

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Port officials and workers prepare for unloading and loading import-export cargo at Ranong Port.

## Myanmar-Thai border trade surpasses US\$737M in Q1 2024-2025FY



The Myawady border trade zone.

**M**YANMAR'S border trade with the neighbouring country Thailand amounted to US\$737 million as of 28 June in the current financial year 2024-2025 beginning 1 April, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The total trade balance dropped from \$1.7 billion recorded in the year-ago period, indicating a sharp drop of \$986.8 million.

Myanmar conducts cross-border trade with Thailand via the Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee and Mawtaung borders. Of them, the Hteekhee border performed the largest trade worth over \$472.66 million in the first quarter.

Moreover, the trade values stood at \$80.477 million at Tachilek border post, \$63.234 million at Myawady, over \$48.67 million at Myeik, \$59.078 million at Kawthoung and over \$12.9 million at Mawtaung.

Myanmar carries out border trade with the neighbouring countries China, Thailand, Bangladesh and India. It exports agricultural products, livestock products, fisheries, minerals, forest products, finished industrial goods and other goods, while it brings in capital goods, intermediate goods, consumer goods and raw materials by the CMP enterprises. — NN/KK

## Container vessels boost Myanmar-Thai border trade

**A**CCORDING to a news bulletin No 1/2024, container ships have initiated a new cross-border trade system for Myanmar-Thailand border trade: Yangon-Kawthoung-Ranong and Ranong-Kawthoung-Yangon.

Under such a new trading system, it allowed 15 import licences worth over US\$4 million and 598 import licences worth over US\$26 million until 8 July 2024.

The first cargo ship MV Beypore Sultan (Voy-24001) of Gold Shipping Agency Services Limited departed

Yangon's MIP Jetty on 30 June carrying maize and refined metal received examinations at the Kawthoung checkpoint on 8 July and proceeded to Ranong. After the loading processes, the ship departed Ranong on 10 July.

Moreover, the first cargo ship MCL 4 of Mawlamyine Century Logistics Co Ltd (MCL) departed TMT Port, Yangon, carrying maize, refined lead and clothing on 1 July, and was inspected at Kawthoung checkpoint on 5 July, and it headed to Ranong. After the loading processes at Ranong, it

arrived back at the Kawthoung checkpoint on 12 July.

According to OSS, there were a total of 58 containers - 56 20-foot containers and two 40-foot containers on that vessel. The ship proceeded to Yangon from Kawthoung on 13 July, and the second ship MCL9 departed Yangon on 15 July.

Two container ships made trading processes between Myanmar and Thailand on the Yangon-Kawthoung-Ranong and Ranong-Kawthoung-Yangon routes. — MNA/KTZH

### NATIONAL

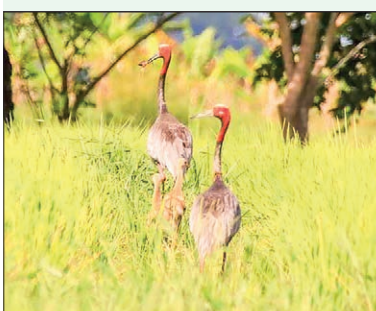
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DPM MoPF Union Minister receives Indian Ambassador

### NATIONAL

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Sarus cranes abundant in Ayeyawady Region, facing sustainability challenges

### BUSINESS

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Fuel oil to be imported via Kampaiti border for Kachin State supply



# NATIONAL

## Myanmar National Flag to be flown at half-mast on 77<sup>th</sup> Martyrs' Day

THE State Administration Council informed all government offices and organizations to fly the Flag of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at half-mast across the country, and MRTV of sounding sirens at 10:37 am to commemorate the fallen leaders as a gesture of grief, on 19 July 2024, Friday (77<sup>th</sup> Martyrs' Day). At that time, vehicles on roads must pause for a while and honk their horns. — MNA/KTZH

## Low-Pressure Area Condition

Issued at (19: 00) hours MST on 15-7-2024

ACCORDING to the observations at (17:30) hrs MST today, the low-pressure area over Northwest Bay and adjoining West-central Bay of Bengal (Off South Odisha Coast) still persists.

