

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. X, No. 49, 3rd Waning of Nayon 1385 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Monday, 5 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.

Livestock farms, cold storage facilities operate production of meat and fishery products for domestic consumption, export purpose

AGRICULTURAL and livestock breeding sectors are primary sources to ensure food security of the people. Agricultural produce and livestock products are essential for public consumption and surplus of these sectors can be exported to earn foreign exchange for the businesspersons.

Livestock farms including cattle, pig, goat, sheep and poultry farms are being operated in various townships of Yangon Region in order to produce meat and eggs for meeting the local demand.

As part of efforts to meet the local livestock demand, Ngasutaung private pig farm in Yangon Region produces piglets and distributes pedigree species to local pig farmers. As an innovative measure, the farm generates electricity with the



Pig farm is being operated on a commercial scale by Ngasutaung private pig farm in Yangon Region. **PHOTO: MOALI**



Employees are working at fish and shrimp processing workplace. **PHOTO: MOALI**

use of bio-gas obtained from pit dung.

Kaung Htet advanced feedstuff factory is located in Htaukkyant of Mingaladon Township. Such a factory operates its functions with distributing feedstuffs, broiler and layer chickens to local poultry farmers.

Moreover, the cold storage facilities of Myanmar Seafood Co Ltd and Ocean Pacific Co Ltd in West Gyogon Ward of Insein Township operate processing of fish and shrimp for domestic consumption and export purpose in order to earn incomes.

Livestock farms and cold

storage facilities need to produce the quality products in line with the HACCP system and food security measures. Marine products must be produced meeting the international standards.

In order to emerge operation of livestock farms on a manageable scale and commercial scale, relevant departments are to provide necessary assistance to businesspersons and private livestock farmers. They all have to focus on improvement of livestock sector in farming tasks and production in harmony along the value chain of the sector. It is necessary to manufacture nutritious livestock and fish security under the bio-security measures. Moreover, those livestock breeding farmers have to seek the help from relevant depart-

ments to distribute animal feedstuffs at fair prices.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation is striving for increasing meat production as food security and nutritious ones and ensuring the local meat sufficiency. Moreover, the ministry is fulfilling requirements including techniques for businesspersons and livestock farmers.

In 2020, number of cattle in Myanmar was approximately 18.89 million heads. In comparison, the cattle stock in Myanmar was approximately 14.09 million in 2011.

Likewise, number of pigs in Myanmar was approximately 19.19 million heads in 2020 in comparison with approximately 10.5 million in 2011. — GNLM

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL
Thailand donates relief items for storm victims to Yangon Region Chief Minister
PAGE-2

NATIONAL
Victorious athletes in 32nd SEA Games awarding ceremony held
PAGE-3

NATIONAL
Community Centre of IPRD commissioned into service in Pantanaw Township
PAGE-4

NATIONAL
Tatmadaw rescue teams participate in rehabilitation, relief measures in storm affected areas
PAGE-6



CURRENT AFFAIRS
Pigeon pea prices shot up to over K1.2 million per tonne within five months
PAGE-7



Sports can uplift prestige of State and its nationalities

- The sports are a national duty to uplift the prestige of the State and the nationality with the concept to polish the image of the nation as part of competing with the opponents without giving up till the last second.
- The victory and fame of an athlete automatically uplift the prestige of the country and themselves.

(Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the opening ceremony of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Sports Competition 2022 on 14 November 2022)

Victorious athletes in 32nd SEA Games awarding ceremony held

THE awarding ceremony of victorious athletes from the Ministry of Home Affairs who competed in 32nd SEA Games was held at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Member of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Soe Htut urged athletes to uphold the concept to enhance the sports standard of the nation and make all-out efforts for securing more gold medals in the internal and international competitions to uplift prestige

of the State by representing the Ministry of Home Affairs.

A total of 18 athletes from the Ministry of Home Affairs secured seven gold medals, seven silver medals and nine bronze medals in seven sports events.

Then, Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Htut, Deputy Minister Chief of Myanmar Police Force Maj-Gen Zin Min Htet, permanent secretary U Khaing Tun Oo and director-general of the General Administration Department U Myint Than presented certi-



The awarding ceremony of victorious athletes from Ministry of Home Affairs who competed in 32nd SEA Games in progress.

icates of honour and cash award to victorious athletes, coaches,

administrators and referees. Those victorious athletes

and coaches were served with a tea party. — MNA/KZW

Union Minister for Border Affairs inspects rehabilitation, development undertakings in Rakhine State



Union Ministers inspect loading of 14 multi-purpose tractors onto Tatmadaw landing crafts leading to Rathedaung Township at Yaychanpyin port on 4 June 2023.

UNION Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung accompanied by Union Ministers Dr Thet Thet Khine and U Aung Thaw, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin, currently in Sittway to closely supervise the rehabilitation activities in the storm-hit Rakhine State attended a donation ceremony for the restoration of storm-affected areas at Rakhine State Government Office yesterday.

At the ceremony, Ngapali hoteliers from the Myanmar Hoteliers Association (Rakhine Zone) donated K40 million to Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung who returned the certificate of honour.

At Yaychanpyin Port, Lt-Gen

Tun Tun Naung inspected loading of 14 multi-purpose tractors sent by the Agricultural Mechanization Department of Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation for use in the Rakhine State Development Project onto Tatmadaw landing crafts leading to Rathedaung Township.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung accompanied by Union Ministers U Myo Thant and Dr Thet Thet Khine, and State Chief Minister U Htein Lin attended the rehabilitation coordination meeting held at the Rakhine State Government Office.

Officials and deputy ministers explained the progress of the rehabilitation process and



future plans.

Union Ministers U Myo Thant and Dr Thet Thet Khine, and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin discussed needs for cooperation in swift undertakings.

Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung said that the food distributed to the public should be healthy and hygienic, minimizing loss and waste in load and unloading relief items.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and party inspected progress in construction of the temporary bailey bridge on the road to Mansi village in Sittway Township.

The construction of the

bridge was completed yesterday, and the people of five villages were able to return to normal traffic with better social economic conditions. Last night, artistes came to Sittway Beach to present entertainments to the storm-affected people in Rakhine State with music, and it is particularly crowded with local fans coming to relax on the beach.

After the Mocha storm, specialists and emergency medical teams were dispatched to provide health care to the people in Rakhine State.

From 16 May to 3 June, medical treatments were given to 10,610 out-patients and 20,209 in-patients and 51,337 patients in

rural health centres and branches.

In turn, 3,985 times of water purification and 6,176 times of health awareness campaigns were staged respectively.

Special medical teams provided health care services to 191 people in Rathedaung, 394 in Kywite (Sittway) Village, 294 in Mingan (Sittway) ward, 59 in Thakepyin Village, 1,150 in Minbya Township, 961 in Kyauktaw Township, 275 in Ponnagyun Township, 371 in Pauktaw Township, 848 in Manaung Township, 190 in Buthidaung Township, and 533 in Maungtaw Township, totalling 5,265.

In Rakhine State, four salt prevention embankments named Chanpyintar (Maungtaw), Kalapon island (MraukU), and Section 1 and 2 of Ngamanye island (Myebon) out of 32 embankments maintained by the Department of Irrigation and Water Utilization Management were damaged by Storm Mocha in Rakhine State. On 2 June, all the repairing works of embankments were fully completed. So, 17,706 acres of flood prevented areas can be successfully placed under monsoon paddy and other crops. — MNA/KZL

Community Centre of IPRD commissioned into service in Pantanaw Township



SAC member Mahn Nyein Maung, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win and commander Brig-Gen Kyi Khaing unveil signboard of Community Centre in Pantanaw on 4 June.

