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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.

Preparations are being made to run electric trains and electric locomotives are being built: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views the upgrade of the Pinpet-Naungka-Taunggyi-Shwenyaung-Thazi-Myingyan railway section project on 29 May 2023.

EFFORTS must be made for arranging all rail tracts to endure trains that can run at the speed of 100 kilometres per hour as the

original goal, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in inspecting the upgrade of Pin-

pet-Naungka-Taunggyi-Shwenyaung-Thazi-Myingyan railway section project yesterday morning.

At the project briefing hall,

Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Aung Myaung reported on implementation of the guidance of the Senior General on his inspection tour

on 3 March, preparations for operating electric trains in the future, growing of plants along both sides of railways,

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Shwedagon to hold Maha Samaya Day on Nayon full moon day



The Maha Samaya Day was convened at Shwedagon Pagoda in 2022.

THE Maha Samaya Day will be celebrated at the Shwedagon Pagoda on 2 June (Nayon full moon day), according to the Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees.

Early in the morning of the full moon day of Nayon, *soon* (alms meal) will be offered to the Shwedagon Pagoda dedicating to the Lord Buddha and offerings donated to Ovadacariya Sayadaws of the Shwedagon Pagoda.

Sayadaws will deliver sermons regarding the emergence of the Maha Samaya Day in the prayer hall and share merits. Afterwards, religious organizations and staff of the pagoda will worship the pagoda going round it in a clockwise procession and reciting the Maha Samaya Sutta. — TWA/MKKS

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

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

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

3. It has been announced that donations can be made to the previously announced phone number and to the account that was opened, and since it can be confusing to donate with a phone number, we have already made it possible to donate with a QR code instead of the phone number.
4. Donations can be made through

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

following persons for further information: -



Nay Pyi Taw	Yangon	Mandalay
Daw Lei Lei Aye Director-General Department of Disaster Management 067-3404050 09-2021491	U Than Soe Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Yangon Region Department 09-250123885	U Aye Min Thu Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Mandalay Region Department 09-420708827
U Win Shwe Deputy Director-General Department of Disaster Management 067-3404048 09-254170011	Daw Than Than Win Deputy Director Department of Disaster Management Office of Yangon Region Department 09-420740160	
Daw Phyu Phyu Win Director Department of Disaster Management 067-3404316 09-43054844		

Systematic paddy cultivation needed

It is necessary to procure seed paddy of pure stock, fertilizers, farm water and correct growing methods in the systematic implementation of agricultural activities.

(Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with businesspersons of Micro-, Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) from Myeik District on 5 November 2022)

Preparations are being made to run electric trains ...



The Senior General hears the report on the Pinpet-Naungka-Taunggyi-Shwenyaung-Thazi-Myingyan railway upgrading project yesterday.

FROM PAGE-1
construction of the walls, retaining walls, conduits, drains and bridges, construction of Hthitsein station yard, placing rail tracts in Ayethaya and Pawmu station

yards and progress in upgrading Pinpet-Naungka-Taunggyi-Shwenyaung-Thazi-Myingyan railway section.

In his speech, the Senior General underscored that

the running of trains on the Thazi-Shwenyaung railway section was slower than the set speed. Hence, the brake system must be improved for the trains to be able to safely run along their

routes at the set speed. The road area must be set in advance for upgrading railways in the future. The State lands along both sides of the railways need to be grown with forests, so it is necessary

to draw forest laws. Passenger trains must be linked with RBE carriages. The Senior General disclosed that preparations are being made to run the electric trains and electric locomotives are being built. The Senior General gave guidance that efforts must be made for arranging all rail tracts to endure trains can run at the speed of speed of 100 kilometres per hour as the original goal, and it is necessary to review the plan to admit more than the aforesaid speed of trains from the engineering point of view.

After inspecting the railway circular site near Hthitsein railway station, the Senior General gave necessary guidance and presented cash awards to project employees. The railway circular near Hthitsein station is in a similar shape to the eminent Bawa Thanthaya railway and viaduct in order to draw the attention of train passengers. — MNA/TTA



The Senior General inspects railway upgrading project site near Hthitsein station yesterday.

58 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 29 May, total figure registers 638,726

MYANMAR'S COVID-19-positive cases rose to **638,726** after **58** new cases were reported on 29 May 2023 according to the Ministry of Health.

Therefore, a total of **10,630,647** laboratory samples were examined to date and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached **638,726**.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **617,692** including **71** new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered **19,494** on 29-5-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic. COVID-19 information can be browsed on the internet page moh.gov.mm of the Ministry of Health. — GNLM

Priority is being given to issuance of loans as capital for manageable-scale industries: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets MSMEs in the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone on 29 May 2023.

ENCOURAGING MSME businesses aim to increase production, substitute import goods and export more products to foreign markets, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in his meeting with micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises in Pa-O Self-Administered Zone yesterday afternoon. **Individual reports on operating MSMEs and requirements**

Chairman of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Administration Body U Khun Ye Htwe, Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Zaw

Aye and MSME businesspersons reported on the disbursement of loans to MSME businesses from the State economic promotion fund, construction of the cold storage for potatoes and the natural fertilizer factory, undertaking of agriculture and livestock farms in the zone, needs to build one more cold storage for potatoes, production of natural fertilizers, loans for expansion of coffee sown acreage and coffee industries, loans for manufacturing of cement, supply of electricity and regional development.

Responses of Union ministers to relevant sectors

Union ministers discussed

the disbursement of loans under various titles and the need to pay back the loans for issuing further loans, loan plans at soft interest rates for extended businesses, expansion of forest coverage area in Hopong Township, conservation of the environment and natural resources at Menei mountain range to manage water supply for the region, and registration of industries under the rules.

The Chief Minister of the state also discussed arrangements to contact relevant ministries for fulfilling the needs of businesspersons.

Encouraging manufacturing industries based on busi-

nesses of rural people

In his address, the Senior General pointed out that as the yield of paddy in the Pa-O region reaches some 67 baskets per acre, local farmers need to strive for meeting the target of the per-acre yield of paddy to benefit the region. Cultivable lands must be effectively utilized. Too much reliance on crop cultivation may cause dryness of water, harming the agricultural sector. Systematic farming works with correct agricultural techniques will help increase the per-acre yield of paddy.

Cultivation of paddy and crops need to use bio-fertilizers from livestock farms. Locals need to generate hydropower rather than generating electricity with fuel. Electricity projects in Shan State are delayed for various reasons. Hence, all need to strive for generating electricity in the Pa-O region.