## COVID-19 report, 15 JULY 2024

### NEW TESTS

45,487

### NEW CASES

41

### CASUALTIES

NIL

## Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Announcement No 3/2024

10<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Waso 1386 ME  
15 July 2024

### Allowing Peace for Diversity Party to register as political party

AS of 15 July 2024, Peace for Diversity Party, with its headquarters located at No 2/2/232 in Mahawgani Street, Htaukkyant Extension Ward, Mingaladon Township, Yangon Region, has been allowed to register under Section 9 of the Polity Parties Registration Law.

The registration number of the Peace for Diversity Party is 50.

Sd/ U Ko Ko  
Chairman

Union Election Commission

## Government eases blacklisting of employees

SOME government employees of Union-level organizations and ministries have been blacklisted by their respective departments for abandoning their workplaces without permission. This situation has resulted in human resource losses and adversely affected the social lives of the employees involved.

To mitigate these impacts, the government has decided to remove employees from the blacklist based on their reasons for absence and will help them reintegrate within the boundaries of the law. Employees are urged to report to their respective departments, the nearest sub-township, township, district, region and state administrative bodies, Myanmar embassies, military attaché offices and consulates starting 15 July 2024.

Information Team  
State Administration Council

## Ngwetaung Beach draws 17,000+ visitors in June despite monsoon

ACCORDING to Daw Ni Ni Mar, an executive from the Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Association (Ngwetaung Beach), 17,455 domestic visitors from various states and regions visited Ngwetaung Beach in Ngaputaw Township, Ayeyawady Region, in June 2024, despite the monsoon season.

Ngwetaung Beach, located very close to Myat Mawtinsun Pagoda, attracts internal visitors year-round, primarily from Yangon

Region and Nay Pyi Taw Council Territory. Daw Ni Ni Mar said, "In 2024, a total of 35,455 local visitors came in January, 36,555 in February, 38,955 in March, 48,955 in April, and 54,555 in May. Even in June, during the rainy season, we had 17,455 domestic visitors."

The beach offers services such as bike rentals, motorboat rides, horse rides, local foods, and souvenirs for the visitors. — ASH/TMT



Visitors on the Ngwetaung Beach in June.

## MoH Announcement on Severe Diarrhoea Outbreak Control in Yangon Region

ON-GROUND teams have been actively working to control the outbreak of severe diarrhoea in several townships in Yangon Region, under the close supervision of the Ministry of Health and with the assistance of the Yangon Region government.

From 6 am on 14 July 2024 to 6 pm on 15 July, 96

new diarrhoea patients were admitted to hospitals in Yangon Region. Among them, 13 were confirmed to have severe diarrhoea, while the other patients were reported to be in good condition.

A total of 92 patients were discharged on 15 July. Therefore, by 6 pm on 15 July 2024, a total of 613 diar-

rhoea patients had been discharged from hospitals. Although the infection rate has started to decline, intensifying efforts to control the disease are ongoing in Yangon Region.

Ministry of Health

# NATIONAL

## SAC Member DPM MoTC Union Minister inspects Ayeyawady Region

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo, accompanied by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win, Deputy Minister U Aung Myaing and officials, inspected the Panhlaing riverbank erosion prevention and riverbank maintenance works in Nyaungdon Township of Ayeyawady Region on Saturday.

During the inspection, the director-general and relevant officials of the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems reported on a three-year plan for riverbank erosion prevention works conducted last year, and ongoing work plans.

Then, the Deputy Prime Minister and party observed the Ayeyawady River water



SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister MoTC Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo meets departmental, personnel and town elders in Pathein, Ayeyawady Region.

level near Danubyu and the retaining wall construction site in Zalun and made proper instructions.

They also proceeded to riv-

er bank erosion-affected villages and losses of farmlands due to changes in the current of the Ayeyawady River in Aaikpyat village-tract in Hinthada Town-

ship and discussed measures to prevent riverbank erosion with the relevant officials and locals.

At noon, they inspected the railroad section from Hinthada

to Khamauksu railway stations and repair work on historic Satumukha Stupa, which was destroyed by Ngawun riverbank erosion, near Laymyathna.

