

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. X, No. 16, Full Moon of Kason 1385 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Wednesday, 3 May 2023

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

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

## SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives State Councillor of People's Republic of China and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Qin Gang

**C**HAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received State Councillor of the People's Republic of China and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Qin Gang at the parlour of the Credentials Hall of the SAC Chairman Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, the Senior General extended greetings to the guest. In his speech, the State Councillor of the PRC and Minister of Foreign Affairs said that it was his first-time visit to Myanmar in serving as a State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Affairs. He revealed that his visit expressed friendly relations between the two countries as well as the standing of China with Myanmar in the international area.

They frankly exchanged views on diplomatic relations and friendly ties between the two countries, further promotion of cooperation, political situations of Myanmar and endeavours for ensuring peace and stability as well as the development of the country, peace, stability and development of border region, undertakings for promotion of the border trade, cooperation in



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Mr Qin Gang, State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in Nay Pyi Taw on 2 May 2023.

the development of energy and electric power sectors, future plans for raising investments, and cooperation in political, foreign affairs and development sectors.

After the meeting, the Senior General and the State Councillor of PRC and the Minister of Foreign Affairs exchanged gifts and had documentary photos taken. — MNA/TTA

### INSIDE TODAY

#### NATIONAL

Consecration ceremony, rice alms donation ceremony for 11,111 members of Sangha held in Yangon

PAGE-6

#### CURRENT AFFAIRS

ASEAN-BAC Chair highlights business cooperation with Myanmar for regional development

PAGE-10



#### LOCAL BUSINESS

Customs duty exemption on EVs, components extended for one more year

PAGE-11



## Applications for establishment of political parties under verification

THOSE who want to establish a political party are applying to the Union Election Commission by stating the name of the party they want to establish. To date, 13 groups have applied for the right to establish parties. Among the groups that applied, the following two parties were found to comply with the political parties' registration law and regulations,

and the Union Election Commission approved the application for the establishment of the two political parties yesterday.

1. Shan and Ethnic Democratic Party (White Tiger Party)
2. Democratic Party

The two parties mentioned above, which have the

right to establish parties, must apply to the Commission for registration as a political party under Rule 7 of the Registration of Political Parties within 30 days from the date of approval. To date, five political parties have been allowed to be established and the other groups that have applied for party establishment are also being scrutinized. — MNA/KZL

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Announcement No 11/2023

14<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Kason 1385 ME  
2 May 2023

#### Allowing Arakan Front Party (AFP) to register as political party

AS of 2 May 2023, Arakan Front Party (AFP), with its headquarters located at No 1/D/1, Min Sawmon Street, Mingan Ward, Sittway, Rakhine State, has been allowed to register under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law. The registration number of the Arakan Front Party (AFP), is 6.

*Sd/Thein Soe*  
Chairman  
Union Election Commission

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Announcement No 12/2023

14<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Kason 1385 ME  
2 May 2023

#### Allowing Tai-Leng Nationalities Development Party (TNDP) to register as political party

AS of 2 May 2023, Tai-Leng Nationalities Development Party (TNDP), with its headquarters located at Ahalawa-13, Ahalawe Ward, Ywathitkone Village-tract, Mohnyin Township, Mohnyin District, Kachin State, has been allowed to register under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law. The registration number of the Tai-Leng Nationalities Development Party (TNDP) is 7.

*Sd/Thein Soe*  
Chairman  
Union Election Commission

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Announcement No 13/2023

14<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Kason 1385 ME  
2 May 2023

#### Allowing Shan-Ni Solidarity Party(SSP) to register as political party

AS of 2 May 2023, Shan-Ni Solidarity Party(SSP), with its headquarters located at No 1/89, Myotpat Road, Ayethaya Ward, Monywa, Sagaing Region, has been allowed to register under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law. The registration number of the Shan-Ni Solidarity Party- (SSP) is 8.

*Sd/Thein Soe*  
Chairman  
Union Election Commission

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Announcement No 14/2023

14<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Kason 1385 ME  
2 May 2023

#### Allowing Rakhine State National Unity Party to register as political party

AS of 2 May 2023, Rakhine State National Unity Party, with its headquarters located at No 254, 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Ward 8, Thandwe, Rakhine State, has been allowed to register under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law. The registration number of the Rakhine State National Unity Party is 9.

*Sd/Thein Soe*  
Chairman  
Union Election Commission

## Delegation headed by PRC State Councillor & Foreign Minister arrives in Nay Pyi Taw

AT the invitation of Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe, the delegation led by State Councillor and Foreign Minister Mr Qin Gang of the People's Republic of China arrived in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The PRC delegation was welcomed by Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myo Htut of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chinese

Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai and officials at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport. — MNA/TS

The MoFA deputy minister welcomes the Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister on the arrival of Nay Pyi Taw 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 increase of death rate due to the disease.

## Stability and peace needed for nation's development

- The need to ensure stability and peace based on political and security trends for the development of the nation.
- Likewise, it is necessary to restore legal stability.
- Taking responsibility for the peace and stability of the nation, the Tatmadaw holds meetings with ethnic armed organizations.
- Security forces are striving for minimizing terror acts.

*(Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Tatmadaw members and families from the Magway Station on 28 November 2022)*

## SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives State Councillor of People's Republic of China and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Qin Gang

NEWS ON PAGE-1



Left and Right: The Senior General greets the State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Affairs and poses for the documentary group photo at the event yesterday.

## MoFA Union Minister meets Chinese State Councillor & Foreign Minister

AT the invitation of U Than Swe, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Chinese delegation led by Mr Qin Gang, State Councillor and Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China, is paying a visit to Myanmar on 2-4 May 2023.

During the visit, a bilateral meeting was held between the Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe and the Chinese delegation led by State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of People's Republic of China Mr Qin Gang at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw on 2 May 2023.

The Union minister briefed

the recent developments in Myanmar and both sides cordially exchanged views on matters pertaining to the further consolidation of the existing Pauk-Phaw relations, acceleration of bilateral projects and implementation of projects under the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC) and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the maintenance of peace and stability along the border between Myanmar and China and closer collaboration between the two countries in regional and international arenas especially in the frameworks of ASEAN, SCO and the United Nations as well as on regional and international matters of mutual interests.



Union Minister U Than Swe holds talks with the Chinese delegation headed by State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Qin Gang yesterday.

In the evening, Union Minister U Than Swe hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting Chinese delegation at the Horizon Lake View Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

# People need to receive vaccination as usual and prevention and control measures must continue regularly without carelessness: Vice-Senior General Soe Win



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win chairs the seventh coordination meeting of the COVID-19 Control and Emergency Response Committee in Nay Pyi Taw on 2 May 2023.

MEDICAL checkups must be conducted on those who entered from the border and those with positive results must be sent to the designated places for treatment, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the seventh coordination meeting of the COVID-19 Control and Emergency Response Committee at the SAC Chairman Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

In his address, the Vice-Senior General, in his capacity as Chairman of the COVID-19 Control and Emergency Response

Committee, said that infection of Arcturus XBB.1.16 subvariant of omicron virus slightly rose in Myanmar after the Maha Thingyan festival period. The infection rate of the virus hit 1.14 per cent, the highest position on 29 April, and such an infection rate dipped under one per cent on the remaining days of April. From 1 April to 1 May, a total of 903 persons were infected by the virus. This virus can be cured by the drugs being used in treatment for the previous Covid-19 virus. People need to receive vaccination as usual and prevention and control measures must continue regularly without

carelessness. The Vice-Senior General stressed the need to check the readiness of test kits, oxygen supply and quarantine centres for prevention, control and treatment of Covid-19.

Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win discussed the finding of the Covid-19 virus in regions and states within 14 days, infection of the virus in April, quarantine programmes and completion of age-wise vaccination, storage of Covid-19 vaccines, reviews on infection of the virus in Myanmar, and future plans.

Union ministers, deputy ministers and officials also par-

ticipated in discussions on plans to raise public awareness about the infection of the new variant of Covid-19 virus with the assistance of relevant ministries, the readiness of factories under the Myanmar Economic Corporation for producing oxygen to meet the demand of the Ministry of Health, preparations of hospitals and quarantine centres in regions and states, protocols for the persons in arrival and departure at the border area and, arrangements for personal treatment data.

