Public Information

IT is reported that some illegal organizations and news agencies are broadcasting, through illegal satellite dishes, programmes of TV channels that harm the State security, the rule of law and community peace and tranquility and topics amounting to encourage those who commit high treason and rebellion to the State while the State Administration Council is performing the tasks in accord with the provisions of the State of Emergency.

Those who install the illegal satellite dishes to watch the TV may unwillingly break the existing laws and rules enacted with the aim of ensuring the good deeds of the people.

As such, the information was released with goodwill that those who install the satellite dishes to watch such kinds of TV programmes will face action under the law with one-year imprisonment or K500,000 as a fine.

Ministry of Information

Eight Myanmar Roofed Turtles born in Lawkananda Wildlife Sanctuary

MYANMAR Roofed Turtles were born in Lawkananda Wildlife Sanctuary for ten years in Bagan of NyaungU Township of Mandalay Region. The Myanmar Roofed Turtle can be found only in Myanmar and are critically endangered species, said U Shwe Htay Aung, warden of the sanctuary.

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Turtle Survival Alliance (TSA) started conserving 100 Myanmar roofed turtles — 40 males and 60 females — in 2011. The officials rented 16 Myanmar roofed turtles — 10 males and 6 females — to Singapore in 2016 and transferred 18 males to WCS/TSA to free them into Chindwin river in 2018. And so, there are 74 Myanmar roofed turtles — 20 males and 54 females — in the sanctuary, he said.

The new turtle population is hatched during ten years after the cooperative work of the Forest Department and WCS/TSA in conserving.

Ministry of Information

Ministry of Information
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 emphasize 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.

2. Economic affairs
(a) To enhance production based on agriculture and livestock through modern techniques and 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 promote and support local businesses to create employment opportunities and increase domestic production.

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 peoples and preserve and safeguard their cultural heritage and national characteristics.
(c) To enhance the health, fitness and education quality of the entire nation.

Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

1. The Union Election Commission will be reconstituted and its mandated tasks, including the scrutiny of voter lists, shall be implemented in accordance with the law.
2. Effective measures will be taken with added momentum to prevent and manage the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Actions will be taken to ensure the speedy recovery of businesses from the impact of COVID-19.
4. Emphasis will be placed on achieving enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement.
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.

Eight Myanmar Roofed Turtles born ...

OF 54 female turtles, four laid eggs in January and February this year. The first baby turtle was hatched on 4 April 2021, while another two on 19 April, one more on 22 April and four more on 25 April. PHOTO: KO HTEIN (KPD)

The population of Myanmar roofed turtles would rise in the future, U Shwe Htay Aung added. The turtles can be seen in Ayeyawady, Chindwin and Sittoung rivers, including larger tributaries and now in Chindwin (Sagaing Region) and Dokhtawady (Mandalay Region). — Ko Htein (KPD)/GNLM

Security measures conducted to ensure community peace

TATMADAW, Police Force and Fire Brigade jointly conducted security measures to ensure the State’s stability, security of people, the rule of law and community peace starting 14 February night.

Tatmadaw, police and fire brigade members also jointly conduct security measures for the peaceful night and community peace in respective regions and states and keep serving security measures the whole day. — MNA
**Myanmar needs to emphasize preventive measures of COVID-19**

ENCOURAGEMENT should be given to the people to take physical exercises for their healthiness. Myanmar’s expected lifespan is about 66 years, which is less than those of other countries. Priority must be given to uplift the health sector for ensuring the health and fitness of the people. As the infectious rate of COVID-19 is high in some countries, including India, Myanmar needs to emphasize preventive measures of COVID-19.

*(Excerpt from the speech to the Management Committee meeting made by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 23 April 2021)*

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**Border affairs minister inspects regional development works in Taninthayi region**

UNION Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and party made inspection tours on regional development works in Taninthayi Region from 2 to 4 May.

On 2 May, the Union Minister and party inspected the road and bridge construction on the Banlaw-Banthe-Kyaungmee Kyaung-Myanmar Indaw inter-village road in Taninthayi Township and on the Hankapyu-Ywahe Lu road in Hankapyu village-tract, Bokpyin Township.

At the inspections, the Union Minister said to work hard to complete the work as soon as possible with the required quality as the rainy season is coming soon and to do the fieldwork and submit the application to carry out the rest of the needed work in the next fiscal year.

On 3 May, the Union Minister and party visited the Dhamnaka Yama TaU monastery in Zardetgyi island and donated offerings to the monks. Rice, cooking oil, salt and foods were also presented to a total of 47 Salone ethnic people over the age of 70 living on the island, and school uniforms and books were provided to the teachers and students.

Moreover, the members of the Myanmar Fire Brigade of Sagaing Region collectively donated blood for monks, military members, police, and locals, who took treatments at the military hospital in Monywa Town, Sagaing Region, to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Myanmar Fire Brigade on 3 May 2021.

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**Tatmadaw provides treatments to over 180,000 outpatients**

MILITARY hospitals in the townships of regions and states are giving medical treatments to the people to solve their difficulties in healthcare services. A total of 182,431 outpatients and 4,129 inpatients reached these hospitals from 2 to 4 May.

Senior medical experts, military doctors and nurses have conducted 8,521 major operations and 4,363 minor operations. The senior doctors gave intensive treatment the severe cases.

These hospitals managed for the birth of 11,156 babies to date. Of those, 4,417 cases are done in the caesarean section and 6,739 cases in ordinary delivery.

Respective regional commanders are encouraging local patients at the military hospitals.

Members of the Myanmar Fire Brigade are donating blood.

Moreover, the members of the Myanmar Fire Brigade of Sagaing Region collectively donated blood for monks, military members, police, and locals, who took treatments at the military hospital in Monywa Town, Sagaing Region, to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Myanmar Fire Brigade on 3 May 2021.

Sagaing Region Administration Council Chairman U Maung Maung Lin and North-West Command Commander Brig-Gen Phyo Thant offered words of encouragement to those who donated blood and provided blood donors with nutritious foodstuffs and medicines (tonic).

Similarly, Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko Oo and the party encouraged the officers and other ranks, who had treatments at the military hospital in PyinUdlwin and gave foodstuffs to them.

