

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Vice-Chairman of the SAC Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win and Ms Shen Yueyue, Vice Chairwoman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and President of Good-Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation Commission of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization discuss during the Green Development Forum of SCO Countries yesterday.

Myanmar, China to promote cooperation in partnership relations and multi-strategic cooperation

Myanmar and China discussed cooperation in taking full security for ensuring peace and stability in border regions and implementation of relevant projects between two countries.

Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win who is in Qingdao to

attend the Green Development Forum of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Countries attended the Myanmar-China bilateral meeting at Anren

Hall of Qingdao International Conference Centre at 5 pm Local Standard Time yesterday.

SEE PAGE 3

Salient points in Myanmar-China bilateral meeting

1. To cooperate in taking full security for ensuring peace and stability in border regions and implementation of relevant projects between two countries
2. To exchange information to combat illegal cross-border measures
3. To eliminate online gambling and prevent narcotic drugs
4. To increase economic cooperation and investment between the two countries

Article

Key Notes on Research and Innovation

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

PAGE 8-9

NATIONAL

PAGE 2

Response to outbreak of severe diarrhoea disease in some townships of Yangon Region

BUSINESS

PAGE 7



Myanmar bags US\$570M from pulse exports in Q1 of 2024-2025FY

NATIONAL

Response to outbreak of severe diarrhoea disease in some townships of Yangon Region

7 July 2024

AS some patients are receiving medical treatments at hospitals for outbreak of diarrhoea in some townships of Yangon Region starting from 25 June, officials from Yangon Region Department of Public Health and Medical Services are carrying out control of severe diarrhoea disease under the supervision of the Ministry of Health and Yangon Region government.

In this regard, they conducted the Case-Area Targeted Intervention in residences of disease, enquired families of patients at their home, controlled disease, gave contact treatment to those close to the patients, searched new patients nearby areas, disseminated health knowledge, put chlorine into the drinking water and distributed water purified tablets to people.

Moreover, they carried out sanitation tasks and other disease control measures in cooperation with those from relevant departments. General hospitals in Yangon Region provide necessary treatments to the patients suffering from diarrhea disease.

From 8 am to 8 pm on 7 July, a total of 44 diarrhoea patients are receiving medical treatments at hospitals in

Yangon Region, two of whom are suffering from severe diarrhoea disease and remaining 42 are in normal symptoms of the disease. All patients are in good condition. On 6 July, 63 new patients faced diarrhoea disease. So, number of new patients declined on 7 July.

Although health officials searched new patients and raised health awareness for outbreak of severe diarrhoea

disease in Dawbon Township of Yangon Region in early July, especially from 4 to 6 July, most of them were suffering from ordinary diarrhoea disease. At present, health staff are leveraging up the control of disease in cooperation with the people to be able to control the disease in a short time.

Ministry of Health

ရိုးရာသိကာလတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားမှုများဖြားနိုင်သည့် ဖြစ်ထန်ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ရောဂါ

- ဖြစ်ထန်ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ ရောဂါသည် ဝမ်းရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားစေသောရောဂါမျိုးများပါရှိသည့် သန်ရှင်အသားရေနှင့် အစားအစာများ စားသောက်မိရာမှတစ်ဆင့် ကူးစက်ဖြစ်ပွားစေပါသည်။
- ရာသီဥတုပြောင်းလဲခြင်း၊ အပူချိန်မြင့်တက်လာခြင်း၊ မိုးရေချိန်မတော်တော်တော် အခြေမာကျခြင်းများပါရှိသည်။
- ရောဂါပိုးဝါးဝါးသည် ဝမ်းအညစ်အကြေးများတွင်ရှိနေသော ရောဂါပိုးများသည် ယင်ကောင်မှတစ်ဆင့် လည်ကောင်၊ မသန်ရှင်၊ သေလက် စသည်တို့မှ တစ်ဆင့် လည်ကောင်၊ အစားအစာ သောက်သုံးရေများတွင်သို့ရောက်ရှိခြင်း (သို့မဟုတ်) တိုက်ရိုက်ဝင်ရောက်ခြင်း (ဥပမာ - မိလ္လာရိုက်ပေါက်ခြင်း၊ အညစ်အကြေး ဖြေဖြတ်အသုံးပြုခြင်း) တို့မှ တစ်ဆင့် စားသောက်မိသူများအား ကူးစက်စေပြီး တစ်ဦးမှတစ်ဦးသို့ ရောဂါဆက်လက်ကူးစက်စေပါသည်။
- ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများမှာ အညစ်အကြေးများသွားခြင်း၊ ငါးညှိနံ့နံ့သော ဆန်စေ့စည်ကိုသို့ ဝမ်းသွားခြင်း၊ အော့အန်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးခုန်နှုန်းမြင့်ခြင်း၊ အရေပြားအောက်တွင် အညစ်အကြေးနံ့နံ့ခြင်း၊ ဖျက်တွင်း၊ နှိပ်ဝင်ခြင်း၊ ခံတွင်း/လျှာနှင့်နှုတ်ဝမ်းများဖြောက်စေခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်နိုင်သောနည်းလမ်းများမှာ-
 - အစားအစာ၊ မိန့်နှင့် အစားအစာမပြင်ဆင်မီအချိန်၊ အညစ်အကြေးနှင့် အမှိုက်များ ကိုင်တွယ်ပြီးနောက် အိမ်သာမှဆင်းချိန်တိုင်းတွင် လက်ကိုဆင်ခြင်ခြင်းဖြင့် ဝက်ကြွယ်စွာ စနစ်တကျ ဆေးကြောပါ။
 - တစ်ကိုယ်ရေသန့်ရှင်းရေးကို ဝေလုံခြုံစေဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
 - ယင်လုံးအိမ်သာ ရာနုနုပြည့်သုံးစွဲပါ။
 - ရေကို တစ်ချက်ချီသောက်သုံးပါ။
 - အစားအစာများကို ကျက်စေဆောင်ရွက်ပြီးမှစားသုံးပါ။
 - အစားအစာများကို ယင်မနားအောင် လုံခြုံစွာ ခုံးအပ်ထားပါ။
 - ခြင်း၊ ယင် တို့ မပေါက်ပွားစေရန် ဝတ်ဝန်းကျင် သန့်ရှင်းရေးကို အထူးဂရုပြုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

ဖြစ်ထန်ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားသည့်အခါ ဆေးဝါးပေးရန် အချိန်မီဆေးဝါးပေးရန် လိုအပ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပွားစေသော ရောဂါပိုးများကို ဖြစ်ထန်ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားစေသည့် နေရာများတွင် ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်မှုများကို အထူးဂရုပြုဆောင်ရွက်ရမည်။

ရက်စွဲ: ၂၀၂၄

Meeting emphasizes preventive measures against severe diarrhoea in Yangon Region



Yangon Region Government holds the meeting on control of severe diarrhoea disease in townships of Yangon Region yesterday. PHOTO: HSAN KYAW OO (IPRD)

A coordinating meeting was held yesterday at the Yangon Region Government office to address the ongoing severe diarrhoea outbreak and provide healthcare to the public. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein delivered the opening remarks.

During the meeting, Director-General of the Public Health Department Dr Myint Myint Than outlined the healthcare activities undertaken within Yangon Region. Various officials then provided updates on their

respective areas: Dr Thida Hla, Medical Superintendent of Yangon General Hospital, reported on patient recoveries and treatment conditions; Mayor U Bo Htay discussed the construction of fly-proof latrines and water distribution via tank trucks; and Social Affairs Minister U Htay Aung presented findings from field surveys and initiatives to educate the people at grassroots levels.

Senior medical officers and attendees deliberated on strategies to control the

spread of the infectious disease. Chief Minister U Soe Thein urged officials at various levels — including village and ward administrations, township, and district-level departments — to disseminate knowledge through public addresses in schools, factories, workshops, monasteries, markets, and other crowded areas. He emphasized the importance of distributing leaflets and promoting awareness about preventive measures and prompt treatment. — Hsan Kyaw Oo (IPRD)/TMT

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

Myanmar, China to promote cooperation ...