TOWN elders have to maintain the community centre building for long term existence without satisfaction in just opening the building, said member of State Administration Council Mahn Nyein Maung at the opening ceremony of the community centre built by the Department of Information and Public Relations in Pantanaw of Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning.

SAC member Mahn Nyein Maung, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Tin Maung Win and Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyi

Khaing unveiled the signboard of the centre.

They visited the small museum showcasing eminent persons of Ayeyawady Region, famous pagodas, scenic beauties, products of the region, and arts and crafts, the child reading room and playground, arts room, library, computer room, gymnasium, meeting room and multipurpose hall and presented story books to readers and children.

In his speech, the SAC member stressed that town elders have to maintain the community centre building for long term existence without

satisfaction in just opening the building and need to nurture children to have talented ones. The SAC member urged all to accept that the community centre must be designated as a good venue for nurturing children to be outstanding.

Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, in his address, said that the community centres are the most appropriate venues for youths to meet each other.

Only when youth networks are wider will the centres be places to turn out the youth leaders who will serve the State in the future.

Libraries are the learning centres for youths and the people to accumulate knowledge by cutting cost and time.

The Union minister urged local people to utilize the community centre contributed by the Ministry of Information, Ayeyawady Region government and well-wishers in Pantanaw in seeking information and knowledge.

Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win explained development of human resources and academic measures in the region.

Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn presented a certificate of honour for donations of furniture and computer acces-

sories as well as 100 DVB-T2 set top boxes to the Chief Minister, 100 more DVB-T2 set top boxes for Tatmadaw families of military stations under South-West Command to Commander Brig-Gen Kyi Khaing and certificates of honour to well-wishers.

Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win donated K10 million for Kayin ethnic development and the university learning foundation to an official.

The community centre was commissioned into service as the fifth facility in the time of State Administration Council. The centre was built with K582.60 million in 2022-23 financial year.—MNA/TTA



SAC member Mahn Nyein Maung, Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn and officials visit small museum at community centre on 4 June.



The meeting on supply of drinking water to locals with the use of mobile water purifiers in progress in Nay Pyi Taw on 4 June.

Solar-powered mobile water purifiers to set up in natural disaster areas, water-scarce villages

A coordination meeting was held at office No 36 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning to operate mobile water purifiers with the use of solar energy in natural disaster areas and water-scarce villages.

Rural Development Department Director-General U Thein Lwin and officials attended the

meeting.

At the meeting, the Director-General of the Department of Rural Development said that the department is providing clean drinking water to cyclone-affected areas in Rakhine State with mobile water purification trucks and Like Straw water purifiers.

He clarified the plans to distribute mobile water purifiers using solar energy to disaster-hit areas and the villages with shortage of water.

Officials demonstrated on operation of a solar-powered mobile water purifier to the attendees of the meeting.—MNA/KZL

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.

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

Fundraising concert for Mocha victims concludes successfully



Artistes perform songs and dance entertainments at fundraising concert for Mocha-hit victims at National Theatre in Yangon on 4 June. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

THE fundraising concert for Mocha victims has been held since 2 June, and yesterday, on the final day, a large crowd enjoyed the concert.

Among the audience were

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint Khine, regional ministers, patrons and chairmen of the MMPO, the

Myanmar Music Association and the Myanmar Theatrical Association.

The concert was opened with the performance of the Myanmar traditional orchestra

and modern melody. The Myanmar Theatrical Association performed the maiden dance along with the Rakhine traditional drum's play. Artistes presented songs.

Afterwards, film artistes made donations to storm victims, and other artistes accepted cash contributions made by donors.

Next, artistes from the Myanmar Music Association, the Myanmar Comedians' Association, and the Myanmar Theatrical Association, showed off their best performances.

Then, various singers performed the opera programme, the great melody programme, and the theatrical melody programme. Later, the last theatrical drama programme was presented by theatrical dramatic artistes.

The fundraising concert for Mocha victims was hosted from 2 to 4 June.—MNA/CT



Monsoon strong after low pressure area lessens

1. The conditions of the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal issued by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology at 9 pm on 4 June was presented as follows: -

(a) The weather forecast was mentioned that a low pressure area may occur over eastern central and southeastern Bay of Bengal and related northern part of the Andaman Sea due to instability of atmosphere from 5 to 8 June. According to the observatory measures at 8:30 pm Myanmar standard time, possibility of the low pressure area lessened and monsoon may be strong.

(b) Despite lessening the situation of a low pressure area, monsoon may be strong. So, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions, Shan (South and East), Chin, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon states from 8 to 15 June. Some areas may face isolated rain or strong winds. Squall with rough seas are likely at time in off and along coastal areas. Surface wind speed in squall may reach 35-40 mph and wave height will be about 9-11 feet along the coast.

Recommendations

The area may face the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance these phenomena for the people, running of domestic flights, trawlers off and along coasts. — GNL

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 4 June 2023)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 5 June 2023: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and (Southern and Eastern)Shan and Kayin states, fairly widespread in Mandalay Region and Chin, Rakhine and Mon states and scattered in the remaining regions and states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

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

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

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Widespread rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and (Southern and Eastern)Shan, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 June 2023: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 June 2023: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 June 2023: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Public Notice for Elimination of Violence

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

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.

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

Illegal foodstuffs, consumer goods, industrial materials and vehicles confiscated



AN on-duty team under the supervision of the Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force seized 2,400 bottles of Budweiser beer (worth K4.5 million) from an Aumark light truck (approximately K15 million) heading to PyinOoLwin from Mandalay at the 16th-Mile Kyaukchaw checkpoint on 28 May, 350 bags of industrial raw materials (used) (worth K87.5 million) without official Export and Import approval from a Nissan diesel truck (estimated value of K60 million) at the warehouse in Thazin warehouse 2 in Amarapura town-

ship on 30 May, according to information, and 18,000 boxes of Esse Light-brand cigarette (worth K15 million) that were piled up near the 21/2 milepost on the Mandalay-PyinOoLwin Road on 31 May. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

The on-duty teams at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint captured 224,525 ceramic tiles (worth K76,383,405) that exceeded 61 days of VPA, 10 kinds of goods (worth K84,039,900) including 5,078 kilogrammes of 140 ML glassware cup without Import



Licence and 16 kinds of goods (worth K105,025,200) including 1,749 kilogrammes of porcelain cups from two containers on 29 and 30 May. The action was taken under relevant procedures.

Therefore, 10 arrests (estimated value of K265,448,505) were made on four consecutive days from 28 to 31 May, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS



Illegal foodstuffs and consumer goods seized Mandalay-PyinOoLwin Road on 30 and 31 May.

Tatmadaw rescue teams participate in rehabilitation, relief measures in storm affected areas

TATMADAW rescue teams cooperate with local security forces and social welfare teams at the storm affected areas.

They join hands with medical teams gave healthcare services to locals from Sanpya Ward in Ponnagyun and participate in rehabilitation in Guwa monastery yesterday.

Similarly, those teams in

Buthidaung provided foodstuffs to the locals from the storm-affected villages.

Furthermore, the teams in Kyaukpyu cooperate with medical teams gave necessary medical treatments to the members of Myanmar War Veterans Organization in Kyaukpyu township.

Rescue teams in Kyauktaw

distributed purified water to the locals and students from Agricultural Institute (Kyauktaw).

