

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.

Collaborative efforts called for respective regional interests to further development



State Administration Council Chair Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views round the progress of rehabilitation measures of the viewpoint and Shukhintha Road in Sittway on 10 July 2023.

STUDENTS play a key role in the further development of Rakhine State in the future, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in inspecting the progress of rehabilitation measures in Sittway of Rakhine State yesterday morning.

The Senior General inspected the urban areas of Sittway and Shukhintha Road as well as the progress of rehabilitation tasks.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General said an emphasis must be placed on the interests of the region in rehabilitation measures with farsightedness, rather than the current spending of funds. Shukhintha Road must be built as a circular road along the beach with systematic motorway and pedestrian ways for the safety of the people.

After inspecting the viewpoint of Sittway, the Senior General looked into the progress of the rehabilitation of Shukhintha Road.

At the multipurpose jetty, the Senior General inspected the distribution of rehabilitation materials from MV Royal Venus and MV Fortune to the disaster-hit regions.

At the Rakhine State government office, the Senior General heard reports on the improvement of transport facilities, repair of basic education schools, healthcare services, completion of TV retransmission, supply of water, sale of meat, fish and eggs, growing of windbreaks, sending of rehabilitation materials for storm victims, repair of Sittway University, University of Computer Studies and basic education schools, health infrastructures, religious buildings and communication facilities, supply of electricity, cultivation of monsoon paddy, difficulties to repair freshwater fish hatching camps, distribution of fish species to farmers, and cultivation of mangrove forest and shade trees presented by the Rakhine State Chief Minister.

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4 special civil appeals cases heard

A special appeal tribunal consisting of Chief Justice of the Union U Htun Htun Oo and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union U Aung Zaw Thein, U Myo Tint, U Kyi Thein and Daw Thin Thin Nwet, was convened yesterday morning at the Supreme Court of the Union and it heard a total of four special civil appeal cases: No 48/2022 (Yangon), 52/2022 (Kayin), 9/2023 (Shan) and 11/2023 (Shan) following COVID-19 prevention and control guidelines. — MNA

44 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 10 July, total figure registers 640,803

MYANMAR'S COVID-19-positive cases rose to 640,803 after 44 new cases were reported on 10 July 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. Therefore, a total of 10,917,792 laboratory samples were examined to date and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached 640,803. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached 619,588 including 11 new recoveries. The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered 19,494 on 10-7-2023 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

Public Notice for Submitting Objection

- Under Section 5 of the Political Parties Registration Law, Khumi National Party, with its headquarters located at No 6, Aungsaung Street, Yeikkha Ward, Paletwa, Chin State, submitted an application to the Union Election Commission on 7-7-2023 that the party's name, flag and emblem will be used as described.
- Therefore, those who want to object to the mentioned party's name, flag and emblem that will be used by the Khumi National Party can object to the Union Election Commission with valid evidence within seven days from the date of this announcement. It is announced to the public under Rule 14 (d) of the Registration of Political Parties.



Flag of Khumi National Party



Emblem of Khumi National Party

Union Election Commission

The people are urged to receive vaccination of Covid-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of Covid-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.

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

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

Citizens Pay which are widely used to enhance convenience for donors. To donate, please scan the QR code and enter the code provided within it.

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

Nation's strength lies within

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

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

Collaborative efforts called for respective regional interests to further development

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Union ministers also discussed the progress of relief and rehabilitation, repair of basic education schools, upgrading the shelters and requirements in the work progress of ministries.

In his address, the Senior General said that rehabilitation measures must be undertaken by emphasizing food sufficiency and distribution of quality paddy strains. As Rakhine State has sufficient feedstuffs to successfully operate livestock breeding, a better feedstuff and water supply system will improve livestock farms. They have to operate seawater fish and prawn farming tasks to have market share.

The Senior General stressed the need to rebuild basic education schools for learning areas of students and these can be changed as



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing hears rehabilitation reports and gives guidance on further recovery measures at the meeting yesterday.



The Senior General and party are pictured during the inspection tours in Rakhine State yesterday.

shelter if necessary. Rakhine State Public Health Department needs to arrange emergency treatment and advanced treatment at Sittway General Hospital with physicians, spe-

cialists and retired physicians. The government will provide medicines and medical equipment for healthcare services to locals.

The Senior General point-

ed out that power cables of national grids may cause an outage of electricity in a disaster-hit period. So, it needs to seek ways for generating electricity in the region. Relevant

ministries and local authorities need to systematically upgrade construction tasks. If local authorities and locals cooperate with each other, Rakhine State will be better than the previous

situation. Effective action must be taken against those who sell construction materials and equipment at high prices. Anyone should not seek self-interest by exploiting locals.

Agriculture, livestock and industrial training schools are opened for students to have basic knowledge of respective subjects. Students play a key role in the further development of Rakhine State in the future. The government is giving training to education staff and planning to assign teachers needed for Rakhine State for the development of the state in the future.

The Senior General urged residents and service personnel discharging duties in Rakhine State to serve the interests of their regions. — MNA/TTA

Relief and rehabilitation tasks relying on internal strengths



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets departmental personnel, town elders, Tatmadaw members and families from Buthidaung Township (above) and from Rathedaung Township (below) yesterday.

As local people are ethnics of the nation, residing in the same places through thick and thin, they all have to serve each other in fraternity so as to contribute to regional development, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the separate meetings with departmental personnel, town elders, Tatmadaw members and families from Rathedaung and Buthidaung townships and relevant military stations of Rakhine State yesterday afternoon.

In the meeting with Tatmadaw members and families from Rathedaung and Buthidaung stations at local battalions separately, the Senior General said Rathedaung Station, located on the route of the storm, suffered severe impacts of storm Mocha. Reconstruction tasks are being undertaken whereas families need to repair necessary structures as much as they can. Priority must be given to safe and secure accommodation in the rainy season. Meanwhile, Buthidaung Station faced slight damage.

At a time when political crises happen and storm Mocha hit there, relief and rehabilitation measures may have some requirements and weaknesses. In line with the motto: The strength of the nation lies within, relief and rehabilitation tasks are relying on internal strengths.

As repairing damaged parts

is being undertaken for long-term strengthening, it will take time. Hence, Tatmadaw members and families need to endure the difficulties with high spirits.

As local people are ethnics of the nation, residing in the same places through thick and thin, they all have to serve each other in fraternity so as to contribute to regional development.

The Senior General also met with departmental personnel and town elders at township general administration departments in Rathedaung and Buthidaung separately.

Maj-Gen Aung Myo Tun of



The Senior General and his wife greet families of Tatmadaw members.

the Commander-in-Chief Office and town elders from Rathedaung Township reported on losses and damage in the storm, supply of relief aid, a plan to build cyclone shelters, repair for religious buildings and recruitment

of health staff, beautification of Maungta-Buthidaung road, and needs of OG surgeons at Buthidaung township hospital.

In his response, the Senior General pledged to fulfil the needs of townships on priority. The Sen-

ior General underscored that industries based on agriculture and livestock farms will contribute much to regional development. Buthidaung region needs to efficiently utilize cultivable lands and systematically operate livestock

breeding to meet the meat and fish demands of the region.

The Senior General stressed that as the Buthidaung region is located in the westernmost of Myanmar, it is necessary to protect the region with a patriotic spirit. As the people reside in Myanmar, they have to be loyal to their land. Only when the region is peaceful and stable will residents be able to undertake regional development tasks as quickly as possible. It is necessary to nurture a new generation of children to have greater development in the region. Education must be improved to bring about regional development in the future.

After the ceremonies, the Senior General presented relief supplies to departmental personnel and town elders from relevant townships. — MNA/TTA

SAC Member DPM MoD Union Minister inspects rehabilitation tasks, meets staff, administrators, Border Guard Police, their families in Rakhine

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence General Mya Tun Oo, who accompanied SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on his Rakhine trip, inspected the rehabilitation processes in Ponnagyun, Maung-taw and Buthidaung townships yesterday.