FROM PAGE 1

Also present at the meeting together with Vice-Senior General were Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Min Thu, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Tin Maung Swe, Director-General U Zaw Tun Oo of the Protocol Department, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Zaw Zaw Naing and officials. Ms Shen Yueyue, Vice Chairwoman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and President of Good-Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation Commission of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization was accompanied by Chinese Communist Party Committee Secretary of Shandong Province Mr Lin Wu, Chinese Communist Party Committee Deputy Secretary of Shandong Province and Governor Mr Zhou Naixiang, Vice President of Good-Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation Commission of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Ms Cui Li and officials.

They frankly exchanged views on enhancement of the Shwemyo Pauk-Phaw relations based on five prin-

ciples of the Peaceful Co-existence, promotion of cooperation in partnership relations and multi-strategic cooperation between the two countries, cooperation in taking full security for ensuring peace and stability in border regions and implementation of relevant projects between two countries, exchange of information to combat illegal cross-border measures, eliminate online gambling and prevent narcotic drugs, efforts for promotion of bilateral trade, increase of economic cooperation and investment between the two countries, and endeavours of the State Administration Council in successfully implementing the five-point Roadmap and holding the multiparty democratic general election.

After the meeting, the Vice-Senior General and the Vice Chairwoman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and President of Good-Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation Commission of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization had documentary photos taken.

In the evening, the Myanmar delegation led by the Vice-Senior General



SAC Vice-Chairman DPM Vice-Senior General Soe Win shakes hands with Ms Shen Yueyue, Vice Chairwoman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference yesterday.

together with delegates to the forum was hosted dinner by the Vice Chairwoman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and President

of Good-Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation Commission of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization at Yellow River Hall of Qingdao International Conference Centre. — MNA/TTA

Relief aid supplied to IDP camp at AG Church in 8th Mile Naungnan

STATE Administration Council Member Daw Dwe Bu, accompanied by Union Minister for

Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win, Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet

Htein Nan, and officials, delivered supplies to the displaced persons camp at AG Church at

8th Mile in Naungnan.

The relief supplies included unisex shirts, 50 bags of rice, four cartons of canned fish, 243 cartons of instant noodles, 20 jerrycans of 10-viss cooking oil, purified drinking water bottles worth K9.43 million, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and soap worth K27.689 million, donated by the Head of State and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

Subsequently, she handed over K52.193 million in financial aid provided by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement to the Kachin State Chief Minister for evacuees who relocated from conflict zones to Myitkyina and Waingmaw.

Furthermore, the SAC Member and their team addressed flood issues in Myitkyina, particularly in the low-lying areas of Rampu ward, where homes were inundated by river water. They also inspected sediment deposits and organized evacuation drills to ensure prompt responses to future disasters. — MNA/ TRKM



National Disaster Management Committee's relief supply event in progress in Myitkyina yesterday.

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NATIONAL

Work process of departmental organizations inspected in Mandalay, PyinOoLwin

MEMBER of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Aung Myaing, arrived at Anisakhan airfield in PyinOoLwin Township on 5 July. The General inspected the ongoing upgrades at the airport and issued necessary instructions.

On 6 July, the General visited Myanmar Railways' Mandalay Station. The managing director and officials briefed the General on train operations, staff management, passenger and freight transport. The Union minister inspected the cleanliness and functions of Mandalay Station, reviewed the security protocols, coordinated with Myanmar Railways and Myanmar Post to



Member of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo has lunch with staff from No 3 Workshop of Carriage and Wagon Factory of Myanmar Railways yesterday.

streamline mail delivery by train, and addressed employee welfare concerns. He also reviewed the

progress of upgrading the platform, carriage shed, and parcel services.

At Road Transport Administration Department in Mandalay, he instructed officials and staff

to serve their duties diligently, check staff needs in offices and staff housings, and provide training to enhance their capacity.

At passenger carriage and wagon factory in Myitnge, the General urged staff to read books for widening their scope of knowledge.

The General viewed round repairing of carriages, construction of container carriages reports.

Afterwards, the General comforted patient staff at Myitnge Hospital and inspected availability of hospital equipment.

On 7 July, the General viewed round maintenance of rail tracts, bridge frames and level-crossings from Mandalay Station to Meiktila Station via Mandalay-Thazi segment. — MNA/TKO

Respect paid to senior comedians, comedian awards to outstanding artistes

THE Myanmar Comedians' Association (Central) organized its 14th respect-paying ceremony to veteran comedians at the Plenary Hall of MICC II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the event, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn appreciated the efforts of the new generation of comedians for organizing such a ceremony to honour their mentors, urging them to preserve this noble practice. The Union minister also acknowledged the role of comedians in bringing joy and goodwill to the public, as well as mentoring younger comedians. He emphasized that comedians, who alleviate pain

and bring happiness, play a crucial role in society. Therefore, he encouraged comedians to continue entertaining people and spreading happiness with their skills. Additionally, the Union minister recognized the senior comedians for their involvement in charitable and artistic activities, despite their advanced age.

Next, U Dein Daung, Chairman of the Myanmar Comedians' Association, expressed gratitude on behalf of the association before initiating the Excellent Comedy Awards Ceremony.

Members of the Myanmar Comedians' Association (Central) entertained the guests with the association's theme song,

before a documentary video showing the emergence of the association is shown.

During the ceremony, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun presented the Excellent Comedian Awards and certificates of Excellent Social Work to outstanding comedians. He also honoured U Dein Daung with a gift. Next, Deputy Minister U Ye Tint recognized the artistes who received the Excellent Comedian Award and the Excellent Supporting Comedian Award. Following that, the Union Minister presented the Excellent Comedy Creation Awards to four artistes.

Afterward, the young come-



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn presents gifts to veteran comedians at the Plenary Hall of MICC II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

dians paid respect to the elderly. The Union minister then presented offerings to veteran comedians and concluded the first session of the event. Following

that, the association held a conference as the second session of the event to discuss development programmes and work plans. — MNA/TH

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

NATIONAL

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

1 July

Former President meets FM of PRC



FORMER President U Thein Sein received Mr Wang Yi, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs, and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China at the Diao Yutai State Guest House in Beijing. During the meeting, they exchanged views on the existing friendly relations and cooperation between Myanmar and China, and recent development of Myanmar.

2 July

Flood in Myitkyina

FLOODING emergency in Myitkyina prompts rapid

rescue efforts and evacuations. By 1 July, the water level of Ayeyawady River in Myitkyina had exceeded 1,368 centimetres.

3 July

Rice distribution

THE Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) has started selling premium rice (Ayeyawady and Shwebo Pawsan rice varieties) through direct delivery to home service from 1 July.

4 July

Women honoured

A ceremony to mark the 2024 Myanmar Women's Day was celebrated at the Myanmar International Convention Centre II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, attended by Honorary Patron of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Kyu Kyu Hla.



5 July

SAC Chairman receives Chinese Ambassador

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Mr Chen Hai, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, at the Credentials Hall of the Office of SAC Chairman in Nay Pyi Taw, holding discussions on cooperation in forging peace and stability in border region.

Deputy Minister appointed

THE State Administration Council has appointed U Min Htut as Deputy Minister at the Ministry of Planning and Finance under Section 419 of the Constitution.

7 July

SAC Vice-Chairman leaves for China

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win left for China to attend the Green Development Forum of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Countries to be held in Qingdao, Shandong Province of the People's Republic of China on 8-9 July.

ADVERTORIAL

Dapein (1) Hydropower Station in Myanmar: Deepening Exchanges between Chinese and Myanmar Young Employees

IN order to actively respond to the World Festival of Youth and Students and deepen youth exchanges, Dapein (1) Hydropower Station recently held an exchange activity for Chinese and Myanmar young employees, to provide a platform for these young employees for self-presentation, exchange and mutual learning and also further deepen the friendship and cooperation between China and Myanmar.

Dapein (1) Hydropower Station has always attached great importance to the training and cultivation of young employees as they are the future and hope of corporate development. This vigorous exchange feast for Chinese and Myanmar young employees was held to accelerate their growth through further exchange and improve their job skills and value for life.