In addition to providing medical care to patients in need of hospitalization, Tatmadaw is making arrangements for the well-being of hospitalized patients and caregivers. — MNA
Taninthayi Region Administration Council Chairman Inspects construction work of Kamyawkin Bridge

THE number of shares traded on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) climbed to 42,964 shares in April 2021, generating the trading value of K280 million, as against March’s trading, the YSX’s monthly report indicated.

In February 2021, K442 million worth of 7,388 shares were traded on the exchange. The figures extended further drops to K110 million worth of 19,816 shares in March 2021. However, the market went up in April compared to March’s trading.

The stock markets worldwide have reported their most significant declines since the 2008 financial crisis. Similarly, the local equities market is also scared by the COVID-19 crash, a market observer points out.

At present, people are keeping emergency savings rather than investing the COVID-19 crisis and current political conditions, he added.

The value of shares traded on the exchange in April 2021 drastically dropped compared with the figures in April 2020 (registered K902 million valued 175,888 shares), the YSX’s monthly report indicated.

At present, shares of six listed companies — First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), TMH Telecom Public Co. Ltd (TMH) and the Ever Flow River Group Public Co., Ltd (EFRU) are being traded on the exchange.

Regarding of increase in share volume, the shares prices last month declined as against the previous months. The price per share of FMI decreased to K9,100 in March 2021. Similarly, the share price of MTSH slid to K3,400. The stock prices slipped to K8,000 for MCB, K19,500 for FPB, and K2,700 for TMH. The share price of EFR last month was closed at K3,050.

Amid the COVID-19 crisis and political changes, Myanmar’s securities market has continued operating without stopping trading. In 2020, the value of stocks traded on the exchange peaked to K12.6 billion worth of 2.4 million shares by six listed companies were traded on the exchange in 2020, a significant drop compared to 2019.

Over 2.4 million shares from five listed companies, valued at K13.39 billion, were traded on the exchange in 2019. In 2016, shares of only three listed companies — FMI, MTSH, and MCB, were traded on the exchange.

The Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) launched in 2011, is a registered K902 million valued 175,888 shares, which has continued operating without stopping trading.

Furthermore, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar (SECMD) has allowed foreigners to invest in the local equity market from 20 March 2020. In 2020, the value of stocks traded on the exchange peaked to K12.6 billion worth of 2.4 million shares by six listed companies were traded on the exchange in 2020, a significant drop compared to 2019.

Over 2.4 million shares from five listed companies, valued at K13.39 billion, were traded on the exchange in 2019.

Due to the mine explosion, four men, including the former Hluttaw Representative, died at the scene. One of two men being taken to Pyay Public Hospital died of injury in the evening.

Security forces conducted a detailed search and found that the wire was connected to a coil about 20 feet west of the scene. Three batteries, wrapped in blue tape, one keypad phone cover with Hello logo, one Vivo-branded phone case and one battery, one 3-inch empty battery, 5 sets of nut, and one damaged Samsung blue phone were found and confiscated. — MNA

The new Kamyawkin Bridge is located on Dawei-Kamyawkin-Maungmagan road in the Dawei District of the Taninthayi Region. To its east is Launglon township.

The type of 1,050 ft long bridge is R.C Girder, PC Girder; Steel Truss & R.C Decking Slab, and it uses R.C concrete for body and 1.2m and 1.5m Bored Pile for the foundation. The width of the bridge is 24ft and 5ft for each pavement. The roadway clearance of the bridge is 164ft in width and 16ft in height. The load capacity of the bridge is AASHTO HS 25. — IPFD/GNLM

The Kamyawkin Bridge construction work in progress.

Five men killed, one injured in homemade mine testing in Pyay

FIVE men were killed and one man wounded in an explosion of a homemade mine test in Pyay Township, Bago Region on 3 May, according to Myanmar Police Force.

The incident happened in the lemon farm in Kabila village, Natalin village-tract in Pyay Township, at around 5 pm. Upon the information received from the people living near the incident happened, security forces investigated the area.

It is reported that the people from the neighbourhood heard a loud explosion, shortly after six men led by the former NLD party Hluttaw Representative went inside the farm.
1. Regarding the Multiparty General Election held on 8 November 2020, the Union Election Commission has inspected the voter lists and the casting of votes of Mudon and Ye townships of Mon State.

2. Findings in respective townships were as follows:

### Findings on voter lists in each township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Township and numbers of polling stations</th>
<th>Township sub-commission</th>
<th>List from Immig. depart- ment</th>
<th>Those involved in voting list without citizenship scrutiny cards</th>
<th>Those involved in voter list more than three times holding one CSC</th>
<th>Those involved in voter list more than two times holding one CSC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>103 polling stations in Mudon township of Mon State</td>
<td>182,302</td>
<td>161,192</td>
<td>20,247</td>
<td>1,051</td>
<td>15,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>139 polling stations in Ye township of Mon State</td>
<td>235,592</td>
<td>197,580</td>
<td>38,523</td>
<td>3,147</td>
<td>28,790</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The Union Election Commission has inspected the withdrawal/receipt/use/remaining of ballot papers used for Pyithu Hluttaw Election of Mudon and Ye townships of Mon State together with the respective township election sub-commission, head of police force, Immigration and Population and administrators in accordance with Section 53 of the Hluttaw Election Law.

4. According to the inspection, a total of 233 polling stations in these two townships took out 444,483 ballots and used 225,857 ballots. It left 214,026 ballots instead of 218,626 ballots. The difference was 6,923 ballots and it found 2,319 extra ballots. The extra/shortage ballots were found at respective polling stations. Findings in respective townships were as follows:

### Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Mudon Township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Total polling station</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Exact remaining</th>
<th>Remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 Ward/village -tract ballots</td>
<td>183,450</td>
<td>98,510</td>
<td>86,940</td>
<td>85,745</td>
<td>1,635</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 Township ballots</td>
<td>14,612</td>
<td>2,747</td>
<td>11,865</td>
<td>12,068</td>
<td>203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>200,062</td>
<td>101,257</td>
<td>98,805</td>
<td>97,813</td>
<td>1,635</td>
<td>643</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. According to the inspection, 103 polling stations in 9 Wards and 33 Village-tracts of Mudon Township in Mon State took out 200,062 ballots and used 101,257 ballots. It left 97,813 ballots instead of 98,805. The extra/shortage ballots and illegal extra ballots were found at respective poll stations. Findings were as follows:

### Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Ye Township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Total polling station</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Exact remaining</th>
<th>Remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 Ward/village -tract ballots</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>2,421</td>
<td>124,600</td>
<td>119,821</td>
<td>116,209</td>
<td>5,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 Township ballots</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>225,857</td>
<td>214,026</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. It found 1,633 missing ballots at the polling stations in 12 ward/village-tracts and 40 extra ballots in 5 ward/village-tracts of Mudon Township. There must be 11,965 remaining ballots at the township election sub-commission but it found 12,063 remaining ballots and so there were 203 extra ballots.