Next, the Vice-Senior General continued to say that, as Yangon Region faces the high-

est infection rate of the Covid-19 virus, it is necessary to systematically supervise the disinfection measures not to increase the infection rate again. Medical checkups must be conducted on those who entered from the border and those with positive results must be sent to the designated places for treatment. The Vice-Senior General called for constant checking of the prevention, control and treatment measures and requirements, and then, the Vice-Senior General coordinated the discussions of participants. — MNA/TTA

## Information on detection of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Variant

1. The Ministry of Health is continuously conducting "COVID-19 Molecular Disease Surveillance", and releasing information on the detection of COVID-19 cases and SARS CoV-2 Omicron variants from those who return from foreign countries as well as local confirmed cases in real time.
2. The 22 laboratory samples of COVID-19 virus of the positive cases were sent to the Department of Medical Research and the variant XBB.1.91 of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variants were found in eight laboratory samples, XBB.1.16 in eight laboratory samples, XBB.2.3 in two laboratory samples, XBB.1.9.2 in one sample, XBB.1.5 in one sample, XBB.1 in one sample and BA.2.75 in one sample on 29-4-2023. All the patients completed isolation since they tested positive for COVID-19, and are in good condition.
3. The XBB.1.16 (Arcturus) was first detected in India in January 2023 and is spreading in 37 world countries including Thailand and Bangladesh. Of the eight Myanmar patients with XBB.1.16, one was a returnee from a foreign country and the remaining seven patients were local transmissions. The currently detected variants XBB.1, XBB.1.5, XBB.1.9.1, XBB.1.9.2, XBB.2.3 and BA.2.75 are the variants already spreading in the world countries previously.
4. The ministry is stepping up the COVID-19 disease monitoring and control activities plus disease prevention, control and treatment activities.

Ministry of Health

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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



### CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

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

### ADVERTISING & MARKETING

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

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

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

### Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email [aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm](mailto:aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm) with your name and title.

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

# MoI Union Minister inspects preparatory work for Myanmar Film Academy Award Ceremony

UNION Information Minister U Maung Maung Ohn in the capacity of Chairman of the Steering Committee on Myanmar Film Academy Award Ceremony, Deputy Minister U Ye Tint, Nay Pyi Taw Council Deputy Mayor U Maung Maung and officials reviewed preparations for the Myanmar Film Academy Award ceremony for 2019, 2020 and 2022 at the open-air theatre near City Hall yesterday.

Responsible officials explained matters concerning security issues, film recording and broadcasting programmes of the ceremony, the display of award-winning video clips, invitation, reception and catering,

transport and communication, healthcare measures, media personnel, and construction status of the stage.

The Union minister responded that the Myanmar Film Academy Award Ceremony was planned to be held on 6 May so efforts should be made in order to ensure that there are no loopholes in all areas. As the list of artistes who will attend the ceremony has already been received, arrangements are underway for their accommodation, food and transport needs, he added.

Afterwards, the Union minister and party viewed round the preparatory work. — MNA/TS



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn views round the preparatory work for the academy award event, yesterday.

## 2023 basic, advanced maritime and air youth courses opened in relevant townships



Students are seen in action at the maritime training courses (above and below right photos).

FOR new generation youth to develop knowledge, make the most of holidays, and follow their hobbies during the summer vacation, and to turn out the future generation of maritime and aviation experts for the state, basic and advanced maritime youth courses (senior level), and basic air youth courses (junior level) were opened at training camps in the respective townships at the same time by Tatmadaw (Navy) and Tatmadaw (Air) on 24 April.

The coaches from Tat-

madaw (Navy) are training 85 trainees at the Mawlamyine training camp in Mon State, 60 trainees at the Heinze training camp in Taninthayi Region, 97 trainees at the Inya training camp in Yangon Region, and 71 trainees at the Coco Island training camp. A total of 712 trainees are also being trained at 11 maritime youth training camps in respective townships.

Likewise, basic air youth courses (senior level and junior level) are being provided by the coaches of Tatmadaw (Air) to 40 trainees at the Taunggyi train-

ing camp in Shan State (South), 40 trainees at Patheingyi training camp in Ayeyawady Region, 40 trainees at Magway training camp in Magway Region, and 40 trainees at Meiktila training camp in Mandalay Region. A total of 680 trainees are being trained at 17 air youth training camps in respective townships.

The chief ministers of the respective regions and states and officials from the respective military commands visited the training sites and encouraged the youths. They also provided cash assistance to the trainees and trainers and fulfilled the requirements in coordination with responsible personnel. — MNA/CT



# Consecration ceremony, rice alms donation ceremony for 11,111 members of Sangha held in Yangon



The consecration ceremony and rice alms offering event in progress yesterday (above and below photos).

THE Yangon Region government organized the consecration ceremony and rice alms donation ceremony for 11,111 members of the Sangha at the

Shwedagon Pagoda dedicated to the full moon day of Kason (Buddha Day), Buddha Year (2566-67) yesterday.

Yangon Region Chief Min-

ister U Soe Thein and many other officials attended these ceremonies together with well-wishers.

Then, the region's chief

minister and the congregation took nine precepts from Joint Secretary Sayadaw of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Sihanada and the Sayadaws recited Metta Sutta.

The region's chief minister reported on religious matters and extended best wishes to the monks and people residing in the country through the holding of the consecration ceremony and rice donation ceremony for the monks.

He then donated the offerings to the Sayadaws together with the relevant officials.

Yangon Region Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman Ovadacariya Sayadaw of Shwedagon Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Dwipitaka Dhara Dr Bhaddanta Agga Sami apologized to the Sayadaws if there were some mistakes

in the ceremonies. After that, the region chief minister and congregation shared merit after listening to the sermons delivered by State Sangha Central Working Committee member Ovadacariya Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Setiyigana Pavasari Maha Dhamma Guru Tha Sa Ah Dhammacariya (Vannasaka) Pali Paragu Bhaddanta Nerada Bhivamsa.

The consecration ceremony was held at the upper level of Shwedagon Pagoda and 111 Sayadaws and 11,000 monks staying at People's Square carried out the religious procedures.

Then, the region chief minister, relevant officials and congregation donated rice alms to 111 Sayadaws at Shwedagon Pagoda and 11,000 Sayadaws at People's Square. — MNA/KTZH



## ASEAN-BAC Chairman, UMFCCI hold business forum

THE delegation led by ASEAN-BAC Chairman Mr Arsjad Rasjid P.M. and UMFCCI (Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry), a member of ASEAN-BAC jointly organized a business forum under the topic of "The Role of ASEAN-BAC in Developing ASEAN Private Sector: Myanmar, A Potential Key Player" in Yangon yesterday.

Speaking at the forum, UMFCCI President U Aye Win talked about the support of ASEAN-BAC to ensure the sustainable development of the country's economy and job opportunities, long-term prospects for individuals and ASEAN countries, positive impacts on ASEAN re-

gions through Myanmar's development that is also a good drive for ASEAN community.

Then, Mr Arsjad Rasjid P.M highlighted the ASEAN Roadshow, the aims to accelerate the ASEAN-centred processes and emerge as a focal centre for South East Asian region development, the crucial role of Myanmar for ASEAN and firm regional integration between Myanmar and ASEAN that will support regional stability and development.

The UMFCCI reaffirmed that it will work together with ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) and participate in every sector in the economic order of international



The business forum jointly conducted by the ASEAN-BAC and UMFCCI in progress yesterday.

countries including ASEAN.

Mr Arsjad Rasjid P.M. (ASEAN-BAC Indonesia), who received the role of Chairmanship at the 95<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Business

Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) held in Indonesia on 30 January 2023, visited Myanmar between 1 and 3 May as ASEAN-BAC Roadshow that includes six ASEAN

countries — Singapore, Viet Nam, Malaysia, the Philippines, Cambodia and Brunei.

The roadshow carries five priorities: digital transformation, health resilience, sustainable development, food security, and trade and investment facilitation.

During the visit to Myanmar, the ASEAN-BAC Indonesia Chairman discussed the prioritized business sector and the enhancement of business collaboration between ASEAN and Myanmar.