In this exchange activity, Chinese and Myanmar young employees shared their work and life experience and deliv-

ered their recognition of development of Dapein (1) Hydropower Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as the

"Company"). Myanmar employees have said that the Company has fully trusted and supported them like family members.

In addition to expertise, they have made like-minded friends to work together for their life goals.

This activity promotes the youth exchange and also contributes to the friendship and cooperation between China and Myanmar. Meanwhile, Datang's corporate culture of seeking excellence has inspired the passion and creativity of Myanmar employees for work, thus injecting more momentum to its own development.

In the future, the Company will continue to deepen the youth exchange and provide more and better opportunities for young employees to boost its own sustainable and healthy development. It will also encourage Myanmar employees to work harder to contribute to its own high-quality development.

NATIONAL

New retaining wall to be constructed for Kyaiktiyo Pagoda to prevent monsoon damage

ACCORDING to U Soe Hla, Chair of the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda Board of Trustees, a retaining wall is scheduled to be constructed on the western side of the platform of Kyaiktiyo Pagoda, located in Kyaikto Township, Mon State.

The mountains along the uphill road to the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda were devastated by torrential rain during the monsoon season. Authorities are clearing debris from the road to ensure vehicles can travel without delay. Consequently, a retaining wall will also be constructed on the western side of the pagoda platform.

“Mountains often suffer damage from floods after heavy and continuous rain. We are currently repairing the recently damaged road. However, there have been two instances of mountain collapse in the early monsoon of this year. There is no dangerous situation or congestion on the road, so travellers can proceed as usual,” said U Soe Hla.

“Ditches are being constructed to divert water flowing from the mountain, and we are also engaged in cleaning processes. We have built many retaining walls along the road. We



Photo shows Kyaiktiyo Pagoda.

have also invited tenders to build the retaining wall on the western side of the pagoda platform,” he

added.

The planned retaining wall will be 160 feet long, 100 feet

wide, and 20 feet high, and it will be constructed with reinforced concrete. — ASH/TMT

Yodaya sluice gate of ancient Ketumati City to be illustrated with painting



Sluice gate at ancient Ketumati City.

A new painting depicting the true history of the Yodaya sluice gate, a moat that connects the Sittoung river and the moat of the ancient Ketumati City in Toungoo Township, Bago Region, will be created, and historical records will be documented in both Myanmar and Thai languages for public study, according to the regional

government.

The new painting will be housed under a roof system to ensure long-term endurance. As the ancient buildings represent valuable cultural heritages, the Bago Region government is implementing a project to dredge and preserve the walls, moats, buildings, landmarks, and city gates

of the ancient city built by King Mingyi Nyo (1485-1530 AD), allocating an annual budget from the regional government.

Currently, the regional government is working on the dredging of moat and wall in the west of Ketumati City, and Sityin Gate will be re-excavated and preserved this financial year. — ASH/TH

Sai Sai Kham Leng releases new song on flow streaming app

SINGER and Academy Award-winning actor Sai Sai Kham Leng released a new song titled “Hnit Lay Ngar Chauksel” on 5 July. The song was distributed via international music applications, and Sai Sai Kham Leng made it available as a premium one-month gift on the “Flow Streaming App” on 5 July.

“This song is the first taste of an original album I’ve been pouring my heart into since the Covid lockdown began. It’s the very first song I wrote for the project, and while the music video is still in the works, I wanted to get the music out there first. So, please enjoy it,” stated Sai Sai Kham Leng.

To listen to Sai Sai Kham Leng’s songs, including “Hnit Lay Ngar Chauksel,” you can access them through “Gift Card



Photo of Sai Sai Kham Leng who released his new single song.

Redemption” in the settings by logging into the Flow App. — ASH/ TRKM

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Myanmar bags US\$570M from pulse exports in Q1 of 2024-2025FY

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar earned over US\$570 million from exporting more than 660,000 tonnes of beans and pulses within the first quarter of the 2024-25 financial year.

From 1 April to 28 June of the 2024-25 FY, a total of 637,998.885 tonnes of beans were shipped, generating \$550.523 million from sea routes, and 23,730.313 tonnes were exported through land borders, earning \$19.974 million.

From 1 April to 31 March of the 2023-24 FY, 1,602,388

tonnes were exported by sea, bringing in \$1,342.628 million, while 157,410 tonnes were exported via border posts, earning \$141.380 million.

Myanmar primarily exports black grams, green grams, and pigeon peas. Black grams and pigeon peas are mainly exported to India, while green grams are delivered to China and some European countries. On 18 June 2021, the governments of India and Myanmar signed an MoU for collaboration in black gram and pigeon pea trade under government-to-government



The value of Myanmar's pulses exports hit over US\$1.48 billion from over 1.76 million tonnes in the previous FY 2023-2024. A worker arranging export pulse bags in the warehouse.

schemes.

As per the MoU, India will import 250,000 tonnes of black grams and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas from the private sector annually for five financial

years from 2021-22 to 2025-26 FY.

India primarily purchases black grams from Myanmar. Pigeon peas, green grams and garden peas are grown not only

in Myanmar but also in African countries and Australia. Myanmar produces approximately 400,000 tonnes of black grams and 50,000 tonnes of pigeon peas annually. — NN/TMT

Hopong-produced jengkol beans receive loads of orders from Yangon and Mandalay

JENKOL beans produced from Shan State's Hopong have received many orders from Yangon and Mandalay.

It is the beginning of jengkol bean harvest season in Hopong and price of jengkol beans produced from this township is cheaper than that of other townships. Jengkol bean is one of the most consumed foods in Myanmar and it is generally served with salty fish sauce as well as cooked in different recipes. Some enjoy it as lunch snack.

"This is jengkol bean season so many people consume it. We transport it to all regions and states which make orders to us and majority of orders are from Yangon and Mandalay," said a businessperson who runs jengkol bean retail and wholesale trading in Hopong Township.



Boiled jengkol beans served with salty fish sauce.

Jengkol trees are perennial and fruits can be harvested in about seven years. Some trees are tall about 40 ft and 5 ft in girth. Jengkol trees grow naturally or planted. — Thit Taw/ZS

Imported lionhead geese draw interest from poultry farmers

MANY people are interested in raising imported lionhead geese, according to the information asked by the Global New Light of Myanmar.

These lionhead geese are bigger than those in the domestic poultry market, and interest in them varies from breeding them as pets to breeding them for laying eggs.

"The geese we breed are not the same as ordinary geese in Myanmar. They are two and a half to three times the size of a domestic goose. The large one weighs 6.5 visses to 8 visses. The common one we see weighs 2.5 visses. Before COVID-19, we imported them from China and Thailand. They are called lionhead geese in Myanmar. It is tall and has a mane-like feather around its neck. Many people are interested in baby geese. It hasn't been long since they arrived in Myanmar," said a goose importer and breeder.

There are two types — white geese imported from Thailand and grey geese im-

ported from China.

"At the moment, supply doesn't meet demand. It is not sure about market expansion. Under normal circumstances, they are good for trading," he said.

The advantages of lionhead geese include a high growth rate, survival on rough feeds, worth breeding for both meat and eggs and good profits for breeders. — Thit Taw/ZN



Lionhead geese attract a lot of interest in the poultry market.

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OPINION

Strictly follow health guidelines for the prevention of diarrhoea

THE early monsoon season in Myanmar has led to an outbreak of waterborne diseases, including cholera and severe diarrhoea, due to lapses in adherence to health guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health. In June 2024, these diseases emerged in several parts of the Yangon Region, affecting townships such as Thakayta and Dawbon. While patients have sought treatment in hospitals, there is no confirmed information regarding casualties at this time.

To mitigate these diseases, it is crucial for people to adopt healthier daily practices, particularly in food supply and personal hygiene. Cholera and diarrhoea are primarily caused by bacteria,

As such, people need to inform relevant health units about finding patients with cholera and diarrhoea diseases in time. Likewise, patients themselves need to get medical treatment at nearby health units if they face severe cholera and diarrhoea diseases. If so, society will easily overcome the challenges of the diseases.

