

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Chaungtha Beach packed with local and foreign travellers during the New Year.

## Chaungtha Beach thronged with vacationers during New Year

**I**T is reported that in Chaungtha town, Patheingyi district of Ayeyawady Region, there were a lot of local and foreign visitors who welcomed the New Year at the Chaungtha Beach and relaxed at the same time and it was more than normal days.

It is also known that there were visitors not only at the Chaungtha beach but also at Phokalar Island, White-sand Island, Shwethaungyan Beach, the rock Sibling, and Sea @ Lake Garden and the

vacationers travelled with cars, trikes, and motorcycles.

As tourism has developed, there are 40 hotels and guesthouses that are running with the licences of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism at Chaungtha Beach and Shwethaungyan Beach. In 2022, there were a total of 346,556 local and foreign visitors, and 413,389 visitors in 2023 according to the statement of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism. — Kyaw Kyaw (IPRD)/TRKM

## Myanmar’s largest lake houses 170+ species of amphibians, reptiles, and fish

THE Research and Development Branch of the Fisheries Department states that Indawgyi Lake, the largest lake in Myanmar, is home to over 80 species of amphibians and reptiles and 90 species of fish.

A researcher said, “The lake’s connection to the Ayeyawady River facilitates the migration of fish during the rainy season via Shwetaung Creek, and they lay eggs in the lake before returning to the Ayeyawady River and other creeks when their eggs are hatched.”

The researcher stressed the impor-

tance of conserving the spawning areas within the lake to sustain the delicate ecosystem.

The R&D branch is conducting studies throughout the migratory and incubation routes of Myanmar freshwater fish to preserve endangered species.

Indawgyi Lake, the third-largest lake in Southeast Asia is located in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State. At an elevation of 700 feet above sea level, the natural lake spans 14 miles from south to north and extends seven miles in width. The total area is 314.67 square miles. — ASH/NT

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Myanmar Coffee Association offers intermediate coffee processing course in PyinOoLwin

# NATIONAL

## Five national objectives of 76<sup>th</sup> Independence Day

1. To uphold “Our Three Main National Causes” — Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity and Perpetuation of sovereignty, which are national interests and national politics
2. To ensure the promotion of a comprehensive education sector that produces human resources with perfect abilities like intelligence, skills, and talents in building a Union based on democracy and federalism
3. To make efforts to hold free and fair elections under the law and ensure the right to vote across the nation
4. To foster public cooperation for state stability and strengthen the multiparty democratic system at the end of acts of terrorism
5. To promote agriculture and livestock-based MSMEs



Staff cleansing bushes and debris in part-1 area of Bagan cultural heritage zone.

## Part 1 area of cleaning inside & outside of religious buildings in Bagan cultural heritage zone completed

ACCORDING to the Director of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch), U Kyaw Myo Win, there are eleven areas undergoing cleaning inside and outside religious buildings and lighting the statues in the Bagan cultural heritage zone, and one area has been completely cleaned.

Cleaning around the ancient buildings, removing habitual plants from inside and outside the buildings, and lighting the statues are measures taken for the cleanliness and

sustainability of the ancient buildings in the compound of the Bagan cultural heritage zone. The cultural heritage zone was initially divided into six parts for this project, but starting from 2023, the project has been operating in eleven parts.

Moreover, three parts of the area are being worked on simultaneously for fast and effective operation. Currently, area A and J are being handled under the supervision of five group leaders from the Department of Archaeology

and National Museum (Bagan Branch) with eight groups. Area A has completed 100 per cent of the process, and area J is 80 per cent completed.

Furthermore, employees from the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch) are also involved in daily and weekly cleaning at the respective areas of the pagodas. Similarly, other social associations are cooperating in maintaining cleanliness around the Bagan cultural heritage zone. — ASH/TRKM

## Myanma Railways raises train ticket prices for long-distance journeys

STARTING from 1 January, train ticket rates for long-distance journeys have been raised by Myanma Railways, as announced by U Thaung Htaik, chief supretendent at Yangon railway station.

The adjustment in ticket rates for long-distance train journeys is a response to the fluctuations in fuel prices.

U Thaung Htaik provided details on the new pricing structure, stating, “The prices are now set at 11,000 kyats for the ordinary class and 22,000

kyats for the upper class on Yangon-Mandalay journeys. For the Yangon-Pyay airbag train journey, it is 5,000 kyats for the ordinary class and 10,000 kyats for the upper class. As for the Yangon-Mawlamyine train with AAR coaches, the rates are 5,000 kyats for the ordinary class and 10,000 kyats for the upper class. For the Yangon-Mawlamyine train with airbag coaches, passengers will now pay 6,000 kyats for the ordinary class and 11,000 kyats for the upper class.” — ASH/TKO

## 70 rare orchid species, 10 domestic species exclusively cultivated at Doekwin Orchid Farm in PyinOoLwin



THERE are more than 800 species of orchids in Myanmar, and Doekwin Orchid Farm in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Region, exclusively cultivates and conserves 70 rare orchid

species and 10 domestic species, as stated by U Maung Tint, Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture.

In the distribution and sale of these orchids, only four types of hybrid orchids and five types of common local orchids are sold, and the remaining orchids are kept privately.

“To prevent the extinction of Myanmar orchids, a breeding plot has been specially maintained and planted at the Doekwin Orchid Farm. Genuine orchids have become a rare com-

modity in the world, so they have to be cultivated and maintained exclusively in breeding plots,” he said.

Hybrid orchids such as dendrobium, long-flowered orchid, cattleya, and butterfly orchid are distributed and sold in the local market. Similarly, regional varieties such as helmet orchid, Waso, Shwe Tu Mok Khamwa, Amelettanto are also being sold. Those who want to buy hybrid species wholesale can purchase a tissue seedling in a small pot for anywhere from one thousand

to tens of thousands of kyats, and the price may vary depending on the type of orchid.

In Myanmar, orchids are mostly found in Shan State, Kachin State, Chin State, Taninthayi Region, Rakhine State, Sagaing Region, and the Chindwin River Basin. In addition to natural conservation, scientific conservation, and identification and recording of Myanmar’s orchid species, activities are also conducted to prevent illegal theft and selling at home and abroad. — ASH/TKO

# NATIONAL

All our national people always cherish and value our traditions and national characteristics. Safeguarding and promoting national Characteristics and national culture will Contribute to fostering the patriotic spirit and thereby bringing great benefits to the nation and people. Now is the crucial time to have the national spirit as we strive for peace and development and for the establishment of a Union based on democracy and federalism.

*[An excerpt from the message sent by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing to the ceremony to mark 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Diamond Jubilee) of Kachin State Day on 10 January 2023.]*



## DPM MoTC UM stresses benefits of intellectual property protection system

THE four copyright laws – Trade-mark Law, Industrial Design Law, Patent Law and Copyright Law were enacted in 2019 to develop an international standard Intellectual Property (IP) system after becoming a member of World Trade Organization (WTO) and World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), said Chairman of the Central Committee on Intellectual Property Rights Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo at the meeting 2/2023 of the central committee at the Ministry of Commerce in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The General also said, out of four copyright laws, the Trade-mark Law came into force on 1 April 2023, and the registration of trademarks was officially accepted on 26 April this year. Similarly, the Patent Law and Copyright Law came into force on 31 October 2023, and the preparations are being made to accept the IP



Central Committee on Intellectual Property Rights holds meeting 2/2023 at Ministry of Commerce in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

applications. Therefore, 2023 was the significant year in which the country established a new international standard IP system.

Moreover, the IP protection system can contribute to the emergence of creative, inno-

vative, and competitive government and private sectors.

The General urged all to participate in implementing the copyrights laws and accelerate the IP-related awareness programmes for the public to follow

and carry out as per the stipulations in the law.

Moreover, he continued that Myanmar is actively participating in the ASEAN IPR Action Plan and so all should make efforts to be a leading country

in developing the regional IP actions.

He also mentioned the benefits of copyright laws such as supportive action to develop the State economy, strengthen the IP protection system for entrepreneurs, develop foreign investment and human resources, new job opportunities, and improve the manufacturing sector by transferring high technologies.