After the business forum, the ASEAN-BAC Chairman and relevant officials replied to the questions raised by the media at the press conference. — MNA/KTZH

## Bonfire for closing ceremony of camp for Grade 11 outstanding students (Ngwesaung)



Outstanding students are seen enjoying the beach bonfire.

THE closing ceremony of the camp for Grade 11 outstanding students (Ngwe saung) of the 2022-2023 academic year was held at Yamonnar Oo Hotel at Ngwesaung Beach in Ayeyawady Region yesterday.

In his opening speech, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win said the outstanding students can take rest at the beach while making excursions in the region. The students from different schools will remember beautiful memories in the region.

Then, the officials of the Myanmar Hoteliers Association (Ngwesaung Zone) donated cash to the regional officials. The region chief minister and other relevant officials presented gifts to the

students and one of the students expressed thanks to the officials.

During the second session of the campfire ceremony, the students sang a song for unity, sent up the hot-air balloons and set off fireworks.

The outstanding students from Ngwesaung camp attended the talk show about Artificial Intelligence (AI) in ICT conducted by Dr Maung Maung Oo, Executive Member of Myanmar Computer Professionals Association and Patron of the Region Computer Professionals Association and another show about the hotels and tourism sector by Director U Aung Thu Oo of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism at the hotel on the same morning. — Wun Yan Kha/KTZH

## Voices of Grade 10 outstanding students of 2023 on Inlay Region Study Tour

INTERVIEWER- **Nay Myo Thurein**

OUTSTANDING students (Grade 10) of the academic year 2023-2024 visited the old Inlay Khaung Daing Luyechun Camp in Inlay Region, floating farms in Kaylar Village, the silverware industry in Heyar Yarwma Village, and Inlay Phaung Daw U Pagoda on 30 April. The following are the voices of those who went on a tour of the natural beauty, traditions, livelihoods, and traditional handicraft of the Inlay Region.



**U San Linn**  
(Sein Thamadi Silver Industry, Heyar Ywama, Inlay)

“These talented youths will one day become the helmsmen and helmswomen of our country. They will be able to observe businesses that are of Inlay Lake and the condition of the lake. I am very glad to have the opportunity to show these traditional works.”

**Maung Arkar Moe**  
(BEHS (PLS-2) Amarapura, Mandalay Region)



“I had a lot of fun on today’s trip. I paid obeisance to the pagodas and arrived at places I’d never been before. Being an outstanding student is a turning point in my life. I will try to continue studying hard in the future.”

**Nann Zeinn Nuu Mai**  
(BEHS 2 Bhamo, Kachin State)



“I was very excited to ride the boat for the first time on the tour and amazed at the sight of floating farms on the Inlay Lake. I am very much delighted that I got to study all the places I went.”

**Maung Ye Lin Kyaw**  
(BEHS Khayan, Yangon Region)



“I am very happy to have the opportunity to visit Inlay Lake. I’ve also gained experiences and general knowledge that I have never had before. I am delighted to have visited the PhaungdawU Pagoda and enjoyed the boat ride with my friends.”

**Nann Chaw Su Su Theint**  
(BEHS 1 Hpa-An, Kayin State)



“I have never been to Inlay Lake before, and I’ve gained much knowledge from the places I visited today. It was fun, and I also made a lot of new friends on this trip. It would be nice to visit Taunggyi and Inlay again.”

Translated by CT

## Outstanding students visit fascinating places in Bagan Archaeological Zone

GRADE-9 Outstanding students visited interesting places in Bagan Archaeological Zone including the lacquer industry, Lacquerware College (Bagan), Aungmyaygon Nantawya and Bagan Archaeological Museum on Tuesday morning.

A total of 160 students headed by Dr Soe Myint Tun (Deputy Director-General) of Bagan Outstanding Student Camp and teachers observed U Ba Nyein’s lacquerware businesses, lacquerware production lessons conducted by Lacquerware College (Bagan), Thiri Zeyya Bhumi Bagan Golden Palace, Aungmyaygon Nantawya, where King Anawrahtha and King Kyansittha lived, and Bagan Archaeological Museum.

During their visit, officials from the Department of Archeology and National Museum (Bagan), in-charge of the Bagan Archeology Museum Daw Khet Khet Hla (Deputy Director), and officials from Lacquerware College (Bagan) explained in detail and students asked about their interesting facts and had group photos taken. — Depar Lin/KZL



Outstanding students are pictured visiting the Bagan Archaeological Zone.

# OPINION

## Carefully preserve world heritage sites

ALL global countries possess invaluable kinds of cultural heritage and natural heritage. They are blessed by nature. If these items are damaged for various causes, it is no way to regain such kinds of heritage. Everybody needs to take care of the situation so that the lost cultural heritage will not easily be restored.

UNESCO, one of the UN agencies, designates important and invaluable heritage across the world as world heritage as part of preserving tangible and intangible heritage. These cultural heritage items are the root causes of the emergence of the society.

In this regard, UNESCO identifies cultural world heritage, natural world heritage, and cultural and natural world heritage of global countries. Moreover, the world heritage fund provides aid to relevant countries so as to preserve the heritage and heritage sites set in line with the prescribed norms. If so, aid of the UNESCO will contribute much to the host countries to smoothly preserve relevant sorts of heritage.

According to the records, UNESCO has set 1,157 heritage sites in 167 countries up to January 2023, comprising 900 cultural heritage sites, 218 natural heritage sites and 39 cultural mixed with natural heritage sites. Among the global countries, Italy stands first with 58 world heritage sites, followed by China with 56 sites and Germany with 51 sites.

In Myanmar, ancient Pyu city-states such as Hanlin, Beikthano and Sri Ksetra have been recognized as world heritage sites by UNESCO since 2014 and the ancient Bagan region and landmark buildings since 2019. It is honourable for Myanmar citizens.

Moreover, UNESCO has recognized the stone inscriptions from Maha Lawkamarazain or Kuthodaw Pagoda, the gold leaves on the letter of His Majesty King Alaungphaya of Myanmar to British's His Majesty George II, the stone inscription of Myazedi and the bell letter of His Majesty King Bayintnaung as the memory of the world.

Enlisting a site as a world heritage site can polish the image of the relevant country. From then onward, the heritage site can be recognized by the international community with official protection. Any cultural heritage site can contribute to the improvement of the tourism industry which can create chances for local people to earn income and to operate their businesses.

Reversely, armed conflicts and wars, natural disasters, pollution and uncontrollable civilization can push a heritage site into the dangerous cultural site list. If so, not only the countries but the local people will face unprecedented losses. As more than 100 world heritage sites have been lost due to humans, Myanmar people should carefully preserve their world heritage sites and memory of the world in a long-term existence.

AGEING is an inevitable part of life, but as much as it's a natural process, I don't want to be old. The thought of growing old and experiencing the associated physical and mental decline is frightening to me. The article I am now writing will discuss the issue associated with the one which is unavoidable for everyone.

The physical changes that come with ageing are not something I look forward to. As people age, their bodies become more susceptible to illness, disease, and injury. The likelihood of developing chronic conditions such as arthritis, osteoporosis, and heart disease increases with age. Ageing also brings physical changes such as wrinkles, age spots, and hair loss, which can be challenging to accept. These changes can impact an individual's quality of life, making it difficult to perform everyday tasks, maintain independence, and participate in enjoyable activities.

The mental changes associated with ageing are equally concerning. As people age, they may experience memory loss, cognitive decline, and mood changes. These changes can affect an individual's ability to live independently, maintain social connections, and engage in activities they once enjoyed. Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and other forms of cognitive decline can be debilitating and frightening for individuals and their loved ones.

Moreover, growing old can be isolating. As people age, their social circles often shrink, and they may become more reliant on family members for support. Losing friends and family members to illness or death can be emotionally challenging, and forming new friendships may become increasingly difficult.

By Min Zan



ingly difficult. Isolation can lead to depression, anxiety, and other mental health concerns, which can further impact an individual's quality of life.

In addition, the societal view of ageing can be negative, which can be demotivating for older adults. Ageing is often associated with declining physical and mental abilities, and older adults are sometimes viewed as burdens on society. Ageism, or discrimination based on age, can be pervasive and can impact an individual's self-esteem and sense of worth.

