

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## The Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council: Five-Point Road Map

1. Priority will be given to fully realizing peace, stability and rule of law throughout the Union to safeguard the socioeconomic life of the people.
2. People-centred development work that enhances socioeconomic well-being will be undertaken to ensure the country's prosperity and food security.
3. Processes will further continue to consolidate a genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system and build a Union based on democracy and federalism.
4. Priority will be accorded to work aligned with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement, in order to achieve enduring peace for the entire nation.
5. Upon accomplishing the provisions of the state of emergency, free and fair multiparty democratic elections will be held in line with the 2008 Constitution, and further work will be undertaken to hand over State duties to the winning party in accordance with democratic standards.

## All State-owned media and Tatmadaw media need to rebut accusations while organizing the strength of righteous local and external media: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views the work process of the Myawady TV station in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

**E**VERYBODY can see that Myawady TV, a part of the Tatmadaw, has dutifully served its assignment as the fourth estate in successive eras, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on the 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Myawady TV at No 2 Tatmadaw TV Broadcasting Unit under the Directorate of

Public Relations and Psychological Warfare of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) in Taungnyo of Ottarathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday afternoon.

### Warmly welcome

On arrival at No 2 Tatmadaw TV Broadcasting Unit, the Senior General and party were welcomed by the Director of Public Relations and Psycholog-

ical Warfare and officials.

The staff of Myawady TV presented the song "Myawady for All" with dance and a video clip on the background history of units and depots under the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare and the accomplishment of missions and visions and tasks presented.

The 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Myawady TV was also attended

by SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and senior military officers, the SAC Joint Secretary and SAC members, Union-level officials and other officials.

### Giving an honorary speech

In his address, the Senior General said that human so-

ciety is in progress on a daily basis. Sharing information with each other in society is a part of public relations. As such, the No 2 TV broadcasting unit (Nay Pyi Taw) was established on 19 June 2009 and commissioned into service on 26 March 2012. Myawady TV has been bridging the gap between the Tatmadaw and the people today since its establishment.

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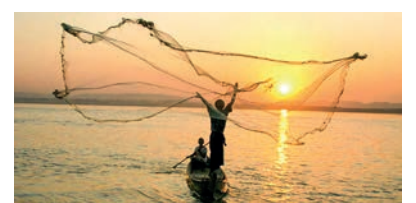
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#### CURRENT AFFAIRS

Action to be taken against poachers of berried giant freshwater prawns

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## Public notice on installation of new embossed number plates

THE Road Transport Administration Department has issued Notifications regarding the installation of new embossed number plates not later than 31-3-2023. The department also makes operations as convenient as possible.

Currently, the deadline has come and there are still some vehicles to change and install new embossed number plates. It will recognize April 2023 as the period of educating programmes and actions will be taken over that period.

Therefore, the vehicle owners are urged again to contact the relevant RTAD offices to install new embossed license plates.

*Road Transport Administration Department*

## Public Notice for Elimination of Violence

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

## Myanmar, India hold preliminary business meeting

THE preliminary meeting of the UMFCFI's Services Industry Development Committee and the Indian business delegation was held on 3 April in a hybrid system.

The meeting was attended by Committee Chairman U Myo Thant, Vice-Chairs U Aung Zeya Lwin and U Soe Naing, Secretaries Dr Lu Mon and Daw Hla Hla Yi, IR Vice-Chair U Moe Kyaw and invitees.

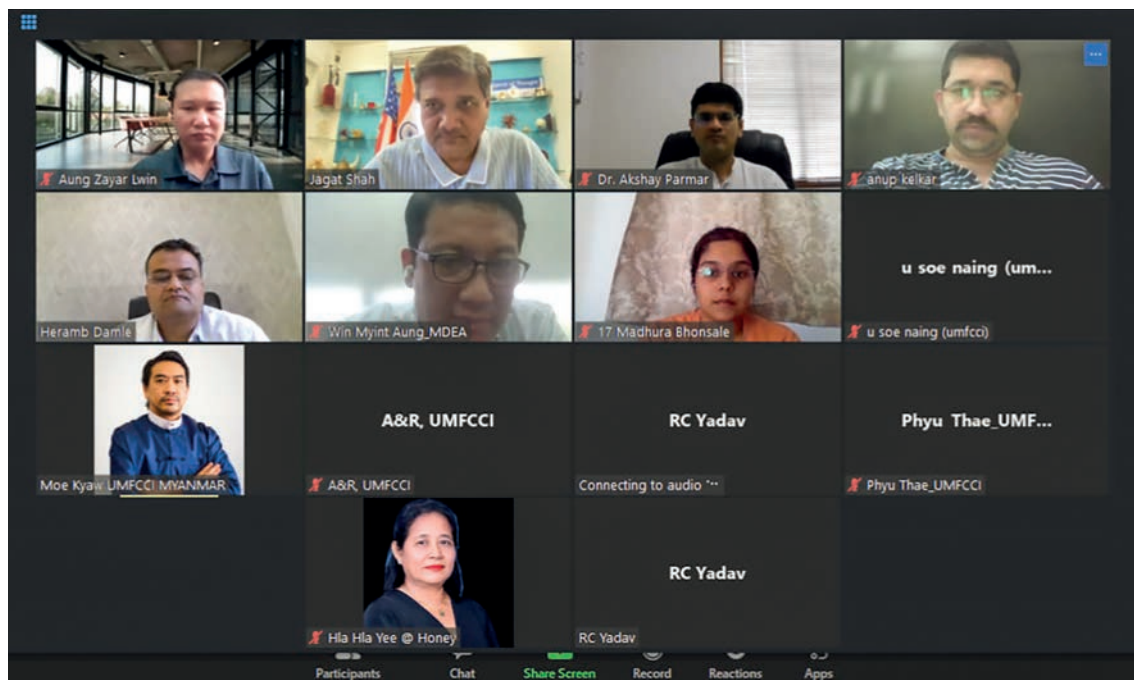
The Indian delegation led by Dr Jagat Shah, members of Indian service companies (healthcare, IT, market research) and Counselor Mr RC Yadav from the Indian Embassy attended the meeting.

The Indian delegation is

scheduled to visit Myanmar in April 2023 and they are service and trade-related companies providing services to hospitals and health centres, healthcare, pharmaceutical and medical advisory groups, health and travel services, medical treatment and private hospital construction works.

Their visit aims to have discussions with health and trade associations and companies from Myanmar. — MNA/TS

The preliminary business meeting between Myanmar and India in progress virtually.



Federation of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association FMGEA, offering the application letters for precious metals dealers registration certificates to General Administration Department of respective townships



Federation of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association FMGEA, Ministry of Home Affairs, Central Bank of Myanmar, Financial Intelligence Unit-FIU and General Administration Department (the supervising authority of precious metals dealers) have together conducted a knowledge-upgrading course on processes of Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism – AML/CFT, from 26 February 2023 to 27 February 2023 at 9:30 am-4:30 pm.

And, on this day of 1 April 2023, as the preliminary first step of anti-money laundering process, 15 application forms for registration and recognizing the precious metal dealers are handed over to the General Administration Department of respective townships by FMGEA at their office.

## Notification on appointment date for trademark registration application

1. According to Order No 63/2020 for registration under the Trademark Law, trademark registration applications can be submitted at the Department of Intellectual Property starting 3 April 2023.
2. There is an online appointment system under the e-Services category at the website of the Department of Intellectual Property, [www.ipd.gov.mm](http://www.ipd.gov.mm). The appointment processes are as follows:
  - (a) Enter the e-Services at the homepage of the website of the Department of Intellectual Property, [www.ipd.gov.mm](http://www.ipd.gov.mm).
  - (b) Select the locations (Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon)
  - (c) Select the date for application and mention the number of applications.
  - (d) Fill up the applicant's name, CSC number, phone number and e-mail address.
  - (e) After filling up the data, the applicants must press Submit Button to get an appointment date.
  - (f) Then, the Department of Intellectual Property will send a reply, informing the receipt of letter for the appointment date via [deptip.infotech@ipd.gov.mm](mailto:deptip.infotech@ipd.gov.mm).
3. People can contact the undermentioned help desks regarding the making of appointment.

Nay Pyi Taw — No 52 Office Building, Ministry of Commerce, Nay Pyi Taw, 067-430594

Yangon — No 228/240, Strand Road, Pabedan Township, Yangon, 01-8380265

Mandalay — 35 street, 63x64 streets, Export/Import Office, Department of Trade

The Upper Myanmar Office Branch (Mandalay) will be opened on 18 April 2023.

*Department of Intellectual Property*

## Conservation and rehabilitation measures needed for previous environmental degradation

While striving for development, natural resources must be utilized in a prudent and sensible manner giving due consideration to the future of the State and the next generations. As such, it is necessary to conduct environmental conservation and rehabilitation measures for past environmental degradation.

*(Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudamma Min Aung Hlaing on 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Diamond Jubilee) Independence Day ceremony on 4 January 2023)*

## All State-owned media and Tatmadaw media need to rebut ...

### FROM PAGE-1

From the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armed Forces Day, Myawady TV has been transformed into a high-definition (HD) system to improve the work processes.

Myawady TV broadcast the images of the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games and 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet hosted by Myanmar and the conveyance and building of the Maravijaya Buddha Image as historical performances. So far, Myawady TV has built digital TV retransmission stations and arranged proper presentation of digital TV lines in 145 towns across the nation.