Then, Union Minister for Commerce Vice-Chair U Tun Ohn of the Central Committee explained the enhancement of the copyright system while the secretary and the joint secretary of the Central Committee reported on implementations based on the 1/2023 meeting and remarks submitted to the 2/2023 meeting.

Members of the central committee deputy ministers and officials presented undertakings of relevant ministries in copyrights measures. Then, the decision (draft) of the 2/2023 meeting was approved. — MNA/KTZH

### Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanma Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit [www.moi.gov.mm/mal](http://www.moi.gov.mm/mal), [www.moi.gov.mm/km](http://www.moi.gov.mm/km), [www.moi.gov.mm/nlm](http://www.moi.gov.mm/nlm) and [www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper](http://www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper).

News and Periodicals Enterprise

### COVID-19 report, 1 January 2024

NEW TESTS

13,371

NEW CASES

26

CASUALTIES

Nil

# NATIONAL

## Myanmar exports over US\$266 mln in 3<sup>rd</sup> week of December

TOTAL export values for Myanmar in the third week of December 2023 exceeded US\$ 266 million. Foreign demand for agricultural produce from Myanmar has been on an upward trend, given the current new year period. Agricultural produce such as green gram, black gram, pigeon peas, and other beans and pulses, sesame, peanuts, watermelon, cucumber, fruits, raw rubber, and onions, as well as industrial finished products like CMP textiles, have all experienced increased exports.



An aerial view of international port in Yangon.

During this week, a total of 24,779 tonnes of beans and pulses were shipped, earning more than \$21 million. Shipments to Pakistan, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, Canada, the United States, and Japan increased compared to previous weeks.

Demand for sesame has also surged during the new year period. Sesame shipments

to China this week exceeded those of previous weeks. Additionally, sesame demand from Japan, Thailand, Singapore, and Chinese Taipei remained high. Black sesame prices ranged between \$ 1,380-\$ 1,815 per tonne in the export market, and domestic prices trended upwards in wholesale markets across states

and regions, ranging between K295,000 and K340,000 per 45-viss bag of black sesame.

The garment industry plays a crucial role in Myanmar's economic growth. In the past week, Myanmar earned over \$ 82 million from garment exports manufactured under the cut-make-pack (CMP) system,

exported to 53 countries. Major orders came from Japan, Poland, South Korea, Britain, and the United States.

The State prioritizes the development of the CMP system to boost the export sector. Apart from garments, the CMP system is used for manufacturing other products in Myanmar, such as

electronic products, shoes, bags, wigs, magnifying glasses, and cameras.

Efforts are underway by the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association and relevant bodies to transition from the CMP system, involving the entire manufacturing process from receiving raw materials to producing finished products at the factory.

This move aims to develop the domestic industrial sector, ensuring greater profitability for business owners and strengthening the country's economy. As part of the State's efforts to boost the country's economy across various sectors, the following are prioritized: increasing productivity and the export of rice, beans and pulses, corn, oil crops, rubber, and fruits; raising foreign income from exporting CMP garments; and expanding manufacturing businesses using the CMP system. — MNA/TMT

### Counter-argument to false information

#### Misinformation: Some houses damaged by Tatmadaw's heavy weapon shelling

SOCIAL media platforms are currently spreading false information alleging that civilian residences in Nyaungpinkwin Village, located in Taninthayi Township, Taninthayi Region, were damaged by Tatmadaw's heavy weapons on New Year's Eve.

Contrary to these claims, investigations and statements from a Taninthayi Region official revealed that PDF terrorists targeted the Tatmadaw regional battalion near Nyaungpinkwin Village with handmade mortar. Unfortunately, the launcher shell landed and exploded within the village.

This misinformation is intentionally disseminated by PDF terrorists on social media to obscure their acts of terrorism and create a false narrative, misleading the local population about the Tatmadaw's actions and security measures. — MNA/ TMT



Screenshot shows misinformation.

#### False allegations: Tatmadaw accused of shelling village in Kawlin Township, Sagaing Region

A malicious media outlet, Khit Thit Media, is spreading false news on social media, accusing the Tatmadaw of firing Taungmaw Village with heavy weapons in Kawlin Township of Sagaing Region twice on Saturday.

The misinformation further alleges that the shelling caused one resident to die of heart failure and burned down one house.

An officer handling security measures clarified that there was no shelling that day.

Terrorists associated with the self-proclaimed PDF have reportedly been targeting residents who do not support their ways. They circulate false reports on social media to distort perceptions about Tatmadaw. — MNA/NT

Screenshot of misinformation.



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**CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION**  
 (+95) (01) 8604532,  
 Hotline - 09 255597511

**ADVERTISING & MARKETING**  
 (+95) (01) 8604530,  
 Hotline - 09 251022355  
 marketing@gnlm.com.mm  
 subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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[gnlmnews@gmail.com](mailto:gnlmnews@gmail.com)  
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# NATIONAL

## In-person interview with Dr Lwin Moe Kyaw, the 35<sup>th</sup> recipient of a liver transplant surgery at the 500-bed Yangon Speciality Hospital, alongside his liver donor, his first cousin, Daw Theint Yadana Eain

DAW Theint Yadana Eain, Aged 22, Address: Ward-14/2, South Okkalapa Township.

Q: What is your relationship with the patient?

A: He's my first cousin.

Q: Could you explain why you decided to donate your liver?

A: My father passed away due to liver disease. When I learned that our elder cousin was suffering from the same disease, I decided to save his life.

Q: Could you describe your feelings before entering the operating theater?

A: I had never undergone surgery before, but I knew I was doing this for my brother and believed he would recover after the surgery. I had confidence in the world-class doctors, although I was a bit nervous.

Q: How did you feel after the surgery?

A: I felt happy because both of us were healthy. I was glad I saved my brother's life.

Q: How would you describe your experience as a liver donor?

A: I want to emphasize that public hospitals are reliable. Our operation was successful, and both of us are recover-



Liver receiver Dr Lwin Moe Kyaw and Liver donor Daw Theint Yadana Eain.

ing well. The government covered the expenses and invited skilled foreign surgeons to oversee the operation. I'm grateful for everything the officials have done for us. I would like to instill confidence in others regarding the capabilities of public hospitals.

Dr Lwin Moe Kyaw, Aged 30, Address: Ward-14/2, South Okkalapa Township.

Q: Could you describe the symptoms

you experienced?

A: Liver disease is chronic. I easily got fatigued and felt weak. I also experienced swelling in my limbs and abdominal distention.

Q: How did you come to receive a liver transplant surgery?

A: I had never considered it since it was something I couldn't afford. My physician informed me that I needed a liver transplant and that the govern-

ment had initiated a liver transplant programme in collaboration with surgeons from South Korea at the 500-bed Specialty Hospital. That's how I learned about this programme.

Q: May I know about your feelings before receiving the surgery?

A: I had surgery for my spleen in 2010, and I was scared at that time since I was young. But now that I'm 30, and I was aware of the surgeons' expertise, I entered the operation room confidently.

Q: Could you describe your feelings afterward?

A: I feel like I have a new liver and will be able to live my full lifespan. I was overjoyed!

Q: Would you share your experience as a successful recipient of a liver transplant surgery?

A: Certainly. I would inform anyone in need of affordable healthcare about public hospitals. They excel in cost-effective measures, starting with reduced fees for lab services. The 500-bed Specialty Hospital has been successful in performing liver transplant therapies. I want to thank everyone, including hospital officials and surgeons, for making this operation possible. — MNA/NT

## CRIME NEWS

### Confiscated illegal items: Timbers, foodstuffs and vehicle



One-litre bottle of Two shrimp brand oil.

ON 31 December, a team on duty managed by the Mon State Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force confiscated a Mitsubishi Canter (estimated value of K20 million) travelling from Thaton

to Belin. The vehicle was carrying eight types of goods valued at K17.65 million. The seizure took place near a police station in Theinseik and was carried out under the Customs procedures.