7. Findings were as follows:

### Findings on voter lists in each township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Total polling station</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Exact remaining</th>
<th>Remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Difference</th>
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<td>161,192</td>
<td>20,247</td>
<td>1,051</td>
<td>15,878</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 Township ballots</td>
<td>235,592</td>
<td>197,580</td>
<td>38,523</td>
<td>3,147</td>
<td>28,790</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. According to the inspection, 130 polling stations in 14 Wards and 30 Village-tracts of Ye Township in Mon State took out 244,421 ballots and used 124,600 ballots. It left 119,821 ballots instead of 120,209. The extra/shortage ballots and illegal extra ballots were found at respective polling stations. Findings were as follows:

### Findings on ballot papers for Pyithu Hluttaw Election in Ye Township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Total polling station</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Exact remaining</th>
<th>Remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 Ward/village -tract ballots</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>2,421</td>
<td>124,600</td>
<td>119,821</td>
<td>116,209</td>
<td>5,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 Township ballots</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>225,857</td>
<td>214,026</td>
<td>214,026</td>
<td>214,026</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. It found 5,288 missing ballots at the polling stations in 17 ward/village-tracts and 963 extra ballots in 7 ward/village-tracts of Ye Township. There must be 2,349 remaining ballots at the township election sub-commission but it found 3,060 remaining ballots and so there were 711 extra ballots.

10. Findings were as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Ward/Village-tract</th>
<th>Total Polling Stations</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Exact remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Remaining on the Ground</th>
<th>Difference</th>
<th>Missing</th>
<th>Extra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Thirimalar Ward</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,186</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thirinanda Ward</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2,797</td>
<td>2,203</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>2,203</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Thiraya Ward</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,389</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Thirikhaunma Ward</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,665</td>
<td>1,035</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>1,035</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Laminemyoma (1) Ward</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>3,797</td>
<td>2,203</td>
<td>2,203</td>
<td>2,203</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Laminemyoma (2) Ward</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,400</td>
<td>1,369</td>
<td>2,031</td>
<td>1,681</td>
<td>350</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Laminemyoma (3) Ward</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4,550</td>
<td>2,746</td>
<td>1,804</td>
<td>1,804</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mawkanin village-tract</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15,800</td>
<td>6,307</td>
<td>9,493</td>
<td>9,493</td>
<td>9,493</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Kawdwat village-tract</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9,550</td>
<td>4,203</td>
<td>5,347</td>
<td>5,347</td>
<td>5,347</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Hnitkayin village-tract</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9,900</td>
<td>6,095</td>
<td>3,805</td>
<td>3,805</td>
<td>3,805</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Baylamine village-tract</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,650</td>
<td>1,173</td>
<td>1,477</td>
<td>1,477</td>
<td>1,477</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Belamu village-tract</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,050</td>
<td>957</td>
<td>2,093</td>
<td>2,093</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Kaninkamaw village-tract</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,550</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>979</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Donphi village-tract</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,150</td>
<td>1,256</td>
<td>1,904</td>
<td>1,904</td>
<td>1,904</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Thaungpyin village-tract</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6,750</td>
<td>3,712</td>
<td>3,038</td>
<td>3,038</td>
<td>3,038</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Taungbon village-tract</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7,350</td>
<td>3,038</td>
<td>4,312</td>
<td>4,312</td>
<td>4,312</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Kalarkoke village-tract</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,150</td>
<td>1,713</td>
<td>2,437</td>
<td>2,437</td>
<td>2,437</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Thingangyun village-tract</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,150</td>
<td>1,480</td>
<td>1,670</td>
<td>1,670</td>
<td>1,670</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Andin village-tract</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8,800</td>
<td>6,052</td>
<td>2,748</td>
<td>2,748</td>
<td>2,748</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State Administration Council
Press Release
Re-invitation to Myanmar citizens who arrive in various regions for many reasons

1. Some student youths, State service personnel and citizens, evaded to areas of EAOs and foreign countries with worries because of incitement and intimidation of NLD members, the extremists who support that party, CRPH unlawful association, incitements of CDM and persons and organizations at home and abroad not wishing to restore peace and stability of the State since after 1 February 2021 when the Tatmadaw assumed the State responsibility.

2. They are further worried about the dictatorship statement and speeches of CRPH unlawful association and some relevant persons. As they face no security guarantee and difficulties in socio-economic life in their areas, they wish to return to their native lands.

3. As those who evaded from their native areas are also citizens, the State Administration Council will arrange their returns from evaded areas to various regions of Myanmar.

4. Information was released that if those who evaded to various areas except the persons who committed any kinds of crime wish to return to their native lands in Myanmar of their own accord, the citizens abroad are to contact nearby ward, village, township and district administration bodies and relevant embassies, military attaché offices and consulates without facing action taken in accord with the law.

Information Team
State Administration Council

Daily Newspapers available online


News and Periodicals Enterprise

16 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 4 May, total figure rises to 142,858

MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 142,858 after 16 new cases were reported on 4 May 2021 according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these confirmed cases, 131,987 have been discharged from hospitals.—MNA
Kyaukse Seintalone mango enters Pakokku, NyaungU markets

THE Seintalone variety of mangoes from villages in Kyaukse township, also known as Diamond Solitaire, are entering Pakokku and NyaungU markets at affordable prices, according to the mango traders.

“Last year, the Seintalone mangoes from Kyaukse township were supplied to the Shwe-li, Muse border trade zone. But this year, the mangoes are ripe well and have beautiful colour and thus marketable.

The plant bugs could destroy the mango without the cover.

According to the mango traders, the Seintalone mangoes from Kyaukse township sell well in Pakokku and NyaungU markets at an affordable price. — Ko Htein (KPD)/GNLM

Lack of demand winds up Myanmar corn exports by sea

MYANMAR’S corn exports by sea have come to an end due to the lack of demand, said Chair U Min Khaing of Myanmar Corn Industrial Association.