All audiences of Myawady Media Group, dailies, TV and radio stations can watch news and information on nation-building endeavours and interests for nationalities and religions as well as peace talks with a genuine nationalistic spirit.

Some media do not follow media ethics and present information with bias and unfairness. They attempt to tarnish images of the Tatmadaw and its efforts for proper public re-



The Senior General watches the song performance of the Myawady TV staff yesterday.



lations. All State-owned media and Tatmadaw media need to rebut the accusations while organizing the strength of righteous local and external media.

Tatmadaw has been focusing on the interests of the State and the people throughout its history without urging anyone into nation-building endeavours. Everybody can see that Myawady TV, a part of the Tatmadaw, has dutifully served its assignment as the fourth estate in successive eras. Hence, the

Senior General expressed his firm belief that Myawady TV will constantly preserve its fine traditions and history.

The Senior General stressed that Myawady TV, Myawady Literature House, Myawady Daily and Yadanabon Daily as well as Thazin Radio Station serving media duties of the Tatmadaw have to present exact and news and follow media ethics. They have to initiate the developing media process. Myawady TV has to inform, ed-

ucate, perform and organize the audiences by bridging the divide between the Tatmadaw and the people and try to become a reliable media of the State and the people.

### Awarding outstanding staff

The Senior General awarded Captain Soe Moe Kyaw who secured the youth literature genre of the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Contest for 2021, Captain Thet Naung in the child literature genre for 2021 and Corporal Aung Aung Htet and Warrant Officer (II) (Substitution) Daw Thanda Lin for Myawady entertainment troupe who secured the prize in singing, dancing and playing music event of the traditional culture contest of International Army Games held in Russia.

The director of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare presented the commemorative gift to the Senior General.

### Presenting cash awards

The Senior General presented cash awards for officers, other ranks and families of Myawady TV to the director and officials. The Senior General enjoyed the song entertainment of the staff of Myawady TV.

After the ceremony, the Senior General inspected the work process of Myawady TV

station of the No 2 TV Broadcasting Unit and instructed all to modernize presentations in conformity with the current era and systematically perform editing and broadcasting the news.

The Senior General also viewed round the booths on the progress of the relations units under the directorate and their performances and machinery used in the past and screening the movies.

The Senior General put his signatures on the signing booth of the Myawady TV anniversary occasion and the visitors' book of the No 2 Tatmadaw TV Broadcasting Unit.

Myawady TV was commissioned into service on the Golden Jubilee (50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) Armed Forces Day on 27 March 1995. No 2 Tatmadaw TV Broadcasting Unit was established on 19 June 2009 and successfully commissioned into service by the SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services on 26 March 2012. Myawady TV is standing tall as a dutiful media for the State, the people and the Tatmadaw with the aim of informing, educating, performing and organizing in order that the Tatmadaw and the people have a sense of oneness with each other. — MNA/TTA



The Senior General signs the booth of the Myawady TV anniversary occasion and the guest book of the No 2 Tatmadaw TV Broadcasting Unit.

## DPM MoTC Union Minister attends MMMC 14<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony

THE Myanmar Mercantile Marine College (MMMC) held its 14<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony at the college parade ground in Yangon yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, the deputy minister, the regional security and border affairs minister, the transport minister and the Yangon Mayor and relevant officials.

First, the graduate company marched and saluted the Union minister. Then, he presented the awards to outstanding cadets.

He also delivered a graduation speech adding the glorious history of MMMC over 50 years and explained job opportunities for the graduate officers in the water transport sector under the ministry or by linking with foreign shipping companies and the need to make efforts in worksites based on the skills and to become



SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister MoTC Union Minister Admiral Tin Aung San speaks on the 14<sup>th</sup> graduation occasion of the Myanmar Mercantile Marine College in Yangon yesterday.



good citizens to keep abreast of the international countries.

He then highlighted the speech delivered by the Head of the State during his visit to MMMC and the need to serve the duties on cargo ships maintaining the dignity of the country, citizens and college.

A total of 83 graduates — 27

marine graduates, 50 marine engineers and six marine electronic graduates — completed the No 14 diploma course. The MMMC was established in 1963 and it produced 5,584 marine officers and marine engineers so far. It also produced 273,826 marine experts to date and 561 captains and 365 chief engineers are now

serving on international ships.

Then, the Union minister and party went to the Myanma Shipyard. The managing director explained the work of shipbuilding and related work.

The Union minister and party also inspected the shipyard and the dock with a capacity of 12,000 tonnes and electronic

welding training.

They then went to the Myanma Port Authority Office in Kyauktada Township and the Union minister instructed the necessary things regarding the port operations and tax collection.

They also inspected the Sule Jetty 1, 2, 3 and 4 and rice export operations. — MNA/KTZH

## Meeting to review and discuss findings of inspection team that went to Bangladesh for acceptance of displaced persons held

A meeting to review and discuss the findings of the ground inspection team that went to Bangladesh for the re-examination and acceptance of displaced persons and the work

programmes to be carried out was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Border Affairs yesterday morning.

Chair of the Rakhine State Stability, Peace and Development

Work Coordination Committee Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, Vice-Chair 1 Union Minister for International Cooperation U Ko Ko Hlaing,

Vice-Chair 2 Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Thet Thet Khine, deputy ministers and officials were present at the meeting and Vice-Chair 3 Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Htein Lin and the minister of Security and Border Affairs of Rakhine State government attended the meeting online.

The chairman of the Rakhine State Stability, Peace and Development Work Coordination Committee first stated that measures will be taken based on the findings of the ground inspection team and that a comprehensive review of

the conditions of re-admission arrangements for displaced people should be undertaken.

Vice-Chairs discussed re-verification and acceptance of displaced persons from Rakhine State and providing humanitarian aid and cooperation processes of the UN and international organizations.

Then, members of the committee and officials discussed the progress that had been made in the re-admission of displaced persons and the activities that should be undertaken in the future. — MNA/KZW



Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung addresses the coordination meeting yesterday.

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

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

# Graduation ceremony of Township Deputy Judge Training Course No 31 held

THE graduation ceremony of Township Deputy Judge Training Course No 31, award-giving ceremony, handover of assignments and oath-taking ceremony were held at the Union Supreme Court yesterday.

Speaking at the ceremonies, Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo said the outstanding trainees can uplift dignity individually in addition to personal skills such as talent, endeavour and studying. The remaining judicial officials should look up to these outstanding trainees and try hard to be skilful in judiciary processes. They should apply the experience in practical sections and make the decision based on their critical thinking as per procedural guidelines with



The documentary group photo of the Township Deputy Judge Training Course No 31 held at the Union Supreme Court yesterday.

examples of law and rules. The Union Chief Justice then underscored the need to adopt proper practices for every case including evidence management, avoid corruption and

bribery and keep studying the judiciary strategic plans and English Language.

The Union Chief Justice and judges of the Union Supreme Court presented awards to outstanding trainees and assignment letters to township deputy judges who completed the No 31 training course. The judicial officers took oath in the presence of the Union Chief Justice and judges of the Union Supreme Court.

The ceremony was attended by the Union Chief Justice and judges of the Union Supreme Court, the permanent secretary, directors-general, deputy permanent secretary and other relevant officials, trainers and 80 trainees. — MNA/KTZH

# Dinner for successful export of high-quality rice to Bangladesh

A dinner party marking the successful export of high-quality rice to Bangladesh was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The event was attended by Union Ministers Dr Kan Zaw, U

Maung Maung Ohn, U Hla Moe and U Aung Naing Oo, Deputy Ministers U Kyaw Myo Htut, Daw Than Than Lin, Dr Aung Gyi and U Nyunt Aung, permanent secretaries, chairpersons of

the Myanmar Rice Federation, Myanmar Rice Miller Association, Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association, vice-chairpersons, executive members, entrepreneurs and invitees.

During the ceremony, Union Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo said Myanmar and Bangladesh signed an MoU on rice trade under the G-to-G pact. The country exported 100,000

tonnes of rice in 2017 for the first time, 100,000 tonnes in 2021 for the second time and 200,000 tonnes for the third time with the cooperation of the government and private organizations.

The two countries signed a five-year agreement from 2022 to 2027 on rice trade.

Then, Permanent Secretary Honorable Md Ismiel Hossail of the Ministry of Food of Bangladesh made a speech via the video clip and Myanmar Rice Federation Chairman U Ye Min Aung also remarked.

Afterwards, all attendees had dinner together.

The State Administration Council provided export subsidies of K30 billion last year and K79 billion this year. — MNA/KTZH



The honorary dinner held yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw to mark the successful export of high-quality rice to Bangladesh.

## one new case of COVID-19 reported on 5 April, total figure registers 634,087

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases registered **634,087** after **one** new case was reported on 5 April 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **614,566**, including **one** new recovery.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country remained unchanged at **19,490** on 5-4-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic.

The country has vaccinated **30,985,166** people aged 18 and above for COVID-19 vaccines and **6,847,649** people aged under 18 till 4 April 2023.

### Status of COVID-19 vaccination (as of 4 April 2023)

People aged 18 and above who received vaccines	30,985,166
People under 18 years old who received vaccines	6,847,649

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.

