

Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

1. The Union Election Commission will be reconstituted and its mandated tasks, including the scrutiny of voter lists, shall be implemented in accordance with the law.
2. Effective measures will be taken with added momentum to prevent and manage the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Actions will be taken to ensure the speedy recovery of businesses from the impact of COVID-19.
4. Emphasis will be placed on achieving enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement.
5. Upon accomplishing the provisions of the state of emergency, free and fair multiparty democratic elections will be held in line with the 2008 Constitution, and further work will be undertaken to hand over State duties to the winning party in accordance with democratic standards.

Gala ceremony to convey Maravijaya Buddha Image onto jewelled throne



The gala ceremony to convey the Maravijaya Buddha Image onto the jewelled throne is reverently graced and attended by Bhamo Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa, Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Nyanissara, SAC Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and dignitaries yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

A gala ceremony to convey the Maravijaya Buddha image being carved for public obeisance in Buddha Park onto a jewelled throne took place in the precinct of Buddha Park in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory yesterday morning.

Also present at the ceremony were members of the Sangha led by Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Mandalay's Bhamo Monastery Abbot Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Maha Dhamma Kathika Bahujanahitadharma Shwegyin Nikaya Chairman Shwegyin Sangharaja Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta

Bhivamsa and Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academies Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Maha Dhamma Kathika Bahujanahitadharma Shwegyin Nikaya Chairman Shwegyin Sangharaja Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta

Nyanissara, State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, the council secretary, the joint secretary, coun-

cil members and their wives, Union Ministers, the chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command and guests.

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National Objectives for 76th Anniversary of Union Day 2023

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

Myanmar Embassy responds: Understanding myths and realities of Myanmar

THE Guardian Newspaper published the Editorial titled “The Guardian view on Myanmar’s military: in power but not in control” and the article titled “Britain is not a passive observer on the world stage. We want oligarchs and dictators to fear us” authored by James Cleverly on 6 and 9 December 2022 respectively.

It is disappointing to observe that the above-mentioned articles contain false narratives of the situation in Myanmar. In this regard, as a response, the Myanmar Embassy transmitted an article as “Letter to the Editor” titled “Understanding myths and realities of Myanmar” which contains approximately 800 words to the Readers’ Editor of The Guardian. Regrettably, the Embassy was replied that the Embassy’s article was not selected for publishing for The Guardian’s reason that amendments to those articles or responses are not determined to be necessary under the editor’s code, and the Embassy’s article exceeds the 300-word limit and needs to be attributed to a person by name. Notwithstanding, the Myanmar Embassy has observed that letters to the editor published daily in The Guardian always exceed the set 300-word limit.

In view of the above, the Myanmar Embassy in London responds to the above-mentioned two articles on Myanmar published in The Guardian as follows:

In response to a Guardian editorial on 6 December 2022: “The Guardian view on Myanmar’s military: in power but not in control” and to a Guardian Op-Ed on 9 December 2022: “Britain is not a passive observer on the world stage. We want

oligarchs and dictators to fear us”

The recent Guardian editorial and Op-Ed by the British Foreign Secretary narrated the incumbent and interim government of Myanmar as a loose cannon against its own people and portrayed the image of David and Goliath. For too long, Myanmar has been misconceived by the oversimplification and sensationalism of western media and has been an easy target for western governments to promote their foreign policy goals. And hence clarifications.

Firstly, there is a major misunderstanding in Myanmar’s context alleging the Military staging a coup d’état. In reality, it did not stage a coup and instead, it assumed the responsibility of the State in accordance with the 2008 State Constitution. There were irregularities in the electoral process and yet the previous government failed to address them despite urgent calls by political parties and the Military. (It was later found that out of 38.27 million eligible voters, 11.30 million (29.54 per cent) were fraudulently invalidating the 2020 General Election.) The Military did everything within its bounds to mediate but was largely ignored. Therefore, it leaves with no other option but to invoke the State of Emergency in accordance with the 2008 Constitution. The Military as the vanguard of the 2008 Constitution has formed the State Administration Council (SAC) as a provisional government with a mandate to return the power to the winning party after conducting a free and fair election in accordance with democratic standards. Therefore, the SAC is the de jure and the only legitimate government of Myanmar.

However, there have been attempts to legitimize the so-called CRPH, NUG and PDF groups but they are merely terrorist organizations formed by exiled politicians and radicals. Together, they have conducted full-scale terrorist attacks against innocent civilians to instil fear and disrupt peace and stability. Confiscation of arms and ammunition and those explosive-related materials to launch attacks on innocent civilians from these groups proved that they are ruthless to assassinate government employees, teachers, health workers, and members of political parties who have different views. From February 2021 to 30 November 2022, there were a total of 4,543 deaths committed by these unlawful groups. As the government sought the prevalence of rule of law, it has to take legal actions against those who breached anti-terrorism law and some were given death sentences due to their violent crime and terrorist acts. At the same time, the government has shown leniency by releasing prisoners including foreigners on humanitarian grounds. On the contrary, Myanmar was framed as if the government was instigating terror and suppressing its own people.

The Guardian editorial is in complete dichotomy with the current situation in Myanmar. In reality, the government is solely and entirely in charge of the country ensuring peace, tranquillity, rule of law and socioeconomic livelihood of the people of Myanmar. The SAC has set out the five-point road map to tackle electoral fraud, COVID-19, economic recovery, and peace and to conduct general elections. This is the only viable roadmap for My-

anmar’s path to democracy and development. Anyone who happened to visit Myanmar both last year and this year may have noticed how far it has come from living in fear of terror and from economic hardship due to COVID-19 and how much the government has done for the all-round development of the country.

The British Foreign Secretary in his Op-Ed argued the effectiveness of the UK’s sanctions and how they can be imposed at its own discretion. But he may have overlooked the very fact that sanctions do not work and are proven time and again only to be hurting the general public. Sanctions would only delay, not expedite, Myanmar’s transition to democracy. One should not forget that Myanmar’s internal conflicts including the issue of Rakhine are in fact legacies of the colonial past. The UK has a primary responsibility but to date, it has never attempted to hold itself accountable or let alone admitted its role for leaving Myanmar in shatters when it gave independence to Myanmar in 1948.

Myanmar is a responsible member of the international community and understands their concerns. But any external involvement including the ASEAN five-point consensus must complement, not contradict, the government’s five-point road map. Inserting pressure such as imposing sanctions, setting a time-frame as well as demonizing Myanmar will create more negative implications than positive ones. To that end, Myanmar needs international understanding but it would move on with or without support for its road to peace and prosperity.

Mottos for 76th Anniversary of Union Day 2023

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

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Ensuring production of raw materials enhances healthy market for finished products

MANUFACTURING based on domestic raw materials will be more firm for the economic development of the region and the State. Only when the production of raw materials is firm will finished products gain progress with a firm market.

(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with MSME businesspersons from Kayin State on 17 October 2022.)

Gala ceremony to convey Maravijaya Buddha Image onto jewelled throne



The Senior General and Sayadaws sprinkle scented water on the jewelled throne at the event.

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Leading donor the Senior General and party led by members of the Sangha sprinkled scented water on the jewelled throne, the steel shelf for the jewelled throne, the steel flower basket in which the Buddha image is kept and four steel cranes which will lift the Buddha image.

The Senior General pressed the button to convey the Maravijaya Buddha image onto the jewelled throne with the use of heavy machinery.

The throne is 18 feet high, 72 feet long and 54 feet wide, and the Buddha image combined with parts 1, 2 and 3 weighed 1,700 tonnes in total. It was reported that conveying the image onto the jewelled throne needs to take 72 hours.

At the briefing hall, the Senior General and party sought words of advice from members of the Sangha led by the Bhamo Sayadaw and the Sitagu Sayadaw on carving the Buddha image, constructing religious edifices in the Buddha park, and arranging to print Pitaka



Conveying the Maravijaya Buddha Image onto the jewelled throne is seen at midnight on 26 January 2023.

treatises in Pali and Romanized languages. They viewed round progress in the construction of the Park, and the Senior General supplicated the facts that Sayadaws wanted to know and sought words of advice.

The Maravijaya Buddha image was carved with four objectives to show the firm flourishing of Theravada Buddhism of Myanmar to the world, to ensure peace and stability

of the State, to develop the region with visits of local and international travellers to the Buddha image and contribute to the development of the State. The marble rock was checked with X-ray in 2018 to know its measurement, mass and faults in assessing the situation of how to carve the height of the image and carving the throne. Then, the marble rock was carried from Sagyin Hill in Madaya

Township to Sameikkhon jetty in shipping. Afterwards, it was conveyed to Nay Pyi Taw by modular trailer along the Mandalay-Yangon expressway amid difficulties. On arrival at Nay Pyi Taw, the marble rock was carved by experts with the use of CNC machines and modern machinery.

For the time being, construction tasks are being carried out for a Sasana Beikman

to accommodate 1,200 members of the Sangha and congregation at religious ceremonies and other religious edifices in the Buddha Park. In accord with the guidance of venerable Sayadaws, Pitakat treatises in line with the version adopted by the Sixth Buddhist Synod are being carved on the marble plaques in Pali and Romanized languages with the use of modern machinery in order to keep the stone plaques. The already-carved inscriptions on Tri Pitakat, Atthakahta and Tika treatises were posted in front of the Buddha image. Arrangements are being made for pilgrims to view the Atthakahta and Tika treatises of the Tri Pitakat treatises in the stone inscription chamber. Moreover, a plan is underway to print the Pitakat treatises in Pali and Romanized languages to be distributed to monasteries across the world. The ceremony to enshrine religious objects into the reliquary in the centre of the jewelled throne of the Buddha image will be held at 8 am on 27 January. — MNA/TTA

SPTT concludes third-day meeting with RCSS Chair-led peace delegation



The third-day meeting of the State Peace Talks Team and the RCSS Chair-led peace delegation is in progress yesterday.

