

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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

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

10-year Myanmar forest reestablishment plan to raise forest areas

AN emphasis must be placed to implement the plan for the national forest sector with the formation of forest reserves and protected public forests in a 30-per-cent area of the country and a 10-per-cent one for environmental conservation areas, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the monsoon tree-growing ceremony for 2023 along both sides of the entrance road to Maravijaya Buddha Image in block 14 of Yanaungmyin forest reserve in Lewe Township yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Senior General underscored that forests must be systematically managed with economic, social and environmental conservation outlooks based on Myanmar's forest policy for contributing to the sustainable development of the State with the long-term existence of valuable forest resources.

He unveiled that 51.54 per cent of the country's area was covered with forest resources in 2000, 46.96 per cent in 2010, 42.92 per cent in 2015 and 42.19 per cent in 2020 according to the UN Food and Agricultural Organization. As such, he continued to say that an emphasis must be placed on the prevention of deforestation in natural forest resources.



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win views the monsoon tree-planting ceremony for 2023 along both sides of the entrance road to the Maravijaya Buddha Image yesterday.

As the 10-year Myanmar forest reestablishment plan is being implemented from the 2017-18 financial year to 2026-27 FY, a total of 24.619 million saplings including State-owned forest plantations are being set up this monsoon, he added.

Concerning reforestation, the Vice-Senior General stressed the need to systematically grow trees in the places of damaged plants hit by severe storm Mocha in Rakhine State on 14 June and

speed up the cultivation of mangrove forests and other forests as natural greening walls along the coastal areas.

The Vice-Senior General pointed out that it is important to green the ASEAN highways, Yangon-Mandalay expressway and railways in Myanmar. As such, he continued to say that instructions have been given to cooperate with relevant ministries to draw a master plan for growing trees in necessary sites

along 500 metres wide lands outside the road areas.

An emphasis must be laid on implementing the plan of the national forest sector with the formation of forest reserves and protected public forests in a 30-per-cent area of the country and a 10-per-cent one in environmental conservation areas, he added.

He noted that a plan was set to shape Nay Pyi Taw Council Area to be a green city and clean city by establishing green spaces,

parks, urban forests and green landscapes.

The Vice-Senior General planted Gangaw (*Mesua ferrea*) trees at the designated place.

At today's ceremony, a total of 2,220 saplings were grown as a public movement. These saplings were placed along the entrance to Maravijaya Buddha Image from 204/1 milepost of Yangon-Mandalay expressway in block 14 in Yanaungmyin forest reserve in Lewe Township. — MNA/TTA

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Order No 43/2023

5th Waning of First Waso 1385 ME
7 July 2023

Appointment and Duty-Assignment of Judge of
Kayah State High Court

THE State Administration Council has appointed and assigned Daw Thein Thein Hnin to the duties of Judge of Kayah State High Court under Section 419 of the Constitution.

By Order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant General
Secretary
State Administration Council

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Head of Service
Organization confirmed

THE State Administration Council has confirmed the appointment of Professor Dr Kyaw Thiha, Rector of the University of Dental Medicine (Mandalay) of the Department of Human Resources for Health under the Ministry of Health, after the one-year probationary period.

22 new cases of COVID-19 reported on
7 July, total figure registers 640,718

MYANMAR'S COVID-19-positive cases rose to 640,718 after 22 new cases were reported on 7 July 2023 according to the Ministry of Health. Therefore, a total of 10,897,703 laboratory samples were examined to date and the confirmed COVID-19 cases reached 640,718. The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached 619,550 including 22 new recoveries. The death toll from COVID-19 in the country registered 19,494 on 7-7-2023 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

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.

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 systems and mobile payment systems. Further updates and notifications will be made in due course.
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 KBZ Pay or Wave Money. If you wish to donate, please scan the QR codes provided by both KBZ Pay and Wave Money. To contribute, enter the code included within the respective QR codes.
5. People make donations through CB Pay, AYA Pay, OK \$, UAB pay and

Citizens 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		

National Disaster Management Committee

Manufacturing is crucial for MSMEs

THE MSME industry has four sectors namely manufacturing, trade, service and others. There will be no trade without manufacturing. There will be no services without trade. Therefore, manufacturing is crucial.

(Excerpts from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the SAC meeting 9/2022 held on 11 November 2022)

DPM MoTC Union Minister inspects Yangon-Mandalay railway upgrade project, installation of road signs on Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon expressway

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications Admiral Tin Aung San inspected the Yangon-Toungoo railway section of the Yangon-Mandalay railway upgrade project and installation of road signs on Nay Pyi Taw-Toungoo expressway and Bago-Yangon Union Highway sections yesterday.

During the inspection tour on the installation of road signs, directions and signals along the highway, the chief engineer reported on the installation processes along the highway and at Milepost 167 for the road safety of the public as per the rules and instructions.

At the briefing hall of Bago-Nyaunglebin (CP-102) of Yangon-Toungoo railway upgrade project phase 1 in Pyuntazays of Nyaunglebin Township, the Managing Director of Myanmar



Deputy Prime Minister MoTC Union Minister Admiral Tin Aung San (C) is seen during his inspection tours yesterday.

Railways and respective engineers explained the progresses in Yangon-Toungoo railway section of Yangon-Mandalay railway upgrade project phase 1 and coordination to complete the operations

within the fixed period.

Then, the Deputy Prime Minister stressed the need to cooperate with the departmental officials, project advisory board and contractors to accelerate the

work processes as the accurate design, quality construction materials and skills of labours are the key role and implement the prioritized plans to develop the railway transportation sectors.

He also gave foodstuffs and fruits to the project officials.

He also inspected the 380 feet long Yenwe Creek Bridge (No 116-B) between DaikU and Einchaylayse railway stations and Level Crossing No 51 on the DaikU-Sittoung road section and provided foodstuffs to the labourers at work sites.

On arrival at the briefing hall of the junction of Yangon-Mandalay highway and Bago inner road in Bago, the director of the Bago Region Highways Department reported on the installation of road signs and signals in the region to ensure road safety for the public. Then, the Deputy Prime Minister offers instructions.

The Admiral and party proceeded to the Dry Port of Myanma Railways in Ywathagyi of Dagon Myothit (East) Township in Yangon Region and inspected the Ywathagyi Dry Port. — MNA/KTZH

Public notice for submitting objection

1. New Democracy Party (Kachin) [NDP (Kachin)], located at Ward 3, Chanmaw Housing 17, Panwa, Chipwe Township, Chipwe District, Kachin State, has already been allowed to register as a political party under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law. It has been submitted to the Union Election Commission that the emblem of the party will be changed and used as described.
2. Therefore, those who want to object to the mentioned party emblem that will be used by the New Democracy Party (Kachin) [NDP (Kachin)], can send objection to the Union Election Commission with valid evidence within seven days from the date of this announcement. It is announced to the public under Rule 14 (d) of the Registration of Political Parties.

Emblem of New Democracy Party (Kachin) [NDP (Kachin)]



Union Election Commission

Political parties allowed to be established continue applying for registration

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 a party. Among the groups that applied, eight political parties have been allowed to establish.

Among the eight po-

litical parties allowed to be established, the Khumi National Party applied to the Commission yesterday to register as a political party under the Registration of Political Parties Rule 7 within 30 days from the date of approval for the establishment of the party.

The Union Election Commission is processing the verification. — MNA/KZL



Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing receives the UN Resident Coordinator ai and OCHA Head of Office ai yesterday.

MoIC Union Minister receives UN Resident Coordinator ai, and OCHA Head of Office ai

U Ko Ko Hlaing, Union Minister for International Cooperation received Mr Ramanathan Balakrishnan, UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator ad interim, and Ms Danielle Parry, UNOCHA's Head of Office ad interim at the Ministry of International Cooperation in Nay Pyi Taw on 7 July 2023. During the meeting, they discussed matters on cooperation and collaboration for smooth and effective provision of humanitarian assistance to the needy population affected by Cyclone Mocha in Myanmar. — MNA

Donation ceremony held for Cyclone Mocha victims



Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khine receives the cash and kind donations yesterday.