On 1 January, joint teams seized 4.219 tonnes of illegal teak, 0.537 tonne of illegal hardwood, and 23.114 tonnes of illegal other timbers, valued at about K2.474 million in Bago district. Additionally, 1.033 tonnes of illegal teak worth K681,912 were captured in Nyaunglebin township. This action was conducted under the Forest Law.

According to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, three arrests were made on 31 December and 1 January, involving an estimated value of K40.806 million. — MNA/MKKS

### Heroin, stimulant tablets and Ice valued at over K1.57 billion seized in Kalay township

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Police Force confiscated heroin, stimulant tablets, and Ice (methamphetamine) worth over K1.57 billion were confiscated in Kalay township of Sagaing Region.

Acting on a tip-off, the Anti-Drug Police Force searched a LIFAN three-wheel motorbike driven by Thein Zaw, accompanied by Mant Shin Toung, near Doewine Creek in Kalay township at 1 pm on 31 December.

During the operation, the police seized 13.75 kilograms of heroin, 29 kilograms of Ice, and 8,000 stimulant tablets with a total value exceeding K1.57 billion. The

individuals involved admitted that the confiscated drugs were intended to be transported from Kalay to Tiddim.

Legal action has been

taken against the offenders, and an ongoing investigation is underway to apprehend other individuals connected to the case. — MNA/MKKS



Two suspects seen with seized Ice, heroin and stimulant tablets in Kalay on 30 December.

# NATIONAL

## Ngwehsaung Beach welcomes over 7,000 domestic and foreign visitors during December holidays

DURING the December holidays, a total of 7,305 domestic travellers and foreign tourists flocked to Ngwehsaung Beach in Patheingyi District. The beach saw the operation of 27 hotels and six guesthouses, catering to 6,938 domestic travellers and 367 foreign tourists.

The influx included employees from local travel companies and individuals with their families, adding to the vibrant atmosphere of the beach. Ngwehsaung Beach, known for its long coastline, clear sea water, and good hotel services, continues to be a popular destination for tourists.

The surge in tourist numbers resulted in a bustling town with people exploring gift shops, relaxing on the beach, engaging in activities like swimming and walking, and venturing to famous islands such as Snake Island, Turtle Island, Bird Island, Lovers Island, and Moe Makha Elephant Camp. — TWA/TKO



The crowd at Ngwehsaung Beach on holidays.

## Process of modern park with health support equipment underway under Bayintnaung bridge

UNDER the supervision of the Yangon Regional Government, the Parks and Playgrounds Department of the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) is processing to develop the vacant land under the Bridges No 1 and 2 of Bayintnaung into a modern park with health support equipment.

Previously, the beauty of the city and the charm of the two bridges were affected due to encroaching tents, but at the time being construction works are being implemented quickly so that the public and tourists can rest and relax.

There are also plans to continue building near the Hlaing River near the park so that people can breathe fresh air and enjoy the sunrise and sunset freely.

The Yangon region government is working to use manpower and machinery for land reclamation and greening works in the area. Also, the long drainage ditches in the east,



The start of modern park seen in the plot of land under the Bayintnaung Bridge in early December.

left and right sides of Bayintnaung Park will be built with brick drains that can be used in three seasons, summer, rain, and winter, to improve the flow of water.

In addition, the Department of Parks and Playgrounds under Bayintnaung Bridge in Hlenthaya (East) 4 Ward is planting duck grass and star-flower trees during the construction of the park, and Interlock roads are being laid around the park,

and the Nyaungchaung and Shanchaung sluiceways which flows into the Hlaing River on the side of the park, are also working to improve the water flow.

In order to do physical sports for people, sports fields will be built in the vacant land under the bridge, and the bridge pillars will be painted and light poles will be erected to enhance the beauty of the park land. — TWA/TKO

## Over 400 applicants await approval for traditional medicine treatment licences, issuance imminent

MORE than 400 traditional medicine practitioners have applied for licences to practise traditional medicine, and the Myanmar Traditional Medicine Council has stated that the licences will be issued soon.

According to Section 37 of the Myanmar Traditional Medicine Council Law, registered traditional healers are required to apply to the General Practitioner Licensing Council to practise medical treatment. It has been announced that traditional practitioners in

Myanmar must be eligible to obtain treatment licences.

There are currently 7,493 registered traditional practitioners, with over 400 of them set to undergo examination by committee members for the issuance of medical treatment licences.

Applicants are required to submit their applications to the Myanmar Traditional Medicine Council along with supporting documents to demonstrate their eligibility. — TWA/KZW



On 10 August 2023, the Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Association, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), inaugurated a training course aimed at enhancing the medical treatment efficiency of traditional medicine practitioners.

## Myanmar Coffee Association offers intermediate coffee processing course in PyinOoLwin

THE Myanmar Coffee Association (MCA) will conduct a Coffee Processing Intermediate Course at the MCA Knowledge Center and MCG coffee factory from 11 to 15 January 2024.

This intensive course is arranged by the MCA. It will offer know-how and standards of coffee processing to meet international standards for coffee beans, coffee processing methods, and its products through practical and technical approaches.

This course is suitable for those who will be engaged in coffee processing, who like to expand their knowledge of coffee processing systematically, and who are willing to be involved in coffee institutions or commercial businesses.

It will also cover the history of coffee, coffee processing, basic principles and practice of

coffee standards, influencing factors to coffee processing, characteristics of ripe coffee beans, methods of coffee harvesting and benefits, analysis of coffee bean samples and quality control, device to measure coffee moisture and refractometer to test sugar content and tests for coffee ripening and coffee processing methods from harvesting, processing, roasting to brewing.

Moreover, technical and practical approaches to the Wet Processing Method, Dry Processing Method, and Honey Processing Method, index scores during step-by-step coffee processing from ripe coffee beans, ideal ratio for coffee, specialty coffee, coffee fermentation-microbe to coffee flavour and yeast inoculation introduction, requirements for coffee processing and post-processing



Coffee fruits kept under sun for driness.

practices will be unveiled as well.

U Myo Aye (Coffee Quality

Institute (USA) CQI Certified) Assistant Instructor for Post Harvesting Processing for Ar-

abica & Robusta CQI Certified Lecturer for Post Harvesting Processing, CQI Certified Q Processing Professional Arabica, CQI Certified Q Processing Professional Robusta Asean & Coffee Institute Certified Head Trainer), U Min Hlaing (Certified Q Processing Professional), U Myint Soe Aung (CQI Certified Lecturer for Post Harvesting Processing & CQI Certified Q Processing Professional Arabica) will be trainers of this course.

The trainees can receive a completion certificate of the Myanmar Coffee Association and the course fee is K650,000. Members of the MCA can save 50,000 at a discount.

Those enthusiastic can contact the MCA via Email: [mca@myanmarcoffee.org](mailto:mca@myanmarcoffee.org) or phone number 09 784888808 by 7 January 2024. — NN/KK

## YGN palm oil wholesale reference price stays steady for week ending 7 Jan

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market this week ending 7 January 2023 stayed the same at K4,955 per viss with the previous week's rate, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs, and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Nevertheless, the market price is way higher than the reference price.

To deal with overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed the consumers of lodging the complaints for overcharging through the call centre's hotline in late August. The Department urged consumers not



Consumers seen in a queue to buy palm oil at reference price.

to buy palm oil at high prices.

The Department is making concerted efforts to steer the high volatility in palm oil prices in the retail market and offer fairer prices to the consumers, in coordination with the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers Association and oil importing companies.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Depart-

ment or sent to the Facebook Page of the Department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at 1 million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. To meet the domestic demands, about 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia. — NN/KK

## Smart Farm Korea 2024 welcomes Myanmar businesspersons

SMART Farm Korea 2024 (SFKOREA) will be held at Changwon Convention Centre (CECO) from 12 to 14 June 2024, and Myanmar businesspersons will be invited, according to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization, to enhance agriculture and livestock sectors, to introduce smart farming technologies and helping leading farmers to embrace high-tech methods for future of agriculture and livestock.

The expo will include 400 booths from 120 companies and is likely to attract about 20,000 visitors. The exhibit items consist of future agriculture (automation system), smart factory facility & equipment, urban agriculture, return to farming and rural village, agro-livestock materials and equipment, agricultural produce and food products, packaging, distribution, and logistics and education in aspects of ICT education, smart farm field practice, animal and plant disease management, agricultural and rural information education, etc.