Specialist medical teams, under the Directorate of Medical Services together with the local medical teams gave medical treatments to the locals in Sittway at the local medical battalion. — MNA/KZW



Purified drinking water being distributed to locals in Kyauktaw on 4 June.



Tatmadaw members selling essential foods to locals in Mocha-hit areas on 4 June.

Officials sell essential food items at fairer prices in Mocha-hit areas

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

Foodstuffs such as rice, ed-

ible oil, meat, salt, fish, egg, rice, dairy products, vegetables, onion, garlic and products of Tatmadaw factories and MEC such as instant noodles, biscuits and canned food in addition to the foodstuffs, electronic devices and construction materials of private businessmen were sold at lower

prices than the market price at U Uttama Park in Sittway yesterday.

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

57 international container ships to call at Yangon ports in June

A total of 57 container ships from 15 international container shipping lines will dock at five international ports in Yangon Port and two ports in Thilawa Terminal in June, according to the Myanmar Port Authority.

A total of 10 ships from Sealand Maersk Asia, four ships from New Golden Sea (COSCO) line, eight from Samudera Shipping Line, five ships from MSC line, four ships from SITC, two from BLPL line, two from the Eve Green line, three from the IAL line, two from

the PIL line, six from the RCL line, four from Ti2 Container line, one from Bay Line, two from the Land & Sea line and one from the CMA-CGM line, totalling 57 vessels will arrive at the port in June.

The ports in Yangon are operated in two parts with the export and import purposes. In export, the Myanmar Port Authority allows entry with the necessary documents, and the Customs Department inspects the goods and then exports the goods. —TWA/KZW



Myanmar-Thailand's Mawtaung border exports most fruits in May



Truckloads of fruits seen at Mawtaung border.

FRUITS are being exported to Myeik District, Taninthayi Region through the Mawtaung border at Myanmar-Thailand border which is 120 miles away

from Myeik, and most fruits were reportedly exported in May.

Consumers are able to buy and eat fresh fruits because it only takes three hours to ship

them by land from the Mawtaung border to Myeik.

The most imported fruits are apple, orange, snake fruit, jackfruit, and dragon's eye fruit, and the current market prices are 19.44 baht per kilogramme of apple, 9.69 baht per kilogramme of orange, 6.45 baht per kilogramme of snake fruit, and 6.81 baht per kilogramme of dragon's eye fruit. The Mawtaung border camp imported 24 tonnes of fruits from 1 to 30 May.

The Mawtaung border exported onions, bananas, fishery products, shrimp, crab, brooms, and other products to Thailand in the third week of May, and the main export items were fry shrimp, ceramic tiles, fruits, and canned fish. — TWA/CT

Pigeon pea prices shot up to over K1.2 million per tonne within five months

ONE tonne of pigeon pea was valued at K1,755,000 at the Yangon market on 2 January 2023, and it has risen to K3,050,000 around five months later, on 3 June. Within these five months, the price increased by K1,295,000 per tonne.

According to the price records, a tonne of pigeon peas was traded at K345,000 on 1 January 2009, and around nine years later, the price stood at its lowest at K306,000 on 25 October 2017.

Just as the price of domestic pigeon peas rose sharply, the price of a tonne of FOB beans and pulses for export also rose to US\$1,120–\$1,140 on 2 June 2023.

Pigeon pea is cultivated in Myanmar around May, especially in the central regions of the country. During the second week of May this year, the soil become moistening due to stormy rain. After the cultiva-

tion in June, new pigeon pea species may start arriving in the domestic market by the end of the year.

In India, which mainly consumes black gram and pigeon peas, the production of these beans is low and not enough for domestic consumption. It is known that there are some restrictions on the storage and sale of these beans and pulses in order to prevent their prices from rising domestically.

The price of the half of chickpea consumed in Myanmar also drastically soared up to K5,500–K5,650 per viss on 3 June. Months later, after new domestic beans and pulses are released, bean prices rise, and only the hoarders benefit more than the growers.

Myanmar reportedly exported 1.94 million tonnes of various beans and pulses worth US\$1.4 billion in the 2022–2023 financial year. — TWA/CT

Palm oil price still surpasses reference wholesale price by K2,000 per viss

THE palm oil was traded at K5,950 per viss on 1 June, while the wholesale reference price for palm oil was K3,960 per viss from 29 May to 4 June 2023. The palm oil price in Yangon is still around K2,000 per viss higher than the reference wholesale price, according to the market.

Although the palm oil was priced at K6,150 per viss on 30 May, the price went up again in the Yangon market on 3 June due to the difficulties in

purchasing. At the Mandalay edible oil market, the palm oil price increased from K6,100 per viss on 3 June to K6,200 per viss on 4 June, according to market reports.

Similarly, the price rose from K6,100 on 2 June to K6,150 on 3 June at the Myingyan market. It is known that imported palm oil will arrive in the first week of June, despite the excuse that there is difficulty in purchasing it. The foreign price of palm

oil was only US\$780 per tonne on 31 May, but on 2 June, the price rose to US\$800 per tonne. Nevertheless, the price used to go up to US\$955 and US\$920 on 10 and 15 May 2023.

Palm oil is not available at the oil tank, not only during price drops but also during price increases, according to an oil trader from Upper Myanmar. It is still inconvenient for local traders despite the price changes. — TWA/CT



Various beans and pulses on sale are seen at the Yangon market.

OPINION

Create a good environment by easing plastic pollution

THE annual report released by the UN Environment Program stated that nations delivered a big win for people and the planet by agreeing to negotiate a global deal to end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.

Moreover, the report mentioned that many governments confirmed their commitment to developing an instrument that addresses the full life cycle of plastics, protects human health and the environment, and pays special attention to the circumstances of countries most in need. According to the report, global countries and companies are expected to reduce 80 per cent of plastic pollution across the world in 2040.

Manufacturing of plastic products, use of them and un-systematic disposal of plastics are harmful to the ecosystem as well as bring hazardous effects to society and bad impacts on climatic conditions. Although plastic products can help the creation of a neat and tidy environment, plastic waste can harm society.

As such, packaging materials made of plastic should be substituted with paper or other products which can be able to decay in order to reduce 17 per cent of plastic pollution across the world. Hence, relevant governments need to raise public awareness for knowing the bad impacts of plastic pollution and the advantages of the systematic use of plastic products in society.

Global people dispose of plastic products daily, accounting for 10 per cent of all disposed waste. In Myanmar, each person uses about four plastic bags per day. The agricultural industry uses materials accounting for 3.3 per cent, electronic products 5.8 per cent, transport vehicles 8.9 per cent, construction projects 19.7 per cent, household utensils 22.4 per cent and packaging materials 39.9 per cent. Plastic materials are 20 per cent of the daily waste in Myanmar.

All the people need to follow the reduce, reuse, recycle and return scheme for plastic products in order to environmental conservation on one hand as part of this year's theme "Solutions to Plastic Pollution". People should refuse the use of plastic products as much as possible and never unsystematically dispose of plastic waste. Systematic use and disposal of plastic products can save the planet Earth as well as the lives of all global people.

Reduction of using plastic products can help conserve the environment of society as well as beautify urban and rural areas. Plastic waste-free areas will improve ecosystems of living beings, and the health conditions of human beings, boosting the per-acre yield of crops and saving lives of animals on land and in the water. That is why not only governments but people are to create good environments by overcoming the challenges of plastic pollution.