THE ceremony for cash and kind donations from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of International Cooperation, Myanmar embassies, Myanmar citizens in foreign countries and partner foreign companies was held at the Disaster Management Centre-DMC yesterday afternoon. First, the Foreign Affairs deputy minister mentioned that donations from employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of International Cooperation, Myanmar embassies abroad and Myanmar Permanent Representative Offices totalled K72,454,700, which is

equivalent to eight donated foreign currencies; donations from Myanmar citizens living abroad, companies and institutions amounted to K61,473,400, which is equivalent to five donated foreign currencies; medicines worth K29,849,680, which is equivalent to Indian Rupee 1,193,987.20 were also donated. Then, the Union minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement returned words of thanks for the donations and support from the international community for the Cyclone Mocha disaster. Items donated by the ASEAN Humanitarian Coor-

dination Centre-AHA Centre, governments and people of Thailand, China, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia and foreign embassies in Yangon were delivered by Tatmadaw aircraft, naval ships and vessel from the Ministry of Transport and Communications to Sittway from where they were distributed to the Mocha-affected townships. Afterwards, the Foreign Affairs deputy minister presented K133,928,100 and medicines worth K29,849,680 to the MoSWRR Union minister and she returned the certificate of honour. — MNA/TS

Myanmar successfully hosts 44th ASEAN High-Level Officials on drugs meeting, related events

THE 44th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters and its Related Meetings (ASOD), hosted by Myanmar, continued at 8 am yesterday through a video conference at the meeting hall of Drug Enforcement Division Headquarters. Joint Secretary of the Central Committee on Drug Abuse Control and Commander of the Drug Enforcement Division Brig-Gen Win Naing, served as the co-chairman for the 8th ASOD+ China Consultation and the 16th ASOD+ 3 Consultation. In the 9th ASOD+ ROK Consultation, 6th ASOD+ India Consultation, and 5th ASOD+ Russia Consultation, the ASOD leaders of the ASEAN countries were jointly presided over by ASOD leaders. They discussed opinions about the drug situation in the region, issues related to precursor chemical control and anti-drug cooperation, and openly addressed the areas of continued cooperation in the future. In addition, they agreed that the Philippines will host the 45th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters and its Related Meetings (ASOD) in 2024. Police Brig-Gen Win Naing, Joint Secretary of the Central Committee on Drug Abuse Control and Commander of the Drug Enforcement Division, made the closing remarks. — MNA/KZW



The videoconferencing meeting of the 44th ASEAN High-Level Officials on drugs in progress.

Footer section containing contact information for circulation and distribution, advertising and marketing, and a 'Write for us' section with submission guidelines.

MoI Union Minister attends 13th respect-paying ceremony to senior comedians

THE Myanmar Comedians Association (Central) organized its 13th respect-paying ceremony to veteran comedians at the Plenary Hall of MICC-2 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Deputy Ministers U Ye Tint and Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun, U Myint Soe and Dr Soe Win, officials of Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare, departmental officials, senior comedians, Patron, Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of comedians association and guests attended the ceremony.

During the event, the Union minister appreciated the efforts of the new generation of comedians for holding such a ceremony to pay respect to their mentors.

The Union minister also said the role of comedians is also important in movie, music and theatrical fields. The Prime Minister also supports the entertainment sectors prioritizing the artistes to

develop these fields. The ministry also participates in such operations for the artistes. Therefore, the artistes should serve for the people to be carefree and happy with goodwill. They also work together with the government while it is overcoming the challenges in the outbreak of natural disasters. Moreover, those who ease the pain and make people happy are comedians. Therefore, comedians should keep entertaining people to be happy in the future with their best skills.

Then, Myanmar Comedians Association (Central) performed “Myanmar” Anyeint.

The Union minister then had a documentary photo taken together with the senior comedians after paying the honorary awards to them.

Deputy Ministers U Ye Tint and Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun also presented honorary medals and certificates to the chairman and vice-chairman of the Myanmar Comedians Association (Central).



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn poses for the documentary photo along with senior comedians yesterday.

The chairman of the Myanmar Comedians Association (Central) also gave honorary medals and certificates to the patron and joint secretary of the association.

Then, members of the asso-

ciation entertained by performing a play and singing songs.

The Union minister, deputy ministers and departmental officials presented offertories to veteran comedians. Then, the young comedians paid respect to the elderly and concluded the

first session of the event.

At noon, the association held a conference as the second session of the event and reshuffled the association officials and discussed the development programmes and work plans. — MNA/KTZH

Rakhine State CM oversees rehabilitation activities in Rathedaung Township



The providing ceremony of paddy and vegetable seeds in progress yesterday in Rathedaung Township.

CHAIRMAN of Rakhine State Disaster Management Committee Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin, deputy ministers, state ministers, and officials inspected rehabilitation activities in Rathedaung Township and the plowing with tractors from the Agricultural Mechanization Department in order to grow rain-fed rice, and attended the providing ceremony of paddy and vegetable seeds by the Agriculture Department to farmers affected by Cyclone Mocha yesterday morning.

Firstly, the chief minister and party met the task force

members who were unloading paddy and vegetable seeds and relief materials provided by the state from the Kaladan vessel at the Rathedaung jetty and provided grants for them.

Afterwards, the chief minister and officials observed the attendance of students and the completion of restoration of school buildings at No 2 Basic Education High School; the demonstration of collective plowing of monsoon rice by the Agricultural Mechanization Department at the Khanaunggyi Village; the process of making natural fertilizer (Bokashi) by

the Agriculture Department; the additional injection process of Covid-19 vaccine to students and the completion of restoration work in No 1 Basic Education High school; the completed restoration of religious buildings and the improvement of cleanliness and the water flow in the Alotawpyae Monastery and the providing of medical treatment to residents at the community hall of the monastery by specialist doctors from the 500-bed general hospital in Sittway. Then, the chief minister and party oversaw each activity and gave suggestions and necessary instructions.

Finally, they inspected the completion of restoration and the status of repair of the staff housing of the Urban and Housing Development Department, which was damaged by Cyclone Mocha. Then, they provided paddy and vegetable seeds and a water purifier to villagers at the ceremony held at the meeting hall of Rathedaung Township General Administration Department, and friendly greeted the attendees. — MNA/CT

Vessel MV Wirupekkha delivers relief supplies to Rakhine State

IN line with the guidance of the National Disaster Management Committee, the Transport and Communication Work Committee has meticulously planned and overseen the transport of essential relief aid and materials to Rakhine State. Departing from the Myanmar Terminal (TMT) port, MV Wirupekkha set sail for Sittway yesterday evening, carrying a diverse range of relief supplies.

Among the cargo were 33,400 rice bags, 500 visses of palm oil, 6,000 five-gallon water buckets, 10 packings of tarpaulin, 8,500 mosquito nets,

902 sets of household appliances, 4,098 tents and 133,026 seedlings weighing 1,911.03 tonnes.

These supplies were generously provided by the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Ministry of Electric Power, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management-AHA Centre. — MNA/MKKS



CURRENT AFFAIRS



The Thatbyinnyu Temple is seen under maintenance and restoration.

Chinese experts to carry out maintenance work on **Thatbyinnyu Temple**

DEPUTY Prime Minister Union Defence Minister General Mya Tun Oo said at the 1/2023 meeting of the Steering Committee for the Maintenance of Cultural Heritage in Bagan's World Heritage Site that a group of Chinese experts will carry out maintenance work on Thatbyinnyu Temple.

He pointed out that a Chinese team of experts has been in Myanmar since March this year for the repair and maintenance of Thatbyinnyu Temple, which was affected by the 2016 earthquake in the Bagan cultur-

al heritage area, and necessary measures have been taken.

The launching ceremony of Bagan's Thatbyinnyu Temple maintenance project, supported by China, commenced on 8 January 2022 at the site of the Pagoda.

Mr Chen Hai, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, said, "Today, the maintenance project of Bagan's Thatbyinnyu Temple, supported by China, will officially begin. Bagan's pagodas and temples are the cultural treasures of the Myanmar people as well as a world-famous cultural heritage.

"The Pagoda is the tallest in Bagan and one of the most famous pagodas in Myanmar. After many discussions, the Department of Cultural Heritage of China and the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture of Myanmar have jointly approved the repair and maintenance of Thatbyinnyu Temple, which was damaged by the earthquake. The technical team from Shaanxi and Yunnan Provinces of China will be in charge of the maintenance," he highlighted.