Together with the Deputy Prime Minister on his inspection tour were Union Minister for Union Government Office Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Min Naung, Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant, the deputy minister for Transport and Communications and senior military officers.

First, the Deputy Prime Minister and party inspected the maintenance of the Mocha-hit U Riz Mingala suspension bridge in Ponnagyun Township and met with the township departmental staff at the Township General Administration Department Office.

During the meeting, the



Deputy Prime Minister MoD Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo views the rehabilitation measures in Rakhine State yesterday.



Deputy Prime Minister appreciated the collective efforts of the departments concerned, adding that they should work together in administrative and regional development programmes.

The Union ministers, the deputy ministers and relevant officials reported on the distribution of relief items and supplies, agriculture and farming equipment, completed maintenance of storm-hit basic education schools and monastic schools, peaceful learning of students and repairs of communication systems.

Then, the Deputy Prime Minister and party met police force members and their families at the township police station and provided cash assistance after giving instructions.

They then oversaw the safe of the Myanmar Economic Bank in the station compound and stressed the need to be aware of the safety of treasury and the danger of fire.

They then proceeded to No 5 Border Guard Police Branch in Maungtaw and met with the police members and their families and presented foodstuffs.

Moreover, they met and comforted the district and township-level departmental officials and ward administrators at Sasana Beikman of Maungtaw.

They also provided rice, cooking oil, water purifiers and foodstuffs to the ward administrators. They also discussed the rehabilitation processes for education, health, agriculture and breeding sectors.

They then inspected the District Police Station and the treasury of the Myanmar Economic Bank in Maungtaw Township.

Moreover, they comforted the No 3 Border Guard Police Branch members and their families in Buthidaung Township and provided cash assistance and other supplies. — MNA/KTZH

First High-Level Conference of Forum on Global Action for Shared Development held in Beijing

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Dr Kan Zaw, currently in Beijing of the People's Republic of China, held a meeting with Mr Deng Boqing, Vice-Chairman of the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), on 9 July 2023. During the meeting, matters relating to boosting bilateral economic cooperation, implementing ongoing and proposed China-aid projects, and exploring the way forward for future cooperation were discussed.

In the evening, the Union minister attended a welcome banquet hosted by CIDCA for the high-level representatives from respective countries and organizations who would be attending the Conference.

The First High-Level Conference of the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development, led by CIDCA, was held under the theme "Global Development Initiative: Echo the Development Agenda and Call for Global Action" on the morning of 10 July. Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw participated in the Conference.

The Conference was also attended by Mr Wang Yi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs; Mr Luo Zhaohui, the Chairman of CIDCA; and high-level representatives from more than 20 countries in Asia, America, and Latin America regions as well as 36 United Nations Agencies and international organizations. U Tin Maung Swe, Myanmar Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, and the two representatives from Myanmar also joined the Conference.

At the Conference, the four sub-forums were held consecutively. Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw addressed the opening speech at the sub-forum, Global Public Goods for Poverty Reduction and Agricultural Transition: A Critical Juncture for South-South Cooperation. Following the conference, the Beijing statement was released with the consensus of the participating countries. — MNA



Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw poses for the documentary group photo at the event in Beijing on 9 July 2023.

MoI officials, staff go into detail about overseas trips

THE second experience-sharing workshop from officials and staff who completed overseas trips for study tours, youth summits and meetings was held at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn, Deputy Minister U Ye Tint, departmental officials and staff attended the event.

During the workshop, U Arkar Taik Aung, MRTV Staff Officer recounted the experiences of attending the ASEAN-India Music Festival held in India from 18 to 20 November 2022, Daw Khine Thinzar, MRTV Staff Officer, the 57th meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information (ASEAN-COCI 57) in Viet Nam from 21 to 26 November 2022, Daw Su Thet Hmue,



The second experience-sharing event of MoI personnel who returned from foreign trips in progress yesterday, attended by Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn.

MRTV Staff Officer, the service as newscaster in the Myanmar language at China Radio International (CRI) under non-staff rules from 29 November 2018 to 30 November 2022 in China,

U Kyi Soe Nyunt, MRTV artist, the ASEAN-India media exchange programme from 14 to 20 June 2022 in India, U Sai Tun Nay Hlaing, IPRD Staff Officer, the ASEAN-India media

exchange programme from 9 to 11 February 2023 in India and Daw Ei Ei Nge, Editor of the Printing and Publishing Department, the 4th ASEAN-India Youth Summit held from 12 to

16 June 2023 in India. Then, the Union minister, the deputy minister and staff asked the questions about what they wanted to know from them. — MNA/KTZH



Myanmar MoH delegation leaves for Bangladesh



Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win seen before departing for Bangladesh yesterday.

AT the invitation of the Bangladeshi Government, a Myanmar delegation, led by Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win, left Yangon for Bangladesh yesterday morning to attend the International Conference on Public Health and Diplomacy, which will be held on 11 and 12 July in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The Union minister and delegation were seen off by Mr A S M Sayem, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Bangladeshi

Embassy and officials, and departmental officials from the Ministry of Health at the Yangon International Airport.

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Ministers of Health, deputy ministers, secretaries and international public health experts from the Southeast Asian countries such as Bangladesh, Myanmar, India, Bhutan, Thailand, Maldives, Nepal and the World Health Organization will attend the conference. — MNA/TS

Specialists successfully perform haematopoietic stem cell transplant-HSCT

THE medics led by Prof Dr Aye Aye Gyi, the department head of Haematology successfully performed the haematopoietic stem cell transplant-HSCT on four patients in June 2023 at North Okkalapa General Hospital.

The medical team conducted a haploidentical allogeneic transplant surgery on a patient with acute myeloid leukemia replacing with stem cells of the patient's father; the donor and an autologous HSCT surgery on three lymphoma patients using blood stem cells from their bodies. Currently, all the patients are in good health.

Although the HSCT can

only be performed when the patient has an identical sibling (twin) – someone who has the same tissue type previously, the haploidentical allogeneic transplant can be done using the stem cell from the half-matched donor, for example- mother/father, son/daughter, siblings according to today's developing medicinal aspect.

The first HSCT surgery in Myanmar was performed for Leukemia patients at North Okkalapa General Hospital in 2014. Moreover, it offered treatment to 18 myeloma and lymphoma patients with autologous HSCT using stem cells of patients and

three patients with acute myeloid leukemia using allogeneic HSCT of donors totalling 21 patients between 2014 and 2020. Similarly, 13 myeloma patients received HSCT operations in 2016 at Yangon General Hospital.

The successful completion of HSCT operations by Myanmar specialists in public hospitals enables patients to receive treatment locally and save on medical expenses of going abroad for treatment. The Ministry of Health supports these operations by providing the necessary resources. — MNA/KTZH



The HSCT operation is underway at North Okkalapa General Hospital.

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LOCAL BUSINESS

Palm oil wholesale reference price for Yangon Region sees uptick

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market continued moving upward this week ending 16 July, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The reference price was set at K4,030 per viss from 3 to 9 July. For the week ending 16 July, the price was set higher a bit at K4,140 per viss. The figures showed a small increase of K110 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 transportation cost, tariff and banking service, and issuing the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

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

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

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

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

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



People are seen in front of the post of the Sino-Myanmar border.

Myanmar-China border trade bags nearly US\$1 billion in Q1

THE value of Myanmar's border trade with China amounted to nearly US\$1 billion in the current financial year 2023-2024, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The figures soared from \$607.63 million recorded in the corresponding period last FY 2022-2023, indicating a significant increase of \$388.148 million this FY.

Myanmar is carrying out border trade with the neighbouring country China through Muse, Lweje, Chinshwehaw, Kampaiti and Kengtung. The

Muse border performed the largest trade value of \$657.976 million among them.

Trade values stood at \$263.668 million via Chinshwehaw, \$49.93 million via Kampaiti, \$21.813 million via Lweje and \$2.391 million via Kengtung.

