

Myanmar and Bangladesh forge defence sector collaboration for regional peace and stability

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing accepts Credentials from Ambassador-designate of Bangladesh to Myanmar



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Bangladeshi Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Md Monwar Hossain at the acceptance ceremony of the Credentials in Nay Pyi Taw on 6 September 2023.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing accepted the Credentials from Ambassador-designate of Bangladesh to Myanmar

Dr Md Monwar Hossain at the Credentials Hall of the SAC Chairman Office in Nay Pyi Taw at 10 am yesterday.

They cordially discussed diplomatic relations, cooperation and friendly ties

between the two countries, promotion of bilateral trade, bilateral cooperation in combatting illegal trade and drug trafficking in border regions, repatriation of displaced persons, collaboration in the

defence sector to ensure regional peace and stability, cooperation in reconstruction for loss and damage in impacts of Cyclone Mocha, and political progress in Myanmar. — MNA/TTA

UMFCCI, KADIN sign MoU agreement to bolster economic relations

UNION of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN) inked a Memorandum of Understanding

(MoU) to bolster economic ties on 5 September at the Sultan Hotel in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Indonesia-Myanmar Roundtable Dialogue with participants from Indonesian and Myanmar

successful entrepreneurs was held at the Sultan Hotel on the same day and stepped up bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

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MoHT Union Minister meets local hoteliers and FDI hotel operators

LOCAL BUSINESS

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Bangladesh proposes three commercial models for importing sugar from Myanmar

NATIONAL

MAI's Myanmar-Russia direct flight lands back in Yangon successfully



Officials of Mandalay Region cordially meet flight passengers from Myanmar Airways International and pose for commemorative photos with them at Mandalay International Airport.

THE MAI launched the Yangon-Mandalay-Novosibirsk-Mandalay-Yangon flight on 5 September ensuring the essential connectivity between the Russian Federation and Myanmar, and the flight landed in Yangon successfully yesterday morning.

The MAI flight left for Russia at 2:05 pm on 5 September from Yangon International Airport and headed to Novosibirsk in Russia from Mandalay. Before the departure to Russia, the relevant officials of Mandalay Region cordially met flight passengers and had commemorative photos taken with them at Mandalay Inter-

national Airport.

To strengthen the bilateral relationship between the two countries, the two governments, departmental officials, tourism industries and travel and tour companies should promote their tourism industries with their existing cultural heritage, picturesque scenes and beaches.

Moreover, the MAI launched the new flight not just for the profits but for aiming to facilitate the trade flows of the two countries, economy, hotels and tourism industries, health and other services for the people of the two countries.

The Myanmar-Russia di-

rect flight will operate twice a week every Tuesday and Saturday. Myanmar travellers can visit the territory of the Russian Federation including its city Moscow from Novosibirsk with Russia's S7 airlines. Similarly, Russian travellers can visit Myanmar and ASEAN countries where the MAI operates its flights.

Besides the current new flight, the MAI will fly to Moscow, and St Petersburg in Russia soon with flights like Airbus A330 and long-haul flights. Moreover, it also arranged to expand operations to 11 cities including Beijing in China. — Ko Nyi Lay/KTZH

Myanmar Gazette

Transfer and Appointment of Heads of Service Organizations

THE State Administration Council has transferred and appointed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against each of their names from the date, they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Aung Kyaw Moe Director-General Department of Rehabilitation Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement	Director-General National Solidarity and Peacemaking Department Ministry of Union Government (1)
(2) U Maung Maung Kyaw Director-General Bureau of Special Investigation Ministry of Home Affairs	Director-General Department of Rehabilitation Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Head of Service Organization

THE State Administration Council has appointed U Aung Zaw Lin from the Ministry of Defence as Director-General of the Bureau of Special Investigation under the Ministry of Home Affairs on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies
အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာ သန့်ရှင်းသော လေထုနေ့

UN environment programme

"Together for Clean Air"

“လေထုသန့်ရှင်းဖို့ လက်တွဲပူးပေါင်းဆောင်ရွက်စို့”

7th September 2023

နိုင်ငံတကာစာတတ်မြောက်ရေးနေ့

တည်ငြိမ်အေးချမ်းသော လူ့အဖွဲ့အစည်းကမ္ဘာကြီးသို့ ထူးခြောင်းဖို့ စာတတ်မြောက်ရေးမြှင့်တင်ဖို့

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COVID-19 report,
6 September 2023

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NATIONAL

Expanding private beekeeping firms flourish as Myanmar honey commands premium prices



DEPUTY Director U Myo Tint of the Apiculture Division under the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department said that private beekeeping businesses are expanding this financial year as a tonne of Myanmar honey is valued up to US\$3,000 in the foreign market.

Due to the high price, private beekeeping businesses expanded in the current 2023–2024 financial year. There were more than 820 private beekeeping businesses in the 2022–2023 financial year, and over 130 businesses expanded in this financial year, totalling more than 950 private beekeeping businesses

in the country.

Currently, the Apiculture Division under the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department has opened 31 beekeeping stations in 31 townships across the country to operate the beekeeping industry. The development of private beekeeping businesses can be seen due to the support of technologies and pure breeds of queen bees by the department, he continued.

Myanmar’s honey earned market shares in America, Japan, Korea, Canada, and ASEAN countries due to its high quality. A tonne of Myanmar’s honey costs \$2,500 to \$3,000 on the foreign market, and it is exported abroad up to 3,000 tonnes annually.

Various types of honey, such as sesame honey, palm honey, Niger honey, sunflower honey, rubber honey, and lychee honey, are being produced in Myanmar, and sesame honey has been produced since last July. — ASH/CT



Beekeepers harvest honey from beehives at a farm.

CORRIGENDUM

Please read ... as well as closer collaboration both ... instead of ... as well as loser collaboration both ... in the fifth column of the news titled “Myanmar, India see cooperation in transport, communications, education and IT sectors” on page 3 of The GNLM issue on 5 September 2023. — (Error is regretted, Ed)

DPM & MoFA Union Minister receives Saudi Arabian Ambassador



Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe meets Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Myanmar Mr. Saud bin Abdullah Alsubaie in Nay Pyi Taw on 6 September 2023.

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe received Mr Saud bin Abdullah Alsubaie, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the call, they cordially exchanged views on matters pertaining to the further enhancement of the existing friendly bilateral relations and cooperation, including mutually beneficial cooperation in the areas of trade and investment, energy and labour, hotel and tourism, and exchange of

culture and languages, accelerating ongoing negotiation of the further cooperation agreements, the implementation process of repatriation of verified displaced persons from Rakhine State and rendering support to each other in the regional and international arenas. — MNA

UNHCR Representative calls on MoSWRR Union Minister

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win hosted a meeting with UNHCR’s Myanmar representative Ms Noriko Takagi in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Discussions focused on UNHCR’s humanitarian and protection efforts, particularly for those affected by natural disasters and conflicts. They also discussed an MoU between the ministry and UNHCR and UNHCR’s collaboration with UN-OCHA to provide solar lamps in Rakhine State for Cyclone Mocha victims.