As we go through life, we inevitably age. Although it may be difficult to imagine ourselves in the future, the reality is that one day we will become old. When that time comes, our lives will change in ways that we cannot anticipate.

Here, we would like to explore some of the things that we might experience when we become old.

One of the most significant changes we will face is our physical capabilities. As we age, we may begin to experience physical limitations that can make everyday tasks challenging. For example, we might find it difficult to walk for long periods, climb stairs, or lift heavy objects. In addition to physical limitations, we may also experience health issues such as chronic pain, hearing loss, or vision problems. It is essential to take care of our bodies throughout our lives to help minimize these potential challenges as we age.

Everyone in the world wants to live long. They are not still contented with their long lives. They want to live healthily as long as their lives. Therefore, there might be such words as long life and good

health; in blessings speech repeatedly.

Here, I would like to present my own experience. Ordinary human beings are much more satisfied when they hear the blessings to live long and healthy. However, I have noted that Arahants bitterly hate to live long. It is difficult to bear when a tiny piece of thing enters one's eye. In the same way, it is said Arahants are difficult to bear like entering a tiny piece of thing in their eyes in serving the burden of their bodies for the rest of their lifespan of present lives as they attain the fourth and final stage in the following the Eightfold Path of Nibbana and there is no new existence for them.

For ordinary human beings, wishing to live long and healthy, has got an intention. That is to eat what they like; to go where they want and to do what they wish. No one can deny it. If one contemplates such a voice of answer from the atmosphere of Ultimate Truth, it is the voice that favours lust. After lust, there comes attachment and then the Karma process, and then the rebirth of Apaya. Therefore, the wish of ordinary human beings to live long and healthily is to go to Apaya. It can be logically assumed.

I have met a person to whom I have to pay respect like my own brother. He is about 20 years older than me. Though we are of many different ages, we are very friendly with each other as our intimacy has been for ages. I name him 'Ah Ko Ohn'. His family consists of two people - himself and his spouse only - but no children. Ah Ko Ohn

is over 80 years and his spouse is about the same age. Both of them are not strong ones. Ah Ko Ohn cannot go out of the house. He has to take great care of walking one step after another even inside his house.

As they have no children, they have to face many difficulties in cooking, housework, and health affair. Their financial status does not need to be worried. With their saved money, they can make a lot of interest. Therefore, they cannot only spend money more but also donate what they wish.

I often go to their house and hear the opinion on the aged life by Ah Ko Ohn. Ah Ko Ohn has fallen three times inside the house and so is taking great care of walking later. In eating food, as there are not full numbers of teeth in the mouth like a young boy, he has to choose food that can be chewed well. As he has chronic diseases like diabetes and high blood pressure, he has to choose food again. Though he is a bookworm and knowledge collector; he cannot read books very well as his eyes get blurred welling up with hot tears. In some individual health activities such as urinating, egesting faeces, having baths, etc., Ah Ko Ohn often tells me that he encounters daily exhaustion and displeasing when he carries and moves his clumsy body from place to place.

Ah Ko Ohn has got a fixed phone. Though it is very useful for the old couple in emergency cases concerning health, Ah Ko Ohn says that he becomes disappointed at it. As the time youths of today are using in a hurry with hunger;

it is not strange that Ah Ko Ohn has disappointing reasons as one has many difficulties if he cannot skillfully use a modern electronic device.

Though the phone is placed near the place where Ah Ko Ohn usually sits, the plug to recharge the phone battery is in another place. Therefore, when the phone rings while being charged, Ah Ko Ohn has to go to where the phone is being recharged. But before he gets there, he finds the ring hangs up and it is disappointing. When he wants to make a phone call to someone, he gets angry and dizzy as he does not remember the wanted number by heart and knows the place where the paper with noted numbers is kept. Though he finds that paper with noted numbers, his shaky fingers cannot press the correct keys and cannot reach the destination in a short while. A phone is created to be convenient for easy communication with humans but for Ah Ko Ohn, it is an exhausting one.

One day, Ah Ko Ohn told me with patience that the remaining time for him to live was short and he was not in the attainment of distinction. He also told me it was impossible for him to practice religious meditation with his present health. He could do reciting Paritta, send goodwill, share merit, and practice in and out breathing in order that he could sleep well only. It was impossible for him to read books of sermons long as his eyes did not accept it. However, his ears were still good and he regularly listened to the sermons whenever the lights were on, he said.

As that I have heard the words — education is the first phase of one's life, the economy is the second phase and Dhamma is the third phase — they must be reviewed again. If one's life is long in his third phase of life but his health is not good and he cannot practice effectively, it will be a thing to be considered how it is for a Buddhist, Seeing Ah Ko Ohn as an aged person who is very disappointed on long life, I feel sad and those are the things I am thinking. Though one can assume if one is convenient in financial condition, the remaining affairs will be also convenient, for those couples, it is not complete enough as they serve the heavy burden of their bodies. So, I sometimes think, about whether long life is good or not. And a suspect which one can find a chance to the attainment of distinction that is a fundamental stage of Magga important for a Buddhist or not during such a life-long period dawns upon my mind.

In addition, our social circles and support networks may shift as we age. Many of us have close friends and family members that we rely on for emotional support, but as we grow older; we may find ourselves losing touch with some of these individuals. We may also experience a sense of loneliness or isolation if we do not have strong social connections. To combat this, it is important to stay socially engaged, participate in activities we enjoy, and make new friends.

Furthermore, our mental and cognitive abilities may also change as we age. We may find it more challenging to remember things or

# ARTICLE

process information quickly. This does not necessarily mean that we will develop dementia or other cognitive impairments, but it does mean that we may need to make adjustments to our daily routines to accommodate these changes. For example, we may need to write down important information or use memory aids to help us remember things.

Besides, we may experience a sense of loss or grief as we age. We may lose close friends or family members, or we may have to face our own mortality. This can be a difficult and emotional experience, but it is important to remember that grief is a normal part of life. It is also essential to seek out support from loved ones or professional counsellors if we are struggling with these emotions.

When we become old, our lives will change in many ways. We may experience physical limitations, changes in our social networks, changes in our cognitive abilities, and a sense of loss or grief. However, it is important to remember that these changes do not have to define our lives. With the right support and attitude, we can continue to live fulfilling and happy lives, no matter our age.

In sum, the physical, mental, social, and societal changes that come with ageing are significant reasons why I don't want to be old. While ageing is an inevitable part of life, it's crucial to prioritize healthy habits such as regular exercise, a nutritious diet, and social engagement to minimize the impact of ageing on our lives. I believe that we can still lead fulfilling lives at any age by focusing on maintaining our physical and mental health except for the torture of old age.

## Post-COVID-19 conditions change a person's immunological response

When a person has an infection, the immune system typically responds by making antibodies that block germs from entering cells.

A RECENT study from Cedars-Sinai's Smidt Heart Institute reveals that extended COVID-19 may be caused by a dysfunction of the immune system. The study, published in BMC Infectious Diseases, found that after people with long COVID-19 received the COVID-19 vaccine, they produced antibodies against the virus that caused COVID-19 for months longer

than expected.

### The immune system

When a person has an infection, the immune system typically responds by making antibodies that block germs from entering cells. Vaccines imitate an infection so that the body's immune system knows to release certain antibodies when it comes across a virus. In both cases, the immune

system eventually stops creating antibodies when the suspected infection is gone. "There's general consensus that some level of aberrant immune response happens in long COVID-19, and this study adds to the evidence to suggest this is true," said Catherine Le, MD, co-director of the Cedars-Sinai COVID-19 Recovery Program and a senior author of the study.