Those Myanmar buyers who are interested in smart farm technologies and Korean products can also join Business Matchings of international experts to enhance the smart farm sector in the future. The expo will cover two-day hotel accommodation for those who join business matching.

Those enthusiastic buyers from the related institutions can contact the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at phone number 067 3408622 or email: [event.td.myantrade@gmail.com](mailto:event.td.myantrade@gmail.com) within office hours. — NN/KK

## OPINION

### Beware of monkeypox infection among the people

**T**HE World Health Organization (WHO) has issued a stark warning about the global spread of monkeypox, originating from outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo. With over 13,000 suspected cases worldwide and a death toll surpassing 600, the situation is of grave concern.

This animal-borne disease is capable of infecting humans in direct contact with affected animals. The transmission occurs through bodily fluids, respiratory particles, and contaminants on surfaces, leading to rapid virus dissemination. While initially confined to Africa, monkeypox has now breached borders, prompting the WHO to declare a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on 23 July, slated to conclude on 11 May this year due to the alarming surge in infection rates.

Monkeypox, resembling other pox diseases, primarily manifests in the central and western tropical rain-fed forests of Africa.

Although the virus was first identified in 1958, its infection was localized in Congo in 1970. While many patients recover within weeks, severe consequences, including fatalities, are observed in some cases, particularly among infants and children. WHO reports indicate potential complications such as skin problems, pneumonia, schizophrenia, and eye-related issues.

Despite WHO's assertion that the disease is not considered highly serious, infectious disease experts express apprehension about the virus gaining a foothold in previously unaffected countries. The infection rate witnessed a significant 77 per cent increase from late June to early July, with a notable vulnerability observed in men engaged in homosexual activities.

In a world grappling with financial crises, climate change-induced natural disasters, food insecurity exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic, global economic turmoil, and armed conflicts, monkeypox has emerged as a perilous infectious disease in certain regions. This underscores the formidable challenges faced by humanity in the 21st century.

While there is optimism about controlling the disease, concerns persist about its potential impact in countries unfamiliar with the virus. Drawing parallels with global efforts against the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the world must unite to confront the challenges posed by monkeypox. The people of Myanmar, among others, are urged to adhere to recommended precautions to mitigate the risk of unnecessary consequences associated with the disease.

Although the whole world has faced numerous crises and challenges, finally it could overcome challenges through collaborative efforts of various countries. The world adapting with Covid-19 pandemic is believed to properly fight against monkeypox. However, people of Myanmar have to follow dos and don'ts related to monkeypox to be free from unnecessary bad subsequences.

Although the whole world has faced numerous crises and challenges, finally it could overcome challenges through collaborative efforts of various countries. The world adapting with Covid-19 pandemic is believed to properly fight against monkeypox. However, people of Myanmar have to follow dos and don'ts related to monkeypox to be free from unnecessary bad subsequences.

## School Discipline of Great Importance

**O**NLY when good discipline is obtained can the purpose of education be fully served, so far as education is concerned. It is also believed that the national discipline often hails from schools as well as discipline is human value. In fact, the term 'discipline' means correcting and directing students towards acceptable behaviour for the purpose of helping the individual to acquire knowledge, habits, interests, and ideals which conduce to the well-being of himself, his fellows, and society as a whole. Self-discipline refers to assuming social and moral responsibility for one's own actions and doing so of one's own volition, not solely out of fear of punishment or external rewards. But when practising self-discipline, students must agree to live with the limits created not only by themselves but also by others. As to discipline, what teachers and parents do is guide children's self-control, encourage them to be independent, meet their intellectual and emotional needs, establish expectations for them, organize appropriate behaviours, arrange an environment for self-discipline, and when necessary, change their own behaviour.

The general aims of discipline are to help build the habit of abiding by the school rules designed for students' all-round development, to create and preserve the conditions essential to orderly school progress, to prepare students for effective participation in life, and to instil the fundamentals of self-discipline. By the principles of discipline, discipline can be maintained through positive measures, if it is to be creative and constructive. On the credit side, a punishment that may stop something but can never help create anything should be supplemented by more positive measures only. True discipline must be based on and controlled by love not by fear. Teachers ought to try to secure the cooperation of students in the matter of discipline as well. Students like to seek security and therefore preserve this feeling both in the classroom and outside. In discipline, sanctions should be used as far as possible from those in force in adult society. After all, students have to be accustomed to the authority of

society and its laws. According to Piaget's Disciplinary Stages, children do not understand rules before three years of age. Between the ages of three and eight, they think that rules come from some high authority, which cannot be changed. Children in the 8-12 age

at order; autonomous ethics, emotional regulation, cooperation, and integrity. In accordance with the theory, the reasons why students are on disruptive behaviour show low-quality education, and student needs not being met at school. Unlike the limit-setting approach,



Students from Basic Education Post Primary School in Seikchegon Village of Einme Township observe with interesting books and posters that given knowledge about the harmful effects of narcotic drug and child labour issue displayed on the school board on 1 January 2024.

bracket get to understand the social nature of rules that can be changed. Only after 12 do they completely understand the rules. There are found seven theories regarding discipline: the limit-setting approach, applied behaviour analysis, cognitive behaviourism, Neo-Adlerian theory, humanism, choice theory, and system theory.

In the limit-setting approach, children need clear limits. Their learning calls for order. The goal of discipline in this approach is order and obedience. In terms of the approach, the reasons for students' disruptive behaviour are supposed to be a lack of parental guidance and non-assertive teachers. Limit-setting teachers have the right and responsibility to be in charge. They can establish order, too. The strengths of the limit-setting approach say practical recommendations while its weaknesses tell being authoritarian, having some recorded negative effects on students, and not getting based on pedagogical theory. In choice theory, children are capable of self-discipline. They learn when curricula meet their emotional needs and teaching is of high quality. This theory aims

both students and teachers have equal rights to have their needs met but occupy different roles in choice theory. The teachers are even able to promote the personal growth of students. This theory has the strengths of promoting self-responsibility, taking context to remove heat from student-teacher conflicts, wide applicability, adding counseling intervention to a humanist base, living democracy, and an effective whole-school approach, whereas it is of the weaknesses that require teachers to have sophisticated and students need competent verbal skills.

It should be remembered that many common discipline problems might give rise to misbehaviour amongst students. They are 1) lack of parental involvement, 2) overcrowded classrooms, 3) lack of discipline management strategies among educators, 4) poor relationship between educators and learners, 5) educators as poor role models, 6) unjustified school rules, 7) an authoritarian leadership style, 8) insufficient presentation of lessons, 9) lack of motivation of lessons, 10) peer pressure, 11) lack of acceptable

outlets to express feelings, and 12) lack of responsibility and accountability as regards discipline rules on the part of headmasters.

Three key dimensions of discipline have been identified for classroom management by Richard L. Curwin and others –

students demands finding what is needed to prevent another problem, developing a mutually agreeable plan, implementing the plan, monitoring the plan or revising it if necessary, and using creative or unconventional approaches when necessary.

Educators must have taken into account typical teacher-student disciplinary roles in various plans. With regard to school discipline, if only teachers are in charge, the class is teacher-directed. The teachers are hands-on. Students are not offered choices. Teachers provide consequences. They use intervention and isolation. The classroom climate can be intense besides having limits without freedom. If both teachers and students take charge of school discipline, they work cooperatively and join hands. The students are given structural choices. The teachers ask questions and discuss and solve problems with them. They intervene, and agreements are reached. Together teachers and students set limits by establishing a code of conduct. The classroom too has freedom within limits. At last, if only students are concerned about school discipline, the class is student-centered. Teachers are hands-off. Students have too many choices and teachers utilize nondirective statements. The students are responsible for conduct, although the teachers listen to it. Students are taught responsibility as well as the classroom climate can be chaotic. In contrast to the roles of teachers in charge, the classroom has freedom without limits.