Myanmar carries out border trade with the neighbouring countries Thailand, China, Bangladesh and India. It exports agricultural products, livestock, fisheries, minerals, forest products, manufacturing goods and other goods, while capital goods, consumer

goods, intermediate goods and raw materials by the CMP enterprises are brought into the country.

Myanmar's border trade with China is steadily growing with 200 trucks in and out of the Muse trade zone daily.

Myanmar daily delivers rice, broken rice, rubber, various beans and pulses, fishery products, chilli pepper and other food commodities to China and building materials, electrical appliances, food products and pharmaceuticals are imported into the country. — NN/EM

MGEA sells over 7 visses of pure gold at special price within two weeks

MANDALAY Gold Entrepreneurs Association (MGEA) sold over 7 visses of pure gold at a special price within two weeks.

To stabilize the gold price, the MGEA commenced gold sell-off at K3,050,000 per tical (0.578 ounce or 0.016 kilogramme) at noon of 19 June and sold at K3,040,000 per tical on 20 June, K3,035,000 per tical on 21 and 22 June, K3,030,000 per tical on 23, 26, 27, 28 and 30 June and 3 July, K3 million per tical on 4, 5, 6 and 7 July respectively.

The MGEA sold the pure gold by drawing lots, not using a queuing system. Anyone can buy them freely during office days, except weekends and banking holidays.

The MGEA's price will cut



Buyers are pictured waiting for the purchase of gold at the MGEA office.



the price depending on the daily price fluctuation. The MGEA will closely observe the purchase as some are selling queue spots.

Apart from the members of the association, whoever can buy them freely at the office lo-

cated on 67th Street between 40th and 41st Street, Mahamyaing 1 Quarter, by presenting the citizenship scrutiny card and household registration document. For further details, please contact the office. The MGEA is open for gold trading except the

weekends and bank holidays.

The prevailing price of pure gold fetched up to K3.14 million per tical at the grey market, tracking the spot gold price rally at US\$1,920 per ounce and Kyat depreciation to around K3,100 against the US dollar.

Myanmar's gold price is highly correlated with the spot gold price and the US dollar exchange rate. The soaring dollar exchanging at over K4,500 pushed the gold price up to a record-high of K3.7 million per tical in late August 2022.

To lower the gold price, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has been selling gold ingots under the competitive bidding system in Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw.

With an aim at reducing gold prices, the YGEA and Mandalay Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association sold gold bullion supplied by the executive members and the members as well. — NN/EM

Stabilize the world population by controlling the birth rate

CONTROLLING the birth rate is crucial for stabilizing the world’s population. While some countries have benefited from a high birth rate in the past, enjoying a demographic dividend with a growing workforce and fewer dependents, others are grappling with an ageing population and labour shortages due to a decline in population growth.

This pervasive injustice disproportionately affects women and girls, who are kept out of school, the workforce, and leadership positions. It limits their agency and ability to make decisions about their health, sexuality, and reproduction. It also increases their vul-

nerability to violence, harmful practices, and preventable maternal deaths, with a woman dying every two minutes due to pregnancy or childbirth. Over the years, there have been significant changes in fertility rates and life expectancy. In the early 1970s, women, on average, had 4.5 children each. However, by 2015, the global total fertility rate had dropped below 2.5 children per woman. At the same time, average global lifespans have increased from 64.6 years in the early 1990s to 72.6 years in 2019. The world’s population took hundreds of thousands of years to reach 1 billion, but it grew sevenfold in just another 200 years. In 2011, the global population surpassed seven billion; as of 2021, it stands at almost 7.9 billion. Projections suggest that it will reach around 8.5 billion in 2030, 9.7 billion in 2050, and 10.9 billion in 2100.

Emphasizing gender equality is crucial for creating a more just, resilient, and sustainable world. Women and girls possess the creativity, ingenuity, resources, and power necessary to address demographic challenges, climate change, and conflicts that threaten the future of nations.

In Myanmar, the female population exceeds the male population by two million out of a total population of over 55.5 million. If each woman gives birth to two children, Myanmar’s birth rate will reach replacement-level fertility. The country is projected to benefit from the demographic dividend around 2060. However, it is essential to prepare for the labour shortage resulting from an ageing population by establishing a robust social protection system through collaborative efforts among relevant ministries.

In alignment with the theme for the 2023 World Population Day, “Unleashing the power of gender equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world’s infinite possibilities,” global citizens must foster a sense of family and recognize the sustainability of each country and its population without disrupting one another. By promoting gender equality, people can unleash their potential to overcome demographic and other challenges.

The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

By **THAN HTUN (GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)**

EPISODE:15

JOHN Coggin Brown (1884-1962) was educated at King James I School, Bishop Auckland, and entered Armstrong College, University of Durham, in 1901 as a science student. He graduated in 1904 with honours in geology and chemistry and gained medal awards and a scholarship in mineralogy and inorganic chemistry for his original work. He was awarded the MSc degree from Durham University in geology in 1911 and later received the doctorate. In 1905 Dr Brown left England for India on his appointment as an Assistant Superintendent in the Geological Survey of India. After a short period in the laboratory, he was deputed to the Western Himalayas in 1906 and later in the year to the Northern Shan States of Burma. He was sent in 1907 to the Province of Yunnan in Western China and received a promotion for his work there. He moved between Calcutta, Assam, Burma, and Yunnan over the period 1908-1913, his reports in Burma covered quarry products for road metal, the oil, coal, and iron fields, the Bawdwin mines, and ore deposits, inquiries into a bridge site across the Irrawaddy and on earthquakes; he reported on gold-bearing deposits of Mong-long and advised on boring for oil below the bed of Irrawaddy.

In Yunnan, he was concerned with mines and mineral deposits, and in Assam with oil and coal particularly and with a landslide investigation. He was appointed Government Geologist in Burma, and the first official member of the Burma Oilfields Advisory Board. For his service as a geologist with the Abor Expeditionary Field Force in 1913 he was awarded the Indian General Service Medal. He visited Southern India between tours in Burma. In December 1913, he was appointed Curator, of the Geological Survey of India, and lecturer in geology, at Presidency College, Bengal, and a Special lecturer in economic geology of India at Calcutta University. During the 1914-18 war he was the resident mining adviser to the

Government in connection with efforts to increase the output of Wolfram and was sent to Tavoy. He was made Inspector of Mines in Burma and Inspector of Explosives. He received the OBE for his war work. He left Tavoy in 1919 on deputation to London as India’s representative on the Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau and as Minerals Adviser to the Indian authorities in London.

Dr Brown returned to India in 1922 and was placed in charge of the office of the Geological Survey of India in Calcutta for some time before his appointment as Superintendent of the Burma Party of the Geological Survey of India, and held this post until his retirement in 1934. Since 1932 he had been a consulting mining geologist, and he served on the Cochín Harbour Committee in 1938. He had lived in England since his retirement from the Survey. He made many valuable contributions to the Records and Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India and wrote from his wide knowledge of minerals for the technical press. He was the author of the book entitled India’s mineral wealth: a guide to the Occurrences and Economics of useful minerals of the Indian Empire (first edition 1923, second edition 1936, and third edition, revised, jointly with A K Dey, 1955, published by Oxford University Press). John Coggin Brown died on 23 June 1962, at the age of 77.

