

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. X, No. 98, 7<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Second Waso 1385 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Monday, 24 July 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.



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla feed white elephant Rattha Nandaka and his mother in the white elephant shed on 23 July 2023.

## White elephant Rattha Nandaka joins 1<sup>st</sup> birthday anniversary

**T**HE first birthday anniversary of white elephant Rattha Nandaka defined as the precious white elephant beloved by the country which will bring prosperity and happiness to the nation took place at the white

elephant shed in the precinct of Up-patasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife

Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe sprinkled scented water on the one-year old white elephant.

**SEE PAGE-2**

## Central Bank of Myanmar issues press release



**T**HE Central Bank of Myanmar will issue a new type of “twenty-thousand-kyat” banknote starting from 31 July 2023, and in commemoration of the completion of the Maravijaya Buddha Image, which was built to show the brightness of the Theravada Buddhism firmly shining in Myanmar, for Myanmar to be a focal point of Theravada Buddhism and to bring peace to the country and the world, and in celebration of the one-year birthday of a white elephant, “Rattha Nandaka,” born on 23 July 2022.

Such a banknote will be issued in a limited number and will be distributed only by exchange of the same value with various types of old banknotes that should not be appropriate for circulation in Myanmar. Initially, old banknotes will be exchanged for “equal value” at the Central Bank of Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw, the Yangon branch, and the Mandalay branch.

Current valid currency notes and changes will continue to stand as official currency.

**SEE PAGE-5**

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

PAGE-6



Preliminary survey work extended in offshore block A3 area until 15 August

## LOCAL BUSINESS

PAGE-7



Myanmar imported 144,900 tonnes of fertilizer in June



# NATIONAL

## White elephant Rattha Nandaka joins 1<sup>st</sup> birthday anniversary

... white elephant Rattha Nandaka defined as the precious white elephant beloved by the country which will bring prosperity and happiness to the nation ...



SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win feeds white elephant Rattha Nandaka on 23 July 2023.

**FROM PAGE-1**

White elephant Rattha Nandaka paid homage to Uppatasanti Pagoda.

The Senior General and wife presented the birthday gift for the elephant to an official whereas the Vice-Senior General and wife fed Rattha Nandaka and his mother.

The white elephant re-

leased 10 white doves to mark his birthday as part of emergence of 10<sup>th</sup> elephant in the nation.

After the ceremony, the Senior General and wife performed the rituals of golden and silver showers for successful completion of the birthday ceremony and fed white elephants and their companion elephants

in the white elephant shed.

The one-year old white elephant is three feet and 10 inches

high with 670 pounds of weight, healthily and happily living at the Yadana white elephant shed

in the precinct of Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA/TTA

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

1. AN announcement has been issued that well-wishers wishing to make donations for people who fell victim to the extremely severe cyclonic storm Mocha which hit Myanmar on 14-5-2023 can donate cash to Myanmar account OA-011834 and foreign account 1DA-0300086.
2. In this announcement, it is duly mentioned that our commitment

- to receiving donations extends to additional electronic payment systems and mobile payment systems. Further updates and notifications will be made in due course.
3. It has been announced that donations can be made to the previously announced phone number and to the account that was opened, and since it can be confusing to donate with a

- phone number, we have already made it possible to donate with a QR code instead of the phone number.
4. Donations can be made through KBZ Pay or Wave Money. If you wish to donate, please scan the QR codes provided by both KBZ Pay and Wave Money. To contribute, enter the code included within the respective QR codes.

5. People make donations through CB Pay, AYA Pay, OK \$, UAB pay and Citizens Pay which are widely used to enhance convenience for donors. To donate, please scan the QR code and enter the code provided within it.
6. The well-wishers can contact the following persons for further information: -

Nay Pyi Taw	Yangon	Mandalay
Daw Lei Lei Aye 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



# NATIONAL

## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing facilitates precinct of Maravijaya Buddha Image with Vijayabhumi Nimmana land of victory, Saddadhipati Bell



The Senior General and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla beat Saddadhipati Bell in the precinct of Maravijaya Buddha image yesterday.



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing keeps soils from holy places at religious edifices in India and Myanmar on the land of victory on 24 July 2023.

**A** gala ceremony to build Vijayabhumi Nimmana land of victory in front of Maravijaya Buddha Image took place in conjunction with the launching of Saddadhipati Bell in the precinct of the Buddha image

yesterday morning.

Leading donor of the Buddha image Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing placed pieces of jewellery on the land of victory. Just then,

the master of ceremonies recited Pathavijaya Gatha and the paper on auspicious occasion. The Senior General put soils from seven holy places in Budh Gaya of India and from lands of victory of 35 eminent pagodas across the na-

tion into Vijayabhumi Nimmana land of victory.

The Senior General and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla beat Saddadhipati Bell nine times.

SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior Gen-

eral Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe also beat the bell.

The bell, weighing 738 visses, is five feet high, 4 feet and one inch wide of the bell mouth donated by the Senior General, wife and family. — MNA/TTA

## Monks, laypersons honoured with titles and medals for contributions to building Maravijaya Buddha Image

**T**HE Chairman of the State Administration Council conferred honorary titles on the monks and laypersons for their outstanding performances in building the Maravijaya Buddha Image in Dakkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, as per the State Administration Council's Notification No 125/2023 and 126/2023 on 23 July 2023.

The title of Thray Sithu was offered to four Sayadaws and five laypersons. Additionally, the title of Sithu was conferred upon two Sayadaws and two laypersons. Furthermore, the title of Thiri Pyanchi was bestowed upon 20 Sayadaws and three laypersons, while the title of Wunna Kyaw Htin was given to two persons, and the title of Theikpa Kyawswa to four persons.

**The title of Thray Sithu was offered to four Sayadaws and five laypersons. Additionally, the title of Sithu was conferred upon two Sayadaws and two laypersons. Furthermore, the title of Thiri Pyanchi was bestowed upon 20 Sayadaws and three laypersons, while the title of Wunna Kyaw Htin was given to two persons, and the title of Theikpa Kyawswa to four persons.**

The Thray Sithu title was conferred on Dr Bhaddanta Nyanissara, State Ovadacariya, Shwegyin Niyaka Chairman of Sitagu International Vipassana University (Sagaing), Bhaddanta Saddhiya, Shwe Thuwun Sayadaw, Dr Bhadd-

anta Silananda Bhivamsa, retired Rector of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, and Bhaddanta Vimalabuddhi Pali Sayadaw, Pali Tekkatho Mingala Zeyon Pariyatti Buddhist Learning Centre in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Thray Sithu title was awarded to Lt-Gen Nyo Saw, advisor to the Chairman of the SAC, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swa Lin of the Ministry of Defence, Lt-Gen Kan Myint Than, Chief of Defence Industries of the Ministry of Defence, Maj-Gen

Ko Ko Lwin of the Ministry of Defence and Dr Nyi Hla Nge, patron of the Myanmar Engineering Council.

The Sithu title was presented to Dr Bhaddanta Hsekinda, rector of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, Yankin Sayadaw Bhaddanta Khemananda, and Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant and structure professional of the Engineer Council Dr Toe Toe Win.

In addition, it is known that the Chairman of the State Administration Council has conferred the title of Thiha Thudhamma Manijotadhara on the person who has contributed exceptionally to the construction of the Maravijaya Buddha Image enshrined in Dakkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. — MNA/KZW



# NATIONAL



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing explains building of Maravijaya Buddha Image and Buddha park in Nay Pyi Taw on 23 July 2023.

## Maravijaya sitting Buddha image to be world's tallest one

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing unveils plan to consecrate Maravijaya Buddha image on 1 August

**C**ONSTRUCTION of Maravijaya sitting Buddha image aims to show flourishing of Theravada Buddhism in Myanmar, for Myanmar to be a focal point of Theravada Buddhism, ensure prosperity of the State and contribute to peace and stability of the world, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the third clarification to religious title recipient well-wishers and those from partner companies on building the world's tallest sitting marble Buddha image in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw at the hall of the Buddha image precinct yesterday morning.