Students are responsible for attending school regularly, showing a conscientious effort in classroom work, and conforming to school rules and regulations, including the fact that no student has the right to interfere with the education of fellow students. To fulfill student responsibility for good discipline, the student should respect and protect teachers, students, administrators, and everyone else involved in the educational process, practice academic honesty, express ideas and opinions in such a respectful manner that does not offend or

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

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slander others, be aware of all rules and regulations for student behaviour and abide by them, be willing to assist in investigations of disciplinary offenses, help the school staff in running a safe school for all students, get aware of state and local laws and comply with them, protect and take care of school property, arriving on time to all classes and other school functions, and make up work when absent or suspended from school following established guidelines.

An orderly classroom is most likely to prevent behavioural problems from taking place rather than handling misbehaviour only once they happen. Some techniques for better classroom discipline include focusing, direct instruction, monitoring, modelling, non-verbal curing, environmental control, low-profile intervention, assertive discipline, assertive messages, humanistic messages, and positive discipline. There are still several classroom and school-based programmes for dealing with problematic behaviours, the ways of social competence enhancement and conflict resolution, for instance, coordinated school-based planning, high-quality curriculums and instruction, or a supportive school environment. These types of programs improve life skills, provide health education, and develop socioemotional skills.

Thus, it is incumbent upon teachers, whoever is the younger or older generation, to lay a very nice foundation of good discipline. That foundation tends to be deeply embedded in the programme of school life. A well-housed school with a well-taught educational programme adapted to its students holds the basic attributes that can contribute the good discipline. In laying the foundation of good discipline, teachers should be fully acquainted with both the theoretical and practical aspects of discipline. As we are all aware, the Myanmar school motto says 'Morale, Discipline, Education'. Accordingly, good discipline could do with raising morale at the very first, which will then give birth to quality education in the future.

### Study investigates what happens in brain when daydreaming

A mouse study led by Harvard Medical School researchers, published in Nature, investigates brain activity during daydreaming.

A mouse study published in Nature has taken a team led by Harvard Medical School researchers one step closer to understanding what happens in the brain during daydreaming.

The researchers monitored the activity of neurons in the visual cortex of mouse brains while the animals were awake and silent. They discovered that these neurons occasionally activated in a fashion similar to that seen when a mouse gazed at a real image, suggesting that the mouse was thinking — or daydreaming — about the image.

Furthermore, activity patterns during a mouse's first few daydreams of the day indicated how the brain's response to the image would develop over time. The study presented tantalizing, if preliminary, evidence that daydreams can influence the brain's future response to what it perceives. The authors noted that further study is needed to establish this causal association, but the findings provide an intriguing hint that daydreaming during peaceful waking may play a role in brain plasticity, or the brain's ability to rebuild itself in response to new experiences.

By contrast, there has been little research on the replay of neurons in other brain regions, including the visual cortex. Such efforts would provide valuable insights about how visual memories are formed. "My lab became interested in whether we could record from enough neurons in the visual cortex to understand what exactly the mouse is remembering—and then connect that information to brain plasticity," said senior author Mark Andermann, professor of medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Centre and professor of neurobiology at HMS.

#### Daydreaming process

"We wanted to know how

SOURCE: ANI



While preliminary, the study hints that daydreaming may influence the brain's future responses, potentially contributing to brain plasticity. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/PIXABAY



# NATIONAL

## CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

### 17 April (Myanmar New Year)

A total of 98 foreign prisoners, including five Sri Lankans, and 3,015 local prisoners were pardoned.

### 29 April

At 6:30 am, theatrician, comedian, and film actor U Win Naing (Anupyinya) passed away at the Seezayeik Home for the Aged in Pale Myothit of Mingaladon Township.

### 1-3 May

From 1 to 3 May, Mr Arsjad Rajid P M (ASEAN-BAC Indonesia) who took on the responsibility as the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) Chairman visited Myanmar as part of the ASEAN-BAC Roadshow.

### 7 May

UMFCCI warned its brethren organizations and business owners to be prepared for shortage of goods during natural disasters and not to speculate on prices of basic commodities and medicine.

### 10 May

Ministry of Education announced a list of regulations for teachers and staff which includes a prohibition on requesting any fees for the academic year 2023-24.

At the Cyclone Mocha alert, passenger vessels between the delta region and Yangon temporarily stopped operating on 11 and 12 May.

### 12 May

State Administration Council passed the Private Education Law that includes a punishment of a two-year prison sentence and a maximum fine of K50 million.

### 15 May

Internal Revenue an-



nounced a tax exemption of up to K15 million on net profits for local small and medium enterprises for three years starting from the inception of the business.

### 17 May

Fire brigades and charities from three cities left for Cyclone Mocha-affected Rakhine townships to do rescue and rehabilitation works.

### 18 May

The Agriculture Department announced students who passed Grade 9 must sit the entrance exam for agriculture and livestock majors at 51 associated basic education schools.

### 23 May

The electronic system for taxpayer registration was adopted.

### 30 May

The Myanmar Embassy to Thailand announced that anyone who lost passports, Citizenship Scrutiny cards, work permits, and non-Thai identification cards in Thailand can collect them at the embassy.

### 1 June

Myanma Economic Bank increased interest rates for saving accounts, saving certificates, and fixed accounts.

A sum of 6,229,337 students went back to school for the academic year 2023-24 nationwide.

### 7 June

Directorate of Investment and Company Administration blacklisted three rice trading companies for accepting cash transfers to foreign bank accounts for local rice purchases.

### 9 June

Department of Myanmar Examinations announced that 109,851 students passed the matriculation exam of 2023 with a passing rate of 67.87 per cent.

UMFCCI announced that local entrepreneurs can apply for the ASEAN Business Awards (ABA) 2023 by 7 July.

Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings Public Co., Ltd announced a plan to supply electricity using renewable energy at the Thilawa Special Economic Zone starting from the financial year 2023-24.

### 23 June

Celebrated singer Sein Moh Moh passed away at the Green Cross Hospital in Yangon.

### 4 July

Authorities defined online sale activities as essential services under Section 4 and Subsection (c) of the Essential Goods and Services Law.

### 7 July

Myanmar Mercantile Ma-

rine College opened admission for 300 candidates for the academic year 2024-25.

### 12 July

Central Bank of Myanmar announced that it allowed a service licence to handle payments via QR codes on behalf of the sellers in areas that do not have access to banking services.

From 15 July to 14 September, 17 townships in Rakhine State that experienced Cyclone Mocha were recognized for a second time as natural disaster-affected areas.

### 20 July

Maritime Malaysia announced that a cargo ship that sank in Malaysian waters was salvaged on 30 July. The ship sank on 20 July, and nine crewmates, including four Myanmar, four Malaysian, and one Indonesian, were missing. Authorities found some missing sailors.

The Myanmar Embassy to Thailand announced that two non-bank financial service companies from Myanmar and Thailand launched an official wiring service application called Dee Money to protect Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand from scams when transferring money back home.

### 21 July

Online sales business owners were warned of lawful actions if they failed to register their busi-

nesses within six months.

### 25 July

China Rocket Co., Ltd officials and Myanmar Union Minister for Information discussed satellite technological services.

### 26 July

Myanmar and Chinese officials signed a memorandum of understanding for streamlining border transport and connecting to the railway network.

### 1 August

Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization announced the requirement for series of Myanmar dramas to undergo censorship before the production begins.

The Fisheries Department announced the extension of construction surveys in the A3 block offshore area in Myanmar waters until 15 August.

### 12 August

Academy award-winning scriptwriter Myint Oo U Myint, who won the award for his work on the Kyo Kyar Taung Pan Khat Than film, passed away.

### 13 August

Charity organizations found 33 bodies killed by a landslide at a jade mining site in Phakant. Their search and rescue operation ended on 17 August.

The Myanmar Embassy in Kuala Lumpur announced its effort to take action against the culprits behind a fake Facebook page with the name "Myanmar Embassy to Malaysia" that had been scamming Myanmar migrant workers in Malaysia on 14 August.

### 21 August

Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Daw Nu Mra Zan shared their effort on creating a pagoda digital directory on nine prominent pagodas, including Shwedagon on 21 August.