Mr Brown reported “The Cassiterite Deposits of Tavoy” in Part 1, Volume XLIX of Records of the Geological Survey of India in 1919. The significant points of his report are extracted below: -

The Cassiterite Deposits of Tavoy

In a paper submitted to the Geological Section of the Indian Science Congress in 1916, I discussed the origin of the wolfram and cassiterite-bearing quartz loads of the Tavoy district in lower Burma, one of the more important wolfram mining centres of the world. It was pointed out therein that the sedimentary rocks of the Mergui Series, which from the greater part of Southern Tenasser-

im, have been pierced by great intrusions of acid granites, and that the final phases of the intrusions were distinguished by the formation of pegmatites, aplites, quartz lodes and segregations, greisens, and quartz porphyries, possessing a roughly peripheral disposition around the parent masses. The granites contain cassiterite, wolfram, and molybdenite as accessory minerals. The pegmatite veins and quartz lodes contain wolfram, cassiterite, scheelite in small quantities, native bismuth, bismuthinite, and sulphides of iron, copper, arsenic, antimony, lead, and zinc. Gold is found in the placer deposits of the district and probably comes from the lodes, but it has not been discovered in situ up to date. The objective of the paper is to bring together a few observations on the presence of tin ore in Tavoy.

History

The date of the beginning of tin mining in Tavoy is lost in obscurity, but judging from the extent and character of the ancient workings, it must have been carried on for a very long time.

Tavoy became part of the British Empire in 1825. As early as 1836, Captain Low published a list of tin mines and stated that they found employment for 400 Burmese during 4 months of the year.

In 1839, Dr Helfer published the results of his travels in Ye, Tavoy, and Mergui. He came across tin-stone workings 40 feet deep in alluvium near Myitta and discovered a cassiterite lode near Wunpo. This place is probably the modern Eгани, where extensive ancient workings have been found recently.

In 1842, an anonymous writer mentioned the occurrence of cassiterite in the Talaingya and Taungbyuk chaungs.

In 1849, O’Riley published a paper dealing with the metalliferous deposits of Tenasserim in which a list of tin mines is given, including the Taungbyauk chaung, the headwaters of the Tenasserim and the stream flowing into the Heinze Basin.

About this time a most in-



Source: Geological Survey of India

teresting work appeared by Dr Mason, one of the early American missionaries in Lower Burma. It is an encyclopedic account of the natural history of Tenasserim, with a portion devoted to geology and mineralogy. In it, I have found the earliest reference to Tavoy Wolfram with which I am acquainted. It also contains a brief description of certain tin mines in Mergui. According to Dr Mason, “Tin is abundant in the provinces, commencing from the mountains in which Tavoy and Heinze’s rivers have their rise, the northern limit of tin in the provinces, to the southern boundary of Mergui, Pakchan River. The richest locality in the province of Tavoy is nearly opposite the city of Tavoy on the eastern side of the mountains.” That large quantities of tin must have been found in Tavoy three

hundred years ago, we have evidence in an incidental remark of Mr Ralph Fitch; who, says Mr Hough in the Moulmein Chronicle, “travelled in this part of the world about the year 1586, or 1587.” He says “I went from Pegu to Malacca passing many of the seaports of Pegu, as Martaban, the Island of Tavi whence all India is supplied with tin, Tenasserim, the Island of Junkselon, and many others.”

In 1852, O’Riley appeared again with statistics of tin mining in Tavoy which were contradicted by Dr T. Oldham, the first Director of the Geological Survey of India, who, some years previously had laid the foundations of our geological knowledge of Tavoy and Mergui. Helfer came on the scene again in 1859, and in 1861 samples of tin ore from Heinze, Nwalabo, and Khamaungghla were displayed

at an exhibition in London.

In 1905, the Golden Stream Syndicate issued its prospectus. This concern had prospecting rights over an area of 350 square miles including most of Paungdaw and the upper Kamaungthwe valley, but its operations were unsuccessful.

It is possible that indigenous tin mining was almost extinguished during Alompra’s invasion in the middle of the 18th century. It is recorded that, after the Talaings were overthrown in the north, the Emperor marched down the mainland of Tenasserim, while his convoys sailed down the coast.

In 1908, when Mr J J A Page, then an officer of the Geological Survey of India, commenced his inquiry into the conditions of tin mining in Tavoy, the output was barely one ton per annum. In 1909, wolfram was met with in several localities, and from that date production of this mineral has steadily increased.

Occurrence

Cassiterite is found in Tavoy in lodes, in detrital deposits, in placer deposits, and as an original accessory in certain granites.

Lode Deposits: Cassiterite is almost always found in close association with Wolfram. Only one instance is known of a cassiterite-quartz lode that contains no wolfram. Examples of quartz lodes containing wolfram to the almost total exclusion of cassiterite are commoner, but, as a general rule, most of the Tavoy wolfram lodes contain some cassiterite. The associated minerals are nearly all micas with sulphides of iron, copper, molybdenum, lead, bismuth, or zinc, the iron sulphides vastly predominating. Specimens have been collected that show that in some lodes the tin mineral was the first to be deposited, the tungsten compound coming second, but this is very rare; in most examples, tin has clearly followed tungsten. Greisens carrying both wolfram and cassiterite frequently border the mixed lodes when they

traverse granite. They furnish a certain proportion of concentrate. Cassiterite tends to be more widely

disseminated in the greisens than wolfram.

Detrital Deposits: The large portion of the mixed concentrates of Tavoy are won from the detrital deposits of the hillsides during the rainy season. True eluvial deposits are found on the hillsides in which the lodes crop out, and the minerals are washed out by streamlets into the main arteries of surface drainage during rain storms.

Placer Deposits: Wolfram is never found in true placer deposits, although a contrary opinion has often been advanced. It may reach the foot of the hillsides where the eluvial deposits of the slopes merge into the water-sorted ground filling the valley bottoms. When wolfram and cassiterite are broken out of a lode by the action of the weather and begin to travel downhill, the wolfram disappears long before its journey is ended, whereas the tin-stone continues, and is preserved eventually in the alluvial deposits of the valley. The only mineral of commercial importance in the placers of Tavoy is cassiterite.

Recent Deposits: Recent deposits in Tavoy include the modern alluvium which forms the paddy plains, the tidal rivers, and the swamps along their banks. In some of the smaller valleys, the modern alluvium is being derived partly from a re-assortment of the older alluvium deposits.

Sub-recent or Late Tertiary Deposits: They are of great extent and importance, for it is in them that the richer cassiterite placers are likely to occur. They are found as river-terraces raised above the present level of the inland streams; as lacustrine and fluvio-lacustrine deposits laid down in the still waters of the Myitta and other lakes; as deep eluvio-alluvial beds in the submerged basin of Kanbauk and other placers; as clay banks containing the remains of marine animals, and now found raised above the level of the sea in the vicinity of Tavoy estuary. I agree with Mr Heron that the interior regions appear to have undergone a more recent uplift as well. The deposits of the Kanbauk area were accumulated in a rapidly sinking

valley which must have stood at a comparatively higher level at one time than it does today.

Origin of the Cassiterite in the Sub-recent Placers: It has been demonstrated recently that both cassiterite and wolfram may exist as original accessory minerals in certain Tavoy granites. This is proved by panning large quantities of decomposed granite obtained in situ. It is possible then to have deposits containing cassiterite and wolfram, without the presence of quartz, lodes, pegmatites, or greisens containing these minerals.

Tin Dredging and its Prospects: A cutter and suction dredge owned by Messrs. Booth and Milne, is operated successfully near Taungthonlon about 30 miles east of Tavoy on the Siam Road. It excavates the old lake deposits which are situated below the modern river gravels, to a depth of 15-20 feet. I may cite the case of the Thingandon flats in the Pauktaing Valley, which are crossed by the most important motor road in the district.

Favourable Localities: Well worth prospecting for deposits of alluvial cassiterite in Tavoy district are: -

- (a) the Myitta valley, including the basins of the Ban and Khamaungthwe chaungs and their tributaries, especially the Heinda, Myekhanbaw and Seinpyon chaung;
- (b) the upper valley of the Kahmaungghla or Maungme-shaung chaung;
- (c) the country around Onhbinkwin and the Heinze Basin;
- (d) the gravels of the Zimba chaung;
- (e) the alluvial deposits in the upper portion of the Anyapya chaung and its tributaries;
- (f) the Thingandon flats of the Pauktaing chaung;
- (g) the placer deposits in the vicinity of the Heinze chaung;
- (h) the alluvial deposits of the Taungbyauk chaung.

