

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Captivating panoramic view of the Myanansankyaw Golden Palace.

Restoration of Myanansankyaw Golden Palace nears completion

THE general renovation works on the Myanansankyaw Golden Palace are underway using K135.977 million in 2023-2024FY, and now the operations are nearly completed, according to U Aung Aung Kyaw, Director of the Archaeology and National Museum Department (Admin).

The palace restoration works are

being carried out with K135.977 million of the allocated budgets for this financial year and almost all the works are nearly completed by the end of August. Moreover, it uses K5.000 million funds for greening the area of wooden walls.

“About 30 types of general renovation works on Myanansankyaw Golden Palace

SEE PAGE-3

Thailand’s top trading partner with Myanmar among regional countries

THE bilateral trade with neighbouring Thailand, Myanmar’s major trading partner among ASEAN, amounted to US\$2.38 billion in the past five months (April-August) of the current financial year 2023-2024 by sea and at the border, the Ministry of Commerce’s statistics indicated.

The ministry’s statistics showed that exports surpassed imports in trade with

Thailand, with exports worth over \$1.598 billion and imports valued at over \$785 million.

Thailand has been Myanmar’s largest trade partner among the regional countries, followed by Singapore and Malaysia.

Exports of natural gas from the Taninthayi Region contributed to the enormous increase in border trade with Thailand in the previous years. Last year, corn exports

to Thailand also rose significantly, the Ministry of Commerce stated.

Myanmar exports natural gas, fishery products, coal, coconut (fresh and dry), beans, corn, bamboo shoots, sesame seeds, garments, footwear, plywood and veneer, broken rice and other commodities to Thailand. It imports capital goods such as machinery, raw industrial goods such as cement and fertilizers, and consumer goods such as cosmetics, edible vegetable oil and food products from the neighbouring country.

Myanmar is carrying out border trade with the neighbouring country Thailand through the Tachilek, Myawady, Myeik, Mawtaung, Hteekhee, Kawthoung and Maese land borders respectively.

Apart from its main trade partner China, Myanmar’s external trade was mostly carried out with the regional trade partners. — KK



Lorries are parking for loading and discharging at the Myawady Trade Zone on the Myanmar-Thai border.

CURRENT AFFAIRS PAGE-6

Myanmar’s registered private industries exceed 46,000 mark



LOCAL BUSINESS PAGE-7

Myanmar’s manufacturing sector attracts FDI surpassing US\$63.5 mln in April-August



NATIONAL

Message by Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Union Minister for Home Affairs and Chairperson of Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons

To Eleventh Myanmar's Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day

13 September 2023

THE 13th of September has been marked as Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day of Myanmar since 2013 with the aim to combat trafficking in persons as a national responsibility and to encourage the participation of the entire nation. Today is the 11th Anniversary of Myanmar's Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day.

Human trafficking is a humanitarian challenge that not only poses a serious threat to the human rights and dignity of individuals but also creates negative impacts on societies. Human trafficking remains to be a serious violation of human rights, with traffickers taking advantage of those who are in difficult and vulnerable situations. Nowadays, countries around the world have recognized the problem of human trafficking as a form of transnational crime. Although efforts have been made to prevent trafficking in persons through various means, the cases of trafficking in persons are still increasing.

Myanmar has ratified the 2000 United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNCTOC) and its protocols; the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air on 30 March 2004. Myanmar has also ratified the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (ACTIP) on 6 January 2017.

Moreover, the cooperative mechanisms of Myanmar on anti-trafficking persons have been enhanced by signing the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation against Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region (COMMIT MoU) together with the countries in the Mekong region which includes Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam on 30 March 2004. Myanmar has also signed the bilateral MoUs on Anti-Trafficking in Persons with neighbouring countries such

as China, Thailand, Laos and India. Myanmar has been actively participating in ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), and Bali Process and Bay of Bengal Initiative on Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) with the aim to combat transnational crimes including trafficking in persons.

With regard to the prevention, protection and prosecution of trafficking in persons, the Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons (CBTIP) has been taking the lead in developing and implementing the Five-year National Plans of Action with the participation of the relevant ministries. The 2023 Annual Work Plan under the Fourth Five-year National Plan of Action (2022-2026) has already been developed and the Work Plan is currently being implemented in harmony.

Every year, Myanmar nationals are being trafficked for forced labour, sexual exploitation, and forced marriage either in domestic or in neighbouring countries and other countries. The push factors for people to migrate legally or illegally to work in other countries include limited job opportunities with low income in the country. Consequently, the migrated workers are subjected to labour exploitation and sexual exploitation due to the inducements of the brokers or illegal migration to countries with no valid bilateral agreements on sending workers. Myanmar is currently facing the issues of forced labour associated with online fraud, and such cases involve citizens from other countries both in the form of perpetrators and victims. Thus efforts are being made to fight against these new phenomena.

Regarding the awareness-raising activities on anti-trafficking in persons and on the risks of human trafficking, preventive activities such as distributing pamphlets, erecting billboards and posters, conducting training and talks, broadcasting educational stories through multi-media, and putting stickers

on the passenger buses and at the highway bus stations; and sending public information via SMS through telephone operators are being carried out.

In order to timely rescue the trafficked victims, 24-hour hotline phones are being operated in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Muse, and timely identification of cases of trafficking in persons, taking actions and rescues are being carried out. In addition, sharing information and educating migrant workers and their families are also conducted through the opening of Migrant Resource Centres.

As protection measures, in accordance with "National Standard Operating Procedures on Return/Repatriation, Reintegration and Rehabilitation of Victims of Trafficking in Persons", providing travel expenses, medical care and food for victims of trafficking, and supporting individual needs for rehabilitation are being implemented. Providing basic needs and physical and mental care, are also being performed while temporarily receiving the victims of trafficking in persons in the shelters in Myawaddy, Muse, Kawthoung, Mandalay and Yangon in cooperation with the relevant ministries.

The four sectors of the Fourth Five-year National Plan of Action (2022-2026) that is being implemented to fight against trafficking in persons, such as 23 activities in the Policy and Cooperation Sector; 16 activities in the Prevention Sector; 20 activities in the Prosecution Sector; 25 activities in the Protection Sector must be implemented effectively and successfully in a balanced manner.

Nowadays, in line with the theme of the 11th Myanmar's Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day (2023), which is "Reach every victim of trafficking, leave no one behind", it is believed that trafficking in persons can be reduced and controlled by victim-centred investigation, identification of victims of trafficking in persons, and providing full protection for the victims of trafficking in persons.

COVID-19 report, 12 September 2023	NEW TESTS	NEW CASES	CASUALTIES
	5,611	2	0

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

SAC Member visits Bhamo General Hospital



State Administration Council Member Daw Dwe Bu tours round and encourages patients at Bhamo General Hospital in Kachin State.

SAC Member Daw Dwe Bu, accompanied by State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan, Kachin state ministers, and officials, held meetings at Bhamo City Hall yesterday. Daw Dwe Bu discussed the SAC's efforts for national development, food security, and support for MSME businesses. She emphasized the

importance of internal peace, the rule of law, and the successful conduct of democratic elections.

In the afternoon, they visited Bhamo University, awarded prizes for student paintings, and reviewed students' artwork. Later, they met university officials and fulfilled their needs.

The SAC member and delegation also visited Bhamo General Hospital, where they met healthcare personnel, including the hospital superintendent. They offered support and encouragement to children and mothers in the hospital's paediatric ward, providing financial assistance and nutritious food. — MNA/KZW

Restoration of Myanansankyaw Golden ...

FROM PAGE-1

are being conducted during the 2023-2024 financial year and almost all the works are nearly completed by the end of August. The completed operations are repairing of floors in the southern part of the palace, painting of concrete poles in Baungdaw Saung, lighting system of the Satawun building, installation of apparent bronze plates in the palace, greening works in the palace compound, and other works are completed about 90 per cent or 50 per cent," he said.

It also completes about 90 per cent of the excavation of buildings, 25 per cent of replacing lacquered ropes on concrete posts at Myaynan Pyathat (main hall), 25 per cent of replacing wooden decking at the main hall, left-wing hall and right-wing hall, 60 per cent of installation of glass frame at Bamara Throne and highchair to step on the throne, 55 per cent for further exploring of things of King to display at King's bed chamber, 25 per cent of repairing of the floor at South Dawe Hall, 50 per cent of repairing of brick pavement according to photo records of 1904, 25 per cent of installation of ancient style roof scuppers at tea hall and 55 per cent to place the litter in original

size and photo records at the main hall.