The Senior General noted that the government disburses capital to local farmers under relevant financial rules and regulations. Priority is being given to issuance of loans as capital for manageable-scale industries. **Encouraging education sector**

The Senior General highlighted that basic education student number declines in academic years. Currently, 51 basic education high schools in 50 districts conduct technical, agriculture and livestock courses

as vocational training for students. As the number of human resources will rise in agriculture, livestock and industries, all must strive for the promotion of education in relevant regions as well as encourage education for the development of the Pa-O region.

The Senior General explained that encouraging MSME businesses aim to increase production, substitute imported goods and export more products to foreign markets. The government will provide necessary assistance for agricultural farms. To have success in agricultural farms, it is necessary to conduct agricultural research.

The Senior General viewed round domestic products, foodstuffs, consumer goods and industrial products, traditional handiworks and clothes and asked about market shares of these products.

In the afternoon, the Senior General inspected the conservation of the spring at Hopong Yayhtwetgyi in Hopong.

In his guidance, the Senior General stressed the need to build fences at the bund of the spring and clean the bushes around the lake. He called for setting the site for visitors to take a bath and other sites for people to take relaxation.

On 28 May evening, the Senior General visited Culamuni Lawka Chantha Pagoda and Shwephonepint Pagoda in Taunggyi.—MNA/TTA



The Senior General looks into the local products displayed at the event yesterday.

Each Tatmadaw member must have skills and qualifications in training to become a capable and powerful Tatmadaw



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets officer instructors and trainees of the Military Computer Technological Institute in Hopong Station yesterday.



The Senior General cordially greets instructors and trainees at the meeting yesterday.

TRAINEES have the capacity to apply their skills in relevant professions at full capacity for building the capable Tatmadaw, Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing was quoted as saying at the meeting with officer instructors and trainees at the Military Computer and Technological Institute in Hopong Station yesterday morning.

Trainees must pursue engineering subjects to have actual skills. As the institute

has been upgraded as the creation of good environments, the morale of trainees will improve. The creation of a good environment can not only improve physical structures but also contribute much to the improvement of morale.

After completing the courses, trainees assigned to relevant regiments and units have to thoroughly apply experiences from training so as to dutifully serve their assignments. So, they have to understand their moves as improving the Tatmadaw and themselves. Hence, all trainees must be qualified for military arts and

relevant professions.

They need to continued

learning as training is endless. Trainees have the capacity to apply their skills in relevant professions at full capacity for building capable Tatmadaw. They all have to study modern warfare and changing modern wars.

The Senior General explained the leadership of Tatmadaw in initiating multiparty democratization in 2011, the dutiful efforts of Tatmadaw in two terms of democratic governments, voting frauds in the 2020 general election, serving the State responsibilities after the declaration of the State of Emergency, and implementation of policies and objectives for political, economic and social development of the State

and peace and stability.

The Senior General presented foodstuffs and sports equipment for trainees to the commandant and cordially greeted the trainees.

The Senior General inspected the progress of agriculture and livestock farms in the institute and gave necessary guidance.

The Senior General had lunch together with trainees at the mess hall of the institute.

Yesterday morning, the Senior General comforted officers, other ranks, families and members of the Myanmar Police Force receiving medical treatments at the local military hospital in Taunggyi and presented foodstuffs. — MNA/TTA



The Senior General views round the agriculture and livestock farms of the training school.

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DPM MoTC Union Minister inspects cleanup activities, renovation work, healthcare services in Rakhine State

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San watched the demonstration of using tree cutters, iron cutters and hydraulic cutters conducted by Myanmar Fire Brigade together with Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin yesterday.

During the event, the Deputy Prime Minister called for the need to conduct cleanup activities for broken towers using these cutters as quickly as possible.

Then, the Deputy Prime Minister and party inspected the public healthcare services and health awareness programmes at the regional health unit compound of Mingan ward



Deputy Prime Minister Admiral Tin Aung San inspects the rehabilitation efforts in Sittway yesterday.

tients and provided foodstuffs.

These medical teams provide healthcare services by cooperating with specialists of Sittway General Hospital and practitioners of Sittway Traditional Medicine Hospital, the medical team of the Ministry of Health and members of the Myanmar Red Cross Society.

Moreover, the Deputy Prime Minister and party checked the damage and maintenance of the gravel-filled retaining wall, concrete road and platform along the Sittway strand road.

At noon, the Deputy Prime Minister and party attended the coordination meeting on rehabilitation processes held at the office of the Rakhine State government together with Lt-Gen Phone Myat and made proper instructions regarding the rapid rehabilitation processes.

Of 1,233 mobile stations of four telecom operators in Rakhine State, 904 stations failed due to Cyclone Mocha. Only 329 stations provided services and the maintenance of underground and aboveground fibre cables, microwave links and mobile communication stations was conducted, and 793 mobile stations (totalling 1,122 stations and 91 per cent) have been repaired on 29 May and communication services have resumed in Rakhine State. — MNA/KTZH

in Sittway launched by the Hospital and Practitioners of Hospital (50-bed). They also comforted the patients and provided foodstuffs.



Deputy Prime Minister Admiral Tin Aung San and party look round the repair work and healthcare services in Sittway yesterday.



MoEP staff are seen in the repair and recovery efforts in the disaster-hit areas yesterday.

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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.



SAC Member receives Russian State Duma delegation

U Wunna Maung Lwin, Member of the State Administration Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr Sholban Kara-Ool, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma, Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, at the State Administration Council Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on matters pertaining to the further enhancement of the friendly bilateral relations and mutually beneficial cooperation between Myanmar and Russia, as well as closer collaboration in multilateral contexts. — MNA



SAC member U Wunna Maung Lwin receives Mr Sholban Kara-Ool, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma, Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation yesterday.

UEC examines National Unity Party's compliance with political parties' registration regulations



UNION Election Commission Chairman U Thein Soe and members inspected the headquarters of the National Unity Party located at No 24, Aungzeya Street, Shwetaungkya Ward 1, Bahan Township, Yangon Region yesterday morning, which has already been registered in accordance with the rules of the Political Parties

Registration Law and Rule. Party Chairman U Han Shwe and party members gave a briefing on the conditions of the party's operations in accordance with the rules.

The National Unity Party has been granted the right to register as a political party in accordance with Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law on 25 April to organize nationwide.

More than 100,000 party members have been organized and 247 party offices have been opened. — MNA/KZL

The UEC inspection process in the NUP in progress yesterday.

MMPO, departmental officials hold coord meeting to host fundraising event for Mocha victims

A coordination meeting between the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization (MMPO) and the departmental officials to organize a grand fund-raising concert for Mocha victims was held at the MMPO in Bahan Township, Yangon, yesterday morning.