Reduction of using plastic products can help conserve the environment of society as well as beautify urban and rural areas. Plastic waste-free areas will improve ecosystems of living beings, and the health conditions of human beings, boosting the per-acre yield of crops and saving lives of animals on land and in the water. That is why not only governments but people are to create good environments by overcoming the challenges of plastic pollution.

Monsoon season has started

By AUGUSTIN

SEASONALLY changing winds are called monsoons or seasonal winds. The word monsoon is derived from the Arabic word mausim, which means "season", referring to the seasonal reversals of the wind direction along the shores of the Indian Ocean and surrounding regions, especially in the Arabian Sea.

In our country, there are two types of monsoons: the southwest monsoon, which causes the rainy season, and the northeast monsoon, which causes cool and dry weather.

Regions that receive monsoons in the world include India, Myanmar, Indochina, Northwest Australia, some of the eastern coastal regions of Africa, and the northwestern region of South America.

Our country is north of the equator line and is the most northwestern country of the Southeast Asian mainland. It borders the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean. Meteorologists explain that monsoons occur because the land and ocean receive different temperatures from the sun, which is a seasonal change in the air. These winds blow into Myanmar from the southwest, so

they are called southwest monsoon season winds.

To understand the formation of monsoons, one must know the nature of the atmosphere, which is that warm air tends to rise to the upper sky, while cooler air tends to enter from elsewhere. When the direct heat of the sun falls directly north of the equator, the vast landmasses of central Asia become very hot, while the Indian Ocean to the south and the Pacific Ocean to the east remain much cooler.

The hot air inland from Asia is then blown up into the sky in large numbers. The cold air from the south Indian Ocean begins to blow into the interior of Asia with great speed. When these winds reach the land, they meet the mountains and rise to the sky above, and the water vapour in the air condenses due to the coldness of the sky and then falls as rain.

As a result, it often rains heavily along the sea coast of Myanmar and in the mountainous areas. In Myanmar, the Southwest Monsoon blows every year from May to October, and it rains a lot during that time, which is called the rainy season.

Importance of rainy season

The rainy season plays a pivotal role in countries like Myanmar, where a large portion of the population depends on agriculture. Everyone enjoys the rainy season because it provides a much-needed respite from the scorching sun. It cools the environment by removing all the heat. It promotes the proper growth of plants, trees, grasses, crops, and vegetables.

It is also beneficial for animals, as there are plenty of green grasses and small plants to munch on.

Rainwater fills up every natural resource, such as rivers, ponds, and lakes, and is important for maintaining groundwater and natural resource levels. All living and non-living things rely on natural water, which is replenished throughout the rainy season to last until the following season.

Rainwater can also be used to generate energy, a process known as hydroelectricity. The water levels of the ponds and lakes tend to rise as a result of the rain, and small ponds are often built to collect rainwater and then used to create electricity.

Climate change impact in Myanmar

Climate change has impacted the monsoon season in Myanmar in a number of ways. Firstly, the intensity of monsoon rains has increased significantly in recent years, causing flooding and landslides that have caused significant damage to infrastructure, crops, and the environment.

Secondly, the timing of the monsoon season has shifted slightly, with rains arriving earlier in some areas and later in others, disrupting farming and fishing activities, as well as other industries that rely on seasonal weather patterns.

Finally, the monsoon season has become more unpredictable, with longer periods of dryness and extreme weather events such as hailstorms and tornadoes becoming more frequent. All of these changes have had a significant impact on Myanmar's agriculture, economy, and people.

Myanmar experiences frequent tornadoes in the summer and pre-monsoon periods, but deaths are rare from such weather events. A tornado that tore through two villages in central Myanmar near the capital Nay-pyitaw killed eight people and

destroyed more than 200 houses on April 21, 2023, according to local news sources.

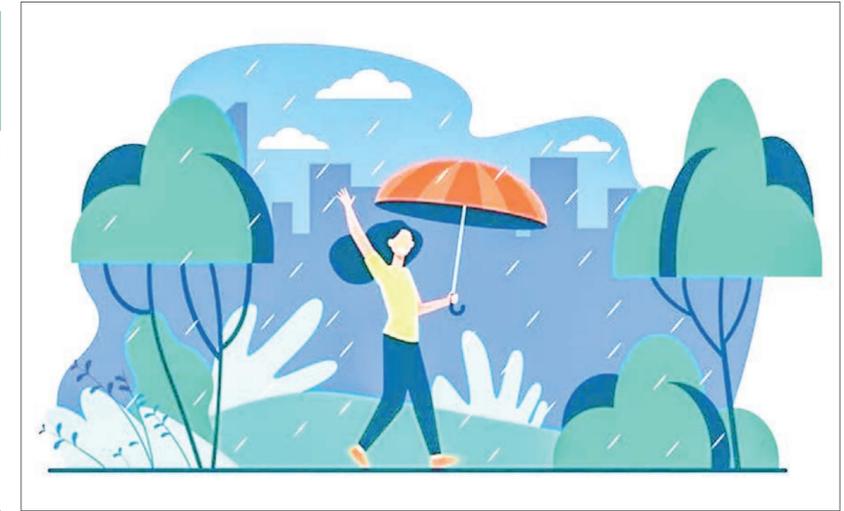
Myanmar experiences extreme weather virtually every year during the monsoon season. In 2008, Cyclone Nargis killed more than 138,000 people.

Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm Mocha was a powerful and deadly tropical cyclone which affected Myanmar and parts of Bangladesh in May 2023.

Different effects of the monsoon season on Myanmar

Agricultural Production: The monsoon season in Myanmar is of extreme importance for agricultural production. The seasonal rains provide much-needed irrigation for farmers, allowing them to grow a variety of crops, including rice, pulses, and vegetables. The monsoon season also helps replenish soil moisture, which is essential for crop growth and yields.

Water Availability: The monsoon season significantly increases the availability of water in Myanmar. With more water available, irrigation sys-



Everyone enjoys the rainy season because it provides a much-needed respite from the scorching sun. It cools the environment by removing all the heat. It promotes the proper growth of plants, trees, grasses, crops, and vegetables. PHOTO: ILLUSTRATION CREDIT: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/FREPIK

tems and water reservoirs are able to operate more efficiently, thus helping to ensure that water is available for agricultural, domestic, and industrial use.

Disease Spread: The monsoon season can also increase the spread of water-borne diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and dysentery. The heavy rains can cause flooding and water contamination, leading to the spread of these diseases.

As such, it is important to ensure that proper sanitation and hygiene practices are followed during the monsoon season.

Prepare for the monsoon season

1. Inspect the roof of your home and repair any damage to prevent leaks.
2. Trim trees and shrubs around your home to prevent them from falling onto your property during strong winds.
3. Clear rain gutters and drains to prevent water from overflowing onto your property.
4. Stock up on emergency supplies such as food, water, flashlights, and first aid kits.
5. Have a plan for where to go in case of flooding.

6. Prepare for power outages by having a backup generator or alternative source of power.

7. Wear appropriate protective clothing when outdoors to stay dry and warm.

8. Invest in sandbags to protect vulnerable areas of your property from flooding.

9. Have an emergency plan for your family and pets in case of an evacuation.

10. Make sure all of your important documents are secure and in a safe place.

Musk's Neuralink says cleared for human test of brain implants



The aim of Neuralink implants is to enable human brains to communicate directly with computers. PHOTO: AFP

Neuralink said clearance from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for its first in-human clinical study is "an important first step" for its technology, which is intended to let brains interface directly with computers.

