 8th MAF-RTAF Air Working Group Meeting took place at the Aureum Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw from 12 to 16 June, with the aim of fostering enhanced collaboration and strengthening the relationship between the Myanmar Air Force (MAF) and the Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF).

The delegation, led by Air Marshal Kidkuan Sadub from the Royal Thai Air Force, arrived in Yangon on the morning of 12 June. Later that evening, the organizing secretaries from both air forces held a pre-coordination meeting at the Aureum Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

The workshop commenced on 13 June, featuring opening speeches by the Chief of Staff (Air) and Thai Air Marshal Kidkuan Sadub. The decisions made during the meeting were duly approved and signed, followed by a ceremonial exchange of gifts between the delegation leaders representing both air forces. A commemorative group photo was taken to mark the occasion. In the



The 8th Myanmar Air Force-Royal Thai Air Force Air Working Group Meeting in progress in Nay Pyi Taw on 12-16 June 2023.

evening, Tatmadaw (Air) hosted a dinner reception to the guests with entertaining programmes.

The Thai delegation embarked on a visit to significant landmarks in Nay Pyi Taw, including the renowned Maravijaya Buddha image, Uppatasanti Pagoda, and the captivating white elephants on 14 June.

The following day, on 15 June, the delegation paid their respects at prominent pagodas, such as Shwedagon, Ngahtetgyi, Chaukhtetkyee, and Sule, in Yangon. They also explored the vibrant Bogyoke Aung San mar-

ket. As a gracious gesture, the military attaché office of Thailand hosted a dinner for the attendees.

Concluding their visit, as the delegation from the Royal Thai Air Force departed Yangon for Thailand, the Tatmadaw (Air) officers bade farewell to the Thai delegation.

The successful 8th MAF-RTAF Air Working Group Meeting stands as a testament to the growing collaboration and friendship between the Myanmar Air Force and the Royal Thai Air Force, further strengthening bilateral ties. — MNA/KTZH

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

A supporting vessel from Tatmadaw (Navy) transported 105 tents, 1,500 bags of foodstuffs, 534 boxes of medicines, 2,450 cartons of edible oil bottles, and 46 cartons of juice from Myanma Economic Corporation weighing 130 tonnes from Yangon to Sittway yesterday morning. — MNA/KZW

Thailand repatriates nine trafficking victims to Myanmar



The picture depicts the handover ceremony of Myanmar victims of human trafficking who had been under the care of centres operated by the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security in Thailand on 15 June.

NINE Myanmar nationals who had fallen victim to trafficking in Thailand were repatriated to Myanmar through the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge No 1 on 15 June.

The returnees, consisting of five males and four females, were officially recognized as human trafficking victims and had been under the care of centres operated by the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security in Thailand. After

completing the necessary legal procedures, including citizenship verification, officials from the Tak Province Immigration Department in Thailand facilitated their safe return.

During the handover ceremony, a representative from the Social Welfare Department of Thailand delivered a welcoming speech, while Staff Officer Daw Khin Nwe Nwe Yi from the Myawady reception centre, under the purview of the Rehabil-

itation Department, expressed gratitude in her response. Officials from both countries then exchanged the belongings and information related to the repatriated trafficking victims.

Myanmar's responsible personnel have taken charge of escorting the victims to the Myawady reception centre, from where they will be further assisted in their journey back to their respective homes. — TWA/CT

Over 350 Japanese companies to recruit 1,100+ Myanmar workers

THE Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo, Japan, made an announcement on 15 June stating that more than 350 Japanese companies have committed to employing over 1,100 workers from Myanmar.

The embassy has verified 352 job demand letters received between 1 June and 15 June 2023. These letters have been forwarded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for processing.

As per the announcement,

Japanese companies will be hiring a total of over 1,100 Myanmar nationals, with approximately 400 males and over 700 females being offered employment opportunities.

While it is well-known that a significant number of Myanmar workers seek employment in Thailand, an increasing number are also reportedly finding work in other Asian countries such as South Korea, Japan, and the United Arab Emirates. —TWA/CT



The picture depicts Myanmar workers in an electronics factory in Japan, diligently carrying out their duties.