# NATIONAL

## Second part of the 2023 news diary

### 25 August

A collapse at the ongoing construction site of Nagayon Pagoda left one injured in Ward-16 of Dagon Myothit (North) Township.

UNCTAD published an English-Myanmar bilingual manual for Myanmar female farmers on 25 August.

### 4 September

Myanmar won three awards at the ASEAN Business Awards 2023 convened at the Hotel Ritz Carlton Pacific Place in Jakarta, Indonesia.

### 5 September

Myanmar and Indonesian businesspeople signed a memorandum of understanding to promote bilateral dealings at the Sultan Hotel in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The government spent K2.3 billion on the construction of a Central Cold Storage for Drugs (Yangon) for storing one year's worth of vaccines in Mayangon Township.

### 13 September

MAI acquired a Boeing 737 freighter to operate international cargo flights.

Authorities at Yangon International Airport issued temporary access cards for companions of the travellers to enter the airport public area.

### 20 September

The cliff along the Thama-da shore in Dala Township collapsed, resulting in the drowning of one of the two women who fell into the water. Additionally, six houses were engulfed by the water.

### 21 September

Ministry of Hotels and Tourism announced 14 recommended destinations for local and for-

eign travellers in the 2024 peak season.

Ministry of Planning and Finance announced the completion of 106 projects worth US\$31.6 million implemented out of the Mekong-Lancang cooperation fund.

### 1 October

Entry fee for foreigners to the Shwedagon Pagoda was changed.

Trial census was taken at the 100 collection plots in 20 townships from 1 to 15 October.

Yangon City Development Committee revoked the 63-acre grant allocated to the YP engine oil seller.

### 8 October

Rain-induced floods led to the opening of 29 temporary shelters in Bago and inundation of the Yangon-Mandalay highway.

Emergency maintenance works on Cyclone Mocha-affected ancient buildings in the MraukU cultural zone in Rakhine State had been finished.

The government sent a rescue flight for Myanmar citizens in Israel.

### 16 October

Ministry of Commerce revealed a special programme to grant electric vehicle and motorcycle import permits to Myanmar citizens abroad if they transfer their income through banks back home.

### 17 October

Yunnan Provincial General Chamber of Commerce Chairman Dr Gao Feng recognized Myanmar as the largest trading partner, import resource, and export market of Yunnan.

### 18 October

AYA and UAB banks signed a memorandum of understand-

ing to give out K1.2 billion as their first phase of MSME loans for vendors at the Danyingon market.

### 19 October

Authorities brought back 57 inmates serving two to 10 years in Indian prisons from Port Blair Island.

Central Bank of Myanmar Governor Daw Than Than Swe revealed the imminent launch of a mobile payment application Digital Payment Switch (Myanmar Pay) that can reduce cash use.

### 20 October

Alms donation held to commemorate the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of King Mindon, the founder of Mandalay Royal Capital.

### 24 October

Myanmar businesspeople and their counterparts from Chongqing discussed the bilateral investment and potential of a new International Land-Sea Trade Corridor at UMFCCL.

### 29 October

The collapse of U Bein Bridge located in Amarapura Township left 23 people with minor injuries.

### 1 November

Authorities at Yangon International Airport mandated the completion of arrival and departure forms for all travelers.

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China's branch in Yangon held a ceremony to launch its operation as a direct member of the Cross-Border Bank Payment System to facilitate Yuan-Kyat direct payment.

### 6 November

A meeting for small-scale development projects funded by India was held in Nay Pyi Taw.

### 7 November

Myanmar and Chinese officials signed a contract in Nay Pyi Taw for procuring electricity for three solar-powered station projects.

### 8 November

Minister Counsellor Dr. Zheng Zhihong of the Chinese Embassy presented a soft copy of the digitized Myanmar film Ngaba to family members of U Nyunt Maung, the lead actor of the film.

### 13 November

Inhabitants for the 1,728 flats of Thukha Dagon public rental housing in Dagon Myothit (South) Township were chosen through a lottery.

### 14 November

Dr Than Oo (Pyi Soe Min), Daw Khin Than Win (Kyu Kyu Thin), Dr Chit San (Chit San Win), and Dr Tun Tint (Dr Tun Tint - Myanmarsar) won National Lifetime Awards for Literary Achievement for 2022.

The Ministry of Labour announced that it blacklisted and took action against 126 companies that violated labour rights.

### 23 November

Yangon hosted Chinese Film Week 2023 at the Chinese Culture Centre.

### 29 November

Representatives from the South Korea-based GES Global Energy Solution Company met the Yangon Mayor to discuss electricity generation from the Hteinbin and Daweichaung landfills.

### 3 December

A ceremony paying homage to 47 elders of the Konbaung Dynasty was organized at Maha Beikman Taw Gyi, situated on Naga Cave Hill in Mayangon Township.

The Workplace Coordinating Committee settled 211 labour-related cases from January to November.

### 13 December

The Ministry of Home Affairs introduced an amendment aligned with the Gambling Law, granting authorities the power to arrest individuals suspected of engaging in public gambling without requiring a warrant.

The Yangon Region Directorate of Hotels and Tourism launched nine new destinations to attract foreign tourists to Yangon.

### 27 December

The 29<sup>th</sup> Graduation Ceremony of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities in Yangon and Mandalay saw 28 recipients of BA (Buddhism), 10 recipients of MA (Buddhism), and one recipient of a PhD (Buddhism), making a total of 39 Sayadaws from the respective Sasana Universities.

### 29 December

The Chinese Embassy to Myanmar announced a logo design competition aiming to exchange ideas among China and ASEAN member states for Myanmar artists.

### 31 December

The Yangon Region Government lifted the night curfew for one day to celebrate the 2024 New Year Countdown Festival at the People's Square.

Translated by NT



# ECONOMY WORLD



Yang Qiaoyan (1<sup>st</sup> R) selects flowers at Dounan Flower Market in Kunming City, southwest China's Yunnan Province, 26 December 2023. About 30 years ago, the Dounan Flower Market was just a street with roadside stalls selling flowers, but today it has become Asia's largest fresh-cut flower trading market. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

## Viet Nam attracts US\$36.6 bln in foreign investment in 2023

VIET Nam attracted around 36.6 billion US dollars in foreign investment in 2023, a rise of 32.1 per cent year on year, the General Statistics Office has reported.

Among those, some 23.18 billion dollars were disbursed, an increase of 3.5 per cent compared to the previous year, posting the highest level of foreign direct investment (FDI) in Viet Nam in the recent five years.

According to the Foreign Investment Agency under the Ministry of Planning and Investment, the major investment destinations in the Southeast Asian country in 2023 included Ho Chi Minh City, Hai Phong, Quang Ninh, Bac Giang, Hanoi, Bac Ninh, Binh Duong, and Dong Nai.

In 2023, foreign investors invested in 18 out of 21 economic sectors in the country, with processing-manufacturing receiving 23.5 billion dollars or 64.2 per cent of the total FDI capital, up 39.9 per cent year on year. — Xinhua

## Artificial intelligence need of hour to boost Pakistan's economy: experts

PAKISTANI experts and academics have said artificial intelligence (AI) is the need of the hour to give impetus to exports and the national economy.

AI is the new reality as it is going to contribute trillions of US dollars to the world economy in the next couple of years, and Pakistan must benefit from it, said experts and speakers during a seminar on AI on Saturday.

Speaking on the occasion, Yasar Ayaz, chairman of Pakistan's National Centre of Artificial Intelligence, said that AI is the main technology spearheading technological advancement for the past one and a half decades in the world.

"Many technology-based industries are focusing on AI as it is embedded in every technology solution like social media, applications, networking and banking tools," he said.

Highlighting that AI investment and development can help

the country generate billions of dollars in revenue, Ayaz underlined that AI is the only technology driving economic development as the current industrial era is the era of human and robot society.

"We can get a new share from this new technology unfolding in the world. Many Pakistani foreign entrepreneurs and international companies are opening their businesses related to AI in the country," he said.