Long COVID-19, a condition

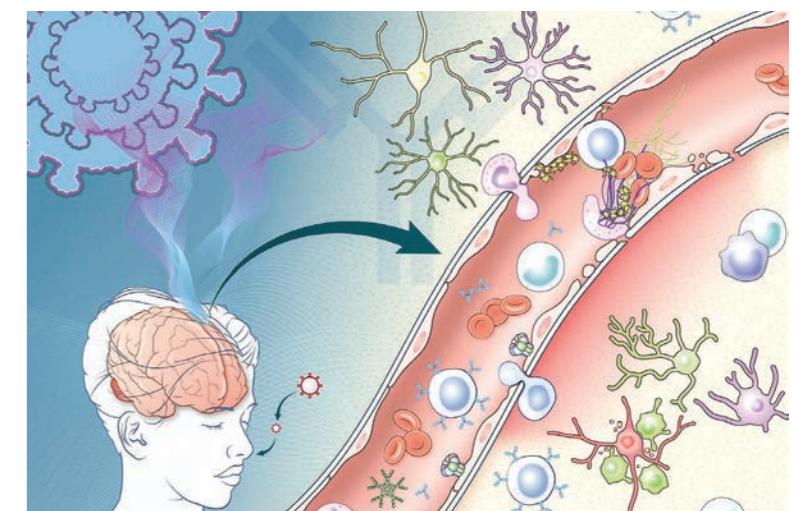
in which people experience COVID-19-related symptoms three months or more after initial infection with the virus that causes COVID-19, is estimated to affect 65 million people worldwide. Common symptoms include fatigue, shortness of breath, and cognitive dysfunction such as confusion and forgetfulness. Some symptoms can have debilitating effects. To study the immune response of

people with long COVID-19, investigators analyzed blood samples from 245 people diagnosed with long COVID-19 and 86 people who had COVID-19 and fully recovered. All the study participants had received either one or two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine regimen.

"We examined one part of the immune system response, the production of antibodies, which is

mediated by immune cells called B-cells," Le explained. Specifically, the investigators looked at two types of antibodies that attack the virus that causes COVID-19. One of these is called the spike protein antibody, which attacks a protein on the exterior of the virus. The other is the nucleocapsid antibody, which attacks the part of the virus that allows it to replicate.

SOURCE: ANI



The investigators found that people who were diagnosed with long COVID-19 produced higher levels of spike protein and nucleocapsid antibodies than people without long COVID-19. ILLUSTRATION: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)



# CURRENT AFFAIRS

## ASEAN-BAC Chair highlights business cooperation with Myanmar for regional development

ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) Chair Mr Arsjad Rajid P.M. (ASEAN-BAC Indonesia) emphasized business cooperation with Myanmar promoting regional integration to shape the regional development during the ASEAN Roadshow to Myanmar.

During the three-day roadshow from 1 to 3 May, the chair gave that remark at the forum entitled “The Role of ASEAN-BAC in Developing ASEAN Private Sector: Myanmar, A Potential Key Player” held at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) on 2 May.

“Myanmar is a key member of ASEAN. Through this roadshow, we would like to show our willingness to in-depth cooperation between Myanmar and ASEAN. I hope this linkage will enhance regional integration and contribute to regional stability and regional development,” he



Above and below photos show the forum entitled “The Role of ASEAN-BAC in Developing ASEAN Private Sector: Myanmar, A Potential Key Player” held at UMFCCI.

elaborated.

The objective of this visit is to support and successfully achieve the five prioritized sectors—digital transformation, sustainable development, trade and investment promotion, health resilience and food security.

“The ASEAN-BAC’s support

and cooperation will boost Myanmar’s economic development and promote job opportunities for the locals. It will bring about the individual interests and development of the ASEAN countries”, said UMFCCI President U Aye Win.

The development of Myanmar

will create a constructive impact on the whole region and be the strong drive for promoting the growth in the regional community,” added UMFCCI President U Aye Win.

UMFCCI General Secretary Daw Khine Khine Nwe took the moderator role during the fo-

rum discussion. The panellists Mr Arsjad Rasjid P. M. (Chair, ASEAN-BAC), Mr Gil L. Gonzales (Executive Director, ASEAN-BAC), U Moe Kyaw (Council Member, ASEAN-BAC Myanmar) and Dr Tun Thura Thet (central executive of UMFCCI) exchanged ideas and topics regarding the role of ASEAN-BAC in ASEAN’s private sector development, upcoming projects and successful implementations in the regional countries, Myanmar playing a key role in the regional economic growth, the needs for digital transformation and opportunities for Myanmar and potentials for Myanmar in ASEAN integration.

The Chair concluded roadshows to Singapore, Viet Nam, Malaysia, the Philippines, Cambodia and Brunei before Myanmar. He was appointed as chair on 30 January 2023 at the 95<sup>th</sup> meeting of ASEAN-BAC held in Jakarta, Indonesia. — TWA/EM



### Above 200 container vessels docked at Yangon Ports in Jan-April 2023

FROM January to April 2023, over 200 container vessels were anchored at the Yangon ports, according to the Myanmar Port Authority’s statistics.

According to the lists, the number of container vessels that entered the Yangon ports from 1 to 26 April was 45, two on 27 April, two on 29 April, and one on 30 April.

The vessels of 18 shipping lines, including international shipping lines such as Sea-Land Maersk Asia, Evergreen, VASI Shipping and SITC, docked in April. Measures are being taken to allow more large cargo ships to dock at Yangon ports in order to boost imports according to the current domestic requirements.

During the year 2022, more than 650 cargo ships arrived at the ports of Yangon for export and import operations, according to the Myanmar Port Authority.

Over the 10 months of the financial year 2022-2023, maritime trade was worth over US\$21 billion — US\$3.7 billion more than the same period of the previous year. — TWA/CT

### Long-term work in Hong Kong may pose challenges for Myanmar labourers

THE Myanmar Consulate in Hong Kong reported that Myanmar workers who want to come and work in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region may have difficulty working there on a long-term basis. As the labour recruitment between the governments of Myanmar and Hong Kong has not been finalized, it is anticipated that there may be challenges for Myanmar nationals who will come

to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to work for a long period.

In the statement, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will recruit workers to care for the elderly. It has been found that some job agencies in Myanmar are publishing job announcements on their social networking sites. There is a plan to recruit workers from foreign countries to care for the elderly in the

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, but there are no agreements signed between Myanmar and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the recruitment and employment of workers. Therefore, the Myanmar Consulate in Hong Kong has announced that it may be difficult for workers from Myanmar to come to Hong Kong and work for a long time. — TWA/KZW

# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Customs duty exemption on EVs, components extended for one more year

CUSTOMS duty exemption on battery electric vehicles (BEVs) and their components is extended until the end of March 2024, according to the Ministry of Planning and Finance.

To encourage the number of EV users and improve the related business, the tariff of battery electric vehicles (BEVs) imported under Completely Built Up (CBU), Completely Knocked Down (CKD) and Semi-Knocked Down (SKD) in Customs Tariff of Myanmar 2022 were reduced to zero per cent, in accordance with the decision of the Union Government.

Types of BEVs include road tractors for semi-trailers, buses or motor vans for the transport of ten or more people including the driver, truck, motor vehicle for personal use, three-wheeled vehicles for the transport of persons, three-wheeled vehicles for the transport of goods, electric motorcycle, electric bicycle, ambulance, Prison vans and Hearses.



Electric vehicles (EVs) are pictured at the container yard of Yangon Port.

According to the directive, the imports of spare parts (for instance, charging station equipment and device) with the recommendation of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy and the spare parts with the recommendation of the Department of Industry can be done between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024.

Myanmar Investment Commission also released a statement on 15 February that electric vehicles and related businesses will be promoted as the priority sector, as per its notification dated 15 February.

In the exercise of the power conferred by Sections 43 and 100 (B) of Myanmar Investment Law,

the MIC issued this statement with the approval of the Union government.

Enterprises executing installation, manufacturing and restoration services of the EVs, renewable electricity generation, EVs charging service businesses, electric vehicle battery production, EV battery and related

service business, electric bus operation services, electric taxi and transportation service businesses and scientific research development business are included in those priority sectors.

During the establishment and ideation phase for incorporation and operations, those businesses can seek permits from the MIC to enjoy tariff relief or zero-customs tariff status and the exemption for other taxes levied in the country under Section 77 (A) of the Myanmar Investment Law and income tax exemption in line with the section 75 (C) of the Myanmar Investment Law for the importations of machinery, essential equipment and accessories, spare parts and construction raw materials that cannot be found in domestic markets.

Myanmar has been bringing in electric vehicles (EVs) under the customs tariff relaxation through seaborne and border trade routes, according to the Ministry of Commerce. — NN/EM

### Yangon Region palm oil wholesale reference price decreases slightly

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market indicated a decrease of K100 per viss for the week ending 7 May compared to that of the previous week, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The reference price stood at K4,680 per viss in the week from 24 April to 1 May. For the week ending 17, the price was set lower at K4,570 per viss, showing a small decrease of K110 per viss against the previous week's rate.

The Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia including transport costs, tariffs and banking services, and issuing

the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil every week.

Regardless of the reference price, the current market price is too high at over K6,000-8,000 per viss.

If those edible oil retailers and wholesalers are found overcharging, storing inventory intentionally and attempting unscrupulous action to manipulate the market, they will face legal action under the Essential Supplies and Service Act, MoC released a statement.

The Ministry of Commerce is striving for consumers not to worry over the supply of edible oil. The ministry is also trying to secure edible oil sufficiency, supervise the market to offer a reasonable price to the consumers and maintain price stability.

At present, mobile market

trucks operated by oil importing companies, in coordination with Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association, were back to business in some townships on 17 July to offer palm oil at a subsidized rate. They offer palm oil at a fairer price to the consumers directly depending on the reference price. However, there are limited sources of supply although they directly sell the palm oil at reference rate depending on the volume quota.

The domestic consumption of edible oil is estimated at 1 million tonnes per year. The local cooking oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. To meet the oil sufficiency in the domestic market, about 700,000 tonnes of cooking oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia. — NN/EM

### Prices of fuel oil, gold and dollar on 2 May 2023

#### Fuel Oil Price (Yangon)

Octane 92	K1,995
Octane 95	K2,075
Diesel	K1,900
Premium Diesel	K1,980

All of the prices are based on per litre.

#### Gold Price

The reference price of high-purity gold set by YGEA	K2,332,700 per tical
High-purity gold in the gold market	K2,983,000 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	K2,845 to K2,860

The above prices may change from time to time.

**Advertise** with us/ Hot Line : 09974424848

# ECONOMY WORLD

## Japan, S Korea to resume finance dialogue amid improving ties



Japanese Finance Minister Shunichi Suzuki (R) and his South Korean counterpart Choo Kyung Ho shake hands as they meet for talks in Incheon, South Korea, on 2 May 2023. **PHOTO: KYODO**

JAPAN and South Korea agreed Tuesday to resume dialogue between their finance authorities, in the latest sign of improving bilateral relations frayed over

wartime history.

The agreement came during a meeting between Japanese Finance Minister Shunichi Suzuki and his counterpart Choo Kyung

Ho in Incheon, northwestern South Korea. The two countries held their first formal finance ministerial talks in seven years.

“The two nations are engaged in summit-level dialogue proactively so it’s important that finance-track talks also proceed,” Suzuki told reporters, adding that the finance authorities will meet “at an appropriate time”.

Masato Kanda, vice-finance minister for international affairs, will visit South Korea to work out details in June, according to Suzuki. The finance dialogue is a framework for senior officials from the two nations to discuss economic and financial issues and was previously held in 2016.

In March, South Korea made a proposal to resolve the issue of Japan’s compensation for wartime Korean labourers, helping improve ties that had hit their lowest point in years over the labour issue and others related to Japan’s 1910-1945 colonization of the Korean Peninsula.

Choo welcomed the recent improvement in mood between the two nations, which share universal values and promote free trade. — Kyodo

## Cambodia earns \$278 mln from bicycle export in Q1, up almost 20%

CAMBODIA exported bicycles worth 278 million US dollars to foreign markets in the first quarter of 2023, a year-on-year increase of nearly 20 per cent, the Ministry of Commerce said in a report on Tuesday.

Ministry of Commerce’s Undersecretary of State and spokesman Penn Sovicheat said Made-in-Cambodia bicycles had been exported to the European Union, the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, Japan, and China, among others.

“Bicycles have become one of our key manufacturing products for exports after clothes, footwear, and travel goods,” he told Xinhua.

He said Cambodia ranks first in the Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN) in terms of bicycle exports.

There are currently five bicycle factories in Cambodia, all are situated in special economic zones in the southeastern Svay Rieng province’s Bavet city. — Xinhua

## Eurozone banks tighten lending criteria sharply: ECB

EUROZONE banks tightened lending criteria in the first quarter at their fastest pace since the 2011 sovereign debt crisis, while demand for loans fell heavily, according to a European Central Bank survey released Tuesday.

The results highlight the impact of aggressive monetary tightening combined with recent banking sector turmoil, and could encourage the ECB to opt for a smaller interest rate increase on Thursday.

Banks’ lending criteria were toughened further for loans to both firms and households, reflecting the “ongoing pass-through of higher market rates to lending rates”, the survey found.

A net 27 per cent of banks reported a tightening of credit standards for loans to companies, meaning it is harder for the enterprises to borrow.

Meanwhile banks reported that demand for loans from firms fell heavily, with the decrease “the strongest since the global financial crisis”, with higher borrowing costs reported as the main driver, the ECB said.

Demand for housing loans also declined, while there was a smaller decrease when it came to consumer credit and other lending to households, it said. Banks also reported that access to funding deteriorated, possibly due in part to the banking sector upheaval in March. — AFP

## Direct flights resume between Beijing and Auckland, New Zealand

THE direct flights between Beijing and Auckland in New Zealand officially resumed on Tuesday as an Air China aircraft carrying over 200 Chinese tourists landed at the Auckland International Airport.

The services had been suspended for more than three

years due to the COVID-19 pandemic travel restrictions.

The Chinese tourists were welcomed by a special ceremony featured with traditional Maori dance and singing at the airport on Tuesday afternoon.

The restart of Beijing-Auckland flights was a “big happy

event” for both countries, said Chinese Ambassador to New Zealand Wang Xiaolong, who was present at the ceremony, adding that New Zealand was one of the top destinations for Chinese students and tourists before the pandemic. — Xinhua

## Morgan Stanley plans more job cuts: US media

MORGAN Stanley is planning to cut more jobs after reporting a drop in profit during the first three months of the year, US media reported on Monday.

The bank aims to trim its headcount nearly four per cent this quarter after ending March with more than 82,000 employees, according to the reports.

The US investment and fi-

ancial services giant said in a recent earnings report that its profit dropped 20 per cent in the first three months of this year amid a slowdown in mergers and acquisition advising. The global financial institution at the end of last year trimmed about two per cent of its staff or some 1,600 positions, CNBC reported at the time.

The new round of cuts is

expected to involve about 3,000 jobs. Word of more layoffs at Morgan Stanley came as JPMorgan Chase’s takeover of First Republic resolved the fate of the last major bank caught up in recent upheaval.

The sector still faces a weakening economy and challenges from higher interest rates. — AFP



The European Central Bank (ECB) is pictured prior to a press conference on the eurozone’s monetary policy, in Frankfurt am Main, western Germany on 16 March 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Thailand's manufacturing growth hits record high in April

THAILAND'S manufacturing sector expanded at a record high rate in April as the Southeast Asian country's economic outlook brightened, a survey showed on Tuesday.

The country's manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI) was recorded at 60.4 in April, jumping from 53.1 a month earlier, a signal of rapid improvement in overall business conditions, according to S&P Global. A PMI reading above 50 indicates an expansion in the manufacturing sector, while below 50 represents a contraction.

The April reading marked the strongest per-

formance since the survey started in December 2015, as the indices for output, new orders, purchasing, and input stocks surged to a new record high.

The Thai manufacturing sector expected strengthened production in the 12-month outlook surveyed last month, the highest since last October and the fourth strongest on record. The outlook brightened as firms expected a wider improvement in economic and political conditions in the coming months, said Trevor Balchin, economics director at S&P Global Market Intelligence. — Xinhua

## Stock markets steadier, dollar up before rate calls

STOCK markets were largely steady and the dollar firmed Tuesday as focus turned to interest-rate decisions due this week in the United States and eurozone.

Following a long holiday weekend for markets across Europe and Asia, trading resumed to news that annual inflation in the eurozone edged up to seven per cent in April after five months of decline.

Consumer prices rose from a rate of 6.9 per cent in March, which could further encourage the European Central Bank to raise interest rates once more on Thursday, according to analysts.

"Strategists are bet-



First Republic Bank signage is displayed outside of a bank branch in Beverly Hills, California on 1 May 2023.