ELON Musk's start-up Neuralink on Thursday said it has gotten approval from US regulators to test its brain implants in people.

Neuralink said clearance from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for its first in-human clinical study is "an important first step" for its technology, which is intended to let brains interface directly with computers.

"We are excited to share that we have received the FDA's approval to launch our first-in-human clinical study," Neuralink

said in a post on Musk-run Twitter. "This is the result of incredible work by the Neuralink team in close collaboration with the FDA."

Recruitment for a clinical trial is not yet open, according to Neuralink.

The aim of Neuralink implants is to enable human brains to communicate directly with computers, Musk said during a presentation by the start-up in December.

"We've been working hard to be ready for our first human (implant), and obviously we want

to be extremely careful and certain that it will work well before putting a device in a human," he said at the time.

Musk — who bought Twitter late last year and also owns SpaceX, Tesla and several other companies — has been known to make ambitious predictions about his companies, with several such forecasts ultimately failing to pan out.

In July 2019, he vowed that Neuralink would be able to perform its first tests on humans in 2020.

Product prototypes, which are the size of a coin, have been implanted in the skulls of monkeys, demonstrations by the start-up showed. At the Neuralink presentation, the company showed several monkeys "playing" basic video games or moving a cursor on a screen through their Neuralink implant.

Musk said the company would try to use the implants to restore vision and mobility in humans who had lost such abilities.

"We would initially enable someone who has almost no

ability to operate their muscles... and enable them to operate their phone faster than someone who has working hands," he said.

"As miraculous as it may sound, we are confident that it is possible to restore full body functionality to someone who has a severed spinal cord," he said.

Beyond the potential to treat neurological diseases, Musk's ultimate goal is to ensure that humans are not intellectually overwhelmed by artificial intelligence, he said.

Source: AFP

TECH/ENVIRON WORLD

China launches Asia's largest carbon capture project for coal-fired power sector



This aerial photo taken on 1 June 2023 shows the carbon capture, utilization and storage facility at Taizhou coal-fired power plant of China Energy Investment Corporation (China Energy) in Taizhou, East China's Jiangsu province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

CHINA Energy Investment Corporation (China Energy) on Friday announced that it has put Asia's largest carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) facility for the coal-fired power generation sector into operation in east China's Jiangsu Province.

The facility, attached to a generation unit at China Energy's Taizhou coal-fired power plant, will capture 500,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) every year, China Energy said.

"During the project's trial run, the CCUS system demonstrated reliable performance and high safety standards, and the energy efficiency indicators and product quality are at or above their designed

levels," said Ji Mingbin, president of China Energy Jiangsu Branch.

He revealed that all CO₂ produced and captured can be utilized, as the company has already secured contracts with eight firms.

Primary applications for the captured CO₂ include dry-ice manufacturing and the production of shielding gases for welding, according to Ji.

China Energy, a coal-fired power generation giant, is one of the leading companies building pilot carbon capture and storage projects in China.

These projects are among the country's endeavors to achieve carbon neutrality by 2060. — Xinhua

Whaling opposition rises in Iceland as govt ban looms

OPPOSITION to whaling is on the rise in Iceland with a majority now in favour of dropping the practice, a fresh public opinion poll showed ahead of a possible government ban.

The survey, conducted by the Maskina institute and published late Thursday, indicated that 51 per cent of Icelanders were opposed to the whale hunt, up from 42 per cent four years ago.

Iceland, Norway and Japan are the only countries that authorize whaling.

The share of Icelanders in favour of the hunt has dipped slightly, to 29 per cent from 32 per cent four years ago, the poll showed.

Those most against it were people aged 18 to 29, while over-60s were those most in favour.

Men were generally more favourable than women in all age groups.

An anti-whaling demonstration is to be held on Saturday in Reykjavik, organised with Iceland's famed singer-songwriter Bjork.

Shocking video clips recently broadcast by Icelandic veterinary authorities showed a whale's agony as it was hunted for five hours.

The country's fisheries minister announced in February 2022 that the government planned to stop issuing whaling quotas as of 2024. — AFP



Iceland, Norway and Japan are the only countries that authorize whaling. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

California law would make tech giants pay for news

A proposed law requiring internet giants to pay for news stories moved forward in California on Friday, despite Facebook owner Meta threatening to pull news from its platform if it passes.

The California Journalism Preservation Act (CJPA), which cleared the state assembly on Thursday and was in the hands of the state senate, would mandate that large online platforms pay a monthly "journalism usage fee" to news providers whose work appears on their services.

The bill is designed to support local news organizations, which have been decimated in recent years as ad revenue bled away to Google and Facebook, both advertising behemoths.



The situation surrounding the relationship between tech platforms and news publishers is constantly evolving, and specific regulations may vary by jurisdiction. **PHOTO: AFP**

Meta spokesman Andy Stone on Friday told AFP that if the bill becomes law, Meta "will be forced to remove news from Facebook and Instagram rather than pay into a slush fund that

primarily benefits big, out-of-state media companies."

The bill has to make its way through the state senate and be signed by Governor Gavin Newsom to become law. — AFP

Sweltering heat in Viet Nam's north sparks power cuts

HANOI residents flocked to the Vietnamese capital's air-conditioned shopping malls on Saturday to escape power cuts at home, as the grid struggled to cope with the high demand caused by soaring heat.

Viet Nam is one of many

countries across South and Southeast Asia experiencing record-high temperatures in recent weeks.

As the temperature rose to 36 degrees Celsius, Bui Manh Duc Tai and his napping girlfriend were among those at the Aeon shopping mall trying

to escape the blistering heat.

"Our home was without power since this morning. We came here for some cool air," Tai told AFP.

In another corner, student Nguyen Minh Thu sat on the floor trying to finish an assignment on her laptop. — AFP

HEALTH/WELLNESS: WORLD

Chinese scientists develop novel technology to treat broad spectrum of cancers: study

CHINESE scientists have developed a novel technology that could potentially restrain the growth and metastasis of a wide spectrum of solid malignant tumours, according to a new study published Friday in the journal of Cell Reports Medicine.

This new technology, developed by a team at China's Guangdong University of Technology, takes advantage of a specifically designed bacteria to target and rapidly replicate itself within the tumours.

Such bacterial drug can not only induce strong inflammatory attacks but also deprive the tumours of an amino acid, methionine, that is essential for cancer cell growth and metastasis through a genetically engineered enzyme in the bacterial drug, according to the study.

The new technology is a met-

abolic approach that targets the strong dependency of many types of cancer cells on methionine. Thus, it is expected to have efficacy in a wide spectrum of solid human tumours, according to the research.

In the study, the bacterial drug has been successfully tested in three divergent tumor models — triple negative breast cancer, prostate cancer, and liver cancer. In all three cases, the drug caused tumour to dissolve and sharply reduced cancer cell metastasis.

Currently clinical trials of the drug are underway in the United States and China's Taiwan region.

"The strong methionine requirement is almost a universal feature for all types of tumours, and cancer cell metastasis is the leading cause to shorten lives in



New technology, developed by a team at China's Guangdong University of Technology, takes advantage of a specifically designed bacteria to target and rapidly replicate itself within the tumours. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ PIXABAY**

cancer patients. This technology can potentially provide a new treatment modality for cancer

patients and prolong their lives," said Allan Zhao, a professor at the School of Biomedical and Phar-

maceutical Sciences, Guangdong University of Technology, and a co-author of the study. — Xinhua

How chocolate could counter climate change



Biochar is produced by heating cocoa bean husks in an oxygen-free room to 600 degrees Celsius (1112 Fahrenheit). **PHOTO: AFP**

AT a red-brick factory in the German port city of Hamburg, cocoa bean shells go in one end, and out the other comes an amazing black powder with

the potential to counter climate change.