Syed Mohammad Anwar, former deputy attorney general of Pakistan, noted that AI is the technology of the real world, saying collection of information is the primary aspect of artificial intelligence.

Pakistan should embrace the revolution of artificial intelligence as an opportunity to advance its information technology exports and economy by exploring billions of dollars worth of global market, he said. — Xinhua

## Cambodia's famous Angkor attracts nearly 800,000 foreign tourists in 2023

CAMBODIA'S famed Angkor Archeological Park received 798,069 international visitors in 2023, up 177 per cent from 287,454 in the previous year, said a news release on Monday.

The ancient site made 37.1 million US dollars in revenue from ticket sales in 2023, up 222 per cent from 11.5 million dollars in 2022, said the news release from the state-owned Angkor Enterprise.

In December 2023 alone, the Angkor recorded 98,073 foreign visitor arrivals, earning 4.65 million dollars, representing an increase of 57 per cent and 85 per cent, respectively, compared to the same month in 2022, the news release said.

Situated in the northwestern Siem Reap province, the 401-square-km Angkor Archeological Park, which was inscribed on the World Heritage List of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1992, is the kingdom's most



A passenger plane arrives at the Siem Reap Angkor International Airport (SAI) in Siem Reap province, Cambodia, 16 November 2023. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

popular tourist destination.

Ministry of Tourism's Secretary of State and Spokesperson Top Sopheak strongly believes that the Chinese-invested Siem Reap Angkor International Airport (SAI), which was officially put into commercial operation in last

November, would attract more international travellers to the Angkor.

With a 3,600-metre-long runway, the SAI is currently the biggest airport in the Southeast Asian country and is the main gateway to the Angkor. — Xinhua

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (806N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (806N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **2-1-2024** 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 METHI BHUM VOY.NO. (412N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V METHI BHUM VOY.NO. (412N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **2-1-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES**

## S Korea logs trade deficit of US\$9.97 bln in 2023

SOUTH Korea logged a trade deficit for the second successive year last year owing to weaker global demand, caused by higher interest rates in major economies, government data showed Monday.

The trade deficit amounted to 9.97 billion US dollars in 2023 after recording 47.78 billion dollars in the previous year, according to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy.

Export, which accounts for about half of the export-driven economy, shrank 7.4 per cent from a year earlier to 632.69 billion dollars in 2023, marking the first downturn in three years since 2020.

It was attributed to high interest rates in major economies and the global economic slump.

Import retreated 12.1 per cent to 642.67 billion dollars last year on the back of lower commodity prices.

The trade balance posted a deficit of 26.3 billion dollars in the first half, but it turned around with a surplus of 16.33 billion dollars in the second half amid the export rebound.

The outbound shipment reduced 12.8 per cent in the first quarter, 12.0 per cent in the second quarter and 9.7 per cent in the third quarter, before rebounding 5.9 per cent in the fourth quarter.

Semiconductor export tumbled 23.7 per cent over the year to 98.63 billion dollars in 2023, but automotive shipment surged 31.1 per cent to hit a new yearly high of 70.87 billion dollars on robust demand for eco-friendly vehicles.

Machinery shipment rose 4.6 per cent to 53.46 billion dollars on solid demand from the United States, the European Union (EU) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). — Xinhua

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MERCURY VOY.NO. (06/23)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MERCURY VOY.NO. (06/23)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-1-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **SPW-7** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AETOS VOY.NO. (16)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AETOS VOY.NO. (16)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **2-1-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD**

### NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF ALPHA SOLAR POWER MYINGYAN LTD.

(“The Company”)

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of Alpha Solar Power Myingyan Ltd., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 2,600,000 USD to 200 USD.

### NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF BUDDHAKONE SLP LTD.

(“The Company”)

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of BUDDHAKONE SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 3,200,000 USD to 200 USD.

### NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF CHAUK SLP LTD.

(“The Company”)

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of CHAUK SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 3,060,000 USD to 299,988 USD.

### NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF CHAUNGKU SLP LTD.

(“The Company”)

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of CHAUNGKU SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 2,970,000 USD to 200 USD.

### NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF KYUNGCHAUNG SLP LTD.

(“The Company”)

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of KYUNGCHAUNG SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 3,220,000 USD to 200,200 USD.

### NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF MINHLA SLP LTD.

(“The Company”)

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of MINHLA SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 2,590,000 USD to 200 USD.

# ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD/AD

## Strong quakes jolt central Japan, major tsunami warning issued

A series of strong earthquakes with major ones measured at up to 7.6 magnitude have struck the central Japanese prefecture of Ishikawa on Monday, with tsunami warnings issued, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA).

The major quake hitting Ishikawa, a coastal prefecture on the Island of Honshu, registered an intensity of 7 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale which peaks at 7, with temblors felt in multiple regions of the Asian country, according to the weather agency.

The weather agency said the latest major temblor occurred at 4:10 pm local time



A road sign informs drivers to exit the expressway due to earthquakes in Oyabe City of Toyama Prefecture of Japan, 1 January 2024. A series of strong earthquakes with major ones measured at up to 7.6 magnitude have struck the central Japanese prefecture of Ishikawa on Monday, with tsunami warnings issued, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA). **PHOTO: XINHUA**

(0710 GMT) at a shallow depth.

The temblor's epicentre was located in Ishikawa's Noto region, at Wajima east-north-east 30 km at 37.5 degrees north latitude and 137.2 degrees east longitude.

A major tsunami warning has been issued by the JMA for Noto region, urging people to evacuate immediately, following tsunami warnings for Niigata, Toyama, Ishikawa prefectures of the Japan Sea side of the country.

Japanese public broadcaster NHK has warned of torrents of water of up to 5 meters. — Xinhua

**NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF MYANMAR SLP INVESTMENT LTD.**

**(“The Company”)**

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of MYANMAR SLP INVESTMENT LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 2,000,000 USD to 1,500,200 USD.

**NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF NGAPYAWDINE SLP LTD.**

**(“The Company”)**

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of NGAPYAWDINE SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 2,230,000 USD to 200 USD.

**NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF OAKSHITPIN SLP LTD.**

**(“The Company”)**

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of OAKSHITPIN SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 3,670,000 USD to 200 USD.

**NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF SHWEDAUNG SLP LTD.**

**(“The Company”)**

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of SHWEDAUNG SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 3,350,000 USD to 200 USD.

**NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF SHWEMYO SLP LTD.**

**(“The Company”)**

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of SHWEMYO SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 2,630,000 USD to 200 USD.

**NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF THARZI SLP LTD.**

**(“The Company”)**

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of THARZI SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 2,480,000 USD to 200 USD.

**NOTICE FOR SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION OF THEPHYU SLP LTD.**

**(“The Company”)**

Notice is hereby given that regarding the share capital reduction of THEPHYU SLP LTD., a resolution was successfully passed during the General Meeting of shareholders held on 2 January 2024. Pursuant to the decision, the share capital of the Company shall be reduced from 2,270,000 USD to 200 USD.

**Transferring Distributor for Registered Products**

Distribution of following pesticide registered by Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Singapore) is transferring from Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Myanmar Branch) to Uni Crop Co., Ltd. Any Objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, West Gyogone, Insein Township within two weeks.

Sr	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Type of Reg.	Reg No.
1.	Tri Guard	Atrazine 110 g/l + Mesotrione 29.4 g/l	Provisional	P2023-5336

Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Myanmar Branch). Room 209, Rangoun Business Centre; No. 97. West Shwe Gon Daing Road, Bahan Township, Yangon. Tele: 09-5145328

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# SPORTS

## Winger Si Thu Aung transfers to Thai League-II club

MYANMAR winger Si Thu Aung has joined the Thai League-II club Samut Prakan. The official announcement of Si Thu Aung's transfer to Samut Prakan, with the designated jersey No 77, was made by the team on 1 January.

While he initially played abroad in 2019, he returned to Myanmar after just one season. The move to Samut Prakan signifies his fourth stint with a foreign club, having previously played for Thai League-I club Chon Buri, as well as Thai League-II clubs Ayutthaya United and Chainat.