In his clarification, the Senior General said that pieces of marble rocks to be carved as Maravijaya Buddha Image and throne, weighing 8,158 tonnes, were conveyed along the land roads, starting from 3 July 2020. Conveyance process used modular trailers manufactured by Goldhofer Company of Germany.

The Senior General recounted that advice was sought from members of the Sangha from the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee for building religious edifices in addition to carving the Buddha image. Moreover, Tri Pitaka treatises were carved on the stone plaques in Pali and Romanized languages, to be kept in the Maravijaya Buddha Park, he added.

The Senior General continued to say that the books on treatises of Tri Pitaka were printed in Pali and Romanized languages with the use of quality paper. Arrangements are being made to insert the application of treatises into tablets to be donated to Buddhist centres across the nation.

He explained that the Buddha Park has been facilitated with a bridge, replica of Mingala Bridge at Mandalay Royal City. Bored piles were driven at the structure capable of 20,000 tonnes of withstanding the Buddha image. Parts of the throne were systematically placed and connected.

Soils from seven holy places of Buddhism from India

and those from 35 lands of victory of eminent pagodas across the nation were placed on Vijayabhumi Nimmana land of victory in front of the marble Buddha image.

The Senior General also clarified construction of the water fountains, Thudamma public rest-houses, Mucalinda Lake, Maravijaya Chamber and Nagayon Pagoda under various religious treatises. Stone plaques bearing inscriptions on Tri Pitakat treatises in Pali and

... the Buddha image connected with part 1, 2 and 3 weighing 1,700 tonnes was lifted up by 1,500 tonnes of the steel tower and a 250-tonne steel frame through collaborative efforts of Myanmar engineers from the Myanmar Engineering Council and military engineers ...

Romanized languages were accommodated in the stone plaque chambers on which small pagodas were built for public obeisance, he remarked.

The Senior General disclosed that the Buddha image connected with part 1, 2 and 3 weighing 1,700 tonnes was lifted up by 1,500 tonnes of the steel tower and a 250-tonne steel frame through collaborative efforts of Myanmar engineers from the Myanmar Engineering Council and military engineers on 26 January 2023.

He noted that religious objects and jewellery items

donated by people were enshrined on the central point of the throne on 27 January and 10 February 2023. Moreover, Sasana Beikman Aggadipati Withongama ordination hall, 296 feet long, 213 feet wide and 94 feet high, was built to accommodate 900 members of the Sangha and 1,200 laypersons at religious ceremonies. Additionally, an Unnalon holy hair was installed on the face of the Buddha image. Engineers built the Buddha image to endure impacts of 120 mph storm or 8.8 Richter scale of earthquake.

The Senior General highlighted that the precinct of the Buddha image has been facilitated a banner post and Saddadhipati Bell as well as an escalator for older persons and those with disabilities to easily visit the Buddha image.

Next, a video clip featured construction process of the water fountain square and the stone plaque chambers and the situation of the Buddha image on completion of all processes.

The Senior General and officials accepted cash donated by attendees to the ceremony. At the ceremony, 377 well-wishers donated K17.415 billion for construction of the Buddha image and the Buddha park.

Afterwards, the Senior General said that a gala ceremony will be celebrated for consecration of the Maravijaya Buddha Image, umbrella-hoisting for small pagodas on stone plaque chambers and merit-sharing for all deeds on 1 August 2023.

The attendees viewed round scale models of Maravijaya Buddha image and Buddha park, printed books on Pitaka treatises in Pali and Romanized languages and inserting an application of treatises into tablets. They also visited the Maravijaya Buddha Image and the Buddha Park.

Construction of Maravijaya sitting Buddha image aims to show flourishing of Theravada Buddhism in Myanmar, for Myanmar to be a focal point of Theravada Buddhism, ensure prosperity of the State and contribute to peace and stability of the world. — MNA/TTA

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.gnlm.com.mm  
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com



#### CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,  
Hotline - 09 454237515

#### ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,  
Hotline - 09 251022355  
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com  
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

newsroom@gnlm.com.mm, gnlmnews@gmail.com  
www.gnlm.com.mm

#### 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 [aunghuya@gnlm.com.mm](mailto:aunghuya@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.



# NATIONAL

## Central Bank of Myanmar issues press release

FROM PAGE-1

Information about the new bank note is as follows: -

### TWENTY THOUSAND KYATS NOTE

Dimension	:	15x7 cm
Dominant Colour	:	Light Green
Obverse Side	:	At the upper part of the note, the “CENTRAL BANK OF MYANMAR” is printed. In the middle portion of the obverse side, Yadana white elephant in Myanmar artistic style is printed and the value of the note “20000” Kyats in Myanmar language is inserted on the right side of the note. At three corners of the note, the value of the currency note in the figure is mentioned. Bank Note numbers are printed in the Myanmar horizontally and English vertically. The note bears the Watermark image of head of Yadana white elephant is inserted on its left side. On the obverse side of both-edge is printed 12 short lines of tactile feature for the blind.
Reverse Side	:	The note bears the illustration of Sagaing Bridge and Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) on the reverse side of the note and “CENTRAL BANK OF MYANMAR” is inserted on the top of the note and “TWENTY THOUSAND KYATS” is seen on the lower part of the note. At three corners of the note, the value of the currency note in the figure is printed. On the reverse side, a security thread, a dynamic colourshift that can be seen from any tilting angle, changed from gold to green is embedded upright in the note.

## Relief supplies delivered to Rakhine state

OFFICIALS continue relief operations under the guidance of the National Disaster Management Committee and the supervision of the Transport and Communications Committee.

The Mawlamyine Century Logistics (MCL-3) vessel, carrying a total of 2,222.287 tonnes of relief goods, including 44,380 sacks of rice and 2,000 family kits sent by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement for use in disaster

relief operations in Rakhine State, departed from the Myanmar Terminal (TMT) jetty at 4 pm yesterday for Sittway.

A total of 32,812.90 tonnes of relief supplies, including construction materials, electrical appliances, medicines and healthcare products, consumer goods and foodstuff, 249,762 gallons of diesel and 199,886 gallons of Octane 92 were delivered to Sittway from 16 May to yesterday. — MNA/KZL



The Mawlamyine Century Logistics (MCL-3) vessel, carrying relief materials, departs for Rakhine State from Myanmar Terminal jetty on 23 July 2023.

**11 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 23 July, total figure registers 640,977**

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **640,977** after **11** new cases were reported on 23 July 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. Therefore, a total of **10,988,749** laboratory samples were examined to date and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached **640,977**. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **619,772** including **25** new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered **19,494** on 23-7-2023 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

## Specialists conduct medical outreach in Pathein, Ayeyawady Region



A team of specialist doctors posts for a documentary photo on 23 July 2023.

A team of specialist doctors, including experts in hematology, cardiology, gastrointestinal issues, brain and neurology, brain and neurosurgery, diabetes and hormonal conditions, and general practitioners from New Yangon General Hospital, performed medical treatments

for local residents in Pathein, Ayeyawady Region on 22 and 23 July.

During their visit, the medical team provided treatments not only in Pathein but also in various nearby areas, including Kangyidaunt, Thabaung, Myaungmya,

Ngaputaw, Kyonpyaw, Yekyi, Labutta, Einme, Kyaunggon, Wakema, Ngathaingyoung, Chaungtha, and Ngwesauing. In total, they attended to 785 patients.

Furthermore, specialists from Pathein General Hospital participated in the medical

mission, jointly examining 74 patients with eye diseases, ten patients in obstetrics and gynecology, 79 orthopedic patients, 17 surgery patients, 20 patients with ear, nose, and throat conditions, five dental patients, and 20 patients with skin issues. Additionally, nine children received medical treatment, bringing the total number of treated individuals to 234.