As such, the people need to follow the new normal way in living with COVID. Hence, all the people above five have to fully receive COVID-19 vaccination inoculated by the Ministry of Health free of charge. Six months after the vaccination, they have to take booster jabs at relevant health centres and ward/village administration offices without fail. Moreover, they have to wear masks while in closed chambers and public places. They need to often wash hands with soap and water or the hand gel containing alcohol (at least 60 per cent) for 20 seconds.

People need to follow the social distancing rule and avoid the crowds as much as possible. While not wearing masks, if they cough and sneeze, they need to cover mouth and noses with elbows in line with the personal hygienic ways.

COVID-19 information can be browsed on the internet page moh.gov.mm of the Ministry of Health.—GNLM

## MoFA Union Minister participates in Songkran Festival marking 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Myanmar-Thailand Diplomatic Ties

TO commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of Myanmar-Thailand diplomatic relations, the Thai traditional Thingyan Festival (Songkran) was held at the residence of the Thai ambassador on Pyay Road in Dagon Township, Yangon, yesterday morning.

Monks led by the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Khayma Rama Monastery in Mayangon Township, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe, Deputy Minister Daw Nu Mra Zan of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar Mr Mongkol Visitstump and wife, the ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar and the ambassador of Cambodia to Myanmar, MoFA high-ranking officials, diplomats from the embassies of ASEAN countries in Myanmar, the president and officials of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, officials from business and commercial organizations in Yangon, Thai nationals in Myan-

mar and invitees were present on the occasion.

At first, MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe, the Ambassador of Thailand and attendees took the Five Precepts from the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw and listened to the recitation of Paritta. After that, Union Minister U Than Swe and officials donated offerings to the Sayadaw and monks.

The MoFA Union minister, the MoRAC deputy minister, the Thai ambassador and officials offered the day meal to members of Sangha and shared the merits received.

Next, the Union minister and officials poured water on the Buddha statue and offered coins and observed Thai traditional food stalls, the Sand Pagoda and the demonstration of Sepak Takraw.

Afterwards, the Songkran was held, and the Thai ambassador to Myanmar gave a welcoming speech.

Then, the MoFA Union minister, the MoRAC deputy minister, the Thai ambassador, the Chinese ambassador, the Cam-



Union Minister U Than Swe sprinkles the water on the Buddha image at the Thai traditional Songkran Festival yesterday.

bodian ambassador, officials and Thai nationals in Myanmar splashed each other with the cool water.

Following that, the Thai ambassador sang the "Myananda" song along with the performance of the Thai traditional cultural dance troupe, followed by the

performances of a singer from Thailand and the students majoring in the Thai Language at the Yangon University of Foreign Languages. The Union minister and the audience enjoyed the performances and presented the performers with a bouquet.

Finally, the Thai ambassador

and his wife served the Union minister and party with lunch.

As the Thai traditional Thingyan Festival (Songkran) shows the friendship between Myanmar and Thailand and can promote cooperation in the socio-economic and cultural sectors.

— MNA/CT

## Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations receives Mr Ramanathan Balakrishnan, Country Representative of United Nations Population Fund

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw received the delegation led by Mr Ramanathan Balakrishnan, Country Representative of United Nations Population

Fund (UNFPA) at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they shared views on the on-going UNFPA's activities in Myan-

mar, and discussed about the UNFPA's future programme.

Officials from the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations were also present at the meeting.



## Illegal teak furniture, engine parts and vehicles seized

A combined team including members of No 9 Traffic Police, Insein Police Station and Forest Department under the management of Customs Department made inspections and captured a total of 0.388 tonnes of illegal teak doors and door parts worth K256,014 from a Toyota Noah car (approximately K18 million) near Pauktawa traffic light on Bayintnaung road in Insein township on 30 March. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

On 1 and 3 April, the on-duty teams under the supervision of the Customs Department confiscated 3000 kilogrammes of COMFREE adult diapers worth K8.19 million that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) from a container at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint, 19 kinds of goods including 300 Tafe power oil filters worth K6.168,000 at the Hteedan Port container checkpoint and 22 kinds of goods in-

cluding three cans of Dior Prestige Intensive Repairing cream worth K3 million from luggage which is carried on a plane that arrived from Singapore at the Yangon International Airport. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 2 April, a combined team under the management of the Tanintharyi Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force captured 200 Infinix smart 7 mobile phones worth K41.2 million without official documents from a Yutong bus (approximately K40 million) heading to Myeik from Yangon at the Pauktawing Bridge checkpoint on Myeik-Dawei road. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

Therefore, seven arrests (the estimated value of K116,814,014) were made on 30 March, 1, 2 and 3 April, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Quality mango expected to fetch good price from resumption of Myanmar-China border trade

QUALITY mango is likely to be offered at a high price during the mango season following the resumption of Myanmar-China border trade channels amid the drop in mango yield, as per Myanmar Mango Market and Technology Development Association (Mandalay).

“Majority of Myanmar’s mango exports goes to China. Only a small volume is sent to Singapore, Thailand and Russia. The quality mango is expected to fetch good prices on account of the ease in border trade routes. However, it is hard to find quality ones. The output of mango drops due to flower

bud damage. The production rate drastically fell in some areas. Moreover, there might be weather impacts in upcoming months”, said U Kyaw Soe Naing, secretary of the association.

Myanmar primarily exports Seintalone (Diamond solitaire), Shwe Hintha, Padamyar Ngamauk, Yinkwe and Machitsu mango varieties.

There are over 200 mango varieties grown in the country, covering over 257,000 acres. The commercially valued mangoes are Seintalone, Shwe Hintha, Padamyar Ngamauk and Maethi. —Maung Aye Chan/EM



There are over 200 mango varieties grown in the country, covering over 257,000 acres. The commercially valued mangoes are Seintalone, Shwe Hintha, Padamyar Ngamauk and Maethi.

## YGEA raises gold reference price as spot gold price glistens

GOLD price climbs to a new peak of \$2,025 per ounce. Consequently, the Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association hiked the reference rate to K2,385,700 per tical (0.578 ounce or 0.016 kilogramme).

On 1 April, YGEA set the reference rate of the pure gold at K2,319,700 per tical as the spot gold price stayed high at \$1,969 per ounce.

The figures indicated an increase of K66,000 per tical for the reference rate and \$56 per ounce for sport gold price within five days.

The yellow metal hit a high

of K2,965,000 per tical in the unofficial domestic market.

Therefore, there is a price difference of over K640,000 per tical between the YGEA’s reference price and the price in the unofficial market.

YGEA calculated the price depending on the Central Bank of Myanmar’s reference exchange rate of K2,100, with some addition, while the US dollar is exchanged at K2,870 in the unofficial forex market.

The US dollar exchange rate influences domestic gold prices.

Following the bankruptcy of a US bank in early March, the

gold price soared. Despite the gold gain in the global market, Myanmar’s forex market sees no movement at all. Consequently, YGEA requested its members not to buy them competitively, tracking the upward trend in the gold spot price, as per YGEA’s statement released on 20 March.

Afterwards, the YGEA called for the members to make gold transactions with only immediate payment and avoid verbal transactions over calls without having any physical stocks.

The YGEA is not bound to have any responsibilities for market manipulation in the un-

official market. As a result of this, its members are asked to strictly adhere to the rules and regulations of the association while making gold transactions.

At present, the authorities concerned are attempting to deal with market abuse and inspecting and prosecuting market manipulation is being undertaken.

Moreover, the Central Bank of Myanmar will inspect those manipulators to interfere with market stability through digital platforms, according to the notification dated 20 March.

The soaring dollar exchange-

ing at over K4,500 drove the pure gold price up to a record-high of K3.7 million per tical in late August 2022.

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

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

## Myanmar bags over US\$800 mln from rice exports in 2022-2023 FY

Myanmar shipped over 2.2 million tonnes of rice and broken rice to foreign markets in the 2022-2023 financial year, with an estimated value of US\$800 million, according to Myanmar Rice Federation.

The export values were recorded at \$82 million from 250,947 tonnes in April 2022, \$51 million from 153,507 tonnes in May, \$50 million from 146,094 tonnes in June, \$66 million from 182,550 tonnes in July, \$53 million from 156,893 tonnes in August, \$37 million from 93,792 tonnes in September, \$65 mil-

lion from 163,189 tonnes in October, \$106 million from 264,038 tonnes, \$90 million from 228,445 tonnes in December, \$107 million from 268,835 tonnes in January 2023, \$76 million from 191,404 tonnes in February and \$65 million from 161,509 tonnes in March.

Myanmar generated an income of \$853 million from 2,261,201 tonnes of rice and broken rice exports in the last FY2022-2023.

Myanmar primarily sent rice and broken rice to China (over 750,000 tonnes), followed

by Belgium (323,000 tonnes), Bangladesh (239,000 tonnes), the Philippines (202,000 tonnes), Poland (over 120,000 tonnes), and Spain (over 115,000 tonnes).

Myanmar has been exerting concerted efforts to grow 10 per cent yearly in the rice export sector. To raise foreign income, it has been prioritizing the exportation of high-grade rice and boosting export volume, MRF stated.

Myanmar bagged over \$700 million from approximately 2 million tonnes of rice export in the 2020-2021 FY. — NN/EM

## Prices of fuel oil, gold and dollar on 5 April 2023

### Fuel Oil Price (Yangon)

Octane 92	K2,260
Octane 95	K2,320
Diesel	K2,155
Premium Diesel	K2,235

All of the prices are based on per litre.