Diarrhoea, characterized by loose, watery, and potentially more frequent bowel movements, can sometimes present with other symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, or weight loss. While diarrhoea can be a standalone issue, it might also indicate other health problems like irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), ongoing infections, celiac disease, or inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

Combating the spread of cholera and severe diarrhoea in Myanmar requires a collective effort to improve food safety, water purification, and sanitation practices. By adhering to recommended health guidelines and maintaining high standards of personal and communal hygiene, the risk of these diseases can be significantly reduced, ensuring a healthier community during the monsoon season.

As such, people need to inform relevant health units about finding patients with cholera and diarrhoea diseases in time. Likewise, patients themselves need to get medical treatment at nearby health units if they face severe cholera and diarrhoea diseases. If so, society will easily overcome the challenges of the diseases.

viruses, and parasites that infect the stomach and intestines, often spread through contaminated food and water. Unclean hands can transfer these pathogens from one place to another via food, emphasizing the importance of hand hygiene.

Poor personal hygiene and unsafe sanitation facilities, such as inadequate latrines and septic tanks, are key contributors to the outbreaks. Flies, acting as carriers of viruses and bacteria, exacerbate the problem. Therefore, maintaining cleanliness in personal and communal spaces is vital as a preventative measure.

To prevent severe cholera and diarrhoea, people should avoid consuming unhealthy food and ensure they drink FDA-approved purified water, properly purified water, or boiled water. Handwashing before meals and after using the toilet is essential for all family members. Additionally, using fly-proof or safe toilets and systematically disposing of waste, including food scraps, in designated areas can help minimize fly reproduction.

Key Notes on Research and Innovation

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

THINKING about research and innovation involves refining a mindset that values curiosity, creativity, and systematic exploration. At the moment, the mentioned points are some steps and considerations to help you approach research and innovation:

▸ **Define the Problem or Opportunity:** Clearly articulate what you want to achieve or explore. Whether it's solving a specific problem or seizing an opportunity, a well-defined starting point is crucial.

▸ **Background Research:** Before diving in, conduct thorough research to understand existing knowledge, trends,

and potential solutions. That helps you build on existing ideas and avoid reinventing the wheel.

▸ **Set Clear Goals and Objectives:** Establish specific, measurable goals for your research or innovation project. That keeps your efforts focused and provides a benchmark for success.

▸ **Generate Ideas:** Encourage brainstorming and idea generation. Be open to unconventional ideas and perspectives.

▸ **Collaborate and Seek Feedback:** Engage with others who can provide diverse insights and expertise. Collaboration often sparks new ideas and helps validate or refine your approach.

can be helpful here.

▸ **Prototype and Experiment:** Don't be afraid to test ideas early through prototyping and experimentation. This iterative process allows you to refine and improve your concepts based on real-world feedback.

▸ **Embrace Failure as Learning:** Understand that not every idea will succeed, and failure is a natural part of the innovation

process. Learn from setbacks and use them to improve your future efforts.

▸ **Stay Current:** Keep up with developments in your field through continuous learning and networking. Innovation thrives on staying informed about emerging technologies, methodologies, and trends.

▸ **Think ethically and sustainably:** Consider the ethical implications of your research and innovation. Aim for solutions that are not only effective but also responsible and sustainable in the long term.

▸ **Repeat and Improve:** Innovation is rarely a linear process.

Repeat your ideas based on feedback, new insights, and changing circumstances. Continuous improvement is the key to staying ahead.

▸ **Celebrate Successes:** Recognize and celebrate achievements, both big and small. Positive reinforcement fosters motivation and encourages further innovation.

Therefore, by approaching research and innovation with a strategic, open-minded mindset, you can effectively navigate the complexities of discovery and creation, leading to meaningful advancements and solutions.



Encouraging brainstorming and idea generation involves fostering openness to unconventional ideas and diverse perspectives. ILLUSTRATION: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ PIXABAY

Dog Meat, Anyone?

By UAC

The transition of dogs and cats from food to pets presents a lucrative opportunity in the rapidly growing pet food industry.

Iheard a story about how the stray dogs in Yankin township in Yangon all disappeared between 2013 and 2014. Strangely, it coincided with the busy period of a major construction project, during which a lot of foreign construction workers were deployed. Though totally uncommon in Myanmar, a large part of the Asian population still devours dog meat as a delicacy, a savoury delight meant to guard against bad luck and evil spirits, plus a palliative against cold weather.

First, you have to be able to withstand the smell. Not as strong as durian, perhaps. With the taste that falls between beef and mutton, at least 30 million dogs are consumed in stews and barbecues across Asia.

The habit is on the wane, however. First are the health concerns; unlike pigs, goats, and cows, dogs carry incurable rabies in mostly unregulated dog farms, which owner would be willing to



There is a rising trend in pet ownership, particularly of dogs. PHOTO: PEXELS

dig into his own pocket to give vaccinations to all his would-be culls.

The second factor is rising pet ownership. As Asians become more prosperous and have fewer babies, pet dogs and cats fill in the companionship and emotional gap. South Korea and Chinese Taipei have more cats and dogs than children under the age of 14.

In neighbouring Thailand, pets outnumber children by roughly seven million.

Thirdly, the anti-dog meat campaigns have taken their toll. Secret video recordings at dog slaughterhouses and shreds of evidence of abuse filled consumers with abhorrence.

Last is the force of social media, where a pet would undoubtedly

Developing countries in Asia-Pacific still report high TB incidence rate: ADB

MANY developing countries in Asia and the Pacific region, including the Philippines, still have a high tuberculosis (TB) incidence rate, according to an article from the

Asian Development Blog of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Citing World Health Organization (WHO) data, the recently published article said the highly infectious disease "remains rife"

in the region, with Southeast Asia responsible for 46 percent of global infections in 2022, "the highest of any region".

The good news

The article said the pandemic devastated national TB prevention and treatment programs, causing an estimated half a million excess deaths between 2020 and 2022. However, the good news is that there has been a post-pandemic recovery in the number of people diagnosed with and treated for TB, helping to reduce the damage done by the pandemic, it added. According to the WHO Global Tuberculosis Report 2023, the Philippines, along with Indonesia, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, and Vietnam, have some of the highest levels of TB in the region. Around 700,000 people out of a population of 115 million have active TB. Nearly 10 million people in the Philippines reside in impoverished urban areas. Poverty and overcrowding, along with poorly-resourced public health services, are major factors in the widespread incidence

of TB in the country, according to The Lancet. In Indonesia, TB is the fourth-highest cause of death overall, and among those aged 15 to 49 years, it is the number one cause of death by a contagious disease.

An airborne disease

TB, an airborne disease spawned by urban poverty, is currently the world's second-biggest infectious killer after COVID-19. Many countries are working to eliminate TB by 2030, which aligns with the WHO's End Tuberculosis Strategy. The article said adapting practices such as mask-wearing and improved hygiene at home and work that proved effective against COVID-19 could play an important role in helping Asia and the Pacific rid themselves of TB permanently. However, socioeconomic factors including poverty, overcrowding, poor sanitation, lack of infrastructure, and inadequate public health systems, allow the disease to remain endemic, it added.

SOURCE: XINHUA

KEY POINTS

- TB remains a major health challenge in Asia and the Pacific.
- Southeast Asia accounted for 46% of global TB infections in 2022, the highest among all regions.
- Countries like the Philippines, Indonesia, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, and Vietnam have high levels of TB.



In this photo taken on 14 March 2024, a medical worker uses an ultraportable x-ray machine on a woman during a tuberculosis screening at a health center in Valenzuela, Philippines. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

NATIONAL

Moeyungyi Wetland Sanctuary to seek ASEAN heritage status

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, in collaboration with the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), is working on a project to establish the Moeyungyi Wetland Wildlife Sanctuary as an ASEAN Heritage Park, according to the ministry.

The sanctuary, located in Bago Region between Bago and Waw townships, features 120 species of mammals, 28 species of amphibious and reptiles, 33 species of insects, 59 species of hibernated birds, 77 species of domestic birds, 44 species of fish, and 74 species of aqua plants.