The specialist medical team was supported by officials from the Ministry of Health and the Public Health and Medical Services Departments of Ayeyawady Region.

This medical outreach programme is part of the Ministry of Health's efforts to bring quality healthcare to various regions across Myanmar. Similar programmes have already been conducted in Sittway, Rakhine State, and this initiative will continue to be implemented in other regions and states in the future. — MNA/KZW



## CURRENT AFFAIRS

# Preliminary survey work extended in offshore block A3 area until 15 August



Block A3 seen offshore Myanmar seas.

THE Department of Fisheries recently announced that the preliminary survey work for construction in the offshore Block A3 in the sea of Myanmar is still ongoing and was extended until 15 August. POSCO International Corporation (Myanmar E&P), a joint venture in the oil exploration activities of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise is conducting these survey activities with the vessel MV Furgo Equator.

Originally, a reminder for mariners was issued from 1 June to 31 July. However, since the survey work has not yet been

completed, the maritime warning has been extended until 15 August.

Within a radius of four kilometers from the location, a maritime warning has been issued, and it is advised that all large and small ships, cargo boats, fishing boats, and motor schooners should avoid passage and anchorage in the area. The Department of Fisheries also issued a notice to cease fishing activities and refrain from placing fishing equipment during this period. — TWA/KZW

## MoALI to admit 100 students in first-ever Fisheries Institute (Twantay)

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation recently made an announcement on a plan to admit 100 students to attend the inaugural Fisheries Institute (Twantay) this year.

Those selected for admission will undergo a comprehensive three-year course, and upon successful completion of the fisheries and aquaculture diploma programme, they will be conferred a diploma certificate. Additionally, eligible students will have the opportunity to take the entrance exam to the BSc (Fisheries and Aquaculture) Course at the University of Yangon.

Prospective applicants are required to have passed the matriculation examination with a science combination. Application submissions should be directly sent to the institute before the deadline of 30 September; and candidates must not exceed 22 years of age at the time of application closure. The Fisheries Institute (Twantay) and the fisheries departments in relevant regions and states will publish the list of admitted students and the opening date of the institute.

The vocational diploma course will focus on fish farming and will offer students free accommodation along with stipend of K30,000. Graduates will have the opportunity to work as deputy assistant staff officers at the Department of Fisheries or in companies related to the fishing industry. — TWA/CT

## Four bodies linked to sinking of MV Tung Sung in Malaysian waters discovered



Officials carry the bodies that have been discovered onto the ship.

THE bodies of four individuals who were reported missing from the sinking of MV Tung Sung in Malaysian waters have been discovered by rescuers, as confirmed by Malaysia's maritime intelligence agency, Maritime State. However, their identities have not yet been established.

The incident occurred when

MV Tung Sung, carrying pebble, sank approximately 40 nautical miles northwest of Pulau Burung in Malaysian waters at midday on 20 July. At the time of the sinking, nine people were reported missing, including four from Myanmar, four from Malaysia, and one from Indonesia. In response, rescue teams,

including the Malaysian Coast Guard, launched immediate search operations for the missing individuals.

The deceased bodies were located roughly 15 nautical miles away from Pulau Burung, thanks to information provided by fishing boats. Nevertheless, the identities of the deceased have not been confirmed, and the bodies were transferred to the Sebuyau District Police Force and Hospital for further examination.

Furthermore, the search for the remaining missing persons will continue, and the Malaysian Maritime Police, Sarawak Coast Guard, Malaysian Fire and Rescue Department, and the Public Defence Force are collaborating in the search and rescue measures. Individuals with any information about the incident can contact 082-432544 MERS 999. — TWA/KZL

## MCDC to take action against undisciplined drivers of parked bowzers in six townships



A bowser parks on roadside.

THE Mandalay City Development Committee recently announced that it will enforce measures against unruly bowser drivers in the six downtown townships, beginning last week of July. Currently, action is being taken against trailers

transporting consumer goods and food items, and the MCDC will also address the issue of gasoline trucks.

To carry out these actions effectively, the Mandalay City Development Committee, along with the revenue de-

partment, municipal police force, and other relevant authorities, will participate in inspection. Violations of the regulations will result in fines of up to K50,000 being imposed. — TWA/KZW



# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Sagaing Region supplies 60,000 rice bags beyond self-sufficiency

AYEYAWADY, Bago and Yangon regions have been considered the leading rice-producing areas in Myanmar before the year 2000 and then, Sagaing Region emerged as a rice bowl over a decade.

At present, Sagaing Region became one of the rice bowls, with a supply of about 60,000 rice bags per month beyond self-sufficiency. It helps strengthen the rice supply chain.

There was an inflow of approximately 15,000 bags of rice to Yangon and 29,000 bags to Mandalay market in mid-July from Sagaing Region. About 15,000 bags of rice were sent to Nay Pyi Taw, Magway Region and northern and southern Shan State from Sagaing Region as well.

Earlier, the lower regions had to supply rice to Sagaing Region. Thanks to the irrigation system, the region itself can supply rice to other regions now.

Agriculture is the backbone

of the economy. There are 17 million acres of monsoon and summer paddy fields in the country.

Furthermore, Magway and Taninthayi regions are the main suppliers of edible oil crops. Thaphanseik Dam's irrigation network covers 400,000 acres of monsoon paddy and 300,000 acres of summer paddy. The dam provided irrigation water supply since 2001.

Before 2015, rice from Rakhine State flowed into Yangon's market through the Pyay area. The supply from Rakhine State has become extremely low in a couple of years, said a rice trader engaged in Bayintnaung Commodity Wholesale Centre.

The Ayeyawady Delta regions and western Bago area primarily supply rice to the Yangon market for local consumption and foreign markets. There is an influx of about 100,000 rice bags per day to Wahdan and Bayintnaung Wholesale centres utilizing road and sea transport, the Global New Light of



The photo shows newly supplied rice bags stockpiled at the Wahdan Rice Wholesale Centre in Yangon.

Myanmar quoted a rice trader as saying.

Myanmar shipped 3.58 million tonnes of rice to foreign markets in the 2017-2018 financial year and over two million tonnes in the 2022-2023 FY. The country aims to achieve a rice export target of 2 million tonnes for the current FY as well.

Rice export is estimated

at 100,000 tonnes per month in the post-harvest season of monsoon paddy this year. The high-grade Pawsan from Shwebo, Sagaing Region, is worth over K100,000 per bag and Shwebo paddy is valued at around K2.9 million per 100 baskets in mid-July 2023.

Shwebo Pawsan's rice price was volatile in H2 last year.

About hundreds of rice bags were reportedly stockpiled at Wahdan depot and there were stocks of 100,000 rice bags in the regions then.

The real-time market reports with price updates from the Sagaing Region help identify fake rumours in the market for the price hike, a market observer pointed out. — TWA/EM

## Myanmar imported 144,900 tonnes of fertilizer in June



ACCORDING to statistics from the Ministry of Commerce, a total of 144,900 tonnes of fertilizer valued at US\$58.041 million were imported abroad in June.

Out of this, 106,900 tonnes of fertilizer amounting to US\$46.034 million were imported via the maritime route, and 38,000 tonnes of fertilizer worth US\$12.017 million through the border trade route.

The breakdown of the 106,900 tonnes of fertilizers imported via the maritime route is as follows: 44,000 tonnes from China, 37,000

tonnes from Oman, 7,000 tonnes from Thailand, 6,000 tonnes from Indonesia, 3,600 tonnes from Vietnam, 2,500 tonnes from Russia, 2,500 tonnes from South Korea, 1,500 tonnes from Malaysia, 1,000 tonnes from Laos, 1,000 tonnes from the United Arab Emirates, 500 tonnes from Norway, and 300 tonnes from Jordan. Additionally, 36,000 tonnes of fertilizers were imported from China through the border trade route and 2,000 tonnes of fertilizers from Thailand, totaling 38,000 tonnes. — TWA/CT

Arrival of imported fertilizers seen at the port.