Following the meeting, the Union minister attended a donation ceremony by the Yunnan Provincial People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (YNPAFFC) for Mocha-affected areas at the Disaster Risk Management Centre (DMC). Mr Gao Wei from the Yunnan Com-



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win hosts a meeting with UNHCR’s Myanmar representative Ms Noriko Takagi in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

mercial Representative Office explained the donation, and the Union minister expressed appreciation words. The Union minister then presented certificates of appreciation to the Acting Director of the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China to Myanmar and the director of the Yunnan Commercial Representative Office.

These donations will support Cyclone Mocha rehabilitation efforts, with contributions from domestic, foreign, and international donors. The Ministry of Transport and Communications, in partnership with the Tatmadaw, will transport these donations to Sittway by plane for distribution to affected townships. — MNA/KZW

NATIONAL

UEC delegation leaves for Russia

AT the invitation of the Chairman of the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation, Union Election Commission Chairman U Thein Soe, member U Aung Saw Win and director U Zaw Naung Lat left Yangon for Moscow, Russia, yesterday evening by air. The delegation will sign a memorandum of understanding between the Central Election Commission

of the Russian Federation and the Union Election Commission and observe local elections in the Russian Federation.

The delegation will also aim to promote cooperation in electoral activities between the two countries, election procedures, the voting process and the counting process during their study tours from 6 to 12 September. — MNA/TS



Union Election Commission Chairman U Thein Soe leaves for the Russian Federation on 6 September 2023.



The meeting between Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Thet Thet Khine and officials from hotel and tourism associations and the Foreign Investment Hotel Operators Association in progress at Inya Lake Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

MoHT Union Minister meets local hoteliers and FDI hotel operators

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Thet Thet Khine convened a meeting with officials from hotel and tourism associations and the Foreign Investment Hotel Operators Association at Inya Lake Hotel in Yangon yesterday afternoon. The Myanmar Tourism Federation (MTF) president and representatives from related associations joined the gathering.

During the meeting, the Union minister stressed the government's commitment to

creating a conducive business environment and emphasized the crucial role of the private sector in the country's development, particularly in the tourism sector. The discussions centred on facilitating visa relaxation for foreign tourists, enhancing financial transactions, and improving transport infrastructure. Additionally, plans were discussed to tap into key tourist markets in Russia, China, and India.

The Union minister also

emphasized the need to prepare for tourism development in border regions and underscored the importance of collaboration between the government and entrepreneurs in innovatively promoting Myanmar's tourism industry. The meeting concluded with officials presenting their experiences and plans for attracting Chinese and Russian tourists, followed by discussions on the challenges faced and potential solutions for the hotels and tourism sector. — MNA/TS

Myanmar delegation leaves for 17th ITE HCMC 2023

THE Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Phyo Zaw Soe and Yangon Mayor U Bo Htay and party left for Viet Nam to attend the 17th International Travel Expo of Ho Chi Minh City 2023 to be held in Ho Chi Minh City, from Yangon by air yesterday. — MNA/MKKS



Myanmar delegation leaves for the 17th International Travel Expo of Ho Chi Minh City 2023, in Ho Chi Minh, Viet Nam, yesterday.

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

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NATIONAL

Director from Sputnik Information Agency visits Global New Light of Myanmar daily



The delegation of the Sputnik Information Agency observes the printing press of The Global New Light of Myanmar yesterday in Yangon.

THE delegation of the Sputnik Information Agency visited the press office of The Global New Light of Myanmar, which is under the News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information, yesterday afternoon in Yangon.

Mr Vasily Pushkov, Director of International Cooperation at the Sputnik Information Agency, met

the newspaper's editorial, administrative and printing staff in the conference room.

The Sputnik Information Agency's director and party then viewed round the press and editorial department of The Global New Light of Myanmar.

The Sputnik Information Agency and The Global New Light of Myanmar signed an information cooperation

agreement in Nay Pyi Taw on 5 September.

Sputnik News is a news agency based in Moscow, Russia and was established in 2014. Sputnik Information Agency, with regional offices in Cairo, Beijing, Paris, Berlin, Madrid, Montevideo, and Rio de Janeiro, attracts over 66 million monthly surfers to its website. — GNLM

Foreign currencies to be sold to importers of construction, agriculture, transport, energy-related materials

THE foreign currencies will be sold to importers of construction materials, agriculture, transport and energy-related materials via land borders, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The imports include steel, iron, polymer, insecticide, fertilizer, solar and machinery. The current plan to sell foreign currencies online to importers is intended for seven products imported through border camps under the permission of Foreign Exchange Supervisory Committee-FESC.

Moreover, the ministry will review the remaining imports and sell the currency to im-

porters.

Currently, there are border trade routes such as Myanmar-China, Myanmar-Thailand, Myanmar-Bangladesh, Myanmar-India and Myanmar-Laos. Most of the products are imported via the Myanmar-China border, and so the foreign currency especially yuan will be sold for these products.

Currently, only yuan is allowed for border trade between Myanmar and China. It must submit the bank statement for buying yuan whether it is from export earnings or local banks when applying for the import licences. — ASH/KTZH



Girls show notes of Chinese currency – yuan. Only yuan is allowed for border trade between Myanmar and China.

CRIME NEWS

Illegal timbers, foodstuffs, industrial materials and vehicles confiscated

THE combined on-duty team under the management of Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force impounded a Chenglong tractor head and a trailer (approximately K66 million), headed to Mandalay from Muse, carrying 30,000 kilogrammes of aluminium-coated packing material worth K107,1 million that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) at the Milepost 21/5 on Muse- Mandalay road on 4 September. The action

was taken under Customs Procedures.

The on-duty teams under the supervision of the Customs Department conducted inspections on 4 September and nabbed seven kinds of goods worth K58,482,531 including 300 Motolete automobile batteries and 4,000 sprocket chains without Import Licence from four containers and 5633.50 kilogrammes of brand new stationeries worth K15,384,915 that were differ-

ent from Import Declaration (ID) from a container at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint, two kinds of goods worth K8,439,716 including 10,490 kilogrammes of packing materials that exceeded the 60 days of VPA from a container at the Hteedan Port and a Chengong tractor head, a Mitsubishi Fuso tractor head and two trailers (estimated value of K90 million), headed to Yangon from Myawady, carrying two kinds of goods

worth K11.1 million including 7,200 bottles of Carabao energy drink and 1,500 kilogrammes of PVC resin without official documents at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint. The action was taken under Customs Procedures

On 5 September, the combined teams confiscated a total of 1.278 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K191,760 in Kyunsu township and a total of 3.690 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K553,590 in Myeik township

and an unregistered Nissan Vanette light truck (estimated value of K2 million) on Bokpyin- Kawthoung road in Karathuri town. The action was taken under the Forest Law and the Export and Import Law.

A total of 14 arrests were made on 4 and 5 September with an estimated value of K359,252,512, as reported by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Myanmar gains 3 ASEAN Business Awards in 2023

THE ASEAN Business Awards Ceremony 2023 was held at the Hotel Ritz Carlton Pacific Place in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 4 September, and Myanmar won three ASEAN Business Awards.

At the ceremony, Bella Interiors Company Ltd won the MSME Export Growth Award for Enterprise (Large Corporations and MSMEs), and for the individual awards, Ko Kyaw Thu Htet won an award under the ASEAN Youth Business category and Daw Khin Chaw Su Win received an award under the ASEAN Women's Business category, respectively.

The ASEAN Business Awards Ceremony has been held annually by the ASEAN



Awardees from Myanmar pose for the group up documentary photos at the ASEAN Business Awards Ceremony 2023.

Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) since 2007 and is a great traditional ceremony.

For more than a decade, the ABA Awards have been

creating opportunities to enhance competitiveness and integration and promote the winners' brands globally across the ASEAN region.

The ASEAN Business Award is world-recognized, and the awardees receive benefits such as opportunities to connect with foreign countries,

find local connections and potential partnerships, expand their network, and have brand promotion opportunities. — TWA/CT

Weekly update prices of Bayintnaung Commodity Market



File photo shows a retail outlet of kitchen goods.

ONION prices reached the downside again in the Yangon market from 30 August to 6 September. The price of potatoes rose, and the trade of palm oil at the reference price increased. A tonne of black gram RC skyrocketed to around K2.6 million and that of pigeon pea (red gram) to about K4 million.

Onion

Onion prices in the Yangon market remained unchanged at K3,450 wholesale for a viss of large size from 1 to 5 September 2023, but on 6 September, the price went down by K100 per viss. On 6 September, the Yangon market received various

regional onions weighing 96,000 visses. The wholesale price per viss of Seikphyu and Monywa onions ranged from K2,800 to K3,350, depending on their size and quality.

A total of 32,000 visses of onions entered the Myingyan market on 5 September, with a price range of K2,800 to K3,200.

Garlic

On 6 September in the Yangon market, a viss of Shan garlic was valued at K7,800 for S2, K8,500 for S3, K9,000 for S4, and K9,500 for S5, while that of Kyukok garlic was valued at K7,800.

Potato

The Yangon potato market

only published the price of Chinese potatoes on 6 September. The wholesale price of Chinese potatoes increased to K2,400–K2,450 per viss.

Chilli pepper

On 6 September, in the Yangon chilli pepper market, the prices of Eainme and Panye long chilli peppers were approximately K10,000–K11,000 per viss, while new and cold-processed Pyawbwe Moehtaung chilli peppers were priced at K14,500 per viss. Sinpyukyun and delta region bell peppers processed in the cold storage were valued at K18,000–K18,500 per viss.

Rice

On 6 September, the price per bag of rice grown under multiple cropping was K69,000, the 90-day rice variety was K72,000, and the Pawkywe rice variety was K97,000.

Pawsan rice varieties ranged from K100,000 to K125,000 per bag, depending on the rice-producing regions.

Palm oil

The wholesale reference price of palm oil from 5 to 10 September is K4,160 per viss.

Most of the buyers are trading palm oil at the reference price of K4,400 per viss at the Bayintnaung and Nyaungpinlay markets and retail and wholesale shops in Yangon, regions and states.

Beans and pulses

On 6 September 2023, the price of black gram was K2,564,000 per tonne for RC and K2,799,000 per tonne for SQ/RC. Meanwhile, a tonne of pigeon peas (red gram) was valued at K3,975,000.

Additionally, the price of green gram (Kayan Shwewah variety) and Pakokku variety fetched K3,500 and K2,915–K3,085 per viss, respectively, while that of the chickpeas was K5,850–K6,100 per viss. — TWA/CT

Lweje, Kampaiti border trade with China exceeds \$2 mln in Aug last week

TRADE volumes with China at Lweje and Kampaiti recorded approximately US\$2,971,291.905 in the last week of August.

The total value of exports to China from these two trading posts was \$1,337,139. The total value of imports amounted to \$1,634,152.950 from 26 August to 1 September.

Export products include tissue-cultured bananas and rubber. Imported commodities are iron and steel, construction materials, cotton fabric, plastic raw materials, industrial materials, chemical cotton, kitchenware, medicines, other consumer goods, computer and related accessories, electricity distribution and installation equipment, fertilizers, plastic and iron pipes and artificial grass.

The exchange between Myanmar kyat and Chinese yuan is rated at 0.347 yuan per kyat and 288.18 kyats per yuan, according to statistics from the Ministry of Commerce. — TWA/KZW

LOCAL BUSINESS

UMFCCI, KADIN sign MoU agreement to bolster economic relations



The Memorandum of Understanding Signing Event between the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN) in progress in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 5 September.

FROM PAGE-1

The two countries reaffirmed the commitment to maintain vigorous economic relations at the roundtable dialogue, which took place during the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit held in Jakarta.

The dialogue shed light on promising trade and investment cooperation in various sectors, from best-selling consumer goods to garment manufacturing and energy collaboration and financial and trade transaction matters.

The chair of ASEAN-BAC and the KADIN, Mr M Arsjad Rasjid P M elaborated that “As ASEAN matters as an epicentre of growth, we make sure to leave no one behind. We expect cooperation in the multiple industries of the two nations.

The ASEAN-BAC Myanmar Chair and President of the UMFCCI U Aye Win expressed his deep appreciation to the KADIN for cooperation and support. He highlighted that economic stability plays a pivotal role in accelerating the momentum of regional in-

tegration”.

The MoU between the KADIN and UMFCCI covers knowledge sharing, best practices, organizing joint activities like conferences and workshops and prioritizing the promotion of business ventures and projects. Last but not least Indonesia plays a pivotal role in the palm oil supply for Myanmar’s households. Similarly, Myanmar is also crucial in the rice and pulses trade for Indonesia. Thus, dealing with food security is of vital importance, he emphasized in the dialogue. — NN/EM

Bangladesh proposes three commercial models for importing sugar from Myanmar

BANGLADESH has offered to import Myanmar’s sugar under the government-to-government (G2G), government-to-business (G2B) and business-to-business (B2B) activities, according to Myanmar Sugar and Cane Related Products Association (MSCA).

Bangladesh made an import proposal through the Bangladesh mission based in Yangon Region. The Bangladesh mission and the MSCA negotiated sugar imports and they reached the G2G, G2B and B2B agreements.

“Our association is ready to export Myanmar’s sugar to Bangladesh as we have adequate stocks in hand this FY. We have also discussed modes of transport. There is a plan

to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB). When they send a proposal letter officially through a diplomatic channel, we will proceed to negotiation which leads to an agreement. Bangladesh planned to buy 200 tonnes of onions from Myanmar in the current financial year as well. Moreover, they also proposed to buy Myanmar’s rice again on account of good quality,” said MSCA vice-chair U Win Htay.

Myanmar ships sugar to Viet Nam and the Philippines through maritime trade annually beyond self-sufficiency. Moreover, the country conveyed sugar to China via the border as well. —ASH/EM



Bags of sugar are seen for being delivered to markets.

Record pigeon pea prices surge on strong foreign demand

THE strong foreign demand elevated the pigeon pea prices to a new record high of over K4 million per tonne in the Yangon market, according to the Bayintnaung Commodity Wholesale Centre.

The pigeon pea fetched only K3.8 million per tonne at the end of August and then, the price jumped to K4.0375 million per tonne on 6 September, showing a sharp rise of K237,500 per tonne from the past week.

Similarly, the price of

black gram also moved up to K2.529 million per tonne on 5 September from K2.499 million per tonne at the end of August, indicating a one-week increase of K30,000 per tonne.

India’s increasing demand pushed up the prices of black grams and pigeon peas. Additionally, Kyat weakening against the US dollar at around K3,500 in the grey market is another reason for the price increase, the pulses traders pointed out.