Plans underway to introduce QR Code payment system for YBS vehicles

U Lyan Cin Mang, Joint Secretary of the Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC), announced that efforts are being made to replace the existing YPS card payment system with the QR code payment system, allowing passengers to pay bus fares, top up their balances, and check their remaining credits. This initiative is being carried out through a collaboration between YRTC and Asia Starmar Transport Intelligent Co Ltd to ensure seamless integration of the QR Code system.

With the new QR Code payment system, passengers will be able to easily pay their bus fares using their mobile phones, eliminating the need to carry exact cash. This will significantly reduce the inconvenience caused by the current cash-based payment system.

Currently, the majority of YBS vehicles in Yangon are equipped with the YPS card system, with over 200,000 YPS cards already sold. Presently, more than 130,000 cards are actively being used by passengers. — TWA/CT

Rising earthquake activity highlights importance of monitoring Sagaing Fault movement



An aerial view of the landscape of buildings in Yangon.

AS the frequency of small-scale earthquakes continues to rise within the country, earthquake experts are sounding the alarm for increased vigilance regarding the movement of the Sagaing Fault, a significant fault line traversing

Myanmar.

The Sagaing fault line is a major geological fault that spans over 1,200 kilometres, running between the Sundar (Sunda) rock mass and the Indian rock mass. It passes through various regions, includ-

ing Mandalay, Yamethin, Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw, Toungoo, and Bago.

Given its history of significant seismic activity, densely populated towns and villages situated along the Sagaing fault line must exercise

caution. Notably, Yangon and Mandalay, which are located in close proximity to the fault line and characterized by numerous high-rise buildings, require heightened awareness of earthquake risks.

In response, the Myanmar Earthquake Committee has issued a warning, urging authorities to conduct structural assessments of these high-rise structures to ensure their resilience against potential earthquakes.

As seismic activity continues, it is crucial to prioritize monitoring the movement of the Sagaing fault line and implement necessary measures to safeguard the communities residing in its vicinity. — Htun Htun/ KZW

ECONOMY WORLD

Siemens to expand Asia high-tech manufacturing

GERMAN industrial giant Siemens said Thursday it would build a new high-tech factory in Singapore and expand another in China as part of a two-billion-euro (\$2.1 billion) investment plan to build up its manufacturing capacity.

Siemens said it would invest around 200 million euros in the Singapore factory that would focus on industrial automation, and “set a new standard for connectivity”.

Aimed at serving the South-east Asian markets, the new installation is expected to create over 400 jobs.

Business daily Handelsblatt

reported that Siemens had originally planned to set up the factory in China but finally turned to Singapore to reduce its reliance on the Asian giant.

Nevertheless, China is far from left out in the latest investment plans.

Siemens said it would expand its digital factory in Chengdu, China, investing 140 million euros and bring 400 new posts.

A new digital R&D centre will also be set up in Shenzhen.

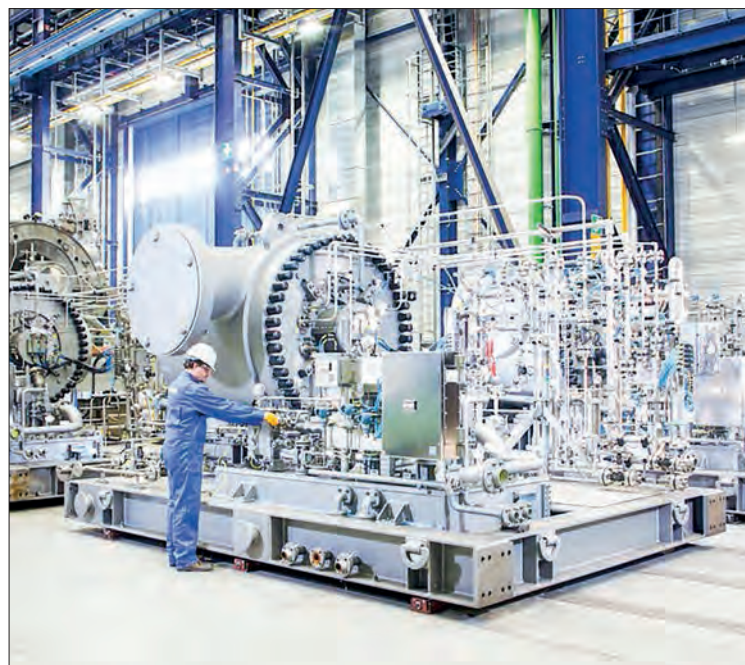
“Many of Siemens’ Chinese customers are early adopters of new technologies especially in digitalization and high-tech manufacturing,” it said in a state-