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](http://www.moi.gov.mm/mal), [www.moi.gov.mm/km](http://www.moi.gov.mm/km), [www.moi.gov.mm/nlm](http://www.moi.gov.mm/nlm) and [www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper](http://www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper).

News and Periodicals Enterprise



# OPINION

## Beware of seasonal flu: Protecting all age groups

Seasonal flu poses a significant threat throughout the nation, particularly in areas with high rainfall in lower Myanmar. In some regions, the severity of the disease has led to an influx of flu patients seeking medical treatment at hospitals and clinics. This scenario is a common sight during the monsoon season in Myanmar.

Globally, approximately five million people fall victim to seasonal flu each year, with respiratory problems claiming the lives of around 650,000 individuals. The World Health Organization has highlighted that the infectious respiratory virus is particularly lethal for children under the age of five, especially those in developing countries. The flu not only hampers work productivity but also causes absences from school. It is crucial for everyone to be cautious without succumbing to excessive worry.

Currently, seasonal flu remains a significant concern for people of all ages. Its impact on health, work, and education should not be taken lightly. By maintaining awareness, following preventive measures, and seeking medical assistance, when necessary, everybody can collectively protect themselves and their communities from the seasonal flu. Let us prioritize well-being and contribute to a healthier, flu-free Myanmar.

Seasonal flu is a recurring illness in Myanmar. It manifests as a viral infection transmitted from one person to another through respiratory droplets. When carriers sneeze or cough, the virus can disperse into the air, rapidly infecting others. In some cases, the virus can spread through contaminated objects or surfaces. The infectious period begins one or two days before symptoms appear and can last four to five days after symptoms subside.

Common symptoms of seasonal flu include sudden fever, sore throat, body aches, coughing, a runny nose, and headaches. Coughing can be severe, lasting for more than two weeks in some cases. However, most patients recover within a week.

Nevertheless, older individuals, those with chronic diseases, children under two years old, and pregnant women

are particularly susceptible to severe complications from seasonal flu. Therefore, these individuals must take extra precautions to protect their health and avoid contracting the flu.

Since Myanmar typically commences its basic education schools and universities in June, it is essential to raise awareness of seasonal flu among students and staff. Consequently, health organizations are implementing various public awareness initiatives to control the spread of the flu. Additionally, it is imperative for all individuals to prioritize their health and adhere to the guidelines set forth by the Ministry of Health to prevent seasonal flu.

Currently, seasonal flu remains a significant concern for people of all ages. Its impact on health, work, and education should not be taken lightly. By maintaining awareness, following preventive measures, and seeking medical assistance, when necessary, everybody can collectively protect themselves and their communities from the seasonal flu. Let us prioritize well-being and contribute to a healthier, flu-free Myanmar.

I have heard some people say that time cannot be managed by anybody, and this is right to some extent in my view because time is passing slowly and steadily, second after second, without stopping. In other words, a thing called time may be considered not even our own. After all, what they want to mean is that the passage of time must not be controlled by any means, as the proverb says 'Time and tide waits for no man', but the time which has not yet flown by should be well planned for the future. Although the past is past, the future is now. Time, i.e., age, is only a limited potential resource of human survival chance, so good care ought to be taken to develop time management skills in the present. Those who will have to do so include outstanding students, professional teachers, young couples, and self-made businessmen. Trying to manage time might seem like a silly sense of humour sometimes; however, it is really found effective and efficient in down-to-earth situations. Alongside careful considerations of drawing a systematic study schedule, this article is intended for all students from every educational field. Here is how.

Looking at the potentially allowed length of an academic year and private time is the very first consideration for a study timetable. This is each of the solutions to the following questions: How much time will be formally allocated to an academic year? Four months a semester, eight months a year? How much is the total study time for a course? Five

or seven or twelve years? To my certain knowledge, the two fields, namely medicine and law, are internationally of the longest study periods. And how many hours are spent in a day's school? How about a self-study time? Though 'Never too old to learn', as Myanmar saying goes, it is best if a student endeavours to do his best for education while he is young, simply for his ability to memorize apparently lessen as long as he is not getting any younger.

Knowing a classroom timetable by heart becomes the second consideration in making a timetable for study. Classroom timetables tend to show how many hours have been set in each period of teaching or lecturing, for example, 40 minutes or 45 minutes or 50 minutes, how many periods there are in the timetables, how long the break time is, what start time and end time of a school's day are, how long the total school time is, and which subjects or studies are instructed. When a student sees his classroom timetable properly, he will be able to spend his own much-better time than normal. A great deal of concentration on study is the most important in the classroom and this concentration should help many students less work in their exercises after class. On the whole, the highest potential interval for an average concentration in class is said to last 15 minutes or so. However long that interval takes, absolute concentration on studies during class time is of the essence. In addition, the homework that is given one day but may not be corrected

by teachers just another day can be conditionally postponed by students to a later but not-too-long date if they are dab hands with timetables. Being able to know the subject nature inside out turns out to be the third consideration for planning a study schedule of great importance. It will, in the main, be found that there are two kinds of subjects—art subjects and science subjects. Since language is indispensable for learning art subjects, learners must be fluent

language users. It can be even seen that some art learners are weak in subject-related languages sometimes. They had better spare time for language study and practice besides subject time, especially if the language is not their mother tongue. Not only that, art subjects also require extra-curricular reading, excursions, sightseeing tours, and group discussions, which usually take time, apart from classroom study. And linguistic excellence is often needed while science

subjects are being studied. Not having language accuracy in science subjects may lead to any misunderstanding about scientific information. More importantly, subjects of science entail laboratory experiments that are likely to cause lengthy delays. All in all, both kinds of subjects normally keep students, especially undergraduates or postgraduates, taking long in their studies for term papers, dissertations, and further research.

When beginning to make

a study schedule, the difficulty of subjects or studies should be thought of at the very first. Frankly enough, most students are observed to start studying the subject that interests them quite a lot, or that they like most. This is just a big mistake in their study routines. Of course, the subjects at which they are actually bad ought to be at the top of their study list, being arranged in order of difficulty as much as necessary. After that, students need to think about whether they have put ad-

equated time into each subject or study. It will be better if they like to take their subject lessons back within 24 hours after teaching the lessons is finished at school, or otherwise, having school lessons again merely after such these 24 hours would undermine their ability to have understood those lessons bit by bit. Also, students have to sit at the study table around 15 minutes in advance with their physical readiness, physiological readiness, and emotional readiness for study. Last but not least, self-study time must be totally free from playtime, rest time, bath time, and so forth, even though the short length, few study periods and poor sequence of subjects are in the timetable. Any private time of study should by no means be affected by those times. Furthermore, study timetables can be fixed with any regularity, depending upon the periods when a student would be perfectly willing to carry out their own study.

As mentioned above, there must be sufficient time taken for every subject or study in a schedule. But some unexpected flaws like not getting enough time for any subject or study can happen even with a well-prepared schedule. If so, ample or extra time should have been added to that schedule, especially by moderating the time in which nothing is done or reducing the time that is given to a subject more than average. Alternatively, students must be able to adjust their timetables still being used in such a way that the subjects which they

strengthen thanks to the timetables have been left below in the study list, and then, the subjects in which they are still weak are put first in the list.