Myanmar has been delivering corns to the neighbouring countries Thailand and China via the land border. The shipment to Singapore, Malaysia and Viet Nam abruptly stopped owing to zero demand, he added. “The lack of demand by sea is attributed to the political changes and disruption in the logistic sector,” said U Min Khaing.

Myanmar is conveying corns to Thailand through the land border, with a tonne of maize fetching up about 8,000 baht. Myanmar is allowed for corn import to Thailand’s Mae-sot between 1 February and 31 August, with Form-D, under zero tariff.

Myanmar corn exports were exempted from tax between February and August. Thailand imposed a maximum tax rate of 73 per cent on corn import to protect the rights of their growers if the corns are imported during the corn season of Thailand, in line with the notification of the World Trade Organization regarding corn import of Thailand, said a corn exporter.

With the local corn consumption growing, Myanmar’s corn export to foreign markets is expected to reach 1.6 million tonnes this year; the association stated.

Myanmar exported 2.2 million tonnes of corns to the external market in the past Financial Year 2019-2020 ended 30 September, with an estimated value of $360 million, the Ministry of Commerce’s data showed. At present, corn is cultivated in Shan, Kachin, Kayah and Kayin states and Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. Myanmar has three corn seasons- winter, summer and monsoon.

The country yearly produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corns. — NN/GNLM

KYAUKSE township farmed 4,215 more acres of summer crops than expected, and the cultivation of summer crops has met with success.

The township is growing the summer crops under a project depending upon the availability of irrigation water. In Kyaukse township, the Department of Agriculture Land Management and Statistics targeted the cultivation of 12,691 acres of summer sesame.

The cultivation of summer crops succeeds in Kyaukse township. Regarding the summer sesame cultivation, most of the village lands can be cultivated successfully with just a few irrigation water because of soil moisture and good soil.

That is the reason why the summer sesame is grown.

“The cultivation has succeeded in those villages even though summer sesames are not listed in the cultivation project,” said local farmer U Maung Maung from Mone Poung village. — Thet Maung (Kyaukse)/GNLM

4,215 more acres of summer crops cultivated in Kyaukse successfully

The department has grown 4,215 acres more of summer paddy, including 3,485 acres of sesame, 507 acres of green gram, 1,218 acres of chilli and five acres of vegetables in Kyaukse township.

The department targeted to grow 1,809 acres of summer green gram, but it actually grew 3,316 acres of sesame. Additionally, the department grew 1,218 acres of chilli and five acres of vegeta-bles not included in the project, according to the Township Department of Agriculture Land Management and Statistics statistics.

The department has grown 4,215 more acres of summer paddy, including 3,485 acres of sesame, 507 acres of green gram, 1,218 acres of chilli and five acres of vegetables in Kyaukse township.

According to the mango traders, the Seintalone mangoes from Kyaukse township sell well in Pakokku and NyaungU markets at an affordable price.
Scientists create new tool to rapidly screen molecules for anti-COVID properties

The WHO pleaded Monday with the G7 to dig deep and fund the global Covid-19 recovery, warning the crisis cannot be resolved worldwide if they do not step up.

Meanwhile WHO’s chief scientist Soumya Swaminathan warned the additional vaccine doses going to India would not slow the outbreak there immediately.

“This is not going to come down by vaccination”, the Indian clinical scientist told reporters, stressing that it takes time for vaccines to be distributed and then take effect.

Tedros also sounded a reminder that more new Covid-19 cases were reported in the past two weeks than during the first six months of the pandemic, with India and then Brazil making up the lion’s share.

Covax-Moderna deal

Covax announced Monday it had struck a deal to buy 106 million doses of Moderna’s Covid-19 jab, with 10 million doses of the two-shot vaccine in the final quarter of 2021 and a further 460 million next year.

Under Covax, the cost of vaccines for the 92 poorest participating economies is covered by donors.

SOURCE: AFP

On the right track of those three parties, a larger volume in the export of rice and broken rice can earn income for the State as well as for the private sector. So, they need to choose the option, right track or not!

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On the right track of those three parties, a larger volume in the export of rice and broken rice can earn income for the State as well as for the private sector. So, they need to choose the option, right track or not!
Files opened against medical doctors who participated in CDM activity with attempts to deteriorate peace and stability of the State

THE following medical doctors have been charged under Section 505-A of the Penal Code for inciting State service personnel and health staff to participate in CDM activities, themselves participating in it, supporting CDM activities and unlawful CRPH association with the aim of deteriorating the State administrative machinery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Hospital</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Section of Penal Code</th>
<th>Photo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dr Khin Than dar Hsan (Specialist)</td>
<td>Katha Hospital</td>
<td>Mahaungmye Township, Mandalay Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dr Hlaing Zaw Htet (Specialist)</td>
<td>Yankin Children's Hospital</td>
<td>Thaungyin Township, Yangon Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dr Aung Aung (Specialist)</td>
<td>Ottarathiri Children's Specialty Hospital</td>
<td>Sangyoung Township, Yangon Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Dr Kaung Myat Aye Chan (Specialist)</td>
<td>Ottarathiri Children's Specialty Hospital</td>
<td>Sangyoung Township, Yangon Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dr Yi Yi Lwin (Specialist)</td>
<td>Ottarathiri Obstetrics and Gynaecology Specialty Hospital</td>
<td>Fobothiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dr Aung Pyae Phyo (Specialist)</td>
<td>Ottara Thiri Children's Specialty Hospital</td>
<td>Shwebo Town, Sagaing Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Among them, Dr Sai Wan Latt Moh (Assistant Surgeon) of Kengtung Hospital and Dr El Mon Ko Ko (specialist) of Patheingyi Hospital, and Dr Zin Mar Latt (Assistant Surgeon) of Mogok Hospital participated in CDM activities without performing medical treatments at assigned hospitals but gave medical treatments at private hospitals/clinics according to the documentary photos. As tasks are being carried out to arrest those medical doctors charged, action will be taken against the persons under the law for admitting those medical doctors, and work licences of the private hospitals/clinics which allowed them to give medical treatments will be closed. Deterrent action will be taken against owners of these hospitals/clinics under the law. Action will be taken against any health staff under the law for taking charges of providing healthcare services to the people and giving assistance to private hospitals/clinics with participation in CDM activities without discharging assigned duty. Severe action will be taken against owners of private hospitals/clinics which admit those medical doctors and health staff for supporting the CDM participants. —MNA