ment.

“This is why Siemens also announced the investment in a new digital R&D Innovation Center in Shenzhen to speed up development of motion control systems with digitalization and power,” it added.

Details on further investments in Europe and the United States across the globe are expected to follow, said Siemens.

The group’s announcement came a day after the German government published its first National Security Strategy that took aim at China for acting against Berlin’s interests and values. — AFP



German industrial company Siemens has announced plans to invest two billion euros in expanding its manufacturing capacity. As part of this investment, Siemens will build a new high-tech factory in Singapore and expand an existing facility in China. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ SIEMENS ENERGY**

Canada’s BCE announces layoffs, radio closures in shakeup



Bell’s CEO, Mirko Bibic, along with other executives, have written an open letter revealing the financial challenges faced by the company’s news operations and radio business. **PHOTO: CANMENWALKER/ WIKIPEDIA**

CANADA’S top broadcaster BCE announced Wednesday 1,300 job cuts and the closure or sale of nine radio stations in a major reorganization, citing dwindling

audiences, slumping advertising and a regulatory environment too slow to adapt.

In an open letter, Bell’s chief executive Mirko Bibic and

other executives said its news operations lose Can\$40 million (US\$30 million) each year and the profitability of its radio business has been cut in half over recent years.

The industry, they said, has been impacted by the continued migration of advertising revenues to digital platforms such as Google and Meta, and a decline in broadcast audiences as streaming services become ever more popular.

They also blasted Canadian regulators for having “not adapted to new realities facing media.”

“To succeed in today’s challenging economic, regulatory and competitive environment and be ready for what comes next, we need to accelerate our shift away from how telecom and media companies have operated in the past,” he said. — AFP

Kenya government to unveil budget amid tax hike anger

KENYAN President William Ruto’s government is set to present its budget to parliament Thursday in the face of widespread anger over a range of proposed tax hikes to shore up depleted public finances.

It is Ruto’s maiden budget

since he took office at the helm of the East African powerhouse in September last year following a bitterly contested election race.

Although Ruto pledged on the campaign trail to help poor Kenyans known as “hustlers”, he has been accused of introducing

policies that have actually made their lives harder. His government has drawn up a 3.6-trillion shilling (\$25.7 billion) budget for 2023/24 with new or increased taxes outlined in a separate finance bill expected to generate \$2.1 billion in revenue. — AFP

New Zealand economy tips into recession

NEW Zealand’s economy has fallen into a recession, according to official data released Thursday, with a damaging cyclone fuelling a widespread downturn just months before a national election.

Stats NZ signalled the economy had contracted 0.1 per cent in the first quarter, after a fall of 0.7 per cent at the end of 2022.

Four months before the country goes to the polls, finance minister Grant Robertson admitted that entering recession was “not a surprise”.

“We know 2023 is a challenging year as global growth slows, inflation has stayed higher for longer and the impacts of

North Island weather events continue to disrupt households and businesses,” he added.

January flooding in Auckland and destruction caused by Cyclone Gabrielle in February both weighed on the economy.