As said earlier, time is constantly going by without being controlled. Hence, organizing the coming time is certainly a sort of taking quite a great risk as well. It is generally accepted that a time schedule is an essential component of successful study. On the other hand, keeping a study timetable is of its own strengths and weaknesses. As regards the strengths, a timetable arouses students' intrinsic motivation for studying as well as providing them with a systematic approach to study effectiveness and efficiency. Moreover, schedule drawers can guess pretty easily what will happen next on the route to study, or they will never get lost on the road to education. As for the weaknesses, the students who cannot run their own study schedules very well would possibly be under their control, for instance, studying in sheer self-limited time. Re-drawing a study timetable several times is not likewise a good habit. Following the timetable to the letter for the duration of the first few weeks, students do not have to postpone or waste the time approximately calculated in that timetable for any reason. The weaknesses of a study schedule notwithstanding, the so-called 'time management' should have been done beforehand by each and every individual student. Time is priceless, mainly the present. ■

## Time Management of Drawing a Systematic Study Schedule

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)



Time is considered priceless because once it passes, it cannot be reclaimed. Thus, making the best use of it is vital. ILLUSTRATION FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/PIXABAY

## Google testing AI news writing tool

Google is working with news publishers to develop a new AI-backed tool aimed at assisting journalists in reporting and writing their stories.

Google is working with news publishers to design a new AI-backed tool to help journalists report and write their stories, the company said on Thursday.

The project was first reported by The New York Times, which is working with The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal in testing the new product.

Citing anonymous sources, the report said the tool — known

internally as Genesis — was in an early testing stage, but impressive enough to be found "unsettling" by some of the news executives that saw its capabilities.

A Google spokeswoman said in a statement that "in partnership with news publishers, especially smaller publishers, we're in the earliest stages of exploring ideas to potentially provide AI-enabled tools to help their journalists with their work."

She added that "quite simply, these tools are not intended to, and cannot, replace the essential role journalists have in reporting, creating and fact-checking their articles."

The tool would function as a sort of co-pilot for reporters and editors by providing options for headlines or different writing styles, the company said.

The Google project follows news of a tie-up between Ope-

nAI and The Associated Press, in which the ChatGPT creator was given a license to use the archives of AP going back to 1985 to train AI.

"The arrangement sees OpenAI licensing part of AP's text archive, while AP will leverage OpenAI's technology and product expertise," the two organizations said in a joint statement last week.

The AP has used other forms of AI for nearly a decade,

including to automate corporate earnings reports and recap some sporting events.

The emergence of ChatGPT last year caused great alarm in the news industry, with the app's ability to write convincingly and in seconds on complex topics from a simple prompt.

SOURCE: AFP



The initiative was first reported by The New York Times. Several prominent news organizations are involved in testing the new AI tool, including The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ AFP



# NATIONAL

## Illegal foodstuffs, industrial materials, consumer goods, and vehicles confiscated



A photo shows a confiscated bag of sugar without official documents in Sagaing Region on 22 July 2023.

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts are being made to effectively prevent illegal trade in accordance with the law.

On 22 July, on-duty teams under the management of the Sagaing Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force transferred seized products made in India to the Customs Department for detailed inspections and 557 bags of sugar produced

in India without official documents (approximate value of K15.96 million) and a bag of flour made in India (an estimated value of K15.96 million) were confiscated. The action was taken under the Customs procedures.

On the same day, the Muse district illicit goods prevention team, under the supervision of the Shan State Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force, examined warehouses between

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Swamsaw Streets in Swamsaw Ward, Muse Township, and impounded 1,315 assorted batteries (estimated value of K136.111 million) with no official documents. The action was taken under the Customs procedures.

In addition, a combined task force under the management of the Customs Department seized a Hino Profia Truck (approximate value of K35 million) and 2,860 kilo-

grammes of personal goods lunch boxes (estimated value of K3,005,946) that exceeded the quantity mentioned in the import declaration from the vehicle during the inspection at the Yepu Permanent Checkpoint.

Therefore, five arrests (estimated value of K223,956,946) were made on 22 July, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/CT

## MoC to lease approximately 1,200 apartments in first phase of Thukha Dagon Public Rental Housing Project

THE Department of Urban and Housing Development, under the Ministry of Construction, has announced the commencement of renting for approximately 1,200 apartments, constituting the first phase of the Thukha Dagon Public Rental Housing Project in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

Retired employees, civil servants, and individuals facing living challenges in Yangon Region will have the oppor-

tunity to apply for a five-year residence permit at the newly completed 1,200 apartments in the initial phase of the Thukha Dagon Public Rental Housing Project.

Interested applicants can obtain residence permit forms from the respective township administration offices, complete the required details, and submit the forms to the relevant township administration offices by the latest deadline of 31 July.

The housing project spans 171 acres of land near the intersection of No 2 Highway and No 7 Highway, encompassing 194 buildings with 3,104 apartments currently being constructed in the first phase. For this phase, the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) and the Myanmar Licensed Contractors Association (MLCA) have allocated 97 buildings each for construction purposes. — MNA/CT



The apartments of Thukha Dagon Public Rental Housing are seen in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.



## Myanmar health delegation leaves for Sri Lanka

TO attend the first meeting of Public Health Expert Group of BIMSTEC's member countries to be held from 24 to 27 July in Sri Lanka, a Myanmar Health delegation, led by Director General Dr Myint Myint Than from the Public Health Department under the Ministry of Health, left for Colombo of Sri Lanka by air from Yangon International Airport yesterday. — MNA/KZL

### 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.



## Naples fetes Italy's great tenor Caruso with new museum

A century and a half after his birth, Italian tenor and opera legend Enrico Caruso is finally being celebrated by his hometown of Naples with a new museum.

Long before Luciano Pavarotti, it was Caruso who represented Italian opera to the rest of the world, ushering in an era of music for the masses with his prolific recordings at the advent of the gramophone industry.

Born in 1873, the tenor and his international career are the focus of a small museum housed within the city's Royal Palace (Palazzo Reale) that opened to the public on Wednesday.

"He was the greatest tenor ever known to the world,"

curator Laura Valente told AFP. "Because beyond his great talent and extraordinary voice, he forged a new way of singing and expressing himself on stage, in this sense like Maria Callas," she said.

During his lifetime, Caruso gave nearly 2,000 performances and made close to 250 recordings, making him a recognised media star across the world. He toured from Saint Petersburg to Mexico City, Buenos Aires and New York.

"He was a tenor of the new century. More than anything he understood that this technology wouldn't lessen his voice, but rather bring his voice to the world. And that was his innovation," Valente said. — AFP



Caruso represents a 'positive image of Naples in the world', said Culture Minister Gennaro Sangiuliano at the opening. PHOTO: AFP

## 'Barbie' delayed in Pakistan province over 'objectionable content'

THE "Barbie" film's release was delayed in Pakistan's Punjab province Friday over "objectionable content", officials said.

Films in Pakistan need to be cleared by provincial boards that censor anything deemed a violation of the country's social and cultural values.

"There will be a full review of the film, and it will be censored where deemed necessary," Farrukh Mahmood, secretary of the Punjab Film Censor Board, told AFP.

He said that the fantasy-comedy film, which stars

Margot Robbie as the famous doll and Ryan Gosling as her boyfriend Ken, will be cleared for screening once the review and censoring process is complete.

The board did not clarify which content was "objectionable", nor why.

While fans in Pakistan's most populous province will have to wait to watch "Barbie", the film was due to be screened from Friday in the capital Islamabad and the southern province of Sindh, where it was cleared by the respective censor boards. — AFP

## More than 60% of world now on social media: Study



A young woman takes a selfie on 8 June 2019 while a train passes in Hanoi's popular train street. PHOTO: MANAN VATSYAYANA / AFP/FILE

NEARLY five billion people, or slightly more than 60 per cent of the world's population, are active on social media, according to a recent study.

That represents an increase of 3.7 per cent over the past year, according to calculations by digital advisory firm Kepios in its latest quarterly report.

The number of social network users is approaching the number that use the 5.19 billion which use the internet, or 64.5

per cent of the world population.