Moreover, they observed the cleanliness, strength of rail and rail speed along the Khamauksu to Pathein railway stations.

On 14 July, they checked the cleanliness and plans for recreational sites at Pathein Strand Road.

Then, they met the staff of relevant departments at the Ayeya Shwewah Hall and gave the necessary instructions.

At noon, they inspected the conditions of railway stations, bridges and riverbank area along the Begayat-Einme-Hlaingthaya project site, which was suspended in 2016-2017, and left necessary instructions. — MNA/KTZH

## Myanmar calls on Human Rights Council to uphold principles of impartiality

DURING the 56<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, held from 18 June to 12 July 2024, discussions on Myanmar were organized in the absence of the country concerned which is against the fundamental principles of constructive dialogue and cooperation of the Council. The Council also adopted the draft resolution on Myanmar tabled by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) during the session.

Although the Government of Myanmar has provided the requested information, the report and the presentation of the High Commissioner disproportionately highlight narratives from the armed groups and terrorists, distorting the findings and undermining the credibility of the report. It is observed that the report insuff-

iciently addresses the grave violations committed against local communities by AA armed groups, which trigger ethnic and religious tensions. It also downplays terrorist acts of other armed groups that oppose the Government.

The presentation of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar obviously aims to ostracize Myanmar from the international community. During the Interactive Dialogue, the Special Rapporteur has echoed the allegations and narratives propagated by subversive media outlets, armed ethnic insurgent groups and terrorists affiliated with the National Unity Government (NUG) and the PDF. Those terrorist groups claimed the lives of over 7,800 innocent civilians from February 2021 to June 2024. Instead of

condemning the terrorist acts and outrageous behaviours of these unlawful entities, the Special Rapporteur encourages the international community to engage with these unlawful entities, thereby undermining Myanmar's efforts to uphold peace and security for all its citizens.

The irresponsible conference room papers released by the Special Rapporteur, mischaracterize legitimate banking transactions of Myanmar as if they were facilitating military activities, and are deeply misleading. The papers unjustly call for unilateral sanctions against Myanmar, neglecting the possible severe socioeconomic impact on the people of Myanmar.

The failure of the successive resolutions including the recent one tabled by OIC

to address the root cause of the tragic incident in northern Rakhine State in 2017 demonstrates their lack of a true and meaningful approach to resolving the issue. The allegations contained in the resolution, including unsubstantiated claims against state security forces and hate speech, do not literally reflect the realities on the ground.

The Government has been striving its all-out efforts for peace, stability and prosperity in the country, including the preparations for holding the free and fair multiparty democratic general elections in 2025. The Government has also been facilitating the field presence, visits and relocation of the staff requested by the UN agencies at its best.

Myanmar consistently opposes country-specific man-

dates and resolutions as well as their follow-up interactive dialogues that do not contribute to constructive dialogue and cooperation. Myanmar calls on the Human Rights Council to uphold the principles of impartiality in its engagements with member states without undermining national sovereignty and obstructing genuine efforts towards peace, stability, and democratization of the country.

Myanmar's specific responses to the separate Interactive Dialogues with the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the so-called Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, as well as the resolution tabled by OIC, can be found on the websites of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Mission of Myanmar in Geneva. — MoFA



# NATIONAL



## DPM MoPF Union Minister receives Indian Ambassador

DEPUTY Prime Minister Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein received Mr Abhay Thakur, Ambassador of India to Myanmar, at the min-

istry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on cooperation between the two countries, banking and finance, payments related to bilateral trade, loans and technical assistance and the prospect of providing capacity-building training. — MNA/TS

Deputy Prime Minister Union Planning & Finance Minister U Win Shein holds talks with the Indian ambassador yesterday.

## CBM Governor meets Indian Ambassador



The Indian ambassador calls on CBM Governor Daw Than Than Swe yesterday.