The Department of Forest has also begun efforts to designate Mount Popa, Shweseitaw Wildlife Sanctuary and Moe-



Various species of birds are seen inside Moeyungyi Wetland Wildlife Sanctuary.

Moeyungyi Wetland Wildlife Sanctuary as additional ASEAN Heritage Parks.

Myanmar hosts eight ASEAN Heritage Sites, including Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary, Khakaborazi National Park,

Inlay Lake Wildlife Sanctuary, Alaungtau Kathapa National Park, Mainmahla Island Wildlife Sanctuary, Natmataung National Park, Lampi Marine National Park, and Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary. — TWA/KZL

Illegal trade crackdown on 18 arrests and seizures worth K431.71 million

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, action against illegal trade is being taken in accordance with the law.

On 5 July, on-duty teams managed by the Yangon Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force inspected two vehicles en route to Yangon from Tachilek and Mandalay at Ywathagyi Dry Port. The teams seized four kinds of smuggled goods, including 180 pieces of tyre, and two vehicles. The value of the illegal goods is K37.18 million, and the two vehicles are valued at K65 million. Action is being taken under Customs procedures.

Similarly, on that day, the on-duty team managed by the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force inspected a vehicle en route to Yangon from Hpa-an near Shwethanlwin tollgate in Phayagyi. The team seized 2,500 bottles of Lipovitan-D energy drink and six 20-kilo bags

of Feline Pro pet food without official documents, along with the vehicle carrying these goods. The value of the illegal goods is K10.2 million, and the vehicle is valued at K30 million. Action is being taken under Customs procedures.

In Lewe Township on 5 July, the on-duty team managed by the Nay Pyi Taw Council Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force confiscated 0.369 tonne of illegal teak, estimated to be worth K118,118. Another team seized a vehicle without a motor vehicle registration licence, valued at K8 million. Action is being taken under the Forest Law and the Export/Import Law.

In Taninthayi Region on the same day, on-duty teams managed by the region's Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force inspected two vehicles en route to Yangon from Mawtaung near Kyaukpyutaung Village, Myeik Township. The team seized six kinds of goods without official documents, including 60,000 kilo-

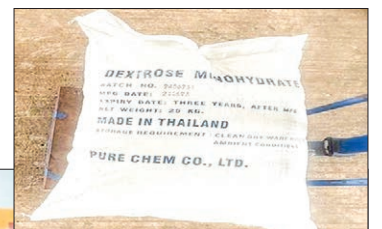
grammes of Dextrose Monohydrate. The value of the illegal items is K62.466 million, and the two vehicles carrying them are valued at K140 million. Action is being taken under Customs procedures.

On 6 July, at Asia World container inspection station, on-duty teams managed by Customs Department confiscated 78,946 kilogrammes of raw animal feedstuffs, estimated worth K69.63 million, from three abandoned containers of the owner. At Yangon International Airport, three kinds of goods, including 30 sets of YOTO Digital Timber Ports valued at K5.35 million, were confiscated from a luggage of a traveller due to a lack of official document. The action is being taken under the Customs procedures.

On 7 July, in Pyay District, the on-duty team managed by Bago Region's Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force confiscated 7.418 tonnes of illegal teak and 1.126 tonnes of illegal

hard wood estimated valued at over K3.72 million. The action was being taken under the Forest Law and export/import law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported that 18 arrests were made on 5, 6 and 7 July, with the total value of the illegal items and vehicles estimated at K431.71 million. — MNA/KZL



Confiscated illegal items and vehicle in Bago and Taninthayi regions.

NATIONAL



BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 8 July 2024: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Magway Region and Kayah State, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Bago regions and fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing and Ayeyawady regions and Shan, Chin and Rakhine states and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Upper Sagaing and Yangon regions and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is 100%.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The Cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi regions and (Southern and Eastern)Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar Waters. Wave height will be about 5-7 feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin and (Northern and Eastern) Shan states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 July 2024: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 July 2024: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 July 2024: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

Flood Warning

(Issued at 13:30 hours MST on 7-7-2024)

ACCORDING to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Ayeyawady River at Mandalay is observed as about 3.5 feet (100 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 36 hours.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Ayeyawady River at Sagaing is observed as about three feet (92 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 36 hours.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Ayeyawady River at Myinmu is observed as about 3.5 feet (100 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the 36 hours.

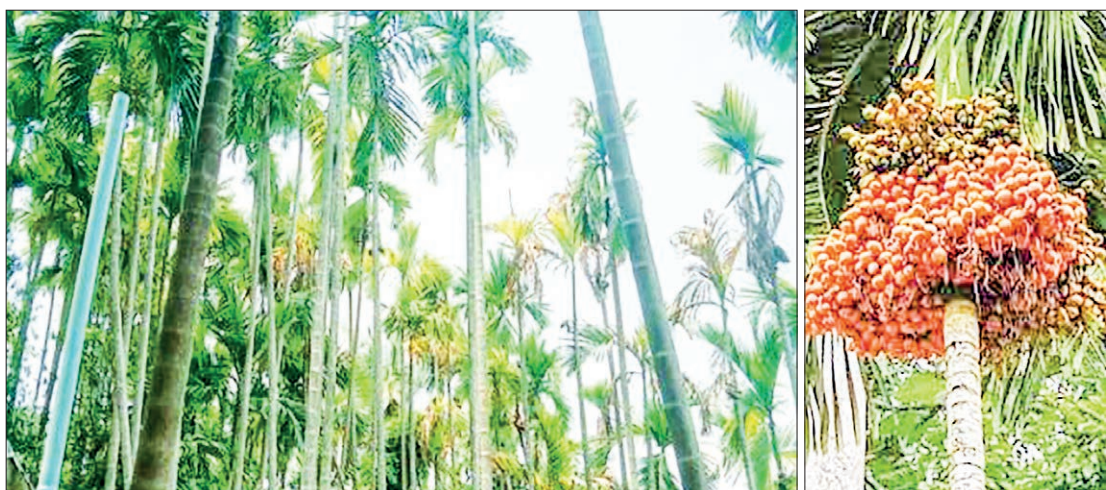
According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Ayeyawady River at Pakokku is observed as about 3.5 feet (102 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next two days.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Ayeyawady River at NyaungU is observed as about three feet (91 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next two days.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Chindwin River at Monywa is observed as about 0.5 foot (17 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 12 hours.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Dokhtawady River at Myitnge is observed as about three feet (92 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 36 hours.

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas at Sagaing, Myinmu, Pakokku, NyaungU, Monywa townships and, Mandalay and Myitnge, to take precaution measure. — DMH



An areca palm plantation seen in Mon State.

Myanmar's young areca nuts market develops with increased exports

THE young areca nuts market is developing as these nuts are now steamed and used as a substitute for chewing betel quid, according to reports from businesspersons.

Previously, areca nuts were dried under the sun and used in chewing betel quid. Now, tender areca nuts are steamed and used as a substitute for chewing betel quid, an areca palm grower in Mon State, U Tun Yin, told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

Myanmar is now preparing to export young areca nuts. A resident from Yangon's South Okkalapa Township said, "One

areca nut in the ward fetches K40. The buyers prefer tender ones. We didn't know initially, but later we learned that they steam and sell these young areca nuts to China. We earn K25,000 from three areca palm plants."

Currently, traders buy young areca nuts and steam them in factories in Mon State and Taninthayi Region.

Myanmar has contracted with India to export dried areca nuts for three years and will export 200 tonnes of areca nuts monthly to India, according to the Myanmar Areca Nut Entrepreneurs Association.

"Areca nuts from Ayeyawady Region are not produced on a commercial scale, and the size is relatively small. Wholesalers do not prefer them for export. Therefore, areca nuts from Ayeyawady Region are consumed locally," said U Nay Myo, a areca palm grower from the Delta area.

Mon State, Taninthayi Region, and Ayeyawady Region are the biggest areca palm-growing areas in Myanmar, producing 230,000 tonnes annually. The yield of areca nuts is larger than local consumption, making them a highly demanded export item. — TWA/TMT

Permission granted for air-conditioner procurement at Yangon Region Hluttaw, Windermere compounds

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Construction, entrepreneurs will be permitted to purchase air-conditioners and accessories for installation and replacement at Yangon Region's Hluttaw Compound and Windermere Compound.