Regarding the maintenance of That-

byinnyu Temple, emergency maintenance and repair works have been carried out in advance, and the relevant departments are constantly monitoring the current condition of the temple, according to the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture.

In the future, the maintenance of the ancient buildings of the Bagan cultural heritage zone will continue to be coordinated and managed at the national level. A total of 389 religious buildings and stupas were affected by the Bagan earthquake in 2016, including the Thatbyinnyu Temple. According to the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch), the mural paintings in about 90 ancient pagoda buildings in the Bagan region are being repaired and maintained jointly by experts from Myanmar and India. — TWA/KZL

Objections to be lodged regarding change of owner names for 93 shops



Stalls are seen on the stairway of the Shwedagon Pagoda.

THE Shwedagon Pagoda Trustees Board on 6 July issued a notice regarding the change of owner names for 93 shops opened on the four stairways of the Shwedagon Pagoda.

The Shwedagon Pogo-

da Board of Trustees allows those eligible to open shops on the stairways following rules and regulations.

Currently, those who have the right to open shops have sent in applications to allow them to register the

shops in their names.

Therefore, the Board of Trustees announced that those who would like to lodge complaints regarding this can do so within seven days starting from 7 July. — TWA/MKKS

153 Myanmar workers sent to S Korea via EPS system

ACCORDING to a statement from the Myanmar Embassy to South Korea, 153 Myanmar workers were sent to South Korea on 4 July through the government's Overseas Employment Agency via the EPS system. The Myanmar workers sent to South Korea are 92 regular manufacturing workers and 61 regular agricultural and livestock workers.

A total of 919 Myanmar workers were sent in four batches through the EPS system in July. The despatch of workers to South Korea was restarted in August 2022 after the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the labour needs in that country, Myanmar workers are increasingly being recruited, and the contracts with former workers are also being extended.

A labour embassy official from Seoul welcomed 153 workers, instructed the workers to follow the rules and provided the necessary support. Currently, there are nearly 50,000 Myanmar workers in South Korea, and hundreds of workers continue to leave every month, according to records from the Ministry of Labour. — TWA/KZL



Myanmar workers are seen leaving for work in South Korea.

LOCAL BUSINESS

Myanmar ships over 1,000 tonnes of fresh ginger to Bangladesh via Maungtaw in June

MYANMAR sent over 1,000 tonnes of fresh ginger worth US\$0.279 million to the neighbouring country Bangladesh through Maungtaw, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar's border trade via Maungtaw post was aimed to meet a target of \$1.03 million in June, with exports worth \$1 million and imports worth \$0.03 million. However, the Maungtaw border did not meet a target and performed only 38 per cent of them.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, fisheries and manufacturing goods to Bangladesh via the Maungtaw border.

The items delivered to Bangladesh via Maungtaw last month were 1,086.5 tonnes of fresh ginger (\$0.279 million), 10 tonnes of areca nut (\$0.01 million), 13 tonnes of coconut (\$0.004 million), 63.3 tonnes of dried plum (\$0.011 million), 118 tonnes of jengkol (\$0.035 million) and five tonnes of turmeric (\$0.003 million).

Furthermore, 2.5 tonnes of Catla Catla (\$0.003 million), 0.5 tonnes of dried shrimp (\$0.001 million) and four tonnes of small dried fish (\$0.003 million) were exported as well. Additionally, 5,900 pairs of footwear (\$0.003 million), 0.5 tonnes of rice Vercelli (\$0.001 million), 1.9 tonnes of longyi (\$0.005 million), 11.5 tonnes of Thanaka (\$0.006 million) and 64 tonnes of plum paste (\$0.021 million) were sent to Bangladesh via Maungtaw.

The import items were 0.5 tonne of plastic pipe (\$0.001 million), 37 PVC tanks (\$0.001 million), 20 water hand pumps (\$0.001 million), 1.1 tonnes of aluminium water pots (\$0.003 million) and 3,500 pieces of men's t-shirts (\$0.004 million).

The export prices were \$1,000 per tonne of areca nut, \$170 per tonne of dried plum, \$200 per tonne of fresh ginger, \$300 per tonne of Jengkol, K42,000 per water hand pump, K84,000 per PVC Tank, K2,100 per shirt, K3.15 million per tonne of plastic



Myanmar conducts cross-border trade with Bangladesh via Sittway-Buthidaung-Maungtaw and Sittway-Angumaw-Maungtaw trade channels, mostly from Kanyinchaung Economic Zone in Maungtaw. Myanmar's ginger is seen in the picture.

pipe and K6.46 per tonne of the aluminium water pot.

Myanmar conducts cross-border trade with Bangladesh via Sittway-Buthi-

daung-Maungtaw and Sittway-Angumaw-Maungtaw trade channels, mostly from Kanyinchaung Economic Zone in Maungtaw.

The freight cost from Sittway to Maungtaw is K70-110 per viss for up road and for down road, the freight cost is K50-80 per viss. — NN/EM

Myanmar's export earnings in pulses surpass over US\$330 mln in Q1

MYANMAR shipped a total of 424,187.707 tonnes of pulses, with an estimated value of \$333.463 million, to foreign countries in the Q1 of the current financial year 2023-2024, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The pulses exports by seaborne trade amounted to \$284.497 million (369,237.669 tonnes), whereas 54,950.038 tonnes of pulses worth \$48.966 million were sent to the neighbouring countries through land border between 1 April and 30 June 2023.

Myanmar's pulses exports crossed over US\$1.4 billion from over 1.9 million tonnes in the past financial year 2022-2023, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics indicated.

Myanmar primarily exports black gram, green gram and pigeon peas to foreign markets. Of them, black gram

and pigeon peas are mostly conveyed to India while green grams are shipped to China and Europe.

India has growing demand and consumption requirements for black gram and pigeon peas. According to a Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and India signed on 18 June 2021, India will import 250,000 tonnes of black gram and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas (tur) from Myanmar for five consecutive years from 2021-2022 financial year to 2025-2026 FY. This G-to-G pact will not affect the pulses' annual quota set by India. Myanmar's exporters are also entitled to deliver the pulses to India under that annual quota.

The prevailing prices are K2.205 million per tonne of black gram (urad) and K3.15 million per tonne of pigeon



Various beans and pulses are displayed in the market.

pea (tur).

Last 14 June, the price of pigeon peas hit a record high of K3.33 million per tonne. The black gram price peaked at K2.461 million per tonne on 14 June.

Black gram that India primarily purchases are commonly found only in Myanmar, whereas pigeon peas, green gram and chickpeas are grown in African countries and Australia, Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association. — NN/EM

လူဝင်မှုကြီးကြပ်ရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့အင်အားဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ကမ္ဘာ့လူဦးရေနေ့

“ ကမ္ဘာ့လူ့ဘောင်သာယာဖို့၊ လူဦးရေနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှု ဟန်ချက်ညီအောင်ကြိုးစားဖို့ ”

“ Balancing the population and development, let's strive for better future ”

၂၀၂၃ ခုနှစ်၊ ဇူလိုင်လ (၁၁) ရက်

Public Notice for Elimination of Violence

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

OPINION

Tackling the reform process: A path to success

IN THE pursuit of progress, every sector within a nation must undergo continuous improvement. However, the reality is that this process will never reach an end. The world and the universe are in a constant state of change, demanding that all sectors adapt and upgrade to align with the evolving mission and vision of their respective fields.

If individuals or sectors hesitate to embark on reform or momentarily halt their progress, they risk being left behind as others forge ahead. The reform process should breathe new life into everything it touches, fostering revitalization and rejuvenation. All work procedures must be enhanced to align with the demands of the current era and system. The reform process will find one-third of its success.

At the heart of every sector lies the human element. Humans drive and manage all sectors and initiatives. Therefore, it is im-

perative to focus on enhancing the capabilities of individuals, enabling them to perform their duties with utmost excellence. The workforce must possess the necessary qualifications and skills to handle the work procedures involved in the reform process. By achieving this, the reform process, built upon the foundations of both human potential and resources, will find two-thirds of its success.

The reform process must be approached with the understanding that it is an ongoing journey. Sectors must continuously adapt and upgrade to remain relevant in a changing world. In enhancing human capabilities, recognizing the value of individual contributions, and providing incentives for success, the reform process can thrive. Let us embark on this journey together, ensuring that ambitions are met and the nation prospers.

pective workplaces.