There are major differences between regions. Only one person out of 11 in east and central Africa use social media. In India, now the world's most populous nation, the figure is one out of three.

The amount of time spent on social media has also increased, by two minutes to 2 hours and 26 minutes per day. Here again there are large disparities, with Brazilians spending an average

of 3 hours and 49 minutes per day on social media while the Japanese less than an hour.

The average social media user is on seven platforms.

Meta has three of the favourite apps with WhatsApp, Instagram and Facebook.

China has three apps, WeChat, TikTok and its local version Douyin.

Twitter, Messenger and Telegram round out the top social media platforms. — AFP

## UK band The 1975 nix Indonesia gig after Malaysia LGBTQ uproar



The British indie-rock band, The 1975, cancelled their concert in Indonesia following Malaysia's decision to axe a festival due to a same-sex kiss and criticism of Malaysia's anti-LGBTQ laws by the band's frontman, Matt Healy. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ EPIGRAM/AFP

BRITISH indie-rock band The 1975 cancelled a concert in Indonesia Sunday, after Malaysia axed a festival over a same-sex kiss and tirade against the country's anti-LGBTQ laws by their

frontman.

Indonesia's LGBTQ laws are less strict than those in neighbouring countries such as Malaysia, where homosexuality is a crime. But several events

have been cancelled in recent years because of opposition in the Muslim-majority country.

Malaysian authorities cancelled the Good Vibes music festival in the capital Kuala Lumpur after cutting short the band's set on Friday, because of Matt Healy's profanity-laden speech and kiss with the band's bassist Ross MacDonald.

The band subsequently announced it would cancel its performance at the We The Fest event in Indonesian capital Jakarta, as well as a show in Taiwan — home to a thriving LGBTQ community — on Tuesday.

"The 1975 regret to announce that their forthcoming shows in Jakarta and Taipei will no longer be going ahead as planned," the band said in a statement Sunday on the We The Fest Instagram page. — AFP



# ECONOMY WORLD

## China to carry out high-quality 5<sup>th</sup> national economic census

CHINA will conduct its fifth national economic census in August 2023, Kang Yi, head of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) told Xinhua in a recent interview.

The State Council held a teleconference on 7 July concerning the fifth national economic census for full mobilization and deployment regarding the relevant work, according to Kang, who is also deputy head of the leading group for China's 5<sup>th</sup> national economic census.

The census takes place every five years. It will help obtain scientific and accurate statistical information for improving macroeconomic

governance and scientifically formulating medium and long-term development plans.

### PROGRESS UNDERWAY

The fifth national economic census plan will be issued and implemented soon, Kang said.

According to the work schedule, a comprehensive and thorough indoor survey will be carried out from August to October.

This survey aims to figure out the basic situation and distribution of all legal entities, industrial activity units and self-employed households engaged in secondary and tertiary industry activities in China. — Xinhua



An employee works at a smart production facility in Tianjin. PHOTO: XINHUA

## Japan to see price hikes on 35,000 food, drink items by end of 2023



Photo taken in June 2023 shows instant noodles sold at a supermarket in Tokyo. PHOTO: KYODO

JAPANESE consumers will have seen price hikes on 30,009 food and beverage products by October as retailers pass on higher costs to protect their profits, according to a credit research

company.

The total, including the hikes in coming months, already eclipses the 2022 total of 25,768 items, Teikoku Databank Ltd. said in its report in mid-July.

The company also maintained its forecast for the full year at around 35,000 items, saying October is expected to see the most price hikes.

The added burden on households has reduced purchasing power, making it increasingly unlikely companies will continue increasing prices at such a rapid pace as it will further dampen demand, it said. The company cited rises in electricity and labor costs, along with a weaker yen pushing up import prices, as factors that will lead to further price increases. October will see price hikes for 3,716 items, including sausages and alcoholic beverages, up about 300 from the number announced at the end of June. — Kyodo

## Pakistan: Huge increase in power tariff to meet IMF demand

AS Pakistan moves forward to meet the IMF terms, the federal cabinet authorised a significant increase in the electricity base rate through circulation summary in a late-night decision, according to sources cited by ARY News on Saturday.

Sources privy to the development told ARY News that the federal government has in-

creased the basic power tariff by Rs3 for some customers and by Rs7.5 per unit for some other consumers.

The cabinet approved a hike in power tariff on the recommendation of the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra). According to the proposal, the government recommended an increase of PKR 3 per unit

for the non-protected residential consumers using 1 to 100 units which will take the current per unit cost from PKR 13.48/unit to 16.48/unit.

Similarly, for the residential consumers using above 700 units, the government proposed a hike of Rs 7.5/unit from the existing PKR 35.22/unit to 42.72/unit. — ANI

## 135 mln people moved out of poverty in India in 5 years: report

NEARLY 135 million people moved out of multidimensional poverty on the yardstick of health, education, and the overall standard of living, over the past five years in India, a report released by the federal government's think-tank NITI Aayog has said.

Improvements in nutrition, years of schooling, sanitation, and cooking fuel played a significant role in bringing down poverty across the country, said the report on Monday.

This was the second edition of the National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) which represents the country's progress in reducing multidimensional poverty between two surveys, namely the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-4

carried out in the year 2015-16 and the NFHS-5 carried out in the year 2019-21. The broad methodology followed during the survey aligned with the global methodology, the NITI Aayog said in a statement.

The National MPI measures simultaneous deprivations across the three equally weighted dimensions of health, education, and standard of living, said the survey findings.

According to the report, India registered a significant decline of 9.89 percentage points in the number of multidimensionally poor from 24.85 per cent in 2015-16 to 14.96 per cent in 2019-2021. The rural areas witnessed the fastest decline in poverty from 32.59 per cent to 19.28 per cent. — Xinhua



People ride rickshaws at a marketplace in New Delhi, India, on 26 April 2023. PHOTO: JAVED DAR/XINHUA



## As Paris Olympics loom, hotel industry has reservations

WHILE accommodating potential Olympic visitors is one topic to fret about 12 months ahead of the Paris Games, there are also concerns that the sports showpiece could exacerbate existing issues for one of the world's most popular tourist destinations.

The Ile de France region, which includes historic suburbs such as Seine-Saint-Denis, home of the main Olympic sites, and Versailles, is neck-and-neck with London as the most visited city in Europe.

The question is whether the Games will be a boon for the hotel sector, for visitors and for the locals.

Hotel professionals point to the risk of a "bad

buzz" if the Games fail, yet they also warn that, following the example of previous hosts, the Olympics are certain to drive up prices for years to come.

"With the expected peak in visitor numbers, it's clear that the Paris hotel network, which is much larger than that of Rio or Athens, will be saturated," Vangelis Panayotis, president of specialist consultancy MKG Consulting, told AFP.

"At the Rio Olympics in 2016, Airbnb helped to increase accommodation capacity. And at the Athens Olympics in 2004, large cruise liners were put in the port to cover accommodation needs," he said. — AFP



The upcoming Paris Olympic Games are causing both excitement and concern. While preparations to welcome potential Olympic visitors are being made, there are worries that the event could worsen existing problems for one of the world's most popular tourist destinations. PHOTO: OLYMPICS.COM/AFP

## After a pause, US Fed likely to hike interest rates to 22-year high

AFTER pausing in June, the US Federal Reserve is widely expected to hike interest rates again on Wednesday, adopting its most restrictive monetary stance for 22 years despite recent signs of slowing inflation.

After 10 consecutive hikes in just over a year, the Fed halted its aggressive campaign of monetary tightening last month to give policy-

makers more time to assess the health of the US economy, and the impact of recent banking stresses on lending conditions.