Myanmar entrepreneurs interested in

submitting open tenders can purchase tender forms from 4 to 18 July at the Hluttaw Compound Residential Buildings Maintenance Task Force in Dagon Township, Yangon Region. Completed forms must be resubmitted by 2 August. — TWA/TKO



Infrastructures seen within Yangon Region Hluttaw Compound.

ECONOMY WORLD

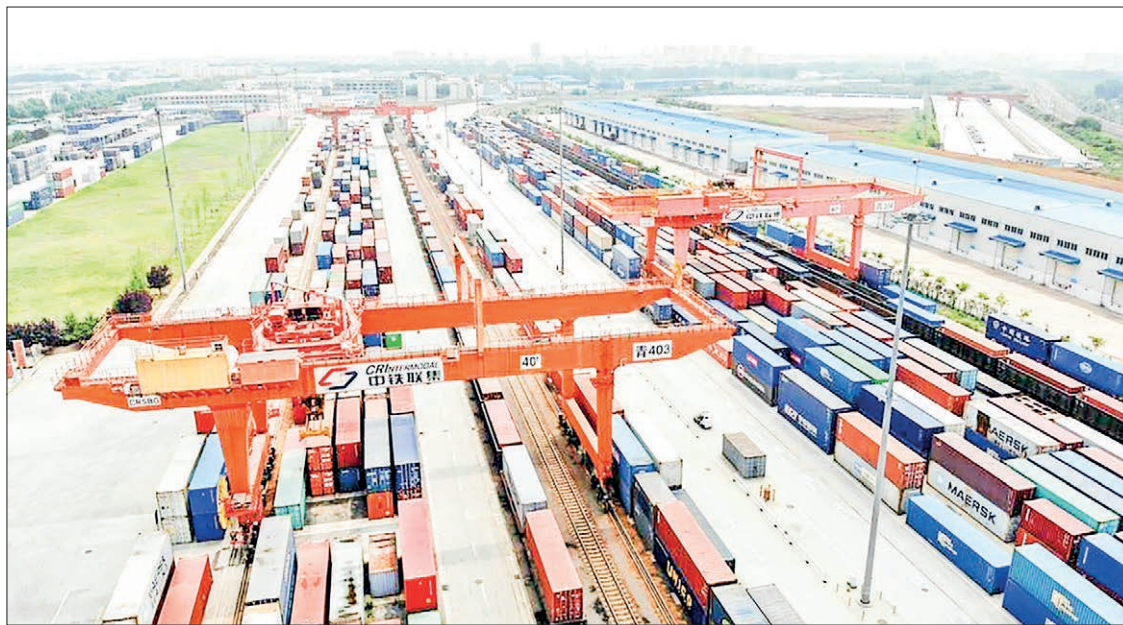
SCO demonstration area emerges as logistics hub for international trade

The journey, spanning 14 days from South Korea to Kazakhstan, underscores SCODA's capability to expedite multilateral trade cooperation.

NEARLY six years since it began operations, the China-SCO Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area (SCODA) in China's eastern coastal city of Qingdao has evolved into a critical hub for international trade, seamlessly integrating sea, road, air and rail transport.

Earlier this week, 100 standard containers loaded with cars and auto parts were transported by ship from Incheon in the Republic of Korea (ROK) and reloaded onto a China-Europe freight train at the demonstration area. The train will travel past Alashankou Port in north-west China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region before arriving at its final destination of Boralday, Kazakhstan.

The 14-day express transport service from the ROK to Kazakhstan is an example of



This aerial photo taken on 1 June 2023 shows a multimodal transport center in the China-SCO Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area (SCODA) in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province. **PHOTO: LI ZIHENG/XINHUA**

how the demonstration area facilitates multilateral trade cooperation.

"We are striving to build the area into a gateway to the Asia Pacific for Shanghai Cooperation

Organization (SCO) countries," said Zang Yuanqi, an official of SCODA's management commit-

tee.

Leveraging its transport advantages, the demonstration area has gradually become an international logistics corridor connecting the Asia-Pacific region to its east, Central Asia and Europe to its west, South Asia and Southeast Asia to its south, and Mongolia and Russia to its north, according to Zang.

SCODA now operates 32 international train routes, reaching 54 cities in 23 countries, including the SCO countries and Belt and Road partner countries. Several train routes for goods like cold-chain products and fresh vegetables have also been launched. To date, the area has managed over 3,200 China-Europe freight train trips, with an increasing variety of goods transported through its routes. — Xinhua

S Korea logs current account surplus in May

For the first five months of the year, South Korea's current account surplus totalled \$25.47 billion, a notable improvement compared to the \$5.03 billion deficit recorded during the same period last year.

SOUTH Korea logged current account surplus in May due to solid export, central bank data showed Friday.

Current account balance, the broadest measure of cross-border trade, recorded a surplus of US\$8.92 billion in May after posting a deficit of \$290 million in the previous month, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK).

For the first five months of this year, the current account surplus came to \$25.47 billion, turning around from a deficit of \$5.03 billion in the five-month period of last year.

Trade surplus for

goods stood at \$8.75 billion in May, up from \$5.11 billion in April. The trade balance stayed in black for the 14th straight month since April 2023. Export advanced 11.1 per cent from a year earlier to \$58.95 billion in May, while import decreased 1.9 per cent to \$50.2 billion. — Xinhua



People visit the Gwanghwamun Square in Seoul, South Korea, on 24 May 2024. **PHOTO: YAO QILIN/XINHUA**

Kenyan president unveils austerity measures to address revenue shortfall

An aerial drone photo taken on 3 April 2024 shows a city view in Nairobi, Kenya. **PHOTO: HAN XU/XINHUA**



KENYAN President William Ruto on Friday announced a raft of austerity measures aimed at addressing revenue shortfalls in the 2024/2025 fiscal budget caused by the withdrawal of the contentious Finance Bill 2024.

Ruto said the National Treasury will cut government spending by 177 billion shillings (about US\$1.38 billion) to make room for key commitments, including hiring extra school teachers. He said the withdrawal of the Finance

Bill 2024 had left a 2.7-billion-dollar deficit in the national budget and called on measures to help manage the shortfall.

"In a televised news conference in Nairobi, Kenya's president emphasized responding to public feedback by adjusting policies. He stated the Treasury team is evaluating options: cutting the budget by \$2.7 billion or borrowing it all, which would raise the fiscal deficit to 4.6 per cent of GDP from 3.3 per cent." — Xinhua

Fuel shortages a bitter pill for Cuba's sugar cane producers

The drastic decline in their productivity, from 84 to 28 tonnes of cane per hectare over the past five years, has raised serious concerns among the agricultural community.



Since the coronavirus pandemic, which hit its tourism sector hard, Cuba has experienced its worst economic crisis since the 1990s. **PHOTO: AFP**

CUBA'S sugar cane industry, once the world leader, first lost the United States as its main client 60 years ago, then the Soviet Union three decades later.

Today, the industry is teetering on the brink with Cuba in the grips of a crushing economic crisis marked by frequent power blackouts and severe shortages of basic supplies such as fuel, fertilizer and pesticides.

"It is the worst time in the history" of the industry, said Reinaldo Espinosa, the 54-year-old boss of a sugar cane-producing cooperative in the province of Artemisa, southwest of the capital Havana.

"Recovering our national sugar production will take years," Espinosa told AFP as he described preparing for the planting season "with zero resources."

He said his cooperative's output has fallen from 84 to 28 tonnes of cane per hectare in the past five years as he rattled off a long list of obstacles: "Zero fertilizer, zero herbicide," a dire shortage of

fuel and power blackouts "quite often in the productive hours."

"It's really hard" to keep going, Espinosa said.

Plummeting production

Agricultural cooperatives were set up by the communist state 30 years ago in a bid to revitalize the industry after the fall of the Soviet Union, which was Cuba's main ally, investor and client.