PHOTO: AFP

ting that we will see a slight pullback in the key core inflation data, but this has proven a stickier indicator in the eurozone than in the US and market hopes have been disappointed before," noted Matthew Ryan, head of market strategy at finan-

cial services firm Ebury.

The Federal Reserve on Wednesday announces its latest call on US borrowing costs.

Australia's central bank on Tuesday delivered a surprise interest rate hike to an 11-year

high, dashing hopes it would hold them steady as inflation shows signs of slowing.

Adding to investor uncertainty were fears about the banking sector after another US regional lender went under.

Regulators on Monday announced the seizure of First Republic and that it had been sold to JPMorgan Chase, making it the second biggest bank by assets to collapse in US history. "The collapse of First Republic saw JPMorgan step up to the plate and squash the biggest market risk on the table," said Edward Moya, analyst at Oanda trading group. — AFP

## JAL swings back to profit as travel demand recovers from pandemic



File photo taken on 4 February 2023 shows a Japan Airlines Boeing 737-800 plane.

PHOTO: KYODO

JAPAN Airlines Co said Tuesday it posted its first annual net profit in three years for fiscal 2022 as air travel demand is recover-

ing from the coronavirus pandemic.

It posted a net profit of 34.42 billion yen (\$250 million) for the year ended

March, in a reversal from a net loss of 177.55 billion yen the previous year, the airline said.

Sales doubled from a

year ago to 1.38 trillion yen as Japan's relaxed COVID-19 measures boosted sightseeing trips and business travel.

"The easing of the government's border control measures last year was highly effective in creating (travel) demand," President Yuji Akasaka said at a press conference.

Akasaka added he also hopes to see more Japanese travelling abroad, spurred by the government's plan to downgrade the legal status of the novel coronavirus similar to that of seasonal influenza on Monday. — Kyodo

## UAE's ADNOC signs \$1 bln LNG deal with TotalEnergies

THE United Arab Emirates' ADNOC Gas announced Monday a \$1-billion deal to provide liquefied natural gas to France's TotalEnergies as Europe scrambles to find alternatives to Russian energy sources.

The liquefied natu-

ral gas provided under the three-year supply deal "will be delivered to various export markets around the world", an ADNOC Gas statement said.

The agreement is valued at between \$1 billion and \$1.2 billion, the

statement said, without elaborating on the quantities involved.

"The deal is due to start in 2023 and targets the Asian market as a priority," TotalEnergies told AFP.

The deal was signed with TotalEnergies Gas

and Power Limited, a subsidiary of the French multinational.

ADNOC Gas, which only became operational at the start of this year, is a subsidiary of state-owned energy giant Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC). — AFP

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (0292-747N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (0292-747N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-5-2023** 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 EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD.**

### The Global New Light of Myanmar

www.gnlm.com.mm

သတင်းစာ မှာယူလိုပါက ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်

**09 454 237 515**

သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစောင်များကို နိုင်ငံတကာစံချိန်စံညွှန်းပိုမိုဆောင်ရွက် ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်

**01 860 4530**

ကြော်ငြာခြင်းများနှင့် ကြော်ငြာအခွင့်အလမ်းများ ကြော်ငြာ ထည့်သွင်းလိုပါက ပိုမိုဆက်သွယ် ဆွေးနွေးနိုင်ပါတယ်

**09 974 424 848**

# GLOBAL AFFAIRS

## Ukraine-Russia “all-for-all” prisoner exchange set to take place in several stages



This video grab taken from footage provided by Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War on 16 April 2023, shows a freed Ukrainian prisoner eating a traditional Easter cake during his exchange in an unknown location in Ukraine. **PHOTO: HANDOUT / COORDINATION HEADQUARTERS FOR THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR / AFP**

THE projected “all-for-all” prisoner exchange between Ukraine and Russia will take place in several stages, Ukraine’s Coordinating Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War

said Monday.

“If we manage to agree on an ‘all-for-all’ exchange, it will obviously be carried out in several stages,” the agency said in a statement.

The release of all captives held by the parties involves certain risks so all the steps to implement the swap deal will be “prudent and well-considered”, it said. Earlier this month, Kyrylo Budanov, chief of the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Ukrainian Defence Ministry, said Ukraine is in talks with Russia over an “all-for-all” prisoner exchange.

According to the Ukrainian authorities, Ukraine and Russia have carried out more than 40 prisoner swaps since the first exchange in March 2022. — Xinhua

## Over 27,000 explosives removed from Libyan cities in 2022: UN

THE United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) on Monday said that 27,400 explosive remnants of war (ERW) were removed from the Libyan cities of Tripoli, Misurata, Benghazi and Sirte in 2022.

According to UNSMIL, more than one million ERW, which in-

cludes 82 per cent of projectiles and four per cent of small arms ammunition, have been removed in Libya since 2011.

However, despite strong efforts from mine action partners over the past decade, more than 15 million square meters are still contaminated with explosive ord-

nances across Libya, UNSMIL said. In 2022, 19 people, including 14 children, were killed by ERW in Libya, according to UNSMIL.

Libya has been suffering insecurity and chaos since the fall of the late leader Muammar Gaddafi’s regime in 2011. — Xinhua

## US may risk debt default ‘as early as 1 June’: Yellen

THE United States could run out of money to pay its financial obligations — risking a catastrophic default — as early as the start of June, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said Monday, as policymakers tussle over raising the debt ceiling.

Last week, the Republican-led House of Representatives voted to lift the national borrowing limit, but only with drastic cuts as they sought a showdown with President Joe Biden, a Democrat, over what they see as excessive spending.

Republicans were determined to muscle the Limit,

Save, Grow Act through the lower chamber of Congress to strengthen their position in negotiations with Biden, who has refused to agree to spending cuts. But the act has no chance of becoming law as it is opposed by Democrats controlling the Senate and White House.

The impasse has raised the possibility of Congress and White House overseeing the first national debt default.

“Our best estimate is that we will be unable to continue to satisfy all of the government’s obligations by early June, and potentially as early as 1 June, if

Congress does not raise or suspend the debt limit before that time,” said Yellen on Monday, in a letter addressed to House Speaker Kevin McCarthy and other leaders.

While the United States hit its \$31.4 trillion borrowing limit in January, the Treasury has taken extraordinary measures that allow it to continue financing the government’s activities. But if the debt ceiling is not raised or suspended before current tools are exhausted, the government risks defaulting on payment obligations, with profound implications for the economy. — AFP

## Venezuela slams US for backing sale of state-owned oil company

VENEZUELA’S President Nicolas Maduro on Monday denounced a US move to allow Venezuela’s state-owned oil company Citgo Petroleum to be sold by the opposition to settle creditors claims.

Maduro said the move was aimed at upending the International Conference on the Political Process in Venezuela, an initiative to promote peaceful dialogue between Maduro’s government and opposition parties that was held in neighbouring Colombia on 25 April.

“This decision by the government of the United States is a mockery and a slap in the face of the international conference convened in Bogota

and the almost unanimous petition to lift the sanctions on Venezuela,” Maduro said at a public event in downtown Caracas marking the International Workers’ Day.

Maduro said he was outraged by the sacking of the US-based Venezuelan oil company that owns refiners, pipelines and terminals and supplies thousands of gas stations in the United States. “On behalf of all the people of Venezuela,” he said, “we indignantly reject and repudiate the theft of the Citgo company by the US government and by the Unitary Platform of Venezuela”, as the opposition alliance is called. — Xinhua



Venezuela’s President Nicolas Maduro (R) and his wife Cilia Flores wave to workers participating in a rally to commemorate May Day (Labour Day) in Caracas on 1 May 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Lebanon appreciates Saudi Arabia’s role in supporting ceasefire in Yemen

LEBANON appreciates the pivotal role of Saudi Arabia in supporting ceasefire and prisoner swaps in Yemen, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement on Tuesday.

The statement noted that Lebanon appreciates the continuous assistance from Saudi Arabia in reaching a comprehensive and sustainable political solution to the Yemeni crisis which would preserve the unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Yemen, free Yemeni people from suffering and insecurity, and fulfill Yemen’s aspiration for development, prosperity, and peace.

Last month, Saudi Arabia and Yemen’s Houthi militia held direct talks aimed at reviving a ceasefire in the war-torn nation.