Myanmar shipped more than 670,000 tonnes of various

pulses, with an estimated value of over US\$544 million, to foreign countries in the past five months during the 2023-2024 financial year beginning 1 April, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar’s pulses exports topped over \$1.4 billion from over 1.9 million tonnes in the past FY 2022-2023, the Ministry of Commerce’s statistics indicated.

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

Of them, black grams and pigeon peas are mostly conveyed to India while green grams are shipped to China and Europe.

India has growing demand and consumption requirements for black gram and pigeon peas. According to a Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and India signed on 18 June 2021, India will import 250,000 tonnes of black grams and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas (tur) from Myanmar for five consecutive years from 2021-2022 financial year to 2025-

2026 FY. This G-to-G pact will not affect the pulses’ annual quota set by India. Myanmar’s exporters are also entitled to deliver the pulses to India under that annual quota.

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

OPINION

Cultivate five essential capacities for youths

TODAY'S youth bear a profound responsibility not only to their families but also to the future of their nation. Their ability to serve effectively in these roles hinges on their cultivation of high moral and qualified character traits. To achieve this, it is imperative that we train our youth to be well-rounded individuals who possess five essential capacities: physical, mental, moral, fraternal, and economic.

The government recognizes the pivotal role of youth in nation-building and places great emphasis on creating opportunities for them to develop these capacities. A developed nation requires its youth to be not only physically fit but also mentally adept, morally upright, socially responsible, and economically empowered.

While many young individuals possess the eagerness to contribute to society, having just one of these capacities is not enough to make a significant impact on the nation's development. It is the responsibility of relevant authorities and educational institutions to

provide comprehensive training and guidance to help youth develop these often unnoticed capacities.

Simultaneously, youth must actively engage in training under qualified teachers and trainers within conducive learning environments. Self-study and dedication to acquiring knowledge based on rationality are also crucial aspects of their personal growth. Throughout their educational journey, they should persevere in the face of challenges and fatigue, utilizing their physical and mental faculties to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for self-sufficiency.

Proper guidance and training from educators and mentors play a pivotal role in shaping youth into knowledgeable and responsible individuals. This education equips them with the tools needed to fulfil their duties to the state and their families effectively, resulting in the overall improvement of society.

Presently, Myanmar's population data reveals a shortage of educated and well-informed youth, with the school education sector experiencing a decline. Recognizing that education is fundamental to improving the lives of youth, the government is actively working to revitalize the education sector. Initiatives such as expanding learning opportunities for school-age children and implementing the KG+9 education scheme aim to equip youth with the five essential capacities they need to thrive.

By investing in the education and holistic development of the younger generation, we are not only securing their future but also ensuring a brighter and more prosperous future for our society as a whole. It is the collective responsibility of government, educators, and families to empower our youth with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in their roles as the builders of our nation's future.



Developing and promoting recreational spaces in both urban and rural areas, coupled with collaboration with schools, workplaces, and communities, is a powerful strategy to encourage physical activity.

PHOTO: PIXABAY

ACCORDING to one of the objectives of the Social Affairs of the State Administration Council (SAC); "To elevate the Health and Sports sectors inclusive of all the people, improving the longevity and health of the nation", the Ministry of Health, Myanmar, laid down the two objectives, to enable every citizen to attain full life expectancy and enjoy longevity of life, and to en-

sure that every citizen is free from diseases. Improving the health and sports sectors to enhance the longevity and well-being of a nation's population requires a multisectoral approach that encompasses various aspects of healthcare, physical activity, education, and policy. Therefore, the following are some strategies that can contribute to achieving these goals;

- **Promoting Health Education and Awareness:** Implement comprehensive health education programs in schools and communities to increase awareness about healthy lifestyles, nutrition, and the benefits of regular physical activity, use various media platforms to disseminate accurate health information, and encourage informed health

results.

- **Access to Quality Healthcare:** Ensure equitable access to healthcare services for all citizens, regardless of socioeconomic status or geographical location, and invest in healthcare infrastructure, including hospitals, clinics, and medical facilities.

- **Preventive Healthcare:** Focus on preventive measures

such as vaccinations, regular check-ups, screenings, and early detection of diseases to reduce the burden on healthcare systems, encourage individuals to adopt healthy habits, such as maintaining a balanced diet, staying physically active and managing stress.

- **Physical Activity Promotion:** Develop and promote recre-

ational spaces like parks, playgrounds, and sports facilities in both urban and rural areas to encourage physical activity, and collaborate with schools, workplaces, and communities to incorporate regular exercise into daily routines.

- **Sports Development:** Invest in sports infrastructure, training facilities, and coaching programs to nurture talent from a young age and support professional athletes, and organize sports events, competitions, and leagues to encourage participation and engagement in sports.

- **Inclusivity and Diversity:** Ensure that health and sports initiatives are inclusive of all individuals, regardless of age,

gender, ability, or background, and promote programs that cater to diverse needs, including adaptive sports for people with disabilities.

- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Foster collaborations between government bodies, private enterprises, and non-profit organizations to pool resources and expertise for comprehensive health and sports initiatives.

- **Research and Innovation:** Invest in medical research to discover new treatments, therapies, and technologies that can improve healthcare outcomes, and encourage innovation in sports equipment, wearable technology, and fitness-tracking tools to enhance individual engagement in physical activity.

- **Policy and Regulation:** Enact and enforce policies that promote healthy behaviours, such as regulating the advertising of unhealthy foods to children and creating smoke-free environments, offering incentives for companies to provide wellness programs and promoting employee well-being.

- **Long-Term Monitoring and Evaluation:** Continuously monitor the impact of implemented programs on public health, longevity, and sports participation, and adjust strategies based on data-driven insights to ensure ongoing improvements.

The Sports Medicine Clinic brings together a unique team of athletic trainers, physicians, physical therapists and sports scientists to collaboratively provide the best possible medical care for athletic injuries and illnesses. The programs include the usual suspects of orthopaedics and rehabilitation alongside newcomers like sports psychology, nutrition, and even research initiatives and technology to measure and analyze data points to better address the causes of injury or secrets to peak performance. In addition, achieving improvements in the health and sports sectors requires collaboration among government bodies, healthcare professionals, educators, businesses, communities, and individuals. By addressing a broad spectrum of factors, we can work toward a healthier and more active population, leading to enhanced longevity and well-being.

- **Long-Term Monitoring and**

The significance of Health and Sports sectors in National Development Perspective

Propelling our communities towards a future of longevity and well-being, where improved health outcomes and enhanced physical fitness are not distant ideals but tangible realities

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

2023 IS likely to be the hottest year in human history, and global temperatures during the Northern Hemisphere summer were the warmest on record, the EU climate monitor said on Wednesday.

Heatwaves, droughts and wildfires struck Asia, Africa, Europe and North America over the last three months, with dramatic impact on economies, ecosystems and human health.

The average global temperature in June, July and August was 16.77 degrees Celsius (62.19

degrees Fahrenheit), smashing the previous 2019 record of 16.48C, the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) said in a report.

"The three months that we've just had are the warmest in approximately 120,000 years, so effectively human history," C3S deputy

director Samantha Burgess told AFP.

Last month was the hottest August on record and warmer than all other months except July 2023. Climate breakdown has begun," said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

"Scientists have long warned

what our fossil fuel addiction will unleash," he added. "Our climate is imploding faster than we can cope, with extreme weather events hitting every corner of the planet."