It is crucial to provide incentives or rewards to those in the workforce, encouraging them in their daily routines and lives. Individual expectations and aspirations to achieve personal ambitions. When these ambitions are met, the resulting happiness and fulfillment cannot be adequately expressed in words. These achievements become the true pleasures of life for all. If the reform process is designed to accommodate these tripartite elements—human potential, material resources, and financial support—it will undoubtedly find resounding success, achieving the ambitions of all stakeholders.

The reform process must be approached with the understanding that it is an ongoing journey. Sectors must continuously adapt and upgrade to remain relevant in a changing world. In enhancing human capabilities, recognizing the value of individual contributions, and providing incentives for success, the reform process can thrive. Let us embark on this journey together, ensuring that ambitions are met and the nation prospers.

ACCORDING to one of the objectives of the Social Affairs of State Administration Council (SAC); “To strengthen basic healthcare in order to achieve the emergence of a health system that enhances the longevity and health of the entire nation”, the Ministry of Health (MOH) laid down the two key objectives for the people of Myanmar: **to enable every citizen to attain full life expectancy and enjoy the longevity of life, and to ensure that every citizen is free from diseases.**

To realize these objectives, all health activities are implemented in conformity with the following strategies; widespread dissemination of health information and education to reach the rural areas, enhancing disease prevention activities and providing effective treatment of prevailing diseases. For to do that, strengthening basic health care is an important step towards building a better health system. Basic healthcare focuses on providing essential health services to communities, including preventive care, primary care, and emergency services. It is

From Strengthening Basic Healthcare to a Better Healthcare System

By Dr Than Lwin Tun



Many countries, especially rural areas, are facing a significant shortage of healthcare professionals. To address this pressing issue, it is crucial for governments to allocate resources towards training and recruitment of healthcare professionals, which include doctors, nurses, and community health workers. **ILLUSTRATION: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ PIXABAY**

critical to ensure that everyone has access to basic health care, regardless of their income, social status, or geographic location. To move towards a better health system, there are several

key steps that can be taken. The first one is to invest in health infrastructure, including hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare facilities. This can help to ensure that people have access to quality healthcare services, even in remote or underserved areas. Another key step is to invest in the training and development of healthcare workers, including doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals. By ensuring that healthcare workers have the necessary skills and resources to provide high-quality care, we can improve health outcomes for patients and strengthen the overall health system. Additionally, it is important to focus on preventive care and public health initiatives, such as vaccination programmes, health education campaigns, and disease surveillance and control. By taking a proactive approach to health, we can prevent illnesses and promote healthy lifestyles,

which can lead to significant long-term improvements in health outcomes.

To strengthen basic healthcare and achieve a better health system, several steps can be taken and we would like to submit the followings some key steps such as: -

- **Increase funding for primary healthcare:** This will help to improve the availability and quality of basic health services. Governments should allocate more resources towards primary healthcare to ensure that it is accessible to all citizens,
- **Invest in health education:** Educating people about the importance of healthy living and basic healthcare practices can help to prevent many illnesses and reduce the burden on the healthcare system. Health education can be provided through various

channels such as schools, media, and community outreach programmes,

- **Improve healthcare infrastructure:** The availability of essential healthcare infrastructure such as hospitals, clinics, and medical equipment is crucial to ensuring that patients receive the care they need. Governments should invest in building and maintaining healthcare facilities and ensuring that they are equipped with the necessary tools and resources,
- **Increase the number of healthcare professionals:** There is a shortage of healthcare professionals in many countries, particularly in rural areas. Governments should invest in training and hiring more healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses, and community

health workers, **Implement preventive healthcare measures:** Preventive measures such as vaccination programmes, disease screening, and health checkups can help to detect and prevent illnesses before they become serious,

- **Development of the digital health information system with advanced technology,**
- **Decentralization in Healthcare Systems and**
- **Collaborating with International Organizations.**

So, we need to promote these programs to reduce the burden on the healthcare system and improve overall health outcomes. By implementing these measures, basic healthcare can be strengthened and a more effective health system can be developed. Generally, strengthening basic healthcare is a crucial first step towards building a better health system, but sustained investment and focus are needed to ensure that everyone has access to high-quality healthcare services and that health outcomes are improved for all.

AS GERMANY looks to a future without fossil fuels, a big white boxy appliance is generating a lively debate – and often a heated one – for its potential to replace emissions-heavy oil and gas boilers.

Heat pumps are spurring huge investments from major companies in Europe’s top economy, as a backlog of orders piles up for the devices.

While gas remains the most common way to heat German homes, heat pumps had been growing in popularity as part of a shift to greener energy use and following a surge in gas prices after Russia invaded Ukraine.

A new law making its way through parliament requiring heating in homes to be powered by at least 65 per cent renewable energy, part of Germany’s drive to go carbon neutral by 2045, could further fuel sales of the product in coming years.

As homeowners look to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, the market for the devices has in recent years already been “growing significantly, like never before,” Jan Brockmann, CEO of the Bosch Home Comfort Group, told AFP.

Germany’s new big hope against warming - heat pumps

“In the long term, we believe Germany could be the largest heat pump market in Europe.”

High-tech jigsaw

On the busy production line at Bosch Home Comfort Group’s plant in Eibelshausen, which traces its history as an industrial plant back over four centuries, heat pump interior units are carefully pieced together like high-tech jigsaw puzzles.

Piping is fitted into the guts of the systems, electronics are added, the equipment undergoes tests before being placed into a tall case.

In a small settlement nestled among forested hills in western Hessen state, the plant started manufacturing the equipment earlier this year, part of the Bosch subsidiary’s heat pump

expansion drive.

Heat pumps work using similar technology to that found in air conditioners and fridges, extracting warmth from the ground, outside air or a water source to generate heat.

But critics say they are too expensive for most, and claim the new energy reform pushes people towards buying them, as it effectively bans traditional oil and gas boilers.

Such claims have sparked a backlash against the Green party’s push for the new laws in recent weeks.

Supporters point to large government subsidies for the devices and say the true options available for homeowners – including not just heat pumps, but cheaper hybrid systems – are not being properly communicated.

And they believe they are among the few realistic options to slash emissions from the buildings sector – which made up about 15 per cent of Germany’s carbon dioxide emissions last year.

A compromise was finally reached between the Greens, who had been pushing for the rules to begin next year, and business-friendly coalition partners the Free Democrats which delays the start for most until 2028.

But in a further twist, the coalition was forced to postpone a vote on the law scheduled for Friday until September, after the country’s top court ruled they had failed to give lawmakers enough time to scrutinise it.

The dispute has diminished consumers’ appetite for heat pumps in the short term, with demand dropping in recent months

amid the uncertainty.

Brockmann described the long-running row as “very unfortunate”.

Due to the “short transition period” originally envisaged, it is no wonder there has been an “intensive political and public discussion”, he said.

He said that the draft legislation which had eventually emerged “is open to technology (and) has a longer transition period and a comprehensible approach”.

But he added: “We hope that existing uncertainties regarding the (law) and the future funding of climate-neutral heating technologies will be clarified soon.”