References: J. Coggin Brown, 1919: “The Cassiterite Deposits of Tavoy”, Records of the Geological Survey of India, Part 1, Volume XLIX.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Some roads to be temporarily closed on Martyrs' Day in Yangon

SOME roads in Yangon will be temporarily closed during the 76th Martyrs' Day ceremony, according to the Yangon Region Government.

During the ceremony from 4 am to the completion of the ceremony on 19 July, West Shwegondine Road will be closed from old Yedashe Road, Dhammazedi Road from U Wisara-Dhammazedi intersection and Inya Myaing intersection, Martyrs' Road from West Shwegondine-U Wisara intersection and U Htaung Bo-Mar-



U Wisara Road and Dhammazedi Road are pictured on Google Maps.

tyrs' intersection, U Wisara Road from U Wisara Roundabout to U Wisara-Dhammazedi intersection. The road to the northern archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda (Thwaysaykan Road) will also be closed or a detour will be made.

In addition, Natnauk Road will be temporarily closed from the Wingaba intersection and from the Pho Sein intersection, Bogyoke Museum Road from the Ngahtetgyi Pagoda intersection, Bo Cho Road from the Shwe Kyat Yat intersection, Bogyoke Museum Road from Saw Maha intersection from 5 am to 6 pm on 19 to 21 July.

During the flag-hoisting ceremony to be held at the secretariat from 5 am to 6 pm on 19 July, Theinbyu Road will be closed from Bogyoke Junction, Anawrahta Road from Bo Myat Tun Junction, Maha Bandoola Road from Pansodan Junction, and Bo Aung Kyaw Road from Merchant Junction. — TWA/MKKS

Above 6 mln visit Shwedagon Pagoda during six months this year



Pilgrims are seen donating water to pour onto the Buddha Image at the Sunday planetary post. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

A total of 6.3 million pilgrims, including more than 38,000 foreigners, visited the Shwedagon Pagoda from January to the end of June this year, according to the Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees.

There are nearly 20,000 visitors on weekdays but there are between 30,000 and 50,000 at weekends and on public holidays.

Most of the tourists to the Shwedagon Pagoda were from Thailand, China, Viet Nam and Cambodia, followed by those from European countries. Some Americans and Africans also visited the pagoda.

The opening time of the Shwedagon Pagoda has been extended from 5 am to 8 pm. — TWA/MKKS

BPI (Insein) to purchase 1,200 vipers, 400 cobras for anti-snake venoms

TO produce the anti-snake venoms, the pharmaceutical factory (Insein) will purchase 1,200 vipers and 400 cobras at a good price through the instant cash system.

The specified weight for snakes should be 50 ticals and above, and the price is set at K10,000 for a viper and K15,000 for a cobra. Moreover, sellers must deliver to the factory.

Machines for producing antidotes are being installed in the pharmaceutical factory (Insein). Anti-snake venoms that can treat both types of venom from vipers and cobras are being produced and will be sold locally as well

as abroad.

Five hundred snake antidote tablets were sold as a trial to Cambodia and Laos in the 2017-2018 financial year. In the 2018-2019 financial year, about 5,000 snake antidote tablets were exported.

To make anti-snake ven-

oms last longer and have higher quality, they are manufactured using a freeze-drying system, which is an Australian technology. Those who want to sell vipers and cobras can contact the pharmaceutical factory (Insein) at phone numbers 01-646273 and 01-646283. — TWA/CT



Photos depict a viper and anti-snake venoms manufactured by the pharmaceutical factory (Insein).



Ready-made paprika powders need to be checked

FUNGUS in chilli peppers and ready-to-eat paprika powders made using dyes and colourings are harmful to the health of consumers. The relevant authorities check whether these spices are healthy or not and inform the public of what should not be consumed from time to time.

Some brands of chilli powder being sold in the market have been declared unfit for consumption, and therefore people are required to be careful in buying some kinds of spices that may be harmful to their health.

Some of the prices of chilli powder are cheaper than the wholesale prices of chilli peppers sold in the market. Most of the local consumers are using ready-made chilli powder instead of chilli pepper pods used before.

Some lucrative businesses use discoloured chilli peppers and dye them. They also add substitutes like bran to add weight to the peppers.

“Even the price for a viss of chilli powder, which is K2,000 higher than the wholesale price of chilli peppers, cannot be said to be free of additives and dyes. The price of chilli pepper pods is over K10,000 per viss this year, but some chilli powder prices are lower than the price of chilli pepper pods,” said a chilli pepper dealer.

The sale price of discoloured chilli peppers is cheaper than the regular chilli pepper prices in brokerage houses. Thus, consumers need to check the retail and wholesale prices of chilli peppers and the price of paprika powder in the market. — TWA/CT

Asia-Pacific broadcasting union convenes meeting



THE Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) News Group Meeting and the 2023 Global News Forum are being held from 10 to 12 July in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

The meeting is being attended by experts from the world's leading media in the Asia-Pacific region, newsroom editors and journalists, totalling about 100.

On the first day of the meet-

ing, ABU News Director gave a speech and welcomed the new members, ARD from Germany and MTV Television from Sri Lanka.

The agenda included topics such as journalist safety and trauma, building international audiences and responding to emergencies (prioritizing platforms and preparing the newsroom) and the attendees put forward suggestions.

On the second day, the World News Forum will be held, where Artificial Intelligence (AI), the ethics of AI and Introducing AI to the newsroom will also be discussed. — Win Win/KZW

The ABU News Group Meeting and the 2023 Global News Forum commence in Malaysia yesterday.

CRIME NEWS

5.9 kilogrammes of Happy Water worth K640 mln seized in Tachilek

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Police Force, 5.9 kilogrammes of Happy Water worth more than K640 million were impounded in Tachilek of Shan State (East).

According to the report, a Toyota Revo driven by Sai Wung Kyauk in Sekham ward was searched at 6:30 pm on 6 July by a joint team consisting of anti-narcotics forces.

The Happy Water weighing 5.9 kilogrammes worth more than K640 million was seized from the vehicle.

According to an investigation, the Happy Water will be distributed to young people at KTV/Club/Bar and restaurants in Tachilek Township. He is detained under the law. — MNA/KZW



An offender is pictured along with seized drugs and a vehicle.

Illegal timbers, industrial materials, consumer goods and vehicles confiscated

THE Myawady District Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force made inspections on warehouses in the Myawady farming zone and captured 2,400 kilogrammes of photo papers worth K6.4 million without official documents from a warehouse and an on-duty team at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) combined checkpoint nabbed two kinds of goods worth K4.25 million including 4,500 packs of vermicide (blue) without official documents from a vehicle heading to Yangon from Myawady on 8 July. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

Additionally, the on-duty teams impounded four kinds of goods worth K11,242,932 including 4,508 kilogrammes of empty glass bottles, 4,000 kilogrammes of Ohgiya cheese sticks worth K4 million and 135 bottles of Takasago lime essence worth K13,356,000 without official documents from a Nissan Tractor head and a trailer (estimated value of K60 million) and 6,500 kilogrammes of plastic cups with lid worth K6,454,500 that exceeded the quantity mentioned in the Import Declaration (ID) from a Nissan Diesel (estimated value of K30 million) heading to Yangon from Myawady near the Famous filling station in Phayagyi town. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On the same day, a com-



Confiscated illegal goods at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint.

bined team at the 16th-Mile Kyaukchaw checkpoint confiscated a total of 0.214 tonne of timbers worth K236,060 without official documents that were hidden from under the bags of cauliflowers, watermelons, onions and rice from a Foton minibus (approximate value of K35 million) travelling from Mandalay from Muse. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

Similarly, the combined teams seized two kinds of goods worth K3 million including 2,400 packages of smart fabric softener without official documents from a Yutong express bus (approximate value of K25 million) heading to Yangon from Hpa-an at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint and three kinds of goods worth K6,608,400 including a total of 0.14 tonne

of teak doors without official documents from a Mitsubishi Fuso bus (estimated value of K25 million) travelling from Mandalay from Muse and a total of 0.250 tonne of timbers worth K751,200 from a Mitsubishi Fuso bus (estimated value of K25 million) travelling from Mandalay from Muse at the Yepu permanent checkpoint. The action was taken under the Customs procedures.