Record-high global sea surface temperatures played a major role in stoking heat throughout the summer, with marine heatwaves

hitting the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea.

"Looking at the additional heat we have in the surface ocean, the probability is that 2023 will end up being the warmest year on record," Burgess said.

The average global temperature through the first eight months

of 2023 is the second-warmest on record, only 0.01C below the benchmark 2016 level, the report added.

If the Northern Hemisphere has a "normal" winter, "we can almost virtually say that 2023 will be the warmest year that humanity has experienced," Burgess said.

SOURCE: AFP

2023 likely to be hottest year on record: EU monitor

The EU climate monitor warns that 2023 may become the hottest year ever recorded, with severe heatwaves, droughts, wildfires, and detrimental impacts on economies, ecosystems, and human well-being.



A woman holds a dog in her arms as forest fires approach the village of Pefki on Evia (Euboea) island, Greece's second-largest island, on 8 August 2021. PHOTO: ANGELOS TZORTZINIS/AFP

TECH/ENVIRON WORLD

China releases work plan to stabilize electronic information manufacturing industry



A staff member makes surface acoustic wave filters at an industrial park in Rizhao Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone of Rizhao City, east China's Shandong Province, 29 June 2023. **PHOTO: GUO XULEI/XINHUA**

- The plan outlines growth targets for the computer, communication, and other electronic equipment manufacturing sectors. It aims to maintain an average added value growth rate of about 5 per cent from 2023 to 2024 in these sectors.
- The plan targets major electronic information manufacturers, aiming for over 24 trillion yuan (about 3.34 trillion US dollars) in combined revenue.

CHINA has recently released a work plan to promote the steady growth of the electronic information manufacturing industry.

The country is expected to see the average added value growth of the computer, communication, and other electronic equipment manufacturing sectors kept at about five per cent from 2023 to 2024, according to the plan jointly issued by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and the Ministry of Finance. The combined operating revenue of major enterprises should top 24 trillion yuan (about

3.34 trillion US dollars) during the period, as per the document.

In expanding effective demand, the plan stressed efforts to bolster traditional electronic consumer goods and cultivate new growth drivers by promoting technology and product innovation. China will optimize the export structure of electronic apparatus, lift the proportion of high-value-added products in total exports, and encourage enterprises to participate in international exhibitions to stabilize the foreign trade of the sector. — Xinhua

Cost of invasive species more than \$400 bln a year

INVASIVE species that wreck crops, ravage forests, spread disease, and upend ecosystems are spreading ever faster across the globe, and humanity has not been able to stem the tide, a major scientific assessment said Monday.

The failure is costing well over \$400 billion dollars a year in damages and lost income — the equivalent to the GDP of Denmark or Thailand — and that is likely a “gross underestimation”, according to the intergovernmental science advisory panel for the UN Convention on Biodiversity

(IPBES). From water hyacinth choking Lake Victoria in East Africa, to rats and brown snakes wiping out bird species in the Pacific, to mosquitoes exposing new regions to Zika, yellow fever, dengue and other diseases, the report catalogued more than 37,000 so-called alien species that have taken root — often literally — far from their places of origin.

That number is trending sharply upward, along with the bill for the damage multiplying fourfold per decade, on average, since 1970. — AFP



Water hyacinths have clogged waterways across the world. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Cyclone leaves 21 dead in southern Brazil



Aerial view of the town of Mucum, Rio Grande do Sul State, Brazil, in the aftermath of a devastating cyclone. **PHOTO: AGENCIA RBS/AFP**

TORRENTIAL rain and winds caused by an extratropical cyclone have left at least 21 people dead in southern Brazil, officials said Tuesday, warning more

flooding may be coming.

The latest in a string of weather disasters to hit Brazil, it is the deadliest ever in the state of Rio Grande do Sul,

Governor Eduardo Leite told a news conference.

“We were deeply saddened to get the news that as the water recedes... 15 more bodies were found in the town of Mucum, bringing the death toll to 21,” he said. Close to 6,000 people were forced from their homes by the storms, which started Monday, dumping hail and more than 300 millimetres (nearly 12 inches) of rain on the state in less than 24 hours and triggering floods and landslides, officials said. In Mucum, a small town of 5,000 people, hundreds had to be rescued from their rooftops as the Taquari river flooded more than 85 per cent of the city, according to local news site GZH. — AFP

Indonesia halves output at coal power plant as pollution spikes

INDONESIA has nearly halved output at a major coal-fired power plant near the capital Jakarta after the city faced major pollution spikes in recent weeks, its operator told AFP Wednesday.

The reduction came a week before Indonesia hosted leaders from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and top officials from the

United States, Japan, China and South Korea for summits tackling a spate of regional issues.

The megalopolis of about 30 million people topped global pollution rankings several times last month, according to Swiss-based air quality monitor IQAir, as a toxic smog crisis threatened to overshadow the meetings. — AFP

Weight gain in Japan halts as COVID-19 pandemic measures recede

THE percentage of people reporting weight gain in Japan fell this year for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, a company survey showed Wednesday, as physical activities increased amid the easing of restrictions.

The percentage of people who had gained weight compared to a year ago stood at 22.9 per cent in 2023, down from 26.0 per cent the year before, breaking a trend that saw the figure rise annually since 2020, according to Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Co.

The drop likely reflects that

people have had more opportunities to be active since the removal of coronavirus restrictions, a company official said.

Of the 5,640 respondents in their 20s to 70s, 38.4 per cent said that they started exercising to improve their health during the pandemic, which began about three years ago, according to the online survey held in July.

Among them, 85.1 per cent said they are continuing to exercise, with the most popular sports being walking, jogging and running, followed by cycling and golf.



File photo taken in June 2022 shows people jogging around the Imperial Palace in Tokyo. PHOTO: KYODO

In addition, 13.1 per cent said they felt less stressed after the Japanese government downgraded the legal status of COVID-19 to the same as seasonal influenza in May, while 15.3 per cent reported increased stress following the move.

The most common reason cited for people reported experiencing either less or more stress was “having more opportunities to meet people”, the survey said.

“People’s views on connecting with others are becoming increasingly polarized,” the official said. — Kyodo

Microsoft gambles big on Hollywood-esque ‘Starfield’ video game



The Starfield game being played at the Xbox booth at the Gamescom conference in Cologne last month. PHOTO: AFP

“STARFIELD”, one of the most-anticipated video games in years, launches worldwide on Wednesday with the hype — and production standards — of a Hollywood blockbuster.

And Microsoft has billions riding on its success. The ever-evolving game is the tech giant’s bid to lock players into its Xbox subscription service after some eye-poppingly enormous investments in the gaming sector, which is worth \$200 billion globally. A universe-spanning role-playing sci-fi game, “Starfield” is made by US studio Bethesda, which Microsoft bought as part of a \$7.5 billion deal in 2020 to boost Xbox’s appeal over Sony’s PlayStation. Microsoft is currently trying to get a \$75-billion purchase of another studio, Activision Blizzard — the makers of

“Call of Duty” — past regulators wary of rapid concentration in the sector. The excitement for “Starfield” has been driven by a high rating of 87 out of 100 on review-aggregator Metacritic, based on early play-throughs by critics as well as strongly positive videos by gamers on YouTube.