Si Thu Aung has been a longstanding member of both the Myanmar youth and senior national teams. Notably, he



Myanmar winger Si Thu Aung holds out a Samutprakan City FC scarf as he is introduced to members of the media at a photocall in Thailand. **PHOTO: SAMUTPRAKAN CITY**

excelled in the Myanmar U-23 team, contributing to their success in secur-

ing the silver medal at the 2015 Singapore SEA Games. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZW

## Three games to kick off 2024 in LaLiga on Tuesday

LALIGA wastes no time in kicking off the New Year with the 19<sup>th</sup> round of matches to be played over the coming three days.

2024 gets underway with a south-Madrid derby that sees in-form Getafe at home to Rayo Vallecano, who ended 2023 in a slump, with three defeats in its last four games, while Getafe has climbed up to eighth with three wins and a draw in its last four matches.

Getafe has a clean bill of health and will again look to Mason Greenwood for inspiration, against a rival missing veteran talisman Oscar Trejo.

Tuesday's second match is a Basque derby as Real Sociedad entertains Alaves. The home side has lost Umar Sadiq and Hamari Traore to the African Cup of Nations, while impressive winger Take Kubo has gone to the Asian Cup, opening the door for Aritz Elustondo to play in defence and Andre Silva to play in attack. — Xinhua

## Djokovic-led Serbia edges China, US upsets Britain

TOP-RANKED Novak Djokovic beat Zhang Zhizhen, world No 58, 6-3, 6-2 in 72 minutes here on Sunday as Serbia edged China 2-1 at the United Cup, while the United States started their title defence with a comeback victory over Britain.

Djokovic, who eyes a record-extending 11th trophy at the Australian Open, said after the Group E tie, "I was a little bit rusty at the beginning. I was out of the tempo, rhythm for maybe the first five, six games."

"He (Zhang) was serving well, and he had nothing much to lose," Djokovic added.

In the women's singles, Zheng Qinwen, world No 15, kept China alive by beating world No 119 Olga Danilovic 6-4, 6-2.

The 21-year-old Zheng continued her impressive start to the season, having stunned Wimbledon champion Marketa Vondrousova in China's 3-0 win over the Czech Republic in their group opener on 30 December 2023.

"I was under pressure needing a win, but I had a great performance and I'm happy with myself," Zheng said.

Following her singles win, Zheng partnered with Zhang to battle Danilovic/Djokovic in a mixed doubles match, but registered a narrow 6-4, 1-6, 10-6 loss just before midnight.

In an earlier tie in Perth, Britain's Katie Boulter shocked world No 5 Jessica



Novak Djokovic (1<sup>st</sup>, L)/Olga Danilovic (2<sup>nd</sup>, L) of Serbia pose for photograph with Zheng Qinwen (2<sup>nd</sup>, R)/Zhang Zhizhen (1<sup>st</sup>, R) of China ahead of their mixed doubles of the Group E match between China and Serbia at the 2024 United Cup in Perth, Australia, 31 December 2023. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Pegula to claim the biggest win of her career; but Britain fell to defending champions the United States 2-1 in the end.

Boulter, world No 56, staged a remarkable comeback from a set and double breakdown to win 5-7, 6-4, 6-4. It was the 27-year-old's first victory over a top-five opponent in her career.

But American world No 10 Taylor Fritz secured a 7-6 (5), 6-4 win over Cameron Norrie, who had beaten Australia's Alex

de Minaur in three sets on the opening day of competition.

"It's always a battle with Cam and it got pretty close at the end of the first set, but in the second I just hung in there with my serve," Fritz said. "I felt really sore and I overdid it running for a drop shot, but I got through."

Fritz did have some concerns after struggling with a quad strain, but he recovered to partner Pegula in the mixed

doubles as they beat Boulter and Neal Skupski 1-6, 7-6, 10-7.

In the only tie in Sydney on day three, Canada started their campaign in style with a 2-1 victory over Chile in Group B.

Canada's Leylah Fernandez, a US Open finalist in 2021, eased past Daniela Seguel 6-2, 6-3 in 73 minutes.

The 21-year-old Fernandez, ranked 35th, dominated the clash and broke five times.

"First match of the season...had some nerves, but happy with the way I was able to handle it," she said.

Without their men's ace Felix Auger-Aliassime, Canada's 314th-ranked Steven Diez fell to world No 19 Nicolas Jarry 7-5, 6-4.

But Fernandez stepped up in the decisive mixed doubles and teamed up with Diez to overcome Seguel and Tomas Barrios Vera in a three-set thriller 7-5, 4-6, 10-8.

There was no night session in Sydney due to the city's famous New Year's Eve fireworks.

Day four action will see women's world No 1 Iga Swiatek spearhead Poland's quest for a second straight victory in the event when they face Spain, while the United States will meet host Australia in the later tie in Perth. In Sydney, Croatia will play Norway while France is taking on Germany. — Xinhua



## Singaporean PM calls for full support for new leadership in 2024

SINGAPOREAN Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on Sunday called on Singaporeans to give Lawrence Wong and his team full support in 2024 while giving a New Year address.

“Next year, Deputy Prime Minister Lawrence Wong will take over from me as prime minister. This is not the first time we are having a leadership transition. But transitions are always delicate,” Lee noted.

The prime minister urged Singaporean people to work with the new leadership team to build a nation that is “vibrant and inclusive, fair and competitive, and resilient and united”.

Though geopolitical uncertainties and climate change will continue to affect Singapore in 2024, Lee said rapid progress in artificial intelligence and robotics holds great promise for Singaporean businesses and people.

“The government will work closely with our tripartite partners to support every Singaporean to upskill and reskill so that all can actively pursue their careers and keep themselves employable and competitive,” Lee said.

He also vowed to build affordable and accessible public housing for Singaporeans, uplift lower-income families and vulnerable groups, and care for the aging population. — Xinhua



Chinese President Xi Jinping and US President Joe Biden take a walk after their talks in the Filoli Estate in the US state of California, 15 November 2023. PHOTO: XINHUA

## Xi, Biden exchange congratulations on 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic ties

CHINESE President Xi Jinping and US President Joe Biden exchanged congratulatory messages Monday to mark the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the two countries’ diplomatic relations.

In his message, Xi said the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States is a major event in the history of bilateral and international relations.

Over the past 45 years, the China-US relationship has gone through ups and downs and moved forward on the whole, which has not only enhanced the well-being of the two peoples, but also promoted

world peace, stability and prosperity, Xi said.

History has already proven and will continue to fully prove that mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation are the right way for China and the United States to get along with each other as two major countries, said the Chinese president.

That should be the direction of joint efforts made by China and the United States in the new era, he said.

Xi pointed out that he and Biden, during their meeting in San Francisco, laid out a future-oriented “San Francisco

vision”, charting the course for the development of China-US relations.

He called on China and the United States to earnestly implement the important common understandings and outcomes reached by the two heads of state, and take concrete actions to promote the stable, healthy and sustainable development of China-US relations.

Xi stressed that he is willing to work with Biden to continue to steer the course of China-US relations, so as to benefit the two countries and their people, and promote the cause of world peace and development. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 31 December 2023 shows the site of an Israeli airstrike in Al-Maghazi refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip. PHOTO: XINHUA

## Israeli PM says over 100 Palestinian militants killed over past week

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that in the past week, over 100 Palestinian militants were killed by the Israel Defence Forces (IDF), with dozens being killed daily.

Netanyahu made the remarks at the start of a government meeting at the Kirya military base in Tel Aviv.

“Last week they (the troops) eliminated over 100 terrorists ...

Dozens of terrorists were eliminated on a daily basis, sometimes even more than this. We will eliminate Hamas, bring back our hostages, and win the war,” he said.

An IDF statement released later in the day showed that Israeli soldiers are continuing to operate in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip. The soldiers are coordinating operations with armoured, engineering, and air forces units to locate and destroy

infrastructure and kill Palestinian militants in close-quarters combat scenarios.

At the Sunday meeting, talking about the national backing to the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict, Netanyahu noted that 9 billion shekels (about 2.5 billion US dollars) have been conveyed to the reservists and their families, and the state also supports the reservists’ right to be elected. — Xinhua