THE third-day meeting between the State Peace Talks Team and the peace delegation from the Restoration Council of Shan State (RCSS) was held yesterday morning at the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre in Nay Pyi Taw.

The meeting was attended by State Administration Council Member Union Minister at the Government Office Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee-NSPNC Peace Talks Team Leader Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and members — SAC Member Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun, NSPNC

Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naung and member Lt-Gen Win Bo Shein, RCSS Chair General Yawd Serk, RCSS's central executive committee members Sao Saung Han, Sao Um Khe and representatives.

Following the three-day discussion and negotiation, the two sides agreed and signed the final comprehensive peace agreements.

Afterwards, RCSS Chairman General Yawd Serk and Peace Talks Team Leader Lt-Gen Yar Pyae gave their closing remarks, exchanged commemorative gifts and took the documentary photos. —MNA/TS

MoIC Union Minister receives Senior Vice-President of Russia-Myanmar Association for Friendship and Cooperation

UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Ko Ko Hlaing received a delegation led by Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov, Senior Vice-President of the Russia-Myanmar Association for Friendship and Cooperation, at the Ministry of International Cooperation in Nay Pyi Taw at 10:30 am on 26 January 2023.

During the meeting, with the observance of the Diamond Jubilee of the diplomatic relations between the two countries this year, the Union minister expressed the flourishing of bilateral relations between the two countries in the 1950s and

the opening of a new chapter again at present. Then, the Union minister discussed matters relating to the strengthening bilateral cooperation in various sectors such as education, transport, tourism, electricity, energy and finance, possible trade routes between the two countries and encouraging Russian companies to expand investments in Myanmar.

Also present at the meeting were senior officials from the Ministry of International Cooperation and representatives from the Russia-Myanmar Association for Friendship and Cooperation. — MNA



Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing receives the Senior Vice-President of the Russia-Myanmar Association for Friendship and Cooperation yesterday.

MoFA Union Minister receives Senior Vice-President of Russia-Myanmar Association for Friendship and Cooperation



Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin receives Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov, Senior Vice-President of the Russia-Myanmar Association for Friendship and Cooperation yesterday.

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin received a delegation led by Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov, Senior Vice-President of the Russia-Myanmar Association for Friendship and Cooperation, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw at 11:30 am on 26 January 2023.

While expressing his compliments on the diamond jubilee of

the diplomatic relations between Myanmar and Russia, the Union minister mentioned the strengthening of bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries through the meeting of the two Heads of State during the Eastern Economic Forum which was held in September 2022 in Vladivostok, Russia.

Then, both sides exchanged views on opportunities to en-

hance cooperation between the two countries in various sectors such as transport, tourism, electricity, energy, trade and finance.

Also present at the meeting were the permanent secretary and senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and representatives from the Russia-Myanmar Association for Friendship and Cooperation. — MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Political Parties Registration Law

State Administration Council Law No 15/2023
6th Waxing of Tabodwe 1384 ME
26 January 2023

THE State Administration Council hereby enacts the following law in accord with Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to form political parties aiming to uphold the non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty, and to exercise the genuine, discipline-flourishing multiparty democratic system loyal to the gratitude of the State.

Chapter I
Title and Definition

- This law shall be called the Political Parties Registration Law.
- The expressions mentioned in this law shall be defined as follows: -
 - State means the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
 - Commission means the Union Election Commission;
 - Political Party means a political organization registered under this law;
 - Party means a political party which conducts organizational tasks in the entire Union or a region or a state. Such an expression shall consist of different branches of the party;
 - Election means the Pyithu Hluttaw election, the Amyotha Hluttaw election and the Region Hluttaw or the State Hluttaw election;
 - General Election means the election held by the commission for a regular term of the Hluttaw;
 - By-election means the election held by the commission from time to time for constituencies that come out vacancies due to postponement of the election in a certain constituency or resignation, death, termination or revocation of duty from a Hluttaw representative in accord with the law within a regular term of the Hluttaw;
 - Constituency means the constituency for Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw and Region or State Hluttaw designated by the commission in accord with the law to elect a Hluttaw representative;
 - Property owned by the party means the fund and moveable or immoveable property owned by the party;
 - Member of Religious Order means as follows: -
 - In the case of Buddhists, monks, novices, religious laymen and nuns serving the Buddhist religious order;
Explanation: The expression, members of the religious order, applies to a religious monk or a member of the religious order while he or she is serving temporarily as such;
 - In the case of Christians, persons who have been recognized and ordained or assigned duties by the relevant Churches as an individual who has dedicated himself mainly to serving the Christian religious order and persons who get involved in the group of individuals or organization which of their own volition have submitted to the control of the respective head according to the religion professed as organized by religious discipline or vow;
 - In the case of Hindus, Hindu priests include Guru, Pandita, Mahant, Sanyasi, Sanyasini, Sadu (Sadujii), Sadhvi, Swami and Swamini;
 - In the case of Islamists, persons serving Islamic religious order include Mawlawi or Mawlana, Hafiz, Iman, Mufti, Mufassir, Olama, Pir or Mashaikh;
 - Convict means a person serving a prison term under a sentence handed down by a certain court. The said expression also comprises a person who is serving a prison term pending appeal or revision against the sentence of imprisonment of the relevant court.

Chapter II
Formation and Registration of Political Parties

- A group of at least 15 persons who desire to organize and form a political party in the entire Union or a region or state stating a desired name for the party shall apply to the commission for granting permission to organize party members in accord with the law. In the application, they shall admit and sign that they conform to the provisions contained in Section 4 and shall also abide by the provisions contained in Section 6.
 - When receiving the application filed under Sub-Section (a), the commission shall scrutinize the facts stated in the application and accept the application if it is found in conformity with the law. The application shall be refused if it is found not in conformity with the law.
 - The persons who are desirous of forming a party shall elect one leader and one deputy leader among them when permission is granted under Sub-Section (b).
- The persons desirous of forming a party shall conform to the followings: -

- The person who is a citizen;
 - The person who has attained 25 years of age;
 - The person who is not a member of the religious order;
 - The person who is not a civil service personnel;
 - The person who is not a convict;
 - The person who is not a member of an insurgent organization against the State or not a member of an individual or an organization designated by the State as committing terror acts, or not a member of an organization declared as an unlawful association under any existing law or not a member contacting or abetting with such members of an organization directly or indirectly;
 - The person who is not involved with any offence under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law;
 - The person who is not a foreigner or has assumed foreign citizenship.
- Having paid certain registration fees, the leader and the deputy leader of persons desirous of forming a party shall apply to the commission in a prescribed manner to register as a political party that they wish to be formed by submitting the following: -
 - Name, flag and emblem of the party desired to be formed;
 - Political ideology and programme of the party desired to be formed;
 - Regulations of the party and organizational set-up;
 - Names, father's names, occupations, addresses, dates of birth and citizenship scrutiny card numbers of the persons who desire to form a party in accord with the provisions mentioned in Section 4;
 - Admission made in accord with Section 6;
 - If the party will carry out organizational activities across the entire Union, the personal undertaking that at least 100,000 party members will be mobilized within 90 days after granting of registration as a political party or if the party will carry out organizational activities only within the region or state, the personal undertaking that at least 1,000 party members will be mobilized within 90 days after granting of registration as a political party.
 - If the party will carry out organizational activities across the entire Union, the party shall have a party fund amounting to K100 million, or if the party will carry out organizational activities only within the region or state, the party shall have a party fund amounting to K10 million, and the said respective amount of fund shall be paid in at a Myanma Economic Bank and submit the acknowledgement receipt.
 - If the party will carry out organizational activities across the entire Union, the personal undertaking that the party offices will be opened in at least half of the townships across the entire Union within 180 days after granting of registration as a political party or if the party will carry out the organizational activities only within the region or state, the personal undertaking that at least five party offices will be opened within 180 days after granting of registration as a political party.
 - A personal undertaking saying that the following rules will be observed will be made and stated in the application submitted under Section 5: -
 - non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty;
 - the rule of law, preservation of peace and tranquillity;
 - paying respect to and abiding by the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
 - refraining from writing, discoursing or instigating things which will adversely affect a race or religion or the integrity of an individual or the people in general and which will cause conflicts;
 - refraining from misusing religion for the sake of politics;
 - refraining from seeking either monetary or material support from any foreign government or any foreign religious association or any organization or any individual directly or indirectly, or refraining from living under their influence.
 - The following organizations shall not be granted registration as political parties: -
 - an organization declared as an unlawful association or terrorist organization under any existing law;
 - an insurgent organization or an organization and individuals that have been designated as those who are committing terrorist acts or those which have been declared unlawful associations under any existing law or those who are in contact with the said organizations or providing support to them either directly or indirectly;
 - an organization that is using directly or indirectly the State-owned funds, buildings, vehicles and materials;