Scale of ‘Star Wars’

Reviews praise its epic scale, multitude of interactive stories, engrossing first-person combat and the way it conjured ersatz interactive versions of movie franchises “Star Trek”, “Star Wars” and “Blade Runner”. Its appeal underscores growing fascination with games that have become increasingly cinematic, complete with nuanced acting, storytelling involving moral dilemmas and big-budget, multi-year evolving storylines. — AFP

Kindergarten conduct problems may cost society later: Study

FOR the first time, a new economic analysis has linked kindergarten students’ conduct problems to large societal costs in terms of criminality, associated medical expenses, and lost productivity when they become adults. “Providing effective,

evidence-based programming designed to address behavioral problems early on has the potential to improve students’ wellbeing in the long term,” said project collaborator Damon Jones, associate research professor in the Edna Bennett

Pierce Prevention Research Centre (PRC). “This study implies that there could be an additional benefit of reduced need for government services and lower costs related to crime, where conduct problems are reduced.” — ANI

Berlin techno clubs under threat from motorway expansion

THE Autobahn may have been beloved by the band Kraftwerk, but it has become the bugbear of the Berlin techno scene as a motorway expansion threatens to shut down several clubs in the German capital.

The planned extension of the A100 has also united clubbers with environmental campaigners, who argue it will contribute to the climate crisis.

The motorway, which runs a partial ring around central Berlin, is due to be extended north from Treptower Park across the Spree river towards nightlife hub Friedrichshain some time in the next few years.

The extension would threaten five popular nightspots in the area, according to the Berlin Club Commission, a network for the city’s clubs and cultural promoters.

They include About Blank, an industrial-style techno club next to Ostkreuz station, and Renate, a hub for the LGBTQ community in an unrenovated apartment block.

“These are clubs that have been here for the last 20-30 years... They’re what makes

Berlin famous and why people love it,” Lutz Leichsenring, a spokesman for the Club Commission, told AFP.

The Club Commission helped organise a protest rave in early September in a bid to whip up opposition to the plans. — AFP



Temporary stages along the planned A100 route blasted out techno as several thousand people held up placards and danced. PHOTO: AFP

ECONOMY WORLD



Honor's first foldable smartphone Magic V on display at a shop in Shanghai. PHOTO: WANG GANG/FOR CHINA DAILY

China aims to increase supply of high-end electronic devices

CHINA aims to increase the supply of high-end electronic devices to boost consumption and bolster the economy, according to a plan jointly issued by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and the Ministry of Finance.

China will strive to ensure 5G mobile phone shipments account for over 85 per cent of the domestic mobile phone market by 2024.

China's consumer electronics industry has witnessed stable growth in recent years.

Major computer, communications and electronic device manufacturers saw their profits reach 276.32 billion yuan (about 38.39 billion US dollars) in the first seven months of the year.

Output of mobile phones reached 810 million units during the period, including 593 million smartphones.

Consumer electronic devices are one of China's key export products. Stabilizing their exports is crucial to the development of the entire industry. — Xinhua

EU hits tech titans with tougher market restraints

THE European Union on Wednesday unveiled a list of digital giants — including Apple, Facebook owner Meta and TikTok parent ByteDance — that will face tough new curbs on how they do business, but the move could trigger a wave of legal battles.

Brussels is working through a dense legislative agenda to build tougher regulation of big tech, arguing it needs to protect

European consumers online and to encourage competition in an industry dominated by US giants.

The latest announcement is a milestone in the application of the Digital Markets Act (DMA), which will force the largest firms to change their ways under a checklist of dos and don'ts and, regulators hope, create a fairer market. Observers say the law could open a new battlefield be-

tween digital titans and the European Union as some companies consider legal challenges.

The European Commission, the EU's powerful antitrust body, named 22 "core platform" services belonging to five US tech behemoths identified as "gatekeepers": Google parent Alphabet, Amazon, Apple, Meta, Microsoft, and China's ByteDance. — AFP



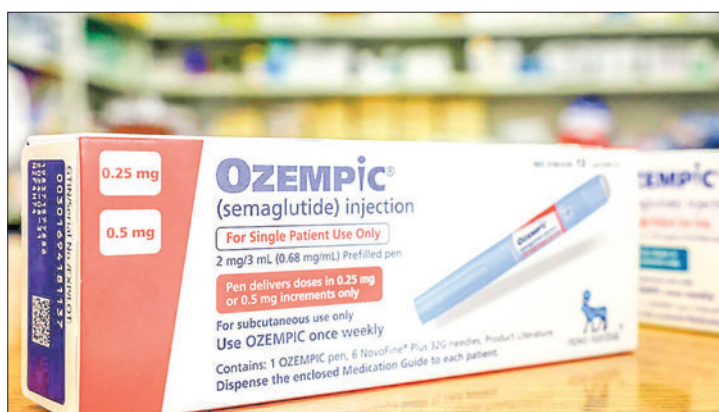
Brussels is working through a dense legislative agenda to build tougher regulation of big tech. PHOTO: AFP

Obesity drugs give Danish economy a major boost

MASSIVE demand for diabetes and weight loss drugs made by Danish pharmaceutical group Novo Nordisk have turned it into Europe's most valuable company, giving Denmark's economy a major makeover.

"If it wasn't for Novo Nordisk there wouldn't have been any growth" in the first six months of the year, Danske Bank chief economist Las Olsen told AFP.

The company's earnings have ballooned thanks to two in-demand prescription medications: type 2 diabetes drug Ozempic — made famous by US celebrities for its weight loss side effects — and obesity drug Wegovy.



Novo Nordisk's market capitalization has soared to 2.98 trillion kroner (\$429 billion). PHOTO: MARIO TAMA /AFP

In the first half of 2023, Denmark's economy grew by 1.7 per cent year-on-year, official data showed.

Excluding the pharma in-

dustry, it shrank by 0.3 per cent.

"We've never seen anything like it, it's changing the picture of the economy," said Statistics Denmark analyst

Jonas Petersen.

Industrial production in Denmark "is up 40 per cent compared to pre-pandemic levels," noted Palle Sorensen, chief economist at Nykredit bank.

By comparison, "in the eurozone in general and in the US it's pretty much at the same level as before the pandemic," he said.

That "also means that the recovery from the pandemic has been stronger."

The Novo Nordisk effect is seen in the state's coffers — the company is the country's biggest taxpayer — as well as in Denmark's trade balance and employment figures. — AFP

Erdogan pledges support for higher interest rates

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Wednesday confirmed a major policy reversal by backing his new economic team's decision to drastically hike interest rates to fight runaway inflation.

Erdogan has been a lifelong opponent of high borrowing costs and pushed past central bank governors to fight inflation with lower interest rates.

Conventional economics says high interest rates help bring down prices by tamping down demand and raising the cost of doing business. Analysts believe that Erdogan's past policies helped spark a currency crisis that saw annual inflation hit 85 per cent last year. — AFP

German factory orders plummet in July



Employees manufacture the cooling unit for an air-to-water heat pump at the headquarters of the heating technology company Vaillant Group in Remscheid, Germany, on 20 July 2023. PHOTO: INA FASSBENDER/AFP

GERMAN factory orders fell more than expected in July, official data showed Wednesday, in the latest setback for Europe's largest economy as it grapples with

an industrial slowdown. New orders, closely watched as a sign of future economic activity, plummeted by 11.7 per cent compared with the previous month, federal

statistics agency Destatis said.