### Gold Price

The reference price of high-purity gold set by YGEA	K2,385,700 per tical
High-purity gold in the gold market	K2,965,000 per tical

### US Dollar Vs Kyat

A US dollar set by the Central Bank of Myanmar	K2,100
A US dollar in the forex market	K2,850 to K2,865

The above prices may change from time to time.

# OPINION

## Choose the best options for students in spending summer holidays

Now is the time of long summer school holidays for students who have already set for the final examinations in relevant grades. In other words, students are allowed to take shelter for avoiding the impacts of the hot season as they are young.

Those students have poured out their energetic efforts into taking the final examination. Hence, they have to take a rest for a period but the whole summer holidays. As they are young, they can easily regain freshening from the tiredness of their schooling days. Hence, they have to efficiently spend the long holidays.

In this regard, parents and guardians need to choose suitable movements for their children depending on their talent, knowledge and intelligence quotient to be able to efficiently spend the summer days.

The children at the lower primary level are involved in the age-wise group for learning traditional advice and cultural courses as well as any other language courses. It is the best time for children from 5 to 7 years to learn other foreign languages to improve their learning capacity.

The students from the level of upper primary school have to choose many options for spending the summer holidays joining sports courses, playing music, computer courses, spoken English and other language courses, physical culture and body fitness courses, swimming, martial arts, basic football and volleyball courses and so on.

These courses can broaden the horizon of the children and help enhance the critical thinking, initiative and creative capability of school children. Moreover, possessing skills and techniques in the training courses will help improve the heart and confidence of those children to face possible challenges and to have the capacity to overcome these challenges and difficulties without relentless efforts.

The Keeness of children in the practical and theoretical training courses helps them not derail from the appropriate ways of their lives as they chose. Active and confident youths are capable of defying threats of narcotic drugs and persuasion of wrong and unsuitable ideologies posed by unscrupulous persons backed by selfish politicians.

As such, not only parents but teachers as well as elder persons from the society need to pave the best ways for the student youths to efficiently spend their summer holidays to widen their scopes to some extent to stay away from malpractices and wrong persuasions. As the future of those students is inseparable from the enhancement of human resources of the State, all the people are to give a helping hand to student youths for translating the summer holidays into a valuable period.

### Episode: 9

Lewis Leigh Fermor was born on 18th September 1880, the eldest of six children of Lewis Fermor and his wife Maria James. He was educated at Wilson's Grammar School in Camberwell and studied metallurgy at the Royal School of Mines, where he took a BSc in 1907 and a DSc in 1909.

On the 13th of April 1930, Pascoe handed over the charge of the office of Director to L. L. Fermor and left India on long leave preparatory to retirement. The end of the decade was marked by a great business depression, and Fermor was still officiating when, early in 1932, the Government of India considered the financial position justified a general retrenchment in the cadre of all Civil Services and a 'cut' in all salaries. In consequence, when Pascoe's retirement became effective on the 6th of April 1932, and Fermor became Director, the Geological Survey of India had lost the services of several valuable officers namely, Cotter, Brown, Jones, Banerji, Leicester, B. B. Gupta, and the experienced Chemist W. A. K. Christie. The harmful effects of this drastic retrenchment of the personnel of the survey were felt later at the time of the Second World War.

When Fermor became Director he had already established a secure place for himself in the mining and geological world through his outstanding work in connection with the description of the manganese-ore deposits of India and the discussion of their genesis and relationship to the Archaean rocks containing them. A petrologist of high order Fermor had discovered and described a number of new manganese minerals. After a service of 33 years, Fermor retired on the 7th of November, 1935.

In Burma, E. L. G. Clegg continued the mapping of the Mogok Stone Tract that had been commenced in pre-retrenchment days by Coggin Brown and A. K. Banerji. Clegg was joined at a later date by L. A. L. Iyer. Bradshaw assumed charge of the duties of the Resident Geologist and Official Member, Yenangaung, and Singu Oilfield Advisory Boards at Yenangaung. V. P. Sondhi continued his work in the Northern and M. R. Sahni in

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



Lewis Leigh Fermor (1880-1954) Source: GSI

lie to the east and north of Myelat respectively.

The area consists of an elevated tableland, for the most part, approximating 4,000 feet above the sea-level and lying beyond the outer hill ranges which divide it from the plains of Upper Burma further west; but it is itself traversed by parallel north and south ridges rising to over 5,000 feet and by inter-mountain valleys which, in the case of Yawnghe valley, descend to 2,900 feet above sea level.

Within this region rocks of Ordovician, Silurian, Devonian, Permo-Carboniferous, Jurassic, Cretaceous, and Plio-Pleistocene ages occur and it forms indeed a key area to the study of the geology of the whole of Southern Shan States, while it's known mineral deposits include ores of copper, silver and gold, lead, tungsten, and antimony, together with coal and lignite.

Previous Observers: During the field season of 1864-65 F. Fedden of G.S.I travelled through the Shan States from south to north. Entering the hills near Yamethin, 110 miles south of Mandalay, he crossed the Myelat on his way to Keshi Mansam and the Salween.

In 1887, E. J. Jones of G.S.I., visited various localities to investigate coal, lignite, and other mineral deposits. As the country was then only just recovering from widespread banditry and as the only map available was on the scale of 16 miles to 1 inch, Jones could make no attempt to survey geological boundaries and confined his attention strictly to the mineral occurrences.

In the season 1899-1900 C. S. Middlemiss made a geological reconnaissance in parts of the Southern Shan States and Karenni. This work is of fundamental importance in Shan geology and we, therefore, devote some attention to it here. He split up the geological fabric of the hills into a number of zones of distinctive character as regards composition and stratigraphy, as follows:-

1. Gneissic and metamorphic zone.
2. Great Limestone zone.
3. Purple Sandstone zone.

4. Sub-recent conglomerates, sands, and loams.

The gneissic and metamorphic zone is well exposed in sections along the motor road from Thazi to Kalaw between Hlaingdet (mile 9) and Pyinyaung (mile 31). The first rocks met with are well-foliated micaceous and hornblende gneisses, intruded by veins of pink syenite, white pegmatite granite, and fine grey microgranite with biotite and muscovite. A little to the east of Pyinyaung the road enters the first of Middlemiss's Great Limestone zones. The Purple Sandstones zone is very well seen in excellent exposures along the main road between a point four miles east of Pyinyaung and Kalaw. The purple rocks we now believe to be of probable Cretaceous age, as suggested first for similar strata in the Northern Shan States by C. L. Griesbach in 1901.

At the time Middlemiss was working here, T. H. D. La Touche was commencing his investigations into Northern Shan geology which culminated in the publication of his memoir and maps of the greater portion of the Northern Shan States.

Early in 1922, G. de P. Cotter spent a month on the Loi-an coalfield near Kalaw and produced a detailed report on that field and other associated coal occurrences. He proved that the Coal Measures contain a flora of the Middle Jurassic age and regarded the purple and red sandstones and conglomerates of the Kalaw neighbourhood as Upper Jurassic or Cretaceous.

Captain F. W. Walker worked with Dr Cotter and on the latter's departure from the area, continued the systematic survey of sheets 93 D/10 and 14. He, like other geologists before and after his time, failed to realize that the rocks of the range separating the Heho and Yawnghe valleys do not belong to the Plateau Limestones.

In June 1925, Clegg paid a visit to Mawson. He described the area as consisting of rocks of the Plateau Limestone formation.

C. S. Fox spent a few days at Kalaw in January 1929 and was

fortunate to discover ammonites in the Red Beds there which, according to Dr Cotter, are of Cretaceous age, thus supporting the opinions originally advanced by Griesbach and by Cotter himself. In seasons 1930-31 he was joined by V. P. Sondhi who is responsible for the whole of sheet 93 H/1 and has completed parts of sheets 93 D/9, D/10, D/13, and D/14, including the different terrain west of the longitude of Kalaw.

### Physical Geology

When the traveller to Kalaw by road reaches the crest of the final ascent just outside the town, he crosses the watershed of two great river systems, the Irrawaddy and Salween. By the railway route, it is traversed, together with the boundary line between Burma and the Shan States, at Myindaik, the first railway station below Kalaw. The western mountain ranges, Shan tableland and its ridges and old lake valleys, and drainage, are described in some detail.

The floating islands of Lake Inle: According to Dr N. Annandale, who was helped in the geological aspects of his investigation by Captain F. W. Walker, 'Many different kinds of plants take part in island's formation, but those of primary importance are certain large grasses and sedges that send out long floating runners from which new upright stems arise. Floating plants such as duckweed become entangled amongst these runners, and at the same time submerged weeds, especially a species of *Ceratophyllum*, grow up to the surface, where their upper parts are killed by the heat of the sun or the growth of algae. The mass of vegetation thus entangled is further agglutinated by the luxuriant growth of algae belonging to the family Rivulariaceae which forms large brownish masses. These elements of the island-in-the-making both decay and grow. Their decay forms a kind of fen-peat that is prevented from sinking by their floating and growing parts. A float-

By **THAN HTUN**  
(GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

ing island covered with rich soil is thus formed, and plants of a great variety of species grow up upon it, forming dense entangled masses.

### List of Formations

The formations met within the area were treated in the following order:-

Alluvial and travertine (Recent), Residual deposits and upland palms (Sub-Recent), High-level terraces (Pleistocene), Lacustrine deposits (Late Tertiary), Red Beds (Cretaceous), Coal Measures (Loi-an series) (Jurassic), Upper Plateau Limestone (Permo-Carboniferous), Lower Plateau Limestone (Devonian-Carboniferous), Silurian, and Ordovician rocks.

Kalaw Red Beds: Several very good sections of the different members of the Kalaw Red Beds are visible along the road in the Taungwindwin Valley and were originally described by Middlemiss. This stream has cut a well-defined deep course along the strike of these rocks. The conglomerates, which form perhaps the most remarkable feature as well as the greater bulk of the formation, are of varying texture, compactness, and composition and occur at different horizons. The narrow, sharp ridge along the valley on the east is formed by a coarse conglomerate band containing large boulders of hard, purple sandstone and smaller ones of limestone, embedded in a red, sandy calcareous matrix. And the high, rugged hill range flanking the valley on the west is built for the most of a coarse soft conglomerate

erate remarkable for the large size and angularity of its sandstone boulders and the low proportion of its calcareous contents. Excellent exposures of the Kalaw Red Beds are to be seen about Kalaw itself, in the railway cuttings between Myindaik and Kalaw along the main road to Thazi for some miles. From the soft, friable, reddish-purple sandstones and shales, dipping westwards at about 25° in the small hillock, crowned with a pagoda, between the railway Station and the Kalaw Hotel, as noted above Dr Fox obtained ammonites of Cretaceous age and thus substantiated Griesbach's opinion on the age of similar rocks in the Northern States.

The main ore body of the Bawzaing mine: leased by the Shan States Silver-Lead Corporation, Limited, this one occurs in a wide, nearly vertical, irregular fissure with ragged walls, trending approximately N. 20° W. obliquely across the strike of the country rocks. The fissure is filled with mineralized clay containing irregular limestone blocks of all sizes. Within this fissured zone there is an ore shoot with a decided pitch to the south and of very varying width, up to a maximum of 70 feet. The ore shoot was encountered in the Bawzaing shaft at about 75-80 feet from the surface, but in the Theingon shaft, 750 feet away, it was not met until a depth of over 124 was reached. It varies between 175-200 feet in height and, thinning out both above and below, displays a roughly lenticular section, as the main fissure pinches in at both the northern and southern ends of the ore shoot. The Bawzaing shaft is 400 feet in depth with levels of 120, 200, and 331 feet respectively. The Theingon shaft is 575 feet deep with five corresponding levels from it. The ore reserves estimated in April 1930, were 185,400 tons, averaging over seven per cent lead.

References: GSI (1934). Records of the Geological Survey of India, Vol. LXVII.

**The Global New Light of Myanmar**  
www.gnlm.com.mm

သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစောင်များကို နှိုင်းထူကာစံချိန်ဖို့ ပုံနှိပ်လိမ္မော် ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်

**01 860 4530**



# CURRENT AFFAIRS



Traffic congestion was seen on Maha Bandula Road in the hub of Yangon in 2022.

## Yangon to take measures against traffic accidents during Thingyan

TRAFFIC will be cleared to prevent traffic accidents during Thingyan in Yangon, according to the No 2 Traffic Police Force office.

For the sake of public safety, drivers are advised not to drink and drive and to follow traffic rules in order to avoid traffic jams. Measures are underway to assign duties to members of the traffic police, red cross brigades, cranes at roundabouts, traffic lights, intersections and Thingyan pandals. — TWA/KZW

## 12<sup>th</sup> donation of foodstuffs made to members, families of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization

FOR the 12<sup>th</sup> time, the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization has donated foodstuffs to the 10 strata of the organization.

The donation was made at the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization on Wingaba Street in Bahan Township

starting from 3 to 6 April. On 5 April, the members of mechanic groups were provided with rice, edible oil and chickpeas, according to the organization. It is known that supporting actors or actresses and extras will be provided on 6 April.

A six-pyi bag of Pawkywe rice, 50 ticals of mixed peanut oil and 50 ticals of chickpeas were given to each person from 9 am to 3:30 pm during these days.

The Myanmar Motion Picture Organization supported the education expenses of the

children of the members of the organization before the covid epidemic every year. From the time of covid pandemic until now, food items were given to support the livelihood of the members of the organization. — TWA/CT



The Myanmar Motion Picture Organization is providing food commodities to industry-based members on 5 April 2023.

## 136 Myanmar citizens return from Thailand

A total of 136 Myanmar migrant workers who wish to return home arrived on 4 April via the Myawady-Mae Sot Bridge II.

Out of them, those from the Bago region, Mon state and Taninthayi region will stay at the Saemyonae quarantine centre in Mawlamyine township of Mon state for 10 days.

Those from other regions and states will be monitored at the Maekanae quarantine centre in Myawady township of Kayin state for 10 days. They will be sent back to their home towns after receiving medical checkups to ensure that they have no Covid-19. — TWA/MKKS

Medical devices for prevention of COVID-19 were donated to the Maekanae quarantine centre in Myawady in 2020.



# Action to be taken against poachers of berried giant freshwater prawns



A fisherman casts a net from the boat and catches fish and shrimp in the river.



Freshwater prawns.

THE Department of Fisheries announced that poachers will be prosecuted under the Freshwater Fisheries Law if they catch berried lobsters.

The Department of Fisheries issued a notification not to catch, kill, transport, store, and trade giant prawns that are full of eggs from April to June.

If the ban is violated, action will be taken according to the provisions of the Freshwater Fisheries Law, stated the notification of the Department of Fisheries, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

There are thousands of giant prawns preparing to lay their eggs in rivers, streams and lakes across Myanmar.

It is known that due to the

capture and killing of these giant prawns, the larvae cannot grow and the breeding grounds are destroyed.

To ensure the long-term sustainability of freshwater prawns, and to start protection for reproduction within the specified period of three months, it is urged to protect freshwater prawns that are spawning all over the country from April to the end of June.

According to the Department of Fisheries, the period from April to June 2023 is marked as the no-fishing season in Myanmar seas for three months.

If any provision of the Freshwater Fisheries Act is violated, offenders shall be subject to:

(a) suspension and revocation or cancellation of the lease or tender licence;

(b) confiscation of fishing vessels, fishing equipment, fish and other evidence as public revenue, distribution or other appropriate management;

(c) the fishing vessel and fishing gear will be returned either to the person who has the right to work in the fishery business or the owner with a sufficient guarantee or allowed to resume operation;

(d) permit the owner or licensee to redeem the fishing vessel and fishing equipment on payment of an appropriate fine;

(e) proceeds from the sale and fines shall be deposited in the bank. —TWA/KZL

# HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

## Japan govt survey finds 1.5 million living as recluses

NEARLY 1.5 million working-age people in Japan are social recluses, according to a new government survey, with a fifth citing the Covid-19 pandemic as the main reason for their withdrawal.

The poll is Japan's first official comprehensive probe into the prevalence of "hikikomori",

or "shut-ins" — a phenomenon affecting a broad swathe of society, from teens to the elderly.

Reasons for retreating from the country's notoriously conformist and work-focused society range from unemployment to depression or bullying at school or in the workplace.

Hikikomori range from peo-

ple who only go out to shop for groceries or to pursue hobbies, to more extreme cases who rarely leave their homes at all, the Cabinet Office survey says.

It found that around two per cent of the respondents aged between 15 and 64 had withdrawn from society to some extent, percentages that officials estimate amount to 1.46 million people.

The most common reason respondents gave for their social withdrawal was "quitting jobs" in the survey released Friday.

This was closely followed by the pandemic, which was cited as the main reason by 18 per cent of recluses aged 15-39 and 20 per cent of those aged 40-64.

"It seems that some people happened to meet our definition of hikikomori because they were discouraged from going outside by Covid and so ended up having less contact with society," Cabinet Office official Koji Naito told AFP on Wednesday.—AFP



The social withdrawal phenomenon affects a broad swathe of society, from teens to the elderly. PHOTO: KYODO

## Red Cross to cut 1,500 jobs over funding crunch

THE Red Cross announced Tuesday that it would cut 1,500 jobs over the next 12 months in a drive to slash costs due to a funding crunch.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said an expected drop in humanitarian assistance budgets over the next two years was forcing it to make significant cuts.

"ICRC will need to be more deliberate in directing efforts towards programmes and places where we can have the greatest impact, in line with our mandate to provide life-saving relief and protection services to people living through armed conflict and violence," it said in a statement.

The Geneva-based organization said that its governing board on 30 March had approved 430 million Swiss francs (\$474 million) in global cost reduction through early 2024.

While the exact details and timelines for the cuts were still being worked through, ICRC

said it was clear that "approximately 1,500 jobs worldwide will have to be cut over the coming 12 months."

"The number of people impacted will be minimized as much as possible by reducing positions first and foremost through a recruitment freeze and natural turnover," it stressed.

The cuts also mean that "at least 20 of currently 350 locations around the world will

close," ICRC acknowledged, adding that it would "also be scaling back and closing some of our programmes".

It said it still remained unclear how many people currently receiving aid would need to do without due to the cuts.

The ICRC has 20,000 staff spread across more than 100 countries. ICRC initially appealed to donors for 2.8 billion Swiss francs for its work this year.— AFP



In this file photo the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is seen in Geneva. PHOTO: WIKIMAPIA.ORG

## Liberal US judge wins key state election with abortion at stake



The US Supreme Court last year overturned its landmark Roe v. Wade ruling, striking down the nationwide right to an abortion and leaving the decision on whether to allow the procedure up to individual states. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

US abortion rights advocates were overjoyed Tuesday, after media projections showed a liberal judicial candidate winning a closely-watched election in Wisconsin, flipping the northern state's supreme court from conservative control.

With Janet Protasiewicz's victory, reported by CNN and NBC News, Wisconsin's top court will have four progressive justices against three conservatives.

The election was considered one of the most important of the year in the United States, with the right to an

abortion and other key issues in the state likely to hinge on its outcome.

The US Supreme Court last year overturned its landmark Roe v. Wade ruling, striking down the nationwide right to an abortion and leaving the decision on whether to allow the procedure up to individual states.

Because several states, including Wisconsin, had enacted laws banning abortion before the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, legal disputes quickly emerged over their status.— AFP

## Georgia's jailed ex-leader seeks medical evacuation to Poland

GEORGIA'S jailed and ailing ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili said Tuesday he will urge Europe's top rights court for help to receive medical treatment in Poland.

Doctors say Saakashvili, 55, risks death from a number of conditions he developed in custody. The pro-Western reformer has been in custody since his return from exile in Ukraine in 2021.

Georgian president from 2004 to 2013, Saakashvili was sentenced in absentia to six years in jail for abuse of power — a charge he has rejected as trumped-up and politically motivated.

In a letter to AFP on Tuesday, Saakashvili said he "will

turn in the coming days to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg so that I am allowed to be taken to a hospital in Poland". Doctors say he has lost over 50 kilogrammes (110 pounds) in prison.

The government "is not allowing Polish doctors to visit me in hospital" in Tbilisi, he said, adding that it was his "last chance to survive". In March, an EU diplomat confirmed to AFP that a decision has been taken to allow Polish doctors to examine Saakashvili but the plan did not materialise.

Georgia's Justice Minister Rati Bregadze has said Saakashvili's lawyers failed to submit a formal request, a claim they deny. — AFP

# ECONOMY

## WORLD/AD

### India's 'brown beauty' make-up influencers go global



Indian make-up influencer Debasree Banerjee has found fans across the world with a simple mantra: brown is beautiful. **PHOTO: AFP**

UNDER the glow of a ring light in the spare bedroom of a Mumbai high-rise apartment, Indian make-up maven Debasree Banerjee has found fans across the world with a simple philosophy: brown is beautiful.

Banerjee's audience includes women from as far afield as the Middle East and United States who also have a deeper complexion but have historically been overlooked by the cosmetics industry.

"I actually have a lot of followers who are outside India, and I feel like it's probably because our skin tones match," Banerjee told AFP.

"They can see how the product looks like on my skin tone, how the lipstick applies on my skin tone, and just have that sense of belongingness."

Banerjee, 34, began experimenting with make-up videos in her spare time a decade ago, after graduating from university and moving to Mumbai to work in sales.

She is now a full-time beauty and lifestyle influencer, teaching more than half a million followers how to beautify themselves on Instagram and YouTube.

Early inspirations included British beauty content creators Tanya Burr and Fleur De Force

-- both white and with millions of followers between them.

But Banerjee said she had found no role models who resembled her.

She credits Rihanna for the seismic shift towards greater inclusiveness in the cosmetics industry.

In 2017, the pop superstar launched her make-up line Fenty Beauty, which offered 40 shades of foundation and turned her into a billionaire.

While other international brands have tried to keep up, many still have "miles and miles to go" before they can be considered truly inclusive, she added.

#### 'Learning to love ourselves'

Cheap internet data, rising income levels and the world's largest population of young people have fuelled an explosion in India's beauty and personal care market.

The industry is now worth \$15 billion nationally each year, with Euromonitor projecting that figure will double by 2030.

Homegrown e-commerce platform Nykaa -- which helped make global cosmetic brands easily available to Indians for the first time -- was one of India's most-anticipated IPOs in 2021.—AFP

### German economy to grow in 2023 as outlook brightens

THE German economy, Europe's largest, is expected to dodge a recession and grow by 0.3 per cent this year thanks to a drop in energy prices, leading economic institutes said Wednesday.

"The economic setback in the winter half-year 2022/2023 is likely to have been less severe than feared," Timo Wollmershaeuser from the Ifo institute said in a statement.

"The main reason for this is a smaller loss of purchasing power as a result of a significant drop in energy prices."

Inflation, however, will only ease slightly to six per cent, from 6.9 per cent in 2022.

In their previous forecast last autumn, the researchers were still ex-

pecting Germany's economy to shrink by 0.4 per cent, after Russia's invasion of Ukraine sent energy and food costs surging.

But a 200-billion-euro government relief package, including a cap on gas and electricity prices, combined with mild winter weather and efforts to diversify gas supplies

have helped Germany's economy cope better than expected.

Easing supply chain bottlenecks and China's relaxation of Covid-related restrictions have also buoyed the country's export-oriented economy.

The forecast -- unveiled by the Ifo institute, the Kiel Institute for the

World Economy, the Halle Institute for Economic Research and the RWI Leibniz Institute for Economic Research -- is more optimistic than the government's own estimates.

Berlin, which had also initially predicted a recession for 2023, has more recently upgraded its forecast to 0.2 per cent growth.

The brighter outlook was evident in separate data released by statistics agency Destatis on Wednesday, which showed a surprise jump in new factory orders in February.

New orders, seen as an indicator of future industrial activity, surged by 4.8 per cent on the previous month thanks to strong domestic and eurozone demand.—AFP



Germany had a surprise jump in factory orders in February. **PHOTO: AFP**

#### Notice for Change of Distributor

Notice is hereby given that the official distributor of the following pesticide manufactured by Saigon Plant Protection Joint Stock Company, will be changed from Akari Min Trading Co., Ltd. to Magike Myanmar Co., Ltd.

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration Type	Registration No.
1.	Mexyl MZ 72 WP	Mancozeb 64% + Metalaxyl 8% WP	Full	F2015-819

Magike Myanmar Co., Ltd invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objects are received, party mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities.

**Maig ke Myanmar Co, Ltd**, No. 476, Yarzadirit Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Quarter, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon.

#### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MTT SAI SUNEE VOY.NO. (23MS096N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MTT SAI SUNEE VOY.NO. (23MS096N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-4-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S MTT SHIPPING SDN BHD.**

#### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC DANANG VOY.NO. (2308S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC DANANG VOY.NO. (2308S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-4-2023** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD**

## Cryptocurrency surges as Musk changes Twitter logo to 'meme dog'

A meme-inspired cryptocurrency's price jumped on Tuesday after Elon Musk changed the bluebird logo of Twitter to a dog associated with the digital token, despite the mogul being

sued over his previous promotion of the coin.

Musk bought Twitter in October last year for \$44 billion and has since slashed the workforce, introduced paid-

for accounts and reinstated banned users including former president Donald Trump.

His decision to change the logo to a Shibu Inu dog, whether permanent or another short-

lived joke, caused the price of dogecoin to surge by more than 20 per cent, from below \$0.08 to more than \$0.10.

The Twitter chief has 133 million followers and has long

used the platform for self-promotion and humour, occasionally also promoting dogecoin, a highly volatile cryptocurrency initially created as a joke.—AFP

## New Zealand unveils surprise half-point rate hike

NEW Zealand's central bank hiked interest rates Wednesday for the 11th time in a row as it fights to bear down on "high and persistent" inflation.

The Reserve Bank of New Zealand boosted the key official cash rate by a larger-than-expected half a percentage point to 5.25 per cent, and it left any future move in the balance.

"Inflation is still too high and persistent, and employment is beyond its maximum sustainable level," the bank said in a statement after the decision.

Consumer prices rose 7.2 per cent in the year to December 2022, official data show.

New Zealand's economic growth is set to ease through 2023, the central bank said, citing



People shop at a supermarket in Wellington, New Zealand, 18 July 2022. PHOTO: GUO LEI/XINHUA/FILE

a global slowdown, higher interest rates and slower home building activity.

The RBNZ's policy-making committee — which targets an inflation rate of 1-3 per cent — said the rate of any moderation in core inflation and domestic demand "will determine the direction of future monetary policy".

The rate rise, which contrasted with Australia's decision to pause the previous day after 10 successive hikes, drew some criticism from unions.

The central bank should pause before considering any further upward move, said New Zealand Council of Trade Unions economist Craig Renney.—AFP

### Public Announcement

#### In the matter of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017 Capital Reduction of SLCM Limited (Notice of the Special Resolution pursuant to Section 116(e))

SLCM Limited (Company) hereby announces that the entity will reduce its share capital. The purpose of reducing the share capital is to simplify the capital structure to be more efficient and reduce access capital and its liability on the shares. The total capital value that will be reduced is USD 1.5 million worth of ordinary shares, from USD 2,989,700 to USD 1,489,700.

Notice is hereby given that the Special General Meeting of the Company will be held in this regard on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 at 10:00 am at Company's registered address: Room No. 406/412 - Level 4 La Pyay Wun Plaza, Alan Pya Pagoda Road, Dagon Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar. The Special General Meeting will also be conducted via electronic means by the directors and member/s through Microsoft Teams.

Per Section 116(e) of the MCL, the notice of the Special General Meeting and relevant documents relating to the reduction of share capital to be sent to shareholders has been filed with the Directorate of the Investment and Company Administration dated 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

For SLCM Limited

**DFDL Myanmar Limited**  
Chan Myae Khine  
Corporate Secretary

No. 134(A), Than Lwin Road, Golden Valley Ward 1, Bahan Township, Yangon, Myanmar

### THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (1/2023-2024)

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(1)	DMP/L-001(23-24)	2 7/8" and 2 3/8" EUE Tubing (2) Items	Ks
(2)	DMP/L-002(23-24)	Insert Pump and Accessories (7) Items	Ks
(3)	DMP/L-003(23-24)	Accessories for Gas Control and Metering System (41) Items	Ks
(4)	DMP/L-004(23-24)	Electrical Materials for Chauk Oil Field (28) Items	Ks
(5)	DMP/L-005(23-24)	Electrical Materials for ZJ 70L Sr II Drilling Rig (13) Items	Ks
(6)	DMP/L-006(23-24)	Electrical Materials for ZJ 50D Sr II Drilling Rig Ex Pyolo (62) Items	Ks
(7)	DMP/L-007(23-24)	Assorted Sizes of API 5L Steel Line Pipe (2) Items	Ks
(8)	DMP/L-008(23-24)	Assorted Kinds of Shaker Screen for Drilling Rig (4) Groups	Ks
(9)	DMP/L-009(23-24)	Spares for 3NB 1300C Mud Pump Ex ZJ 50D Drilling Rig (10) Items	Ks
(10)	DMP/L-010(23-24)	4", 6" and 8" ERW Steel Line Pipe (3) Items	Ks
(11)	DMP/L-011(23-24)	Assorted Sizes of Seamless Steel Casing (3) Items	Ks
(12)	DMP/L-012(23-24)	Assorted Sizes of Rock Bits and PDC Bits (9) Items	Ks
(13)	DMP/L-013(23-24)	5" Drill Pipe (4000) Meter	Ks
(14)	DMP/L-014(23-24)	Spares for Caterpillar 3412 Generating Set Gas Engine (31) Items	Ks
(15)	DMP/L-015(23-24)	Spares for KB-150 Well Servicing Truck (34) Items	Ks
(16)	DMP/L-016(23-24)	Spares for Caterpillar 3512 Engine Ex ZJ 70L Drilling Rig (7) Items	Ks
(17)	DMP/L-017(23-24)	Mud Chemical (7) Items	Ks
(18)	DMP/L-018(23-24)	1500 Series Well Head Equipment & Christmas Tree Equipment (2) Sets	Ks
(19)	DMP/L-019(23-24)	Annual Inspection and Spare Requirement for Pipe Line Center Daw Nyein (1) Lot	Ks
(20)	DMP/L-020(23-24)	Annual Inspection and Spare Requirement for Ywama (GDS) (1) Lot	Ks
(21)	DMP/L-021(23-24)	Rotary Table (1) No	Ks
(22)	DMP/L-022(23-24)	Powerful In-Situ Machine with Mirage Portable Machine Complete Set (1) Set	Ks
(23)	DMP/L-023(23-24)	Spare Parts for Intermech Compressor (1) Lot	Ks
(24)	DMP/L-024(23-24)	510 KW Gas Engine Generator Complete Set (1) No	Ks
(25)	DMP/L-025(23-24)	Spare Parts for Caterpillar Gas Engine (G 3508) And Perkins Gas Engine (TESI 4012) (1) Set	Ks
(26)	DMP/L-026(23-24)	Gear Box Assy for Marine Engine (410-420)KW (2) Units	Ks
(27)	DMP/L-027(23-24)	500 KVA, 1000 KVA & 2000 KVA Transformer (4) Items	Ks
(28)	DMP/L-028(23-24)	315 KVA Transformer (4) Items	Ks
(29)	DMP/L-029(23-24)	12 KV 630 A Vaccum Circuit Breaker (VCB) Switch Gear Panel Complete Set with Control & Power Bank (4 Panel Unit) (1) Set	Ks
(30)	DMP/L-030(23-24)	SJS Serva Single Pump Cementing Unit (1) Set	Ks
(31)	DMP/L-031(23-24)	Steam Boiler Capacity (1-1.5 Ton) (1) Set	Ks
(32)	DMP/L-032(23-24)	Welding Machine with Accessories Mobile Type (Engine Driven) 400 AMP (1) Set	Ks
(33)	DMP/L-033(23-24)	20" L SAW API 5L, Grade X46, 3LPE Coated Steel Line Pipe (9,354.1) Meter	Ks
(34)	DMP/L-034(23-24)	14", 6" & 4" ERW API 5L, Grade X-46, 3LPE Coated Steel Line Pipe (3) Items	Ks
(35)	DMP/L-035(23-24)	National Oil and Gas Information Center Phase-3 at NPT Office-44 (Device & Installation) (1) Lot	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from **6 April, 2023** at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications and Commercial Quotation with Original Bid Bond in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **13:00 pm on 28, April 2023**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time – **28-4-2023, 13:00 pm**.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ph No. + 95 67 – 411206

# GLOBAL AFFAIRS

## Australian opposition to fight Aboriginal 'Voice to Parliament'



Australia's centre-left government wants to change the constitution to empower the Indigenous population, which is persistently plagued by poorer health, lower incomes and higher rates of incarceration. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ THE AUSTRALIA**

A push to recognize Aboriginal Australians in the country's constitution suffered a major blow Wednesday, as the conservative opposition party said it would fight against the proposed reforms.

Australia's centre-left government wants to change the constitution to empower the Indigenous population, which is persistently plagued by poorer

health, lower incomes and higher rates of incarceration.

But it first needs the public to agree to a proposal to give Aboriginal people the right to be consulted on legislation that affects them — a so-called Indigenous Voice to Parliament — in a binding referendum later this year. Opposition leader Peter Dutton said he was resoundingly against Prime Minister Anthony

Albanese's proposal, shredding hopes that it would sail through on a tide of bipartisan support.

"It should be very clear to Australians by now that the prime minister is dividing the country," Dutton told reporters, before confirming he would campaign to sink the plan.

Dutton said he supported constitutional recognition for Indigenous people in principle, but he could not back the government's proposal because it was divisive and lacked detail.

"I don't think this is in our country's best interest," he said.

It is rare for referendums to succeed in Australia without support from both sides of the political spectrum — in the past 120 years only eight of 44 referendums have passed.

Polls show that about 54 per cent of Australians back the constitutional change, but support has been slipping and there are lingering questions about how the Voice would work.—AFP

## Three inmates dead in latest Ecuador prison riot

THREE inmates died in Ecuador on Tuesday in the latest burst of rioting in its maximum security prison system, the government said.

The SNAI agency overseeing the prison system said the violence broke out at La Roca prison in the port city of Guayaquil,

a growing nerve center in the global drug trade where a state of emergency was declared only three days earlier.

After the fighting erupted, prison agents, police and the military activated security protocols with which "control was retaken", the SNAI

statement said.

The maximum security facility has a capacity for some 150 inmates and was housing 23 prisoners at the time, most of them leaders of drug trafficking gangs engaged in a bloody struggle for power inside the prisons and on the streets.—AFP



Aerial view of the La Roca maximum security prison in Guayaquil, Ecuador. **PHOTO: STR / AFP**

## Long NATO delay spells trouble for Sweden and alliance: experts

WHILE Finland Tuesday became a full NATO member, Sweden's membership bid remains blocked, an "embarrassing" delay if short-lived but which could make Sweden more vulnerable and create problems within NATO if it drags on, experts told AFP.

Finland became the 31st member of the military alliance after securing the last two ratifications needed from Hungary and Türkiye last week.

Finland and Sweden abandoned decades of military non-alignment and applied to join NATO in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, stressing they wanted to walk in lockstep. But Ankara and Budapest have refused to ratify

Sweden's bid, following a litany of disputes.

Whether the delay becomes a real problem depends on how long it lasts, according to experts. "If we are talking about months, it's embarrassing, but not really a major problem," Robert Dalsjö, an analyst at the Swedish Defence Research Institute (FOI), told AFP.

However, should the process drag on, it could complicate both Sweden's and NATO's defence planning in the region.

Jacob Westberg, an associate professor of War Studies at Sweden's Defence University, noted that it isn't possible for "non-member states to fully participate in NATO's defence planning".—AFP



Finland became the 31st member of the military alliance after securing the last two ratifications needed from Hungary and Türkiye last week. Finnish reservists of the Guard Jaeger Regiment take part in a military exercise at the Santahamina military base in Helsinki, Finland on 7 March 2023. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

### WORLD: TOP HEADLINE

#### Ukraine's Zelensky arrives in Poland

UKRAINE'S President Volodymyr Zelensky arrived in Poland on Wednesday, Warsaw said, the latest of his rare trips outside the country since Russia's invasion.

"The president has crossed the Polish border, he is on Polish territory," Marcin Przydacz, a senior official with the Polish presidency, told TVN24 television.

NATO member Poland borders Ukraine and is a key ally in Kyiv's defence against Russia and is hosting an influx of Ukrainians who have fled the war.

During the visit, Zelensky will meet his Polish counterpart, Andrzej Duda and is due to deliver remarks in the historic centre of the Polish capital.

Discussions with Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki are also planned.

Since the start of Russia's invasion in February 2022, Zelensky has visited Washington, London, Paris and Brussels.—AFP

## Macron's visit to boost China's ties with France, EU: spokesperson

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron will pay a state visit to China from 5 to 7 April at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, the Xinhua news agency reported on Wednesday.

