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.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
National Defence and Security Council
Notification 1/2023
12th Waxing of Tabodwe 1384 ME
1 February 2023

1. The meeting 1/2023 of the National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was held at 10 am on 31 January 2023.

During the meeting, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing reported on the situation about the declaration of the State of Emergency across the nation due to forcibly seizing the State power without solving the voting fraud of the 2020 general elections by officials.
National Objectives for 76th Anniversary of Union Day 2023

1. To strive for the perpetual existence of national solidarity and perpetuity of the Union through the internal strength
2. To make collaborative efforts of all ethnic nationals to restore perpetual and durable peace
3. To join hands in harmony for ensuring the prosperity and food sufficiency of the nation as two national plans through the Union spirit
4. To help develop all regions and states on equal terms and increase employment opportunities with ensuring the health and fitness of the entire National people
5. To practise the genuine, discipline-flourishing multiparty democratic system through fraternity, solidarity and united endeavours of all ethnic national brethren for building the Union based on democratic and federal systems

Extension of State of Emergency conforms with Constitution: CT response

The Pro Tem President sought the attitude of the Constitutional Tribunal on whether the extension of the State of Emergency period to further six months by the National Defence and Security Council starting 1 February 2023 under Section 425 of the Constitution conforms with the Constitution as the current circumstance is not a situation in which the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services has to report on the accomplishment of duties under Section 426 of the Constitution and work will have to be executed in accord with Section 425 of the Constitution owing to an extraordinary situation. The current circumstance is an extraordinary situation considering the facts mentioned in the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Constitutional Tribunal made a response to the Pro Tem President, saying that the six-month extension of the National Defence and Security Council starting 1 February 2023 under Section 425 of the Constitution conforms with the Constitution. — MNA, KTZH

Mottos for 76th Anniversary of Union Day 2023

1. Let’s go forward in joining hands among ethnic nationals in unison
2. Let’s firmly join hands among national brethren of the Union in unity
3. Energetic harmony and stronger unity represent the souls of the Union

Public Notice for elimination of violence

1. SO called “CRPH”, “NUG” and “PDF” terrorist groups are unlawfully committing killings of monks, teachers, civil servants and general people and looting under the pretext of saying “for the people”.
2. Not rendering of encouragement, support and assistance to the “CRPH”, “NUG” and “PDF” terrorists that are committing intimidations, killings and destructive activities could be construed as protecting lives and property of general public.
3. Giving information secretly relating to bearing of their arms, ammunition and terrorists to authorities could be tantamount to protecting lives and property of innocent people.

FROM PAGE 1

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2. Not rendering of encouragement, support and assistance to the “CRPH”, “NUG” and “PDF” terrorists that are committing intimidations, killings and destructive activities
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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
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The current circumstance is an extraordinary situation, and so the period for the State of Emergency conforms with the Constitution of Myanmar and the Constitution is extended further six months under Section 425 of the Constitution starting 1 February 2023. It is here announced that the meeting was attended by Pro Tem President U Myint Swe, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Kyaw Myat, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Union Minister for Defence General Mya Tun Oo, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Soe Htut, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, special invitees SAC Secretary Lt-Gen Aung Lin Dwe, Joint-Secretary Lt-Gen Yi Win Oo, and Union Minister for Legal Affairs and Attorney-General of the Union Dr Thida Oo. Vice-President U Henry Van Thio submitted a leave of absence to the meeting due to a health condition.

S/ U Myint Swe
Pro Tem President

FROM PAGE 1

1. The formation of new Union Election Commission to check voter lists and findings related to the implementation of the five-point roadmap of the State Administration Council, taking action against those responsible for the voting fraud, direct and indirect pressure posed by the chair of NLD and the ex-president, issuance of Citizenship Scrutiny Cards to ensure correct voter lists, prevention, treatment and vaccination for the Covid-19 pandemic, endeavours for the development of the State economy, efforts for the restoration of perpetual peace, undertakings for the coming election, amnesty for punishments and relieving the punishment, seizures of narcotic drugs, conferring of honorary titles and medals to those who dedicated themselves to the interests of country, destructive acts launched by CRPH, NUG and their subordinate PDF terrorist groups, deaths and injuries of innocent people and loss and damage of State-owned and private-owned property in their terror acts, their attempts to seize the State power by using insurgent, mobbed and terror ways, and security situations of regions and states.

2. The National Defence and Security Council members discussed the presentation of the Senior General. All attendees including the Pro Tem President discussed the situations of killing innocent people, blowing up public places, posing armed intimidation and coercion on the people committed by CRPH, NUG and their subordinate PDF terrorist groups aiming to cause utter devastation to the State although the State Administration Council is striving for ensuring peace and stability of the State and development in all sectors, and the unusual circumstances of the country that they are making attempts to seize the State power in insurgent and terror ways. The Senior General will be able to accomplish the duties only when the State of the Emergency period is extended for the extraordinary situation, and so the period for the State of Emergency across the nation is extended further six months under Section 425 of the Constitution starting 1 February 2023.

The National Defence and Security Council mem-
bers discussed the presentation of the Senior Geo-

eral, saying that the six-month
National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar holds meeting 1/2023

FROM PAGE 1
special invitees SAC Secretary Lt-Gen Aung Lin Dwe, Joint Secre tary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo, and Union Minister for Legal Affairs and Attorney-General of the Un ion Dr Thida Oo. Vice-President U Henry Van Thio submitted a leave of absence to the meet ing due to a health condition.

First, the Senior General clarified the two-year term ser vice of the SAC, saying that the root cause of taking State respon sibilities by the State Administra tion Council was based on vote rigging in the 2020 multiparty democracy general election of the government which took re sponsibility in the second term. Tatmadaw repeatedly reminded it not to harm the multiparty democratic system. In verifying Tatmadaw over the list of more than 38.27 million eligible voters officially issued by the previous Union Election Commission, firm evidence was unveiled that more than 10.48 million ballots depend ed on voting fraud. It can be seen that these were not errors but conspiracies without any verifi cation. Any country does not ac cept voting fraud in elections for relevant Hluttaw. It is necessary to seek a third-party organization to scrutinize the voting fraud. It is the Tatmadaw due to the Constitution of the nation and the political history of the country. In Myanmar, officials including UEC did not solve the voting fraud problems. Tatmadaw is re sponsible for verifying the case as Section 4 of the 2008 Constitution stipulates “The Sovereign power of the Union is derived from the citizens and is in force in the en tire country”, Section 6(a) and Section 7, the Union’s consistent objectives are flourishing of a genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system and Section 6 (d), enabling the Defence Servic es to be able to participate in the National political leadership role of the State and Section 20 (f), The Defence Services is mainly responsible for safeguarding the Constitution.”