- (d) an organization that is seeking and using money, materials and other aids from a foreign government or foreign religious association or any organization or any individual either directly or indirectly or the organization under the influence of the said organizations and individuals;
- (e) an organization that is misusing religion for political purposes.
8. (a) In submitting the name of the party, the flag and the emblem under Section 5(a), the names, the symbols and the emblems that can adversely affect religion or non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty shall be avoided;
- (b) If the name, flag and emblem of the party happen to be the same as or similar to those of another party which has already been granted registration under Section 5, the Commission can give the direction to the party concerned, giving it a timeframe for making them different; if the party concerned fails to abide by the direction, the application can be rejected.
9. When the leader and deputy leader of the party apply for registration of their political party, the Commission shall check the application form against the prescribed rules and if it finds the form to conform with the prescribed rules, it can grant the registration, otherwise, it can reject the application.
10. In carrying out the organizing of party members, candidates shall conform to the following rules: the applicant shall
- (a) be a citizen, an associate citizen, and a naturalized citizen;
- (b) be complete by the age of 18;
- (c) not be from the religious order;
- (d) not be public service personnel;
- (e) not be serving a prison term;
- (f) not belong to any insurgent organization or any organization or individuals that have been designated by the government as organizations that are committing terrorist acts or not be an individual belonging to organizations that have been declared as unlawful associations under any existing law; not be in contact with the said organizations or individuals and not provide support either directly or indirectly;
- (g) not have committed a crime under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law;
- (h) not be a foreigner or not holding citizenship of another country;
- (i) not belong to another political party;
- (j) have made a personal undertaking to abide by the provisions enshrined in Section 6;
11. A political party shall, from the date of registration under Section 9,
- (a) issue party membership certificates to those candidates who are entitled, collect party membership fees and monthly fees and ask them to carry out organizational activities;
- (b) register the party member lists and submit the party strength to the Commission;

Chapter III
Having No Right to Subsist

12. (a) If a political party has infringed one of the following rules, the party will lose its status as a political party: -
- (i) If the party will carry out organizational activities across the whole Union, the party shall be able to contest general elections in at least half of the constituencies at Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw and Regional Hluttaw or State Hluttaw levels inclusive of the indigenous constituency; otherwise, the party will have no right to subsist;
- (ii) If the party will carry out organizational activities only within a Region or State, the party shall be able to contest general elections in at least one township inclusive of the indigenous constituency; otherwise, the political party will have no right to subsist;
- (iii) The political party that is allowed to register after general elections is incapable of contesting in the by-elections within the relevant Hluttaw tenure; **Expression:** A party shall be a party to conduct an election campaign in only one region or state and it shall not be concerned with the above-mentioned provision if there is no by-election in the region or state where they shall launch the election campaign.
- (iv) Having been declared as an unlawful association or terrorist organization under any existing law;
- (v) Contacting or abetting directly or indirectly an insurgent organization and individuals in revolt with arms against the State, an organization and individuals designated by the State as committing terrorist acts or organizations declared as unlawful associations or members of the said organizations;
- (vi) Having failed to abide by any admission contained in Section 6;
- (vii) Being found that the organization obtained and used directly or indirectly money, land, house, building, vehicle, or property owned by the State;
- Proviso: (i) The expression "money owned by the State" does not include pension and emolument of the persons who get involved in the said party or salary and emolument officially awarded by the State for serving the interest of the State

- (ii) The expression, land, house, building, vehicle, or property owned by the State, does not include land, house, building and apartments owned by the State and which are allowed by the State to be used under any law or by the bounds of duty to the persons who are included in the said party, or which are rented for fees from the State by the said persons, other building and apartments, aeroplane, train, ship, motor vehicle, property etc. owned by the State.
- (viii) Concealing intentionally without dismissing from the party the persons not in conformity with any fact contained in Section 10;
- (ix) Being found that it is unable to organize the party members in accord with the stipulation of Sub-Section (f) of Section 5;
- (x) Being found that it is unable to establish party offices in accord with the stipulation of Sub-section (h) of Section 5;
- (b) the Commission shall cancel the registration of the party from being a political party that is involved with any fact contained in Sub-Section (a) and also dissolve the said party.
- (13) A party shall submit to the Commission that it has organized the minimum number of party members prescribed in Sub-Section (f) of Section 5 within the prescribed days. After doing so if the number of members of the said party has decreased below the stipulated number; it shall have to take measures to meet the stipulation within 90 days. If it is unable to do so, the Commission shall cancel the registration of such party from being a political party and also dissolve the party.

Chapter IV
Collection, Maintenance, Utilization, Auditing and Liquidation of the Fund and Property

14. The following persons shall undertake the responsibility of performing maintenance of the property owned by the party and compiling the lists systematically in the prescribed manner: -
- (a) if it is for party headquarters, chairman or secretary of the central executive body of the party;
- (b) if it is for Region or State, district, township parties, chairman or secretary of the executive body of the party concerned; if it is for ward or village-tract parties, the organizer concerned.
15. (a) The fund owned by the party shall be collected, consolidated and account kept as follows:
- (i) party admission fees and party monthly fees collected under Section 11;
- (ii) money or property donated and contributed to the party by a domestic individual citizen or according to an organization or citizen-owned company or group of companies from the money and property obtained legally by them;
- (iii) money and profit legally obtained from a business owned by the party;
- (b) Taxes to be paid on money and property obtained under clauses (i) and (ii) of Sub-section (a) shall be exempted.
16. A party, during a term of Hluttaw:
- (a) is entitled to use the prescribed expenses in accord with the party regulations for the organization of its party;
- (b) is entitled to use the prescribed expenses for each Hluttaw candidate representing and contesting for his party in the General Election or By-election.
17. A party shall perform in the prescribed manner, drawing its annual statement of accounts according to the financial year, compiling an annual list of property owned by the party and obtaining confirmation in accord with the party regulations.
18. If the accounts of a party are required to be audited, the Commission may do so. The Sub-commissions at various levels may also be asked to audit. In doing so the Commission or Sub-commission may obtain assistance from Government departments and organizations.
19. (a) Property owned by the party shall be entrusted in the prescribed manner to the department or organization prescribed by the Government if a party dissolves of its own volition or when registration under this Law is cancelled.
- (b) With respect to property entrusted under Sub-Section (a), the relevant department and organization shall comply with the directive of the Government.

Chapter V
Miscellaneous

20. With respect to the implementation of the provisions of this Law: -
- (a) the decision of the Commission shall be final and conclusive;
- (b) there shall be no right of the institution of any proceeding in any court.
21. A person shall have the right to be a party member in only one political party at the same time.
22. The formation of political parties at various levels shall be according to the administrative boundary.
23. The Commission may supervise the political parties to perform in conformity with the existing laws, rules, procedures, notifications, orders and directives. It may assign duty to Sub-commissions at various levels to supervise on its behalf.
24. (a) If the Commission finds that a party does not abide by any provision of this Law, rules, procedures, notifications, orders and directives or any provision of the existing law, the Commission may prescribe the time and direct such party to perform as may be necessary.

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(b) If any person reports to the Commission the internal affairs of a party, the Commission may investigate and, if necessary, in the interest of the State prescribe the time and direct such party the facts to be complied with.

(c) The Commission may suspend temporarily the registration of such party as a political party for up to three years if it fails to comply strictly with the direction under Sub-Section (a) or Sub-Section (b).

(d) In case of suspension of registration of the party under Sub-Section(c), the said party shall suspend all the remaining works of the party with the exception of works directed by the Commission, during the said suspension period.

(e) In case of failure to comply with the directive till the expiry of the said suspension period under Sub-Section(c), the Commission shall cancel the registration of such party as a political party and shall also dissolve the party.

25. The parties existing under the Political Parties Registration Law (The State Peace and Development Council Law No 2/2010) which are desirous to continue as political parties under this Law shall apply to the Commission within 60 days from the date of promulgation of this Law. If no such application is made, the fact of being a political party shall be deemed to have been automatically invalidated.

26. In implementing the provisions of this Law, the Commission may issue the rules, procedures, notifications, orders and directives, as may be necessary.

27. The Political Parties Registration Law (The State Peace and Development Council Law No. 2/2010) is hereby repealed.

I hereby sign under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Sd./ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Chairman
State Administration Council

MoALI & MoCRD Union Minister meets Senior Vice-President of Russia-Myanmar Association

UNION Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and for Cooperatives and Rural Development U Hla Moe met the delegation led by Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov, Senior Vice-President of the Russia-Myanmar Association of friendship and Cooperation yesterday at the Union Minister's Office.

During the meeting, the Union minister discussed co-operation with the Fisheries Agency of the Russian Federation for the development of human resources in Myanmar's fishing sector; the promotion of investments in the trade sector of agricultural produce between the two countries, collection of plant biological resources of Myanmar crops in cooperation with Russian scientific institutions, utilization of agricultural technology and innovation development activities, the private sector cooperation and friendship between the two countries. — MNA/TS

Myanmar Gazette

Head of Service Organization Appointed

THE State Administration Council has appointed Daw Nwe Ni Htun, Deputy Director-General of the Foreign Exchange Management Department of the Central Bank of Myanmar, as Director-General of the same department on probation from the date she assumes charge of her duties.

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



The documentary group photo of the meeting.

74th National Day of Republic of India held



The 74th National Day of the Republic of India is in progress in Yangon yesterday.

THE reception ceremony to commemorate the 74th National Day of the Republic of India was held at the Indian ambassador's residence on Diplomatic Road, Dagon Township, Yangon Region, yesterday evening.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and wife,

Lt-Gen Teza Kyaw and wife, Lt-Gen Thet Pon and wife from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Nyunt Win Swe and wife, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Myo Htut, Tatmadaw senior officers, ambas-

sadors, military attachés, and resident representatives to the United Nations attended the event.

First of all, the guests who attended the ceremony were greeted by Ambassador of the Republic of India to Myanmar Mr Shri Vinay Kumar, the defence attaché and officials.