DAW Than Than Swe, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, received Mr Abhay Thakur, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar, at the meeting hall of the Central Bank of Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They frankly discussed matters more beneficial for the

existing trade through direct payments in Indian rupee/Myanmar kyat, card systems and mobile payments between Myanmar and India. CBM's deputy-governors, the permanent secretary and departmental heads were also present on the occasion. — MNA/TS

## YCDC ensures safe water amid diarrhoea outbreak concerns

ACCORDING to the Yangon City Development Committee's Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation), approximately 237 million gallons of clean, chlorinated water are provided daily in compliance with WHO guidelines.

The Yangon City Development Committee conducts water disinfection with chlorine at a level that does not pose a health risk to users, in line with WHO standards.

"Some people are saying

that the current diarrhoea outbreak in Yangon Region is caused by the water distributed by YCDC. I assure you, that it is not true at all. We filter the water through various processes until it is purified. Only then do we chlorinate it. We have been using this system for a long time, not just during this diarrhoea outbreak. We chlorinate the water at a rate of four milligrammes per litre following WHO guidelines," said Deputy Head Daw Thwe

Naing Oo of the Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation).

She added, "We can guarantee the quality of the water we distribute, but users also need to maintain clean water storage tanks, tubs, and buckets. If the container is not clean, it can harm health. Additionally, the water quality laboratories at the two YCDC water treatment plants test the quality of drinking water daily." — ASH/MKKS



This picture captures the reservoir supplying water to Yangon.

### Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanmar 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).

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# NATIONAL

## MIFER Union Minister receives UNFPA Representative

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw received Mr Jaime Nadal Roig, the new Resident Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNFPA delegation at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

During the courtesy call,

they cordially discussed matters relating to the ongoing cooperation programmes and exchanged views on the future cooperation between Myanmar and UNFPA.

The deputy minister, senior officials from the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and representatives from UNFPA were also present at the meeting. — MIFER



MIFER Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw receives Mr Jaime Nadal Roig, new Resident Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) yesterday.

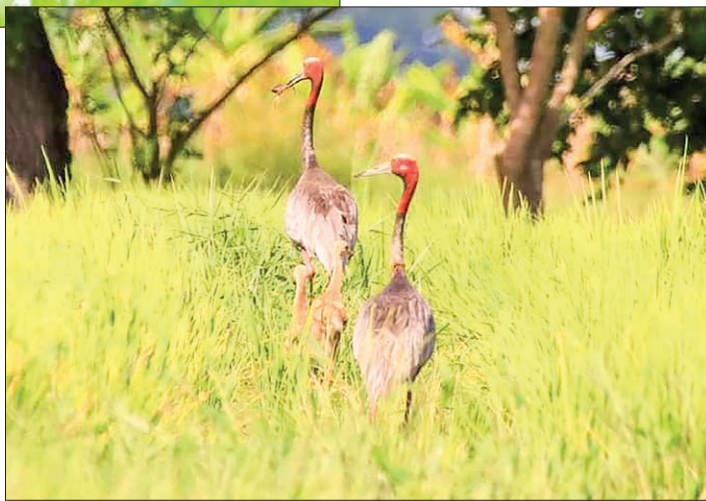
## Sarus cranes abundant in Ayeyawady Region, facing sustainability challenges



Photos showcase Sarus cranes found in the Kyonkapyin-Tapseik conservation area.

THE Ayeyawady Region has the highest number of Sarus cranes and they have been facing challenges for sustainable survival, according to the Kyonkapyin-Tapseik Wildlife Conservation Group (KTCG).

The Sarus crane inhabits Myanmar all the year round, and they were recorded in Kachin State, Shan State, Bago, Ayeyawady, Yangon Regions and Rakhine State. The largest habitat of these cranes is the Ayeyawady Delta region, and they are widespread in 14 townships of the Ayeyawady Region, the group said.



to two eggs. KTCG has started yearly data collection on these cranes since 2018.

“On the other hand, there are also threats to Sarus cranes. According to the annual data review, threats to the Sarus cranes are increasing year by year. Among these threats, habitat loss and nest destruction are major chal-

In Wakema Township, the largest number of Sarus cranes live and they have great cultural ties to the local people, according to the statement. Sarus cranes build nests in the rainy season and lay eggs only once a year, usually laying one

lenges for the long-term survival of these cranes,” the group said.