The palace features the artworks of the late Konbaung and Yadanabon era. King Mindon ascended the throne on 17 February 1853 at Amarapura Palace and moved to the palace on 27 February 1857. In building the new palace, all the palace buildings from Amarapura were reassembled except the new Hmannan Saung. The construction started on 2 March 1858 and it included 114 buildings.

The palace was destroyed in the Second World War in 1945 and currently, there is only a wall of the meeting hall and the foundation of the palace. The State Law and Order Restoration Council renovated the palace in its original style. There are eight throne halls in the palace; Lion Throne Hall (Thihathana Palin) at Myaynan Pyathat, Elephant Throne Hall (Gajapana Palin) at Byai-Taik, Brahminy Duck Throne (Hsam Palin) at Zetawun, Royal Headgears Hall or Khayuthin Hall (Conch Hall) at Lay Tharhsaung, Bamarathana Throne Hall at Hmananhsaung, Marura Palinhsaung (Peacock Throne Hall) to the north, Miga Palinhsaung (Deer Throne Hall) to the south and Lotus Throne Hall to the west. — ASH/KTZH

SAC member attends Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts competition in Kayah State

THE 24th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition commenced with an opening ceremony at Loikaw, Kayah State. State Administration Council Member Porel Aung Thein, along with the state chief minister and regional command commander, inaugurated the event. Kayah State Chief Minister U Zaw Myo Tin delivered the opening speech.

During the ceremony, the SAC member and the state chief minister supported participating dance troupes and greeted competing teams. They also met competition judges, urging a systematic selection of contestants for the Union-level competition.

This state-level event, running from 12 to 14 September, features 369 contestants competing for prestigious prizes in various categories. Additionally, contributions were made to a local monastery for new building projects. The SAC member later addressed teachers at the Agricultural and Livestock High School, inspecting student learning conditions and ongoing construction projects.

In the afternoon, the SAC member and state chief minister met the board of trustees of Kae Hto Bo and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Htaythama village, providing financial support to both groups. — MNA/KZW



State Administration Council Member Porel Aung Thein cordially greets competing teams at the opening event yesterday in Loikaw, Kayah State.

NATIONAL

SAC members meet Lashio officials, elders, and business associations

STATE Administration Council Members U Shwe Kyein and U Yan Kyaw met the state, district, and township-level departmental officials, town elders, ethnic literature and culture associations and business people in Lashio yesterday.

During the meeting, SAC Member U Shwe Kyein talked about the role of education in shaping the future of the youths, measures to ensure human resources for the country, efforts of the government to enhance production based on agriculture and livestock and the crucial role of education and health sectors in promoting the socioeconomic status.



SAC Members U Shwe Kyein and U Yan Kyaw hold the public meeting in Lashio yesterday.

Then, SAC Member U Yan Kyaw highlighted the matters related to the emergence of in-

tellectuals and educated persons in regional development, education, health, social, economic and

nation-building tasks. After the meeting, they paid homage to Presiding Sayadaw Dr Bhaddan-

ta Punya Nanda of Mansu Shan Monastery and donated offerings and cash. — MNA/KTZH

UEC delegation returns from Russia following cooperation talks

CHAIRMAN U Thein Soe of the Union Election Commission (UEC) led a delegation to Russia from 6 to 12 September, at the invitation of the Chairman of the Russian Central Election Commission. Upon their return to Yangon yesterday, they were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Attorney-General U Htay Aung and officials from the Union Election Commission and the Yangon Region Election Commission branch office.

During the trip, on 7 September, the UEC delegation

signed a memorandum of understanding for cooperation in election activities with the Russian Central Election Commission in Moscow. Subsequent days included discussions on operational methods, a visit to the Central Election Commission's information centre, and a tour of Moscow and its surrounding regions to study local election processes.

The discussions during the visit encompassed various topics, including strengthening relations with Russia, voter education, effective media uti-

lization, transparent election processes, and the exchange of expertise between the two countries through the signed memorandum of understanding. The delegation also explored Russia's election methods, conditions for conducting elections, campaign procedures, and cultural aspects.

Chairman Ella Pamfilova of the Russian Central Election Commission extended an invitation to Chairman U Thein Soe to observe the Russian presidential election scheduled for March 2024. — MNA/TS



UEC Chair U Thein Soe and Myanmar delegates are seen during the working tours in the Russian Federation.

Myanmar delegation led by DPM MoFA Union Minister leaves for Russian Federation, Republic of Belarus



Deputy Premier MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe is pictured before departing for the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus.

AT the invitations of Mr Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and Mr Sergei Aleinik, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, a Myanmar delegation led by U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs left the Mandalay International Airport by the Myanmar Airways International (MAI) flight to Novosi-

birsk, the Russian Federation in the evening of 12 September 2023. The Myanmar delegation will be paying working visits to the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus from 12 to 17 September 2023.

The Myanmar delegation was seen off at the Mandalay International Airport by officials concerned of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

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THE number of cases of human trafficking is on the rise in Asian countries and Myanmar is also one of these countries facing the same case.

Trafficking in persons includes internal trafficking as well as forced into domestic labour, prostitution or marriage, child trafficking and debt bondage in addition to new forms of trafficking like surrogate motherhood that emerged in 2018.

There are different types of human trafficking, most of the women and girls are being trafficked for exploitation: forced into domestic labour, prostitution or marriage while men are slaves away at fishing net floats, casinos and other illegal workplaces. Seven Myanmar women trafficked to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) were rescued and repatriated to Myanmar with cooperation between the two countries' police forces last year.

Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law

The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, a State Administration Council Law No 41/2022 was enacted on 16 June 2022. Myanmar signed the subsequent treaty of the UN Convention against



Telecommunication fraudsters are pictured being nabbed by Myanmar Police Force in cooperation with Chinese Police Force in September.

transnational organized crimes, human trafficking and human smuggling. Similarly, the country ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Children, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Forced Labour Convention and the UN Convention against Corruption.

Moreover, the Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Trafficking Task Force were organized and it also set a five-year plan for trafficking in persons under the Anti-Trafficking in Person

Human trafficking, cybercrimes, traps on the Internet

By TWA

Law. Currently, it also organizes community-based anti-trafficking task forces to prevent and combat trafficking.

Online as a trap for trafficking

The Philippine police rescued more than 2,700 Filipino and foreign workers including Chinese, Vietnamese, Indonesian, and Myanmar who were allegedly trafficked into the country to work for an online casino from seven buildings in Las Piñas on 27 June.

Social media is a source tool for the new forms of human trafficking, cybercrime and scams and also an enabler of posting job offers and promising work opportunities for Myanmar citizens. Moreover, the young Myanmar boys and girls moved to the border towns in groups for employment faced fraud and were trafficked.

The leaders of ASEAN countries pledged to boost border control and law enforcement and expand awareness-raising campaigns on human trafficking as criminals increasingly use

social media and other online platforms to recruit and exploit victims.

In 2022, there was a case in which victims were persuaded into well-paid jobs by brokers online and sold to a criminal gang in a border town.

Awareness-raising activities, protection

As the world continues to transform digitally, Internet technologies are increasingly being used for the facilitation of trafficking in persons, the UNODC urged the use of the power of technology to prevent trafficking and detect and investigate trafficking networks. Myanmar also launches awareness-raising activities and protects young people from the most dangerous community engaging in human trafficking by cooperating with anti-trafficking organizations.

The country prevented 81 cases of human trafficking, helping 840 people - 468 males and 372 females in 2021. It also helped its nationals who were trafficked — six from China, and 25 from Cambodia, a total of 31, to commute back to the State within the third quarter of this year.

Myanmar citizens who fall into traps

“Regionally, Yangon Region and Shan State registers the highest cases, followed by Mandalay and Ayeyawady regions and Kachin State ranks third, among others,” a member of Anti-Trafficking Task Force told The Global New Light of Myanmar.