The meeting was attended by Yangon Region Advocate-General U Htay Aung, departmental officials, the MMPO Patron and Chairman, film directors and responsible personnel of the MMPO, the Myanmar Music Association, and the Myanmar Theatrical Association.

First of all, Yangon Region Advocate-General U Htay Aung and the MMPO Chairman gave their opening speeches.

The grand fund-raising event will take place from 6 to

9:30 pm for three days from 2 to 4 June. The arrangements for YBS bus lines and taxis to facilitate the transportation of the audience, the preparations for the public to donate before and during the event, the entertainment programmes, and the process to obtain tickets were presented and discussed by those responsible for each sector. Tickets for the event at the National Theatre will be available for K5,000 to K30,000 at the National Theatre and the MMPO starting 29 May. Tickets are being sold for K5,000, K10,000, K20,000 and K30,000.

Artistes from the film, music, and theatrical associations will be rehearsing for the concert on 30 May, and the funds raised from the event will be donated to Mocha victims. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/CT

MoIC Union Minister meets Russian State Duma delegation



The Russian State Duma delegation calls on Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing yesterday.

U Ko Ko Hlaing, Union Minister for International Cooperation of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar met the Russian State Duma delegation led by Mr Sholban Kara-Ool, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma,

Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, both sides cordially exchanged views on the further consolidation of the existing ties of friendship

between Myanmar and Russia, expansion of bilateral cooperation including trade, economic, social and tourism sectors, and enhancement of cooperation through regional and international organizations. — MNA

OPINION

Take prevention of pests in sunflower plantations

THE consumption of cooking oil plays a key role in the consumption types of humans on a daily routine. It is because cooking oil is important in the daily cooking process of Myanmar people. Myanmar mostly uses groundnut and sesame oil in making meals.

Farmers cultivate oil crops such as groundnut, sesame, sunflower, canola, niger and so on to produce cooking oils for domestic consumption. In addition, businesspersons import palm oil from Malaysia and Indonesia.

Myanmar places three million acres of croplands under groundnut plants, 3.5 million acres under sesame and one million acres under sunflowers. If farmers systematically grow these oil crops, they can produce 1.369 million tonnes of edible oil per year. Such an amount will contribute to 200 per cent of the oil sufficiency of the nation.

Everything is included in the chain of process. High yield and extended sown acreage of various oil crops will contribute to domestic consumption and reduction of oil import. Such an act saves foreign exchange. The saved money can be spent on other development measures for the nation and the people.

Farmers can seek technical assistance from staff from the relevant Department of Agriculture for managing their oil crop farms. By the suggestions of the agriculturists, they have to nurture oil crops and prevent pests without fail. Moreover, the farmers themselves need to observe the nature of various pests which can destroy oil crops year after year.

As sunflower plants can be harvested in a shorter time than groundnut and sesame, an emphasis must be placed on the cultivation of such an oil crop in order to produce cooking oil for meeting the demand of the domestic market. Moreover, they have to extend sown acreage of oil crops depending on climatic conditions and costs of inputs. Only when they extend the cultivation of oil crops will the country reduce the import volume of palm oil abroad, saving foreign exchange.

Everything is included in the chain of process. High yield and extended sown acreage of various oil crops will contribute to domestic consumption and reduction of oil import. Such an act saves foreign exchange. The saved money can be spent on other development measures for the nation and the people.

Among them, sunflower is primarily grown in Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Ayeyawady regions as well as Shan State. In this regard, extended cultivation of sunflowers needs to take care of pests in the farms to have to boost per-acre yield. Farmers should observe the nature of pests along the term of sunflower plantations. It is because such kind of pests can cause damage to sunflower plantations, accounting for 25-45 per cent. If pesticides and chemicals are extremely used in combating pests at sunflower plantations, these pests will have resistance against the pesticides and chemicals, causing water and air pollution, high costs and content of chemical residues in the crops. Hence, farmers should use chemicals to combat pests if it is an unavoidable situation.

SIGNIFICANT terms and their meanings in international law and diplomacy

SERIES SIX (Alphabetical order)

de facto (Lat) : (adj & adv)

De facto is a term used to describe a situation which is acknowledged to exist but of which the legality or justice may be in question.

De facto is frequently applied in international law to a government of a nation which is in fact in power but which may have come into power by violence or unlawful means. It, in short, means from the fact.

de jure (Lat) : (adj & adv)

De jure is a term used to describe a situation in which the rightfulness is admitted, whether or not it is carried in fact.

De jure is applied in international law as a contrast to de facto. It, in short, means from the law.

démarche (Fr) : (n)

Demarche generally means any oral or written diplomatic representation specifically it can be an offer, an attempt, a request, a protestation, a warning, a threat, a demand, etc.

DE novo (Lat) : (adj & adv)

De novo is usually an adjective

word: e.g. de novo review. As an adverb, it means anew. E.g. We review a summary judgement de novo.

détente: (n)

Détente is a relaxation of tension. It is not the opposite of entente.

diplomacy: (n)

Diplomacy is the art, science, or practice of conducting negotiations between nations. It is the business or art of the diplomatist.

Diplomacy is also the management of international relations by negotiations; the method by which these relations are adjusted and managed by ambassadors and envoys.

diplomat: (n)

Diplomat means one, such as an ambassador, who has been appointed to represent a government in its relations with other governments. It is also used to refer to one who uses skill and tact in dealing with others.

diplomatic corps: (adj)

The diplomatic corps is the body of diplomatic personnel in residence at a nation's capital.

diplomatic immunity: (adj)

Diplomatic immunity is the exemption from taxation and ordinary processes of law accorded to the diplomatic personnel in a foreign country.

doyen: (n)

Doyen means "Dean". The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps is the most senior envoy in point of service.

E

embargo: (n)

An embargo means the detention of the ships of an offending state in the ports of the injured state by way of reprisals.

Embargo also takes place when at the outbreak of a conflict a neutral state prohibits the shipment of war materials to either or both belligerents.

en clair (Fr) : (adv phr)

En clair is a term meaning in clear; a telegram or radiogram is en clair if it is sent in ordinary plain text, not in code.

entente (Fr): (n)

Entente is understanding; an understanding between two

or more states providing for or implying a common course of action, or identity of policy, or a community of interests concerning certain issues.

It is less definite than an "alliance" but stronger than good relations. Entente is not the opposite of détente. Entente cordiale denotes friendly understanding.

escrow: (n)

Escrow is a deed delivered but not to become operative until a future date or until some condition has been fulfilled.

Escrow also means a deposit held in trust or as security.

espionage: (n)

By the term espionage, it is meant the act of spying or illegally discovering information and factual data relating to one nation for the purpose of transmitting them surreptitiously to another.

estoppel: (n)

Estoppel denotes the principle according to which a State is barred from denying the veracity of a statement previously made by an authorized representative or the existence of a

fact on which others have been led to rely by the conduct of such representative.

ex aequo et bono (Lat): (adv)

Ex aequo et bono means "in equity and good conscience"

exequatur: (n)

Exequatur is a permission, usually in a formal written document, issued by any government, and authorizing some person to act within the jurisdiction of that government as the consul or commercial agent of a foreign government.

ex officio (Lat): (adj & adv);

ex-cathedra (Lat): (adj & adv)

Ex officio means "by virtue of one's office". E.g. The chairman is an ex officio member of all standing committees. Another example is that the chairman became a member ex officio.

Ex-cathedra as an adverb means "from the chair; with authority". Ex-cathedra as an adjective is "authoritative."

ex parte (Lat): (adj & adv);

inter partes (Lat): (adj & adv)

Ex parte means "from one side only". E.g. The arbitration was conducted ex parte because



U KHIN MAUNG (A retired diplomat)

International law provides a basis for diplomatic negotiations and agreements, ensuring that interactions between states are guided by legal norms and principles. PHOTO: IMAGE CREDIT: STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE/PIXABAY/FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY

the appellee declined to participate in the proceeding.

Inter parte is the antonym of ex parte. It means "between parties; involving all parties to a lawsuit". E.g. In other states, these courts may conduct inter partes proceeding if the contestant files a caveat after the ex parte proceeding has begun.

ex rel (Lat): (n)

Ex-rel is used to designate the complaining party in a crim-

inal action.

extradition: (n)

Extradition is used to refer to the surrender by one nation to another of a person accused of having committed a crime in the latter.

extremism: (n)

Extremism means "belief based on the extreme interpretation of an ideology or doctrine"

Reference:

- (1) *Black's Law Dictionary* By Bryan A. Garner
- (2) *Law and Customs in Burma and the Burmese Family* by Dr Maung Maung, B.L (Rangoon), J.S.D (Yale), LL.D (Utrecht), of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-law.



King Coal, make way for the Sun King. Investment in solar power is expected to overtake that for oil production for the first time ever this year. PHOTO: DANIEL LEAL / AFP

Solar investment outshines oil: IEA

INVESTMENT in solar power is expected to overtake oil for the first time this year as clean energy spending outpaces that for fossil fuels, the IEA said in a report Thursday.

While that is a welcome development, the International Energy Agency warned that investment in fossil fuels is rising when it should be falling fast to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

"Clean energy is moving fast — faster than many people realise," IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol said in a statement accompanying the release of the agency's latest report on energy investment.

"This is clear in the investment trends, where clean technologies are pulling away from fossil fuels," he added.

Annual investment in clean energy is expected to have risen by 24 per cent from 2021 to more than \$1.7 trillion in 2023, according to the IEA. The gain for fossil fuels was 15 per cent over the same period.

Investment in clean energy and fossil fuels was equal only five years ago. But a combination of factors, in particular high oil and gas prices and a worry about accompanying the release of the agency's latest report on energy investment.

"One shining example is in-

vestment in solar, which is set to overtake the amount of investment going into oil production for the first time," Birol said.

The IEA expects investment in solar power, essentially photovoltaic panels, to hit \$380 billion this year, while investment in oil exploration and extraction should come in at \$370 billion.

Sun King

"This crowns solar as a true energy superpower," said Dave Jones, head of data insights at the energy think tank Ember.

The low price of solar power generation will help propel decarbonisation efforts as electric car adoption gathers pace.

But the rebound in oil and gas investment, which is expected to return to 2019 levels this year, puts the industry further away from the IEA's 2050 net zero trajectory.

The IEA says overall 2023 fossil fuel investment is expected to be more than double the amount the sector should be spending in 2030. For coal, it could hit six times the amount.

The IEA also noted that clean energy investment was concentrated in advanced nations and China, while the biggest increases in fossil fuel investment are in Middle Eastern nations.

"The irony remains that some of the sunniest places in

the world have the lowest levels of solar investment, and this is a problem that needs attention," said Jones.

The IEA also found that major energy companies, for the most part, are not putting considerable funds into the transition to green energy.

Just five per cent of their cash flow last year went to low-carbon and renewable energies or carbon capture projects, only about a quarter of the amount that was paid out overall to shareholders.

SOURCE: AFP

UCSB Chair meets Russian Vice-Chairman of Committee on External Relations via videoconferencing

CHAIRMAN U Sit Aye of the Union Civil Service Board met the Russian Federation's Committee on External Relations from the North-West Institute of Management of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (NWIM RANEP) led by the vice-chairman of St Petersburg yesterday through videoconferencing.

Both sides exchanged views on the opening of courses for executive-level officials and advanced civil service courses by civil service academies, visiting lecturers from NWIM RANEP to give lectures in

the civil service academies, the provision of reciprocal courses on lectures of civil service academies, ToT courses, exchange of teaching experiences, reviewal and revision of the subjects being taught according to the course and update of them, technologies and libraries that will assist in research activities, bilateral study tours related to training, cooperation in educational mission programmes, collaborative experience in public affairs management and leadership.

The videoconference meeting was attended by members of the Union Civil Service Board,



the permanent secretary, the director-general, rectors of the



Civil Service Academy (Upper Myanmar) and the Civil Service Academy (Lower Myanmar), and officials. – MNA/TS

Knowledge-sharing seminar on nuclear energy for Myanmar media held



The documentary group photo of the event held yesterday in Yangon.

IN accordance with the "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation to achieve positive public opinion on nuclear energy" signed between the Ministry of Science and Technology and the State Atomic Energy Corporation of the Russian Federation "Rosatom" to cooperate for the purpose of peaceful use of nuclear energy, the knowledge-sharing seminar on nuclear energy for Myanmar media was held at the Nuclear Technology Information Centre in Hlaing Township, Yangon, yesterday morning.

Permanent Secretary Dr

Sai Kyaw Naing Oo of the Ministry of Science and Technology and officials, representatives from "ROSATOM" of the Russian Federation, officials from the Ministry of Information and local Myanmar media representatives attended the seminar.

An official of the Nuclear Technology Information Centre and the Chief Editor of the Strana Rosatom news agency explained the facts about nuclear technology and nuclear power and they replied to the questions raised by the media.