KTCG also urged that the collaborative participation of residents is a more effective and successful method for conservation. — MT/ZN

## Flooded areas warned of heavy rain and strong winds

METEOROLOGIST U Win Nang warned that flooded areas and other areas should be prepared for heavy rain and strong winds.

A strong low-pressure area has formed in the South China Sea, and a low-pressure cell has also formed in the northwestern Bay of Bengal.

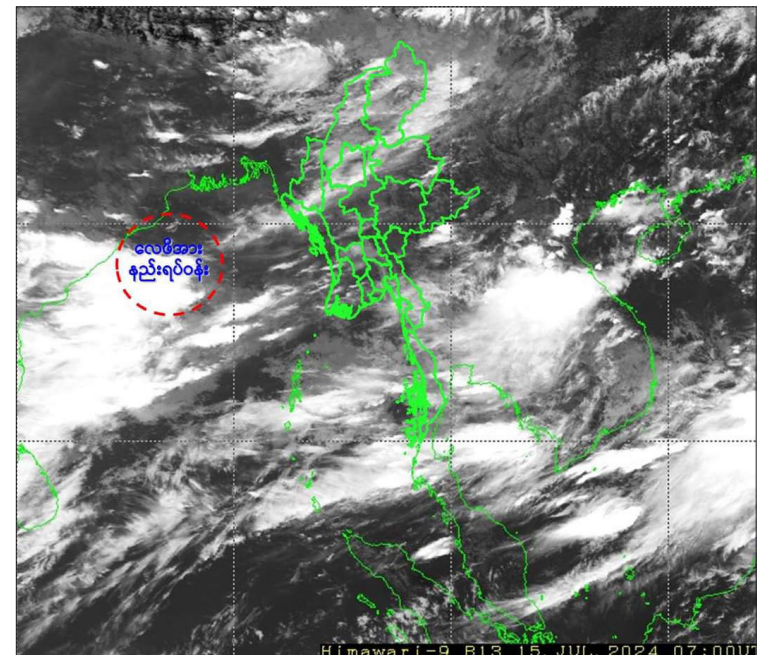
Therefore, the weather condition that will affect Myanmar over the next 48 hours is that the southwest monsoon will intensify in the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea, and the clouds brought along the coastal areas and the path of the southwest monsoon will pour rain all over Myanmar, and some areas may experience heavy rain and

strong winds.

“Due to this situation from today, within 48 hours to 72 hours, or for the next three to four days, there will be more scattered rain,” he said.

This condition could occur while there are still floods along the Chindwin and Ayeyawady rivers because of water coming down from the upper reaches.

In addition, according to the observation at 13:30 hrs Myanmar Standard Time today, a low-pressure area is forming in the northwestern Bay of Bengal and its adjoining west-central part (off the southern coast of Orissa), said the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology. — Thit Taw/ZN



A satellite image showing the formation of a low-pressure area.

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



# NATIONAL

## Martyrs' Day exhibition nears completion; Public advised on health precautions



A glimpse of the Secretariat – the venue to hold a special exhibition on the 77<sup>th</sup> Martyrs' Day.

A special exhibition to be held at the Secretariat (formerly the Ministers' Office) on the 77th Martyrs' Day has been 90 per cent completed.

Anoma Art Group is responsible for organizing the exhibition, which will be open to the public for free. Unlike previous Martyrs' Days, this exhibition has been slightly modified for a more comprehensive viewing experience.

According to the Department of Archaeology and National Museums, the Martyr's Day ceremony will include special exhibitions at the General Aung San Residential Museums in Yangon and Natmauk, as well

as at the Secretariat Office.

The Ministry of Health has issued a notice advising the public visiting the Martyr's Mausoleum to follow COVID-19 guidelines. People with recent symptoms of respiratory illness, such as fever, cough, difficulty breathing, or fatigue, are advised not to attend the ceremony. Additionally, if any suspicious symptoms, including high body temperatures (38 degrees Celsius or 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit), cough, difficulty breathing, or fatigue, are detected, visitors should follow the recommendations of the relevant authorities and comply with the procedures at the Martyr's Mausoleum. — TWA/TKO

## Mineral exports bag over US\$48 mln in Q1 this FY



This photo shows one gem merchant evaluating a stone of Myanmar jade.