The steep fall was mainly down to the comparison with June, Destatis said, when the indicator leapt by a sur-

prising 7.6 per cent on the back of several large orders including a major one in the aerospace sector.

Analysts surveyed by financial data firm FactSet had expected a smaller July decline of 3.5 per cent.

Excluding large-scale orders, industrial orders would have risen by 0.3 per cent in July, Destatis noted.

The monthly data "fluctuates strongly due to large orders", the economy ministry said in a statement.

"However, in view of the gloomy business climate and the weak global economy" there was no indication of "a sustained revival of industrial activity", it added. — AFP

Spain says to remain vigilant over STC-Telefonica tieup

SPAIN said Wednesday it would keep watch to ensure the "strategic autonomy" of Telefonica after Saudi Telecom (STC) acquired a significant stake in the Spanish telco giant, becoming its largest shareholder.

In an announcement late Tuesday, STC said it had paid 2.1 billion euros (\$2.25 billion) for a 9.9 per cent share in Telefonica which has a strong presence in Latin America and the United Kingdom.

"Telefonica is not just a flagship company but a strategic operator and the government is going to be vigilant to ensure Spain's strategic autonomy," government spokeswoman Isabel Rodriguez said.

Speaking to reporters in Brussels, Economy

Minister Nadia Calvino said the government had in recent years "strengthened" the mechanisms to protect its "strategic sectors" and pledged to apply "all necessary measures" to defend its interests.

STC said the move would allow it to benefit from the "potential" offered by Telefonica's "unique portfolio of best-in-class infrastructure assets" while insisting it did "not intend to acquire control or a majority stake" in the company.

Any foreign investor seeking to acquire a stake of 10 per cent or more in a strategic Spanish company must first seek Madrid's approval in a measure approved in 2020 to protect struggling firms during the pandemic. — AFP

Toyota to offer Century SUV in bid to win more wealthy customers

TOYOTA Motor Corp said Wednesday that it has added a sport utility vehicle model to its most luxurious brand, Century, as part of efforts to expand its line-up of premium cars to tap into the demand of

wealthy customers. The new model of the chauffeur-driven vehicle, only offered as a plug-in hybrid car, is priced from 25 million yen (\$169,623) onwards, about five million yen higher than the exist-

ing sedan model, making it the most expensive domestically mass-produced car at Toyota. The Century sedans have been used by many VIPs in Japan, such as royal families, top politicians and corporate

executives. The new model has fully reclining rear seats, an improved audio system and rear doors that open 75 degrees to ensure ease of entry and exit, according to Toyota. — Kyodo



Telefonica, SA is a Spanish multinational telecommunications company headquartered in Madrid, Spain. PHOTO: AFP

MYANMA Port Authority "NOTICE of High Tide"

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 19.98 feet to 20.37 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of September 15th to September 20th, 2023. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC ANDALAS VOY.NO. (336W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCC ANDALAS VOY.NO. (336W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-9-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC CHENMING VOY.NO. (2312S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC CHENMING VOY.NO. (2312S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-9-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

US Texas starts impeachment trial of attorney-general over corruption

THE Senate of the south-central US state of Texas on Tuesday began an impeachment trial of suspended state Attorney-General Ken Paxton, a Republican, over yearslong charges including corruption, lawbreaking and power abusing.

Lawyers representing the state House impeachment team have released 4,000 pages of evidence that they plan to present at the trial. The Senate has agreed to consider 16 of the original 20 articles of impeachment.

Paxton, 60, who has served as Texas attorney-general since 2015, pleaded not guilty to all the articles on Tuesday morning. His attorneys filed about a dozen of

motions aimed to dismiss the articles or exclude evidence from being considered but have all failed.

Republican Lt Governor Dan Patrick, who was presiding over the trial and alone decides procedural matters, decided that Paxton could not be forced to appear as a witness at his own trial.

More than 100 people have received subpoenas to testify, local media reported.

The trial has become a political spectacle drawing attention nationwide and is widely expected to shake Texas politics, especially among the hard-right leadership of the state's Republican Party. — Xinhua



People talk as they wait for an impeachment trial of suspended state Attorney-General Ken Paxton over yearslong charges in Austin, Texas, the United States, on 5 September 2023. PHOTO: CHENGYUE LAO/XINHUA

Border gunfight shuts crossing between Afghanistan and Pakistan

A gun battle erupted Wednesday between Pakistan and Afghan border forces, officials said, with each side blaming the other for starting the fire-fight that shut their busiest trade crossing.

Afghanistan and Pakistan have had frosty relations since the Taliban returned to power in Kabul two years ago, with Islamabad accusing its neighbour of harbouring militants carrying out strikes on its soil.

Diplomatic tensions have

been stoked by frequent flare-ups along their mostly mountainous border, which Kabul has long disputed, including sporadic gunfights and crossing closures.

"Afghan forces tried to establish a check post in an area where it is agreed... that both sides will not establish a check post," said Pakistan local administration official Irshad Mohmand, who also said the crossing remains closed. — AFP

Chinese premier says opposing new Cold War essential

Emphasizing that facing problems head-on is essential for finding solutions and that avoiding or ignoring issues will only exacerbate the situation.



China's Premier Li Qiang (R) said it was essential 'to oppose a new Cold War'. PHOTO: POOL/AFP

CHINESE Premier Li Qiang said on Wednesday that it is essential to oppose a new Cold War and make sure disputes are properly handled among countries.

"While we remain steadfast in seeking common ground based on the commonalities, we shall have nothing to fear about the differences, and we

will be able to find the right way to resolve them," Li said in his opening remarks addressing the 26th ASEAN Plus Three Summit. "To keep differences under control, what is essential now is to oppose picking sides, oppose bloc confrontation, and oppose a new Cold War and to ensure that disagreements and disputes among countries are

properly handled," Li said.

Disagreements and disputes may arise between countries due to misperceptions, diverging interests or external interferences, said the Chinese premier. Whatever the cause, it is vital to face the issue squarely, remove misunderstandings and keep the differences in check, he noted. — Xinhua

Denmark to double drug penalties in capital's 'Pusher Street'

DENMARK wants to double the penalties for drug dealing in the libertarian enclave of Christiania in the capital Copenhagen, after the latest drugs-related killing there, the justice minister said Wednesday.

The government will pass laws allowing the police to apply tougher penalties in the community's main avenue, which has become known as "Pusher Street", Justice Minister Peter Hummelgaard told reporters.

He was speaking less than two weeks after a 30-year-old man with ties to organized

crime was shot dead in Christiania, the fourth such killing since 2020.

Residents of the community, set up by a band of hippies

in 1971, have said they want to close down the drug dealing there and have appealed to the Danish authorities for help. — AFP



In Christiania, soft drugs are officially illegal but tolerated, which has led to problems with criminal gangs. PHOTO: EMIL HELMS/AFP

SPORTS

Chelsea defender Colwill looks to cap 'amazing year' with England debut

CHELSEA defender Levi Colwill said Wednesday he hopes to add to an already "amazing year" by making his England debut.

Colwill is in England's squad for their Euro 2024 qualifier against Ukraine in Wroclaw in Poland on Saturday and a friendly against Scotland to mark the 150th anniversary of football's oldest international fixture in Glasgow on 12 September.