China hopes to take French President Emmanuel Macron's state visit to China as an opportunity to boost ties with France and the European Union (EU), a spokesperson said on Monday.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning made the comment at a regular news briefing in response to queries

on Macron's state visit to China.

During the visit, Chinese President Xi Jinping will meet with Macron to map out the future development of bilateral relations, deepen China-France and China-EU cooperation in various fields, and have an in-depth exchange of views on major international and regional hotspot issues, Mao said.

Chinese Premier Li Qiang and top legislator Zhao Leji will meet with Macron, respectively, Mao said, adding that Macron will also visit Guangzhou, the

capital of Guangdong Province.

China and France are permanent members of the UN Security Council and major countries in the world. In recent years, under the strategic guidance of the two heads of state, China-France relations have maintained sound development, enjoying effective strategic communication, fruitful practical cooperation, and sound communication and coordination in international and regional affairs, the spokesperson said.

China is ready to work with



French President Emmanuel Macron landed in Beijing at around 3:15 pm. PHOTO: AFP

France to take this visit as an opportunity to produce new outcomes in the close and enduring comprehensive strategic partnership between the two coun-

tries, promote the sound development of China-EU relations and contribute to world peace, stability, and development, Mao said. — Xinhua

## Defendant Trump slams criminal charges as 'insult to our country'

DONALD Trump offered a full-throated defence of his conduct Tuesday in his first public remarks since being charged over hush money payments to a porn star, blasting the criminal prosecution as "an insult to our country".

Hours earlier the 76-year-old former US president pleaded not guilty to 34 felony counts in a dramatic hearing in New York that transfixed the nation — and began the countdown to the first ever criminal trial of an American president.

"I never thought anything like this could happen in America — never thought it could happen," Trump told an audience of several hundred donors, political allies and other supporters after returning to Mar-a-Lago, his beachfront mansion

in southern Florida.

"The only crime that I've committed is to fearlessly defend our nation from those who seek to destroy it... It's an insult to our country."

Trump — the frontrunner in the race for the 2024 Republican nomination — said from a stage festooned with American flags in an opulent gold-and-cream ballroom that "radical left" prosecutors across the country were out to get him "at any cost".

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg is prosecuting Trump for cooking his company's books to hide payments he arranged to adult film actress Stormy Daniels days before the 2016 election, to cover up an alleged sexual encounter a decade earlier.—AFP



Former US president Donald Trump appears in court at the Manhattan Criminal Court in New York. PHOTO: AFP

## Jacinda Ardern delivers final speech to New Zealand parliament

FORMER New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern bowed out of parliament on Wednesday, making an impassioned plea during her tearful final speech to "please take the politics out of climate change".

Ardern shocked New Zealand earlier this year when she announced she was stepping down as prime minister and retiring from politics, saying she no longer had "enough in the tank".

Draped in a korowai — a traditional Maori feather cloak — Ardern recalled her humble beginnings in a working class family, and how she never expected to lead the country.

"It was a cross between a sense of duty to steer a moving freight train... and being hit by one," she quipped during her valedictory address.



Outgoing New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern gives her valedictory speech in parliament in Wellington on 5 April 2023. PHOTO: AFP

"And that's probably because my internal reluctance to lead was matched only by a huge sense of responsibility."

Ardern steered New Zealand through natural disasters, the Covid-19 pandemic and the

2019 Christchurch mosque massacre — in which a white supremacist gunman killed 51 Muslim worshippers.

But she singled out the climate crisis as the defining issue of her time in politics.—AFP

## Clashes erupt as Israel police enter flashpoint Jerusalem mosque

ISRAELI police arrested more than 350 people after clashes erupted inside Jerusalem's flashpoint Al-Aqsa mosque early Wednesday when officers entered to dislodge "agitators" in a move denounced by the Palestinian Islamist movement Hamas.

Palestinian militants responded with rocket fire into Israel from the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip, prompting retaliatory

Israeli air strikes. The violence came with tensions high in annexed east Jerusalem as the Muslim holy month of Ramadan coincides with the Jewish Passover holiday.

Hamas, which rules the Gaza Strip, called on Palestinians in the West Bank "to go en masse to the Al-Aqsa mosque to defend it".

Israeli police said they had entered the mosque to dislodge

"agitators" who had barricaded themselves inside with fireworks, sticks and stones, making more than 350 arrests.

The mosque compound in east Jerusalem's Old City has long been a flashpoint for violence between Palestinians and the Israeli security forces, particularly during Ramadan, which draws tens of thousands of worshippers to Al-Aqsa.—AFP



## The Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council: Twelve Objectives

### 1. Political affairs

- (a) To build a Union based on democracy and federalism, through a disciplined and genuine multiparty democratic system that is fair and just.
- (b) To prioritize the achievement of enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA).
- (c) To continue implementing the principle of peaceful co-existence among countries through an independent, active, and non-aligned foreign policy.
- (d) To ensure peace, stability, rule of law, and the safe and smooth functioning of transport networks across the Union.

### 2. Economic affairs

- (a) To enhance development based on agriculture and livestock using modern production techniques and to strengthen all-round development in other sectors of the economy.
- (b) To develop a stable market economy and promote international investment in order to enhance the economic development of the entire National people.
- (c) To assure support for the sustainability of Micro-, Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) that prioritize import substitution, export production, and the use of domestically produced raw materials, in order to increase domestic production and generate employment opportunities.
- (d) To advance the socioeconomic life of the people, in order to ensure the country's prosperity and food security.

### 3. Social affairs

- (a) To ensure a strong and dynamic Union spirit, the genuine spirit of patriotism.
- (b) To respect and promote the customs and traditions of all National people and preserve and safeguard their faiths, beliefs, culture, and characteristics of patriotic nationalism.
- (c) To strengthen basic health care in order to achieve the emergence of a health system that enhances the longevity and health of the entire nation.
- (d) To comprehensively promote the education sector to make it capable of producing the human resources necessary for building a modern, developed, and progressive democratic nation.

## Aleksander Ceferin re-elected UEFA president until 2027

ALEKSANDER Ceferin was re-elected unopposed for a third term of four years as president of UEFA at a meeting of European football's governing body in Lisbon on Wednesday.

The 55-year-old Slovenian lawyer, first elected in 2016 following the downfall of Frenchman Michel Platini, will now remain in the role until 2027.

"I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your unanimous support. It really means a lot to me," Ceferin told delegates at the UEFA Congress in the Portuguese capital.

"It is a great honour but mainly it is a great, great responsibility, towards you and towards football."



Aleksander Ceferin delivers a speech at the UEFA Congress in Lisbon on Wednesday. PHOTO: AFP

The UEFA Congress came just a few weeks after Gianni Infantino was re-elected as president of the sport's world governing body FIFA, also unopposed. — AFP

## Serie A condemns racism after Juventus fans abuse Lukaku

SERIE A condemned on Wednesday "all instances of racism" in Italian football after Romelu Lukaku was abused during Inter Milan's cup semi-final clash at Juventus.

Lukaku scored a stoppage time penalty which secured Inter a 1-1 draw in Tuesday's first

leg but was then sent off after his celebrations in front of the Juve fans earned him a second booking.

The Belgium striker held his finger to his mouth and told supporters to "shut up", but reports of monkey chants were only confirmed late on Tues-

day by his representatives Roc Nation after neither Inter nor Juve made any mention of them post-match.

"Serie A strongly condemns all instances of racism and any form of discrimination," Italy's top division said in a statement. — AFP

## Iran beat Myanmar 1-0 in Asian Qualifiers for Women's Olympic



Myanmar women's national football team suffered a 0-1 defeat to Iran in the first match of the Asian Qualifiers Round 1 for the Women's Olympic Football Tournament Paris 2024 played at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

Myanmar team head coach Daw Thet Thet Win used his favourite lineup including May Zin Nwe, Moe Ma Ma Soe, Zune Yu Ya Oo, Yu Par Khaing, Naw Htet Htet Wai, Win Theingi Tun, San Thaw Thaw, Khin Mo Mo Tun, Captain Khin Marlar Tun, Phyu Phyu Win, and Myat Noe Khin.

Since both teams are strong, they started attacking from the kick-off.

Team Myanmar had many opportunities to score in the first half, but due to misunderstandings between the striker and the mid-

fielders, they were unable to convert the chances into goals. The Iranian team also played with tough defensive play and counterattacks, and the first half ended with a 0-0 score.

In the second half, team Iran was able to take advantage of the Myanmar team's defensive weaknesses and occupied a lot of space.

At a time when the power of the Myanmar team was losing, team Iran broke the deadlock with the header of Afsaneh Chatrenoor in the 52<sup>nd</sup> minute.

After getting the goal, Iran's players played more cleverly and controlled the result of the game.

The players of the Myanmar team continued to lack understanding and missed many chances until the final whistle.

Win Theingi Tun's kick was saved by the Iranian goalkeeper and Pont Pont Pyae Maung's long shot hit the crossbar, so Team Myanmar suffered a loss.

Since Myanmar lost the match against Iran 1-0, they will only be able to advance to the next round if they can get a decisive victory in the second match. — KZL

Myanmar team player Khin Mo Mo Tun (No 9) tries to pass the Iran team defence during the first match of the Asian Qualifiers Round 1 for Women's Olympic Football Tournament at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 5 April 2023. PHOTO: MFF