— MNA/MKKS

CRIME NEWS

Illegal foodstuffs, industrial materials and vehicles confiscated

THE on-duty teams confiscated 9,000 boxes of Lactasoy milk (worth K3 million) without official documents from a Mitsubishi Fuso bus (approximate value of K25 million) heading to Pyay from Myawady and 2,900 Family Goose Star undervest cotton (worth K2.03 million) without official documents from a Toyota HiAce minibus (estimated value of K23 million) heading from Myawady to Yangon at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint and two kinds of goods (worth K664,801,200), including 201,077.04 kilogrammes of Richeese Nabati cheese cream wafer, that were different from ID, at the MITT Port Terminal container checkpoint on 24 and 26

May. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

An on-duty team at the 16th-Mile Kyaukchaw checkpoint in Mandalay Region captured five kinds of consumer goods (worth K4.574 million), including 164 kilogrammes of award plastic without official documents, from a Nissan Station Wagon vehicle (approximate value of K15 million) heading from Muse to Mandalay on 26 May. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

In addition, a Toyota Wish ANE 11 car (estimated value of K6.3 million) without official documents was seized at the Taninthayi Bridge Police outpost on 26



May. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

Therefore, eight arrests (estimated value of K743,705,200) were made on 24 and 26 May, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

Confiscated illegal goods at MITT port terminal.



Tatmadaw (Navy) transports supplies to people in Mocha-hit Rakhine State

THE Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air Force) families, Myanmar Economic Corporation and Myanma Radio and Television donated a total of 672 tonnes of foodstuffs, clothes, batteries, vehicles, generators and cement for the Mocha victims and Pyitawaye II, the supply vessel of the Tatmadaw (Navy), carrying the relief aid, left Yangon for Sittway yesterday morning.

A 29-metre landing craft from the Tatmadaw (Navy)

transported relief items, foodstuffs and utensils weighing 54 tonnes from Sittway Port to MraukU Port.

The second landing craft transported the relief goods, foodstuffs and rehabilitation items weighing 12 tonnes from Yaychanpyin Port to Rathedaung Port.

The third landing craft transported 27 tonnes of timbers from Sittway Port to Rathedaung Port.

The last landing craft de-



Relief supplies are loaded onto the Tatmadaw supply vessel Pyitawaye II yesterday.

livered about of 35 tonnes of consumer goods and clothes from Sittway Port to MraukU Port yesterday afternoon. — MNA/KZW



Commander-in-Chief (Navy) inspects naval bases in Sittway, Kyaukpyu

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF (Navy) Admiral Moe Aung, currently in Sittway, Rakhine State, along with Western Command Commander Maj-Gen Htin Latt

C-in-C (Navy) Admiral Moe Aung is pictured during his inspection tours.

Oo, the commander of the local naval command and officials, went on an inspection tour of the local naval bases and encouraged officials, soldiers, and their family members yesterday morning. Next, they met commanders of the naval vessels who are in charge of the transport of relief and rehabilitation materials and instructed them

to manage systematic transport, timely arrival and swift distribution of relief supplies.

Afterwards, they proceeded to Kyaukpyu along the Thanzit River by the Tatmadaw (Navy) warship. Then, they inspected the local naval bases, encouraged the family members, provided supplies for them, and fulfilled their needs. — MNA/CT

Foodstuffs, vegetables sold at reduced prices to Mocha victims in Sittway

FOR the convenience of the residents and departmental staff in Sittway hit by Cyclone Mocha, rice, edible oil, salt, meat, fish, eggs, dairy products, onions, garlic, instant noodles, and biscuits produced by the military factories, canned beef, canned peas and bamboo shoots, canned chicken and potatoes were sold at prices lower than the market prices by the military personnel and officials from Western Com-

mand at the U Ottama Park in Sittway yesterday. It is reported that the residents and the families of the departmental staff bought them in a body, and they are very grateful to the officials for selling them at low prices in times of difficulty.

Western Command Commander Maj-Gen Htin Latt Oo and officials oversaw the sale and coordinated the necessary arrangements. — MNA/CT



Locals are seen buying foodstuffs at reduced prices in Sittway.

Tatmadaw senior officers, officials assist in rehabilitation work in Rakhine State



Foodstuffs are provided for disaster-hit victims.

UNDER Section 11 of the Natural Disaster Management Law, the State Administration Council declared the areas damaged by Cyclone Mocha as areas affected by natural disasters and appointed senior military officers to carry out rehabilitation work in the areas mentioned in the announcement.

Lt-Gen Lu Aye, currently in Kyaukpyu to perform rehabilitation tasks, and officials

inspected the distribution of purified water to the Ngalapwe ward and healthcare services in Zaytiya ward.

Similarly, Lt-Gen Aye Win, currently in Buthidaung Township, together with officials, held a meeting with departmental personnel and administrators from 84 village-tracts at the township national disaster management centre. During the meeting, relief materials

were provided, and necessary coordination was made on the presentations.

In addition, Maj-Gen Soe Naing Oo, along with officials, presented prizes and exercise books to outstanding students in the 2022-2023 academic year at No 1 Basic Education High School. Afterwards, he also attended a meeting on rehabilitation activities at the meeting hall of the district general administration department and coordinated the requirements based on the presentations.

Similarly, Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Soe, who is in Myebon, had a coordination meeting with officials in the meeting hall of the Township General Administration Department to collect accurate data on damage and losses caused by the storm in collaboration with the township natural disaster management teams. — MNA/KZW

CURRENT AFFAIRS

YRTC to replace low-model YBS buses with EVs



An EV express bus from Mandalay Min express bus line will run along Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay route.

THE Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC) is planning to replace low-model YBS buses with EV electric buses as a pilot project.

Currently, there are nine companies initially importing electric buses. The YRTC is coordinating with the Yangon

City Development Committee (YCDC) to build places to store imported electric cars, plan alternative trips, and verify and approve bus lines.

It will be implemented as a pilot project to replace the currently running YBS buses with electric buses if there is

a shortage of fuel oil and CNG.

A survey will be conducted by YRTC together with Yutong Company in order to systematically run the bus line for electric buses soon, and measures will be taken to collect the bus fare only under fair conditions, according to the YRTC. — TWA/CT

Students under old curriculum allowed to take matriculation exam

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Education, students who followed the old curriculum will be allowed to sit for the Grade 12 new curriculum matriculation exam.

The Ministry of Education announced that those who failed or did not sit for the matriculation exam under the old curriculum in March 2023 will not be allowed to attend school in the 2023–2024 academic year. However, they will have the right

to self-study or attend external classes and take the Grade 12 new curriculum matriculation exam.