Files opened against education staff who participated in CDM activity with attempts to deteriorate peace and stability of the State

THE following teachers have been charged under Section 505-A of the Penal Code for inciting State service personnel and education staff to participate in CDM activities, themselves participating in it, supporting CDM activities and unlawful CRPH association with the aim of deteriorating the State administrative machinery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Section of Penal Code</th>
<th>Photo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>U Khine Sar (a) U Lin</td>
<td>Senior Assistant Teacher, BEHS (Branch) (Madu), Matupi Township</td>
<td>Matupi Town, Chin State</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>U Zay Yar Hlaing</td>
<td>Senior Assistant Teacher, BEHS (Thayettan) Htantabin Township</td>
<td>Htantabin Township, Bago Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>U Win Htay</td>
<td>Senior Assistant Teacher, BEHS (Okpo), Okpo Township</td>
<td>Okpo Township, Bago Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>U Aung Thu (a) Aung Kyaw Thu</td>
<td>Senior Assistant Teacher, BEHS (Chanthawkyun) Waw Township</td>
<td>Waw Township, Bago Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>U Kyaw Thin</td>
<td>Senior Assistant Teacher, BEHS (Zigon), Zigon Town</td>
<td>Zigon Town, Sagaing Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>U Kuday Sein</td>
<td>Senior Assistant Teacher, BEHS(2), Nawngkhio Town</td>
<td>Nawnghkio Town, Shan State (North)</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>U Aye Lin Aung</td>
<td>Physical Teacher, BEHS(9), Aungmyethazan Township</td>
<td>Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>U Hlaing Myo Win</td>
<td>Junior Assistant Teacher, BEHS(9), NyaungInn, Bago Township</td>
<td>Bago Town, Bago Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Daw Yi Yi Htay</td>
<td>Junior Assistant Teacher, BEHS(9), Mudon Township</td>
<td>Mudon Town, Mon State</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>U Ye Min Tun</td>
<td>Junior Assistant Teacher, BEHS (Htanmaunggon), Salin Township</td>
<td>Salin Township, Magway Region</td>
<td>505-a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As tasks are being carried out to arrest those education staff charged, people are urged to inform nearby police stations about those education staff and action will be taken against the persons under the law for admitting those education staff. —MNA
Rickshaw ‘ambulance’ offers free oxygen, transport for virus patients

WHEN Indian auto-rickshaw driver Mohammad Javed Khan saw people carrying their coronavirus-stricken parents to hospitals on their backs as they were too poor to afford an ambulance, he knew he had to help.

Khan, a 34-year-old driver in the central Indian city of Bhopal, sold his wife’s jewellery and converted his three-wheeled vehicle into a small ambulance, fitting it out with an oxygen cylinder, an oximeter to measure oxygen levels in the blood, and other medical supplies.

As India grapples with a harrowing Covid-19 crisis that has seen infections skyrocket and the healthcare system stretched to breaking point, individuals like Khan have stepped forward to try and help their local communities.

“People were in such a dire state, and I thought, why not turn my three-wheeler into an ambulance,” Khan told AFP.

“I see young people struggling without oxygen. Even when they call ambulances, the ambulances are charging 5,000-10,000 rupees (70-140). How will a poor person be able to afford it? Especially during this pandemic when most people don’t have an income?”

A donor provided him with a cylinder and another with the oximeter.

“A doctor taught Khan how to use the cylinder and oximeter to safely supply the lifesaving gas to patients as he drove them to a hospital.—AFP”

Istanbul to host Formula 1 as fans, tourism sector rejoice

FILE: Mercedes’ driver Lewis Hamilton ahead of Williams driver Nicholas Latifi during an Formula One Grand Prix race.

PHOTO: AFP

FORMULA 1 will return to Istanbul this year following the cancellation of the Canadian Grand Prix in Montreal due to travel restrictions related to COVID-19, a move which has excited Turkish fans

Third COVID-19 wave ends in Croatia: chief epidemiologist

CROATIA’s chief epidemiologist Krunoslav Capak said on Monday that the country is flattening the coronavirus curve and that he expects to see a drop in new hospitalizations and COVID-19-related deaths soon.

“This doesn’t mean that the pandemic is over, but the third wave has ended,” Capak told reporters in Koprivnica, a city in northern Croatia, which pioneered drive-through vaccination in the country. It is still possible that the new variants would result in a number of new COVID-19 cases, “but it seems to us that this is going in the right direction and that we have a decline.”

According to Capak, Croatia plans to administer two million vaccine doses and to vaccinate 55 per cent of the country’s four million population by the end of June. Croatia is now receiving larger weekly vaccine deliveries and has accelerated its vaccination campaign. Furthermore, Capak said that the country has also stepped up its campaign aimed at educating the public.

He said that those who had COVID-19 in the past six months should receive only one dose of a vaccine, citing studies that question the efficacy of a second dose.

In the past 24 hours, Croatia has registered 349 new cases of coronavirus infection and 36 related deaths. As of May 13, the country had administered 1.6 million vaccines doses and 708,137 people, or 21 per cent of the adult population, had been vaccinated. —Xinhua

Medical workers are seen at a drive-through COVID-19 vaccination point in Virovitica, Croatia, May 3, 2021. VIA XINHUA

NEWS IN BRIEF

Chinese tourists out in force as virus fears recede

SiPPING bubble tea and dressing up in their finest, millions of Chinese tourists flocked to domestic tourist attractions over the May 1 long holiday with Covid-19 fears already a distant memory.

Beijing’s historic alley-ways were packed with camera-wielding visitors Tuesday, while a bride dressed in red tulle took wedding photos with her groom outside the Forbidden City.

Out-of-towners also mobbed popular sites in Shanghai over the weekend, many dragging roller bags and snapping selfies against the city skyline.

In Wuhan, where Covid-19 was first reported in late 2019, thousands of maskless revelers cheered and danced shoulder to shoulder at the outdoor Strawberry Music Festival.—AFP

Virus-hit Papua New Guinea starts Covid-19 vaccine roll-out

Papua New Guinea’s Prime Minister launched a nationwide coronavirus vaccine roll-out Tuesday (May 4), hoping to quell a runaway outbreak and counter widespread public hesitancy about vaccines.