Most of the women are trafficked to China to be wives. The authorities arrested the traffick-



ers and the courts ordered punishment. The court sentenced two people to 20 years imprisonment with labour each for their involvement in trafficking five women to Chinese men offering K10 million as an incentive on 10 July under Section 38 (a) of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law.

“I agreed to go to China for a big incentive that we would get high salaries at the garment factories. The broker sent me to China through an illegal route. I took buses to get there and stayed at a female broker for two days. I had met with a Chinese man. I was forced to marry him and they didn't allow me to go out. Then, I asked Chinese police for help via Myanmar citizens on WeChat. I arrived back in Myanmar in 2019,” a 37-year-old woman who was sold as a bride to a Chinese man told The Global New Light of Myanmar.

Those migrating from place to place and facing a struggle for survival daily encounter the most dangerous situation, and lack of knowledge, high money expectations, trusting others easily, cutting corners and being a pliant person are the key points of human trafficking.

Tiger raft (bamboo fishing raft) to online gambling and casino

“The political instability leads to scarcity of job opportunities for the youths. Meanwhile, online financial frauds and online gambling businesses offer big incentives to recruit new staff and the youths apply for these jobs and are trafficked. They are forced to work as online scammers. The youths from our village are among these victims. Although we've heard men are

trafficked to work on bamboo fishing rafts, now, the people are trafficked in online gambling areas and casinos as a new type of human trafficking,” Ko Htay Win, Sagaing Region resident told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

Illegal online gambling and casinos are concentrated in the Thai-Myanmar border towns like Myawady and Shwe Kokko of Kayin State including Laukkai, Tongchain and Mongla of Northern Shan State. These areas are alleged hubs for fraud, human trafficking and drug trade.

Cross-border crimes to be combatted through cooperation

On 25 July, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Chen Hai stressed the need for collaborative action to address criminal activities operating along the China-Myanmar border in addition to the telecommunications fraud, particularly in the northern part of Myanmar and its border regions during the meeting with the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe in Nay Pyi Taw.

Similarly, Indonesia and Russia signed an extradition agreement on 31 March to strengthen cooperation against transnational crimes and the transfer of prisoners. It was signed by Indonesia's law minister Yasonna Laoly and Russia's justice minister Konstantin Chuychenko.

“This is very important as it helps us to deal with transnational crimes such as cybercrime, money laundering, drugs and corruption,” said Laoly.

Translated/KTZH

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Yangon market sees bustling trade of Chinese potato

THERE is a roaring trade of Chinese potatoes in the Yangon market, pushing up prices, a potato seller from Yetama Street in Bayintnaung Commodity Wholesale Centre told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

Onion trade was quite sluggish on Yetama Street on the morning of 11 September, while potatoes were seen being unloaded from trucks and carried with trailers to the depots.

The price of Chinese potatoes was K2,300 per viss on 11 September, whereas local potatoes from the Aungban

area fetched K1,500-2,000 per viss, said Ko Naing Lin, a seller.

The potato from Aungban is of low moisture content at present. So, its shelf life lasts longer than before. The large size of potato was priced at K2,800-2,900 per viss in the Aungban market.

To meet the domestic demand, there is a high influx of Chinese potatoes into the domestic market. However, the previously imported Chinese potatoes were perishable due to moisture content. The variety of Chinese potatoes that flowed into the Yangon market is of

medium size. The large size is rarely seen.

There is no direct import to the Yangon market. They are sent to Yangon via Mandalay with 12-wheel trucks with a load capacity of 10,000 tonnes. The freight rate is estimated at K105 per viss of potato from Mandalay to Yangon.

The essential goods are imported into the country and palm oil and potato are among them. A market observer pointed out that the potato plantation should be expanded to meet domestic needs and to reduce the capital outflow. — TWA/EM



Potato sacks are seen being loaded onto the pushcart at the market.



A worker is seen at the private industrial workplace.

Myanmar's registered private industries exceed 46,000 mark

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Industry, there are 46,003 registered private industries in the country.

As of the August 2023 financial year, there were up to 46,003 private industries, compared to only 43,211 private industries that were officially registered and operating in the financial year 2011-2012. Therefore, 2,792 registered private industries increased within the 12 financial years, according to the statistics of the ministry.

The lists of official business registration by states and regions indicated that there are 2,037 private industries

in Kachin State, 270 in Kayah State, 1,209 in Kayan State, 730 in Chin State, 4,833 in Sagaing Region, 1,988 in Taninthayi Region, 3,762 in Bago Region, 2,958 in Magway Region, 6,398 in Mandalay Region, 2,445 in Mon State, 1,283 in Rakhine State, 7,470 in Yangon Region, 4,580 in Shan State, 5,365 in Ayeyawady Region, and 675 in Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory.

Yangon Region boasts the highest number of officially registered private industries, followed by Mandalay Region and Ayeyawady Region as the second and third largest, respectively. — TWA/CT

Weekly update prices of Bayintnaung Commodity Market

Beans and Pulses

On 11 September, the price of black gram RC dropped to under K2.5 million per tonne. Meanwhile, pigeon peas (red gram) maintained the highest price of K4,150,000 for four days. On 12 September, the price of black gram was K2,470,000 per tonne for RC and K2,700,000 per tonne for SQ/RC. The price per tonne of pigeon peas (red gram) was K4,150,000. The price of Pakokku mung beans rose again to K2,915-K3,085 per viss, and that of the Kayan Shwewah variety was K3,500 per viss, while half of the chickpeas were priced at K5,900-K6,200 per viss.

Palm Oil

The wholesale reference price of palm oil from 11 to 17 September is K4,524 per viss, marking an increase of K364 compared to the previous week. The reference price rose above K4,500 per viss after four months of remaining below K4,500 per viss from 8 May to 10 September.

Rice

Four types of rice were sold at a lower price to consumers on 7 August, and depots have been selling palm oil at a reduced cost since 28 August. On 12 September, the price per bag of Shwebo Pawsan rice was K125,000, the Pawkywe rice variety was K96,000, the 90-day

rice variety was K72,000, and rice grown under multiple cropping was K69,000.

Chilli Pepper

On 12 September, in the Yangon chilli pepper market,

the prices of long chilli peppers from delta regions and Panye long chilli peppers were K9,000-K9,500 per viss and K9,500-K11,000 per viss, respectively, while bell peppers processed

in cold storage were valued at K14,000-K16,000 per viss.

Potato

The Yangon potato market only published the price of Chinese potatoes on 12 September, and the wholesale price of Chinese potatoes was K2,200-K2,250 per viss.

Onion/Garlic

On 12 September in the Yangon market, a viss of Kyukok garlic and Shan garlic was valued at K7,800.

A total of 120,000 visses of onions, including Seikphyu and Monywa varieties, entered the Yangon market on the same day, with a price range of K2,500 to K3,000 per viss. — TWA/CT



A retail outlet of dry goods.

LOCAL BUSINESS

E-commerce guide published for all online trade and services

An E-commerce guide has been published for all businesses selling goods and services over the Internet, including online shops.

THE Ministry of Commerce has issued an E-commerce guide for all businesses selling trade and services through the Internet, including online shops.

The guidelines state that all those who will be engaged in E-commerce business in Myanmar must register in the registration system managed by the Ministry of Commerce and must comply with the law specified by the relevant field.

In addition to this, E-commerce operators must disclose the methods and information to resolve any dispute regarding the address and phone number registered on the website or social network where they are selling goods.

Furthermore, sellers through the website must include a way to make a contract with the buyer and consumer, and sellers from social networks must also make a contract in some way.

Consumer protection has been included as a chapter in the guide, requiring sellers to clearly describe their goods and services.

Sellers are required to provide information on prices and taxes, as well as delivery and refunds, and if delivery takes more than 15 days beyond the agreed-upon date, the buyer may terminate the transaction and receive a full refund following the agreement.

It is forbidden to use the endorsement of people who are not actual users of the product. E-commerce operators must keep payment records for at least three years and provide them free of charge if requested by users. It is also instructed to provide such information if requested by the court or authorities.

There are 99 points in the guidelines for e-commerce businesses, which are rules to be followed based on disputes between buyers and sellers of goods and services.

These rules are issued for all methods of commerce, including payment systems for online businesses, advertising terms, copyright, fraudulent sales and fraudulent purchases, and consumer protection rules.