‘Essential for energy transition’

Despite the turmoil, Bosch

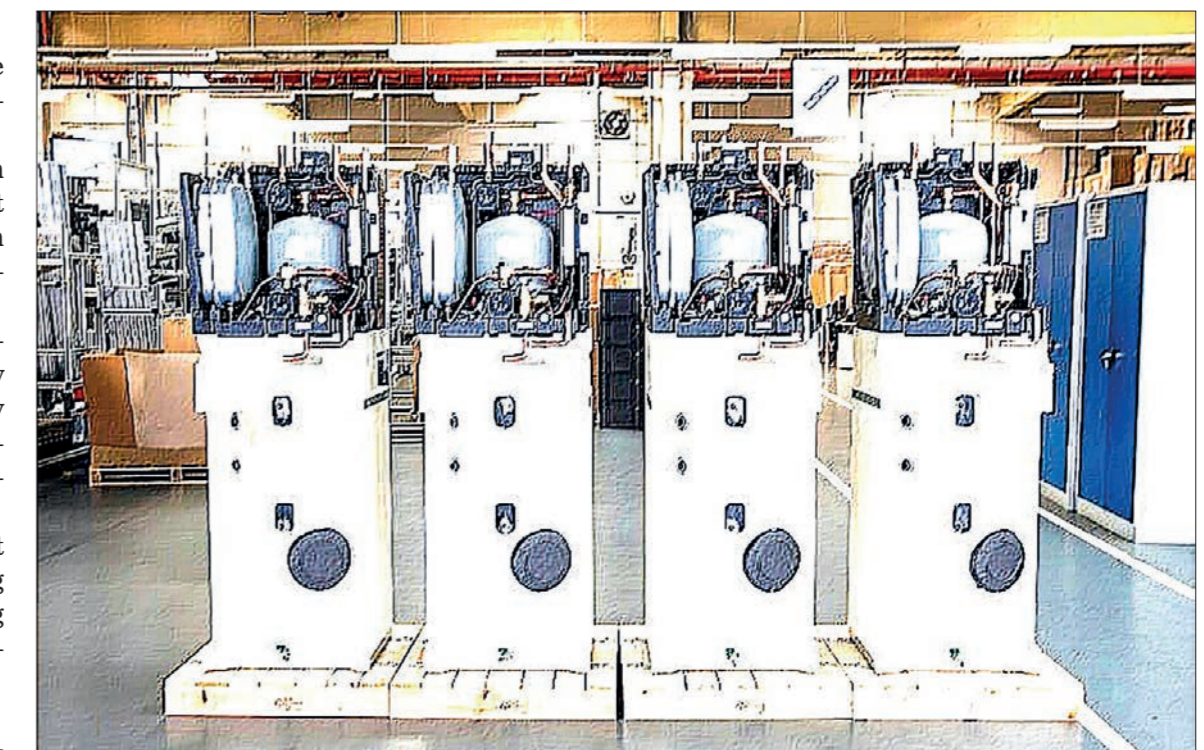
Home Comfort remains upbeat, planning to invest one billion euros (\$1.1 billion) by the end of the decade in its European development and manufacturing network for heat pumps.

As well as Germany, it also has heat pump factories in Sweden and Portugal, and is setting

one up in Poland.

It is a crowded market, however, with competition from other manufacturers like Vaillant and Viessman – whose core climate business was snapped up by a US firm earlier this year.

SOURCE: AFP



Heat pumps work using similar technology to that found in air conditioners and fridges, extracting warmth from the ground, outside air or a water source to generate heat. **PHOTO: AFP**

Plans underway to carry out 1,055 water supply activities in 974 villages



A villager is seen carrying water from the lake in a bucket to get drinking water.

THE Department of Rural Development stated that 1,055 water supply projects in 974 villages are planned to be carried out with over K28 billion of Union and regional funds in the 2023–2024 financial year.

A total of 474 projects, including the drilling of artesian and deep wells, the dredging of earthen lakes, spring irrigation works, and other related

activities, will be implemented in 421 villages at a cost of over K13 billion to carry out rural water supply activities. In the 2023–2024 financial year, a total of 581 water supply projects with a cost of more than K14 billion have been earmarked to be implemented with Union funds.

Only 210 of the 581 projects planned to be implemented with Union funds have been start-

ed, and 80 of the 474 projects planned to be implemented with regional and state funds have been launched, according to the Department of Rural Development.

A total of 2,058 projects were implemented in 1,858 villages at a cost of K39 billion from Union funds and regional and state funds in the financial year 2022–2023. — TWA/CT

Myanmar's manufacturing sector attracts above US\$12 mln in Q1

MYANMAR'S manufacturing sector drew over US\$12.59 million from 10 enterprises in the Q1 (April–June) of the current financial year 2023–2024, including capital expansion by the existing enterprises, as per the statistics released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Chinese companies primarily made investments in the manufacturing sector.

Myanmar attracted foreign direct investments of \$13.598 million from 11 enterprises. The agriculture sector drew \$1 million from one enterprise. The remaining FDI flowed into the manufacturing sector.

In Q1 this FY, China is the top source of FDI so far, investing \$8.4 million from six enterprises. One enterprise each from India, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore and the USA also made investments this year.

The manufacturing enterprises that need a large labour force are prioritized to create job opportunities for the local community. Manufacturing of fertilizer, cement, iron and steel, value-added foodstuff, electric

vehicle and pharmaceutical and medical devices, agriculture and livestock farming and its related industries and public transportation services will be prioritized for investment. The commission welcomes both foreign direct investment and domestic investments made by Myanmar citizens in those sectors. Myanmar Investment Commission and the related ministries will also ensure investment facilitation.

Myanmar's manufacturing sector is largely concentrated in garment and textiles produced on the Cutting, Making, and Packaging basis, and it contributes to the country's GDP to a certain extent.

There are over 540 factories operated under Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association. The majority of them are from China, followed by Myanmar and the Republic of Korea.

Myanmar attracted foreign direct investments of \$1.64 billion from 87 enterprises last financial year 2022–2023 (April–March). The majority of the investments were brought into the manufacturing sector, drawing \$271.8 million from 64 enterprises. — KK

Illegal fuel oil, industrial materials, foodstuffs, consumer goods and vehicles seized

THE on-duty combined teams under the supervision of Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force conducted inspections on 4 July and seized a Hino truck (approximately K30 million) carrying empty oil jerrycans and two kinds of goods worth K55 million including a Ling Yu brushless AC synchronous generator without official documents that were hidden from rubber plates heading to Mandalay from Myitkyina at the Letpanhla-Singu temporary checkpoint, a Higer express bus (estimated value of K80 million) carrying 800 kilogrammes of Dry buffalo meat worth K20 million travelling from Yangon to Lashio at the 16th-Mile Kyaukchaw checkpoint and a Mitsubishi Canter (approximately K25 million) carrying two kinds of goods worth K13.3 million including 1,600 gallons of domestic diesel and an iron water tank worth K500,000 at No 484 in Yintawsan

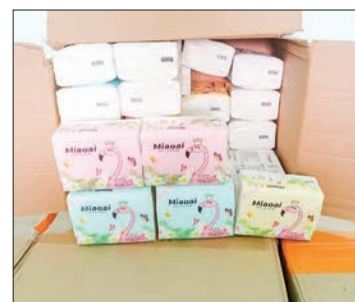
village, Amarapura township. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

Similarly, Myawady District Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force made an inspection of a warehouse in Yepu village, Myawady township, on 5 July and impounded 840 bottles of Ding Fong energy drink worth K2.94 million and 174 cartons of snow fungus worth K13.92 million without official documents. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

In addition, on 5 July, the combined teams captured two kinds of goods worth K4,965,700 including 4,180 kilogrammes of Kanko extension join box that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from a Nissan tractor head and a trailer (approximately K60 million) heading to Yangon from Myawady near Famous fuel station in Phayagyi town and 24 kinds of goods worth K9,212,500 includ-

ing 145 kilogrammes of Miaoai tissue without official documents from a Hyundai bus (estimated value of K15 million) which were captured by Phayagyi Police Station. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

The on-duty teams conducted inspections on 5 July and confiscated two kinds of goods worth K1.71 million including 2,700 bottles of Lactasoy soy milk from a Toyota HiAce minibus (estimated value of K15 million) heading to Bago from Myawady at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint, two kinds of goods worth K18,842,880 including 1,920 litres of Axle oil that were different from the ID from a container at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint and three kinds of goods worth K65,934,732 including 18,000 kilogrammes of iron rod that exceeded the ID from a Nissan Diesel tractor head and a trailer (approximately K65 million) near Natsingusay



Confiscated illegal commodities.

fuel station. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

As a result, a total of 19 arrests were made on 4 and 5

July, with an estimated value of K496,325,812, as reported by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

LIFESTYLE/WELLNESS: WORLD

S Korea says Fukushima water discharge meets intl standards

SOUTH Korea said Friday its own analysis of Japan's plan to discharge treated radioactive water from the crippled Fukushima nuclear plant into the sea shows it meets international safety standards, but added it will keep an import ban on Japanese seafood from Fukushima and some other prefectures amid safety concerns.

The analysis, showing that radioactive materials in the water are within acceptable levels, is based on the findings of a delegation of South Korean experts who conducted an on-site inspection of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in May.

The ban on imports of Japanese seafood from Fukushima and seven other prefectures affected by the 2011 nuclear crisis will remain in place until public fears over the safety of the produce subsidies, the South Korean government said.