Attempts to converse the Hluttaw committed Section 40 (c) and Section 417 of the Constitu tion on forcible seizing the State power. According to Sections 62, 63 and 64 of the Constitution, U Win Myint does not have the right to stand as the president because of being Hluttaw repre sentative-elect, serving the party duty and facing a lawsuit of file opened under the law. According to Section 417 of the Constitution (2008), Pro Temp President U My int Swe convened the National Defence and Security Council meeting and declared a state of emergency. And, then, the leg isitative, executive and judicial powers of the State were handed over to the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services under Sec tion 418 (a) of the Constitution.

They should have to prove things whether the evidence of voting fraud shown by Tatmadaw was wrong. But they did not dare to do so. In verifying the voter list, Tatmadaw firmly presented the list of voting frauds. They did not prove whether the list of pre sented by Tatmadaw was wrong. Attendees to the National Defence and Security Council meeting approved the terms of State responsibilities for the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

In accord with the fifth point of the roadmap, “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”, the SAC formed a new UEC and as signed it. UEC officials inspected the tasks of Sub-commissions of the UEC together with the township level officials and representatives from relevant political parties in opening the ballot boxes from 17 February to 4 July 2021 and investigated voting fraud and illegal tasks.

In verifying the voter list in the 2020 multiparty democracy general election, it was found that 295,465 persons were included in the list of voters more than three times and 4,899,423 persons did not have any citizenship IDs. Moreover, 11,365,290 voters were involved in the list of vote rigging process.

The number of the total pop ulation above 18 on 1 October 2020 hit 34,350,155 compared to 38,271,447 voters in the election, exceeding some four million. Errors at the polling stations and inappropriate directives for casting without CSC, use of seals and wrong lists of voters were based on conspiracy. It broke laws, rules and disciplines.

The voting fraud in the 2020 election totally depend ed on the NLD. Influence of the NLD chair committed in appropriate acts based on her political post. U Win Myint also followed it despite being a president at the time.

In the 2020 election, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and ex-pres ident U Win Myint posed direct and indirect pressures on the UEC. So, the UEC broke the laws and bylaws by abusing its authority. Hence, action was taken against ex-president U Win Myint, Union-level offi cials, ex-chief ministers and officials of UEC over the 2020 election process. Severe pun ishments were handed down to them.

The NLD chair made a speech at the canvassing through MRTV on 17 September 2020: “The election was not in conform ity with the democratic standard. Just 75 per cent of the people were allowed to participate in the election. The remaining 25 per cent was for Tatmadaw. So, NLD needs to overcome 25 per cent of hindrances to forming the government. At least 67 per cent needed to win the election as it participated in the election for 75 per cent. So, all are to ac tively cast vote for the NLD in all constituencies not to count the percentage.” NLD revoked some constituencies where it may face loss in the election. So, some ethnic nationals and organizations lost the chance to cast votes. Now, the government is striving for all ethnic brethren to cast votes in all areas of the nation without any vacancies.

The general elections must be held in all regions and states at the same time. The election should not cover just urban ar eas. It needs to cover the rural areas as well. Some 70 per cent of the total population resides in rural areas. Moreover, it is neces sary to create chances for rel evant parties and candidates to do canvassing in their respective constituencies.

In implementing the Pankhi project from 3 May 2021 to 3 January 2023, CSCs are issued to eligible citizens. Now, there re mains issuance of CSCs to more than 1.13 million out of 3.4 million people in Kayin, Chin and Shan (North) States and Sagaing Re gion. Only when CSC are issued to the remaining people will they not lose the fundamental rights of citizens. They have a chance to cast votes holding any ID and they must be free from intimida tion and coercion in voting.

With regard to the preven tion of the Covid-19 pandemic, from 23 March 2020 to 31 Jan uary 2023, 633,819 people were approved positive and 19,491 people were dead, accounting for 3.08 per cent.

During the term of the gov ernment, the deputy prime min ister held meetings three times a week to fulfill the needs for pre vention, control and treatment of the pandemic. Moreover, 1,674 hospitals, clinics, and treatment centres were opened to control infection of the disease and the death rate.

The government built 216 oxygen plants whereas the pri vate sector set up 271 plants to provide healthcare services to the people. People also donated preventive equipment, oxygen and foodstuffs and China and Thailand provided oxygen cyl inders. So, the disease could be placed under control.

There are 1,877 hospitals and 11,427 dispensaries across the nation. In the high season of infection, 760 hospitals and 7,430 dispensatories were opened. A total of 54,725 of 102,214 health staff of the Ministry of Health served their duties and 47,254 of the re maining 48,492 staff committed to CDM activities.

Military medical doctors were transferred to the Ministry of Health and other relevant min isteries to cooperate with dutiful health staff. Dutiful health staff, military medical service person nel and people made concerted efforts for battling Covid-19.

Covid-19 vaccination cov ered 31,013,972 people above 18 from 27 January 2022 to 22 Jan uary 2023 and 6,610,173 persons from 5 to 18 years old.

Myanmar faced a down trend in the economy in 2018 due to weakness in economic and trade management. Then, Covid-19 hit the country to plunge its econo my. So, the country encountered a trade deficit due to importa tion without earning foreign ex change. Just importation without prioritizing domestic manufac turing at home caused many weak points.

SEE PAGE 4

THE government adopted future tasks, visions, national goals and political goals. The government is mainly responsible for achieving the goals with the participa tion of political parties and citizens. Such tasks should not burden the nation while management must be systematically implemented. We all are to move forward and all of the officials concerned are to successfully carry out departmental tasks.