It had replaced the United States as Cuba's main sugar importer until the 1960s, when sanctions kicked in as the island shifted towards communism.

When the USSR collapsed 30 years later, Cuba abruptly lost 75 per cent of its exports and its main source of credit.

Most state-owned farms were converted into cooperatives that remained in government hands.

But sugar prices plummeted at about the same time and US sanctions left the industry — and others — in dire straits. — AFP



The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has updated its forecast for global cereal production in 2024, setting a new record at 2854 million tonnes. **PHOTO: FAO**

Global cereal output seen hitting all-time high in 2024

Global rice production is projected to achieve a new record high of 535.1 million tonnes.

THE Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) updated its forecast for global cereal production in 2024, now pegging it at 2854 million tonnes, a new all-time high.

The Cereal Supply and Demand Brief, issued by FAO Friday, attributed its raised projections to a better harvest outlook for

maize in Argentina and Brazil as well as Türkiye and Ukraine, which will offset downgrades to the outlook for Indonesia, Pakistan and several Southern African countries. The wheat production forecast has also been raised based on better prospects in Asia, notably Pakistan, which should outpace an expected decline in the

Russian Federation due to inclement weather in major wheat producing areas earlier in the season.

Global rice production is projected to reach a record 535.1 million tonnes.

World cereal total utilization in 2024/25 is forecast to rise to 2 856 million tonnes, up 0.5 per cent from the previous year, led by rice and coarse grains.

World cereal stocks are forecast to expand by 1.3 per cent in 2025, leaving the global cereal stocks-to-use ratio in 2024/25 nearly unchanged at 30.8 per cent.

FAO's forecast for international trade in total cereals remains unchanged at 481 million tonnes, representing a 3.0 per cent decline from 2023/24. — ANI

Singaporean police works with banks to block scam

THE Singapore Police Force's Anti-Scam Center worked with six banks to disrupt over 2,800 scams from 1 May to 30 June, according to a statement

from the police.

The police and commercial banks notified victims to cease monetary transfers after detecting jobs, investments, fake

friends, or e-commerce scams with robotic process automation technology. They sent nearly 14,000 short messages to over 9,800 scam victims

and averted potential financial losses of more than 47 million Singapore dollars (35 million US dollars), the police added. — Xinhua

<p>CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V MSC ANDREA F VOY.NO. (SB425A)</p> <p>Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MSC ANDREA F VOY.NO. (SB425A) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8-7-2024 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.</p> <p>Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.</p> <p>No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Phone No: 2301185</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shipping Agency Department Myanma Port Authority</p> <p>Agent For:</p> <p>M/S MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A</p>	<p>CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V SITC NAGOYA VOY.NO. (2431N)</p> <p>Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SITC NAGOYA VOY.NO. (2431N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8-7-2024 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.</p> <p>Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.</p> <p>No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Phone No: 2301185</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shipping Agency Department Myanma Port Authority</p> <p>Agent For:</p> <p>M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD</p>
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ROLLING UPDATE: WORLD

PM Modi invites UK PM Keir Starmer for early visit to India

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi, during his telephonic conversation with newly-elected British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, invited him for an early visit to India, the Prime Minister's office said in a release.

PM Modi congratulated him on being elected as the UK Prime Minister.

Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to deepen the India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

"Both leaders recalled the historic relations between the two countries and reaffirmed their commitment to further deepen and advance the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between India and the UK," a PMO release said.

Appreciating the positive contributions of the Indian community in the social, economic and political development of the UK, the two sides agreed to continue to promote closer people-to-people ties.

The two leaders also agreed to remain

Both leaders expressed their commitment to strengthen the India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.



During their conversation, PM Modi extended an invitation to Starmer for an early visit to India. **PHOTO: ANI**

in touch.

PM Modi said that the two countries were committed to deepening economic ties. "Pleased to speak with @Keir_Starmer. Congratulated him on being elected as the Prime Minister of the UK. We remain committed to deepening Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and robust — economic ties for the progress and prosperity of our peoples and global good," PM Modi said in a post on X.

Labour Party won a huge mandate in the UK elections and has come to power after 14 years of Conservative rule.

Starmer, a former barrister who entered Parliament in 2015, assumed Labour leadership in 2020.

In his first speech outside 10, Downing Street, Starmer promised to serve all citizens, regardless of who they voted for and assured that the process of change would start immediately to "rebuild Britain." — ANI

Sri Lanka earns over US\$1.5 bln from tourism in first half of year

In the first half of 2024, Sri Lanka saw a significant surge in tourism earnings, reaching over \$1.5 billion, marking a 77.9% increase from the previous year, while tourist arrivals totaled 1.01 million, up 61.7%.



Passengers board a train at a railway station in Colombo, Sri Lanka. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

SRI Lanka's earnings from tourism rose to over US\$1.5 billion in the first six months of 2024, a 77.9-per cent increase year on year, the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) said in its latest weekly report.

Tourist arrivals in the first half was 1.01 million, up

61.7 per cent from the same period in 2023.

Tourism earnings in June hit \$113.4 million, compared to \$100.3 million one year ago.

Meanwhile, workers' remittances for the first six months of 2024 were \$3.14 billion, up from \$2.82 billion

in the same period last year.

Earnings from remittances was \$519.6 million in June.

Tourism and workers' remittances are among the top foreign revenue generators for the South Asian nation. — Xinhua

France braces for crunch election as overseas territories kick off vote

FRANCE on Saturday prepared for its most consequential legislative election of recent times, with residents of overseas territories opening voting for a poll expected to give the far right its biggest ever presence in parliament.

A traditional final day pause was observed on Saturday ahead of Sunday's second round runoff after a frenetic campaign that saw tensions rise across the country and dozens of attacks on candidates.

Underlining France's global footprint that spans the oceans of the world, the first French region to vote was Saint Pierre and Miquelon, a small French archipelago off the coast of Canada where citizens began voting from 1000 GMT.

They were followed by residents of French Caribbean territories including Martinique and Guadeloupe as well as Guiana in South America. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

15 more dead in monsoon-sparked disasters in Nepal

AT least 15 more people have been killed in landslides and floods in Nepal in the past two days, police said on Sunday.

Incessant monsoon rains since Friday evening have created havoc across Nepal, leaving 15 dead, two missing and 17 others injured in landslides and floods, said Dan Bahadur Karki, the spokesperson for Nepal Police. He told Xinhua that at least 125 families have been displaced, hundreds of livestock killed and some highways across the country blocked due to landslides and floods in the last two days.

Parts of Kathmandu, Nepal's capital, have been inundated.

As the rainfall is continuing, the loss of lives and property is likely to increase, Karki said. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Myanmar golfers leave for Southeast Asian Amateur Golf Team Championship 2024

MYANMAR Golf team headed for Singapore on 7 July to compete in the Southeast Asian Amateur Golf Team Championship 2024 at Seletar Country Club from 9 to 12 July.

Team Myanmar includes Kyaw Ko Ko Chit, Hlaing Min Htet,

Min Sitt Thway and Hein Naing Zin for Putra Cup, Kaung Htet and Min Khant Thaw for Lion City Cup and Cho Tha Aung, Letyar Lay Phyu and Su Hnin Phyu for Locadio K and Kartini Cup.— Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Team Myanmar is seen before departure for Singapore to take part in Southeast Asian Amateur Golf Team Championship 2024. PHOTO: MGF

Unity key to stopping Mbappe at Euros: Spain's Cucurella



Spain defender Marc Cucurella says unity is the key to stopping Kylian Mbappe in the Euro 2024 semi-final. PHOTO: AFP

SPAIN defender Marc Cucurella believes the key to stopping France striker Kylian Mbappe in their Euro 2024 semi-final

clash is a unified approach.

Joint record three-time winners Spain face France in Munich on Tuesday after ousting hosts Germany in extra-time.

Explosive new Real Madrid signing Mbappe has struggled at the Euros after breaking his nose in France's first match, scoring once from the penalty spot, but remains Les Bleus' main attacking threat.

"I think football is a collective sport, and it's true that if it was one-

on-one it would be tricky, but it's up to us in the end," Cucurella told a news conference Sunday. "Apart from being good with the ball, we are a very hard-working team, we give everything for each other, and I think that's the key.