A Honda Fit worth K3.5 million without official documents was seized near the Pinlon housing in Dagon Myothit (North) Township. The action was taken under the respective procedures. Therefore, 18 arrests (estimated value of K259,799,092) were made on 8 July, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanmar 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

Birds or rivers on euro notes? Europeans can weigh in



The photo shows Euro banknotes in Dortmund, western Germany, on 27 January 2020. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE European Central Bank launched a survey Monday asking citizens to weigh in on the redesign of euro banknotes, with rivers, birds and European culture among the shortlisted themes.

“We want Europeans to identify with the design of euro banknotes, which is why they will play an active role in selecting the new theme,” ECB president Christine Lagarde said in a statement.

The online survey, running until 31 August, asks respondents to share their opinions on seven possible themes for the

new notes.

These include “Birds: free, resilient, inspiring” and “Rivers: the waters of life in Europe”, as well as more abstract ideas such as “The future is yours”, “European culture” and “Our Europe, ourselves”.

The ECB, which has also tasked a research company with asking a representative sample of euro area citizens the same questions, will announce the chosen theme next year.

A design competition will follow and Europeans will then again be asked to choose their fa-

vourite options for the euro bills, which come in six denominations.

The ECB will announce the final decision on the future design, and on when the new notes will be produced and issued, in 2026. The Frankfurt institution announced in late 2021 that it wanted a fresh look for the 20-year-old banknotes.

The original design for the bloc’s single currency was fraught with political tension, and ended up consisting of symbolic illustrations of architecture to avoid stirring national rivalries. — AFP

Malaysia’s natural rubber production rises 6.8% month-on-month in May

MALAYSIA’S natural rubber production increased by 6.8 per cent to 25,062 tonnes in May from 23,460 tonnes in April, official data showed Monday.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) said in a statement that a year-on-year comparison showed that the production of natural rubber increased by 20.2 per cent from 20,857 tonnes in May last year.

Total stocks of natural rubber in May decreased by 11.4 per cent to 172,263 tonnes as compared to 194,464 tonnes in April.

Exports of Malaysia’s natural rubber amounted to 37,062 tonnes in May, which fell 1.8 per cent as against 37,728 tonnes

in April.

China remained the main destination for natural rubber exports, which accounted for 41.9 per cent of total exports in May, followed by Germany at 16.3 per cent, Pakistan at 3.7 per cent, and Türkiye at 2.9 per cent.

The export performance was contributed by natural rubber-based products such as gloves, tires, and tubes, among others. Gloves were the main exports of rubber-based products with a value of 1 billion ringgit (214 million US dollars) in May, an increase of 28.6 per cent as compared to 800 million ringgit (171 million US dollars) in April. — Xinhua

Algeria, TotalEnergies sign new contracts to boost gas output

ALGERIA’S state oil company Sonatrach said Sunday it had signed contracts to boost gas production under an existing agreement worth about \$740 million with French giant TotalEnergies.

The companies will increase output from two Sahara desert fields in southeastern Algeria, for export to France and elsewhere in Europe, the company said in a statement.

They also signed “a memorandum of understanding in the field of energy transition and renewable energies”, it added.

Under existing contracts the companies exploit the Tin Fouye-Tabankort area’s TFT II and TFT South fields to pro-

duce gas, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and condensate.

Sonatrach recalled that “the TFT II contract provides for development investments for an amount of \$332 million, permitting the recovery of 43 billion cubic metres of gas, 4.3 million tonnes of condensate and 5.7 million tonnes of LPG”.

It added that “the development investments of the second agreement, TFT South, are estimated at \$407 million, with a recovery of 11.5 billion cubic metres of gas, 1.3 million tonnes of condensate and 1.6 million tonnes LPG”.

Sonatrach said that the new contracts signed Sunday will bring the combined produc-

tion of TFT II and TFT South to more than 100,000 barrels oil equivalent per day by 2026 against a current production of about 60,000 BOE.

The agreements also extend commitments between Sonatrach and TotalEnergies for the purchase and sale of liquified natural gas, the statement added without providing figures.

The latest contracts will enable both companies to “play a major role in supplying gas to the French and European market”, the statement added.

The deals were signed in Algiers by Sonatrach CEO Toufik Hakkar and TotalEnergies head Patrick Pouyanne. — AFP

Syrian pound falls to near 10,000 against dollar on black market: rate monitors

THE value of the Syrian pound plunged Monday to nearly 10,000 against the dollar on the black market, websites monitoring the exchange rate said, following years of conflict and crippling sanctions.

The embattled currency stood at just 47 pounds to the dollar before Syria’s civil war broke out in 2011. The conflict has since killed more than 500,000 people, displaced millions and battered the country’s infrastructure and industry.

The pound hit a new record low of 9,750 to the dollar Monday, according to the unofficial exchange rate monitoring sites

which traders use to determine the price of goods.

The official exchange rate approved by the central bank is 6,532 pounds to the dollar.

Damascus has blamed the country’s economic woes on Western sanctions and the knock-on effects of an economic collapse in neighbouring Lebanon that has stemmed the flow of dollars into government-held areas.

The new plunge comes in the wake of Syria’s recent return to the Arab fold after years of isolation, and as Damascus hopes wealthy Gulf countries could help fund reconstruction.

“The war has not ended yet, and the reasons for the drop in the pound’s value have not changed,” said economist Ammar Youssef, pointing to “ongoing sanctions blocking exports”.

“The Arab opening towards Damascus hasn’t started to have an impact yet, particularly as it hasn’t been accompanied by concrete economic steps,” he added.

The pound’s collapse — from 5,000 to the dollar in October — has driven up the price of basic goods and aggravated hardship in a war-ravaged country hit by crippling shortages of fuel and electricity. — AFP



Syrian pounds are pictured at a currency exchange shop in the town of Atme in Syria’s rebel-held northwestern Idlib province, on 10 June 2020. **PHOTO: AFP**

Stock markets climb as traders track China news



US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen (L) attends a meeting with Chinese Vice-Premier He Lifeng (R) at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing on 8 July 2023. PHOTO: AFP

MAJOR stock markets largely climbed Monday tracking more weak data from China and hopes that the country had ended a long-running crackdown on the tech sector. Chinese consumer inflation flattened last month and producer prices sank, indicating the world's number two economy continuing to struggle.

"The dreaded fear of a deflationary spiral in China has reached 'code red'," said Kelvin Wong, analyst at OANDA trading group.

"Time is running out for Chinese policymakers to negate the steepening rout in the internal demand environment that can potentially lead to further loss in consumer and business confidence." Traders continued to react to tech-sector developments in China. After a years-long probe Ant Group has been hit with a near \$1-billion penalty for "illegal acts", while Tenpay was ordered to pay more than \$400 million. Analysts said that while the figures were big, traders were cheered by the prospect that the firms could again concentrate on their business. In a statement, the China Securities Regulatory Commission said "at present, most of the out-

standing problems in the financial business of platform enterprises have been rectified". The news, announced Friday, sent the New York-listed shares of Alibaba and Tencent surging, and their Hong Kong stocks followed suit Monday. "The market likes it because scrutiny looks likely to be over and the fine, though big in absolute terms, is very manageable for such a big company," Vey-Sern Ling, at Union Bancaire Privee, said referring to Ant. The surge in market heavyweight tech firms lifted the Hang Seng Index more than two per cent at the open Monday, while there were also gains in Shanghai.

A mixed US jobs report left Wall Street's three main indices lower Friday while the dollar climbed Monday. Data showed fewer jobs were created last month than were forecast but wage growth remained strong, putting upward pressure on inflation. The 209,000 reading for June was well down from May's 306,000 but observers said it was still robust and would not likely deter the Federal Reserve from resuming its rate hike campaign this month. "The US labour market is finally easing but not fast enough to stop the Federal Reserve resuming interest rate hikes in July," said Mansoor Mohi-uddin at Bank of Singapore. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0UV2QE1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0UV2QE1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-7-2023** 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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V LUDWIG SCHULTE VOY.NO. (325W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V LUDWIG SCHULTE VOY.NO. (325W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-7-2023** 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.

Eco Forum Global concludes with fruitful results

CHINA'S only national-level global forum themed on ecological civilization, Eco Forum Global Guiyang 2023, concluded on Sunday in Guiyang, capital of southwest China's Guizhou Province. During the forum, the China Meteorological Administration issued a blue paper on climate change, which analyzes new climate trends in China, Asia and around the globe. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) held the

award ceremony for 13 natural reserves in China that were placed on its green list. The forum attracted more than 3,200 participants from 42 countries and regions, and 14 consensus were reached on ecological civilization construction and green development. The forum, from Saturday to Sunday, focused on seeking the modernization of harmonious co-existence between man and nature, and promoting green and low-carbon development. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V XIANG HE VOY.NO. (2303)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V XIANG HE VOY.NO. (2303)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-7-2023** 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 WILHELMSEN PORT SERVICE(S) PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V KOTA HAPAS VOY.NO. (KHPS0389N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V KOTA HAPAS VOY.NO. (KHPS0389N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-7-2023** 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 PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL LINES

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
HOLIDAY NOTICE

AS the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the **19th JULY 2023 (Martyr's Day)** and **1st AUGUST 2023 (Full-moon Day of Waso)**, Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

ROLLING UPDATES

ASIA

At least 29 killed in India monsoon floods: officials



India's National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) personnel rescue fishermen from the swollen river Narmada after heavy monsoon rains in Jabalpur on 10 July 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

DAYS of intense monsoon rains across northern India have left at least 29 people dead, rendering many areas inaccessible with bridges smashed and roads blocked, officials said Monday.

gered by torrential rain, washing away vehicles, demolishing buildings and ripping down bridges in the hilly state of Himachal Pradesh, the worst affected area.

“In the last two days, the death toll due to monsoon rains has risen to 20 in Himachal Pradesh,” said Omkar Sharma, a senior official heading disaster management in the state.

Nine more deaths were reported in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and the Himalayan regions of Uttarakhand and Kashmir, taking the toll of those killed since Saturday from a previously reported 15 to at least 29.

Himachal Pradesh’s Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu expressed “deep sorrow”

at the deaths and said the government was “making all-out efforts” to tackle the situation, with more rain predicted.

Authorities were waiting for a break in the rains to send helicopter missions to rescue about 300 stranded people -- including tourists -- in Himachal Pradesh’s areas of Lahaul-Spiti and Kullu.

India’s meteorological department has forecast more rain across large parts of the country’s north in the coming days.

Schools in New Delhi were shut Monday after receiving the most rain in a single day in July in four decades, and the capital was on high alert as the Yamuna river was flowing close to danger levels, with many roads swamped. — AFP

IAEA chief meets S Korea lawmakers, stresses Fukushima water safety

THE chief of the International Atomic Energy Agency emphasized the safety of Japan’s planned discharge of treated radioactive water from the crippled Fukushima nuclear power plant into the sea at a meeting Sunday with lawmakers from South Korea’s main opposition party.

IAEA Director-General Rafael Grossi held talks with several National Assembly members of the Democratic Party, including Wi Seong Gon, who told Grossi that the agency’s report of the safety review on the plan is flawed.

In the live-streamed meeting, Wi, head of a special committee of the assembly on the water issue, claimed the report has not verified the long-term impact of the water release on marine ecosystems.

Grossi responded the plan conformed “with international safety standards” and that the agency will continue to monitor whether the process is carried out as planned. — Kyodo

5 dead, 3 unaccounted for as heavy rain hits southwest Japan

HEAVY rain pounded parts of Japan’s southwestern region Monday, causing mudslides and river overflows and leaving at least five people dead and three others unaccounted for.

The Japan Meteorological Agency temporarily issued its highest rain alert level for the first time this year for neighbouring Fukuoka and Oita prefectures, urging residents to take immediate measures to secure their safety.

An elderly woman was confirmed dead after she and her husband were found trapped in

a house engulfed in mud due to a landslide in Soeda, Fukuoka, local authorities said. The husband survived.

In the prefecture, three others were also confirmed dead, including one apparently washed away by a flooded river while riding in a car in Kurume, they said.

One of the deceased was a man found after mud inundated at least seven houses in the city. He was among six people rescuers initially could not contact but have since been accounted for. — Kyodo



People walk on a flooded road in Kurume, Fukuoka Prefecture, on 10 July 2023, amid heavy rain. **PHOTO: KYODO**

North Korea threatens to down US spy planes violating its airspace

NORTH Korea on Monday threatened to shoot down any US spy planes violating its airspace and condemned Washington’s plans to deploy a nuclear missile submarine near the Korean peninsula.

A spokesperson for the North’s Ministry of National Defence said the United States has “intensified espionage activities beyond the wartime level”, with “provocative” flights made by US spy aircraft over eight straight days this month, and one reconnaissance plane intruding into its airspace over the East Sea “several times”.

“There is no guarantee that such shocking accident as down-



The USS Michigan, an Ohio-class nuclear-powered guided missile submarine, arrives at a South Korean naval port in the southeastern port city of Busan on 16 June 2023. **PHOTO: YONHAP / AFP**

ing of the US Air Force strategic reconnaissance plane will not happen in the East Sea of Korea,” the spokesperson said in a statement, carried by the official Korean Central News Agency.

The spokesperson cited past incidents when Pyongyang shot down US aircraft, and warned the United States would pay for its “frantically staged” air espionage.

Late on Monday, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un’s powerful sister Kim Yo Jong said that a US spy aircraft had violated the country’s eastern airspace twice on Monday morning, according to a statement.

Kim Yo Jong said that the North would not respond directly

to US reconnaissance activities outside of the country’s exclusive economic zone, but warned that it would take “decisive action” if the US military crosses its maritime military demarcation line.

The earlier KCNA statement also slammed the planned deployment of US strategic nuclear assets to the Korean peninsula as “the most undisguised nuclear blackmail” against North Korea, saying it posed a grave threat to regional and global security.

“The present situation clearly proves that the situation of the Korean peninsula is coming closer to the threshold of nuclear conflict due to the US provocative military action,” it read. — AFP

Xi meets Russian Federation Council speaker

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Monday met with visiting Russian Federation Council Speaker Valentina Matviyenko in Beijing.

Xi noted that with joint efforts of both sides, China-Russia relations have maintained a sound and steady development momentum, with steady progress in cooperation in various fields. The social foundations and popular support for the long-term friendship between the two countries have become more solid.

“During my state visit to Russia in March this year, President Putin and I reached new and important consensus on deepening bilateral comprehensive strategic coordination and

practical cooperation in various fields,” Xi said, noting that the development of China-Russia relations is a strategic choice that the two countries have made based on the fundamental interests of their respective countries and peoples.

China will continue to work with Russia to develop a comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era, featuring mutual assistance, in-depth integration, innovation and win-win outcomes for all, so as to boost the development and revitalization of the two countries and promote the construction of a prosperous, stable, fair and just world, Xi said.

Noting that legislative cooperation is an important part of China-Russia relations, Xi expressed the hope that the two sides will work together to implement the important consensus reached by the two heads of state, promote and guarantee the sustained and sound development of bilateral cooperation in various fields from the legislative level, strengthen exchanges of experience in legislation and state governance, and push cooperation between the legislative bodies of the two countries to a new level.

He called on the two sides to strengthen communication and coordination within multilateral mechanisms such as the Shang-



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with visiting Russian Federation Council Speaker Valentina Matviyenko at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, 10 July 2023. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

hai Cooperation Organization and BRICS, guide the reform of global governance in the right direction, and safeguard the common interests of emerging markets and developing countries. — Xinhua

Heavy rains and flooding pummel US northeast, one dead

THE northeastern United States was inundated Monday with heavy rain and flooding across several states a day after storms and flash floods

washed out highways and killed one person in New York state.

Parts of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and

Vermont were under flood warnings as of 6:00 am (1000 GMT) Monday, with states in the region recording rapid rainfall and “life threatening” flash floods, according to the National Weather Service (NWS).

Heavy rains in New York state on Sunday turned streets into raging waterways, washing out bridges, leaving roads impassable and leading Governor Kathy Hochul to declare states of emergency in two counties.

The Orange County Emergency Management office on Monday confirmed one fatality in Highland Falls, in New York’s Hudson Valley, where “historic floods” caused significant damage. Local media said a woman was swept to her death in a flash flood in the valley as she tried to evacuate her damaged house with her dog. — AFP



This handout image courtesy of the New York State Police shows heavy flooding and washout on State Route 9W of the Palisades Interstate Parkway in Rockland County, New York, 9 July 2023. **PHOTO: NEW YORK STATE POLICE / AFP**

Putin met Wagner chief in Moscow after failed mutiny: Kremlin

THE Kremlin said Monday that President Vladimir Putin had met Wagner chief Yevgeny Prigozhin on 29 June in the Kremlin, days after the mercenary group attempted to topple Russia’s military leadership.

“The president gave his assessment of the events of 24 June,” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said, referring to the failed insurrection, adding that Putin also “listened to accounts given by (Wagner) commanders”.

Just over two weeks after the aborted mutiny, there is still significant uncertainty surrounding the fate of the Wagner group and the deal that ended the rebellion against Russia’s top military brass.

Under the plan, the mercenary chief and some of his

fighters were expected to be exiled to Belarus.

Wagner troops that wanted to keep fighting for Russia meanwhile would sign contracts with the conventional army.

During the three-and-a-half-hour meeting in the Kremlin with Wagner commanders, Putin “offered them alternative options for employment”, including in combat roles.

Observers see the rebellion as the biggest challenge to Putin’s authority since he came to power.

Wagner commanders “stressed that they are staunch supporters... of the head of state”, Peskov said.

“They also said that they were ready to continue fighting for the motherland.” — AFP

At least one dead after under-construction Bangkok highway collapses

AT least one person has died after a huge construction girder over a busy road collapsed in the Thai capital Bangkok, police said Monday, with videos of the terrifying incident rapidly shared online.

The massive metal girder on the Lat Krabang Tollway construction project to the east of the city crumpled to the ground late Monday afternoon, catching pedestrians and drivers unaware.

It is part of a project to build elevated highways in an attempt to ease the city’s notoriously congested traffic.

In a video shared by the country’s Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department, the enormous metal platform — connected to unfinished parts of the highway — wobbles and then plummets to the earth.

At least one person had died

with as many as eight injured, police said.

“We do not know yet what caused the accident,” Bangkok Governor Chadchart Sittipunt told reporters late Monday at the scene.

“We do not have any info about missing people yet,” he said, adding that four of those injured were in serious condition.

Chadchart said rescuers

would wait for engineers to analyze the collapse before starting operations.

“We prioritize safety first. We will start searching carefully,” he said.

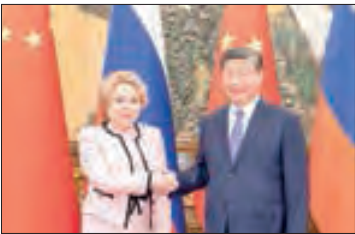
A clip shared online by a rescue worker shows the aftermath of the collapse, with sirens blaring as shocked residents and bystanders survey the damage.

The wrecked girder — and

much of the under-construction highway it also brought down — can be seen blocking the street.

Rescue workers swarmed over the debris, with crushed vans and cars just visible. As night fell, rescuers could still be seen among the rubble.

Thailand has a poor construction safety record, with accidents a common occurrence. — AFP



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.

Co-hosts New Zealand win at last in
timely World Cup boost



New Zealand's Hannah Wilkinson (2nd R) congratulates teammate Jacqui Hand on her goal during the women's international friendly football match between New Zealand and Viet Nam ahead of the Women's World Cup 2023 football tournament, in Napier on 10 July 2023. PHOTO: AFP

NEW ZEALAND broke their 10-game winless run on Monday with a confidence-boosting 2-0 friendly victory over Viet Nam on the eve of co-hosting the Women's World Cup. The Football Ferns shrugged off a miserable sequence of eight defeats and two draws dating back to September by dominating the Vietnamese in Napier.

"We all stepped up and I'm proud of the girls. To get a clean sheet and a win was good," said New Zealand captain and Tottenham Hotspur midfielder Ria Percival. New Zealand, who host the World Cup with Australia, kick off the tournament against Norway in Auckland on 20 July.

Viet Nam face reigning champions

the United States in the same city two days later. New Zealand created a string of chances before a long-range shot by Leicester City defender CJ Bott took a slight deflection off a Vietnamese defender. The home side doubled their lead after forward Jacqui Hand was served up a simple tap-in at the back post just before half-time.

"The first half was an incredible performance with a lot of good combination play, which we were working on," said New Zealand coach Jitka Klimkova.

"So seeing how we played and having this result is very helpful with our confidence to go further and be more prepared for our first game at the World Cup." — AFP

Eubanks edges
Tsitsipas to
reach quarters
in Wimbledon
thriller

STEFANOS Tsitsipas crashed out of Wimbledon at the hands of unseeded American Christopher Eubanks after a thrilling five-set battle on Monday.

Eubanks lost the first set to the Greek fifth seed and then trailed two sets to one but he powered back to win 3-6, 7-6 (7/4), 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

It is another crushing disappointment at the All England Club for Tsitsipas, who has never been beyond the fourth round.

Tsitsipas started strongly, breaking his 43rd-ranked opponent twice in the first set but he was edged out in the second-set tie-break. — AFP



US player Christopher Eubanks returns the ball to Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas during their men's singles tennis match on the eighth day of the 2023 Wimbledon Championships at The All England Tennis Club in Wimbledon, southwest London, on 10 July 2023. PHOTO: AFP

Myanmar advances to semifinal despite losing to Thailand 0-1



A Myanmar player (red) dribbles the ball against Thailand (blue) during the final group match of the AFF U-19 Women's Championship 2023 at Jakabaring Athletic Field, Palembang, Indonesia on 10 July 2023. PHOTO: MFF

THE semifinal hope of the Myanmar U-19 women's football team is alive even though they faced a 0-1 loss to team Thailand in the final group match of AFF U-19 Women's Championship 2023 at Jakabaring Athletic Field, Palembang, Indonesia yesterday.

Although the Myanmar team lost this match, they were better than Thailand in terms of ability. With a turbo attack, the Myanmar team set up a fantastic pass with massive defence. Team Thailand relied on counterplay, but it did not work well under the pressure given by Myanmar. Both sides played with sweat and the first half ended goalless.

The Thai players' desire to win was stronger than Myanmar's

in the second half. Thailand broke the deadlock just before the final whistle and led the group to the top position.

"It's a difficult match. My girls tried their best. We will try our best to correct our mistakes in the upcoming games to make our dreams come true," said Myanmar head coach Daw Thet Thet Win.

With the loss, Team Myanmar stood as a second-placed team and faced against Viet Nam in the semifinal. Thailand will take on host Indonesia in the other match for the semifinal. Myanmar vs Viet Nam match will be played on 13 July (3 pm Myanmar Standard Time) while Thailand will face Indonesia at 7 pm MST. — KZL