The substance, dubbed biochar, is produced by heating the cocoa husks in an oxygen-free

room to 600 degrees Celsius (1,112 Fahrenheit).

The process locks in greenhouse gases and the final product can be used as a fertiliser, or as an ingredient in the production of "green" concrete.

While the biochar industry is still in its infancy, the technology offers a novel way to remove carbon from the Earth's atmosphere, experts say.

According to the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), biochar could potentially be used to capture 2.6 billion of the 40 billion tonnes of CO2 currently produced by humanity each year. — AFP

12 dead from asphyxiation in Venezuelan gold mine

TWELVE people have died from asphyxiation in a shuttered gold mine in southeastern Venezuela, a local official told AFP on Saturday.

"We have 12 dead today," the secretary of security in El Callao, General Edgar Colina Reyes, said in a telephone interview.

"They entered a mine that had been closed a long time."

The deaths occurred on Wednesday when "the mine was flooded from rains," cut-

ting off the illegal miners' oxygen supply, Colina said.

Five bodies were recovered Friday and seven more on Saturday, he said, adding that none have yet been identified.

In 2021, the collapse of a shaft at the same gold mine caused the death of one person, while 34 others were rescued.

Southern Venezuela teems with legal and illegal mining activity, and accidents are common. — AFP



Asphyxiation refers to the condition of being deprived of oxygen, leading to suffocation or inability to breathe properly. **PHOTO: AFP**

UK govt launches legal fight over Covid-era messages

THE UK government said on Thursday it will mount a legal challenge over the release of documents to a public inquiry probing its handling of the Covid pandemic.

The Cabinet Office announced that it was seeking a

judicial review of the order by inquiry chair judge Heather Hallett to hand over all correspondence.

In particular, it is opposed to the release of unredacted WhatsApp messages, diaries and personal notebooks from

Boris Johnson, who was prime minister at the time.

Johnson came in for criticism early in the health emergency for failing to take the threat seriously enough, then as the death toll spiralled and new variants emerged. — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Brazil economy posts better-than-expected growth in Q1



A customer checks the beef section of a supermarket in Curitiba, Brazil. **PHOTO: AFP**

BRAZIL'S economy grew a stronger-than-expected 1.9 per cent in the first quarter, according to official figures released Thursday, welcome news for leftist President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva as he looks to jump-start growth.

The expansion, led by strong growth of 21.6 per cent in the key agricultural sector, marked a rebound for Latin America's biggest economy, which contracted by a revised 0.1 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2022 — the last under far-right ex-president Jair Bolsonaro.

The result was better than

expected, beating an average forecast of 1.3 per cent Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth by analysts polled by business daily Valor. The services sector expanded by 0.6 per cent in the first three months of the year, while the industrial sector contracted by 0.1 per cent, said the national statistics institute, IBGE.

But the agricultural sector in the world's top beef and soybean exporter drove growth, posting its strongest expansion since 1996.

"Climate-related problems had a negative impact on the

agricultural sector last year, but this year we have a forecast for a record soybean harvest," said IBGE analyst Rebeca Palis.

Lula, who previously led the country through a commodities-driven boom from 2003 to 2010, took office again in January vowing to restore strong growth, fight resurgent poverty and "make Brazil happy again."

The 77-year-old ex-metalworker got another piece of economic good news Wednesday: the fall of the unemployment rate to 8.5 per cent for February-April, an eight-year low for the period. — AFP

In distorted Buenos Aires rental market, it's dollar vs. peso

DOLLAR-WIELDING foreigners living it up in Buenos Aires while locals scrape by; Argentina's sky-high inflation and weakening currency has yielded a schizophrenic rental market — a bargain for some, a curse for others.

Ordinarily, a middle-class couple like anthropologist Martina Campos Lopez, 33 and her computer technician husband Bruno Suarez, 43, would top rental agents' lists of eligible tenants.

But they earn in pesos — a currency trading at 488 to the dollar on the black market, where most people do their trading.

More than a year ago, the

couple had to give up their apartment in anticipation of a price hike. They have been unable to find another, and were forced to move in with Lopez's mother. With their toddler.

"The most difficult is this feeling of being like a child again, without independence," Lopez said as she showed AFP around the small house. "Our life is on pause. A temporary measure has become permanent. It is discouraging," she said.

A room the couple uses as a bedroom is packed to the brim with household items from a former life: a coffee maker, microwave, a fan, a fridge. Boxes are stacked high in the bathroom. — AFP



A Buenos Aires resident originally from New Zealand sits inside his rented modern apartment in the sought-after neighbourhood of Palermo. **PHOTO: AFP**

Ajay Banga starts work as new World Bank President

AN Indian-born, naturalized US citizen, Banga was nominated to the position by US President Joe Biden after a successful business career which included a long stretch running the payments company Mastercard.

Banga, 63, has taken over from David Malpass as the bank's 14th president on a pledge to expand the role of the private sector in addressing the world's development needs. "The scale and diversity of our challenges — poverty and development, pandemics, climate change, conflict, and fragility — are deeply intertwined and threaten our collective ambi-

tions, as decades worth of hard-won progress erode," Banga said in his email.

"The World Bank's challenge is clear: It must pursue both climate adaptation and mitigation, it must reach out to lower income countries without turning its back on middle income countries, it must think globally but recognize national and regional needs, it must embrace risk but do so prudently," he added. "Change is appropriate for the World Bank," he said. "It isn't a symptom of failure or drift or irrelevance, it is a symptom of opportunity, life, and importance." — AFP

At its 787 Dreamliner factory, Boeing prepares for takeoff



Boeing builds its 787 Dreamliner planes at a hangar in South Carolina. **PHOTO: AFP**

AS airlines seek to fulfill customers' growing post-pandemic appetites for long-haul travel,

Boeing is aiming to speed up production of its 787 Dreamliners after a period plagued by

repeated delivery interruptions due to manufacturing defects.

At a hangar in the US East Coast state of South Carolina, the plane begins to take shape on its first assembly line — here, the wings, cockpit, cabin and tail are still in separate pieces.

It will take about a month for the entire aircraft to come together, with the final touches added later, in the parking lot.

The US aerospace giant has already managed to up its manufacturing rate from fewer than two 787s per month in 2021 to four, and is hoping to get up to five by the end of the year. — AFP

Philippines expects more Chinese tourists by facilitating e-visa service

THE Philippines hopes to attract up to 2 million Chinese tourists this year amid the Southeast Asian country's efforts to remove the cap for issuing e-visa for Chinese nationals, Philippine Tourism Secretary Christina Gracia Frasco has said.

The Department of Tourism (DOT) is "continuously coordinating" with other government agencies to lift the cap on issuing e-visa for Chinese nationals to meet the ambitious target, Frasco said in a statement on Friday.

"We hope to be able to inure, for the benefit of our stakeholders, the full implementation of the e-visa system by the end of this year," Frasco said.