Yemen has been embroiled in a devastating civil war since 2014, with the Houthis fighting against the internationally-recognized Yemeni government. The Saudi Arabia-led coalition intervened in the conflict in support of the Yemeni government in 2015. — Xinhua

## Part of Japan SDF helicopter wreckage, flight recorder recovered



Photo taken from a Kyodo News helicopter on 2 May 2023 shows part of a Japan Self-Defence Forces helicopter that went missing in early April being brought up from the seabed by a private vessel in waters off of Miyako Island, Okinawa Prefecture. **PHOTO: KYODO**

A major part of the wreckage including the flight recorder of a Japanese Self-Defence Forces helicopter that went missing

with 10 people aboard in April was hauled from the seabed Tuesday, a government source said.

A salvage company brought the wreckage up from 106 metres below the surface near Miyako Island in the southern prefecture of Okinawa.

The Ground Self-Defence Force will analyze data stored on the recorder such as altitude, speed and whether the helicopter was level to the ground in the lead-up to the crash to ascertain the cause of the accident, the source said.

The UH-60JA helicopter disappeared from radar shortly after taking off from a base on Miyako Island on 6 April at 3:46 pm.

The GSDF will also examine the section of the aircraft recovered from the seabed, which is so extensively damaged as to be almost unrecognizable, it said.

The piece of wreckage was hauled up after being wrapped in a net by a remotely-operated underwater vehicle.

On Friday, vessels reached the area where the helicopter was found, with the investigation of the chopper and seabed starting the next day. The operation was subsequently delayed due to high seas, with preparations recommencing Monday. — Kyodo

## Three crew missing after oil tanker fire off Malaysia



This handout photo taken on 1 May 2023 and released by the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency on 2 May 2023 shows the tanker MT Pablo after the vessel caught fire off Malaysia's southern coast during its journey from China to Singapore. Malaysian rescuers were searching for three missing crew members from an oil tanker that caught fire off the country's southern coast. Thick, black smoke engulfed the Gabon-flagged ship when the fire broke out on 1 May 2023, the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) said in a statement. **PHOTO: HANDOUT / MALAYSIAN MARITIME ENFORCEMENT AGENCY / AFP**

MALAYSIAN rescuers on Tuesday were searching for three missing crew members from an oil tanker that caught fire off the country's southern coast.

Thick, black smoke engulfed the Gabon-flagged ship when the fire broke out on Monday during its journey from China to Singapore, the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) said in a statement.

Singaporean authorities identified the ship as the MT Pablo. The fire was extinguished and the vessel was afloat with no danger to passing ships, a Malaysian official told AFP.

Two nearby ships and a maritime agency boat rescued 25 members of the MT Pablo's crew, MMEA official Nurul Hizam Zakaria told local newspaper The Star. — AFP

## French unions set new protest date as arrests mount

FRENCH trade unions said Tuesday they would call new mass demonstrations against President Emmanuel Macron's bitterly contested pension reforms next month, a day after hundreds of thousands turned out against the law.

The fourteenth day of protests will be held on 6 June, the unions said, days before lawmakers debate a bill that would repeal the retirement changes forced through without a vote by Macron's ministers.

Police said almost 800,000 people turned out across France against the pension

reform on Monday — the Labour Day holiday — while the hard-left CGT union tallied 2.3 million.

The unions said that while they would attend new discussions with cabinet ministers on issues ranging from boosting employment among older people to reforming vocational schools, they would "reiterate their refusal of the pensions reform". "There is deep defiance and dialogue can only resume if the government shows it is finally willing to take the unions' positions into account," they added. — AFP



Protesters hold a banner reading "all united against the reform" with French union logos as they take part in a demonstration on May Day (Labour Day) to mark the international day of workers more than a month after the government pushed an unpopular pensions reform act through parliament, in Marseille, southern France, on 1 May 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Over 359,500 hectares of land destroyed in wildfires in Mongolia this year

FORTY-NINE forest and steppe fires have ripped across Mongolia since the beginning of this year, destroying 359,505 hectares of forest and grassland, the country's National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) said Tuesday. In addition, 20 homes and a vehicle were burned, and 3,273 heads of livestock were killed in the wildfires, NEMA said in a statement. — Xinhua

#### India's daily domestic air traffic hits record high

INDIA'S domestic air traffic numbers hit a record high with 456,082 passengers flying on 2,978 flights across the country on a single day, officials said Tuesday.

The breakthrough surpassing the pre-COVID-19 average was reached on 30 April.

India's domestic air traffic reaches new heights with an all-time high, on 30 April, 456,082 passengers on 2,978 flights, according to a statement issued by the federal ministry of civil aviation.

Federal civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia viewed the milestone as synonymous with the country's growth. — Xinhua

## GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Ukraine-Russia "all-for-all" prisoner exchange set to take place in several stages

PAGE-14



3 MAY 2023

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

# SPORT



## Cambodia 2023 XXXII SEA Games



### Single goal help Myanmar win against Timor in SEA Games



Myanmar team players are seen celebrating the victory during the Group A match of the SEA Games men's football event against Timor-Leste in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 2 May 2023. **PHOTO: MFF**

THANKS to the lone goal scored by Thet Hein Soe, Myanmar U-22 men's football team broke the heart of Timor Leste during the Group A match of the SEA Games men's football event, played in Phnom Penh,

Cambodia yesterday.

The Myanmar team has almost all new players, so the SEA Games experience is very young and the playing style is a bit slow.

The Timorese players made good use of Myanmar's slow action and played with a counter-attack.

The first half ended with a score of 0-0 even though both teams played hard.

The second half saw better play from team Timor with accurate passing and dribbling.

However, in 72 minutes, the Myanmar team had the opportunity to take a corner kick, and Thet Hein Soe touched the ball into the net through Hein Htet Aung's corner kick.

After breaking the deadlock, the Myanmar players slowed down and played de-

fensively.

Due to the lack of mutual understanding between the Timorese players, they did not score an equalizer till the final whistle and team Myanmar celebrated a 1-0 victory over Timor-Leste in the group match.

Myanmar team captain Zaw Win Thein said at the press conference after the game that they were able to create opportunities in this match, but could not use them as goals. He congratulated all his teammates for winning. He continued that he was able to play according to the coach's instructions, but there are still mistakes, and will try to prepare for better results in the next matches.

As a second group match, team Myanmar will face Indonesia on 4 May. — KZL

### SEA Games Women's Football: Myanmar to play Philippines today

MYANMAR women's football team will take on the Philippines women's team in the Group A opener of the SEA Games women's football event at Army Stadium, Phnom Penh, Cambodia today.

The match will start at 7:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time, and Cambodian media will be broadcast live free on social media, the Myanmar Football Federation stated.

The pre-match press conference was held at Phnom Penh Hotel yesterday, and Group A participants including team Myanmar attended the event.

At the press conference, Myanmar head coach Uki Tet-suro said, "The time spent handling the Myanmar team as the

new head coach was short. During this period, the players and management teams tried their best to cooperate".

"My team is in a very competitive group, so we will try our best to compete. I have prepared

two points for my team. To regain the self-confidence of the team members and make good use of our team's strengths is a must. We will try to compete with the best," he commented. — KZL



File photo shows Myanmar women's team players singing the national anthem before the international friendly match against Laos in Okinawa, Japan on 20 March. **PHOTO: MFF**

### 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.

### The daily result of Myanmar, 2 May 2023

#### Chess

##### Men's Triples 60-minute

Myanmar Vs Malaysia  
1:0

Myanmar Vs Viet Nam  
1:1

##### Women's Double 60-minute

Myanmar Vs Malaysia  
1:0

#### Cricket

##### Women's T50 Overs (Preliminary)

Thailand Vs Myanmar  
300/7 Vs 61/10

#### Football

##### (men's team)

Myanmar Vs Timor Leste  
1:0

### Myanmar teams daily schedule, 3 May 2023

#### Chess events

Men's Singles 60-minute Match-1 at 08:00 am

Woman's Singles 60-minute Match-1 at 14:00 pm

#### Volleyball (men's indoor) at 17:00 pm

Myanmar Vs Viet Nam (Olympic Indoor Stadium)

#### Football (women's team) at 20:00 pm

Philippines Vs Myanmar (Army Stadium)