Mr James Marape said a batch of 100,000 vaccines had arrived in Papua New Guinea and would be distributed countrywide, as he urged sceptical health workers and the public to get vaccinated.

“We want to reduce and prevent deaths of our people,” he said, launching the Sleeves Up campaign. After weathering the initial stages of the pandemic, the country has recorded most of its 11,262 Covid-19 cases and 115 known deaths since February. Only 93,000 tests have been carried out among a population of nine million, so the real number of infections is feared to be much higher.

“If you have no need to go to a public place outside of your home or workplace, stay put wherever you are,” Mr Marape said.—AFP
Pentagon downplays newest Afghanistan clashes

THE Pentagon downplayed Monday the impact of attacks by Taliban insurgents in Afghanistan over the weekend as US and allied forces began their withdrawal from the country.

“What we’ve seen are some small harassing attacks over the course of the weekend that have not had any significant impact, certainly not on our people or on our resources there,” said US Department of Defense spokesman John Kirby. “We’ve seen nothing thus far that has affected the drawdown, or had any significant impact on the mission at hand in Afghanistan.” On Saturday, just as the US military formally began to pull out its last 2,500 troops in the country, it launched a “precision strike” against the source of fire that targeted an airfield used by Americans. General Austin Miller, the US commander in Afghanistan, “certainly has at his disposal response options to make sure that he’s protecting our troops and our people,” Kirby said.

Nearly 20 years after US and allied NATO troops invaded the country and ousted the Taliban government as they pursued Al-Qaeda after the September 11, 2001 attacks, President Joe Biden ordered in April the final withdrawal.—AFP

Australia walks back ‘racist’ India ban after backlash

AUSTRALIA’S prime minister fended off accusations of racism and having blood on his hands Tuesday, as he retreated from a threat to jail Australians trying to escape COVID-wracked India.

Scott Morrison’s government moved to ban travellers from India from entering Australia until May 15, threatening hundreds of thousands of new coronavirus cases are being detected every day and the death toll is soaring.

Among those trapped are some of Australia’s most high profile sporting stars cricketers playing in the lucrative Indian Premier League. Commentator and former Test wicket keeper Michael Slater was among those who pilloried Morrison’s decision, saying it was a “disgrace”. “Blood on your hands PM. How dare you treat us like this,” he tweeted. “If our Government cares for the safety of Aussies they would allow us to get home.”—AFP

Spain’s socialists face drubbing in Madrid regional election

MADRID votes Tuesday in an early regional election the incumbent conservative Popular Party is expected to win comfortably, dealing a blow to Spain’s Socialist Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez.

Isabel Diaz Ayuso, the outgoing leader of the key Madrid regional administration, has consistently pushed back against central government pressure to impose tighter virus restrictions. The 42-year-old rising star in the PP argues keeping the economy afloat and preserving social interaction is also important for health.

On her watch, Madrid has had Spain’s lightest virus restrictions. It has been the only region to open with few restrictions since the start of the pandemic, allowing bars, restaurants and theatres to reopen. “Having beers is important,” Diaz Ayuso, a lawyer by training, has famously said.

Critics however say her lax approach has come at too high a price. They point out that Madrid has the highest percentage of intensive care beds occupied by Covid-19 patients in the country, at nearly 45 per cent — and one of the country’s highest infection rates. Just over 3.1 million people are eligible to vote in the election in Spain’s richest region, which has been governed by the PP since 1995.—AFP

‘Woke’ CIA recruitment video infuriates US conservatives

A 36-year-old CIA employee also wants you to know how else she sees herself — that she is proudly a “woman of colour”, is “intersectional” and is a “cisgender millennial”.

But a video featuring the young Latina woman to promote diversity at the US spy agency has conservatives fuming that it has gone overboard with “wokeness” — a broad term for acute awareness of contemporary issues of race and gender, sometimes used with derision.

The backlash was sparked after the Central Intelligence Agency posted the slick promotional video on its YouTube channel as part of a series called “Humans of CIA”.

In it, the CIA employee proudly declares her success, using language that is familiar with younger Americans and intellectuals, but is derided as focusing too much on political correctness by many conservatives. —AFP

Four killed after flash floods in Yemen’s historic Tarim city

FOUR people have been killed in flash floods following heavy rains in the historic Yemeni city of Tarim, state media said yesterday.

The city, located in the central province of Hadramawt, is best known for more than 360 mosques including Al-Mehdar, which has the tallest minaret in the country.

The state-run Saba news agency reported four dead and an unspecified number of injured as a result of heavy rains on Sunday, and said three residences had collapsed. AFP footage showed streets of the city flooded and mud-brick buildings damaged, with vehicles and motorcycles buried under debris and mud. Residents said victims’ bodies were transported to hospital. —AFP

AUDITOR

Diaz Ayuso has campaigned using the slogan ‘Freedom’. PHOTO: AFP

Australia walks back ‘racist’ India ban after backlash

PHOTO: AFP

There is a blanket ban on travel to-and-from the country unless an exemption is secured. PHOTO: AFP

Nearly 20 years after US and allied NATO troops invaded the country and ousted the Taliban government as they pursued Al-Qaeda after the September 11, 2001 attacks, President Joe Biden ordered in April the final withdrawal.—AFP
Japanese startup to carry UAE lunar rover to Moon in 2022

JAPANESE startup Ispace Inc. will deliver a lunar rover under development by the United Arab Emirates to the Moon next year in what will be the Arab world’s first lunar mission.

Under the contract recently announced by the Tokyo-based space company and the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre, Dubai’s governmental space agency, Ispace will also provide communications and power during the journey to the Moon and on its surface. The UAE’s rover will be loaded onto a lunar lander that Ispace plans to launch from Florida in the United States using a rocket made by SpaceX, officially known as Space Exploration Technologies Corp. and founded by tech billionaire Elon Musk. The Rashid rover weighing 10 kilograms and measuring about 50 centimetres in length and width and 70 cm in height will be transported in Ispace’s lander currently under development. The project marks Ispace’s first space mission since its establishment in 2010.