More than 280,000 students sat for the matriculation exam in 2022, and over 130,000 students passed, with a national pass rate of 46.88 per cent. There were reportedly nearly 180,000 applicants across the country for the old curriculum matriculation examination held in 2023. — TWA/CT



Students took the matriculation exam in 2022.

Action to be taken against illegal sale of farmlands in Patheingyi Tsp

THE Aungmyaythazan District Administration Body in Mandalay Region has notified that action will be taken against marking off Form 7 farmland into plots for building and selling them in Patheingyi township.



It is mentioned in the notification that farmland is not cultivated under the farm law, is allowed to lie fallow for no apparent reason and is used for other purposes.

It was also mentioned in the notification that the farmland is being made into plots, filled with land, paved concrete road, fenced, illegally bought and sold and buildings and shops put up.

The Aungmyaythazan District Administration Body has issued a notification that action will be taken against those activities that do not conform with the law. — TWA/MKKS

The plot location map of Patheingyi Township in Mandalay Region.

Myanmar nationals forced to work in online gaming company in Philippines rescued



The photo shows the safe arrival back of 21 Myanmar nationals who were forced to work for an online game company in the Philippines last February 2023.

A total of 42 Myanmar nationals who were forced to work in an online gaming company near Mabalacat City in Pampanga Province, the Philippines, were rescued,

according to the Embassy of Myanmar to the Philippines.

Acting on a tip-off, the Philippine National Police carried out an anti-trafficking operation on the night of

4 May and rescued a total of 1,137 foreigners, including 42 Myanmar nationals, forced to work in a large online gaming company.

The Embassy of Myanmar to the Philippines cooperated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, the Philippine National Police and the Philippine Immigration Department and returned the first batch of five men and 15 women to Myanmar on 27 May.

The Embassy of Myanmar is making arrangements with the relevant departments for the remaining Myanmar nationals to be returned to Myanmar as soon as possible. — TWA/MKKS

Asian, European markets diverge after US debt deal

ASIAN and European stock markets wobbled Monday after President Joe Biden and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy reached a deal on lifting the US debt ceiling to avoid a disastrous default.

Among major Asian markets, Tokyo and Shanghai finished in the green but Hong Kong was unable to maintain their early gains and turned lower.

Paris and Frankfurt rose at the open but were down in early afternoon deals. Wall Street and London were closed for a holiday.

After weeks of wrangling, the two announced that an agreement had finally been reached and urged lawmakers on both

sides of the aisle to vote for it before the government runs out of cash on 5 June.

However, there is some nervousness on trading floors as the bill contains plenty of elements that are likely to anger Democrats and Republicans alike.

“We should not expect a smooth passage,” said Clifford Bennett, chief economist at ACY Securities. “There is a slight risk of this being a giant case of the devil in the details.”

“A default can most probably be avoided at this stage. Such default avoidance is still not a complete certainty; however it is now much less of a risk,” Bennett added.



An investor looks at screens showing stock market movements at a securities company in Fuyang in China's eastern Anhui province on 29 May 2023. PHOTO: STR / AFP

The breakthrough lifts the threat of a debt default by the United States that economists warn could hammer

the global economy and cause market turmoil. The bill will suspend the debt ceiling until 1 January 2025, and place

curbs on federal spending that will please some Republicans, but it does not deliver the big cuts right-wingers wanted and

progressive Democrats would have balked at.

“The agreement prevents the worst possible crisis,” Biden said at the White House on Sunday. “I strongly urge both chambers to pass that agreement.”

“The obvious positive interpretation is that a negative tail risk is close to being taken off the table,” said Dan Suzuki of Richard Bernstein Advisors.

“With the distraction of the debt ceiling fading into the background, investors can now refocus their attention on the underlying fundamentals. One concern, though, is that the fundamental picture remains precarious.” — AFP

Malaysia's PPI declines further to negative growth of 3% in April

THE rate of Malaysia's producer price index (PPI), which measures the prices of goods at the factory gate, declined further to negative three per cent in April as against negative 2.9 per cent in March, official data showed Monday.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) said in a statement that the downturn trend is mainly due to the decline in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and mining sectors.

According to DOSM, the agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors continued to show a negative trend for 10 consecutive months, recording a negative 26 per cent in April. The mining sector also declined by 4.7 per cent in April due to a decrease in the extraction of crude petroleum index. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V KOTA HAPAS VOY.NO. (KHPS0385N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V KOTA HAPAS VOY.NO. (KHPS0385N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-5-2023** 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V YANGTZE CLASSIC VOY.NO. (2304)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V YANGTZE CLASSIC VOY.NO. (2304)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-5-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **SPW-7** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S ELDER TRIUMPHANT SHIPPING LINES PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V IAL 001 VOY.NO. (N151)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V IAL 001 VOY.NO. (N151)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-5-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S INTER ASIA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V JUPITER VOY.NO. (02-23)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V JUPITER VOY.NO. (02-23)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-5-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S UNI SPRING LOGISTICS HOLDINGS PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V QUANG HAI VOY.NO. (05/23)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V QUANG HAI VOY.NO. (05/23)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-5-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMT-3** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING PTE LTD

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

UN issues hunger alert for Haiti, Sahel and Sudan



Internally displaced women wait for their food ration during a food distribution next to a World Food Programme (WFP) truck in Bentiu on 7 February 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

HAITI, the Sahel and Sudan now rank among the UN's highest alert areas for food insecurity, requiring "urgent" action from the international community, food agencies warned Monday.

The Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP) said Afghanistan, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen remain at the highest alert level.

And now Haiti, the Sahel — Burkina Faso and Mali — and the Sudan join them, the agencies said in a joint report.

The move follows the se-

vere restrictions on movement of people and goods in jihadist-hit Burkina Faso and Mali as well as crisis-wracked Haiti, and the recent outbreak of conflict in Sudan, the report said.

All hotspots at the highest level have "communities facing or projected to face starvation, or at risk of sliding towards catastrophic conditions," it said, adding that they required "the most urgent attention".

The report spotlights the risk of a spillover of the Sudan crisis, and says a likely El Nino climatic phenomenon is raising fears of

climate extremes in vulnerable countries around the globe.

El Nino is the large-scale warming of surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean.

The "expected shift in climate patterns will have significant implications for several hotspots", the report warned.

Those include "below-average rains in the Dry Corridor of Central America", and potentially "consecutive extreme climatic events hitting areas of the Sahel and the Horn of Africa", it said. — AFP

Israel encourages building of storage facilities to optimize energy use

THE Israeli Electricity Authority on Sunday launched a nationwide incentive plan to optimize energy use by decentralizing the electricity grid and building local storage facilities.