Afterwards, the ceremony was opened with the anthem of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the anthem of the Republic of India, and the ambassador gave a welcome speech.

Next, Indian cultural troupes continued to perform traditional cultural dances of India.

Then, the ambassador, his wife, and the Defence attaché hosted a dinner in honour of those who attended the ceremony. — MNA/KZL

Ambassador U Lwin Oo presents Credentials to President of Republic of Kazakhstan

U Lwin Oo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Kazakhstan, presented his Credentials to Mr Kassym-Jomart K Tokayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan on 24 January 2023 in Astana, Presidential Palace "Akorda". — MNA



OPINION

Expedite tripartite efforts for the emergence of outstanding youths

EDUCATION and knowledge are primary foundations for building a developed nation. A larger number of educated persons will help contribute to the development of human resources as well as various sectors including economic, social and health sectors. As such, the government is placing an emphasis on the improvement of the education sector for the sake of emerging a developed nation in the future.

In this regard, new generations of students are playing a key role in modernizing the country. The governments in successive eras have been honouring outstanding students with highly-qualified physical and mental strengths in order to come out the well-versed citizens of the nation.

At the school family day family for the 2022-23 academic year being celebrated at basic education schools across the nation, local

authorities presented deserved prizes to outstanding students in the essay, poem, painting and sports competitions as part of emerging morally-qualified and educated youths.

According to the statistics, it can be found that more than 18 million of the 55 million total population, accounting for some 10 per cent have completed primary and middle school education due to various reasons. Hence, it is necessary to strive for raising the percentage of people who complete middle school education.

Teachers need to be skilful in teaching techniques as well as in a literary and wider range of scope for knowledge. They must be qualified for teaching students to be able to turn out outstanding youths. They have

to train students to have good practices for society, good mindsets, techniques, rationality and critical thinking.

Basic education schools should be facilitated with sports equipment such as sports grounds and gymnasiums to build health and fitness for students and to culture esprit de corps among them. In fact, sports activities and esprit de corps of students can save them from the danger of narcotic drugs which target the youths in global countries.

If teachers and students are always trying to teach and learn education between them with the contributions of parents, the learning society will improve day by day. If so, outstanding students and well-versed youths will emerge one after another in the education sector and they will be a reliable strength for the State to shoulder the State duties in the future.

The emergence of outstanding youths is based on nurturing the students. Only when laying the foundation is stronger will the result be better. Hence, the tripartite efforts among students, parents and teachers need to uplift their capacities for turning out outstanding students and youths.

■

HUMAN resource (HR) is the set of people who make up the workforce of an organization, business sector, industry, or economy. Human resource management in public administration considers the civil service broadly to include all those employed in mostly the entities funded by the government. Human resource development is the framework for helping employees develop their skills, knowledge, and abilities, which in turn improves the effectiveness of organizations. The human resource development of a country is positively correlated to its national development. The aim is to present a broader vision of workforce strategy for national development in Myanmar. The vision entails the productive, sustainable and inclusive future of the country and the capacity to develop and use the skills of its workforce for national development.

A push toward global recruitment is replacing the traditional model of employing from within the country or promoting from within the organization. The effects of globalization on human resources have brought attention to the importance of cross-border legal compliance. A global trend affecting human resources is the area of benefits and compensation. One of the emerging trends in global human resources management is diversity training and cross-cultural professional development. The ASEAN declared human resources development for the changing world of work at the 36th ASEAN Summit. The rapid growth of the young adult population in Myanmar will affect the socioeconomic development plan of the country. Investment in skills development, employment and livelihood opportunities is necessary for national development.

Human Resource Management in Public Administration: Public sector human resource management is the application of human resources principles to the public sector. The practice of public sector human resource management includes tasks like the recruitment of employees, the training of employees, the remuneration of employees and the ongoing evaluation of employees. It also involves the termination of underperforming employees with a view to improving the quality of employee output. Human

resource management in public administration considers the civil service broadly to include all those employed in mostly the entities funded by the government. These entities may range from government bureaus and departments to ministries and authorities with varying degrees of uniformity, at both the central and local levels, and include those in such nonprofit services as health and education that are completely or mostly publicly funded.

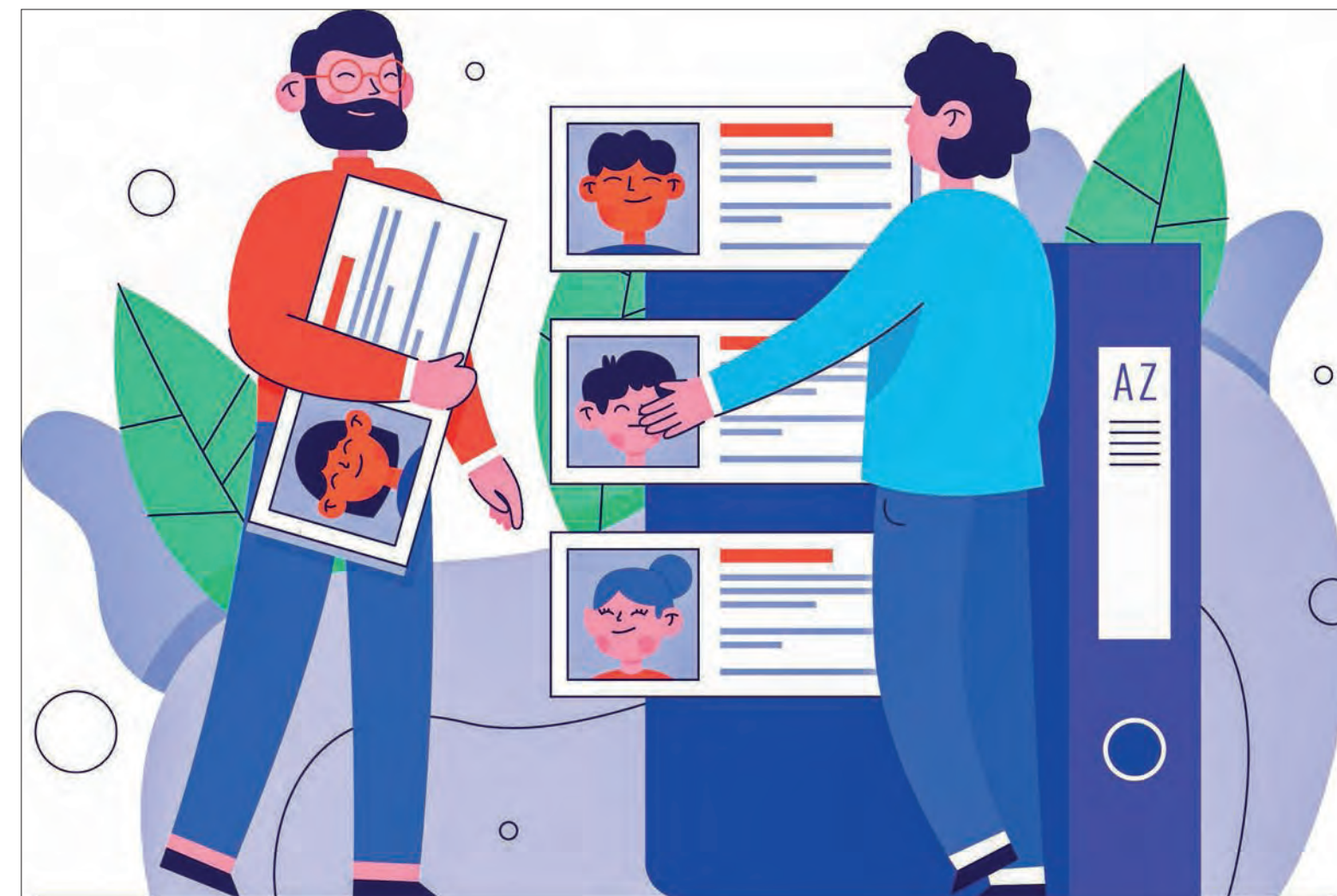
The terms civil servants, government employees, and public servants are used interchangeably. Human resource management may include such functions as planning, recruitment and selection, performance management, training, compensation, and labour relations. Key challenges of managing human resource functions include motivating and compensating public employees to reward passion for public service and reforming the civil service. These challenges impact individual and organizational performance.

Human Resource Development: Human resource development is the framework for helping employees develop their skills, knowledge, and abilities, which in turn improves the effectiveness of organizations. Human resource development helps organizations develop their workforce through employee training and career development which improves organizational effectiveness and performance. The term human capital refers to the economic value of a worker's experience and skills. Human capital includes assets like education, training, intelligence, skills, health, and other things employers value such as loyalty and punctuality. Human capital is perceived to increase productivity and thus profitability. The more investment an organization makes in its employees, the chances of its productivity and success become higher. The concept of human capital recognizes that not all labour is equal. But employers can improve the quality of that capital by investing

in employees. This can be done through the education, experience, and abilities of employees. All of this has great economic value for employers and for the economy as a whole. Investments in human capital development are keys to closing the gaps and preparing for the future. Furthermore, there are very high returns on investments in nutrition, health care, quality education, life-long learning, jobs and skills for people in all three major stages of the human life cycle. When supported by wise policies and effective implementation, investments in human capital build resilience to the disruptive future while narrowing existing social and economic gaps.

Global Human Resource Trends

Global Recruitment: Organizations are realizing that the



Human Resource Development is the framework for helping employees develop their skills, knowledge, and abilities, which in turn improves an organization's effectiveness. **ILLUSTRATION: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/FREEPIK**

best matches for the jobs within the organization may not necessarily be people living locally. A push toward global recruitment is replacing the traditional model of employing from within the country or promoting from within the organization. Global recruitment is focused on getting the best person in the available position, no matter if that person lives. HR teams adopting this global recruitment trend value the diversity that non-native or non-local employees can bring to an organization, and they seek to bring those people on board even if there's an added cost in terms of applying for visas or relocating families.