The E-commerce guidelines can be read on the official website of the Ministry of Commerce named www.commerce.gov.mm, as stated by the ministry. — ASH/KZL

Myanmar's manufacturing sector attracts FDI surpassing US\$63.5 mln in April-August



Myanmar's manufacturing sector is largely concentrated in garments and textiles produced on a cutting, making, and packing (CMP) basis. The picture depicts the manufacturing workplace.

MYANMAR'S manufacturing sector attracted more than US\$63.5 million from 26 enterprises in the past five months (Apr-Aug) of the current financial year 2023-2024, including capital expansion by the existing enterprises, as per the statistics released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Chinese companies primarily made investments in the manufacturing sector.

The Myanmar Investment Commission gave the go-ahead to 31 foreign projects from seven countries in the past five months, with an FDI of US\$484.155 million, including expansion of capital by the existing enterprises, and the power sector topped the FDI line-ups with \$317.178 million

from two enterprises.

The agriculture sector drew over \$2.5 million from three enterprises. The transport and communication sector saw a capital expansion of \$77.82 million. An increase of capital worth \$23 million was pumped into the livestock and fisheries sector as well.

The manufacturing enterprises that need a large labour force are prioritized to create job opportunities for the local community.

Myanmar's manufacturing sector is largely concentrated in garments and textiles produced on a cutting, making, and packing (CMP) basis, and it contributes to the country's GDP to a certain extent.

Following H&M Group phasing outsourcing from My-

anmar, the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) will accelerate its effort to keep improving Myanmar's garment sector, joining hands with international brands and partners, as per the MGMA's statement on its commitment released on 25 August.

The MGMA has implemented a Voluntary Labour Compliance Assessment (VLCA) from February 2020 to evaluate the compliance of the factories in line with the national labour laws and international labour standards. To beef up the assessments and expand enrolment, the online version was launched in November 2022. More than 220 factories have accomplished the assessment so far and over 100 are still under scrutiny. — KK



Officials look into new arrivals of E-bikes at the warehouse of Yangon Port yesterday.

Electric motorbikes arrive at Yangon Port

AIM electric motorbikes that were imported by Myanmar Arr Thit Man Motor Co Ltd, with the approval of the Steering Committee on National-Level Development of Electric Vehicles and Related

Industries, arrived at the Yangon Port yesterday, and they were allowed to be claimed as per procedures. The import of these motorbikes is exempted from Customs duties. — MNA/MKKS

OPINION

Eradicate human traffickers to save victims

GLOBAL economic crises have cast a shadow over the lives of people in developing countries, pushing them into the abyss of socioeconomic despair, unemployment, and poverty in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. Furthermore, the internal conflicts and instability plaguing certain regions have exacerbated the vulnerability of individuals, making them easy prey for human traffickers.

Despite Myanmar's efforts to collaborate with neighbouring nations in the fight against human trafficking, the country continues to grapple with a rising tide of such cases on its own soil. This surge can be attributed to the fact that many trafficking victims engage in illegal work in neighbouring countries.

Disturbingly, around 50 per cent of the victims of human trafficking are women and children. Among the reported cases, forced labour shows a staggering 61.11 per cent, followed by forced prostitution at 22.22 per cent, forced marriage at 11.11 per cent, and forced adoption at 5.56 per cent.

Myanmar has witnessed five major categories of human trafficking cases: forced marriages, forced prostitution, forced labour, child trafficking, and debt bondage. Human traffickers and brokers often deceive young Myanmar women into marriages, either with foreigners or fellow citizens, subjecting them to sexual exploitation and abuse. Similarly, some men endure forced labour and exploitation in industries such as fishing trawlers and tiger raft fishing.

Another grim reality is that citizens grappling with socioeconomic hardships often fall victim to systematic debt bondage, orchestrated by manipulative individuals who control every aspect of their lives. Shockingly, some unscrupulous individuals exploit social media to entice victims and sell them to obscure enterprises and criminal groups.

The root causes of human trafficking are closely tied to the demand for cheap labour in certain regional countries. Therefore, individuals seeking employment must be cautious when seeking work and ensure

their jobs provide a safe environment. Simultaneously, authorities must address poverty, job shortages, the rule of law, and internal conflicts to create conditions that can help people escape all forms of human trafficking.

Myanmar has observed 13 September as Myanmar Trafficking in Persons Day (TIP) since 2013. This annual event unites the government, civil society organizations, relevant UN agencies, international organizations, NGOs, INGOs, and the general public in their commitment to eradicating human trafficking. The government is actively working to strengthen cooperation and coordination among all stakeholders involved in the fight against human trafficking, acknowledging that only collective efforts can help eliminate this grave violation of human rights.

THE Internet has become an integral part of modern life. It has transformed the way we communicate, access information, and even live our daily lives. For younger generations, growing up with the internet has been the norm. They have never known a world without it. This article will explore what it means to grow up with the internet, the impact it has had on young people's lives, and the challenges that come with it.

The Internet has become a primary source of information for young people. They use it for school research, entertainment, and staying in touch with friends and family. With social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, young people can connect with people from all over the world. They can share pictures, videos, and updates about their lives. Social media has created a new form of communication and has changed the way young people interact with each other.

One of the most significant benefits of growing up with the internet is access to information. With a few clicks of a button, young people can access a wealth of knowledge on any subject. They can learn about different cultures, countries, and people. They can research topics for school projects, learn new skills, and explore their interests. The internet has opened up a world of possibilities and has given young people the tools they need to succeed in the future.

Another benefit of growing up with the internet is the ability to connect with people from all over the world. Young people can interact with people from different backgrounds and cultures. This has broadened their perspectives and helped them understand different viewpoints. They can collaborate on projects, exchange ideas, and learn from each other. The internet has also provided a platform for young people to express themselves creatively. They can

create content, share it with others, and receive feedback. However, growing up with the internet also has its challenges. One of the biggest challenges is the issue of online safety. Young people are vulnerable to online predators, cyberbullying, and exposure to inappropriate content. Parents and educators need to be vigilant in monitoring young people's internet use and providing guidance on how to stay safe online. Young people need to be educated about online safety and be encouraged to report any incidents of harassment or abuse.

Another challenge of growing up with the internet is the impact it has on mental health. Social media platforms can be a source of anxiety and depression for young people. They can feel pressure to present a perfect image of themselves online and compare themselves to others. This can lead to feelings of inadequacy and low self-esteem. Young people need to be mindful of their social media use and take breaks when needed. Parents and educators can also help by promoting positive self-image and encouraging healthy habits.

Growing up with the Internet has had a profound impact on young people's lives. It has opened up a world of possibilities and given them access to knowledge and information like never before. Social media platforms have created new ways of communicating and connecting with others. However, it is not without its challenges. Online safety and mental health are issues that need to be addressed to ensure young people can reap the benefits of the internet without any harm. As the internet continues to evolve, it is essential to educate young people about its potential and its risks. By doing so, we can help them navigate the digital world and thrive in the future.

Moreover, one can also learn "The Impact of Technology on Childhood and Adolescence" associated with my title.



The Cyber Generation with the Impact and Challenges to Grow Up Online

By Min Zan

The internet has revolutionized the way we live our lives. It has transformed the way we work, communicate, and access information. For many young people today, growing up with the internet is all they have ever known. They have grown up in a world where access to information and communication is instant and constant. But what impact has this had on their childhood and adolescence? Here, we will again explore how growing up with the Internet has affected young people, both positively and negatively.

Access to Information

One of the most significant advantages of the internet for young people is access to information.

The Internet has made it easy for children and adolescents to access a wealth of knowledge on any topic they are interested in. Whether it's for school research, learning a new skill, or pursuing a hobby, the internet provides a vast array of resources that were previously unavailable.

However, while access to information is undoubtedly a positive aspect of growing up with the Internet, it is important to recognize the potential dangers of the internet as well. With so much information available, it can be difficult to distinguish between credible sources and unreliable ones. Additionally, exposure to inappropriate content is a concern for parents and caregivers, particularly for

young children who may stumble upon explicit or disturbing material accidentally.

Social Connections

The internet has transformed the way young people connect. Social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat allow young people to stay connected with friends and family members across the globe. These platforms have also created new opportunities for young people to meet new people with similar interests and form online communities.

However, social media can also be a double-edged sword. While it can provide opportunities for connection and community, it can also exacerbate feelings

of loneliness and isolation. Young people may compare themselves to their peers on social media, which can lead to feelings of inadequacy and low self-esteem. Social media can also be a breeding ground for cyberbullying and other forms of online harassment.

Mental Health

Growing up with the Internet has also had a significant impact on young people's mental health. While the internet has provided a wealth of resources for mental health support, it has also created new challenges for young people.

One of the most significant challenges is the constant need for validation and affirmation that social media can create. Young

people may feel pressure to present a certain image or persona online, which can be exhausting and emotionally draining.

Additionally, the Internet has made it easier for young people to access harmful content, such as self-harm or pro-anorexia websites. Exposure to this content can hurt young people's mental health, particularly if they are already struggling with mental health issues.

Screen Time

One of the most contentious issues surrounding growing up with the Internet is the amount of time young people spend in front of screens. With the Internet available on smartphones, tablets, and computers, it can be challenging to set boundaries around screen time. Excessive screen time has been linked to a range of negative health outcomes, including obesity, poor sleep, and decreased physical activity.

However, it is important to recognize that not all screen time is equal. While mindlessly scrolling through social media or playing video games for hours on end can be detrimental to young people's health, engaging in educational or creative activities online can be beneficial.

Parental Involvement

Finally, it is essential to consider the role of parents and caregivers in supporting young people's use of the Internet. While the Internet can provide a wealth of opportunities for young people, parents and caregivers must play an active role in monitoring their online activities and setting appropriate boundaries which can include limits on screen time, monitoring online interactions, and discussing online safety with young people.

In conclusion, the internet has woven itself into the very fabric of our modern lives, shaping the experiences of young people in

ARTICLE

profound ways. Growing up with the internet has been a journey marked by boundless opportunities and formidable challenges.

On the positive side, the internet has democratized knowledge, offering young minds access to a world of information at the click of a button. It has fostered global connections, allowing them to transcend geographical boundaries and embrace diverse perspectives. Moreover, it has provided a creative canvas for self-expression, enabling young people to share their talents and thoughts with a global audience.

However, this digital journey is not without its hazards. Online safety remains a paramount concern, as young people navigate the treacherous waters of cyberbullying and exposure to harmful content. The pressure to craft a flawless online persona can strain their mental well-being, creating a constant need for validation and potentially exacerbating issues of self-esteem.

As screens become ever-present in their lives, striking a balance between productive engagement and excessive screen time remains a critical challenge. Here, the role of vigilant parents and caregivers cannot be overstated, as they guide their young charges through the digital landscape, setting boundaries, and fostering safe and responsible internet use.

In the end, the impact of growing up with the Internet is a complex tapestry of opportunities and challenges. As we move forward in this digital age, it is crucial to equip young people with the knowledge, skills, and resilience needed to harness the Internet's potential while safeguarding their well-being. By doing so, we can ensure that the generation that has come of age in the digital era is prepared to thrive in the ever-evolving landscape of the Internet.

Reference: Teaching Teen Magazine May 2022

IT CAN be difficult to recognize that you have glaucoma. In a study conducted at the University of Gothenburg, over five per cent of 70-year-olds were found to have glaucoma, and half of those identified were ignorant of their condition.

Glaucoma is a common eye disease that damages the optic nerve and thereby the field of

Older people might have glaucoma without realizing it: Study

vision. In the most serious cases, glaucoma can lead to blindness.

The research was carried out by Lena Havstam Johansson, a PhD student at the University of Gothenburg and a specialist nurse at Sahlgrenska

University Hospital. The study shows that 4.8 per cent of the 560 study participants examined by eye specialists had glaucoma. "Of those who were diagnosed with glaucoma via the study, 15 people — or 2.7 per cent of

all participants — were unaware that they had the disease before being examined," says Lena Havstam Johansson. "So half of those who turned out to have glaucoma were diagnosed because they took part in the

study." For those who were newly diagnosed, the discovery of the disease meant they could start treatment with daily eye drops that lower the pressure in the eye and slowing down the damage to the optic nerve.

Reduced vision affects daily life

Compared to people without the disease those with glaucoma had similar levels of physical activity and did not smoke more, or drink more alcohol. They rated

their overall quality of life as being just as good as others, they were not more tired or more depressed.

"This was a positive surprise, and was a finding that I hope can bring comfort to many people who have been diagnosed with

glaucoma. It's hard to live with a disease that gradually impairs vision, but life can still be good in many ways."

By contrast, people with glaucoma reported that their vision-related quality of life was poorer. It's harder to climb stairs, see curbs in the evening, and notice things in your peripheral vision.

SOURCE: ANI

NATIONAL

Seminar on Capacity Building for Rules of Origin of Upgraded ACFTA opened

THE opening ceremony of a Seminar Programme on Capacity Building for Rules of Origin of the Upgraded ASEAN — China Free Trade Agreement (ACFTA) jointly organized by the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations (MIFER) and Academy for International Business Officials (AIBO), Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), People's Republic of China, was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Dr Wah Wah Maung, Deputy Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, delivered the welcoming remarks. She outlined that the seminar is aimed to introduce regulations under the China-ASEAN Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement, to enhance the knowledge of departmental staff regarding



The opening event of the Seminar Programme on Capacity Building for Rules of Origin of the Upgraded ASEAN China Free Trade Agreement underway yesterday.

product-specific regulations and Original Certificate Forms, to improve operational certification processes, to understand native regulations, and to promote trade

facilitation. In addition, she also expressed that the seminar was jointly organized by MIFER and the Academy for International Business Officials (AIBO), Min-

istry of Commerce (MOFCOM) since MIFER is the focal point for economic cooperation with MOFCOM.

AIBO Vice-President Mr Lei

Hao then made an introductory remark and Mr Ouyang Daobing, Economic and Commercial Counsellor of the Embassy of China, delivered the opening remarks.

Senior officials from the Ministry of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and Ministry of Commerce, representatives from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Yangon, experts and representatives from AIBO, and 35 officials from relevant ministries were present. The seminar will be held until 15 September 2023.

MOFCOM provides multi-sectoral seminar programmes on capacity development for government officials from developing countries. More than 400 Myanmar officials participated up to October 2023. — MIFER

Myanmar seeks to attract increased foreign investments

Myeik, located at the centre of the Andaman Sea, could become Asia's main fisheries hub



The Business Matching of the ASEAN Indo-Pacific Forum in progress.

MYANMAR has welcomed further foreign investments during the Business Matching of the ASEAN Indo-Pacific Forum held in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 6 September.

In the event, representatives from Myanmar, Brunei, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia made project proposal presentations for

investment in their countries.

Myanmar representative U Kyaw Deva, who is also the chairman of the Myanmar Burman Entrepreneurs Association gave a presentation on the project proposal titled "International Fishing Port Development in Southern Myanmar" and answered questions.

Myeik, where the Project Proposal is located, is at the centre of the Andaman Sea (water surface area of 600,000 square kilometres), which has more than 800 islands and is rich in various aquatic products. The industrial land area of the project is 103 acres.

He said that it could become Asia's main fisheries hub and the project development timeline would be three to five years.

He invited them to come and invest in the construction of a shipyard and power plant for fishing vessels (30 to 50) which can load aquatic products at the same time, along with cold storage (3,000-5,000 MT), a value-added canning factory and a packing factory.

He explained that the timeline needed to get capital back is generally 5 to 7 years.

— MNA/KZL

Myanmar team arrives back from Russia-Myanmar cadets swimming competition

MYANMAR'S Tatmadaw is conducting mutual study tours to further develop and strengthen relations with the armed forces of foreign countries, as well as organizing friendly sports competitions and participating in international military sports competitions.

Tatmadaw participated in the Russia-Myanmar cadets swimming competition held from 5 to 10 September at the Russian Military Sports University in St Petersburg to strengthen the friendship with the Russian Armed Forces. The Russia-Myanmar cadet swimming competition

was held from 5 to 10 September in 15 types of competitions. Officials presented medals to the cadets from Myanmar's Tatmadaw as they won one gold, three silver and 12 bronze medals.

Team Myanmar visited the Russian Military Sports University, Artillery History Museum, Aurora Warship Museum and landmarks in St Petersburg, had a group photo taken and exchanged gifts with Team Russia.

Team Myanmar returned to Yangon International Airport yesterday morning and was welcomed by officials at the airport. — MNA/KZL



Swimming competitors are ready for action at the event in St Petersburg.

New York Fashion Week: on holiday with Michael Kors, shivers from Altuzarra

A holiday air with Michael Kors, shivers from Altuzarra, and Tory Burch asserting herself in a spectacular setting: New York Fashion Week expressed its diversity on Monday, the fourth day of the spring-summer 2024 shows.

On vacation with Kors

American designer Michael Kors took the audience on vacation at his spring-summer show, with Brooklyn's Domino Park, along the East River, transformed into a seaside promenade under the eyes of actresses Blake Lively and Halle Berry.

"I can't take you all to Capri, so I can take you to Brooklyn," the 64-year-old Kors said smiling, referring to the Italian island.

Models showcased light

outfits embroidered with lace, a mini-skirt and blouse set, short dresses and pants paired with small tops in the brand's first show since the announcement that its holding company Capri would be purchased by Coach parent company Tapestry.

A loose sweater in cashmere and cotton drops to just below the beltline, leaving the wearer's legs completely uncovered — a nod to the recent "no pants" trend, maybe, or perhaps something more practical: "You can wear it in the heat. You can wear it when it's cool... We all know that the world has gotten too warm," Kors said.

"We are increasingly dealing with, 'How do we get dressed?' Particularly when it's too warm



A model presents a creation by designer Michael Kors during his New York fashion week runway show in Brooklyn, New York, on 11 September 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

outside, and in (the) office, it's too cold and we're freezing."

Everything was in keeping with the vacation vibe, with flat sandals, and an artisanal, hand-woven wicker basket bag in a nod to the recently deceased

singer and style icon Jane Birken.

"A British woman living in France, who had this very casual, laid-back attitude," said Kors.

"I actually think it was very

American."

Shivers at Altuzarra

The atmosphere took a darker turn at the Altuzarra show, held in the Manhattan Central Library under a high dome with opaque windows. — AFP



US director Martin Scorsese (2nd L) poses with his wife Helen Morris (C) and daughter Francesca (R) as they leave the Festival Palace after the screening of the film "Killers of the Flower Moon" during the 76th edition of the Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, southern France, on 20 May 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

Scorsese's writer muse David Grann on making facts plausible

DAVID Grann must be the only writer who can boast that back-to-back books are being made into films by Martin Scorsese and Leonardo DiCaprio. He says the trick is making incredible facts seem "plausible".

"Killers of the Flower Moon", a true-life tale of murder and exploitation among the Osage Native American community in 1920s America, comes to cinemas and Apple TV in October, having already received rave reviews from its premiere at the Cannes

Film Festival earlier this year.

Grann wrote the book and says he loves Scorsese's adaptation, which stars DiCaprio and Robert De Niro and takes a different focus.

"The Osage were deeply involved in the production. That's what makes the movie so powerful. It's shot on location, in the very places where this occurred," Grann told AFP during a visit to Paris. Before it was even finished, Apple had already bought the rights to his next work, "The

Wager", for Scorsese and DiCaprio to adapt. It promises to be an expensive affair since it tells the astonishing story of a British ship, HMS Wager, that faced a mutiny and was wrecked off the coast of South America in 1741.

These are not his first adaptations. Previous stories have been put on screen, including another South American tale, "The Lost City of Z" and the story of a polite, elderly bank robber, "The Old Man and the Gun" which starred Robert Redford. — AFP

Tokyo's Shibuya mayor says "Don't come" for Halloween

THE mayor of Tokyo's Shibuya Ward on Tuesday implored people to stay away from the popular district on Halloween, citing safety concerns for the day that usually attracts large crowds of partygoers every year.

Ken Hasebe said it would "not be surprising" if an accident like the one that happened in Seoul last year also occurred in Shibuya, referring to a fatal overcrowding incident in the neighbouring country.

Over 150 people were killed in the crowd crush on 29 October in Seoul's Itaewon entertainment district after tens of thousands gathered to join the first Halloween revelry since COVID-19 restrictions were eased. — Kyodo

Cultural heritage, tourism of China's Zhejiang province introduced in Iran

THE Chinese Embassy in Iran on Monday hosted an event to promote the cultural heritage and tourism of China's eastern Zhejiang province in the run-up to the Hangzhou Asian Games in the provincial capital.

The event, which was organized by the Zhejiang Pro-

vincial Department of Culture and Tourism, was attended by Chinese and Iranian officials, as well as the Iranian athletes who are going to take part in the multi-sport event that will kick off on 23 September.

Speaking at the function, Chinese Ambassador to Iran

Chang Hua boasted Zhejiang's beautiful landscapes and deep cultural heritages since ancient times. He listed some of Zhejiang's most well-known scenic spots, including the West Lake, the Qiantang River tide, and the greenery Yandang Mountain. — Xinhua

ECONOMY WORLD

China, Indonesia industrial park cooperation yields win-win benefits

IN a farm situated in the Pemalang district of Indonesia's Central Java province, prawn larvae have now reached the age of one and a half months. Once four months old, they will undergo processing and be shipped to Fuzhou, capital city of east China's Fujian Province, about 2,000 nautical miles away.

Seasoned prawn farmer Joni Setyawan is in charge of the farm. The 66-year-old has nearly four decades of experience in raising Vannamee prawns. Since 2021, he has been working with a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fujian MiaoTianHui Food Co, Ltd, focusing on prawn cultivation.

The farm in Pemalang district covers around 70,000 square metres. Prawns cultivated here undergo preliminary processing such as cleaning, peeling and frozen packaging at a local plant. Thereafter, vessels carrying these seafood products will embark on a journey of approximately 20 days before



Workers work on the seafood processing production line at Fuqing Zhaohua Aquatic Food Co Ltd in Fuqing, southeast China's Fujian Province, 24 August 2023. PHOTO: XINHUA

arriving at Fuzhou Port.

"The Vannamee prawns from Indonesia will go through further processing, such as mixing and pounding, and trans-

formed into prawn paste and packaged for quick freezing," said Lin Zhengrong, general manager of Fujian MiaoTianHui Food Co, Ltd.

Known for its delectable and chewy texture, prawn paste is very popular in the Chinese catering market.

Fuqing Zhaohua Aquatic

Food Co Ltd has also invested in Vannamee prawn farming in Indonesia, with their farm spanning a vast area of around 4 million square meters.

The company established the farm in Indonesia because of the country's warm and humid climate, abundant fisheries resources, short cultivation cycle, and relatively low labour costs. Back in China, the advanced cold chain logistics infrastructure, vast consumer market and mature seafood processing technology can further enhance the value of imported frozen prawn products.

Setting up fishery bases in Indonesia has not only increased local employment opportunities but also boosted the income of residents, said Chen Qing'an, the legal representative of the Indonesian subsidiary of Fujian MiaoTianHui Food Co, Ltd, noting that the subsidiary has employed more than 300 local workers. — Xinhua

UK unemployment rises as wage growth hits record high

THE UK unemployment rate edged higher to 4.3 per cent in the three months to the end of July, as wage growth remained at a record high, official data showed Tuesday.

Unemployment had been 4.2 per cent in the quarter to the end of June, the Office for National Statistics added in a statement.

Average regular earnings growth, excluding bonuses, stood at 7.8 per cent in the three months to the end of July.

"Wage growth remains high, partly reflecting one-off payments to public sector workers, but for real wages to grow sustainably we must stick to our plan to halve inflation," finance minister Jeremy Hunt said

in reaction.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak at the start of 2023 said he hoped to halve UK annual inflation when the level stood above 10 per cent.

But it remains at 6.8 per cent, the highest among G7 nations.

"The tightness of the labour market continued to ease in July," noted Ashley Webb, UK economist at Capital Economics research group.

"But the... wage growth will only add to the Bank of England's unease and supports our view that the Bank will raise interest rates once more, from 5.25 per cent currently to a peak of 5.5 per cent" at its regular policy meeting next week. — AFP

Over 10,000 more jobs to go at UK's Wilko after partial rescue fails

MORE than 10,000 staff will lose their jobs at struggling UK household goods retailer Wilko, administrators said Monday, after last-ditch talks on a rescue deal with the owner of the HMV music store chain collapsed.

Canadian businessman Doug Putman had been in talks with administrators PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) to buy some 200 shops operated by Wilko, which went bust in August.

But both Putman and PwC said that those discussions to rescue it as a going concern had reached an end — despite having backing from Wilko management, staff and PwC — as it was revealed that as many as 10,196 extra employees face the axe.

PwC had already announced in recent weeks that more than 1,600 staff would be made redundant. "The joint administrators have explored all potential opportunities to save the business," PwC said in a statement on

Monday.

"However, despite extensive efforts, it has become clear that no significant part of the Wilko operations can be rescued as a going concern.

"As a result, the joint admin-

istrators have today informed all staff that they will sadly commence the closure of all Wilko stores, the two distribution centres and the cessation of the majority of activities of the support centre." — AFP



(FILES) A shopper leaves a branch of "Wilko" in west London on 3 August 2023. B&M European Value Retail said on 5 September 2023 it had agreed to buy up to 51 Wilko stores following the collapse of the rival discount chain. Wilko had 400 stores and employed about 12,500 staff when it collapsed over the summer. PHOTO: AFP

Chinese companies seek business opportunities at Iraq's intl oil expo

IRAQ'S ongoing international oil expo has seen enthusiastic participation from Chinese companies, which are ready to join Iraq to further develop its rich oil resources.

The four-day event, named International Exhibition and Conference for Oil Projects and Licensing Tours, commenced on Sunday in Baghdad and will run through Wednesday.

Chen Xinrong, general manager of PetroChina International Company Ltd. (Middle East), told Xinhua that "by participating in this exhibition,

PetroChina can promote its subsidiaries so as to provide better services for Iraq and contribute to the development of the Iraqi oil and gas sector."

Iraq's economy is overwhelmingly dominated by the oil sector. According to an overview report of Iraqi development by the World Bank, during the period of 2012-2022, oil revenues accounted for more than 99 per cent of Iraq's exports, 85 per cent of the government's budget, and 42 per cent of its gross domestic product.

At the opening cere-



This photo taken on 10 September 2023 shows a project model at Iraq's first International Exhibition and Conference for Oil Projects and Licensing Tours in Baghdad, Iraq. PHOTO: XINHUA

mony, Iraqi Oil Minister Hayan Abdul-Ghani also highlighted the importance of the event, saying its goal is to promote projects that support oil-related industries such as petrochemicals and refineries, ultimately bolstering the national economy.

He also emphasized his ministry's collaboration with international companies involved in licensing rounds and assisted them in implementing investment projects, maximizing production, and exporting surplus abroad. — Xinhua

US chip giant GlobalFoundries opens \$4 bln Singapore plant

THE world's third-largest contract chipmaker GlobalFoundries opened a \$4 billion manufacturing plant in Singapore on Tuesday as part of a global expansion to help ease an industry supply crunch. The semiconductor sector is recovering from disruptions caused by the pandemic, high inflation and sluggish global economic growth caused in part by geopolitical tensions. — AFP



This picture shows a view on the Singapore facility of chipmaker GlobalFoundries during the Singapore Fab expansion grand opening in Singapore on 12 September 2023. PHOTO: AFP

Viet Nam's green credit balance accounts for 4.2% of total

GREEN credit balance accounted for about 4.2 per cent of the Vietnamese economy's total credit balance by the end of June, Viet Nam News Agency reported on Tuesday, citing the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV).

Among the 12 areas that the central bank guides financial institutions to offer green credit, renewable energy sectors/clean ener-

gy accounted for 45 per cent of the outstanding loans, followed by green agriculture with 31 per cent, said SBV Deputy Governor Dao Minh Tu. "Credit institutions have enhanced the assessment of environmental and social risks in credit-granting activities," he said. Nguyen Xuan Bac, deputy director-general of the SBV Department of Credit for Economic

Sectors, said Viet Nam is considered one of the 38 developing markets with significant progress in promoting the financing industry towards sustainable development.

The Southeast Asian country has paid more attention to green credit, especially after 2012 when the government approved the National Green Growth Strategy. — Xinhua

<p>The Global New Light of Myanmar www.gnlm.com.mm</p> <p>သတင်းစာ မှာယူလိုပါက ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ် 09 454 237 515</p> <p>သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစောင်များကို နိုင်ငံတကာခံချိန်စီ ပို့နှစ်လိုပါက ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ် 01 860 4530</p> <p>ကြော်ငြာငွေများနှင့် ကြော်ငြာအခွင့်အလမ်းများ ကြော်ငြာ ထည့်သွင်းလိုပါက ထိုက်ရိုက်ဆက်သွယ် ဆွေးနွေးနိုင်ပါတယ် 09 974 424 848</p>	<p>CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V CONTRIVIA VOY.NO. (051N/S)</p> <p>Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CONTRIVIA VOY.NO. (051N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-9-2023 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Phone No: 2301185</p> <p>Shipping Agency Department Myanma Port Authority</p> <p>Agent For: (ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE</p>	<p>CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V GENIUS ACE VOY.NO. (MK 2337)</p> <p>Consignees of cargo carried on M.V GENIUS ACE VOY.NO. (MK 2337) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-9-2023 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-4 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Phone No: 2301928</p> <p>Shipping Agency Department Myanma Port Authority</p> <p>Agent For: M/S GLOBAL MARS SHIPPING PRIVATE LTD</p>
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ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

10,000 missing in Libya storm floods, death toll 'huge': Red Cross

THE death toll from freak floods in eastern Libya is expected to soar dramatically, with 10,000 people reported missing, the Red Cross warned on Tuesday.

Officials in Libya have said at least 150 people were killed in the flooding in Libya after storm Daniel swept the Mediterranean, lashing Turkiye, Bulgaria and Greece.

But Tamer Ramadan of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said the actual toll was likely many times higher.

"Our teams on the ground are still doing their assessment, (but) from what we see and

from the news coming to us, the death toll is huge," he told reporters in Geneva via video link from Tunis.

"It might reach to the thousands."

"We don't have a definite number right now," he said, stressing though that the organization had independent sources saying "the number of missing people is hitting 10,000 persons so far."

Speaking on Libyan network Almasar, Oussama Hamad, prime minister of the east-based government, has reported "more than 2,000 dead and thousands missing" in

the city of Derna alone, but no medical sources or emergency services have confirmed such figures.

But Ramadan said that judging from the figures he was seeing, "it's very likely that the number declared (by the eastern official) could be close to the correct number".

He said he hoped the IFRC would be able to provide a more precise toll of the disaster later Tuesday. "The humanitarian needs are much more beyond the abilities of the Libyan Red Crescent and even the abilities of the government," Ramadan said. — AFP



This picture released by the Libyan Red Crescent on 11 September 2023 shows members of their team working on opening roads engulfed in floods in al-Bayda town in eastern Libya. **PHOTO: LIBYAN RED CRESCENT / AFP**



A destroyed Ukrainian tank on the street in the city of Volnovakha, which came under the control of the DPR. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

Ukrainian troops suffer heavy losses trying to attack Opytnoye Village in DPR

UKRAINIAN troops tried to advance with tanks and armoured combat vehicles near the village of Opytnoy, but suffered serious losses, Denis Pushilin, acting head of the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR), said on his Telegram account.

"We can see that the enemy has intensified its efforts near Opytnoye with tanks and armoured combat vehicles, suffering serious losses, but the fighting goes on, the enemy is trying to improve its positions in that direction. There is an understanding of further steps for our units, there are no serious fears," he said in a video message.

According to Pushilin, there are no significant changes in the Krasny Liman direction.

The Ukrainian Armed Forces launched several small attacks in the direction of the Torskoye and Serebrianka, but Russian units repelled them all. The DPR leader added that there are no serious signs of fighting heating up in the area. He noted an "operational pause" in the Artemovsk (Bakhmut) direction, where Ukrainian troops have begun to regroup and replace their advance assault units. In the Andreyevka and Kurdyumovka directions the enemy failed to improve its position using artillery, added Pushilin.

There are no notable changes in the Maryinka direction either, and the situation in the Ugledar direction remains under control, he concluded.— Sputnik

New Thai PM proposes digital money handout, energy price cuts in policy statement

THAILAND'S new Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin delivered his government policy statement to parliament on Monday, highlighting immediate measures to drive economy with a digital money handout and energy price cuts.

The country's key drivers of growth, including tourism and spending, are experiencing a sluggish recovery, leading to the risk of an economic recession,

Srettha told a joint sitting of the National Assembly, adding that stimulus measures are necessary to reinvigorate the economy.

"The 10,000-baht (around 280 US dollars) digital money distribution to all areas down to the grassroots level will kick-start the economy, creating jobs and economic activities, while the government will earn revenue," he said. — Xinhua

Turkiye seeking to soon finalize development of proposals for Russia on grain deal – source

TURKIYE expects to soon complete with the United Nations the development of new proposals for Russia to resume the Black Sea grain initiative, a source participating in the Turkish technical delegation told Sputnik. "We expect that in the coming days we will complete the development of these proposals and present them to the Russian side for consider-

ation," the source said, adding that the work is being carried out jointly with the UN. New proposals are being prepared on the basis of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's recommendations, which were developed, among other things, after his discussions with world leaders on the sidelines of the G20 summit.

"They imply a solution to

problems related to the payment system and insurance of Russian ships involved in exports.

The issue will finally become clear after the planned negotiations between Mr President and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly," the source stated. — Sputnik

SPORTS

Fernandes shines as Portugal lash Luxembourg in record 9-0 win



Portugal's forward (21) Diogo Jota celebrates with Portugal's midfielder (8) Bruno Fernandes and Portugal's forward (17) Rafael Leao after scoring a goal during the EURO 2024 first round group J qualifying football match between Portugal and Luxembourg at the Algarve stadium in Almancil, Faro district, on 11 September 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

BRUNO Fernandes ran the show for Portugal as they romped to a record 9-0 win over Luxembourg on Monday without suspended talisman and all-time top goalscorer Cristiano Ronaldo.

Roberto Martinez's side have now won all six of their qualifying games, without conceding a single goal and scoring 24 themselves, with this the country's largest ever victory.

Portugal lead the Group J standings, five points clear of Slo-

vakia in second place, whom they beat in Bratislava on Friday. Luxembourg are third, three points behind Slovakia.

Manchester United playmaker Fernandes, who scored Portugal's winner against Slovakia, laid on three goals as the Selecao filled their boots and scored one himself. Goncalo Ramos, Diogo Jota and Goncalo Inacio struck two goals each, while Ricardo Horta and Joao Felix also scored. — AFP



Myanmar athletes are seen preparing their best for the XIX Asian Games. **PHOTOS: XINHUA**

100 Myanmar athletes ready to compete in XIX Asian Games



THE Chinese Embassy in Myanmar announced that more than 100 Myanmar athletes will join the XIX Asian Games, which will be held in Hangzhou, China from 23 September to 8 October.

Myanmar sports officials will send more than 100 athletes to compete in seven sports categories such as

football, wushu, rowing, taekwondo, Esports, archery and Sepak Takraw. Currently, Myanmar athletes are preparing to achieve good results in the Asian Games.

In the XVIII Asian Games held in Indonesia in 2018, the Myanmar sports team won only two bronze medals and was ranked 35th. — TWA/ KZL

Myanmar lose South Korea in Asian U-23 Qualifiers

MYANMAR team received a 0-3 defeat as host South Korea thrashed Myanmar in the Group B match of the Asian U-23 Qualifiers yesterday.

Since team Myanmar drew against Kyrgyzstan in the first group match, their hopes of qualifying have faded away and were satisfied with the qualification level

as they lost again to South Korea in this match.

The Myanmar team qualified only once in the debut tournament held in 2014 and failed to qualify for

five consecutive times.

The Myanmar team started the line-up with strong players. The South Korean team got the opening goal in the first five minutes of the game, and Park Seung-hoon scored. After that, the Myanmar team was able to stop South Korea's attack and had to concede two goals near the end of the match.

The winning goals for the South Korean team were scored by Jeong Bang Kwan in the 85 minute and Oh Jae-Hook in the 90th + 2 minute. After the qualifying group matches, Myanmar collected one draw and one loss, bagging only one point and failed to qualify. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Myanmar team players (white) try to control South Korea's attack during the match of the Asian U-23 Qualifiers on 12 September 2023. **PHOTO: MFF**

Diniz warns Brazil players to 'keep feet on ground'

BRAZIL manager Fernando Diniz has urged his players to remain grounded following a scintillating start to their 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifying campaign. The five-time world champions marked Diniz's first game in charge of the national team by romping to a 5-1 win over Bolivia in the northern city of Belem on Friday. "I think I inherited a team that was already very well structured," Diniz told a news conference on Monday. "We've added some things and the euphoria among fans is normal because we won 5-1 and cannot hide that the team played very well."

The result at the Mangueirao stadium left Brazil top of the 10-team South American group, ahead of Uruguay, Argentina and Colombia on goal difference.

But Diniz, who officially replaced Adenor Bacchi — better known as Tite — in May, warned that a tougher challenge would await Brazil against Peru in Lima on Tuesday. — Xinhua



In this pool photograph distributed by Sputnik agency Russian President Vladimir Putin looks on as he attends a videoconference presentation of the Far East development's results during a working trip to the Far Eastern Federal District, in Vladivostok, near the border with China on 11 September 2023. **PHOTO: VYACHESLAV PROKOFYEV / POOL / AFP**

Putin to comment on 2024 election bid by end of year

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin said Tuesday he will only comment on whether he will run for re-election in 2024 after the ballot is officially announced later this year.

Putin has led Russia since the turn of the century, winning four presidential elections and briefly serving as prime minister in a system where political oppo-

sition has become virtually non-existent.

"According to the law, parliament must make a decision at the end of the year," Putin told the audience at the Eastern Economic Forum in the Pacific port of Vladivostok.

"When the elections are announced, when the date is set, then we will talk about it," he added.

Presidential elections in Russia are officially set by parliament and held every six years, after the term limit was lengthened from four years previously.

They may enter a second round if no candidate is able to secure more than 50 per cent of the vote, but in practice this has never happened, with Putin winning by large margins. — AFP

WFP warns cuts could push 24 mln people to brink of famine

THE World Food Programme said Tuesday that shrinking funding was forcing it to drastically slash rations in many operations, warning that 24 million more people risked being pushed to the brink of starvation.

The United Nations agency said it had been struggling to meet growing global needs for food assistance while facing a funding shortfall of over 60 per cent this year — the highest in its history.

"For the first time ever, WFP has seen contributions decreasing while needs steadily increase," it said in a statement.

This could have dire consequences, with WFP experts estimating that for every one per cent cut in food assistance, more than 400,000 people risk falling into emergency levels of hunger.

Given the dramatic cuts it is being forced to make, WFP cautioned in a statement that "an additional 24 million people could slip into emergency hunger over the next 12 months - a 50 per cent increase on the current level".

WFP chief Cindy McCain said more funding was essential.

"If we don't receive the support we need to avert further catastrophe, the world will undoubtedly see more conflict, more unrest, and more hunger," she said in a statement.

"Either we fan the flames of global instability, or we work quickly to put out the fire." — AFP

Biden faces US political showdown after G20 trip

US President Joe Biden is counting his wins from a gruelling trip to Asia, but at home he faces a string of political showdowns to keep his reelection bid on sure footing.

The 80-year-old had 2024 in his sights when he said on his return from India and Viet Nam on Monday that his travels had "strengthened America's leadership on the global stage".

With his Democratic Party reportedly alarmed by his poll ratings, Biden used his time at the G20 in Delhi and in Hanoi to talk up his credentials as US commander-in-chief and international statesman.

But the situation on his return to Washington looks increasingly like an uphill battle.

Despite positive economic signs, America's oldest-ever president is polling neck-and-neck in a likely rematch with Donald Trump, his 77-year-old Republican predecessor.

A possible US government shutdown looms at the end of the month; a potentially disruptive strike of US automakers is also in the cards. And hardline Republicans are even pushing for an impeachment inquiry over Biden's embattled son Hunter.— AFP



US President Joe Biden bows his head during remarks to service members, first responders, and their families on the 22nd anniversary of the 11 September 2001, terrorist attacks, at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska, on 11 September 2023.

PHOTO: AFP