(THE excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting 6/2022 of the Union government on 22 August 2022.)
FROM PAGE-3

Myanmar grasped a 7.26 per cent of GDP rate in the first democratic government term with a US$12.997 billion trade deficit and US$11.63 billion for- eign direct investment. But during the FY of the second term of the government, the GDP rate reached 5.8 per cent, 2017-18 FY 6.4 per cent, six-month mini-budget for 2018, 6.5 per cent, 2018-19 FY 6.8 per cent, 2019-20 FY 3.2 per cent, 2020-21 (six months) -8.4 per cent. Its trade deficit hit US$12.61 billion.

During the period, ex-state counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi committed nine cases of bribes including bribes from the ex-Yangon Region Chief Minister, causing more than US$8 million loss and more than K40,206 mil- lion, while U Win Myint five cases, to lose US$8,088,090 and more than K32,048 million, eight NLD CEC members, 20 re- gional and state chief ministers and former ministers, causing loss of more than US$13 million and more than K361 billion. These were based on abusing authority and bribery cases.

During the period of our government, the national econ- omy has not developed as much as it should have done so partly because of the sanction being imposed by the international community and partly because of the incitements and instiga- tions by the external elements. No loan or aid has been received because of the political situa- tion. Additionally, the loans and assistance which have already been sanctioned are being delayed and the previous government are all stopped. Even the assistance provided by the United Nations and other Intergovernmental Or- ganizations is all stopped. During the 2020-2021 financial year from 1 October to 30 September, the GDP growth rate was minus 5.8 per cent whereas that of the first half of the financial year 2021- 2022 is 2.4 per cent. Nonetheless, the expected GDP growth rate in the 2022-2023 FY is 3.2 per cent. In the promotion of the national economy, emphasis is not laid on imports. Instead, priority is giv- en to promoting manufacturing domestically. At this juncture, MSMEs are major driving forces in the effectuation of national economic development. In such doing, there are three industries — namely, agriculture and livestock breeding sector is the key to the manufac- turing industry. Import substitution industrialization and export promotion are the two strategies to earn foreign income.

Concerning the fourth point of the five-point roadmap, attention will be laid on the implementation of the points agreed in the Nation-Wide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), the successive governments have been exerting utmost ef- forts to attain peace through the employment of various means. Like our predecessors, our gov- ernment has invariably been im- plementing the peace process with the emphasis being laid on the points agreed upon in NCA. Our government and Tatmadaw are strongly confident that peace and prosperity are important to bring about national develop- ment. This is precisely why Tat- madaw announced a ceasefire to ensure lasting peace on 21 December 2018. Not only in 2022 but also for the whole year of 2023 ceasefire has been extended with issuing of 22 announcements. On 22 April 2022, the leaders of the ethnic armed organizations were invited to meet with the Head of State in person for negotiations. Out of the invitees, seven groups have already signed the NCA and three groups which have not yet signed it, totaling 10 groups have given their affirmative reply. Discussions with these groups have already been made three times. During the discussions, matters relating to the pursuit of a genuine multiparty democracy system as well as the building up of the union democracy, unity, en- demicity and federalism dominate the meetings. The demands made by the ethnic armed organizations were discussed frankly in light of what is essential to their regions as well as to the nation as a whole. In oth- er words, the discussions were broad-minded with their minds mainly bent on the interests of the union. Particularly speak- ing, Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the Union Agreement and Schedule 2 were agreed upon. And the agreement was signed.

Regarding the indigenous races, it is believed that national solidarity is vital to the country and so, efforts are being exert- ed to remove all the doubts and distrust to ensure the attainment of enduring peace. In such doing, discussions and negotiations are being held to stop the confrontation and to ensure the introduction of the multiparty democ- racy system, and out of 330 town- ships across the nation, elections were held in 325 townships in the 2010 election while the same was held in 323 and 315 townships in the 2015 and 2020 elections respectively. These figures are deemed commendable but still there is much space to be made weak in the representation of the voter people. Additionally, elections must be held without threatening, coercing or mob rule.

In our period, we would hold the elections in all townships, and in so doing, we would do our utmost to ensure safe voting. To ensure holding of the free and fair elections, necessary meas- ures are being taken to ensure, secure and smooth transporta- tion across the nation as well as to ensure the rule of law and sta- bility and peace. In this regard, the political parties need to make reforms to suit the changes and also need the government to ed- ucate the voter people about the new election system.

Next, the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief was beefed up to talk about security, stability and peace for the election to be held. Afterwards, he justified the taking over the responsibilities of the state. He said that he has done so in accordance with the provisions of the 2008 Constitu- tion. Although the representative elects were told to settle this po- litical issue according to the law, many of them on 5 February 2021 formed CRPH. On 16 April 2021, NUG was formed and PDF was formed on 5 May 2021. They have formed terrorist groups, which later joined KIA, KNU and KNPP to attend the military training courses.

U Win Htein from NLD is- sued a statement to instigate the people into going against Tatmadaw. Thus, those who harboured misunderstanding of the Tatmadaw were made to set their foot on the wrong path. Though they have the right to settle the problem according to the law, they have chosen the confrontation line, spoiling democracy. This has adversely affected the image of the coun- try. The demonstrations and disturbances abated starting in 2021, still with the direct and indirect support from certain EAOs, the PDFs are setting fires, laying mines and killing people. Between 1 February 2021 and 25 January 2023, there have been 4,917 cases of losses and damages of the state-owned and privately owned property, 8,527 cases of bomb explosions, 9,086 cases of assaults, 1,231 cases of arsons, totalling 19,444 cases of terrorism. A total of 5,443 people were killed while 4,577 others were injured. Moreover, 1,021 cases of death on motor roads, 66 cases, on railroads, 137 cases, on bridges, 23 cases, on electric towers and 365 cases, on the telecommunications tow- ers. Additionally, there are also those who were killed in the cases of arson committed on the motor roads, the bridges, the electric towers and the telecommunications towers during which a total of 152 people lost their lives. Lat- terly, they also launched terrorist attacks on election activities. As stated by the state and regional governments, only 198 townships are 100 per cent peaceful while 84 per cent are facing issues of vio- lying security. Certain EAOs are found to be behind terrorist activities. In truth, the PDFs are different from the EAOs.