The announcement on the safety of the water discharge



Photo shows an undersea tunnel to be used to discharge treated water from the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station in Japan's northeast. PHOTO: TOKYO ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY HOLDINGS INC./KYODO

came after South Korea on Wednesday said it respects the results of the International Atomic Energy Agency's review in which it endorsed the safety of the plan.

IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi, on a visit to Japan, submitted a report on the review to Japanese Prime Minister Fu-

mio Kishida on Tuesday.

Since Japan announced its decision to release treated radioactive water into the sea in April 2021, there had been strong opposition to the plan among the South Korean public due to concerns that the water could be harmful to people's health and the environment. — Kyodo

After five years of driving, roadblocks remain for Saudi women

IT has been five years since Jawhara al-Wabili became one of Saudi Arabia's first women drivers — a reform she saw as revolutionary, even as some activists dismissed it as window-dressing.

"I drove as soon as it was authorized," the 55-year-old from the central city of Buraidah proudly told AFP, recalling a milestone that drew global attention to sweeping social changes fast-tracked by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the conservative kingdom's de facto ruler.

Wabili has gone on to give free driving lessons to other women, sharing a skill she views as essential in a country sorely lacking in public transportation.

It is just one example, she says, of how women's rights have blossomed in recent years, allowing them to become ambassadors, bank directors, university administrators and even astronauts. Saudi scientist Rayyanah Barnawi took part in a mission to the International Space Station just this past May.

The changes can also be felt in daily life, especially now that the religious police have been sidelined and rules requiring gender segregation in public and the wearing of abaya robes have been scrapped.

But some human rights campaigners cast doubt on how deep the reforms actually run, stressing that women have been ensnared by a broader campaign of arrests targeting government critics. Their ranks include some of the very women who led the campaign for driving licences.

"We have more and more women in prisons, either for not wearing abaya or, you know, for dancing in public or for tweeting their opinions, whatever the subject, even on unemployment," said Lina al-Hathloul, head of monitoring and communication for the rights group ALQST.

"We're really in a state of constant fear of people not knowing really what is happening, or whether they're allowed to do something or not." — AFP



A ban on female drivers was lifted by the government in 2018, opening the door to driving a car. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/AFP/FILE

Report paves way for EU to renew glyphosate use

THE European Food Safety Authority said on Thursday it had not found "any critical areas of concern" preventing the controversial and widely used herbicide glyphosate being reauthorized for use in the EU.

Environmentals groups lashed out at the announcement, saying there was scientific evidence that glyphosate may cause cancer, poison aquatic life and can be fatal to key pollinators like bees.

The European Union agency's long-awaited assessment noted that there were gaps in the data in some areas, and that it had "identified a high

long-term risk to mammals in 12 out of 23 proposed uses of glyphosate".

But the EFSA said that it only considered a concern "critical" when it affected all proposed uses of the substance, which would prevent it from being renewed.

The study, which was submitted to the European Commission and member states, will serve as a basis for the EU's upcoming decision on whether to renew the use of glyphosate in the bloc for another five years. The current authorization runs out on 15 December. — AFP



Agricultural drones are unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) that are increasingly being utilized in modern farming practices. One specific application of agricultural drones is the spraying of pesticides on crops. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/AFP

Climate change, El Nino drive hottest June on record

THE world saw its hottest June on record last month, the EU's climate monitoring service said Thursday, as climate change and the El Nino weather pattern looked likely to drive another scorching northern summer. The announcement from the EU monitor Copernicus marked the latest in a series of records for a year that has already seen a drought in Spain and fierce heat waves in China and the United States. "The month was the warmest June globally at just over 0.5 degrees Celsius above the 1991-2020 average, exceeding June 2019 — the previous record — by a substantial margin," the EU monitor said in a

statement from its C3S climate unit.

Temperatures reached June records across northwest Europe while parts of Canada, the United States, Mexico, Asia and eastern Australia "were significantly warmer than normal", Copernicus noted. On the other hand it was cooler than normal in western Australia, the western United States and western Russia, it said.

'Hottest day ever'

It was the latest in a series of heat records over recent years, reflecting the impact of global warming driven by greenhouse gases released from human activity. — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

China leads race to become world's top cashless society, says British expert



A customer pays via the GCash payment system, a local version of Alibaba's Alipay solution, at a store in Manila. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

CHINA is on track to becoming the world's top country for cash-free transactions, Kent Matthews, professor of banking and finance at Cardiff University told Xinhua recently in an exclusive interview.

In China, the proportion of the total amount of money in circulation in the form of cash has dropped to 3.7 per cent and is continuing to fall, said Matthews.

"People are using cash much less today than they were 10 or 20 years ago. The trend towards a cashless society is inexorable," he said, noting that today in Britain cash is about 2.9 per cent of the total money in circulation.

In less than 20 years, China has, with impressive speed, closed the gap with Britain in terms of a cashless society, Mat-

thews noted.

This has shown how fast the technology of cash-free transactions and payment has moved in China and how quickly the Chinese society has accepted it, he said.

Matthews said he would not be surprised if, in the next five years, cash usage declines to less than two per cent of the total money in circulation in China. "The adoption of technology in China is much more rapid."

Recalling how on a recent visit to China he used his phone to buy a mango from a street vendor for just a few pennies, Matthews said the technology in China is very advanced compared to other parts of the world, and that has to do with the digitization of its economy. — Xinhua

Canada, Stellantis agree to resume construction of battery plant

CANADA has reached an agreement with carmaker Stellantis to immediately resume construction of a battery plant, ministers announced Wednesday, after the project was suspended over a subsidies disagreement.

The plant in Windsor, Ontario, a Can\$5 billion (US\$3.8 billion) joint venture to supply EV batteries for a significant portion of the North American market, was billed by Ottawa as the largest-ever investment in the country's auto sector.

But Stellantis suspended the project in May, saying the federal government had not delivered promised subsidies.

On Wednesday, Canadian Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland announced an agree-



Canada has reached an agreement with carmaker Stellantis to immediately resume construction of a battery plant, ministers announced Wednesday, after the project was suspended over a subsidies disagreement. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ ET AUTO**

ment had been reached.

"This agreement is good for workers and good for Canada," Freeland said in a statement shared on Twitter. Stellantis

said in a separate statement that construction of the plant could resume "as of now", and that battery production was scheduled to begin in 2024. — AFP

German industrial orders climb in May

GERMAN industrial orders rose significantly in May, official data showed Tuesday, despite concerns that Europe's largest economy was set for a period of subdued growth.

New orders, closely watched as a foretaste of future industri-

al activity, rose by 6.4 per cent in May, federal statistics agency Destatis said. The indicator climbed for the second month in a row, after Destatis revised up its figures for April to an increase of 0.2 per cent from a drop of 0.4 per cent. May's rise was driven

by increased orders for transport equipment, including ships, railway rolling stock, aircraft and military vehicles, which shot up 137.1 per cent on a month. Orders for motor vehicles — a key sector of the German economy — also rose by 8.6 per cent. — AFP

Mountain of strategic metals stranded in DR Congo begins to shift

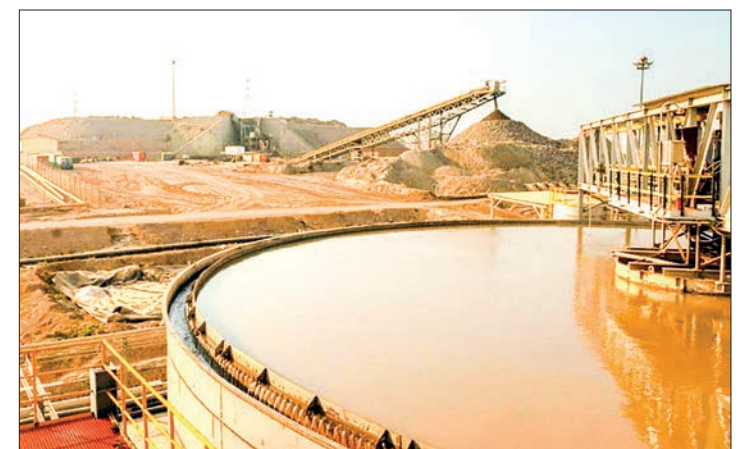
A mountain of copper and cobalt worth up to \$2 billion is piled up in DR Congo, symbolizing the wildly volatile market for metals touted as crucial to the green energy revolution.

As many as 13,000 tonnes of cobalt powder are thought to be hoarded in the Chinese-owned Tenke Fungurume mine — equivalent to seven per cent of the world's production last year.

It was stuck for over nine months, alongside an even larger stockpile of copper, due to a dispute over royalties between owners CMOC and the

DRC's state mining company Gecamines. With the export ban lifted, CMOC has begun to shift its giant stash of metals.

Releasing the cobalt all at once would crash the market, where prices are already at rock-bottom. But initial fears that the resumption of business at Tenke Fungurume would lead to market turbulence have been allayed. "The price of cobalt is not affected," said Zhou Jun, a CMOC vice-president and the head of Tenke Fungurume mine, in southeastern Democratic Republic of Congo. — AFP



As many as 13,000 tonnes of cobalt powder is thought to be hoarded in the Chinese-owned Tenke Fungurume mine. **PHOTO: AFP**

Thyssenkrupp launches hydrogen unit IPO in green push

GERMAN industrial giant Thyssenkrupp launched the IPO of its hydrogen unit Nucera Friday, one of the biggest European market floatations this year as interest grows in the shift to green technologies. As countries around the world look at ways to reduce carbon emissions to help meet climate targets, hydrogen has increasingly come into focus as an alternative to fossil fuels. Nucera produces electrolyzers, which can be used to manufacture green hydrogen made using electricity obtained through renewable energy sources such as solar or wind. Its shares started trading at 20.20 euros (\$22) on the Frankfurt

stock exchange, slightly above the introduction price set for the stock, valuing the company at about 2.5 billion euros. Nucera CEO Werner Ponikvar, speaking at the stock market before trading began, hailed the IPO as a "great achievement". He said the company aimed to "support our customers on their way to climate neutrality... thereby shaping the new era of sustainable energy. "We are well on our way to becoming one of the leading green hydrogen companies." Friday's IPO was the second largest in Europe this year, behind Italian gambling firm Lotto-matica's listing in Milan. — AFP



ThyssenKrupp AG is a German industrial engineering and steel production multinational conglomerate. PHOTO: AFP

Rome's historic bakery to the popes closes

THE Arrigoni bakery has made bread for the popes for almost a century, from rosetta rolls to wholewheat loaves – but mass tourism has proved deadly and no prayers can save it now. "We turned the oven off on Tuesday," said Angelo Arrigoni, 79, whose father opened the little shop in 1930 during Pius XI's papacy, and who would hand-deliver bread to the papal household. Each time a new head of the Catholic Church was elected, the "Panificio Arrigoni" on Borgo Pio, just a five-minute walk from St Peter's Square, would get ready to cater to the new pope's tastes. Polish Pope John Paul II, elected in 1978, "said he wanted the bread his workers ate", Arrigoni said.



For over 90 years, the Arrigoni bakery has been serving bread to tourists, Romans and popes, from Pius XI to Francis. PHOTO: AFP

Each time a new head of the Catholic Church was elected, the "Panificio Arrigoni" on Borgo Pio, just a five-minute walk from St Peter's Square, would get ready to cater to the new pope's tastes. Polish Pope John Paul II, elected in 1978, "said he wanted the bread his workers ate", Arrigoni said.

"The workers ate both the 'ciriola', that big, classic Roman loaf that hardly anyone makes anymore, and rosetta rolls," he told AFP. "So for his whole papacy, which lasted almost 27 years, we gave him five 'ciriola' and five rosetta rolls." When his successor Benedict XVI was elect-

ed, Arrigoni rang the papal household but was told by a nun that the new German pope would be sticking with the baker he frequented as a cardinal. "But I am that baker!" he told her, for Benedict had already been getting cheese and unleavened bread from him as Cardinal

Joseph Ratzinger. **'Piece of history'** Pope Francis has also been served by Arrigoni -- but will now need to look elsewhere for his daily bread, after the baker found himself squeezed by a drop in loyal local customers and steep energy prices. "The district has changed," he said. "All the houses that used to be full of people have become rentals for tourists," most of whom do not do a daily shop for basics, but prefer to eat out in the Eternal City's restaurants. News that the premises have been sold has saddened Arrigoni's remaining regular customers. — AFP

Shell says cutting output could worsen living standards

SHELLS chief executive told the BBC on Thursday that cutting gas and oil output would be "irresponsible" because it could further lift energy bills and worsen the cost-of-living crisis. Wael Sawan was asked about recent comments from UN head Antonio Guterres, who had declared it was "moral and economic madness" to invest in new fossil fuel infrastructure. Guterres made the re-

marks in April when he also accused governments and businesses of lying about their efforts to stem climate change. "I disagree with him, respectfully," Sawan told the BBC in an interview aired on Thursday. "I think what would be dangerous and irresponsible is actually cutting out the oil and gas production so that the cost of living — as we saw just last year — starts to shoot up again." — AFP



People walk past a board indicating the prices of petrol and diesel fuel at a Shell petrol station, in Manchester, UK, 8 March 2022. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

The Global New Light of Myanmar
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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (788N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (788N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-7-2023** 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V NITHI BHUM VOY.NO. (276N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NITHI BHUM VOY.NO. (276N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-7-2023** 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

ROLLING UPDATES

ASIA

Yellen says US not seeking 'winner-take-all' competition with China



Chinese Premier Li Qiang (R) shakes hands with US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen during a meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 7 July 2023. **PHOTO: POOL/AFP**

TREASURY Secretary Janet Yellen told Chinese Premier Li Qiang on Friday that the United States is not seeking “winner-take-all” competition, in a visit to Beijing aimed at stabilizing fraught ties.

Yellen’s four-day trip is her first as Treasury chief to China, with which the United States is butting heads over trade curbs, human rights and a litany of other disputes.

But Washington is working to dial down the temperature, and on Friday Yellen underscored to Li that the United States does not seek an economic showdown.

“We seek healthy economic competition that is not winner-take-all but that, with a fair set of rules, can benefit both countries over time,” she told Li at Bei-

jing’s Great Hall of the People.

Yellen underlined to Premier Li that while Washington would “in certain circumstances, need to pursue targeted actions to protect its national security”, that should not derail ties.

“We should not allow any disagreement to lead to misunderstandings that needlessly worsen our bilateral economic and financial relationship.”

Highlighting the challenges, just days before Yellen’s visit, Beijing unveiled new export controls on metals key to semiconductor manufacturing on national security grounds, in the latest salvo in the chips war.

The Treasury secretary Friday told American businesspeople Washington was “concerned” about the curbs. — AFP

Ex-Japan PM Suga, India’s Modi agree to bolster economic ties

FORMER Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi agreed Thursday to bolster their economic ties as Japan pushes for more investments in the fast-growing South Asian country. Suga, who heads the Japan-India Association and is leading a large business delegation to the world’s most populous country, told Modi in New Delhi that it is important for India to improve its logistics infrastructure and

taxation system to spur Japanese investments, according to a member of the group. The delegation consisted of about 100 individuals representing 54 companies. Among them was Yuji Fukasawa, the president of East Japan Railway Co, who also participated in the meeting between Suga and Modi. Suga and Modi also reaffirmed their commitment to advancing a high-speed railway project that would link the coastal city of Mumbai to Ahmedabad in

the Gujarat state, the member said. Japan has provided financial and technological support for the project, which employs its shinkansen bullet train technology.

The meeting between Modi and Suga, a senior lawmaker of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party who served as prime minister for just over a year to October 2021, took place ahead of Modi’s upcoming role as chair of a Group of 20 summit in September. — Kyodo



Former Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga speaks to the Indian business community in New Delhi on 6 July 2023, ahead of his meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. **PHOTO: KYODO**

At least 50 dead in Pakistan monsoon floods



People ride on a horsecart through a flooded street after heavy rainfall in Lahore on 5 July 2023. **PHOTO: ARIF ALI/AFP**

AT least 50 people, including eight children, have been killed by floods and landslides triggered by

monsoon rains that have lashed Pakistan since last month, officials said Friday. The summer

monsoon brings South Asia 70-80 per cent of its annual rainfall between June and September every year.