“We are very honoured that MBRSC has selected Ispace to play a key role for this historic moment,” Takeshi Hakamada, CEO and founder of Ispace, told an online news conference. “Furthermore, we are very pleased to advance our collaboration between the UAE and Japan in space exploration.” If the mission succeeds, Ispace could become the first Japanese private firm to land on the Moon. Ispace has also been chosen by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration to join its project to collect lunar regolith from the Moon’s surface as part of NASA’s Commercial Lunar Payload Services program. —Kyodo News

Apple, Epic in heated US court clash over app market

FORTNITE maker Epic Games and Apple clashed in court Monday at the opening of a blockbuster trial on the iPhone maker’s App Store with big implications for the world of mobile gaming and power during the journey to the Moon and on its surface. The UAE’s rover will be loaded onto a lunar lander that Ispace plans to launch from Florida in the United States using a rocket made by SpaceX, officially known as Space Exploration Technologies Corp. and founded by tech billionaire Elon Musk. The Rashid rover weighing 10 kilograms and measuring about 50 centimetres in length and width and 70 cm in height will be transported in Ispace’s lander currently under development. The project marks Ispace’s first space mission since its establishment in 2010.

“The evidence will show unambiguously that Apple is a monopoly,” she claimed. Apple lawyer Karen Dunn fired back, telling the judge that Epic’s suit is part of a “self-proclaimed war against mobile platform fees” that defies the law and the facts. Apple is no more a monopoly than is a grocery market that sells a broad array of goods, competing with other shops, Dunn maintained, pointing out that people can play Epic games on platforms including consoles, personal computers and smartphones made by Apple rivals. —AFP

Bill and Melinda Gates announce divorce after 27 years

Microsoft founder Bill Gates and his wife and fellow philanthropist Melinda announced on Monday they are divorcing after a 27-year marriage. One of the world’s wealthiest couples—with a joint fortune estimated at $130 billion—the Gates have channeled billions into charitable work around the globe via their hugely influential foundation.

In announcing their split on Twitter, the couple said they would continue their joint work on the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which funds programmes in global health, gender equality, education and other causes. —AFP

TRADEMARK CAUTION

L’Oreal, a company incorporated and existing under the laws of France, and having its principal office at 14 Rue Royale, 75008 Paris, France, hereby declares that the Company is the Owner and Sole proprietor of the following Trademark:

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Daw Yee Mon Aung, (Advocate)
For L’Oreal
c/o Baker & McKenzie Limited
Level 18, Unix 18-03, Sole Square, 221 Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated: 5th May 2021
Hong Kong ends longest recession in decades

HONG KONG'S economy jumped back into growth in the first quarter of the year, official figures showed on Monday, ending the city’s most pronounced period of recession in its modern history.

The international financial hub has been putting their money into cryptocurrencies against economic crises -- have in fact turned, with high inflation, a deflationary sector: cryptocurrency.

The office of Colombia’s finance minister said Monday that the government had decided to provide funding for a deep recession.

That came to an end on Monday when the government announced the economy grew 7.8 per cent on year in the first three months of 2020.

Hong Kong was one of the few places in the world unlucky enough to enter the coronavirus pandemic already mired in a deep recession.

Economic downturn fueling Argentine crypto craze

ARGENTINA’S economic downturn, with high inflation, a deflationary currency and a shortage of US dollars to invest in, has in fact been putting their money into cryptocurrencies.

As they seek safe havens for their dwindling nest eggs, Argentines -- used to buffering against economic crises -- have been putting their money into Bitcoin, Tether, Etherium or Dai.

“The number of user accounts for investing in ‘cryptos’ has multiplied by ten in Argentina since 2020,” said Maximiliano Hinz, Latin American director of cryptocurrency exchange Binance, the world’s largest by trade volume. There are now an estimated two million crypto trading accounts in the country of 45 million people.

Argentina has been in recession since 2018, with inflation averaging 45 per cent over the last three years, and a GDP contraction of 9.9 per cent in 2020.

Poverty haunts two in five people, and unemployment is at 11 percent. For those wishing to put money aside for a rainy day, cryptocurrencies offer relief from low interest rates and a government-imposed limit on greenback purchases of $200 per month in a population accustomed to dollarizing savings.

One Bitcoin is now worth about $60,000, or 5.6 million pesos. “It is no coincidence that Argentina and Venezuela, countries with high inflation, are the main crypto poles in South America,” said Marcos Zocaro, a specialist in digital assets. —AFP

Fresh protests called after deadly Colombia tax reform clashes

THE French government on Monday lashed out at new regulations which Britain has declared for fishing in its waters near the Channel Islands, deeming them “null and void” in a deepening post-Brexit row.

France and Britain have increasingly clashed over fishing in recent weeks, with French fishermen saying they are being prevented from operating in British waters because of difficulties in obtaining licences.

The French fisheries ministry said Britain had introduced “new technical measures” relating to licences for fishing off the Channel Islands which had not been properly notified to the European Union under the terms of the Brexit deal.

“We consider that if the new demands for sea zonng or fishing equipment are integrat-
ed into the licences - when the European Commission has not been notified - they are null and void,” the ministry told AFP.

The ministry said it was adhering “strictly to the deal” agreed on fishing under the terms of Britain’s exit from the European Union on January 1.

“If the United Kingdom wants to introduce new measures, it must notify the Europe-

An economic rebound was largely sparked by a sharp resurgence in exports fuelled by recoveries in both China and the US. —AFP

PROTESTERS in Colombia called Monday for a new mass rally after 19 people died and 18 civilians and a police officer died in violence during the protests that began throughout the country on April 28, while 846 people, including 306 civilians, were injured. Authorities have detained 431 people, and the government deployed the military in the worst-affected cities.

Some NGOs accused police of firing at civilians. Faced with the unrest, the government of President Ivan Duque on Sunday ordered the tax reform proposal be withdrawn from Congress, where it was being debated. And on Monday, Colombia’s finance minister Alberto Carrasquilla resigned, saying in a statement his continued presence “would make it difficult to build the necessary consensus quickly and efficiently” for a new reform proposal. He was quickly replaced by economist Jose Manuel Restrepo, previously the minister of commerce. Despite the withdrawal of the bill, which protesters said would make Colombia poorer in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, an umbrella group known as the National Strike Committee called for new demonstrations on Wednesday. —AFP

France rejects British fishing demands as Brexit row deepens

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Fresh protests called after deadly Colombia tax reform clashes

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Fresh protests called after deadly Colombia tax reform clashes

Fresh protests called after deadly Colombia tax reform clashes
North Korea founder’s memoir triggers censorship debate in South

A South Korean publisher’s defiant move to release the memoirs of the North’s founder Kim Il Sung has triggered a heated debate over Seoul’s decades-old ban on Pyongyang’s propaganda under national security laws.