The list of voters is of prima- ry importance in elections and the exact population is required to be correct and accurate. It was ten years ago, that is, in 2014, that the last census was taken in our country. Therefore, it is necessary to take a new census.

In the current situation, the number of citizens who left the country is not known yet and, due to the terrorist attacks, it is still difficult to calculate the exact population. Therefore, it is to be taken every ten years and so it is the process to go through without fail.

Only when peace and stabil- ity prevail all over the country and there is a situation where everything is normal, will it be possible for general elections to be held in all parts of the coun- try. Therefore, the government is working towards smooth and secure transport, the rule of law, peace and stability which are the sine qua non for general electi- ons. Casting the vote or not is the wish of the election in each and every citizen but the govern- ment will have to take every poss- ible measure for them to cast votes and make sure that they do not lose their democratic right by trying to instigate them to hold elections in parts of the country.

In any age and under any government, Tatmadaw has always regarded the people as their parents and itself as the guardian of the interests of the people.
National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union ...  

FROM PAGE 4

More work and time are required for the prevalence of peace and stability and the holding of the elections and therefore we would like to request the entire mass of people and respective organizations to cooperate with the government.

Then, U T Khun Myat, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw, thanked the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services for his explanation about future work programmes to be carried out by the State Administration Council and suggested seeking the advice of the Constitutional Tribunal.

After that, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Soe Win said that he would like to discuss the holding of free and fair elections. He said that it was because of vote fraud that the SAC had to take the responsibilities of the State, that measures have to be taken to prevent such mistakes and malpractices from happening again, that the Prime Minister has assigned him duties for this, that terrorists are trying to disrupt and hamper the process of taking the correct census and correct list of voters by shooting and killing the public employees and volunteers, that it is necessary to terminate the terrorist acts that started in regions and states in 2021, that the government has signed peace agreements with ten ethnic armed organizations and that some more time is needed to create a situation for people to be able to vote freely.

The Union Minister for Defence said that the government has been trying to solve the problems of terrorists and Covid-19 and has been able to enhance the economic growth of the country during the last two years, but that there are still destructive elements trying to bring ruin to the country and upset the government’s attempt to hold a free and fair election. Therefore, he said that it was for the fact that some more time is still needed to carry out the things to be done.

The Union Minister for Home Affairs said that Tatmadaw has had to take the responsibilities of the State because of the problems resulting from the vote fraud, that terrorists are doing repeated acts of destruction and killing to prevent the elections from taking place although there are no longer demonstrations. He added that some more time is needed for the prevalence of peace and stability, rule of law and the gradual elimination of terrorist groups.

The Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, in his turn, said that holding a free and fair election is a very important requirement for the country, that it was found that there were malpractices in the last elections and that he was in favour of the fact that the State Administration Council has to take some time to work for peace and stability.

The Union Minister for Border Affairs, on his part, said that such terrorist groups as CRPH and NUG and their subordinate PDFs are committing various kinds of destructive acts with the intention of derailing the elections, that more time is required for the prevalence of peace and stability and the successful holding of the elections and that the length of time required should be determined in accordance with the Constitution.

Regarding the presentations by responsible personnel, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services said that he knew that the multiparty democracy is the only path the country has to walk and so he was determined to hold the elections without fail. He continued to say that the 2008 Constitution was approved by 92.48 per cent of the people and Tatmadaw has the duty to safeguard the Constitution, implement the multiparty democracy and hold the elections in every part of the country although EAOs and PDFs are trying to abort the elections. He went on to say that all EAOs that have had peace talks with SAC accept the Union system based on democracy and federalism, and that democracy will prevail all over the country only when indigenous nations have discussed the points included in the NCA. And political parties have to register in accordance with the political parties registration law and have enough time to wage election campaigns. For all this, he said, enough time should be given. Finally, he emphasized that measures would have to be taken for rural people, who are 70 per cent of the entire population, to be able to cast the vote and so it is found that national peace and stability are essential. Therefore, he said he supposed that the extension of six months was required and he would report the general situation of the country after six months.

Then, the special invitee Union Minister for Legal Affairs and Attorney-General of the Union Dr Thida Oo discussed that Sections 410 to 432 of the 2008 Constitution are the provisions for the State of Emergency. Section 425 states the permit for two extensions of the prescribed duration for a term of six months for each extension normally. The word “normally” mentioned in the Constitution highlights that it should consider the unusual or exceptional situation. One should look at the Letter of Law and Spirit of Law when studying a certain law and it needs to look at the Spirit of Law.

Then, the Pro Temp President U Myint Swe said the Senior General widely explained the implementations as per the five-point roadmap, nine objectives, two national tasks and two political tasks. He also appreciated the efforts of the government and Tatmadaw upholding the “Three Main National Causes” despite the problems of terrorists and counter-terrorist attacks in the country by cooperating with the insurgents. Therefore, Tatmadaw focuses on the stability of the State, community peace and tranquility and the country’s return to a better situation than before. But the internal and external opposition organizations accelerate their attempts to disrupt the State stability and election processes.

It can be also seen that all the national brethren across the nation participate in the measures for holding the free and fair-party democratic election not to miss the democratic rights and the emergence of the PR system. It should make efforts not to be lower than the constituencies of the 2010 general election. The government will create a certain situation to ensure transport, the rule of law and stability.

He continued that the duration of the State of Emergency is extended to further six months starting 1 February 2023 based on the decisions made by the members of the National Defence and Security Council and under Section 423 of the Constitution and the State responsibilities are also assigned to the SAC Chairmain Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services again under Section 419 of the Constitution. The National Defence and Security Council will also release the statement.

He then called on the participants to participate in the holding of elections across the nation to ensure the free expression of individual voters urging Tatmadaw to protect the 2008 Constitution for the country and ethnic people and concluded the meeting 1/2023.

MNA

Application for registering as political party announced

TO establish political parties in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the State Administration Council published the Political Parties Registration Law on 26 January 2023 under the State Administration Council Law No 15/2023. The Union Election Commission (UEC) released “Political Parties Registrations Rules” under Announced No 10/2023, “Establishment of political parties and registration” and “Continuity of political parties and registration” under Announcement No 2/2023 and No 3/2023 on 31 January 2023.