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Commerce, over US\$48 million was earned from mineral exports in the first three

months of this financial year.

From 1 April to 5 July 2024, a total of US\$48.931 million was generated from exporting minerals, including jade and gems. The private sector earned US\$48.271 million, while the State sector received US\$0.660 million from these exports.

Last financial year 2023-2024, mineral exports reached over US\$68 million. Various minerals such as gold, jade, pearl, diamonds, lead, tin, silver, copper, zinc, coal, and other metals are exported. — TWA/TRKM

## Japan to recruit over 1,400 Myanmar workers

UP to 400 Japanese companies will provide jobs for more than 1,400 Myanmar workers, the Myanmar Embassy to Japan said in a statement on 15 July.

The statement mentioned that about 440 demand letters that the embassy submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after verification until 3 June 2024.

It further said that more than 400 Myanmar male workers and more than 900 Myanmar female workers, totalling over 1,400 would be recruited.

The embassy has carried out timely verifications of de-

mand letters received from the Ministry of Labour via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, added the statement.

It verifies whether labour supervisory companies and factories or companies which offer jobs in Japan are officially established or not, and re-submits its findings and remarks to the Ministry of Labour through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it added.

In a statement issued on 28 June, the embassy said up to 380 Japanese companies would employ up to 1,300 Myanmar workers. — MT/ZS

## Scholarships for four Myanmar students in South Korea

WOOJUNG Education and Culture Foundation will offer scholarships for four Myanmar students studying in the Republic of Korea.

Four students from Myanmar who are allowed to learn undergraduate, master's degree, and doctoral degrees (excluding Korean language courses) and have difficulty with school fees and accommodation charges will be selected for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester 2024 scholarship.

Interested applicants who comply with the requirements can submit to the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul in person or by post by 22 July along with full documents.

The embassy will send all applications in compilation to the Woojung Education and Culture Foundation office by 23 July and late submission will not be accepted, it said. — Htet Oo Maung/ZS



Myanmar workers departing for jobs in Japan.



## Fuel oil to be imported via Kampaiti border for Kachin State supply

FUEL oil will be brought in through Kampaiti checkpoint to ensure adequate supply in Kachin State, said the Kachin State's minister for Natural Resources, who is also chair of the Supervisory Committee on Fuel Oil Import, Storage and Distribution.

The Kachin State's committee and

importing companies discussed fuel oil import via the Kampaiti border on 13 July.

As the Kampaiti border channel has a shorter trade route, importing companies are to import fuel oil according to the monthly import quota so as not to have shortages in Kachin State. Kachin

State's government will take legal action against those involved in illegal imports.

The companies reported the import volume that they want to process at the meeting and the committee members elaborated on the import quota on fuel oil for July 2024. — ASH/KK



A general view of the Kampaiti border in Kachin State.

## YGN palm oil reference rate set at K5,415 per viss this week

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market rose slightly to K5,415 per viss this week ending 21 July from K5,390 recorded last week ending 7 July, 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 every week.

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high.

To control 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 to buy palm oil at high prices. The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department 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 one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK



Consumers line up for the purchase of cooking oil at reference prices in Yangon.

## 2,000 firms fail to file AR in June 2024

TWO thousand companies were struck off the register in June 2024 as they failed to submit annual returns (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

DICA notified any registered company which fails to file its AR on the MyCO is to be struck off the register from the date of the directive, under 430 (F) of the Myanmar Companies Law, according to the DICA notification.

DICA's statistics showed that 750 companies in January 2024, 600 in February, 1,650 in March and 2,000 each in April and May did not file the AR.

A total of 6,400 companies also failed to submit the AR in 2023. The registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018 under the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

All registered companies need to submit AR on the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation, and at least once every year (not later than one month after the anniversary of the incorporation), according to Section 97 of the law.