Cross-Border Legal Compliance: The effects of globalization on HR have also brought attention to the importance of cross-border legal compliance. Organizations now have the potential to sell

products and services in many different markets through the use of the internet and postal service. Doing so brings with it added tax, customs and border security concerns to the human resources division. Selling products overseas may involve the need to apply for additional permits or to pay tax within a different jurisdiction. Employing workers in a foreign country will mean that the company has to follow the laws concerning labour and compensation in that location. All of these cross-border legal concerns are important for the organization to grasp, because there may be serious consequences attached to failure to follow the law.

Benefits and Compensation: A global trend affecting human resources is the area of benefits and compensation. Many foreign countries, particularly in Europe, have many less-stringent rules

and grant their employees much more holiday and family leave time. As a result, some globalized organizations are embracing these progressive HR policies on benefits and compensation and have begun offering things like paternity leave, extended vacation time and flexible working hours to all of their employees.

Training and Professional Development: One of the emerging trends in global human resources management is diversity training and cross-cultural professional development. This area of HR includes all types of learning opportunities and further education programmes that an organization offers to its employees, including sponsoring formal university coursework, opportunities to attend conferences and networking events and on-the-job training seminars. The purpose of these programmes is to encour-

age employees to become more diverse both in their skill sets and in their core competencies.

The workforce in Myanmar The workforce force participation rate was 64.9 per cent and the employment-to-population ratio was 64.6 per cent in 2018. Both of these rates are more than 28 per cent points higher for men than for women. The total unemployment rate in 2018 was 0.8 per cent, and the youth unemployment rate was 2.0 per cent, both almost at gender parity. The proportion of youths aged 15-24 years, not in education; employment or training was 17.4 per cent in 2017. Employment is heavily reliant on agriculture and medium-skilled occupations.

The rapid growth of the young adult population in Myanmar will affect the socioeconomic development plan of the country. Investment in skills development, employment and livelihood opportunities is necessary to cater to the growing and emerging youth bulge to create favourable conditions for a demographic dividend in Myanmar. Despite the promising young workforce, Myanmar is still struggling in providing skilled workers for several key sectors, including manufacturing, construction and tourism. As the country is attracting investments, it needs a greater number of certification workers, to prove their skills to foreign investors. Businesses end up facing a shortage of skilled workers and need to have a long-term plan in solving this problem.

The National Skills Standards Authority (NSSA) in Myanmar issued many certificates to their skilled workers with four skill levels for 19 kinds of jobs as its ground. More than 5,000 certificates had been issued by NSSA to recognize workers' skills during the 2017-2018 financial years. The number exceeded the estimated target of the NSSA with a success rate of 88 per cent. It is critically important for Myanmar to transform its economy from works based on natural resources to human resources in order

to further develop Myanmar's economy. The workers need to be trained so they are able to compete with other workers from neighbouring countries.

Managing intellectual workers in public sector organizations: Human resource management is a coherent and strategic approach to the management of an organization's most valued assets; the people working there who individually and collectively contribute to the achievement of its objectives. The term "human resource strategy" usually applies to a set of coordinated decisions and actions which formulates and direct human resource management (recruitment, positioning, utilizing, developing, and rewarding) in the context of achieving the organization's goals. Human capital is characterized by the knowledge and skills of employees that can be considered the most significant resource, particularly in intellectual organizations. Also, public organizations are considered intellectual if creating innovative approaches concerning fiscal policy, educational and health systems, exploration and development, public purchasing procedures and others.

Considering that the decisions of public administration are being made and services are provided according to restrictions and priorities formulated by the administrative system, the most important factors that influence the labour productivity of public administration's intellectual workers are the employee's understanding of the core of the task and the goals to be achieved; a chance to take part in and contribute intellectually to the management processes of both their work and the whole organization; a chance to continually learn and develop; the selection of qualitative work assessment methods; work conditions and the organization's inner culture that is both motivating and promotes a creative work atmosphere.

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ARTICLE

Global Human Resource Trends and Envisioning Workforce Strategy for National Development

By Dr Than Lwin Tun



SAC-conferred honorary titles presented

THE State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister conferred honorary titles on recipients individually on 1 and 2 January in marking the 75th Anniversary (Diamond Jubilee) Independence Day.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Nyunt Win Swe and

officials went to offer honorary titles to family members of those who were unable to attend the ceremony on their own and their behalf due to various reasons.

JMC-U member Reverend Saw Mathew Aye, who was unable to receive his honorary title of Wunna Kyaw Htin owing to his medical treatment in

Thailand, was presented with the honorary title at the city hall in Kyauktada Township. U Nanda, the patron of the All Myanmar Hindu Religious Federation, who was unable to receive the honorary title of Thiri Pyanchi owing to his medical treatment in India, received the title at his home.

— MNA/TS

Public Notice for elimination of violence

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

1 case of COVID-19 reported on 26 January, total figure reaches 633,815

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases reached **633,815** after **one** new case was reported on 26 January 2023 according to the Ministry of Health.

The total number of patients who have recovered from COVID-19 in the country reached **614,269**, including **four** new recoveries.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country remained unchanged to **19,490** on 26-1-2023 with no new death reported from the pandemic.—MNA

Illegal timbers, animals, consumer goods, industrial materials, restricted chemicals, machinery parts and vehicles confiscated

THE Tatmadaw column conducted an appropriate security operation in Loikaw township on 23 January and captured 33 oxen worth K26.4 million that were carried illegally. Effective action was taken under the specific Goods and Services Law.

In addition, a combined team seized 83 kilogrammes of ammonium nitrate – a restricted chemical – and related items at the Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge checkpoint and Kyaukphyutaung village in Myeik township. The action was taken under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

On 24 January, a combined team confiscated 5,546 kilogrammes of glass bowls worth K5,008,038 and 6,000 sets of spacer devices worth K6 million that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from three containers at the Myanmar Industrial Port container checkpoint. The actions were taken under Customs procedures. On 23 and 24 January, a combined team nabbed 31,120 kilogrammes of purified plastic scraps worth K39,211,200 and 600 kilogrammes of feedstuffs worth K3 million from a Nissan Diesel car and a Hino Profia car (approximately K80 million) heading from Myawady to Yangon. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 25 January, a total of 1.4284 tonnes of illegal teak doors worth K942,744 and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

On the same day, officials at the 16th-Mile Kyaukchaw combined checkpoint captured K50.3 million worth of electrical goods, industrial materials and machinery parts without official documents from a Nissan Diesel Tractor Head and a trailer (approximately K70 million). The action was taken under Customs procedures. An inspection team seized four unregistered cars (approximately K36 million) near Mindaunt combined checkpoint at the entrance to Monywa township, two unregistered cars (approximately K17 million) near Ohbo village in Monywa township and an unregistered car (approximately K8 million) in Shwebo township. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

Therefore, 19 arrests (estimated value of K359,481,982) were made on four consecutive days from 23 to 26 January, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

FROM PAGE-9

An important aspect of assuring a wholesome effective civil service management, including the development of human resources, is the approach of either centralization or decentralization of matters of personnel management and development in public administration. Traditionally public administration systems tend to have centralized personnel management. Government organizations have a relatively limited chance to choose their personnel management system at will and develop it; they are obliged to function according to the current civil service law. Matters of administration of the civil service, organizing tests for recruiting and promoting, creation of a work pay policy and other functions are the responsibility of centralized structures. It also ensures coordinated actions of organizations, objectivity and precision as well as high professionalism, but it also creates flaws such as bureaucracy, delays, and the inability to adapt to changes in the external environment in time.

Aspects covered in National Development: National development is the capacity of the country to raise the standard of living of its residents. It can be achieved by providing individuals with basic livelihood requirements and supplying them with employment, etc. Development is a process that creates growth and brings in progress and positive change. Development is a healthy sign. Two aspects of development are economic growth or an increase in people's income and social progress includes literacy, health and the provision of public services. The components of national development are the development of rural areas, increasing agricultural outputs, enlargement of economic knowledge, handling of growth in urban areas and eradication of poverty. Human capital is positively correlated to economic growth since investment tends to boost productivity. The process of educating a workforce is a type of investment, but instead of capital investment such as equipment, the investment is in human capital. The role of governments is to expand the skillsets and education levels of a country's population, actively involved in improving human capital by offering higher education to people at no cost. So the knowledge people gain through education helps develop an economy and boost economic growth. Workers with more education or better skills tend to have higher earnings, which, in turn, increase economic growth through additional consumer spending. The corporate sector is important for investment in human capital to boost profits and productivity. For example, an employee working at a technology company receives training to be a computer programmer through on-site training and in-house seminars. The company pays for a portion of the tuition for higher education. If the worker remains at the company after the training has been completed, he or she may develop new ideas and new products for the company.

In conclusion, we need to study a glimpse into the global human resource trends, needs for human capital development in Myanmar and key points, in general, to be considered in envisioning the workforce strategy for national development.

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CURRENT
AFFAIRS

Prices of low- and high-grade rice on steep rise in domestic market



A retail rice shop is seen in the market.

LOW- and high-grade rice prices hiked up in the Yangon rice market in post-Chinese New Year, U Shwe Hla who runs a rice business in the Bayintnaung market told the GNLM.

The price per bag of low-grade rice skyrocketed by K3,000 and that of high-quality rice by K5,000-K7,000.