In keeping with the legal provisions governing the registration of political parties, UEC is scrutinizing the registration applications. Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) came to UEC for registering as a political party on 1 February 2023, it is learnt.

— MNA/KZW
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No 5/2023
12th Waxing of Tabodwe 1384 ME
1 February 2023

Reorganization of State Administration Council

THE State Administration Council is reorganized as follows under Section 419 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

(1) Senior General Min Aung Hlaing
(2) Vice-Senior General Soe Win
(3) Lt-Gen Aung Lin Dwe
(4) Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo
(5) General Mya Tun Oo
(6) Admiral Tin Aung San
(7) Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun
(8) Lt-Gen Soe Htut
(9) Lt-Gen Yan Pyae
(10) U Wunna Maung Lwin
(11) Daw Dwe Bu
(12) Porel Aung Thein
(13) Khun San Lwin
(14) Dr Kyaw Tun
(15) U Maung Ko
(16) Dr Aung Kyaw Min
(17) Dr Kyaw Tun
(18) U Aung Naing Oo
(19) Khin San Lwin
(20) U Yan Kyaw

Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
State Administration Council

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No 6/2023
12th Waxing of Tabodwe 1384 ME
1 February 2023

Reorganization of Union Government

THE State Administration Council has reorganized the Union Government as follows for the emergence of a modern, developed, genuine and disciplined democratic nation and for the benefit of the nation and the entire ethnic people:

(1) Prime Minister
(2) Deputy Prime Minister
(3) Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Defence
(4) Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Home Affairs
(5) Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications
(6) Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Planning and Finance
(7) Union Minister for Foreign Affairs
(8) Union Minister for Union Government Office
(9) Union Minister for Border Affairs
(10) Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations
(11) Union Minister for International Cooperation
(12) Union Minister for Legal Affairs
(13) Union Minister for Information
(14) Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture
(15) Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation
(16) Union Minister for Cooperatives and Rural Development
(17) Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
(18) Union Minister for Electric Power
(19) Union Minister for Energy
(20) Union Minister for Industry
(21) Union Minister for Immigration and Population
(22) Union Minister for Labour
(23) Union Minister for Commerce
(24) Union Minister for Education
(25) Union Minister for Science and Technology
(26) Union Minister for Health
(27) Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs
(28) Union Minister for Construction
(29) Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
(30) Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism
(31) Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs
(32) Permanent Secretary of Union Government Office

Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Chairman
State Administration Council
The State Administration Council has appointed U Sit Aye as Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board under Section 419 of the Constitution.

By order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

The State Administration Council has allowed U Zaw Lin Tun, Chief Minister of Mon State, to retire from the duty assignment under Section 419 of the Constitution.

By order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

The State Administration Council has transferred and assigned the following persons shown against each organization under Section 419 of the Constitution.

(1) Dr Aung Zeya
    Deputy Minister
    Ministry of Science and Technology
(2) U Than Win
    Member
    Union Civil Service Board

By order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

The State Administration Council has appointed Dr Htay Aung as Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission under Section 419 of the Constitution.

By order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

The State Administration Council has appointed and assigned the following persons as Chief Ministers shown against each Region and State under Section 419 of the Constitution.

(1) U Myo Aung
    Mandalay Region
(2) U Aung Kyi Thein
    Mon State
(3) U Htein Lin
    Rakhine State
(4) U Aung Zaw Aye
    Shan State

By order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

The State Administration Council has allowed the following persons to retire from the duty assignment under Section 419 of the Constitution.

(1) U Saw Ba Hlaing
    Member, Union Election Commission
(2) Dr Ba Maung
    Member, Union Election Commission
(3) U Min Min Oo
    Member, Union Election Commission
(4) U Zaw Win
    Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education
(5) Daw Khin Cho Ohn
    Member, Anti-Corruption Commission

By order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council
**OPINION**

*Educate new generations to conserve wetlands for the existence of wildlife.*

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**ARTICLE**

*The Blue Circle of the Geological Society of India: Contributions to the Geology of India*  
By THAN HTUN (GEOSECIENCE 缅甸地质学会/Myanmar Geological Society)

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**Epidote5**

In November 1898. From January 1899 to July 1899, his services were placed at the disposal of the Geological Survey, and he was made a Superintendent in 1899. He was also transferred to the rail line under construction between Myitkyina and Melford. He and Ferrey, are more than eight years further from Lower Sillerton such as Seikhe Imnotoe, Red Crinoid beds, Nyaungmar beds, Nang Kyang beds, Zoeping beds, Mawmaw Imnotoe, Kjyni beds, and Namaung beds. He further interesting of the new formations discovered are the black graphite shales with the underlying dolomite beds of the Zoeping beds. The grapto- lites and red beds are well seen in the railway cuttings on either side of Zoeping Railway Station. They also occur in the low hills about two miles north of Myitkyina. Mr. La Thone collected a large number of the older rocks appears long

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The authors as well as parents of families in society need to educate their offspring as well as postenly to conserve wetlands as an act of protecting themselves and their society. In a bid to mitigate climate change, Myanmar people need to cooperate with global people in developing and expanding wetlands as home to beings.

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**Gold**

Gold is found in the Northern Shan States of northern Myanmar, the mineral being collected as gems to be transformed into gemstones. The principal formations found in the Northern Shan States near the Kolar and Wynaad Ranges.

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**Economic Aspect**

By mining the gold in the future. According to Dr Noetling, the fauna of the Miocene of Burma does not share any relations with the fauna of the Miocene of Europe, but two of the species of the Miocene of Java and Sumatra on one side and the fauna of the Miocene of eastern India on the other. Mineral Exploration

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The most important areas in the Burmese portion of SE Asia are the lower part of the River Irrawaddy near Bhamo, and the country north of Bhamo.

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**Economic Aspect**

By mining the gold in the future. According to Dr Noetling, the fauna of the Miocene of Burma does not share any relations with the fauna of the Miocene of Europe, but two of the species of the Miocene of Java and Sumatra on one side and the fauna of the Miocene of eastern India on the other.