In January, Philippine President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos di-



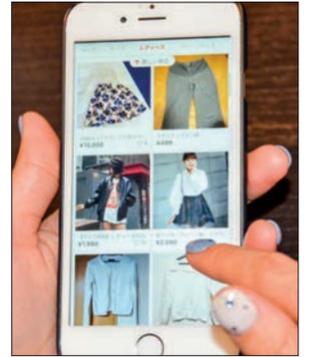
Tourists are seen at a resort in Batangas Province, the Philippines on 18 November 2021. PHOTO: ROUELLE UMALI/XINHUA/FILE

rected agencies to extend e-visa for Chinese, Indian, South Korean, and Japanese nationals to encourage tourists from these countries.

According to the DOT, over 2 million foreign tourists visited the Philippines from January to mid-May this year. Some 75,000 Chinese tourists were among those who vacationed in the archipelagic country famous for world-class fine-sand beaches, limestone formations, and aquamarine lagoons. — Xinhua

Japan flea market apps attracting overseas users on weak yen

JAPANESE flea market apps are acquiring more overseas users in recent months as secondhand Japanese toys, such as action figures and trading cards, are attracting more buyers from the United States, China and elsewhere on the back of a weaker yen.



Cross-border transactions are becoming more popular with flea market apps operated by Mercari Inc., Yahoo Japan Corp., and Rakuten Group Inc., as the yen's depreciation has given more purchasing power to overseas buyers seeking well-preserved Japanese toys.

Mercari said its cross-border transac-

Flea market apps are mobile applications that provide a platform for buying and selling secondhand or used goods. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/KYODO

tions in February grew 3.2 times from a year ago due to the weaker yen and an increase in its partners operating e-commerce sites that overseas buyers can use to purchase goods listed on the Mercari flea market app. — Kyodo

Australia to create marine park the size of Spain

AUSTRALIA plans to create a marine park almost the size of Spain around remote islands off its southeast coast, the government announced Sunday.

Under the proposals, the existing Macquarie Island Marine Park will be tripled in size, bringing a total of 475,465 square kilometres (183,578 square

miles) under protection. That is an area roughly the size of Spain or Cameroon and much larger than Vietnam or Japan. The protections mean the area will be "completely closed to fishing, mining and other extractive activities", according to Australia's Minister of Environment Tanya Plibersek. — AFP



The largely untouched marine area off the north-west coast is used by traditional owners for hunting and customary activities, as well as tourism and recreational and commercial fishing. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/AIR KIMBERLEY

Paris celebrates night-time art festival

PARIS'S night-time arts festival kicked off with a sporting theme on Saturday as the French capital limbers up to host the Olympics next summer.

The celebration has brought modern art to the streets and museums of Paris since 2002 and this year the river Seine, the site chosen for the 2024 Olympic Games opening ceremony, is taking centre stage.

There will be two hundred artworks and performances in Paris and cities along the river for the so-called 'Cultural Olympiad', including huge sculptures and boats blaring out music. — AFP

The Global New Light of Myanmar

www.gnlm.com.mm

သတင်းစာ မာယုလိပ်ပြာ အက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်

09 454 237 515

သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစောင်များကို နိုင်ငံတကာစံချိန်စံညွှန်းပိုမို လိုက်နာပြီး အက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်

01 860 4530

ကြေးမုံမြို့နယ်နှင့် ကြေးမုံမြို့နယ်များ ကြေးမုံမြို့နယ် အကျဉ်းချုပ် အက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်

09 974 424 848

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BANDA VOY.NO. (286N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BANDA VOY.NO. (286N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5-6-2023 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (198N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (198N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5-6-2023 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Chinese defence minister elaborates on China's new security initiative

CHINESE State Councilor and Minister of National Defence Li Shangfu on Sunday elaborated on China's new security initiative.

The sustained prosperity and stability in the Asia-Pacific region hinges on a sound security and development environment, Li said at the 20th Shangri-La Dialogue.

Who is disrupting peace in the region? What are the root causes of chaos and instability? And what should we stay vigilant and guard against? These questions must be answered in the interests of the security, stability and future of the Asia-Pacific, he said.

The Chinese defence minister put forward a four-point proposal on how to pursue security



Policemen stand guard near the venue of the 20th Shangri-La Dialogue at Singapore's Shangri-La Hotel on 2 June 2023. The 20th Shangri-La Dialogue is to be held here from Friday to Sunday, with a focus on identifying challenges and exploring solutions to security across the Asia-Pacific region. **PHOTO: THEN CHIH WEY/XINHUA**

cooperation in the Asia-Pacific.

First, mutual respect should prevail over bullying and hegemony.

ony.

Facts have proven that where there is hegemonism

and power politics, there will be instability, chaos and even wars, Li said, adding that "we in China

believe that the key for countries to live in harmony is mutual respect and treating each other as equals."

"We are strongly opposed to imposing one's own will on others, placing one's own interests above those of others, and pursuing one's own security at the expense of others," he said, citing that some country has willfully interfered in other countries' internal affairs and meddled in the affairs of other regions, and frequently resorted to unilateral sanctions and coercion with force.

It has incited "colour revolutions" and proxy wars in different regions, created chaos and turbulence and just walked away leaving a mess behind, Li said. — Xinhua

N Korea raps IMO, says not to issue advance satellite launch notice

NORTH Korea rapped Sunday the International Maritime Organization for adopting a resolution criticizing it over its recent attempt to launch a satellite, saying it will no longer give advance notice on such launches, the official Korean Central News Agency said.

Since the IMO responded to North Korea's advance notice of the launch with such a resolution, "We will regard this as its official manifestation of stand that the DPRK's advance notice is no longer necessary," said Kim Myong Chol, who was described by KCNA as an "international affairs analyst" of the country.

DPRK is the acronym for the Democratic People's Re-



People watch a television broadcast showing a file image of a North Korean rocket launch at the Seoul Railway Station on 31 May in Seoul. **PHOTO: CHUNG SUNG-JUN/GETTY**

public of Korea, North Korea's formal name.

Kim also said the IMO is "degrading its international reputation as a prestigious UN

expert body under the pressure of the U.S. high-handed and arbitrary practices, not to talk about the DPRK's sovereignty right." — Kyodo

Strike kills girl, injures 22 in Dnipro: Ukraine officials

AN airstrike hit a residential district in the central Ukrainian city of Dnipro, killing a two-year-old girl and injuring 22 others, officials said Sunday.

The attack, which President Volodymyr Zelensky blamed on Russia, partially destroyed a pair

of two-storey buildings as well as 10 private homes, a shop and a gas pipeline, according to the region's governor.

Russian airstrikes over Ukraine have ratcheted up in recent weeks, as have incursions in the opposite direction.

Kyiv has for months said it is preparing a major counteroffensive against Moscow's occupation forces, hoping to reclaim territory lost since Russia invaded in February 2022. After Saturday's strike, a girl's body was pulled from the wreckage. — AFP

Tens of thousands rally against government in Belgrade

TENS of thousands gathered on Saturday for the fifth anti-government protest this month in Serbia's capital Belgrade after two back-to-back shootings that killed 18 people, half of them children.

The "Serbia against violence" protests have evolved into some of the largest rallies since widespread demonstrations triggered the fall of strongman Slobodan Milosevic over two decades ago.

The protests followed the early May mass shootings that left 18 dead and wounded several others. Nine of the dead were students at a Belgrade elementary school who were gunned down by a 13-year-old

pupil. The demonstrations have tapped into simmering anger at the ruling party over what protesters say is a culture of violence fanned by the government and the media outlets they control.

"I'm here for all of us, especially my children. So they don't need to protest, but work and live in their country like they should," 33-year-old mathematician Bojana Popovic told AFP during the rally.