In the weeks since, positive upgrades to economic growth and cooler inflation data have reinforced the likelihood that the Fed's rate-setting committee will vote for a quarter percentage-point hike on 25-26 July. — AFP

## Huawei vows to boost support for "intelligent Bangladesh"

CHINA'S telecommunication giant Huawei has said it will bring in more top-notch technologies and solutions to build a fully connected and "intelligent Bangladesh".

With a renewed commitment to boosting Bangladesh's development, Huawei celebrated its 25 years of operation in the country on Thursday.

Hundreds of guests, including Yao Wen, the Chinese ambassador to Bangladesh, Bangladeshi Planning Minister MA Mannan, and Post and Telecommunications Minister Mustafa Jabbar, attended the celebration event.

Speaking at the event, President of Huawei South Asia and CEO of Huawei Bangladesh Pan Junfeng said Huawei has consistently prioritized the development of Bangladesh in



Huawei celebrated its 25 years of operation in Bangladesh with a commitment to bring advanced technologies and solutions for building a fully connected and intelligent Bangladesh. PHOTO: XINHUA

the last 25 years and will continue to do so in the coming years.

"We will keep working to materialize the 'Smart Bangladesh' vision and contribute to the digital transformation journey," Pan said. Bangladesh is marching forward to transform itself into a developed

nation, riding on the efforts and talent of the people, MA Mannan said, adding, "In this journey, we are receiving support from our friends like China. We want to move forward for the world's humanity."

Connectivity is very important in "Smart Bangladesh," Mustafa Jabbar

said, "We've already managed to bring 98 per cent of the area of Bangladesh under the coverage of 4G network. Huawei's contribution to this transformation of our digital connectivity scenario is undoubtedly commendable. We have even launched 5G with the help of Huawei." — Xinhua

## Japan's export curbs on chip-making equipment to China take effect

JAPANESE restrictions on exports of advanced chip-manufacturing equipment took effect Sunday, in line with US-led efforts to stymie China's ability to develop high-end semiconductors capable of being used for military purposes.

With the revision of a trade ministry ordi-

nance under the foreign exchange law, Japan added 23 chip-manufacturing items that require approval for export. The move has triggered a backlash from China, though Japan did not specify that the world's second-largest economy is the main target of the export restrictions.

Beijing has said it will curb exports of gallium and germanium, two rare earth metals crucial for chip production, next month in apparent retaliation for US semiconductor export restrictions targeting China.

In October last year, the United States rolled

out a sweeping set of export controls on certain high-end chips that China could use to train artificial intelligence systems and modernize its military, while asking Japan and the Netherlands, which possess advanced chip-manufacturing technologies, to follow suit. — Kyodo

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V GSS YANGON VOY.NO. (172N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V GSS YANGON VOY.NO. (172N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **24-7-2023** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING PTE LTD**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V IAL 001 VOY.NO. (N156)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (N156)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **24-7-2023** 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 INTER ASIA LINES**



# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD



People wait for their turns to vote at a polling station in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 23 July 2023. The seventh general election kicked off in Cambodia on Sunday with a total of 18 political parties taking part in the race, a National Election Committee (NEC) spokesman said. **PHOTO: SOVANNARA/XINHUA**

## Cambodia's 7<sup>th</sup> general election kicks off

THE seventh general election kicked off in Cambodia on Sunday with a total of 18 political parties taking part in the race, a National Election Committee (NEC) spokesman said.

More than 9.7 million eligible voters are expected to cast their ballots in the election, which is held once every five years to elect the members of parliament for the 125-seat National Assembly.

"Polling began at 7:00 a.m. local time at all 23,789 polling stations across the country and is due to close at 3:00 p.m.," NEC member and spokesman Dim Sovannarom told Xinhua.

The preliminary results

are expected to be announced on Sunday evening and Monday morning, as the official ones will be released on 9 August. Active parties in the race are the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) led by Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen and the Funcinpec Party, headed by Prince Norodom Chakravuth.

Hun Sen voted at a polling station near his mansion in Kandal province, roughly 15 km south of capital Phnom Penh, whilst Prince Chakravuth cast his ballot in Phnom Penh. In the last general election held in 2018, the CPP won all 125 seats in the National Assembly. — Xinhua

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### India landslide toll jumps to 27, at least 50 missing

THE death toll from a massive landslide in India's Maharashtra state jumped to 27 on Sunday, with at least 50 people still missing as rescue teams struggle in lashing rain, officials said.

The landslide was triggered by monsoon rains on Thursday, smashing into a village in Raigad district, a hilly and forested site about 100 kilometres (62 miles) from Mumbai.

Emergency teams have been digging for bodies under the mounds of earth and rubble.

"We've so far counted 27 bodies, and about 50 to 60 people are still missing, but there are multiple challenges for rescue work at the site," Raigad official Yogesh Mhase told AFP on Sunday. — AFP

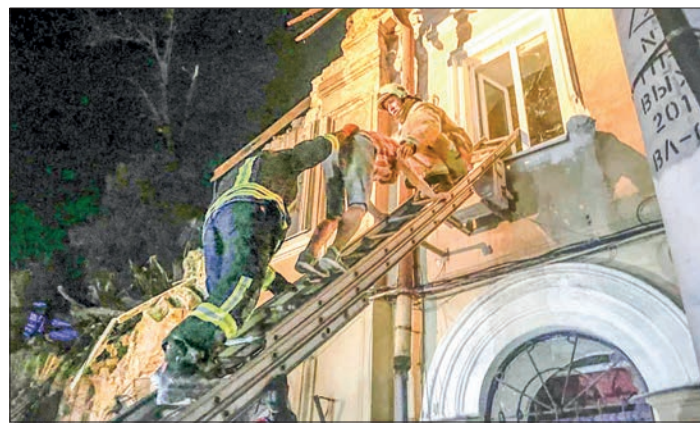
#### US and Australia use war games to focus on long-range firepower

AUSTRALIA and the United States rehearsed precision missile strikes during war games on Saturday as Canberra overhauls its military strategy in favour of long-range firepower.

A series of live-fire drills were held at the Shoalwater Bay military complex in the northeastern region of Queensland, showcasing the American-made HIMARS missile system recently sold to the Australian Defence Force.

More than 30,000 troops will take part in the biennial Talisman Sabre exercises over the next two weeks, including soldiers from Japan, France, Germany, and South Korea. — AFP

## Russia strikes Odesa hours before Putin-Lukashenko summit



Rescue workers in Odesa evacuate a civilian from a building damaged by a Russian missile strike. **PHOTO: @ODESKAODA / TELEGRAM/AFP**

THE Ukrainian port city of Odesa came under renewed Russian missile attack early Sunday, just hours before President Vladimir Putin was due to hold a summit with his staunch Belarus ally Alexander Lukashenko.

At the meeting in Saint Petersburg, the pair plan to discuss the "strategic partnership and alliance"

between their countries, according to the Kremlin.

It will be the first time they have met since Lukashenko helped end a dramatic mutiny by Russian mercenaries from the Wagner group.

Hours before their meeting, Russian strikes targeted Odesa, which has been bombed several times since

the start of the invasion.

"Unfortunately, we have one civilian killed as a result of the nighttime terrorist attack by Russians on Odesa," regional governor Oleg Kiper said on Telegram.

Earlier he had reported "18 victims, including four children", in a Russian attack at 3:00 am (0000 GMT).

"Fourteen people were hospitalised in the city's hospitals, three of them were children," he said.

Ukraine's Southern Operational Command said Odesa was targeted with at least five types of missile, including Kalibr cruise missiles.

"Air defence forces destroyed a significant amount of the missiles," it said.

"The rest caused damage to port infrastructure," and several buildings, it said, adding that a missile had hit the Orthodox cathedral in the city centre. — AFP

## Over 40,000 passengers cross border via China-Laos Railway

THE China-Laos Railway that started cross-border passenger services in April had transported 41,735 passengers as of Saturday, when it marked the 100<sup>th</sup> day of operation.