The government estimates it will cost up to NZ\$15 million (US\$9 million) to clean up the damage caused by the extreme weather. This is New Zealand’s first recession since 2020, when the pandemic shuttered borders and choked exports. With the economy shrinking, inflation running hot at 6.7 per cent and a 14 October election approaching, the centre-right opposition was quick to blame the government. — AFP



The New Zealand dairy industry is a significant sector of the country’s economy and plays a vital role in its agricultural landscape. Known for its high-quality dairy products, New Zealand is one of the world’s largest exporters of dairy products, particularly milk powder, butter, and cheese. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Intel to invest up to \$4.6 bln in new Poland chip site

US chip giant Intel will invest up to \$4.6 billion to build a new site in Poland, creating around 2,000 jobs, the company said Friday. Its new facility, to be located in the southern Polish city of Wroclaw, “will help meet critical demand for assembly and test capacity that Intel anticipates by 2027,” Intel said in a statement.

The investment in Poland is aimed at helping the European Union develop a more resilient semiconductor supply chain and reducing dependence on Asia, the statement added.

Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki hailed the announcement as an element of “cementing and consolidating transatlantic cooperation” with the US.

“From now on, from

this investment by Intel, Poland will be a key part of the not-so-extensive supply system of these most advanced technologies,” Morawiecki told reporters in Wroclaw.

Intel is one of the world’s leading semiconductor firms, making a wide range of products, including the latest-generation chips. The EU aims to reclaim 20 per cent of global semiconductor manufacturing capacity by 2030 – twice its current production – and has invested billions in Intel’s chip facilities in Germany and Ireland.

Intel has said its European sites will help with cost efficiency in the EU’s supply chain, and that it plans to produce 80 billion euros worth of chips in Europe over ten years. — AFP



Intel is one of the world’s leading semiconductor firms, making a wide range of products, including the latest-generation chips. PHOTO: AFP

UK retailer Tesco sees early signs of easing inflation

BRITISH supermarket giant Tesco said Friday there are “encouraging early signs” of easing inflation, but customers are still looking to save cash in a cost-of-living crisis.

Recent data showed UK inflation slowed to a 13-month low in April, but remains elevated at 8.7 per cent as soaring food prices offset weaker energy costs.

“There are encouraging early signs that inflation is starting to ease across the market and we will keep working tirelessly to ensure customers receive the best



Tesco revealed that retail sales excluding fuel rose 9.3 per cent to £14.8 billion (\$18.9 billion) in its first quarter to the end of May, from a year earlier. PHOTO: AFP

possible value at Tesco,” said chief executive Ken Murphy in an upbeat trading update.

He added: “We are

very conscious that many of our customers continue to face significant cost-of-living pressures and we have led the way in cut-

ting prices on everyday essential items.”

Tesco also revealed that retail sales excluding fuel rose 9.3 per cent to £14.8 billion (\$18.9 billion) in its first quarter to the end of May, from a year earlier.

The performance was also boosted by its strategy to match prices of similar goods offered by UK supermarkets run by German discounters Aldi and Lidl.

Tesco added that it is “well-positioned for the months ahead” and maintained its full-year guidance.— AFP

Russian oil revenues down nearly 50% on price cap: US

RUSSIAN government oil revenues plunged nearly 50 per cent in the first five months this year, US Deputy Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo said Thursday, six months since a price ceiling was enacted.

To restrict Moscow’s revenue after its invasion of Ukraine while making sure it keeps supplying the global market, a coalition involving the Group of Seven leading econo-

mies, European Union and Australia set a price cap of \$60 per barrel of Russian crude in December.

This decline in oil revenue from a year ago “has occurred despite the fact that Russia is exporting more crude oil today than it did at the onset of the war”, Adeyemo said in prepared remarks at an event at the Centre for a New American Security in Washington. — AFP

Top executive quits Nissan in new leadership turmoil

NISSAN top executive Ashwani Gupta is leaving the company, the Japanese automaker said Friday, in a surprise departure that will revive concerns about the stability of the firm’s leadership.

Gupta was part of an executive troika announced in October 2019, as the company struggled to regain its footing following the arrest of former chief Carlos Ghosn.

As chief operating officer, the Indian national quickly became one of the firm’s primary public faces, looming large at quarterly earnings press conferences, and was tipped as a potential future CEO.