The plan will encourage the building of autonomous energy storage and production facilities near urban areas with high electricity consumption, said a statement issued by the authority.

The plan aims to optimize the electricity grid use, improve the reliability of supply amid the increasing electricity demand, combat climate change, and help meet governmental targets to promote the use of renewable energy, it noted.

The storage facilities near the high consumption areas

will avoid the need for additional networks that would have significant planning and environmental consequences, save high costs, and prevent electricity loss, the ministry noted. Energy storage will prevent the overproduction of electricity, reduce the gap between the supply and the local demand throughout the day, save the resources of the electricity grid, and serve as a substitute for the electricity grid in certain areas, it added.

The plan's incentives will be given to storage facilities that will be connected to the high voltage system and that will allow distributors to manage their loading in accordance with network management considerations. — Xinhua

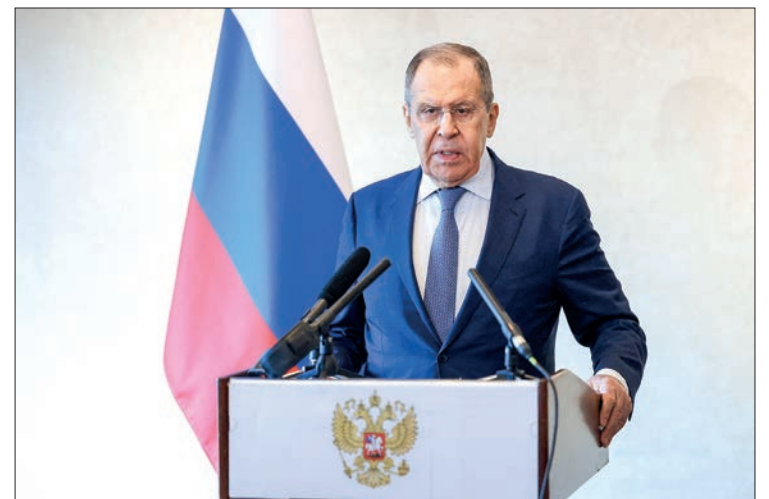
Lavrov in Kenya on heels of Ukraine FM trip to Africa

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov was meeting Kenyan leaders on Monday on a surprise visit to Nairobi, as Moscow and Kyiv both seek to bolster support from African nations over the war in Ukraine.

Lavrov's trip to the East African powerhouse comes on the heels of a trip to the continent last week by his Ukrainian counterpart Dmytro Kuleba.

"During our visit we will discuss our cooperation in the trade, investment and economic spheres, humanitarian and cultural questions, education, cooperation in the UN and many other issues," Lavrov told Kenyan lawmakers, according to the Russian foreign ministry.

The trip had not been an-



Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov meets with the media in Nairobi on 29 May 2023. **PHOTO: HANDOUT / RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY / AFP**

nounced in advance, and no information has been forthcoming from Kenyan officials.

Lavrov has visited Africa

several times over the past year, as global powers tussle for influence on the continent of 1.3 billion people. — AFP

Erdogan calls for "unity, solidarity" after securing another 5-year term

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan pledged early Monday to build the "Century of Türkiye" together with the nation and called for unity as he won the presidential runoff which would extend his tenure until 2028.

"We should come together in unity and solidarity," he addressed supporters outside the presidential residence in the capital Ankara.

"Nobody has lost today, all 85 million won. Now is the time to unite and integrate around our national goals and national dreams ... We are not the only winners. The winner is Türkiye,

the winner is our nation with all its segments, our democracy is the winner," he said, adding that he would be the president of the whole nation.

Erdogan promised to ease economic difficulties and said healing the "wounds" of the massive earthquakes on 6 February would be his priority.

On addressing problems caused by inflation, he said that compensating welfare loss is the "most urgent" priority of the government and that the inflation has been slowed.

"We are planning an economy focused on financial man-



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (C) waves to people in Ankara, Türkiye on 29 May 2023. **PHOTO: MUSTAFA KAYA/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

agement, investment, and employment. We will continue on the road with confidence and stability. We (will) design a manufacturing economy with an international reputation for financial management, investment, and employment," he said.

He recalled that nearly 600,000 Syrians returned to their country and that Türkiye agreed with Qatar on cooperation for a new housing project in northern Syria, so that the government would help one million more Syrian refugees to go back to their homeland in a "couple of years." — Xinhua

Japan concerned by N Korea plan to launch satellite by 11 June

JAPAN said Monday that North Korea notified it of a plan to launch a “satellite” between 31 May and 11 June, with Tokyo expressing concern it may instead test a ballistic missile in what would be another step towards Pyongyang developing its nuclear and missile capabilities.

Pyongyang said it will outline three maritime danger zones in which objects may fall during the period, with two areas to the west of the Korean Peninsula and one to east of the Philippines, the Japan Coast Guard said. All areas are outside of Japan’s exclusive economic zone.

North Korea’s National Aerospace Development Administration said in December it will complete preparations for its first military reconnaissance satellite by this April, according to the official Korean Central News Agency.

Emphasizing that Japan considers the launching of a rocket carrying a satellite as equivalent to that of a ballistic missile test on the basis of historical precedent, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida told reporters that following through on the plan would violate UN Security Council resolutions that

impose sanctions on North Korea for its weapons-related activity.

Kishida added the envisioned missile launch would be a “serious issue that affects the people’s safety”. He has instructed relevant ministries to urge Pyongyang to “exercise self-restraint,” making the call in conjunction with the United States and South Korea.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno said North Korea’s decision to fire a missile poses a threat to peace and stability in the international community, describing the move as a “serious provocation”. — Kyodo



File photo taken on 5 May 2023 shows a Patriot Advanced Capability-3 surface-to-air missile interceptor deployed at an Air Self-Defence Force sub base on Miyako Island, Okinawa Prefecture. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Nepal celebrates 70 years since first Everest summit

THE sons of Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa led celebrations in Nepal on Monday to mark the 70th anniversary of the historic first ascent of Everest.

The scaling of the 8,849-metre (29,032-foot) peak on 29 May 1953, changed mountaineering forever and made the New Zealander and his Nepalese guide

household names.

“In a whole lot of ways, it was not just Ed Hillary and Tenzing Norgay that reached the summit of Mount Everest, it was all of humanity,” Peter Hillary said at a school founded by his father in the remote village of Khumjung at 3,790 metres.

“Suddenly, all of us could

go,” he said.

And gone they have. In the past seven decades, more than 6,000 climbers have climbed the world’s highest mountain, according to the Himalayan Database.

It remains dangerous, with more than 300 losing their lives in the same period, including 12 this year. Five others are missing, putting 2023 on course to be a record deadly year.

As well as supporting tourism, the rapid growth in the climbing industry has raised revenue for Nepal, which today charges foreigners an Everest permit fee of \$11,000.

Family members of both the climbers joined locals and officials at the school on Monday morning to inaugurate the Sir Edmund Hillary Visitors Centre, housed in the original building, which opened in 1961.

Butter lamps were lit in front of a photograph of Hillary and Tenzing, and their sons, Peter Hillary and Jamling Norgay, cut a red ribbon to open the doors to the centre. — AFP



Nepali government officials place garlands on the statues of New Zealand’s Sir Edmund Hillary and Nepal’s Tenzing Norgay Sherpa to mark the 16th International Everest Day or a day to mark the 70th anniversary of the first ascent of Mount Everest in Kathmandu on 29 May 2023. On 29 May 1953 New Zealand Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay became the first men to reach Mount Everest. **PHOTO: AFP**

China to realize manned lunar landing by 2030

CHINA plans to realize manned lunar landing by 2030, announced the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) at a press conference Monday.

Lin Xiqiang, deputy director of the CMSA, said at the conference that China has recently initiated the lunar landing phase of its manned lunar exploration programme.

The overall goal is to achieve China’s first manned landing on the moon by 2030 and carry out lunar scientific exploration and related technological experiments, he added.

According to Lin, the goal also includes mastering the key technologies such as Earth-moon manned roundtrip, lunar surface short-term stay, human-robot joint exploration, accomplishing multiple tasks of landing, roving, sampling, researching, returning, and forming an independent capability of manned lunar exploration.

China’s manned lunar landing will promote the leap-

frog development of manned space technology from near-Earth to deep space, deepen human understanding of the origin and evolution of the moon and the solar system, and contribute Chinese wisdom to the development of lunar science, he said.

The CMSA has carried out various research and development work to achieve the goal on the basis of preliminary key technology research and programme demonstration, including the research and development of the new-generation manned launch vehicle Long March-10, new-generation manned spaceship, lunar lander and lunar landing suits, as well as the building and testing of a new launch site, facilities and equipment.

The CMSA will release announcements later to solicit proposals for scientific payloads and manned lunar rover, and for names of new-generation manned spaceship and lunar lander, according to Lin. — Xinhua

Australia provides assistance to Middle East, Africa amid food security crisis

THE Australian government has announced a funding boost for famine relief efforts in Africa and the Middle East.

Foreign Affairs Minister Penny Wong on Monday said

the government will contribute 29 million Australian dollars (18.9 million US dollars) from the Humanitarian Emergency Fund to respond to the growing food security

crisis and to assist vulnerable people in the Middle East and Africa.

More than half the funding will go toward addressing the humanitarian, displace-

ment and protection needs of people in drought-affected areas in Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia, with the rest for food support in Yemen, Lebanon and Jordan.

According to the federal government, the number of people globally at risk of acute food insecurity has increased to 350 million since the COVID-19 pandemic. — Xinhua

UN issues hunger alert for Haiti, Sahel and Sudan

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SPORT

Myanmar face host Thailand in AFF U-23 Championship 2023

MYANMAR U-23 Men's Football Team is included in the same group together with host Thailand in ASEAN Football Federation-AFF U-23 Championship, according to yesterday's announcement of the Myanmar Football Federation.

Team Myanmar is placed in Group A with ASEAN powerhouse Thailand, Cambodia, and Brunei.

Group B will see Timor-Leste, Malaysia, and In-

onesia, while the famous Viet Nam is in Group C with the Philippines and Laos.

The tourney will be held from 17 to 26 August in Thailand.

Myanmar will take on host Thailand on 17 August, Cambodia on 19 August, and Brunei on 21 August.



The top three teams from each of the three groups and one of the best second-placed teams will qualify for the semi-finals. — KZL

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.

Pochettino handed task of rebuilding Chelsea

MAURICIO Pochettino is back in the Premier League with the tough task of putting the pieces back together after Chelsea's disastrous first season under their new ownership.

The Argentine will take charge of a club that finished 12th in the Premier League despite an eye-watering outlay of more than £550 million (\$678 million) on new players under Todd Boehly's consortium. Pochettino made his name

in management by making the most of meagre resources at Espanyol, Southampton and particularly during a five-year stint at Tottenham.

Eighteen months at Paris Saint-Germain delivered the first silverware of the 51-year-old's career — the Ligue 1 title and French Cup — but he never appeared comfortable managing the egos of a star-studded squad before leaving in July 2022. Pochettino's

man-management skills will face a severe examination at Stamford Bridge as he tries to succeed where three managers have already failed under the new regime.

Thomas Tuchel, who led Chelsea to Champions League glory in 2021, was unceremoniously sacked by co-owners Boehly and Behdad Eghbali, of private equity firm Clearlake Capital, just seven games into this season. — AFP

Mourinho eyeing more European glory with latest love Roma

JOSE Mourinho will put his remarkable European record on the line when Roma face Sevilla in Wednesday's Europa League final with a second straight continental cup up for grabs.

The 60-year-old coaching icon has never lost a European final in his career, five wins from five over two decades making him the first manager to reach a UEFA final with four different clubs.

Mourinho announced himself on the big stage in 2003 when he led Porto to the UEFA Cup, the Europa League's precursor, and the following year he claimed the first of two Champions League triumphs.

And 20 years on he is ready to take his tally of European trophies to six at Roma, who tasted success in last year's Europa

Conference League.

The Italian capital has become a happy home for a coach whose time had looked to be over following his unfulfilling time at Tottenham Hotspur.

"Better coach, better person, same DNA. The DNA is motivation, is happiness. Desire for these big moments, and these are the feelings that I try to pass to the boys," Mourinho told reporters on Thursday.

"I think you can be better and better with your experiences... I think your brain becomes sharper and the accumulation of knowledge is better with the years.

"I think you stop when you lose motivation, my motivation grows up every day... I think I am better now."

Mourinho has become a bona fide hero to Roma fans

after winning their team's first ever major European honour last season, a triumph which moved

the Portuguese veteran to tears.

A deep emotional connection has developed between coach and

the supporters — who had waited since 2008 to see their team lift a trophy. — AFP



(FILES) Roma's Portuguese head coach Jose Mourinho celebrates with the trophy after his team won the UEFA Europa Conference League final football match between AS Roma and Feyenoord at the Air Albania Stadium in Tirana on 25 May 2022. PHOTO: AFP