"We have to be united, to know what to do in each moment, and above all we need to minimize their counter-attacks which are perhaps their strongest weapons".

Cucurella has been one of the most impressive players in Spain's side this summer, a surprise to some after an inconsistent season with Chelsea. — AFP

Head coach Gareth Southgate hails England's performance against Switzerland



After England secured a thrilling victory over Switzerland in the EURO 2024 quarter-finals, coach Gareth Southgate praised his team's performance as "brilliant," emphasizing it was their best showing in the tournament so far. PHOTO: ANI

AFTER England's win over Switzerland in the quarter-final round of the EURO 2024, Three Lions head coach Gareth Southgate said that his players were 'brilliant' and the best they have played in the tournament.

Breel Embolo made the first breakthrough of the match in the 75th minute and gave a lead to the Swiss side. Bukayo Saka scored a late goal in the 80th minute and helped England make a comeback in the match.

However, the match went into the penalty shoot after both sides failed to score in the extra time. Later in the game, the Three Lions sealed a 5-3 win over the Swiss side in the penalties.

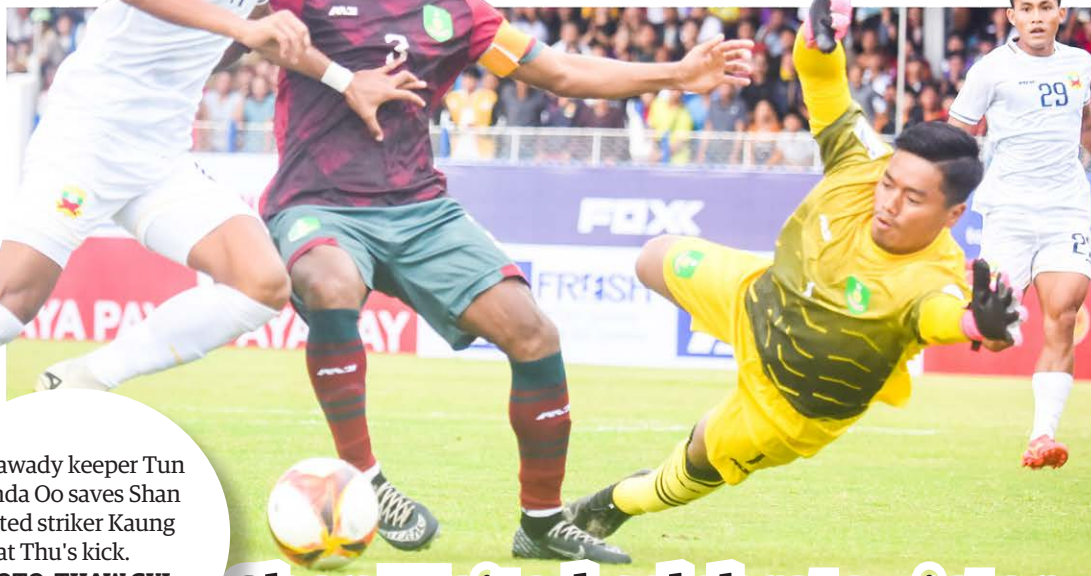
Cole Palmer, Jude Bellingham, Bukayo Saka, Ivan Toney and Trent Alexander Arnold were the scorers for England in the spot kicks. — ANI

THE second day of the Myanmar National League 2024-2025 season continued yesterday with a win of defending champions Shan United.

Shan United played against Myawady FC at Taunggyi Stadium and created a 1-0 win. Shan secured full points in the opening game with a lone goal scored by midfielder Mark Sekyi in the second half.

In Shan United's starting line-up, only one foreign player was included and the core players were sidelined. Shan team was able to pressure the Myawady from the start, but they struggled to win because of a weak finish.

Shan United changed players in the second half to score the winning goal.



Myawady keeper Tun Nanda Oo saves Shan United striker Kaung Myat Thu's kick. PHOTO: THAW GYI

Shan United celebrate victory in MNL tourney

Mark Sekyi touched the ball into the net for the single goal for Shan United in the 69 minute.

The Myawady team responded best to the Shan United, but faced defeat. Shan United midfielder Mark Sekyi won the best player award for this match. In

the other matches, Ayeyawady tied 1-1 with Yandanabon FC at Patheingyi Stadium while Hanthawady United edged Dagon Port FC 4-3 at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre. Maha United will take on ISPE FC at Yangon United Sports Complex today. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



The SCO serves as a crucial platform for its members to collectively tackle shared security challenges and promote mutual benefit.

A MIDST growing geopolitical tensions and threats of existing and emerging conflicts, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), a diverse yet cohesive coalition, plays a crucial role in maintaining regional stability and promoting prosperity.

Since its inception in 2001, the organization has been committed to developing good neighbourliness, strengthening mutual trust, expanding



An aerial drone photo taken on 26 June 2024 shows a view of the SCO (Lianyungang) International Logistics Park in Lianyungang City, east China's Jiangsu Province. **PHOTO: JI CHUNPENG/XINHUA**

SCO plays pivotal role in promoting regional stability, development

multilateral dialogue and enhancing mutually beneficial cooperation.

The Shanghai Spirit ensures that every member state has an equal voice, regardless of economic scale, military potential, or international influence, setting an example of multilateral cooperation.

Tackling regional security concerns and coordinating responses to security threats remain the main focus for SCO members.

The organization provides an important platform for member states to address common security challenges, particularly terrorism, extremism, and

separatism.

Through the SCO's Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure, member countries have been able to enhance intelligence sharing and operational coordination, leading to more effective efforts in combating terrorism.

Energy security also holds an im-

portant place in the SCO agenda.

In recent years, efforts have been directed toward creating a unified energy market and developing joint projects in the energy field. Kazakhstan and China are actively developing projects in the energy sector, as evidenced by significant investments and expanding cooperation.

Meanwhile, the SCO needs to update its methods for addressing emerging challenges and threats. Active and effective work is being done to achieve this goal. — Xinhua

HEATWAVE SCORCHES CENTRAL REGIONS

Japan sees 1st 40 C day this summer as heatwave persists

JAPAN recorded a temperature of 40 C for the first time this year on Sunday, with the mercury hitting the scorching level in central Japan as a heatwave continues to engulf the nation, according to the weather agency.

With a high-pressure system hovering over wide areas, Shizuoka reported 40.0 C at 1:18 pm, and temperatures had risen to 35 C or above at 168 locations among the Japan Meteorological Agency's 914 observation points nationwide by 1 am.

Shimonita, Gunma Prefecture, logged 39.8 C, followed by 38.8 C in Hamamatsu, Shizuoka Prefecture, Otsuki, Yamanashi Prefecture, and Namie, Fukushima Prefecture. —Kyodo

Russia, Iran complete merger of Mir, Shetab payment systems: Head of Iranian Central Bank

The initial phase, set to roll out by the end of August, marks the beginning of foreign citizens' access to Mir cards through Iran's SHETAB system.

FOREIGNERS in Iran will be able to start using Russia's Mir cards of the eponymous payment system by the end of August as the project of unifying the payment systems of the two countries has been completed and reached the practical level, Iranian Central Bank governor Mohammad-Reza Farzin said on Saturday.

"At the bilateral meeting of the delegations of specialists of the two countries, along with the finalization of the requirements for linking the Russian payment system Mir to the Iranian system SHETAB, the project reached the practical level, the first stage of which will be available to foreign citizens by the end of the next month per the Gregorian calendar (at the begin-

ning of the Iranian month of Shahrivar) [22 August]," Farzin was quoted by Iranian news agency Tasnim as saying. Iranian citizens will also be able to withdraw rubles from their Shetab cards using ATMs in Russia and pay with their cards in Russian

shops, he added. At the same time, Moscow and Tehran have signed a currency agreement to ensure the liquidity of the ruble and the rial in commercial transactions, Farzin said. — SPUTNIK



Tourists visit the Azadi Tower in Tehran, Iran. **PHOTO: ATTA KENARE/AFP/FILE**
PHOTO: AFP/FILE