This week's protest, organised by several pro-European opposition parties, was initially planned for Friday but was moved as a precaution after far-right groups announced they would show up. — AFP



The demonstrations have tapped into simmering anger at the ruling party. **PHOTO: AFP**

Cause of India train crash identified, says minister



At least 288 people were killed and more than 850 injured in a horrific three-train collision in India. **PHOTO: AFP**

INDIA'S Railway Minister said on Sunday the cause and people responsible for the country's worst train crash in decades had been identified, pointing to an electronic signal system without giving further details.

"We have identified the cause of the accident and the people responsible for it," India's Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told news agency ANI, but said it was "not appropriate" to give details before a final investigation report.

The death toll from Friday's

crash near Balasore, in the eastern state of Odisha, was expected to climb above 288.

Ashwini said the "change that occurred during electronic interlocking, the accident happened due to that", a technical term referring to a complex signal system designed to stop trains colliding by arranging their movement on the tracks.

"Whoever did it, and how it happened, will be found out after proper investigation," he added.

There was confusion about the exact sequence of events

but reports cited railway officials as saying that a signalling error had sent the Coromandal Express running south from Kolkata to Chennai onto a side track.

It slammed into a freight train and the wreckage derailed an express running north from India's tech hub Bengaluru to Kolkata that was also passing the site.

Odisha state's chief secretary Pradeep Jena confirmed that about 900 injured people had been hospitalised. — AFP

China's Shenzhou-15 astronauts return safely

THREE Chinese astronauts on board the Shenzhou-15 manned spaceship returned to Earth safely on Sunday, after completing their six-month space station mission.

The return capsule carrying astronauts Fei Junlong, Deng Qingming and Zhang Lu, touched down at the Dongfeng landing site in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

Soon after the return capsule landed, the ground search team arrived at the landing site. Medical personnel confirmed that the astronauts were in good health.

China launched the manned spaceship Shenzhou-15 on 29



Taikonaut Deng Qingming waves as he leaves the capsule of the Shenzhou-15 spaceship after landing in China's Inner Mongolia on 4 June 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

November 2022.

The Shenzhou-15 crew, China's oldest mission crew in terms of average age, successfully completed four extravehicular activities (EVAs), be-

coming the crew to accomplish the most EVAs of all Chinese crews to date. The crew has also witnessed the completion of the country's space station construction. — Xinhua

Japan to consider allowing tattooed youths to join SDF

THE government will consider allowing tattooed youths to join the Japan Self-Defence Forces if they are otherwise qualified, as the SDF faces a chronic personnel shortage amid the low birthrate.

A senior Defence Ministry official recently admitted the need at a parliamentary session reviewing the current guideline banning people from applying to be an SDF cadet if they have tattoos, which are generally considered taboo in Japan.

The official's response came after an upper house

lawmaker of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party pointed to the need to study removing such a ban to secure much-needed personnel.

"Rejecting applicants just because they have tattoos poses a problem in terms of enhancing the human resources base," said Masahisa Sato, noting the serious shortage of SDF cadets.

"There are various kinds, including fashion tattoos like a small flower or one's own name," the former senior Ground Self-Defence Force officer said. — Kyodo



National Defence Academy's graduation ceremony in Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture, on 26 March 2023. **PHOTO: KYODO**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three Israel soldiers, Egypt security force member killed in border shooting

THREE Israeli soldiers and a member of Egypt's security forces were killed Saturday in a rare exchange of fire near the border between the two countries, official sources from both sides said.

The Israeli army said an Egyptian assailant shot dead two soldiers "in the early morning... while they secured a military post at the Egyptian border" on Mount Harif, near the town of Mitzpe Ramon in the Negev desert.

The discovery of their bodies triggered a manhunt during which the third soldier was killed.

An army statement identified the assailant as an Egyptian policeman, saying he was killed by Israeli troops after being found "in Israeli territory". — AFP

Kyiv says Russia hit airfield in central Ukraine

KYIV said Sunday that Russian missiles had struck an airfield near the city of Kropyvnytskyi in central Ukraine.

"Six missiles and five attack drones" were launched by Russia, Ukrainian air force spokesman Yuriy Ignat said on television.

"Unfortunately not all of them were destroyed. Of the six, four were destroyed by air defence and two hit the operational airfield near Kropyvnytskyi," he said, giving no further details.

Kropyvnytskyi is a small city in the Kirovohrad region in central Ukraine, south of the capital Kyiv. — AFP

Cause of India train crash identified, says minister

PAGE-15



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.

Yangon trounce Ayeyawady 4-1 in MNL Week-8

YANGON United celebrated a big 4-1 win over Ayeyawady United in the Week-8 match of the Myanmar National League played at the Yangon United Sport Complex yesterday.

Yangon United started with a 4-3-3 formation and managed to make a goal threat in the 8th minute of the match. Yangon United took the lead in the 32nd minute as Sylla headed in a cross from captain David Htan. In the 36th minute of the match, Zaw Win Their produced the second goal for team Yangon through Yan Naing Oo's assist.

The first half was ended with Yangon's double goals. Sylla headed in the third goal 25 seconds after the second-half restart through Zaw Win Their's cross. In the 59th minute of the game, Ayeyawady's Captain Aung Naing Win made an equalizer through Hlaing Bo Bo's mistake.

After getting the equalizing goal, Ayeyawady fought hard, but after 90 minutes, Yangon United got the fourth goal in four minutes of extra time. The goal was scored by captain David Htan, and at the end of the game, Yangon United won 4-1 against Ayeyawady. — KZL

Big game player Gundogan takes Manchester City to brink of the treble



Ilkay Gundogan lifts the FA Cup trophy on Saturday. PHOTO: AFP

ILKAY Gundogan produced when it mattered most for Manchester City once more as the German's double downed Manchester United 2-1 in the FA Cup final on Saturday in what could be fitting parting gift.

Gundogan will be central to City's quest to complete the treble next weekend against Inter Milan in the Champions League final. But his future beyond this season remains in doubt with the 32-year-old's contract expiring at the end of the month.

After seven seasons in Manchester,

Gundogan has reportedly been tempted by the change of scene and lifestyle offered by Barcelona.

But manager Pep Guardiola admitted he is still trying to convince the man who was his first signing for City back in 2016 to prolong his stay.

"He knows what I think (of him). There is no doubt," said Guardiola. "We are neighbours, we live on the same floor for many years, he is a close friend of mine but hopefully we can finish in a good way. (City sporting director) Txiki (Begiristain) is working. — AFP

XII ASEAN Paralympic Games kicks off

AN opening ceremony of the XII ASEAN Paralympic Games took place at Morodok Techo National Stadium in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 3 June with participation of athletes from ASEAN countries.

President of the Myanmar

Paralympic Sports Federation Maj-Gen Hla Moe accompanied by team administrators, coaches, and Paralympic athletes attended the event.

At the opening ceremony, Member of the Cambodian National Assembly H.E Hun Many and the Chairman of the ASEAN Paralympics Federation of Cambodia delivered opening speech -

es. After the Prime Minister of Cambodia Mr Hun Sen clarified the purpose for hosting the XII ASEAN Paralympic Games, the official opening of the tourney announced.

Next, honorary gold medalist of Cambodia athletes carried the torch by hand and lit it, and the XII ASEAN Paralympic Games

was opened.

Host Cambodia will feature 14 kinds of sports in the tourney while Myanmar will participate in the eight categories.—MNA/KZL