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**Economic Aspect**

By mining the gold in the future. According to Dr Noetling, the fauna of the Miocene of Burma does not share any relations with the fauna of the Miocene of Europe, but two of the species of the Miocene of Java and Sumatra on one side and the fauna of the Miocene of eastern India on the other.

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**Economic Aspect**

By mining the gold in the future. According to Dr Noetling, the fauna of the Miocene of Burma does not share any relations with the fauna of the Miocene of Europe, but two of the species of the Miocene of Java and Sumatra on one side and the fauna of the Miocene of eastern India on the other.
Spinal; rubies: Major Hobday of the Survey of India reported his discovery by him of numerous crystals of spinel in the recent deposits near the junction of the Pungin Kha and Mali Kha, north of the confluence. I myself have met with very minute fragments of such crystals in the sands and recent alluvium of the Irrawaddi below Myitkyina, where the heavy iron sand which is left in the cradles along with gold flakes when washing the sands for the latter, is often largely mixed with the fine splinters of spinal crystals. The deposits near the Pungin Kha contain these crystals in the same manner as the alluvial gravels near Wutu, and I have no doubt that they are derived from some metamorphic rock (perhaps crystalline limestone) still farther north.

From the foregoing, it appears, therefore, that there are widely extended alluvial deposits in the Upper Irrawaddi valley, which are already known to contain gold, spinal, and possibly also rubies. By far the greater part of the area which is formed by these alluvial deposits is practically a desert, as very few, if any, settlements exist there, and thus the country may be looked upon as a particularly favourable field of enterprise for mining purposes if the labour difficulties could be overcome.

Reference: Record of Geological Survey of India. 1892: Vol. XXV.

13 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 1 February, total figure rises to 633,833

MYANMAR’s COVID-19 positive cases rose to 633,833 after 13 new cases were reported on 1 February 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached 61,402, including three new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country reached 19,490 on 1-2-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. The country has vaccinated 30,911,217 people aged 18 and above for COVID-19 vaccines and 6,810,943 people aged under 18 till 31 January 2023.

Status of COVID-19 vaccination (as of 31 January 2023)

| People aged 18 and above who received vaccines | 30,911,217 |
| People under 18 years old who received vaccines | 6,810,943 |

According to the research, it is found that people who have been vaccinated do not suffer severely from the disease, need not to be hospitalized and unlikely to die. If they have received booster shot, the death rates can be reduced more. COVID-19 information can be browsed on the internet page moh.gov.mm

13 children with congenital heart disease successfully treated at 550-bed Children’s Hospital (Yangon)

PEDIATRIC Cardiologist Dr Do Nguyen Tin from Children’s Hospital 1 Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, together with paediatric cardiologists led by Professor Dr Khin Maung Oo treated children with congenital heart disease using the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory without the need for surgery.

A total of 13 children with congenital heart disease were successfully treated from 15 to 16 December 2022 at the Heart Treatment Centre of 550-bed Children’s Hospital, Yangon under the Ministry of Health.

The condition of the six children is good and the rest seven children will be re-examined in March 2023.

Children’s heart disease treatments are performed by paediatric cardiologists at the 550-bed Children’s Hospital, Yangon. By inviting expert paediatric cardiologists from abroad, a total of 1,403 children with heart disease have been successfully treated from August 2015 to date.

Paediatric Cardiologist Dr Do Nguyen Tin from Viet Nam, Ho Chi Minh City, Children’s Hospital frequently collaborates with paediatric cardiologists at the 550-bed Children’s Hospital, Yangon to successfully treat children with heart disease.

At the 550-bed Children’s Hospital, Yangon, 33,624 children were treated as outpatients, and treatments were given to 1,534 child patients with echocardiogram treatment and 88 paediatric patients who underwent Cardiac Catheterization Procedures from January 2022 to December 2022.

— MNA/MKKS

Special ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Energy, ACE Governing Council Meeting conducted

THE Special ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Energy-Special SOME and the ASEAN Centre for Energy-ACE Governing Council Meeting were carried out by Cambodia as an alternate chairman through a video-conferencing system on 31 January and 1 February.

The meeting was attended by U Than Zaw, Myanmar Senior Official on Energy-SOE Leader and permanent secretary of the Ministry of Energy, and officials from related departments.

At the Special SOME, the cooperation matters on the energy between ASEAN countries, the second stage of the 2016-2025 ASEAN Energy Sector Cooperation Programme and the cooperation measures performed by Cambodia which served as alternate chairman in 2022 were reviewed and approved.

Next, officials continued on ASEAN energy cooperation sub-sectors: the ASEAN Petroleum Council, Coal and Refinery Technology Division, ASEAN Electric Power Sector, Energy efficiency and energy saving sub-sector, renewable energy sub-sector, regional energy policy and management sub-sector, and urban nuclear power sub-sector plans to continue related to the policy-making body network in the energy sector and promotion sectors of ACE which will be taken responsibilities by Indonesia in 2023 and priority procedures on the energy sector which ran under the ASEAN Economic Community.

In addition, the ACE Governing Council Meeting followed, and ASEAN senior officials on energy confirmed connected activities with partner countries and international partnerships in the Energy Sector for the implementation of ACE’s APAEC 2016-2023. Likewise, financial matters, personnel matters, administrative matters, and procedures for organizing the associated meetings which were to be held jointly with the 41st Ministers’ Meeting on Energy were examined and approved by officials. — MNA/CT

The SOME meeting and the ACE Governing Council meeting are in progress online on 31 January and 1 February.
Japanese companies to recruit over 1,000 Myanmar workers

THE Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo announced on 31 January that 312 Japanese companies will recruit more than 1,000 Myanmar workers.

The statement said Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo is screening demand letters sent by the Ministry of Labour through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a timely manner.

The Myanmar Embassy is verifying, with a labor inspection company, whether the companies and factories recruiting Myanmar workers are legally established or not. The remarks and findings on those verifications will be returned to the Ministry of Labour.

The Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo verified demand letters from 17 to 31 January 2023 and the notification for 312 job offer letters was released. A total of 312 Japanese companies have planned to recruit over 1,043 Myanmar workers, according to the notification.—TWA/MKKS

Aung Bar Lay lottery tickets worth over K4,700 mln sold in Jan

The Myanmar Embassy is legally established or not. The remarks and findings on those verifications will be returned to the Ministry of Labour.

AUNG Bar Lay lottery tickets worth more than K4,700 million were sold out in January 2023 and sales increased over the previous month, according to a statement from the Aung Bar Lay Branch of the Internal Revenue Department on 31 January.

More than 4.7 million tickets were sold in January earning over K4,700 million. It is announced that more than K3,300 million, 70 per cent of the sales, will be awarded as lottery prizes.

The sale of above 4.3 million lottery tickets in December brought proceeds of over K4,300 million. Compared to January’s sales of over K4,700 million, lottery sales in January increased by about K400 million.

The opening of the Aung Bar Lay lottery was held on 1 February and there was only a special prize of K500 million, and the number of K10 million, K20 million, K10 million, K5 million, K2 million and K1 million prizes were increased. —TWA/CT

Green gram price climbs in late Jan 2023, yet not reaching last year’s record price

ON 30 January 2023, the price of green gram rose in Yangon markets. However, the price has not surpassed the record price in the second week of August 2022, said a trader.

In mid-August 2022, the green gram prices peaked at K2,665-2,690 per viss from upper Myanmar regions and K3,165-3,500 from Kayan area, Yangon market’s daily price release indicated.

Green gram fetched K2,500-2,635 per viss from Pakokku area, K2,600-2,900 from Kayan area, K2,500-2,950 from Pakokku, K2,580-2,585 from Pakokku and K2,680-2,420 from Wakema area respectively.

In August 2022, the price of pulses hit a record high of K2.1 million per tonne of black gram and K2.175,000 per tonne of pigeon pea (red gram).

The market observer pointed out that the prevailing market prices of pulses have not exceeded the record price last year.

On 17 October 2015, the prices of black gram hit an all-time record high of K2,450,000 per tonne (Fair average quality/RC) and K2,656,000 (special quality/RC) when the Kyat-US dollar exchange rate was around K1.280.

Kyat depreciated at K2,400 against the US dollar in 2022 and the highest price of black gram was only K2.1 million per tonne.

In 2015, green gram prices stood at K2,665-2,670 per viss from Kayan area, K2,565-2,570 from Pakokku, K2,580-2,585 from Wakema area respectively.

The green gram is primarily cultivated in Kayan-Thongwa areas, Yangon Region where high-grade green gram is produced. They fetch the highest price as well. This year, about 200,000 tonnes of green gram is planned to be grown in Yangon Region.

The yield rate is 10 baskets per acre and the gross profit is around K400,000 per acre when it is calculated on prevailing price after deducting cultivation cost.

Mandalay market has a roaring trade of green gram when border posts resumed. Quality of pulses depends on climate conditions, post-harvest handling methods and seed quality, Ko Win Shwe, a grower, told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

When supply outstrips demand, the price usually increases at the end of the month.

The bulk supply of green gram is likely to happen in mid-February. When supply exceeds demand, there is less chance to raise the price. The growers are expected to sell their stocks out with the current market price.

The growers receive a handsome profit regardless of high cultivation input costs in late 2022 and Q1 2023.—TWA/EM

Myanmar-China trade volume exceeds US$2 bln from April 2022 to half of Jan 2023

THE trade volume between Myanmar and China reached up to US$2,159.412 million between April 2022 and half of January 2023 in the financial year 2022-2023, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The export value was $1,801.501 million and the import value was $357.911 million.

Myanmar conducts cross-border trade with China through such border posts as Muse, Lweje, Chinshwehaw, Kampaiti, and Kengtung and the trade volume through the Muse border alone amounted to 90 per cent of the total.

Between April 2022 and half of January 2023, Myanmar’s trade through Muse was valued at $1,762.051 million. The trade values were registered at $1,655.735 million on the Lweje border and $215.603 million in Chinshwehaw. The Kampaiti border earned worth $69.416 million and the Kengtung border witnessed trade worth $9.607 million.—TWA/MKKS

The 43rd Aung Bar Lay Lottery.

The opening of the Aung Bar Lay lottery was held on 1 February and there was only a special prize of K500 million, and the number of K10 million, K20 million, K10 million, K5 million, K2 million and K1 million prizes were increased. —TWA/CT

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Pope Francis denounces ‘economic colonialism’ in Africa

POPE Francis on Tuesday condemned what he termed “economic colonialism” in Africa, on the first day of a trip to the mineral-rich Democratic Republic of Congo.

In a speech at the presidential palace in the capital Kinshasa, Francis suggested the DRC’s history had been braked by conflict and a history of foreign domination.

“Political exploitation gave way to an economic colonialism that was equally enslaving,” the 86-year-old declared, referring to Congo’s history.

“As a result, this country, massively plundered, has not benefited adequately from its immense resources,” he told an audience of Congolese politicians and other dignitaries, speaking in Italian.

“Stop choking Africa: It is not a mine to be stripped or a terrain to be plundered,” the Argentine pontiff added, to applause. —AFP

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Daw La Min May, H.G.P.
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Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (URC), Corner of Mahabandoola Road & Then Phy Road, Botataung Tsp, Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated 2nd February 2023

lmj@kcyangon.com

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (191N/5)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (191N/5) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-2-2023 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185
Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority
Agent For:
M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V KOTA HIDAYAH VOY.NO. (KHDY0334N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KOTA HIDAYAH VOY.NO. (KHDY0334N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-2-2023 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185
Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority
Agent For:
M/S PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL LINES

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V PLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3303S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V PLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3303S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-2-2023 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185
Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority
Agent For:
M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE

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Hotel-shopping complex opens at Tokyo’s Haneda airport

A hospitality complex featuring Japan’s largest airport hotel, an open-air bath and a range of shops and restaurants opened next to Tokyo’s Haneda airport Tuesday after a nearly three-year delay due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The full opening of Haneda Airport Garden, a 12-story compound connected to the airport’s Terminal 3, which primarily serves international flights, comes as Japan aims to welcome back inbound travelers after easing its border controls last year.