Colwill enjoyed a successful season-long loan spell at Brighton before featuring for the England Under-21 side that became European champions.

He has since returned to Stamford Bridge, with the 20-year-old an ever-present under new Blues manager Mauricio Pochettino.

"It has been an amazing year," Colwill told a news conference on Wednesday as he praised Pochettino's impact upon his career.

"I think the big thing for me was the first day I came in, him just putting an arm around me and showing me that he respects me as a person and also a player," he said of the Argentinian. — AFP



Japanese midfielder Miyazawa scored five goals in Australia and New Zealand as her team reached the quarter-finals. PHOTO: AFP

Women's Golden Boot winner Miyazawa joins Manchester United

MANCHESTER United have signed Women's World Cup top scorer Hinata Miyazawa, the club said Wednesday.

Japanese midfielder Miyazawa scored five goals in Australia and New Zealand as her team reached the quarter-finals, before losing to Sweden.

She was the first non-European player to win the Golden Boot at the tournament.

The 23-year-old last played for MyNavi Sendai, who finished fourth in Japan's WE League last season.

"I am truly very happy to be part of this wonderful family and this great team," Miyazawa said in a statement released by the club. "I am really looking forward to getting started and hope my style of play will excite our fans."

United coach Marc Skin-

ner said Miyazawa had "proven her qualities at the highest level".

"As her Golden Boot win at this summer's Women's World Cup has shown, she will excite our fantastic fans with her direct style of play and her ability to find the most dangerous spaces. "We cannot wait to see her develop even further within our playing squad." — AFP

Olympic chief Bach 'confident' for Seine swimming at 2024 Games



IOC president Thomas Bach (L) and Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo on the quays of the Seine River in Paris on 25 July, 2023. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

OLYMPIC chief Thomas Bach said Wednesday he was "confident" and "optimistic" swimming events in Paris's Seine River will go ahead at the 2024 Games despite recent cancellations due to pollution.

"We still have one year before the Olympic Games, everyone is working on this challenge and I'm very confident that at the time of the Olympic Games, it will be a huge success, which will benefit the entire population," Bach said after inaugurating sports facilities in Vitry-le-Francois in northeastern France.

"We mustn't forget that for a very long time swimming in the Seine was banned," he continued.

"If with these Games, Parisians return to the Seine, also for leisure and for swimming, it's a huge project and I'm optimistic that we're going to achieve a good result."

In recent weeks, test events planned in the Seine could not take place due to excessive E coli bacteria in the water.

An open water swim race was cancelled, while a triathlon was transformed into a duathlon only involving cycling and running.

A triathlon has never been converted into a duathlon at an Olympics since the sport was added to the programme in 2000.

Asked about such a possibility next year, the IOC president insisted: "During the Games, the Olympic programme is triathlon!" — AFP

Myanmar wins gold in 55th Asian Bodybuilding & Physique Sports Championship



Bodybuilders including Myanmar's Nyein Chan with gold medal are seen cheering with their medals during the 55th Asian Bodybuilding & Physique Sports Championship. PHOTO: BALA SOE

MYANMAR bodybuilders won one gold, two silver and one bronze medals in the 55th Asian Bodybuilding & Physique Sports Championships, held in Kathmandu, Nepal on 4 and 5 September.

Nyein Chan secured one gold medal for Myanmar in the Men's Sports Physique (up to 175 centimetres) event while Hein Htet Zaw picked one silver in the Under-21 (75 kilogrammes) event.

Next, Ye Htun Naung garnered one silver medal in the 70-kg event and Aye Thanda Khaing earned one bronze medal in the Senior Women's Athletic Physique (up to 165 cm) event.

In the Senior Women's Model Physique (up to 160 cm) event, Mi Mi Kyaw Naing gained the fourth place while Pyae Phyo made another fourth for the Men's 55-kg event and Maung Maung Myint stood as fifth in the Men's 65-kg category. — Bala Soe/KZL





Russian servicemen prepare a BM-21 Grad multiple rocket launcher before firing in the course of Russia's military operation in Ukraine, in Kherson region territory, that has accessed Russia. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

Philippines struggling to tame soaring rice prices

RICE is essential on Filipino dining tables, serving as the canvas for countless culinary creations and traditions. However, the recent surge in rice prices has been nothing short of a crisis for the Southeast Asian country.

Cris Espiritusanto, a Filipino housewife with four children living in Laguna province, is feeling the pinch of spiraling rice prices. "We can not afford rice priced at more than 50 pesos (0.88 US dollars) a kilo," she told Xinhua.

In the Philippines, the price of rice has sharply increased over the past weeks, rice inflation increased to 8.7 per cent in August from 4.2 per cent in July. Some officials blamed the skyrocketing rise on hoarders who create an artificial shortage and speculative business in the market.

"This implies that some are manipulating the expected impact of the El Nino dry spell to depict a shortage at this time," National Economic and Development Authority Secretary Arsenio Balisacan told reporters.

The cabinet's economy official also attributed the rise to the expected reduction in rice production due to El Nino and an export ban recently imposed by major exporters which led to higher international rice prices. — Xinhua

Kremlin on Blinken's Kyiv visit: US to keep propping up Ukraine no matter what cost

Kremlin Spokesman Peskov mentioned that this assistance from the US is unlikely to change the outcome of the ongoing military operation in Ukraine.

THE United States is planning to keep backing Kyiv in a state of war down to the last Ukrainian regardless of the cost, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Wednesday, commenting on today's unannounced visit of US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to Kyiv.

Blinken arrived in Kyiv for an official visit earlier in the day, according Ukrain-

ian media reports. The US broadcaster, in turn, reported, citing a senior US State Department official, that Blinken is expected to announce over \$1 billion in further aid to Ukraine. According to another UK media outlet, he seeks to discuss Kyiv's controversial counteroffensive and assess measures to improve energy security.

"We have repeatedly heard state-

ments that they [Americans] intend to continue to help Kyiv as much as necessary. In other words, they are going to continue to support Ukraine in a de-facto state of war and wage this war to the last Ukrainian, sparing no money for it," Peskov told reporters, adding that this assistance will not be able to affect the course of the special military operation.

— SPUTNIK

Iran, Saudi Arabia exchange ambassadors after years of divisions

In March, regional powers agreed to reopen their embassies with China's mediation, catching Israel off guard as it had been pursuing a normalization deal with Saudi Arabia to isolate Iran.

IRAN and Saudi Arabia posted ambassadors to their respective diplomatic missions on Tuesday in a sign of warming relations that follow seven years of bitter rivalry.

Iranian Ambassador Alireza Enayati and Saudi Ambassador Abdullah bin Saudi Al-Enzi arrived, respectively, in Riyadh and Tehran, elevating ties between their countries to the ambassadorial level, the state news agencies of the two countries reported.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry said

over the weekend that Ambassador Enayati was hosted by Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian before his departure for Riyadh for talks about his vision of future ties between the two countries.

The regional powers reached a China-brokered agreement in March to reopen their embassies. The move blindsided Israel, which has been seeking a normalization pact of its own with Saudi Arabia in an effort to isolate its arch-rival Iran. — SPUTNIK



Wang Yi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee, presides over the closing meeting of the talks between a Saudi delegation and an Iranian delegation in Beijing, capital of China, 10 March 2023. PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE