

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Myanmar-China border removes driver substitution system

Lorry drivers are granted direct access with temporary border passes at Kyinsankyawt crossing.



Export cargo-laden lorries queue up at Myanmar-China land border crossing.

Driver-substitution system will soon be abolished at the Kyinsankyawt checkpoint for Sino-Myanmar trade and truck drivers will be allowed to get direct access to the border with a temporary border pass, said Sai Khin Maung of Khwanyo Fruit Trading Centre.

The drivers will be allowed to directly pass the border by holding a temporary border pass as before the pre-COVID if they can present export declaration and motor vehicle documents. It will initially facilitate trading procedures at the Kyinsankyawt border, Sai Khin Maung added. After the abolition of the driver-substitution system, the additional charges such as short-haul transport fees and other general costs will be saved, he expected.

Earlier, China banned Myanmar trucks and drivers from entering its side

owing to the COVID-19 protocols and only Chinese short-haul drivers have been allowed to transport the goods. Thereafter, Myanmar trucks have been given the green light for border-crossing through the Kyinsankyawt-Wang Ding trade channel under the driver-substitution system starting from 16 May 2022. There was no responsibility and accountability if goods were damaged under the driver-substitution system. Therefore, Myanmar exporters choose short-haul driver services and bear high freight costs.

China shut down all the checkpoints linking to the Muse border amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the checkpoints, Kyinsankyawt has resumed trading activity from 26 November 2021. Trade activity at the Muse-Mang Wein crossing, which performed the majority of trade between Myanmar and China, resumed on 14 Jan-

uary 2023. However, only six-wheel trucks driven by Myanmar drivers are allowed to pass the Mang Wein crossing. Other trucks and travellers are not yet entitled to enter the border.

Additionally, other goods except agricultural produce (watermelon and muskmelon), minerals and fisheries products are allowed to be sent to China through that border point. Meanwhile, China gives the go-ahead to the imports of construction goods, electrical appliances, medical devices, industrial equipment, consumer goods, household goods and food products only through that border post. Myanmar has opened five border trade posts with China: Muse, Lweje, Kampaiti, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung. The majority of the trade is carried out through the Muse border, the Ministry of Commerce's data indicated. — NN/EM

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MRESA members attend Asia-Pacific Real Estate Convention and FIABCI-Thai Seminar in Bangkok

Export of agricultural produce surpasses US\$1 bln in six months

ACCORDING to the information released by the Ministry of Commerce, more than US\$1.51 billion has been pocketed in the export of agricultural produce from Myanmar in the past six months.

Similarly, in the last financial year, more than \$1.65

billion was received, a decrease of \$135.66 million, as per to the data. According to the MoC, Myanmar exports agricultural produce, animal products, fishery products, mineral products, forest products, finished industrial products (CMP), and other products. In addition, the

main imports are investment products, commercial raw materials, consumer goods, and CMP raw materials.

Myanmar exports agricultural produce to China, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. — TWA/CT

NATIONAL



Devotees are seen at the SoonU Ponnyashin Pagoda.

Construction, platform expansion of Sasana Beikman at SoonU Ponnyashin Pagoda on track for October completion

THE construction of Sasana Beikman and expansion of the platform of SoonU Ponnyashin Pagoda located atop Sagaing Hill in Sagaing Region will be completed in October, according to the board of trustees.

The construction and expansion projects were started on 9 September 2022 and the completion date is projected for 29 October 2023 (full moon of Thadingyut), said U Ko Lay, a member of the board of Trustees.

"We expand the pagoda platform and pavilion for the pilgrims from various regions to

stay overnight. We also construct subterranean buildings under the Sasana Beikman. It is a four-storey building. The platform of the pagoda is going to be expanded to 149 feet in length and 63 feet in width," said U Ko Lay.

The Buddha Pujaniya festival of the SoonU Ponnyashin pagoda is held on the fullmoon day of Waso (Dhamma Cakka Day) yearly and the religious organizations in Sagaing present alms offerings at the pagoda on that day.

The pagoda hosts large numbers of visitors during the peak season. — ASH/KTZH

Veteran scriptwriters receive respect in Yangon

VETERAN scriptwriters aged over 80 were accorded respects at the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization building in Yangon yesterday, according to U Aye Kyu Lay, Vice-Chair of the association.

Relevant personnel handed over K150,000 plus snacks, clothes and traditional medicines to each veteran scriptwriter.

"We paid respects to script writers over 80 years old who were in our script layer. The film associ-

ation paid their respects to more than 100 artistes who are over 70 years old. I respect the fact that we have learned from script teachers in the past. Screenwriters don't have money, but they contribute to each other. I want to show respects to those who are older than me, so we are holding this event," said U Aye Kyu Lay.

The same kinds of events were also held in 2019 and 2022. — ASH/KZL



Veteran scriptwriters are pictured receiving obeisance yesterday in Yangon.

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THE third day and closing ceremony of the 30th Myanmar Tatmadaw Medical Conference was held yesterday morning at No 1 Military Hospital (700-bed) in PynOoLwin.

The Director of Medical Corps, senior officers, medics, nurses, specialists from the Ministry of Health, overseas specialists, retired senior officers and other invitees attended the conference.

A total of 355 specialists, medical officers, experts and nurses attended the conference in person and 153 from other military hospitals across the country online.

On the third day of the conference, Futuristic Approaches to Optimize Nutrition and Exercise Regimens for Myanmar Military Cadets and Debate Session were read out as the

30th Myanmar Tatmadaw Medical Conference concludes



major symposium.

Chairman of the Tatmadaw Medical Research and Development Committee, Director of Medical Services Maj-Gen Ko Ko Lwin and officials presented the first, second and third prizes of research symposiums and posters, the young researcher award and the winners of the debate session while the honourable mentions were given to the conference organizing subcommittees and those who submitted research papers and posters.

Afterwards, Director Maj-Gen Ko Ko Lwin of Medical Services and Chairman of the Tatmadaw Medical Research and Development Committee delivered closing speech and the 30th Myanmar Tatmadaw Medical Conference came to a close. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

The relevant departments are supposed to cooperate under laws, rules and regulations and procedures for the emergence of factories that can manufacture rubber meeting international standards while earning good prices in the global market, SAC Member Mahn Nyein Maung told a coordination meeting for the development of the rubber sector at the Ministry of Industry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The SAC member also called for advice of rubber farmers, rubber associations and experts for the country's effort to have global market share for rubber produced in Myanmar as the country is struggling to boost exports while encouraging MSMEs and import-substitution measures. He also pointed out the need for raw rubber produced in the country to adhere to international standards and reliable international markets to fetch global prices avoiding being underpriced.

In the meeting, the Union Minister for Agriculture, Live-



The coordination meeting for the development of the rubber sector in progress yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw, presided over by SAC Member Mahn Nyein Maung.

Collective efforts needed to earn good prices for rubber in global market

stock, and Irrigation stated that his ministry is concentrating on rubber plantation work in its effort to develop the rubber sector and pledged that his ministry will fully cooperate in the effort under the law.

The MoALI Union minister

also called for suggestions on the availability of arable land, quality rubber seeds and water for the plantation that the ministry can fulfil. The Union Minister for Industry stressed the need to make collective efforts to be able to avoid being underpriced and

scarcity of overseas markets.

The chief ministers from Mon and Kayin States and Taninthayi Region, who are also the patrons of MSME Development Agencies in the respective states and region, also explained the arrangements already made for

the development of the rubber sector.

In the meeting, the measures to set a standard for rubber produced in Myanmar, market situations, yield of rubber plantations, the possibility of bringing about a rubber wholesales market in the country, the opportunities to collaborate between the private sector and the government were also discussed before the SAC member made his concluding remarks. — MNA/TH

Chitmyitta Foundation donates five containers of foodstuffs to Mocha victims

CHITMYITTA Foundation donated five containers containing foodstuffs for victims of Mocha in Rakhine State, according to Yangon Region Disaster Management Committee.

The foundation ordered the foodstuffs from Japan and five food containers arrived at Asia World Port Terminal in Yangon on 5 October. The containers will be transported by cargo ships to Rakhine State under the supervision of the Yangon Region government.

The Yangon Region government will arrange the transportation of food to Rakhine storm victims and the Rakhine State government will organize food donation events. Over 416 tonnes of rehabilitation items including construction materials, electronic devices, medications and health equipment, consumer goods and foodstuffs provided by the government and international countries were transported to Rakhine State by 96 flights and about 50,000 tonnes by 35 voyages of vessels. — ASH/KTZH



The picture depicts the arrival of foodstuffs at Asia World Port Terminal on 5 October.

World Teachers' Day marked in Nay Pyi Taw



SAC Members, Union Ministers and party view the display at the event yesterday.

A ceremony to mark the World Teachers' Day took place at the Ministry of Education yesterday morning.

Union Minister for Education Dr Nyunt Pe read the message sent by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudamma Min Aung Hlaing.

Secretary-General of the Myanmar UNESCO National Commission Dr Kyi Shwin read the message sent by the heads of

five UN agencies.

Members of the State Administration Council Dr Hmu Thang and Dr Ba Shwe presented certificates of honour and cash awards to honorary persons of the 2023 World Teachers' Day and Union Ministers Dr Myo Thein Kyaw and Dr Thet Khaing Win, and outstanding teachers.

Deputy Ministers Dr Zaw Myint and Dr Moe Zaw Tun and officials presented certificates of honour and cash awards to winning teachers and students

in the commemorative contests.

The Union Minister for Education paid respects to 12 retired faculty members of the Botany Department, National Curriculum Committee Dr Myint Swe and Vice-President of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Sciences Dr Maung Kyaw.

The ceremony was marked in line with the theme "Teachers we need for education we want – The global imperative to reverse the teacher's shortage." — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL



SAC Member Khun San Lwin provides seeds and fertilizers in Pinlaung Township of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone yesterday.

SAC Member holds public meeting in Pinlaung

STATE Administration Council Member Khun San Lwin, along with Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Zaw Aye and officials, held a meeting with township-level departmental officials, indigenous cultural groups, town elders and entrepreneurs at the town hall in Pinlaung township, Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, yesterday morning.

SAC Member Khun San Lwin provided an overview of the five-point road map and nine objectives of the State Administration Council as people have to be able to achieve success through cooperation. The pur-

pose of the meeting was to find out the needs of regional development and provide solutions.

Afterwards, U Tint Zaw Htet, Chairman of Pinlaung Township Administration Body, clarified the information about Pinlaung Township, the attendees discussed the needs and the State chief minister fulfilled their requirements.

The meeting concluded with a closing speech by the SAC member and cash awards were given to departments and ethnic literature and cultural troupes in Pinlaung Township. — MNA/MKKS

Myanmar attends 3rd Trans-Himalaya Forum for International Cooperation

THE Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Khin Maung Yi attended the Third Trans-Himalaya Forum for International Cooperation being held in Nyingchi, China's Xizang Autonomous Region from 4 to 6 October.

The forum aimed to foster cooperation and development among Himalayan region countries, promoting the correlation of humans and nature, and environmental conservation.

The Union minister separately met Chinese foreign minister together with other ministers from Sri Lanka, Chile and Kenya in Nyingchi city, and exchanged views on matters related to the invitation to world countries in addition to regional countries to partici-

pate in Tibet region development, forest and environmental conservations yesterday morning.

Speaking at the forum, the Union minister said being environmentally friendly can create better living through the interdependence between humans and nature. Myanmar prioritizes forest conservation and the protection of ecosystems and biodiversity. 47 per cent of the country occupies the Himalayan region and is connected to Indo-Myanmar, the mountainous region of southwest China and the ecological transition area of the Himalayan regions. Moreover, 2.59 per cent of the total land area has been established as eight protected areas in the northern Kachin State.

The country also works with international organiza-



The Third Trans-Himalaya Forum for International Cooperation in progress on 4-6 October in China, addressed by Union Minister U Khin Maung Yi.

tions for research to conserve biodiversity. He then suggested drafting practical and solid policies and procedures in implementing forest and environment conservation, investment and nature-based industries. He then pledged that Myan-

mar would actively cooperate in relevant sectors among the countries of the Himalayan Mountains region and the Silk Road.

The Forum also focused on promoting the harmony of humans and nature and sharing

the fruits of cooperation and development.

On 4 October, the Union minister replied to the questions raised by media in Nyingchi and visited the Tibetan Cultural Heritage Museum. — MNA/KTZH

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

Myanmar expresses judicial protection for businesses at International Legal Forum of the Asia-Pacific Region

THE 12th International Legal Forum of the Asia-Pacific Region was organized by the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation through videoconferencing yesterday, joined by Chief Justice of the Union U Thar Htay from the Supreme Court of the Union in Nay Pyi Taw, together with Chief Justices from the countries of Asia-Pacific Region.

The forum aimed to protect border-crossing legal connections and national justice as well as the rights of businesses in a socially secure country and adjust the interests in practically exercising the legal affairs.

Judge of the Supreme Court of the Union U Thaug Naing also gave a talk at the forum, under the title of protection of business rights in Myanmar and the judicial sector, saying that Myanmar set the values of law

framework for the economic development of businesses of investors in Myanmar. Myanmar Constitution guarantees that the Union shall protect and prevent acts that jeopardize public interests through monopolization or manipulation of prices by an individual or group with intent to endanger fair competition in economic activities. An effective judicial system is essential in Myanmar for protecting the rights of businesses. As such, Myanmar adopted the judicial strategy in conformity with the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) as part of initiating the partial reform of the judicial system. According to the State-owned enterprises law, businesses invested together with State-owned enterprises have the specific legal rights for prosecution and liability of



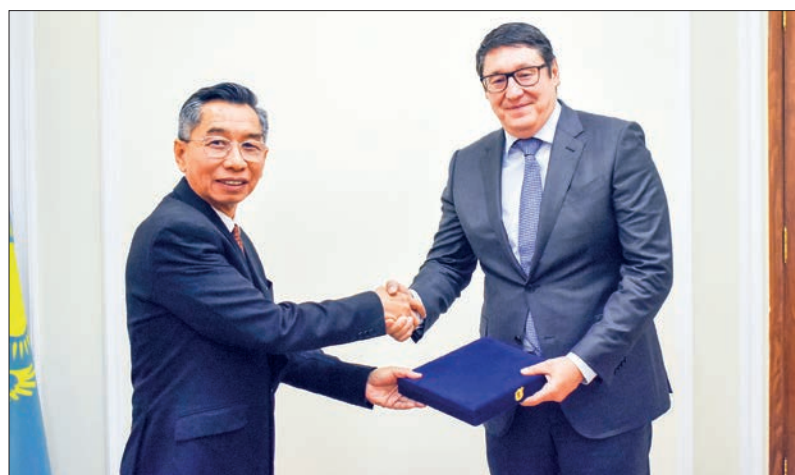
The 12th International Legal Forum of the Asia-Pacific Region in progress online, joined by Union Chief Justice U Thar Htay yesterday alongside Chief Justices of APR countries.

facing prosecution. Policymakers and authorities need to join hands with those from the ju-

dicial sector in protecting the rights of businesses. The forum was also attend-

ed by officials from the Supreme Court of the Union. — MNA/TTA

Union Energy Minister visits coal-fired power plant in Kazakhstan



Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin meets Kazakhstan Energy Minister Mr Satkaliyev Almassadam yesterday.

UNION Minister for Energy U Ko Ko Lwin, who arrived in Astana, Kazakhstan, to attend the First Energy Forum of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, met the Minister of Energy of Kazakhstan, Mr Satkaliyev Almassadam yesterday morning and discussed issues to enable the two countries to cooperate in the energy sector.

During the meeting, the Union minister emphasized that although coal is produced in Myanmar, it has not been able to be used effectively and, because of the need for elec-

tricity in the country, attempts are being made to generate electricity using coal as the fuel.

He discussed the fact that Kazakhstan is a coal-producing country, and 70 per cent of its electricity is generated from coal.

He talked about how to generate electricity from coal without harming the environment, technology and human resources, especially petroleum exploration, petroleum engineering, petrochemicals, and metallurgy to help with on-the-job training courses,

not just academics.

The Kazakhstan's energy minister discussed that they will cooperate to meet Myanmar's energy needs and that there will be a bilateral meeting of energy ministers in the future.

In the afternoon, the Union minister and his team visited the coal and natural gas power plant in Astana City, Kazakhstan, and observed the process of power generation using clean coal that is environmentally friendly.

Officials said that the plant has been upgraded three times and has become a power plant that can use both coal and natural gas.

The plant requires 4,000 tonnes of coal or 84 million cubic feet of natural gas for a day's operation and produces 510 megawatts of electricity per day.

Officials explained that burnt coal ash is purified step by step using technology, till it is 99 per cent pure and released into the air, and there is no harm to the natural environment.

The union minister and party raised questions, and the officials re-clarified the procedures. — MNA/KZL

MoSWRR, UNHCR Representative coordinate arrival visa issue

A discussion focused on preparations to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win and Representative of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to Myanmar Ms Noriko Takagi took place in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

They openly talked about permits for travel of foreign employees in Myanmar, arrival visa measures, the need for UN agencies to coordinate with the ministry in releasing the data on those who need humanitarian aid and the number of displaced persons to conform with the ground situation, sharing of information, and further cooperation between them. — MNA/TTA



The UNHCR Representative calls on Union Minister Dr Soe Win yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

NATIONAL

Seminar spotlights successful production, utilization of sewage sludge-based fertilizer



The presentation of producing fertilizer from septic sludge at the seminar held on 30 September.

AT a seminar on the topic of “Sludge Utilization as a Construction Material Fertilizer” held at the Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies on 30 September, Dr Zaw Win, a member of the Yangon City Development Committee, stated that fertilizer made from sewage sludge has been successfully produced and put to practical use.

By properly storing and processing waste like this, the benefits of saving foreign currency can be realized, and it can address the need for fertilizers in the agricultural sector, as fertilizers are imported from abroad every year using foreign

currency. Additionally, it is reported that the environmental damage caused by human waste will be significantly reduced.

To systematically address the problem caused by human waste in most developing countries, a beneficial reuse method was implemented following the 3-R solution method (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) instructed by the Head of State.

“Since the released standard fertilizers have been approved by the Land Use Division, the natural fertilizers at that level can be rest assured for use in the agricultural sector,” said Dr Zaw Win. — TWA/CT

Long chilli pepper prices plunge to lowest on 4 Oct

THE prices of long chilli peppers fell to their lowest on 4 October in the domestic market.

The wholesale prices stood at K6,000-7,000 per viss of long chilli pepper from the delta region and K7,000-9,000 per viss of red long chilli pepper, which dropped from K11,000-12,000 per viss on 28 August.

Similarly, Moehtaung chilli pepper price plummeted to K10,000 per viss on 4 October from K15,000-16,000 per viss in the second week of August



A seller is seen showing the quality of new chilli pepper from Pyawbwe town.

2023.

The processed long chilli pepper from delta regions, which is the good quality, fetched K12,000 per viss. A dried chilli pepper businessman purchased 1,000 visses on 3 October, Ko Hla Han, a depot owner from Seinpan Street in Yangon’s Bayintnaung area, told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

Those traders who store the long chilli pepper and Moehtaung chilli pepper varieties in cold storage facilities reaped some loss from the price drop in mid-2023. The long chilli peppers were priced at K15,000-19,000 per viss on 4 October 2022.

Despite drops in prices of the long chilli pepper and Moehtaung varieties, bell pepper prices stayed high at K14,000-16,000 per viss in the wholesale market. The bell pepper from the Sinphyukyun area processed in cold storage fetched K18,500-19,000 per viss. Chinese bell pepper price was K19,000 per viss on 4 October.

The bell pepper price hit a record high of K31,000 per viss on 17 November 2022. — TWA/KK



An aerial view of residential apartments in Yangon.

Apartment prices continue to surge in select Yangon townships

ACCORDING to real estate agents and tenants, the buying and selling prices of residential apartments, as well as apartment rental rates in certain townships in Yangon, are still on the rise. Despite price controls on domestic goods, gold, and some foreign currencies implemented by authorities, the transaction values and rental rates for houses, land, apartments, and cars have not seen significant decreases.

“They are buying and selling at their preferred prices. In suburban townships, 12x50 feet apartments on the 5th floor

used to cost over K60 million. Rental rates have also increased, ranging from K150,000 to K180,000 per month, up from K120,000. Contracts are being signed when landlords and tenants agree on their desired prices,” said Realtor Ma Thanda in an interview with The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

“When selling apartments, the seller has to pay a two per cent commission to both the agent and the land owner,” added Ma Ni Win, who handles apartment transactions, speaking to the GNLM.

Ma Than Than, a resident of Sangyoung Township, told the GNLM that while apartment prices have risen in most of the city’s six townships, the selling prices of apartments in Sangyoung Township have decreased. Rental rates have also increased by approximately K50,000 per month, according to apartment tenants. Ma Htay Htay, an agent, was quoted by the GNLM saying that ground floor rents in alleys, which were previously at a minimum of K300,000, have now increased to around K400,000 in October. — TWA/CT

Octane 92 price falls below K2,000 per litre

FUEL prices are moving down at a slow pace in the domestic market and Octane 92 price reached below K2,000 per litre.

Fuel prices were K1,990 per litre of Octane 92, K2,085 for Octane 95, K2,405 for diesel and K2,445 for premium diesel on 5 October. The prices touched a high of K2,440 per litre of Octane 92, K2,565 for Octane 95, K2,650 for diesel and K2,725 for premium diesel on 18 September. The figures showed a three-week decrease of K245-480 per litre.

The price index set by Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS), the pricing basis for many refined products in southeast Asia, influences the domestic fuel prices, according to the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

In August 2022, the oil prices hit the highest of K2,605 per litre for Octane 92, K2,670 for Octane 95, K3,330 for premium diesel and K3,245 for diesel.

The committee is therefore steering the fuel oil storage and distribution sector effectively so



Fuel prices were K1,990 per litre of Octane 92, K2,085 for Octane 95, K2,405 for diesel and K2,445 for premium diesel on 5 October. The picture depicts fuel being pumped into the vehicle at the petrol station in Yangon.

as not to have a shortage of oil in the domestic market and to ensure price stability for energy consumers.

The Petroleum Products Regulatory Department, under the guidance of the committee, is issuing the daily reference rate for oil to offer a reasonable price to energy consumers. The refer-

ence rate in the Yangon Region is set on the MOPS's price assessment, shipping cost, premium insurance, tax, other general costs and health profit per cent.

The rates for regions and states other than Yangon are evaluated after adding the transportation cost and the retail reference rates daily covered on the

state-run newspapers and are posted on the media and official website and Facebook page of the department daily starting from 4 May.

The committee is inspecting the fuel stations whether they are overcharging or not. The authorities are taking action against those retailers of fuel stations un-

der the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law 2017 if they are found overcharging rather than the set reference rate.

As per the statement, 90 per cent of fuel oil in Myanmar is imported, while the remaining 10 per cent is produced locally. The domestic fuel price is highly correlated with international prices. The State is steering the market to mitigate the loss between the importers, sellers and energy consumers. Consequently, the government is trying to distribute the oil at a reasonable price compared to those of regional countries. Some countries levied higher tax rates and hiked oil prices compared to that of Myanmar. However, Malaysia's oil sector receives government subsidies and the prices are about 60 per cent cheaper than that of Myanmar. Every country lays down different patterns of policy to fix the oil prices. Myanmar also levies only a lower tax rate on fuel oil and strives for energy consumers to buy the oil at a cheaper rate. — NN/EM

Myanmar businesspersons invited to join World Design Assembly Tokyo

UNION of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry notified that Myanmar's businesspersons have been invited to engage in the World Design Assembly Tokyo.

Along with this three-day event from 27 to 29 October, the ASEAN-related events to mark the 50th year of ASEAN-Japan friendship and cooperation will be simultaneously held.

This being so, the intergovernmental organization ASEAN-Japan Centre has been collaborating with the Japan Institute of Design Promotion (JDP), World Design Assembly and partner organizations that promote innovative business platforms in the region. Those interested can showcase their innovative offerings, technology and design at the World Design Assembly Tokyo.

Each country is entitled to exhibit five products or five

companies per country can join the World Design Assembly. ASEAN-Japan Centre will support the event and the participants must bear the participation fee.

Those interested can fill in the form and send a list including organization name, participant's name, position, email address, contact phone number and category of product with company letterhead by 11 October to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, under the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations through email: investmentpromotion@dica.gov.mm, dica.ip.mm@gmail.com. A copy of the document must be forwarded to the expo division of the UMFCCI via email: itpc.umfcci@gmail.com or 01 231434 (Ext: 301) by fax, UMFCCI notified. — NN/KK

Black gram prices fall after India extends stock holding limits for pulses

AS India extended the period of stock limits for pulses until 3 December from end-October, the price of black gram (urad in India) has dropped accordingly amid huge stocks in Yangon's pulses market.

Stock limits are 200 tonnes for wholesalers and five tonnes for retailers. Pulses cultivation dropped by four per cent during the monsoon pulses season in 2023 compared to that of 2022, citing the last notification issued by India's Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. The ministry's report indicated that there were 12.357 million hectares of monsoon pulses in 2023, which declined from 12.889 million hectares, showing a drop of four per cent.

The pigeon pea (tur) prices remain unchanged at K4.075 million per tonne from 29 September to 3 October 2023 owing to the low stocks. Black gram prices continued down-



The photo shows pulses being organized for sale at the market.

ward trends from K2.52 million per tonne on 30 September to K2.465 million per tonne on 3 October.

The black gram hit the highest of K2.634 million per tonne on 22 September, whereas the pigeon pea price peaked at K4.15 million per tonne on 8 September.

During the monsoon sea-

son, India allegedly reported a decrease of 14 per cent for black gram, 7.6 per cent for green gram and 5.9 per cent for pigeon pea. The statements of high crop-producing countries weigh on the market. Indian traders are closely observing Myanmar's pulse cultivation conditions along with India's output. — TWA/EM

OPINION

Let's join hands to secure success in MSME businesses

MYANMAR'S backbone of economic growth lies within its Micro-, Small-, and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs). These enterprises, readily accessible to citizen businesspersons, play a pivotal role in shaping the nation's development and bolstering the state's economy. Recognizing their significance, the government has embarked on a mission to encourage and invigorate MSMEs. Their strategy primarily focuses on prioritizing manufacturing processes, thereby fortifying the domestic economy, reducing dependence on imported goods, and augmenting export volumes.

To propel this initiative forward, businesspersons must place a strong emphasis on utilizing domestic raw materials sourced from agriculture and livestock farms in the production of MSME goods. This symbiotic relationship between MSMEs and the agricultural sector promises mutual growth and prosperity.

Rural areas in the State, inhabited by more than 70 per cent of the population, are predominantly engaged in agricultural and livestock farming activities. Success in MSME businesses holds the key to reducing poverty and ensuring economic development across the entire nation. Therefore, it is imperative for local authorities of regions and states, along with businesspersons, to collaborate harmoniously in the pursuit of MSME success.

In conclusion, the road to economic prosperity in Myanmar runs through the heart of its MSMEs. By fostering an environment conducive to their growth and prioritizing domestic resources, Myanmar can ensure the well-being of its citizens and secure a brighter economic future for the State.

These business environments must adhere to certain criteria: simplifying the startup process, ensuring the smooth flow of capital, fostering entrepreneurial spirit, and disseminating information effectively through information networks to integrate into the international supply chain.

MSMEs constitute over 90 per cent of the State's economy, making their prosperity paramount to the overall economic improvement of the nation. Businesspersons should strive to operate both heavy and high-tech industries based on MSMEs, thereby ushering in a new era of industrialization. Simultaneously, they should create job opportunities, with a focus on raw material production, manufacturing, distribution, sales, and stakeholder income generation, contributing to an increase in domestic consumption.

Rural areas in the State, inhabited by more than 70 per cent of the population, are predominantly engaged in agricultural and livestock farming activities. Success in MSME businesses holds the key to reducing poverty and ensuring economic development across the entire nation. Therefore, it is imperative for local authorities of regions and states, along with businesspersons, to collaborate harmoniously in the pursuit of MSME success.

In conclusion, the road to economic prosperity in Myanmar runs through the heart of its MSMEs. By fostering an environment conducive to their growth and prioritizing domestic resources, Myanmar can ensure the well-being of its citizens and secure a brighter economic future for the State.

THE term 'performance appraisal' is defined as the process in which a headmaster or an educator evaluates a teacher's work behaviours by measurement and comparison with previously established standards, records the results and communicates them to the teacher. Hence, this appraisal can be said to be one of the most important tools for staff management and administration accessible to the headmaster or educator. Performance appraisal is rational and systematic, and the information received through it contributes to good foundations useful for developing, recruiting, and selecting new teachers, training and improving existing teachers, and motivating and maintaining quality work by adequately rewarding their performance, focusing on a developmental orientation.

Teacher performance appraisal

Teacher performance appraisal for newcomers to education must be centred on at least eight competencies. Teachers should demonstrate commitment to the well-being and development of all students; 2) have dedicated their efforts to teaching and supporting student learning and achievement; 3) treat all students equitably with mutual respect; 4) create a learning environment that encourages students to be problem solvers, decision-makers, lifelong learners and helpful members of a changing society; 5) know their subject matter, curriculum, and educational leg-

and accomplishment of students; 7) communicate effectively and efficiently with students, parents and colleagues; and 8) conduct ongoing assessment of students' progress. The purposes of TPA should be to access amateur teachers' knowledge, skills and attitudes, to identify strengths and areas for educational growth, to plan the next steps towards the advancement of education, to enhance schools as learning communities where new teachers are given many opportunities to engage in collective inquiry that offers educational expansion continuity, and to establish a framework to make increased effort aimed at upholding students' success in education.

Qualifications of a teacher

Before TPA, the qualities and qualifications of a teacher will need to be described, I think. The teacher's personal good attributes can bring about the educational product development, that is, qualified students. The teacher qualities include 1) enthusiasm and optimism – interest in work, alertness, humour, cheerfulness and affability, 2) initiative and resourcefulness – the ability to originate, adapt ideas and carry them out with the subject to teach, 3) interest in and sympathy with students – a sympathetic understanding and interest in pupils, extending beyond the subject to teach, 4) personal habits – being morally obliged to set a worthy example, 5) sincerity and integrity – being measured in terms of a teacher's



Teacher performance appraisal is crucial for improving teachers' skills at all levels of education and raising student achievement standards. ILLUSTRATION: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ VIA EDEXEC.CO.UK

Performance Appraisal of Beginner Teachers' Competency Skills

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

control – the ideals and habits a teacher seeks to instill. Also, teachers must possess three qualifications: 1) an academic qualification – the mastery of subject matter, 2) a professional qualification – the art of imparting knowledge, skill and attitude towards students, and 3) an attitudinal qualification – the right attitude to the society. Only when a teacher has gained the above-mentioned qualities and qualifications in advance will he be able to do his duties and responsibilities happily and satisfactorily.

Four main categories

On top of that, ten standards are considered to apply to all teachers regardless of their teaching level or subject matter area, developed by the Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC)

in the United States, into four main categories: 1) principles – the basic laws and assumptions underlying good teaching for starters, 2) knowledge – the major concepts, assumptions, and ways of knowing that beginner teachers will need to support the principles, 3) dispositions – the temperament or tendency for a beginner teacher to believe, think or act in one way as opposed to another, and 4) performance – the actual decisions and teaching behaviours that beginner teachers have to embody the principles in their practice at acceptable levels. If the ten INTASC core standards for beginner teachers, the teacher understands and uses 1) the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structure of disciplines he teaches and the creation of learning experiences that make these aspects of subject matter

meaningful for students, 2) how students learn and develop, and can be provided learning opportunities that support their intellectual, social, and personal development, 3) how students differ in their approaches to learning and are created instructional opportunities that are adapted to diverse learners, 4) a variety of instructional strategies to encourage students' development of critical thinking, problem solving and performance skills, 5) individual and group motivations or behaviours to create a learning environment that promotes positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation, 6) knowledge of effective verbal, nonverbal, media communication techniques to foster active inquiry, collaboration, and supportive interaction in the classroom, 7) the instruction based upon knowledge of

subject matter, students, the community and curricular goals, 8) formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate and ensure the continuously intellectual, social and physical improvement of students, 9) reflectively evaluating the effects of choices and actions on students, parents and other professionals in the learning community and actively seeking out opportunities to grow professionally, and 10) relationships with school colleagues, parents and agencies in the larger community to carry students' learning and well-being.

Professional practice

The components of professional practice are categorized into four domains: 1) planning and preparation, 2) the classroom environment, 3) instruction, and 4) professional responsibilities. The first domain involves i) demonstrating knowledge of content, prerequisite relationships, content-related pedagogy, characteristics of an age group, students' carried approaches to learning,

dures with the management of instructional groups, transitions, materials and supplies, performance of non-instructional duties, supervision of volunteers and paraprofessionals, iv) managing student behaviour with expectations, response, and v) organizing physical space with the safety and arrangement of furniture, accessibility to learning and use of physical resources. The third domain covers i) communicating direction, procedures, oral and written language clearly and accurately, ii) using quality questioning and discussion techniques, iii) engaging students in learning with the representation of content and assignment colleagues, grouping of student projects, instructional materials and resources, structure and pacing, iv) providing accurate, substantive, constructive, specific feedback and timeliness to students, and v) demonstrating lesson adjustment, persistence. The fourth domain consists of i) reflecting on teaching with the accuracy and use of future teaching, ii)

1) demonstrating knowledge of content and pedagogy as in 'The teacher is able to apply his subject to real-world setting', 2) demonstrating knowledge of students as in 'The teacher displays knowledge of the interests of each student', 3) selecting instructional goals as in 'The teacher articulates how goals relate to curriculum frameworks and standards', 4) demonstrating knowledge of resources as in 'The teacher displays an awareness of resources through the school or community', 5) designing coherent instruction as in 'The teacher is able to use time wisely and effectively', 6) communicating clearly and accurately as in 'The teacher's directions and procedures are clear to students and anticipate possible student misunderstanding', 7) using questioning and discussion techniques as in 'The teacher's questions are of uniformly high quality with adequate time for students to respond', 8) engaging students in learning as in 'Pacing of the lesson is appropriate for all students', 9) providing feedback to students as in 'Feedback is consistently provided in a timely manner', 10) demonstrating flexibility and responsiveness as in 'The teacher seizes an opportunity to enhance learning through accommodating students' questions or interests', 11) creating the classroom environment as in 'The teacher responds to student misbehaviour appropriately and correctly', 12) assessing student learning as in 'The teacher uses assessment results to plan for the class as a whole', and 13) professional responsibilities as in 'The teacher reflects on his teaching'.

In actual fact, teacher performance appraisal is essential to develop teachers at all levels of the education system and to upgrade the achievement standard for students.

This appraisal is a sort of formal evaluation by which headmasters or educators can manage to point out whether a teacher's performance meets the required standards of the position at which he arrives in the present. What is more, the performance appraisal of beginner teachers' competency skills will help them agree and review their priorities, individual goals, or professional needs.

Checklist for teachers

Therefore, a sample checklist for teachers can be carried out in terms of thirteen points:

NATIONAL

Coordination Meeting on ASEAN Community Vision 2045 among relevant ministries of three ASEAN Community Pillars held

A coordination meeting on the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 among relevant ministries of three ASEAN Political-Security Community Pillars, ASEAN Economic Community Pillar and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Pillar was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw on 5 October 2023. The coordination meeting was led by U Kyaw Myo Htut, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, and attended by Dr Wah Wah Maung, Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Directors-General and high-ranking officials from respective ministries.

In his opening remarks, U Kyaw Myo Htut, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, expressed his satisfaction with the finalization of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045. He encouraged the



The coordination meeting on the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 among relevant ministries of three ASEAN Community Pillars in progress on 5 October in Nay Pyi Taw.

relevant Ministries to continue their cooperation in line with their respective national plans in order to achieve national interest through regional cooperation. In addition, the Deputy Minister

discussed the future directions and prospects for Myanmar to be able to effectively coordinate in ASEAN during 2024 and then encouraged the participants to exchange their views in an open

and candid manner.

Then, Dr Wah Wah Maung, Deputy Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, and Eminent Person (EP) of Myanmar, briefed the meeting on the

completion of drafting the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 under the theme of “Resilient, Dynamic, and People-Centred”. She stressed the need to formulate the attendant documents/ strategic plans of the ASEAN Vision in line with national action plans and encouraged the Ministries and relevant agencies under the three ASEAN Community Pillars to continue close cooperation and coordination.

Afterwards, representatives from the respective Ministries exchanged their views on the contributions and cooperation of Myanmar as an ASEAN Member State, relevant programmes and activities which are carried out under each pillar; and the future of ASEAN. Representatives from 10 Ministries under three ASEAN Community Pillars attended the coordination meeting. — MNA

Illegal timbers, industrial materials, foodstuffs, consumer goods and vehicles confiscated

The Customs on-duty teams under the supervision of the Customs Department made inspections on 2 and 3 October and impounded a Nissan diesel tractor head with a trailer (approximately K45 million), headed to Yangon from Myawady, carrying 470 square metres of Creamic tile worth K2,403,110 that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) and a Yutong express (estimated value of K30 million), travelling from Myawady to Yangon, carrying 5,750 bottles of M-150 energy drink worth K2.07 million without official documents at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint, 15 sets of Iron door with lock worth K4.5 million that exceeded the ID from a container at the Myanmar Industrial Port and 3,105 kilogrammes of cutting wheel worth K6,520,500 that were not declared in the ID from a container at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 3 October, the combined teams confiscated a Mitsubishi Fuso truck and a Hino truck (approximately K60 million), headed to Yangon from Myawady, carrying 4,000 kilogrammes of Innoplus high-density polyethylene and 5,000 pairs of Shoes worth K29.3 million that exceeded the ID near the Shwethanlwin tollgate in Phayagyi and a total of 0.892 tonne of illegal teaks, 35.282 tonnes of illegal hardwoods and 1.546 tonnes of other timbers worth K17,948,340 in Toungoo district. The action was taken under Customs procedures and the Forest Law.

A combined team conducted inspections of the Myanmar Railway No 82 Down Train, headed to Yangon from Mawlamyine, at the Paung Rail Station in Paung township on 3 October and captured three kinds of goods worth K2.086 million including

180 litres of palm oil (Two Shrimps) without official documents. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

The combined on-duty teams nabbed two kinds of goods worth K1.953 million including 414 litres of MEESOOK palm oil without official documents at the Shwe Kaungkin ladies' boarding in Myeik township, two kinds of goods worth K5.436 million including 1,812 litres of MEESOOK palm oil without official documents at the JK convenience store in Myeik on 4 October.

On the same day, the combined teams seized a Man tractor head with a trailer (approximately K56 million), travelling from Muse to Mandalay, carrying 468 square meters of Porcelain tiles worth K13,475,030 that were not declared in the ID at the Milepost 23/6 on Muse-Mandalay Road and a Hino Profia truck (estimated value of K25 million), travelling from Yangon to Mandalay, carrying 14,400 bottles of Hand & Body Lotion worth K21.6 million without official documents in Myitnge township. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 4 October, a combined team impounded a Toyota HiAce (approximately K20 million), headed to Hpa-an from Myawady, carrying two kinds of goods worth K6.048 million including 3,440 bags of AJINOMOTO MSG without official documents near Nonglon Valley at the detour of Hpa-an township. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

As a result, a total of 18 arrests were made on three consecutive days from 2 to 4 October, with an estimated value of K349,339,980, as reported by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee.

— MNA/MKKS



MRESA members attend Asia-Pacific Real Estate Convention and FIABCI-Thai Seminar in Bangkok

OVER 110 members of the Myanmar Real Estate Services Association (MRESA) attended the Asia-Pacific Real Estate Convention and FIABCI-Thai Seminar for the first time in Bangkok, Thailand, according to U Khin Maung Than, chairman of the association.

The event will take place on 5 and 6 October in Bangkok and Myanmar was invited to the event for the first time. The France based international real estate federation initiated the FIABCI events.

“The FIABCI established in 1951 organized the Asia-Pacific Real Estate Convention & FIABCI-Thai. This is the first participation of Myanmar. The developers, real estate agents, legal professionals, and contractors from over 70 countries is attending the event and they will also read out the papers. The seminar will offer international standard real estate services and deliver the law, ethnic and techniques for the field of properties,” said U Khin Maung Than. Myanmar Real Estate Services Association makes efforts to work with international real estate organizations to offer international standard services. — ASH/KTZH

S Korean migrant's tale to open Asia's biggest film festival



A woman cycles past a poster of South Korean actress Go Ah-sung for the film 'Because I Hate Korea' at the Busan Cinema Center before the opening of the 28th Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) in Busan. **PHOTO: ANTHONY WALLACE / AFP**

BIFF will be held from the opening day until 13 October, featuring a total of 209 official entries from 69 different countries. Among these, 80 films will have their world premieres at the festival in Busan.

A South Korean film about a disillusioned young woman who relocates to New Zealand will open Asia's largest film festival Wednesday as it looks to rally from a year marked by scandal and budget cutbacks.

The Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) will run until 13 October and feature 209 official entries from 69 countries. Eighty will be making their world premieres in the southern port city.

This year's edition comes as organizers grapple with the fall-

out from former festival director Huh Moon-yung's resignation in May amid accusations of sexual misconduct. An inquiry is underway.

BIFF had its 2023 budget reduced by about 10 per cent as sponsors withdrew in the wake of the allegations, according to organizers.

Kang Seung-ah, now serving as acting managing director, acknowledged they had endured a "difficult phase".

But "leveraging the strength

of our members, we have prepared a festival that is more substantial than ever before", Kang told reporters ahead of the event.

The world premiere of South Korean director Jang Kun-jae's "Because I Hate Korea" will take centre stage on opening night.

The film, which revolves around a young woman's decision to abandon her monotonous life in South Korea and go overseas alone, is based on the best-selling 2015 novel of the same name by Chang Kang-myung. — AFP

'We know who we are': Dance-pop band Muna comes into its own

SINCE the pandemic shock of being dropped by its label, the dance-pop band Muna has only seen its star rise, with a hit album, a coveted spot opening for Taylor Swift — and a more defined sense of self.

The Los Angeles-born group beloved for their anthems of queer joy will close out its successful tour — which sold out most dates — later this month at home, at the open-air Greek Theatre.

"It really feels like this is just, like, a culmination of a cycle," lead singer Katie Gavin told AFP backstage ahead of the

band's highly anticipated performance at this past weekend's All Things Go festival in Columbia, Maryland.

The members of Muna — Gavin, Naomi McPherson and Josette Maskin — met while studying at the University of Southern California. All of them identify as queer.

In 2017, they released their first album "About U" and got to open for Harry Styles on tour. In 2019, they put out another album called "Saves The World". But when the pandemic hit, their record label, RCA, let them go to save money. — AFP



The members of Muna — Katie Gavin, Naomi McPherson and Josette Maskin — met while in college at the University of Southern California. **PHOTO: ANGELA WEISS/AFP**

West Bank city pins tourism hopes on UNESCO listing



Tourists get their picture taken while riding camels near the sign marking mean sea level, along the road between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea south of Jericho. **PHOTO: HAZEM BADER / AFP**

IN the ancient city of Jericho in the occupied West Bank, a prehistoric site has raised Palestinian hopes of a tourism boom after UNESCO declared it a World Heritage site.

Just a few dozen visitors braved the midday sun to stroll around Tell al-Sultan, where archaeologists have unearthed evidence of community life dating back about 10,000 years.

Passersby may not spot the inconspicuous mound tucked away on the edge of

Jericho, but it drew international attention in September when it was added to UNESCO's World Heritage List.

Residents celebrated with fireworks, well aware that such recognition could change their fortunes.

"For the first time, I felt that there was justice in the world," said Jericho mayor Abdulkareem Sider.

"Hopefully it will have a significant positive impact on the number of tourists," he added at his office in city hall,

where paintings of Jericho's heritage adorn the walls.

Jericho boasts a wealth of ancient sites, including the extensive mosaics of Hisham's Palace, an early Islamic site which Palestinian officials hope will be next to get a UNESCO listing.

A monastery clings to the Mount of Temptation, where Christians believe Jesus struggled with Satan for 40 days, while other biblical sites are dotted across the landscape. — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Macau bets on China's 'Golden Week' holiday to stage comeback

MACAU'S baccarat and poker tables were teeming once again as millions of Chinese tourists marked "Golden Week" in October, with post-pandemic travel surging despite the country's economic slowdown.

Chinese travellers are expected to make more than 100 million daily trips during the annual national holiday -- making it the "hottest" Golden Week ever, a state-backed tourism think tank predicted.

And hundreds of thousands have set their sights on Macau -- a semi-autonomous city of 680,000 that is the only place in China where casinos operate legally.

"I would say Macau is back," said bartender Aubrhey, 32, who works at a five-star hotel in the former Portuguese colony.

"Not to (its) best, but at least

A state-backed tourism think tank predicted that Chinese tourists would make more than 100 million daily trips during this annual national holiday, making it the busiest Golden Week ever.



Chinese tourists take photos outside Macau's Londoner Casino on. **PHOTO: AFP**

we're way past the pandemic times."

Golden Week for him has been a heady mix of 10-hour shifts and good money, a seasonal bonanza for Macau's hospitality industry.

Chinese tourists "are prepared, they have money," he told AFP. "I think they are spending as much as before the pandemic." Much of the cash is left on the casino floor, as Macau's gaming industry increasingly relies on mass-market players after Beijing drove away high rollers with a years-long regulatory crackdown.

Last year, Macau saw just 25,000 daily visitors during Golden Week, with the government following Beijing's zero-Covid strategy and shuttering businesses as infections peaked. — AFP

IMF, World Bank to tackle climate goals among reforms at annual meetings



The IMF and World Bank's annual meetings take place in Marrakesh next week. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE World Bank and International Monetary Fund will tackle the thorny issue of institutional reform at their upcoming annual meetings in Morocco next week.

The two international financial institutions are looking to scale up and retool to pursue ambitious global climate goals, while continuing to support emerging market and developing economies struggling to service rising debt levels.

This year's annual meetings will take place in the city of Marrakesh, just weeks after a devastating earthquake in the region left close to 3,000 people dead.

It will be the first such event to take place on the African continent for half a century, and will focus on building economic resilience, securing structural reforms and reinvigorating global cooperation, according to the IMF. — AFP

OPEC+ maintains output reduction to boost oil prices

AN OPEC+ panel recommended Wednesday that the oil cartel keep its current output reduction strategy unchanged after heavyweights Saudi Arabia and Russia vowed to maintain their cuts to prop up prices.

Oil prices recovered in recent months and approached \$100 per barrel last week as top producers Saudi Arabia and Russia have taken millions of barrels off the market.

Crude prices have eased in more recent days, however, as markets worry over a slowing economy and interest rates remaining high for longer in the United States and Europe.

In a statement following a virtual meeting, OPEC+ said its Joint Ministerial Monitoring Committee (JMMC) "reaffirmed the commitment of its member countries" to maintain its production reduction strategy valid until the end of 2024.

The panel added that it stands "ready to take additional measures at any time" depending on market conditions.

The JMMC also praised the "efforts... of Saudi Arabia" to voluntarily reduce its production by one million barrels per day (bpd) since July.

The Saudi Ministry of Energy confirmed that the voluntary cut would continue until the end of 2023.

It added that the kingdom's production would amount to about nine million bpd in No-

vember and December.

Russia will maintain its export cuts of about 300,000 bpd until December, Russian deputy prime minister Alexander Novak said in the government's Telegram channel.

Both Riyadh and Moscow stressed that they would review their cuts next month to decide whether to deepen them or increase production. — AFP



Crude prices have eased in more recent days, however, as markets worry over a slowing economy and interest rates remaining high for longer in the United States and Europe. **PHOTO: AFP**

Hong Kong taps double festivals to ignite consumer frenzy



The three-day holiday is expected to generate around 1.2 billion Hong Kong dollars (about 150 million US dollars) in revenue for the food and beverage industry. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

HONG Kong witnessed a vibrant and record-setting consumer market as the city moved to unlock its spending potential during the Mid-Autumn Festival and National Day holiday from 30 September to 2 October.

The Hong Kong Palace Museum proved to be a major highlight, breaking records with

over 9,200 visitors on 2 October, marking the highest single-day attendance since its opening in July 2022.

Additionally, the promotional efforts by the Hong Kong Theatres Association resulted in another remarkable achievement, with the highest number of admissions on National Day in nearly a decade,

attracting over 150,000 people. The food and beverage industry also witnessed a significant increase in consumption and recreational activities. More than 1,700 restaurants in Hong Kong provided a 30 per cent discount during the festive period, in addition to offering special set menus and food promotions. — Xinhua

Bangladesh inflation eases but stays high

BANGLADESH consumer price increases eased slightly from August to September but still pointed to an elevated inflation rate.

The country's inflation decreased to 9.63 per cent in September from 9.92 per-

cent in August, the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics reported Tuesday.

Inflation in Bangladesh jumped to 9.94 per cent in May, the highest in the past decade, also mainly driven by higher food prices. — AFP

Notice for Change of Pesticides Trade Name

The foreign manufacturer AgriGate CropSciences Pte., Ltd will import and distribute the following insecticides registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board Changing trading name.

| No. | Old Trade Name | New Trade Name | A.I | Reg: Type | Reg: No. |
|-----|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------|------------|
| 1 | Pyang Kaung Htwet Toe 105 OD | Hone Hone Tauk 105 OD | Mesotrione 75g/l + Nicosulfuron 30 g/l OD | Experimental | E2021-5463 |

It is therefore announced to come and reject within 14 days to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of insecticide.

Address- Myanma Awba Group Co., Ltd
No.(95-A), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road, 8th mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon Region, The Republic of Union of Myanmar.

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Central Committee for Holding Myanmar Gems Emporium

The Information about Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2023

1. The significant **Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2023**, under the supervision of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, will be held from October 20 to 28, 2023 at Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw. Genuine Myanmar pearl, gems and rough jade lots will be sold at the Emporium.
2. The local gems entrepreneurs who got the permit and the local gems merchants who got the license to operate in the finished gemstone making and dealing under the Myanmar Gem Law will be allowed to attend and purchase the Lots at **Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium, 2023** according to the terms and conditions.
3. For further information in detail about granted admission to purchase Lots at **Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium, 2023**, any merchants can inquire and keep contact with Emporium Central Committee, Myanmar Gems Enterprise (Head Office), Myanmar Pearl Enterprise (Head Office) in Nay Pyi Taw.

Emporium Central Committee

Notice for Change of Distributor

Notice is hereby given that official distributor has been changed for the following pesticides distributed by **Agro Green Land Chemical Co. Ltd.** to **Aung Linn Animal Health Ltd.**

| No | Trade Name | Active Ingredient | Registration Type | Registration Number |
|----|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Foison Fendi 5 EC | Emamectin Benzoate 5% EC | Provisional | P2018-4256 |

Agro Green Land Chemical Co. Ltd., invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. **Agro Green Land Chemical Co. Ltd.** Tel: 09-777758847

Advertise with us/ Hot Line : 09251022355, 09255597511

The Global New Light of Myanmar

www.gnlm.com.mm

သတင်းစာ မှာယူလိုပါက ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်

09 454 237 515

သတင်းစာ ဂျာနယ် စာစောင်များကို နှိုင်းတကာခံချိန်မီ ပို့နှစ်လိုပါက ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါတယ်

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ကြော်ငြာခွင့်များနှင့် ကြော်ငြာအေဂျင်စီများ ကြော်ငြာ ထည့်သွင်းလိုပါက ထိုက်ရိုက်ဆက်သွယ် ဆွေးနွေးနိုင်ပါတယ်

09 974 424 848

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY.NO. (109N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY.NO. (109N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-10-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2317S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2317S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-10-2023** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

At least 14 dead, 102 missing in India glacial lake burst



The disaster, which has affected the lives of 22,000 people, authorities said, is the latest in a series of deadly weather events in South Asia's mountains blamed on climate change. **PHOTO: ANI**

Intense rainfall led to a Himalayan glacial lake overflowing in northeast India. Rescuers are facing challenges due to damaged bridges and swift rivers.

THE death toll from a devastating glacial lake burst that triggered a torrential flash flood in India has risen to at least 14 people, with 102 others still missing, according to officials. Violent flooding from glacier lakes dammed by loose rock has become more frequent as global temperatures rise and ice melts, with climate scientists warning they pose an increasing danger across the wider Himalayan mountain range.

"Floodwaters have caused havoc in four districts of the state, sweeping away people, roads, bridges," Himanshu Tiwari, an Indian Army spokesman told AFP on Thursday, speaking a day after the wall of water rushed down the mountainous valley in

northeast Sikkim state.

Authorities said roads had been "severely" damaged and that 14 bridges had been washed away. "Fourteen bodies have been recovered so far, and 102 people are missing, including army personnel," Sikkim state chief secretary Vijay Bhushan Pathak told reporters late Wednesday.

Among the missing are 22 soldiers, the army said. One previously missing soldier was rescued.

The water surge came after intense rainfall burst the high-altitude Lhonak Lake, which sits at the base of a glacier in peaks surrounding the world's third-highest mountain, Kangchenjunga. — AFP

TOP HEADLINES

Musk's X strips headlines from news links

Elon Musk's social media platform X has stripped headlines from news articles shared by users, in a move likely to further worsen relations with media groups.

The tycoon has long railed against the "legacy media" and claims X, formerly Twitter, is a better source of information.

However, he said the latest change was for "aesthetic" reasons — news and other links now appear only as pictures with no accompanying text.

Musk took over Twitter last year in a \$44 billion deal and has since renamed it X, sacked thousands of staff and drawn criticism for allowing banned conspiracy theorists and extremists back on the platform, sending advertisers fleeing.

He has also banned — and reinstated — various journalists with mainstream outlets including the Washington Post and CNN, as well as appearing to delay posts from accounts including the New York Times. — AFP

Bangladesh accepts first uranium for Russia-backed nuclear plant

BANGLADESH received the first uranium delivery on Thursday for its Russia-backed nuclear plant, a project aimed at bolstering its overstretched energy grid but complicated by sanctions on Moscow.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has courted Russian ties with renewed vigour after Western criticism over her government's rights record. Moscow is bankrolling the \$12.65-billion plant with a loan for 90 per cent of its cost, with hopes it will alleviate the chronic blackouts plaguing the South Asian nation.

"Bangladesh is our long-term friend and partner," Russian President Vladimir Putin said during a videoconference with Hasina to mark the handover. — AFP

Second round of Fukushima wastewater release begins: operator

The discharge began on Thursday and follows the first release in August, which aimed to reduce the 1.34 million tonnes of stored water since the 2011 tsunami.

JAPAN began releasing a second batch of treated wastewater from the Fukushima nuclear plant on Thursday, its operator said.

The water discharge began at 10:18 am (0118 GMT), a TEPCO spokesman told AFP.

It follows the first discharge on 24 August, when Japan began releasing some of the 1.34 million tonnes of wastewater built up since a tsunami struck the facility in 2011.

While Japan has insisted the treated water poses no health risks — a view backed by the UN's nuclear watchdog — China has repeatedly criticized the release and banned all Japanese seafood imports.

As with the initial release that ended 11 September, about 7,800 tonnes of water are expected to be discharged in the second phase.

TEPCO has said the wastewater has been filtered of all

radioactive elements except tritium, which is within safe levels. "It has been confirmed that the first release has been conducted as planned and in a safe manner," government spokesman Hirokazu Matsuno told reporters Thursday, stressing no abnormalities had been detected. The government will

"continue to communicate, both domestically and internationally, results of monitoring data in a highly transparent manner," Matsuno said. Japan will also urge China to "immediately scrap import bans on Japanese food, and act based on scientific justifications", he added. — AFP



About 7,800 tonnes will be discharged in this phase, with the water filtered of radioactive elements except tritium, deemed safe.

PHOTO: TOKYO ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY (TEPCO)/AFP

SPORTS



North Korea win sixth weightlifting gold at Asian Game

NORTH Korea claimed their sixth Asian Games weightlifting gold on Thursday with Song Kuk Hyang winning the women's 76-kilogramme category while China's Tian Tao took out the men's 96 kg title.

Song, last seen at the 2018 Youth Olympics, hoisted 150 kg with her final lift in the clean and jerk to pip teammate Jong Chun Hui by 1 kg and clinch the title.

She had earlier cleared 117 kg in the snatch for a 267 kg total, with Jong matching the snatch mark but managing only 149 kg in the clean and jerk. South Korea's Kim Su-hyeon came third.

North Korean weightlifters have so far won six golds, five silvers and two bronze on their return to international competition after almost four years away. They have also set six world records in Hangzhou, prompting some competitors to remark that they were "shocked" at the performances after a long absence because of Covid. — AFP



Myanmar women's Sepak Takraw team is seen holding the bronze medals at the XIX Asian Games. PHOTO: MNA

XIX Asian Games: Myanmar picks one bronze at Dragon Boat event

TEAM Myanmar earned one bronze in the 500-metre women's Dragon Boat event at Wenzhou Dragon Boat Centre in Wenzhou, China yesterday.

The Chinese team won the first place, while the Indonesian team won

the second place, and the Myanmar team won the third place among nine contestants.

In turn, the Myanmar men's boat race team finished fifth in the 500-metre men's Dragon Boat event.

Myanmar teams lost victories at the at Sepak Takraw men's and women's competitions held at Jinhau Sports Centre yesterday.

The Myanmar team will face India in the men's Sepak Takraw event while the women's Sepak Takraw team will take on Thailand today morning.

Team Myanmar will also join the women's 1,000-metre Dragon Boat event this morning. — MNA/KZL



Myanma Traditional Lethwei tourney to be launched with 13 bouts

THE final bouts of 360 Sports New Generation Aunglan and ordinary bouts of Aunglan will be conducted at Theinbyu Gymnasium in Yangon on 8 October.

The Lethwei tourney features 13 bouts including Myint Myat Hein (Lonchaw Club) versus Aung Kaung Kyaw (Ray) in 52-54 kilogrammes event, Nor Nor (Python) versus Aung Ko (Tiger Gym) and Soe Naung Naung (Dawna Thway) versus Than Lin

Aung (Ray) and Rein Naw (KCK) versus Saw Htee (Kyamanaing) in 54-57 kg event, Ye Kyaw Aung (360 Sports) versus Zan Tun (White Blood) and Kyar Yine (Tiger King) versus Ke Do Sey (Yoeya Kyar) and Min Khant Soe (Naga Mran) versus Aung Khant (Smart Fight) in 57-60 kg event. 360 Sports' Facebook page and YouTube channel will stream live while Channel K will broadcast live the traditional Lethwei event. — TWA/KZL

Kazakhstan achieves 1-2 finish in Asiad men's road cycling

ROAD cycling competition of the Hangzhou Asian Games came to a thrilling conclusion on Thursday as Kazak cyclists Yevgeniy Fedorov and Alexey Lutsenko had a 1-2 finish in the men's road race.

The race covered a challenging distance of 207.7 kilometres, featuring 60 athletes from 19 countries and regions, who navigated hilly terrains and crossing water bodies.

At the 56-kilometre mark, Fedorov caught up with Lutsenko, and the two cyclists alternated their leading positions. In the last 10 kilometres, other competitors began to intensify their pursuit, resulting in a frequent exchange of positions.

Fedorov won gold in cycling with a time of 4:25:29. Lutsenko got silver and Mongo-

lia's Sainbayar earned bronze. Lutsenko won a second cycling medal but admitted there was no competition with Fedorov. Both athletes appreciated their team's efforts. — Xinhua



Kazakh defending champion Alexey Lutsenko came second in the Asian Games road race. PHOTO: ANNE-CHRISTINE POUJOLAT / AFP

At least 14 dead,
102 missing in India
glacial lake burst

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WORLD



Forty-five ships, submarines and other vessels took part in Russia's annual Navy Day event, a traditional show of military might which takes place in the Gulf of Finland and on the River Neva in St Petersburg on 30 July. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/SPUTNIK/FILE**

Russian Navy to create permanent base in Abkhazia

A PERMANENT base for Russian naval forces will be created in Ochamchire bay in Abkhazia, and the corresponding agreement has already been signed, Abkhazian President Aslan Bzhania said on Thursday.

"We have signed an agreement, and in the nearest future a permanent base point for the Russian navy will be

established in the Ochamchire region," Bzhania told Russian newspaper.

He added that this is aimed at enhancing the defence capacity of both Russia and Abkhazia. The corresponding cooperation will continue as security is claimed to be a priority.

Bzhania said that even though Abkhazia has already done a lot in terms of defence and military cooperation

with Russia, much still lies ahead. Periodically, the countries carry out joint military training and cooperate on military and technical issues.

"Russia provides us with support, our specialists are constantly updating their qualifications in Russia's specialized institutions, that is why this question is never off the table", Bzhania added. — SPUTNIK

Norway playwright Jon Fosse wins Nobel in literature

NORWAY'S Jon Fosse, whose plays are among the most widely staged of any contemporary playwright in the world, won the Nobel prize in literature on Thursday.

Sometimes compared to Samuel Beckett — another Nobel-winning playwright — his work is minimalistic, relying on simple language which delivers its message through rhythm, melody and silence.

The Swedish Academy said the 64-year-old was honoured "for his innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable".

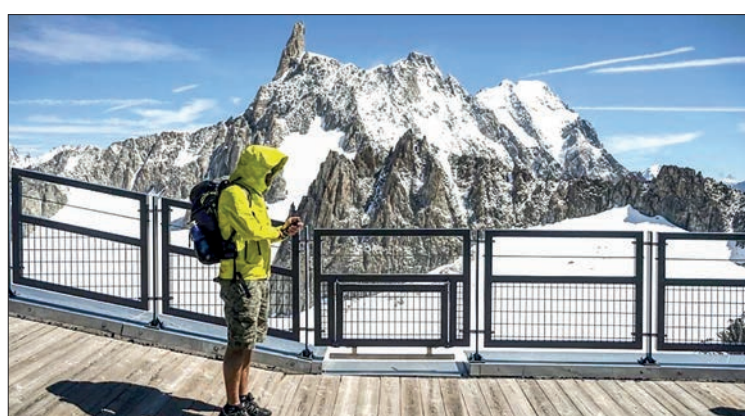


Norwegian writer Jon Fosse. **PHOTO: AFP**

Fosse's writing is defined more by form than content, where what is not said is often more revealing than what is.

"I am overwhelmed and grateful. I see this as an award to the literature that first and foremost aims to be literature, without other considerations," Fosse said in a statement. Speaking to Norwegian public broadcaster NRK, he said he was "surprised but also not", after his name had been mentioned in Nobel speculation for several years. — AFP

Mont Blanc shrinks by over two metres in two years



Researchers have been measuring it every two years since 2001 to study climate change's impact on the Alps. **PHOTO: MARCO BERTORELLO/AFP**

Mont Blanc, France's tallest mountain, has become more than two metres shorter in the last two years, now measuring 4,805.59 metres (15,766.4 feet). This decrease may be due to less summer precipitation.

FRANCE'S highest mountain, Mont Blanc, has shrunk by over two metres in height over the past two years, researchers said on Thursday, measuring the Alpine peak at 4,805.59 metres (15,766.4 feet).

The 2.22-metre (7.28-foot) decline could be down to lower precipitation during summer, said Jean des Garets, chief geometer in the Haute-Savoie department of southeastern France.

"Mont Blanc could well be much taller in two years" when it is next measured, he added, saying this was not the first time such a large change had been seen.

The mountain's rocky peak measures 4,792 metres above sea level, but its thick covering of ice and snow varies in height from year to year depending on wind and weather. — AFP