It is vital for the livelihoods of millions of farmers and food security in a region of around two billion people — but it also brings landslides and floods. “Fifty deaths have been reported in different rain-related incidents all over Pakistan since the start of the monsoon on 25 June,” a national disaster management official told AFP, adding that 87 people were injured during this period. — AFP

India court refuses stay on Rahul Gandhi defamation conviction

TOP Indian opposition leader Rahul Gandhi’s efforts to overturn his expulsion from parliament were again blocked Friday when a court refused to stay his jail sentence for defamation.

Gandhi was sentenced to two years’ imprisonment for comments he made in 2019, which a court ruled were insulting to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and those sharing his surname. Modi’s government is widely accused of using the defamation law to silence crit-

ics. The case in the premier’s home state of Gujarat is one of several lodged in recent years against Gandhi, who is Modi’s chief opponent and the foremost member of the opposition Congress party. A judge of the Gujarat High Court said the original verdict was “just and legal” and refused to put a stay on Gandhi’s conviction. “It is now the need of the hour to have purity in politics. A representative of people should be a man of clear character,” the judge said Friday.—AFP

BrahMos Aerospace announces talks with 6 nations over sales of supersonic cruise missiles



The BrahMos is a medium-range Ramjet Supersonic Cruise Missile that can be launched from submarine, ships, airplanes or land. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

RUSSIAN-INDIAN joint venture BrahMos Aerospace is conducting talks with six countries over sales of BrahMos medium-range supersonic cruise missiles, Praveen Pathak, the company's chief general manager, told Sputnik.

"BrahMos is in talks with six countries on the sales of missiles. There are countries with whom we are negotiating at a more advanced stage, it is practically a pre-contact work," Pathak said on the sidelines of the International Maritime Defence Show in St Petersburg, adding that the countries interested in contracts were from the Indo-Pacific region and the Middle East.

In January 2022, the Philippine Defence Ministry and BrahMos concluded a \$375 million contract for the supply of ground-based anti-ship missile systems. The contract also includes training for operating personnel and a logistics support package.

BrahMos Aerospace is a Russian-Indian enterprise producing supersonic cruise missiles capable of being launched from submarines, ships, planes or land-based platforms. It was established in 1998 and named after the rivers of Brahmaputra and Moscow. The Russian side of the venture is represented by the NPO Mashinostroyeniya company.— SPUTNIK

Hundreds charged, cannabis plants seized in biggest UK operation: police

MORE than 450 people were charged in the UK and hundreds of thousands of cannabis plants worth millions of pounds

seized in a massive operation throughout June, British police said Friday. Police say cannabis production is a cash cow for

organized crime, fuelling gang violence as groups compete for territory.

"We know that organised networks involved in cannabis production are also directly linked to an array of other serious criminality such as class A drug importation, modern slavery and wider violence and exploitation," said Steve Jupp, the National Police Chiefs' Council lead for serious organised crime.

"This operation not only successfully disrupted a significant amount of criminal activity, but the intelligence gathered will also help inform future law enforcement activity across the country." — AFP



Hundreds of thousands of cannabis plants worth millions of pounds were seized throughout June in Operation Mille. **PHOTO: AFP**

Iraq opens probe into Israeli academic kidnapping: spokesman

IRAQ has opened an investigation into the suspected kidnapping of an Israeli-Russian academic after her disappearance in Baghdad, a government spokesman said.

Elizabeth Tsurkov, a doctoral student at Princeton University and fellow at the New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy, has been missing in Iraq for more than three months.

The office of Israeli Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday accused Iraq's Kataeb Hezbollah of holding her, but the pro-Iran armed faction has implied it was not involved in her disappearance.

Kataeb Hezbollah is part of the Hashed al-Shaabi force, former paramilitaries that were integrated into Iraqi security forces in recent years.

Asked about her disappear-

ance on television late Thursday, government spokesman Bassem al-Awadi said "the Iraqi government is indeed conducting an official investigation".

"Given the level of the case, its intricacies, there will be no official statement regarding this matter until the Iraqi government completes its official investigation and reaches conclusions," he said. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sweden pushes Türkiye on NATO entry at pre-summit talks

SWEDEN'S foreign minister met his Turkish counterpart Thursday at the NATO headquarters to try and unblock Ankara's opposition to Stockholm's membership bid before a summit of alliance leaders next week.

NATO allies are pressuring Ankara to give way after a year of delay and let the Scandinavian nation in by the time the gathering in Lithuania starts on Tuesday.

NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg convened the last-ditch negotiations – which also include intelligence and security officials – in the hope they could pave the way for a breakthrough.

But diplomats at NATO were doubtful there will be any sign of a looming about-turn from Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Türkiye and Sweden inked a deal last year aimed at clearing the path to accession. Ankara demanded a Swedish crackdown on Kurdish movements, such as the the Kurdistan Workers' Party PKK, which it says is a terrorist group. — AFP



This picture provided late on 5 July 2023, by Syrian citizen journalist Ahmad Mohamad shows Israeli-Russian academic Elizabeth Tsurkov who had been missing in Iraq for months. **PHOTO: AHMAD MOHAMAD / AFP**

BrahMos Aerospace announces talks with 6 nations over sales of supersonic cruise missiles

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SPORT

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.

First Nations flags to be flown at women's World Cup stadiums

FLAGS representing Aboriginal and Maori people will be flown at stadiums hosting women's World Cup matches in Australia and New Zealand after FIFA agreed to the move on Friday.

Gianni Infantino, head of the world governing body, said he recognised the importance of Indigenous populations being part of the show-piece event, which kicks off on 20 July.

"These significant flags express a spirit of mutual respect, national identity, and recognition of indigenous cultures for our hosts," he said in a statement. Football Australia chief James Johnson said their presence alongside the co-hosts' national flags aligned with the tournament's key message of inclusion.

"Confirmation by FIFA that all official flags of Australia will be flown during the women's World Cup is an important moment for all Australians, particularly First Nations people," he said.

"This decision aligns with the val-



The Australian and Aboriginal flags will both fly at stadiums during the women's football World Cup. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

ues of our organisation with diversity and inclusion at the core of what we are about as a governing body and our vision for the tournament."

New Zealand Football chief Andrew

Pragnell added it would help "shape the way the tournament evolves and interacts with its hosts in future editions and in particular in recognising the rights of indigenous people worldwide". — AFP

Bayer Leverkusen sign Xhaka from Arsenal

SWITZERLAND midfielder Granit Xhaka has joined Bayer Leverkusen from Arsenal on a five-year deal, the German club announced on Thursday.

Xhaka, 30, signed for Arsenal in 2016 and had a year remaining on his contract but was expected to leave with the Gunners pursuing a move for England international Declan Rice.

"In Granit we have been able to bring in an absolute top player," said Leverkusen sporting director Simon Rolfes in a club statement.

Xhaka returns to the Bundesliga in a reported 25-million-euro (\$27.2m) switch after a seven-year stint with

Arsenal that saw him win the FA Cup twice but also be stripped of the club captaincy. He scored 23 goals in 297 appearances for the Gunners, including twice on the final day of the season in a 5-0 home win over Wolves as Arsenal finished second in the Premier League.

His fond farewell from Arsenal supporters was evidence of Xhaka's remarkable turnaround after he infamously swore at the crowd during a 2019 match with Crystal Palace.

"We are saying goodbye to a fantastic player and person loved by all of us," said Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta. — AFP



Granit Xhaka spent seven years with Arsenal after joining the club in 2016. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Wimbledon grass courts 'grippy' despite slips, says director

WIMBLEDON tournament director Jamie Baker said Friday the grass courts were "good and grippy" despite several high-profile tumbles in the first week of the Grand Slam.

Two-time champion Andy Murray had a nasty fall on Centre Court as he served for a two-sets-to-one lead in his second-round match against Stefanos Tsitsipas late on Thursday but got back up and won the set.

US veteran Venus Williams fell heavily in her first-round defeat to Elina Svitolina also on Centre Court on Monday, hurting her already-banded right knee. "I was literally killing it, then I got killed by the grass," said the 43-year-old five-time champion.

Novak Djokovic's match on the same day was delayed for nearly 90 minutes due to a damp court as players expressed concerns over the surface. On Thursday, France's Alize Cornet crashed to the Centre Court turf when her left leg slipped late in her defeat to defending champion Elena Rybakina, though she was able to carry on with heavy strapping. — AFP