On this railway, a train departing from Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province, travels at a speed of up to 160 km per hour through mountains and valleys. The trip

from Kunming to the Lao capital of Vientiane takes 10 and a half hours to complete, including the time spent on going through customs.

The Mohan checkpoint

on China's border with Laos tallied that as of Saturday, 200 train trips had been provided by the railway, serving 41,735 passengers from 49 countries and regions.

Among the total, the number of inbound passengers was 12.2 per cent more than that of outbound passengers, reaching 22,066, with 54 per cent of them being tourists. — Xinhua



## Voting opens as Spain picks between Sanchez or right's return

SPANISH voters headed to the polls Sunday to decide whether to hand Socialist Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez a fresh four-year mandate or, as polls suggest, bring the right back to power with its far-right ally.

A shift to the right in the eurozone's fourth-largest economy, mirroring a similar move in Italy last year, would be a huge blow for left-wing parties in Europe.

Nearly all polls and pundits suggest the vote will hand victory to Alberto Nunez Feijoo's conservative Popular Party (PP) — but surprises could be

in store.

By the time the last surveys were published on Monday, around one in five voters were still undecided, and it remains unclear what impact the timing of the vote — held at the height of the summer holidays in the scorching late July heat — will have on the turnout.

As many Spaniards are on holiday, more than 2.47 million — a record number — of the 37.5 million registered voters have cast an absentee ballot, Spain's postal service said on Saturday. — AFP



The 2023 Spanish general election took place on Sunday, 23 July 2023, to choose the 15<sup>th</sup> Cortes Generales of the Kingdom of Spain. Voters had the opportunity to elect all 350 seats in the Congress of Deputies and 208 out of 265 seats in the Senate. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/AFP/FILE



Migrants are helped ashore at a beach in Dungeness, on the south-east coast of England. PHOTO: BEN STANSALL/AFP/FILE

## Italy calls Med migration conference on Tunisia model

ITALY has invited Mediterranean countries to Rome on Sunday for an “international conference” aimed at extending an EU-backed deal with Tunisia to curb the arrival of migrants to European shores.

Italy's far-right Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni is expecting leaders from the region, the European Union and international financial institutions to meet in the capital, according to a government press release.

The full list of participants

is unknown, but Meloni has confirmed the presence of Tunisian President Kais Saied, while the prime ministers of Egypt and Malta, Mostafa Madbouli and Robert Abela, respectively, have both said they will attend.

During the 2022 election campaign that brought her to power, Meloni vowed to “stop the disembarkation” of migrants in Italy, which the government puts at nearly 80,000 coastal arrivals since January, compared to 33,000

in the same period last year.

But while the government has put obstacles in the path of humanitarian ships rescuing migrants in the Mediterranean, it has failed to stop the departures themselves, which mostly originate in Tunisia and Libya.

Italy and the European Commission have sought to step up engagement with Tunisia, promising funding if the country undertakes to stem emigration from its territory. — AFP

## G-20 ministers fail to agree on lower fossil fuel use, Russia war

ENERGY ministers from the Group of 20 major economies on Saturday failed to issue a joint statement amid divisions over reducing fossil fuel consumption and Russia's war in Ukraine, which has disrupted global energy supplies.

The ministers met in the southwestern Indian city of Panaji to discuss balancing decarbonization and economic growth, but the gathering also revealed the rifts between developed and developing countries.

The Indian government released a chair's summary, underscoring that the world has been facing the issue of energy poverty for those without adequate access to it for daily



This photo taken on 11 December 2015 shows a general view of the Cairn India, Oil and Gas exploration plant at Barmer in Rajasthan, India. PHOTO: MONEY SHARMA / AFP

life and that fossil fuels have played a crucial role in meeting growing energy demand.

But it also noted that sev-

eral participating countries stressed the importance of efforts to reduce their dependence on fossil fuels. — Kyodo

## Three hurt in Japan train stabbing attack

THREE people were hurt in a knife attack on a train in western Japan on Sunday, with police saying they had arrested a man for allegedly carrying out the stabbings.

The victims — a train conductor in his 20s and two male passengers aged in their 20s and 70s — were taken to hospital with non-life threatening injuries, Tetsuya Sakagami from a nearby fire department told AFP.

The 37-year-old male suspect was armed with three knives when he was arrested at Rinku Town station in the Osaka region, local police told AFP.

He was arrested for attempted murder and has al-

ready admitted to carrying out the attack on Sunday morning, police said, adding they were still investigating the motive.

Violent crime is rare in Japan, which has a low murder rate and some of the world's toughest gun laws.

But there are occasional stabbings and even shootings, including the assassination of former prime minister Shinzo Abe last year.

In 2021, a 24-year-old man allegedly stabbed a passenger and started a fire on a train in Tokyo on Halloween while wearing an outfit resembling comic book villain the Joker.

A verdict in that case is due to be handed down on 31 July. — AFP



Italy calls Med migration conference on Tunisia model

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.



Maha United players (pink) vie for the ball with Kachin United player (blue) during their MNL Week-13 match at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 23 July 2023. PHOTO:MNL

## Maha United craft winning streaks in MNL

MAHA United defeated Kachin United 3-1 and maintained a series of winning results in the Week-13 of Myanmar National League-MNL match, at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon yesterday. Maha United won two consecutive matches in the second round of MNL and pressured third-placed ISPE, who suffered a loss this week, with the same score.

While Ayeyawady United, which is in danger of relegation, was struggling and restoring their win, Kachin United went into the relegation zone, with difference in points. Both sides used core players and showed off turbo play from the start. Maha United led by one goal till 80 minute and mutual goals were seen

only before the final whistle.

Maha United opened their goal at 29 minute by a score of Kaung Myat Thu. Next the team found second goal as Arkar Kyaw touched the ball into the net at 90+1 minute. Within a minute, Nyi Nyi scored a single or consolation goal for Kachin United but the third or winning goal for Maha was scored by Soe Min Naing at 90+5 minutes.

With the 3-1 victory, Maha United's Kaung Myat Thu claimed the Man of the Match award. Shan United will face Hanthawady United at YUSC Stadium while Myawady will take on Yangon United at Thuwunna Stadium today. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

## Tropical downpour sinks Spurs-Leicester friendly in Bangkok



Tottenham's friendly against Leicester in Bangkok was called off because of a waterlogged pitch. PHOTO:AFP

TOTTENHAM'S pre-season preparations suffered a blow on Sunday as their friendly against Leicester in Bangkok was called off because of a waterlogged pitch.

New coach Ange Postecoglou named a strong starting XI for the clash with the Foxes including unsettled striker Harry Kane, who has been aggressively courted by Bayern Munich.

But a huge tropical downpour left the pitch at the Rajamangala stadium unplayable and the match was called off around half an hour after the scheduled kick-off time. — AFP

## Everton sign Danjuma on loan from Villarreal



Arnaut Danjuma has joined Everton on loan from Villarreal. PHOTO:AFP

EVERTON have signed Arnaut Danjuma on a season-long loan from Villarreal, just months after the Netherlands forward rejected an offer to move to Goodison Park.

Danjuma chose to join Tottenham

on loan in January despite receiving a similar offer from Everton.

But the 26-year-old endured a difficult spell at Tottenham, scoring only once in his nine Premier League appearances.

Danjuma agreed to accept Everton's latest approach amid interest in him from Bournemouth and Nottingham Forest.

"It's been a long time coming to join such a massive club as Everton and it makes me proud," he said.

"I had interest from other clubs but there was a pull towards Everton because of the fans, the manager and the history of the club and it's second time lucky for me.

"I know I did not move to the club in January, that was because there was some uncertainty over the manager situation at that time, but I think it makes it even more beautiful for me to join now."

Danjuma is Everton boss Sean Dyche's second close-season signing after former Aston Villa defender Ashley Young joined on a free transfer. — AFP