But ahead of Friday’s announcement, a source close to the matter told AFP Gupta was stepping down, citing in part “rivalry” between him and chief executive Makoto Uchida. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2311S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2311S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-6-2023** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V TIAN LI VOY.NO. (2307)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TIAN LI VOY. NO. (2307)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-6-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MKH** 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 WILHELMSSEN PORT SERVICE S (S) PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V INLACO ACCORD VOY.NO. (2305)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V INLACO ACCORD VOY.NO. (2305)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **19-6-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-4** 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 ELDER TRIUMPHANT SHIPPING LINES PTE LTD

Xi meets with Bill Gates

CHINESE President Xi Jinping met Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in Beijing on 16 June.

Xi applauded Gates and the Gates Foundation for their long-term work to promote poverty reduction, health, development and philanthropy around the world. “At present, momentous changes unseen in a century are accelerating across the world. I put forward the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative to provide Chinese solutions to global challenges,” Xi said.

Xi said that China is first and foremost focused on solving its own problems. He said that as a large country with a population of over 1.4 billion, China’s long-term stability and sustained development are major contributions to world peace, stability and

prosperity.

China will consolidate its achievements in poverty alleviation, realize rural revitalization, and constantly improve rural health, Xi said.

Stressing that China is committed to advancing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts through a Chinese path to modernization, Xi said China will never fall into a pattern of seeking hegemony, and will instead work with other countries to achieve common development and build a community with a shared future for humanity.

Xi said that China is ready to carry out extensive cooperation with all countries on scientific and technological innovation, and actively participate in and promote the response to global challenges such as climate change, the fight against the pandemic, and public health. — Xinhua



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in Beijing, capital of China, 16 June 2023. **PHOTO: PANG XINGLEI / XINHUA**

With future PM Orpo, Finland trades charisma for cool-headedness



Orpo’s level-headed and policy-oriented approach has served him well. **PHOTO: AFP**

FINLAND’S next prime minister Petteri Orpo presents a stark contrast to his charismatic predecessor Sanna Marin, with his cool-headed demeanour and focus on reining in spending.

While the centre-right Orpo may not be the most radiant personality in Finnish politics, the 53-year-old’s National Coalition Party beat out the incumbent Social Democrat leader in April’s general election with a campaign focused on the economy.

However, choosing the

anti-immigration Finns Party -- which came second in the election -- as his preferred coalition partner over Marin’s Social Democrats was a decision that raised eyebrows.

Orpo had previously ruled out a collaboration with the Finns Party due to the two parties’ divergent stances on human rights. But on the day of the election, Orpo was asked about a possible coalition with the Finns Party and replied “there is no far-right party in Finland.” — AFP

Seoul military salvages North Korea’s space rocket wreckage

SOUTH Korea’s military said Friday it had successfully retrieved a large chunk of a crashed North Korean space rocket from the sea bed after 15 days of complex salvage operations. North Korea attempted to put its first military spy satellite into orbit on 31 May, but the projectile and its payload crashed into the sea shortly after launch due to what Pyongyang said was a rocket failure.

After deploying a fleet of naval rescue ships and mine-sweepers plus dozens of deep-sea divers, Seoul’s military said it had managed to salvage what appeared to be the main body of the rocket late Thursday from the Yellow Sea.

“The salvaged object is scheduled to be analysed in detail by specialized institutions such as

the national agency for defence development,” the Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement. — AFP



Images released by Seoul’s defence ministry showed a long, white barrel-like metal structure with the word “Chonma” written on it -- possibly a shorter form of the rocket’s official name, Chollima-1. **PHOTO: SOUTH KOREAN DEFENCE MINISTRY/AFP**

Macron seeks to sway Saudi’s MBS on Ukraine in Paris talks

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron on Friday hosts Saudi Arabia’s Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for talks in Paris, seeking to nudge the de-facto leader of the oil-rich kingdom into more full-throated support of Ukraine against the Russian invasion.