Critics of the measure say Southerners are politically mature enough to judge such material for themselves and argue it amounts to unnecessary censorship in a vibrant democracy that is one of the most wired and educated countries in the world.

But the South remains officially at war with its nuclear-armed and impoverished neighbour, with legislation to officially at war with its nuclear-armed and impoverished neighbour, with legislation to disarm the North's nuclear arsenal.

The national security law dates from 1948, before the overthrow of the Japanese colonial administration.

French parliament to vote new climate law criticised by green groups

French President Emmanuel Macron is trying to burnish his climate credentials ahead of next year’s election.

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The French parliament is set to vote through a new climate change law on Tuesday, with calls for urgent action to tackle the most pressing global threats. PHOTO: POOL/ AFP

The highlighted text in the image is about the French parliament’s vote on a new climate change law, which is criticised by green groups.

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G7 pushes solidarity to tackle global threats

G7 foreign ministers meet in London for their first face-to-face talks in more than two years on Tuesday, with calls for urgent joint action to tackle the most pressing global threats.

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Britain’s Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab (R) and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken are both pushing a firm line on the need for a more unified approach. PHOTO: POOL/ AFP

The change follows backlash from allies over Biden’s earlier decision to keep the Trump-era limits – a politically sensitive moment of confusion that stood out in a White House notable for its iron discipline in its first three months.

“This erases the historically low number set by the previous administration of 15,000, which did not reflect America’s values as a nation that welcomes and supports refugees,” Biden said in a statement. PHOTO: POOL/ AFP

President Joe Biden announced Monday he is lifting his predecessor Donald Trump’s cap on refugees allowed into the United States this year to 62,500 – up from the 15,000 cap imposed by his predecessor Donald Trump. PHOTO: POOL/ AFP

Bridge collapses with metro train on it, killing at least 23

At least 23 people died and around 70 were injured after a portion of an elevated rail in a southern suburb of Mexico City collapsed on the ground, causing a passing train to derail and crash at Olivos station.

Early unofficial reports from the scene spoke of at least 50 people injured, after the metro train fell from the collapsing section of Line 12 on Monday evening, shortly before 11 pm local time.

Newspaper El Universal reported six dead and 70 injured, citing emergency services responding to the scene. Mayor Claudia Sheinbaum also came to the station. By midnight local time, Mexico City emergency authorities spoke of 15 dead and 70 injured. PHOTO: POOL/ AFP

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Biden to allow up to 62,500 refugees into US after criticism

President Joe Biden announced Monday he is lifting his predecessor Donald Trump’s cap on refugees allowed into the United States this year to 62,500 – up from the 15,000 cap imposed by his predecessor Donald Trump. PHOTO: POOL/ AFP

The highlighted text in the image is about Biden’s decision to lift the Trump-era limits on refugee admissions, which was met with criticism from allies.

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Uefa has increased the size of squads to 26 for Euro 2020 to cover for possible Covid cases. PHOTO: UEFA

UEFA allowed 26-player squads for Euro 2020. PHOTO: GNLM

Europe’s clubs caught between a financial pit and hallowed grounds

AS European football clubs struggle to make up for revenue lost in the pandemic, one untapped source of revenue is stadium naming rights, but exploiting them may not be straightforward.

Many football fans have long opposed clubs selling their history and, during the European Super League fiasco, supporters made clear their hostility to trading tradition for cash. Furthermore, some big-money sport sponsors, notably airlines, have also been hit hard by Covid-19 restrictions.

“Many European sports clubs have long been missing out on millions worth of stadium naming sponsorship fees annually,” Bryn Anderson, an analyst specialising in sports economics at auditing firm KPMG, told AFP. Today, only 29 of the 98 clubs in the top divisions in England, Germany, Italy, Spain and France, Europe’s ‘big five’ leagues play in named stadiums. In the National Football League by contrast, more than 80 per cent of the stadiums bear sponsors’ names. —AFP

Lethwei is the most effective stand-up combat: Dave Leduc

MYANMA Lethwei Cruiserweight World Champion Dave Leduc said that he loves Lethwei with all of his heart. He also spoke out that Lethwei is the most effective and brilliant stand-up combat on the planet.

“When you can only understand, true, all-out stand-up combat once you’ve fought without gloves, all 9 limbs allowed, and no judges – KO to win. The art of Lethwei is the most effective stand-up combat on the planet, far superior due to fewer restrictions on striking and takedowns,” Dave Leduc said.

The Lethwei star also expressed his feeling about the brilliant combat.

“Let’s make it clear: Lethwei is the ultimate test for strikers. I don’t care how many belts you have in other stand-up disciplines. It won’t matter once you fight without your hand pillows, and you face a warrior looking for any opportunity to smash his skull against the soft tissues of your face. It’s another world.”

The Lethwei World Champion Dave has also accepted challenges from Muay Thai communities, and his fight against a Muay Thai fighter will be seen in the near future.

“The Muay Thai community is unaware of the ancestor of their sport. I understand Myanmar was hidden from the world for 60 years, but it’s time to set the record straight. Lethwei is not about being pretty or good looking, and it’s about inflicted damage.

That’s why I have accepted the offer presented to my team for the end of the year: Lethwei vs Muay Thai”, Dave Leduc added. —GNLM

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Thierry Henry warns Arsenal takeover bid

THIERRY Henry has warned Arsenal supporters that a potential takeover by Spotify co-founder Daniel Ek could take a “very long” time as the club’s all-time record goalscorer confirmed his role in the bid.

Ek has gone public with his desire to buy the struggling Premier League giants through his Kroenke Sports and Entertainment business, and Arsenal takeover bid released a statement saying he had wanted to involve the fans we actually wanted to do—bring them back on board.

“He wants to reinject the Arsenal DNA, the identity that is long gone. “You don’t have Arsenal people there among the board that can sometimes show the right direction and that is what Daniel wants to do.”

He already said he collected the funds so he can make sure he can make a good bid. Now obviously they need to listen and see what they can do.”

Last week, Kroenke, through his Kroenke Sports and Entertainment business, issued a statement saying he would “not entertain” any offer. —AFP

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