Higher costs drag Caterpillar profits lower

CATERPILLAR reported a drop in profits Tuesday as higher costs and the drag from the strong dollar offset the lift from buoyant demand in industrial markets.

This manufacturer of machine equipment for the construction, resource and energy sectors saw continued healthy demand across its businesses. But executives cited increased materials costs amid lingering supply chain problems as a drag, while also pointing to a hit from higher freight costs.

Net profits for the fourth quarter came in at $1.5 billion, down 31.4 percent from the year-ago period, while revenues rose 20.3 percent to $16.6 billion.—AFP
Beijing releases plan for Central Axis protection ahead of world heritage list application

A protection plan for Beijing’s Central Axis was released last weekend ahead of its application to become a UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) World Heritage Site. The plan, from 2022 to 2035, for the first time specified the heritage zone and buffer zone of the conservation area.

According to the plan, the heritage zone covers an area of about 5.9 square kilometres, including 15 heritage sites such as the Forbidden City and the Temple of Heaven. The buffer zone covers 45.4 square kilometres.

A local official with the office for cultural heritage application and protection said that the plan is necessary for Beijing’s application for its Central Axis to be included in the UNESCO World Heritage Site list. The official also remarked that the plan marks a new step in the conservation work. First created in the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), the Beijing Central Axis, or Zhongzhouxian, stretches 7.8 kilometres between the Yongdingmen Gate in the south of the city and the Drum Tower and Bell Tower in the north. Most of the major old-city buildings of Beijing sit along this axis.

The Beijing municipal government started preparation work for the world cultural heritage application of the Central Axis project in 2011. It was included in the preliminary list of China’s world cultural heritage in 2012.—Xinhua

Jewish heirs sue Guggenheim over Picasso sold to flee Nazis

WHEN Karl and Rosi Adler fled the Nazis in 1938 they sold a Pablo Picasso painting to fund their escape. Now, their descendants are suing to get it back. Heirs of the Adlers, who were German Jews, have filed a lawsuit against New York’s Guggenheim Museum, where the artwork has hung since 1978.

The plaintiffs say they are the rightful owners of Picasso’s 1904 oil on canvas “Woman Ironing,” and estimate it to be worth between $100 million and $200 million. The Guggenheim is fighting the claim, describing it as “without merit,” with the case appearing to be heading for a civil trial.

The suit, filed in a Manhattan court on 20 January, says Karl Adler bought the painting in 1916 from Heinrich Thanhauser, a Jewish gallery owner in Munich. At the time, Karl, who ran a leading leather manufacturing company, and Rosi were living “a prosperous life” in Baden-Baden, in southwest Germany.—AFP

Philippine President Marcos to visit Japan next week: govt

PHILIPPINE President Ferdinand Marcos Jr will visit Japan next week for talks with Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, the government said Wednesday.

The visit was announced at a time when Tokyo and Manila are arranging the deportation of four Japanese suspects believed to be behind a string of robberies across Japan.

During his five-day trip starting next Wednesday, Marcos and his wife are also expected to meet with Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno said at a press conference.

Japan hopes the official visit by the Philippine president will help deepen bilateral relations, the top government spokesman said. In early January, Marcos expressed a wish to visit Tokyo, saying the Philippines is “seen as an important part of maintaining” regional security “in partnership with friends” such as Japan and other nations in the Indo-Pacific region.—Kyodo

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Imm@ckyangon.com
Peru’s Congress again delays decision on early elections, as protesters stand firm

UK police unveil reforms decades after Hillsborough disaster

EU lawmakers back lifting MEPs’ immunity in graft probe

US charges four more in assassination of Haitian president
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.

MFF mutually part company with head coach Antione Hey

THE Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) has mutually terminated the contract with German coach Antoine Hey, who served as the head coach of the Myanmar national football team, on the morning of 30 January.

Hey was appointed as the head coach of the Myanmar national team in October 2019 and has a contract with MFF until October 2023.

Along with Hey, assistant coach Herlad’s contract has also been cancelled and a suitable head coach and coaching staff will be appointed for the upcoming international tournaments.

Antoine Hey also acted as head coach of the Myanmar national team from May to December 2018, and after the 2018 Suzuki Cup, the team company eliminated from the group stage, and they parted company by mutual decision.

In October 2019, he took charge of the Myanmar national team for the second time.

— KZL

Playing regrets the spur for new England coach Borthwick

STEVE Borthwick heads into his first match as England head coach, a Calcutta Cup clash against Scotland at Twickenham on Saturday, determined to ensure the team avoid making the same mistakes that marred his international career.

The 43-year-old former lock won 57 caps from 2001-10 and was England’s captain in 21 of those Tests.

Yet the sense of what might have been still lingers for Borthwick, left out by then coach Clive Woodward from the 2003 England squad that went on to win the World Cup.

Things changed when Martin Johnson, himself an outstanding second row, took charge after a 2007 World Cup where Borthwick was a bit-part player as England made it to the final only to lose to South Africa.

Johnson, a World Cup-winning skipper, appointed Borthwick, renowned for his care in planning line-out strategy, captain. It was a tough time, however, with England losing 11 matches in 20.__—AFP

Newcastle sink Saints to end 47-year wait to reach League Cup final

EDDIE Howe hailed Newcastle as “a club on the up” after they reached the League Cup final for the first time in 47 years with a 2-1 win against Southampton in Tuesday’s semi-final second leg at jubilant St James’ Park.

Sean Longstaff’s first-half double ensured Howe’s side finished the job after winning 1-0 in the first leg last week.

Che Adams reduced the deficit before the interval and Magpies midfielder Bruno Guimaraes was sent off in the closing stages.

But Newcastle held on to clinch a 3-1 aggregate victory that booked a final date with Manchester United or Nottingham Forest at Wembley on 26 February.

United hold a 3-0 lead against Forest heading into Wednesday’s second leg at Old Trafford.

The Magpies’ most recent domestic final ended in defeat against United in the 1999 FA Cup.

“You want to be in finals of competitions to increase your status and make yourself more desirable for people to join. This is a club on the up,” Howe said. “It was an intense game. At 2-0, we were playing really well. We are going for everything. As much as we can achieve, we will go for” —AFP