The visit of the 37-year-old, widely known as “MBS”, comes less than a year after his last visit to the Elysee Palace and underlines the warm relationship between Paris and Riyadh that has irked rights activists in the wake of the 2018 killing of Saudi critic Jamal Khashoggi.

Over their lunch at the Elysee Palace from 1115 GMT, Macron is also expected to seek support from MBS to find a solution in the search for a new president in Lebanon, a stalemate that is causing increasing exasperation for France. — AFP

No-confidence motion against Kishida Cabinet voted down in Diet

JAPAN'S House of Representatives on Friday voted down a no-confidence motion against the Cabinet of Prime Minister Fumio Kishida submitted by the main opposition party, a day after he quelled speculation of an early dissolution of the chamber. The Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan criticized Kishida in the motion for failing to fully explain how to fund key policies, including measures to bolster the nation's defence capabilities and spark Japan's rapidly declining birthrate.

After Kishida indicated

Thursday he would not react to a no-confidence motion being tabled by calling a snap election during the ongoing Diet session through next Wednesday, the recognition that the Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan hoped to garner was diminished, especially given the motion had little chance of being carried. The submission of a no-confidence motion by opposition parties is not uncommon during the run-up to the closing of regular parliamentary sessions, typically convened in January. If a no-confidence motion



Prime Minister Fumio Kishida (far R) bows in parliament on 16 June 2023, after the House of Representatives voted down a no-confidence motion submitted by the main opposition party against his Cabinet. PHOTO: KYODO

was approved in the lower house, the chamber would be dissolved within 10 days or all Cabinet members would have to step down under a provision within Japan's Constitution. — Kyodo

Kyiv attacked as African peace mission visits Ukraine

A flurry of Russian missiles greeted a delegation of African leaders arriving in Kyiv Friday as part of a mission aiming to broker peace between Kyiv and Moscow. The high-level diplomatic team hopes to bring to the table the voice of a continent that has badly suffered from repercussion of the Ukraine war, including by rising grain prices.

“(Russian President Vladimir) Putin ‘builds confidence’ by launching the largest missile attack on Kyiv in weeks, exactly amid the visit of African leaders to our capital,” Ukraine's Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said. The African delegation arrived by train from Poland on Friday morning and began their visit in Bucha. — AFP



Air raid alerts sounded as African leaders were due to visit. PHOTO: AFP

‘Disaster’ Cyclone Biparjoy weakens after ramming India's coast

CYCLONE Biparjoy slammed into the Indian coast with powerful winds, sowing fear and prompting evacuations, but began weakening in the early hours of Friday as it moved north. Indian forecasters had warned that Biparjoy, whose name means “disaster” in Bengali, was likely to devastate homes and tear down power lines as it barrels through the western state of Gujarat. — AFP

US nuclear submarine docks in S Korea after North missile launches

A US nuclear-powered submarine capable of carrying guided missiles arrived in South Korea on Friday for the first time in six years, the country's Defence Ministry said, following the launch of two ballistic missiles by North Korea the previous day. The submarine, called the Michigan, docked at the southeastern port city of Busan in line with an agreement between the two nations, announced in April by US President Joe Biden and his counterpart Yoon Suk Yeol, to deploy US strategic weapons more regularly to the Korean Peninsula, according to the ministry. The arrival of the submarine is part of a plan between the two allies' navies to “conduct special operations drills to strengthen interoperability and capabilities

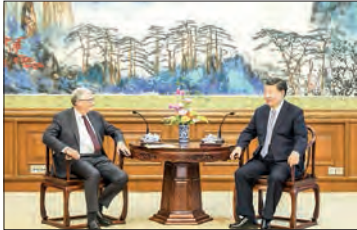
and respond to increasing North Korean threats,” the ministry said. Pyongyang fired the two short-range ballistic missiles into the ocean off its east coast on Thursday night, with both projectiles landing inside Japan's exclusive economic zone, Tokyo and Seoul said. — Kyodo



The nuclear-powered US Navy submarine Michigan makes a port call at Busan, South Korea, on 16 June 2023. PHOTO: YONHAP/KYODO