At the Yangon rice market on 25 January, the prices per bag of new high-grade rice are K78,000-K84,000 for the Shwebo Pawsan variety, K65,000-K67,000 for the Pathein-Myaungmya Pawsan variety and K63,000-K65,000 for Pyapon Pawsan variety respectively. In addition, old Shwebo Pawsan and Pathein-Myaungmya Pawsan varieties were valued at K93,000-K107,000 and K67,000-K70,000 per bag, but it is said that they

cannot be bought wholesale. The old Pyapon Pawsan varieties are less common in the wholesale market and only be seen in the retail market.

A bag of low-grade rice was worth roughly above K46,000, which increased from the previous price of around K42,000. The new Pawkywe rice was sold at K55,000 per bag and the price of the old low-grade 90-day rice variety rose to around K60,000-62,000 per bag.

According to the rice market, the advance payment for the purchase of rice in some cases was returned instead of delivering rice, due to the sharp rise in rice price.

The price of broken rice encountered a slight decrease these days. A bag of broken rice was traded at only K41,400-K41,500 for large variety, K41,200-K41,300 for 1-2 variety and K40,900-K41,000 for 2-3-4 variety.

Rice, palm oil, chilli pepper, sugar and onion were the most profitable commodities for the hoarders in 2022. At the beginning of 2023, the prices of palm oil and rice became a burden for consumers as the prices increased.

However, it will bring a lot of benefits for hoarders who aim for profits. A market analyst said that the fact that the price of goods rises due to demand, is actually because of the demand from wholesalers, rather than buying for consumption. — TWA/CT



A garment factory is seen working on a CMP basis.

YRIC endorses
10 CMP-based
manufacturing projects
with over 4,300 jobs

THE Yangon Region Investment Committee (YRIC) endorsed nine foreign enterprises and one domestic business in the power and manufacturing sectors at the recent meeting held on 25 January 2023, creating 4,300 jobs for residents.

They will execute solar power projects, milling and production of sunflower oil and peanut oil, refining and production of palm oil, printing and dyeing enterprises, manufacturing of electrical appliances and production of footwear on a Cutting, Making, and Packing (CMP) basis.

Those five businesses will bring in an estimated capital of about K6 billion and over US\$10 million. YIIC gave the go-ahead to four foreign projects with over 4,300 jobs. — TWA/EMM

Agri-produce worth
US\$ 2.224 mln
exported through
Maungtaw border

ACCORDING to the statistics of the Ministry of Commerce, agricultural produce worth US\$ 2.224 million were exported to Bangladesh through the Maungtaw trade camp between 1 April and 31 December 2022.

The exported items included 16 tonnes of onion, 1,216 tonnes of areca nut, 716 tonnes of ginger, 735.3 tonnes of djenkol bean, 140 tonnes of jaggery, six tonnes of silk cotton, three tonnes of turmeric root, 333 tonnes of coconut, eight tonnes of chickpea, four tonnes of tamarind paste, five tonnes of peanut, 20 tonnes of black gram, 1,063.3 tonnes of dried plum and 27 tonnes of tomato.

It is reported that the Maungtaw border trade post has been inviting the OSS departments, partner organizations, companies and entrepreneurs to hold a trade promotion meeting once a month, working together on trade matters. — TWA/CT



Exports are seen being loaded onto the vessel at Maungtaw trade port.

Chilli pepper price sees downtick in domestic market



Pictures shows chilli peppers to be sold in the market.

WHEN other kitchen dry groceries prices spiked in 2023, the price of chilli pepper moved down, U Hla Han, a warehouse owner of chilli pepper on Seinpan Street, told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

The bell pepper touched the highest price among chilli peppers. The bell peppers from the Sinphyukyun area and delta regions processed in cold storage facility hit K31,000 per viss in the wholesale market in mid-November 2022. One month later, the price of new bell pepper plunged to K13,000 per viss on 24 December 2022 after one month.

On 16 January 2023, the price in-

creased again to K18,000-19,000 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes). On 26 January 2023, the price fell to K15,000-16,000 per viss. Normally, the price of bell pepper was around K5,000-6,000 per viss. It used to rise K9,000-10,000 per viss. Last year, the market saw a tremendous rise.

High price prompts the traders to keep the stocks in their hands to store in the cold chain in the upcoming harvest season. Therefore, the demand is expected to go up. There is less chance to return to the normal price condition.

Moreover, the price of red long chilli pepper jumped to K21,000-22,000 per viss on 16 November 2022. Then,

the price plummeted to K11,000 per viss on 26 January 2023.

The prices stood at K18,000 per viss of long chilli pepper on 12 December and K16,500 per viss of Moe Htaung variety on 8 December 2022 during the harvest time.

The price fell to K13,500-14,000 per viss on long chilli pepper and around K11,000 per viss on 26 January.

The price of chilli peppers was on a downward trend in early 2023. Those traders are preparing to store them depending on foreign markets and new chilli output in the market, traders from Yangon markets said. TWA/EMM

LOCAL BUSINESS

Watermelon, muskmelon fetch handsome prices in post-Chinese New Year

THE prices of watermelon and muskmelon escalated in the post-Chinese New Year, fruit traders said.

At present, the prices stood at 3.5-4 Yuan for 855 watermelon of good quality, 3.6-4 Yuan for Taiwan watermelons and 4.5-5.3 Yuan for muskmelon.

Fruit traders engaged in Muse border shared that only good quality fruits can assure the opportunity to grasp a strong market.

Last early January, the fruit market was expected to be bustling. Yet, inferior quality lowered the price and the market was sluggish, said Sai Khin Maung from Khwanyo Fruit Depot.

The highest prices however hit 4.7-4.8 Yuan per kilo for 855 watermelons of good quality, 5.1-5.2 Yuan for Taiwan watermelons and 6-6.5 Yuan for muskmelon depending on quality in early January.

Myanmar's watermelon and muskmelon are heavily reliant on the Chinese market. The traders grappled with China's strict virus policy.

Last year, the COVID-19 restrictions hindered Myanmar's watermelon and muskmelon exports to China. Chinese Customs Regulation increased delay. Long delays of trucks caused harm to watermelon quality and only one in five trucks heading to China remained undamaged with quality watermelons.

The traders are observing delivery time, price and profitability as they are perishable fruit, while they are trying to explore new markets besides China.

On 1 April, Nantaw and Sinphyu border posts were suspended in the wake of COVID-19 impacts. China has closed down the major border crossing of Mang Wein from 30 March 2021 following the COVID-19 cases in Myanmar.

On 8 July 2021, the two-remaining cross-border posts Kyinsankyawt and Panseng were suspended. As a result of this, the border trade between Myanmar and China was completely halted.



At present, Myanmar daily delivers rice, broken rice, rubber, various beans and pulses, fishery products, chilli pepper and other food commodities to China through Kyinsankyawt.

Among the Sino-Myanmar border posts, the Kyinsankyawt border resumed operations on 26 November 2022.

Trade activity at the Muse-Mang Wein border, which performed the majority of trade between Myanmar and China, resumed on 14 January 2023. Additionally, other goods except for agricultural products (watermelon, muskmelon), minerals and fisheries products are allowed to be sent to China through that border point.

At present, Myanmar daily delivers rice, broken rice, rubber, various beans and pulses, fishery products, chilli pepper and other food commodities to China through Kyinsankyawt by 40 trucks and building materials, electrical appliances, household goods and industrial raw materials are imported into the country by 20 trucks. – NN/EMM

Black gram price regains to K1.7 million per tonne

THE price of black gram bounced back to above K1.7 million per tonne on 26 January after the market was stagnant at K1.657 million per tonne between 18 and 23 January 2023. India notified on 28 December 2022 that the free import policy of black gram (urad) and pigeon pea (tur) extended up to March 2024.

At present, black gram price fluctuation is positively related to the Kyat value against the US dollar. Kyat was exchanged for around K2,860 against the US dollar in the unofficial market on 26 January 2023.

In late August, the dollar against Kyat peaked at K4,500 in the black market. Following that, the black gram price reached a record high of K2.1 million per tonne.

Myanmar bagged over US\$1 billion from more than 1.3 million tonnes of pulses exports in the past ten months of the current financial year. Of them, black gram exports earned \$450.294 million from 543,731.58 kilogrammes, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics showed.

Myanmar primarily exports black gram, green gram and pigeon peas. Of them, black gram and pigeon peas are mainly sent 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 2022, 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-



The price of black gram bounced back to above K1.7 million per tonne on 26 January after the market was stagnant at K1.657 million per tonne between 18 and 23 January 2023.

2026FY. 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.

Myanmar yearly produces approximately 400,000 tonnes of black gram and about 50,000 tonnes of pigeon peas. Myanmar is the top producer of the black gram that is primarily demanded by India, while pigeon peas, green grams and chickpeas are cultivated in Australia and African countries besides Myanmar. – NN/EMM

Prices of fuel oil, gold and dollar on 26 January 2023

Fuel Oil Price (Yangon)

Octane 92	K2,305
Octane 95	K2,385
Diesel	K2,520
Premium Diesel	K2,600

All of the prices are based on per litre.

Gold Price

The reference price of high-purity gold set by YGEA	K2,286,700 per tical
High-purity gold in the gold market	K2,835,000 per tical

Dollar Price

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.

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Traffic resumes on western Japan highway after snow disruption

TRAFFIC congestion that left vehicles stuck for more than a day on a western Japan expressway after heavy snowfall eased Thursday morning, its operator said.

Vehicles had formed several jams totalling 34.5 kilometres on the Shin-Meishin Expressway between Shiga and Mie prefectures around noon

Wednesday on outbound lanes, with the prolonged snowfall delaying snow removal.

Central Nippon Expressway Co said it would aim to resume access to sections on the expressway, including between the Yokkaichi and Kameyama-Nishi junctions in Mie, later in the day. They were closed early Wednesday

day to prevent more vehicles getting stranded.

With snow also piling up between vehicles, expressway workers used shovels in places where snowplows were unable to access.

Hatsuma Kuwamura, 51, told Kyodo News on Thursday at an expressway rest area in Koka, Shiga Prefecture that he was stranded at around 4 a.m. Wednesday on his way home from Tokyo Disneyland near the Japanese capital.

The snow reached to just below the knees, he said, adding that he and the drivers of trucks in front and behind his car spent time chatting to encourage each other.

—Kyodo



Trucks are seen moving on Shin-Meishin Expressway in Mie Prefecture on 26 January 2023. PHOTO: KYODO

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C/o **SCM Legal Limited.**
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aung.naymyo@scm-legal.com
Date: 27 January 2023

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For **Rockit Global Limited**
c/o **Baker & McKenzie Limited**
Suite 28, Level 14, Junction City Tower,
No.3/A Bogyoke Aung San Road,
Pabedan Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Dated: **27 January 2023**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V RICH SEAWAY VOY.NO. (044N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RICH SEAWAY VOY.NO. (044N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-1-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

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GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Amsterdam unveils its largest bike garage. It's underwater

PLAGUED by ever-shrinking space to park its hundreds of thousands of bicycles, Amsterdam opened Wednesday the first of its largest-ever bicycle parking complexes, built underwater in a pioneering engineering project.

The shelter is constructed beneath the Open Haven Front, an access tributary to the city's IJ river, and will be followed by another next to the IJ itself that will open in February.

They will have a combined capacity for 11,000 bikes in the cycling-mad Dutch capital.

"Together the shelters will be the largest in the city," the Amsterdam municipality said, with the Open Haven Front storage able to take 7,000 bicycles and the IJ-side site around 4,000. Construction started in

2019 and involved draining part of the Open Haven Front next to Amsterdam Central Station.

A time-lapse video posted by the Amsterdam municipality showed how the water was pumped out, the structure built and the area eventually reflooded. "We have a lot of knowledge and expertise when it comes to water," Dutch deputy infrastructure minister Vivianne Heijnen told AFP at the opening ceremony. This storage "makes optimal use of the space you have in a small country", she said. Conveyor belts take cyclists nine metres (30 feet) below ground level, according to wUrk, the architectural firm that designed the ultramodern parking spaces that aim to evoke their oceanic surroundings.—AFP

Hipkins sworn in as New Zealand PM days after Ardern resignation

NEWLY elected Labour Party leader Chris Hipkins was sworn in as the 41st prime minister of New Zealand on Wednesday, less than a week after Jacinda Ardern announced her shock resignation from the role.

Hipkins, 44, was the sole candidate to replace Ardern as leader of the ruling party, and therefore prime minister, in swift party deliberations that followed Ardern's announcement on 19 January that she would step down as the country's leader and exit parliament in April.

Hipkins was sworn in by New Zealand's Governor General Cindy Kiro in the capital Wellington, alongside new Deputy Prime Minister Carmel Sepuloni. He was also sworn in as minister for national security and intelligence.

Following the swearing in, Hipkins said he was "energized



New Zealand Prime Minister Chris Hipkins is sworn in during a ceremony at Government House in Wellington on 25 January 2023. PHOTO: KYODO

and excited by the challenges that lie ahead. An experienced career politician, Hipkins was the leader of the House of Representatives and held the portfolios of education, police and public service. He has a reputation as

the party's "Mr Fix-it" when it comes to managing difficult portfolios and is well known by New Zealanders for fronting the country's response to the coronavirus pandemic as the minister responsible.—Kyodo

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

'Soledar is gone': Ukraine admits Russia controls Donetsk town

ON a road near Soledar, members of Ukraine's territorial defence launched a surveillance drone towards the front line, where fighting is raging to hold back waves of fierce Russian attacks. Ukraine conceded Wednesday its troops had pulled back this month from Soledar, a town in the eastern Donetsk region that saw some of the fiercest battles of Russia's nearly year-long invasion.

"For two or three days we lost positions but now we are working to push back to what we had before," said Igor, part of the aerial reconnaissance unit involved in the attack.

Compared to the rest of the industrial Donetsk region — whose capture Russia has made its military priority — Soledar has seen some of "the worst fighting" over recent days, Igor said.—AFP



Ukrainian tankers fire at frontline positions near the town Soledar, Donetsk region on 10 June 2022. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Ukraine's Odessa wins UNESCO status despite Russia opposition

UNESCO added the historic centre of Ukraine's port city Odessa, often described as "the pearl of the Black Sea", to its World Heritage List on Wednesday, overcoming opposition from Russia.

The 21 member states of the agency's world heritage committee approved inscribing designated areas of the city with six votes in favour, one against and 14 abstentions.

Russia, which invaded Ukraine in February last year, repeatedly tried to delay the vote to recognize the site's "outstanding universal value" and "the duty of all humanity to protect it".

"While the war continues, this inscription embodies our collective determination to ensure that this city, which has always



Wednesday's decision stressed 'the duty of all humanity to protect' Odessa's historic centre. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

surmounted global upheavals, is preserved from further destruction," said UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay after the decision.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, who requested the listing in October to shield the city from Russian bombardment, welcomed the decision.—AFP

Poland vaunts diplomatic win after German tank decision

POLAND on Wednesday vaunted the key role its tenacious diplomatic wrangling played in Germany deciding to send Leopard

tanks to Ukraine after weeks of feet dragging by Berlin.

Warsaw, the first country to offer to send Leopards to Ukraine,

was fiercely critical of Berlin's reluctance to approve sending the powerful German-made tanks to Ukraine.—AFP

French-Canadian pleads guilty in US to ricin threat against Trump

A French-Canadian woman pleaded guilty Wednesday to sending letters containing deadly ricin to former president Donald Trump and to eight Texas law enforcement officials, the US Justice Department said.

As a result of a plea deal, Pascale Ferrier, 55, will spend nearly 22 years in prison for violating laws on possession of biological weapons.

In September 2020 Ferrier sent an envelope from Canada to the White House addressed to then-president Trump containing ricin, an extremely toxic plant protein derived from castor

bean plant seeds.

Her letter contained “threatening language” and called on Trump to withdraw from the looming election, according to the Justice Department.

“I found a new name for you: ‘The Ugly Tyrant Clown’ I hope you like it,” the letter said.

“If it doesn’t work, I’ll find better recipe for another poison, or I might use my gun when I’ll be able to come. Enjoy!” she wrote.

Around the time of sending the letter, Ferrier had also posted on Twitter that someone should “shoot Trump in the face”.

Threatening the US president is a specific crime that brings up to five years in prison.

She sent similar letters with ricin and threatening language to the Texas officials.

The Justice Department said that in 2019 Ferrier had been detained in Texas for around 10 weeks for weapons possession, and she blamed the officials she eventually sent letters to.

No one was hurt by the poisonous contents of the letters. All White House mail goes through a suburban Washington processing facility, in part to screen for threats. —AFP



Seeds of the castor oil plant (*Ricinus communis*) which can be used to make the deadly poison ricin. **PHOTO: DPA/AFP**

Peru faces food, fuel shortages as Boluarte defiant



Man fills a bottle with fuel at a gas station, after shortages due to the ongoing protests against the government of Peruvian President Dina Boluarte in Arequipa, Peru on 25 January 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

SHORTAGES in Peru of basic products, including increasingly expensive fuel and food, mount further Wednesday, as the president remained defiant in the face of relentless protests.

Dozens of roadblocks are hindering freight deliveries to the country’s south, where pro-

tests demanding the resignation of President Dina Boluarte have been most intense.

But Boluarte told a regional summit Wednesday that she will not yield to the demonstrators, many of whom are from Indigenous and rural Andean regions.

“I am not going to surren-

der to authoritarian groups that want to impose solutions that are not part of our constitutional order or the democratic tradition,” Boluarte said in a virtual address to the Organization of American States (OAS).

Protests, which broke out after the ouster in early December of former president Pedro Castillo, have repeatedly turned violent, with 46 people dying in clashes between security forces and protesters.

On Wednesday, dozens of protesters rallied in front of the US embassy in Lima, decrying what they see as American support for the embattled president.

Some 250 kilometres (155 miles) south of Lima in the province of Ica, clashes broke out when law enforcement officers tried to dismantle roadblocks on the Panamericana Sur highway, with protesters throwing stones and police firing tear gas. —AFP

Colombian drug lord ‘Otoniel’ pleads guilty in New York court

ONE of Colombia’s most notorious drug lords pleaded guilty to cocaine trafficking charges in a New York court Wednesday as part of a plea deal.

Dairo Antonio Usuga, known as “Otoniel”, was the leader of Colombia’s largest narco-trafficking gang, known as the Gulf Clan.

The 51-year-old was extradited to the United States last year and initially pleaded not guilty to narcotics smuggling.

Usuga has admitted three counts and agreed to pay \$216 million in forfeiture.

He faces a mandatory minimum term of 20 years in prison but could still get up

to life.

Prosecutors in Brooklyn accused Usuga and the Gulf Clan of illegally bringing at least 73 tonnes of cocaine into the country between 2003 and 2012.