Iran, Cuba reaffirm common stance, vow to further boost ties

IRAN and Cuba have reaffirmed their common stance in the face of challenges and vowed to boost bilateral ties as Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi concluded his official visit here Thursday. “The conditions and circumstances Cuba and Iran are going through have many things in common,” Raisi said in meetings with Cuban revolutionary leader Raul Castro as well as Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel, referring to US sanctions against both countries. Iran is a friendly nation, with which Cuba feels confident to discuss the most complex global topics, President Diaz-Canel said. “Venezuela, Nicaragua, Cuba and Iran are countries that heroically have had to face, with a tenacious resistance, the sanctions, threats, blockades, and interferences of US imperialism and its allies.” — Xinhua



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.



Myanmar's Sithu Aung (white) tries to pass the Chinese player during the International FIFA Friendly Match played at the stadium in Dalian City, China on 16 June 2023. **PHOTO: MFF**

FIFA Int'l Friendly: China occupies 4-0 win over Myanmar

MYANMAR team suffered a 0-4 defeat to China in the International FIFA Friendly Match played at the stadium in Dalian City, China yesterday. Myanmar came out with a mix of veteran players and newcomers.

Team Myanmar played fiercely, but they conceded a lot of goals due to the mistakes of the back line and the goalkeeper.

China broke the deadlock in 29 minutes as L P Zhang produced an opener with his beautiful shot. Again, L Liang Ming scored the second goal for China six minutes later. China dominated the game with double goals in the first half. Myanmar tried more in the second half but, China played tougher. Myanmar's long-range shots and headers were

saved by the Chinese goalkeeper.

China gained the third and fourth goals with the efforts of the star player Wu Lei in 75 and 81 minutes. Team Myanmar lost two goals in the second half as all the shots went over the goal bar.

China celebrated a big victory over Myanmar as the referee blew the final whistle in 90-plus minutes. — KZL

Sweden says to move ahead with 2030 Olympic bid

SWEDEN'S Olympic Committee said on Thursday it would move ahead with plans to bid for the 2030 Winter Games after a feasibility study showed favourable results.

"Our preliminary study shows that Sweden has the possibility, know-how and willingness to organise the 2030 Winter Games," chairman of the Swedish Olympic Committee Hans von Uthmann said in a statement.

"I have informed the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that Sweden wants to proceed to step two in the process and the IOC has welcomed us to the next phase, which is regular dialogue," he said.

The IOC had initially been due to announce the host city



Members of the Swedish Olympic committee are seen above in February. Sweden is moving into the next phase of dialogue with the International Olympic Committee over hosting the 2030 Winter Olympics, the organization announced on Thursday. **PHOTO: CLAUDIO BRESCIANI/TT NEWS AGENCY/AFP**

this year but has postponed its decision until 2024, citing challenges presented by climate change.

But the reality is that there

are few candidates: the Japanese city of Sapporo, once seen as a favourite, has put its bid on hold following a corruption scandal surrounding the summer 2020 Tokyo Olympics.—AFP

Indonesia fans vexed after Messi pulls out of friendly

INDONESIAN fans of Lionel Messi expressed dismay Friday after the star pulled out of a friendly in Jakarta, including one making a 12-hour boat and plane journey to the game who accused organizers of false advertising.

People have rushed to snap up more than 60,000 tickets for the sell-out Monday clash between Indonesia and World Cup winners Argentina after Messi's face was plastered across advertising for the event.

But following days of speculation, fans in the football-mad country received bad news on Thursday that their hero would not play.

"I'm feeling sad and dis-

appointed, mixed emotions," 31-year-old shop owner Surya Wijaya Ang told AFP from the remote island of Banda Neira in the eastern province of Maluku.

"This was the biggest chance for me to see Messi play in person." On Thursday the Argentina side beat Australia in another friendly in the Chinese capital Beijing, with head coach Lionel Scaloni confirming that Messi would not make the Indonesian leg of their Asian tour.

Having become a major fan of Messi during the star's time at Barcelona, Ang has amassed a collection of around 200 jerseys adorned with his name.—AFP