Usuga was the most wanted person in Colombia until he was arrested in October 2021 in the northwest of the country after a massive military operation. “With today’s guilty plea, the bloody reign of the most violent and significant Colombian narcotics trafficker since Pablo Escobar is over,” said Breon Peace, US Attorney for the Eastern District of New York.— AFP



A picture of Colombian drug lord Dairo Antonio Usuga, aka Otoniel, is displayed on a screen as Eastern District of New York Attorney Breon Peace (out of frame) speaks during a press conference in New York City on 5 May 2022. **PHOTO: AFP**

Knife attacker kills two on German train before capture

AT least two people were killed and seven wounded in a knife attack on a regional train in northern Germany Wednesday in which fellow passengers overpowered the alleged assailant, police said. The stabbings occurred on a train travelling between the cities of Hamburg and Kiel, a po-

lice spokesman said, adding that three of the wounded had serious injuries. The 33-year-old suspect, a stateless man of Palestinian origin, was detained at the railway station in the town of Brokstedt and treated in hospital for minor injuries. “Witnesses were able to restrain the suspect immediately

after the attack until police arrived at the station in Brokstedt,” police said in a statement.

The spokesman said the investigation into a motive was focused on “all directions” including possible extremism or psychological problems on the part of the assailant.—AFP



SPORT

Date set for Asia Cup U-23 Qualifiers

THE date for the 2024 Asian Cup U-23 Qualifiers, in which the Myanmar team will compete, has been set and will be held in September.

The qualifiers will be held from 4 to 12 September 2023, and more than 40 AFC member countries will compete. The Myanmar U-22 team will participate in many international competitions this year, and the Asian Cup U-23 qualifier is one of the in-

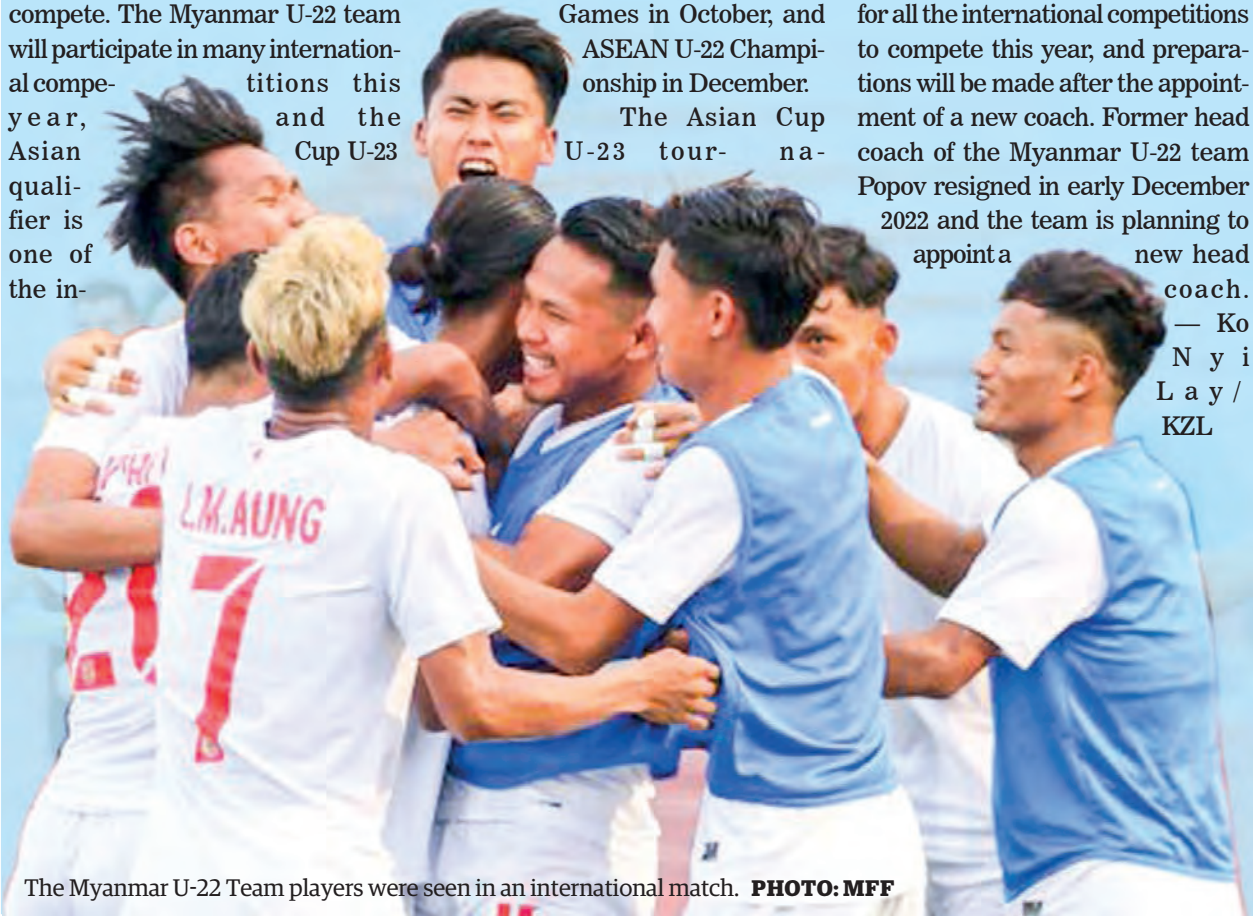
ternational competitions to be contested in 2023. The Myanmar U-22 team will compete in the 32nd SEA Games to be held in Cambodia in May as the first international competition this year; the Asian Cup U-23 qualifiers in September; the 19th Asian Games in October; and ASEAN U-22 Championship in December.

The Asian Cup U-23 tour-

na- ment (previously the Asian U-23 Championship tournament) began in 2014, and the Myanmar team only qualified once in the 2014 tournament and did not qualify in any of the subsequent competitions. The Myanmar team will take training and prepare for all the international competitions to compete this year, and preparations will be made after the appointment of a new coach. Former head coach of the Myanmar U-22 team Popov resigned in early December

2022 and the team is planning to appoint a new head coach.

— Ko
Ny
Lay /
KZL



The Myanmar U-22 Team players were seen in an international match. PHOTO: MFF

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine 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 emphasize the achievement of enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA).
- (c) To continue implementing the principle of peaceful co-existence among countries through an independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy.

2. Economic affairs

- (a) To enhance production based on agriculture and livestock through modern techniques and strengthen all-round development in other sectors of the economy.
- (b) To develop a stable market economy and promote international investment in order to enhance the economic development of the entire National people.
- (c) To promote and support local businesses to create employment opportunities and increase domestic production.

3. Social affairs

- (a) To ensure a strong and dynamic Union spirit, the genuine spirit of patriotism.
- (b) To respect and promote the customs and traditions of all National peoples and preserve and safeguard their cultural heritage and national characteristics.
- (c) To enhance the health, fitness and education quality of the entire nation.

Rybakina beats Azarenka to reach Australian Open final

WIMBLEDON champion Elena Rybakina beat Victoria Azarenka in straight sets to reach the Australian Open final on Thursday and end the Belarusian's dream of a third Melbourne title.

Rybakina won their semi-final 7-6 (7/4), 6-3 at a blustery Rod Laver Arena and will meet Aryna Sabalenka or Magda Linette in Saturday's final.

The Moscow-born Kazakh prevailed in 1hr 41min against the 2012 and 2013 champion to account for a third major winner in as many matches.

The 22nd seed had already defeated reigning French and US Open champion Iga Swiatek in the fourth round and 2017 Roland Garros winner Jelena Ostapenko in the quarter-finals at Melbourne Park.

"I'm super happy to be in the final. Today it was a bit tougher for me because it

was different conditions," said the 23-year-old Rybakina. "I couldn't play really aggressive tennis. The ball was not going so much, but I'm happy that in the end I managed to win.

"I'll try my best in the final of course."

Big-serving Rybakina won in straight sets when the pair played at Indian Wells last year; their only previous meeting.

Azarenka, 33, was largely on the back foot again against the grace and power of Rybakina, who was in her first Melbourne Park semi-final.

Rybakina reached the last four largely on the back of her powerful serving, having sent down 35 aces in her five matches, more than any other player.

She started with a nervy double fault but soon was back in the groove, launching three booming aces in a row to secure the opening game.—AFP

Man City face Arsenal showdown, Liverpool eye revenge in FA Cup



Manchester City defender John Stones. PHOTO: AFP

MANCHESTER City and Arsenal take a break from an intense Premier League title race this weekend — only to face each other in a heavyweight FA Cup clash at the Etihad. Holders Liverpool will look to avenge their chastening recent defeat at Brighton, while Harry Kane could become Tottenham's all-time top scorer. AFP Sport picks out some of the highlights ahead

of this weekend's FA Cup fourth-round ties.

Man City aim to halt Arsenal's momentum

Unexpectedly trailing in Arsenal's wake in the Premier League, Manchester City have the chance to slow the leaders' momentum in their first meeting this season.

City are five points behind

Arsenal, who have a game in hand, but the champions still have to play the Gunners twice in the league, making their FA Cup showdown a tantalizing appetiser ahead of the main course. Arsenal are riding high after victories over Tottenham and Manchester United in the league, while City stayed in touch after responding to a blast from Pep Guardiola by beating Tottenham and Wolves.

"At half-time the other day, Pep told us what he wanted, what he wasn't happy with. As players we were not at our best and we had to correct that," City defender John Stones said of his side's fightback from two goals down to defeat Tottenham 4-2.

It would be a major statement of intent from Arsenal if they are able to put Guardiola in another grumpy mood with a victory at the Etihad Stadium.—AFP