Under Section 266 (A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, public companies must submit annual returns and financial statements (G-5) simultaneously. All overseas corporations must submit ARs in the prescribed format on MyCO within 28 days of the financial year ending, under Section 53 (A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

As per DICA's report, thousands of companies were suspended for failing to submit AR forms before the due date. Newly established companies are required to submit ARs within two months of incorporation or face a fine of K100,000 for filing late returns.

DICA has notified that any company which fails to submit its AR within 13 months will be notified of its suspension (I-9A). If it fails to submit the AR within 28 days of receiving the notice, the system will show the company's status as suspended. Companies can restore their status only after shelling out a fine of K50,000 for the AR fee, K100,000 for restoration of the company on the register, and K100,000 for late filing of documents, totalling K250,000. If a company fails to restore its status within six months of suspension, the registrar will strike its name off the register, according to the DICA notice. — NN/KK



# OPINION

## Eradicate smuggling of wildlife animals and animal products

WILDLIFE smuggling remains a significant issue despite efforts by governments to combat the illegal trade of animals and their products. Unscrupulous individuals and businesses exploit remote areas and establish illegal trade routes to commit wildlife trafficking.

Illegal wildlife trade is a major global crime, ranking fourth after narcotic drugs, human trafficking, and arms smuggling. It is closely linked to other serious criminal activities such as money laundering and corruption. According to the United Nations Environment Programme, the global illegal wildlife trade is estimated to be worth between \$7 billion and \$23 billion annually.

This illicit trade poses a severe threat to the future of wildlife across the globe. Experts have noted that since 1970, wildlife populations have halved, while the human population has doubled. Critically endangered species face a hundred-fold increase in dangers due to human activities. The current situation is reminiscent of the mass extinction events in Earth's history, with experts suggesting we are in the midst of the seventh mass extinction, driven largely by human actions. Traffickers often exploit social networks and capitalize on instability and armed conflicts to facilitate the smuggling of wildlife and their organs, especially in border regions. International reports and surveys emphasize the need for local communities to collaborate with authorities to combat this illegal trade. In Myanmar, it is crucial for citizens to work together with local authorities to eradicate wildlife smuggling and conserve the country's natural environment. Efforts to combat wildlife smuggling must be intensified. Governments need to enhance border controls, strengthen law enforcement, and improve regional cooperation to dismantle smuggling networks. Raising public awareness about the consequences of wildlife trafficking is also essential. By understanding the severe ecological and economic impacts of this illegal trade, communities can become more vigilant and proactive in reporting suspicious activities.

Efforts to combat wildlife smuggling must be intensified. Governments need to enhance border controls, strengthen law enforcement, and improve regional cooperation to dismantle smuggling networks. Raising public awareness about the consequences of wildlife trafficking is also essential. By understanding the severe ecological and economic impacts of this illegal trade, communities can become more vigilant and proactive in reporting suspicious activities.

While the battle against wildlife smuggling is ongoing, a concerted effort from governments, local authorities, and communities is vital. Through increased cooperation, stricter enforcement, and heightened public awareness, it is possible to curb the illegal trade of wildlife and protect endangered species for future generations. As most of the infectious diseases from animals to humans are based on wild animals, the grey market of smuggling wildlife animals is very dangerous to society. The illegal trade of wild animals and their products may cause the loss of wildlife species in Myanmar. As such, people nationwide need to participate in eradicating the smuggling of wildlife and products with the prevention of wildlife extinction and infection of animal-borne diseases to humans.

**H**OME is where we live, but its meaning transcends its simple definition. As humans, we need a place to shelter ourselves and our families, protecting us from the elements – be it rain, heat, snow, or other weather conditions. Homes also serve as a shield against thieves and robbers. To keep away from these dangers, people began to seek houses, transforming them into homes.

A home is where life begins. It is the place where we are born, whether as the only child or with beloved siblings. It is our safest playground, where we mess around with our brothers and sisters in our early, carefree years. As time flies and we grow older, so does our home. The



GOOGLE PHOTO

## A Deeper Exploration Between the Essence of Home and House

By Min Zan

memories of us playing around will linger in its rooms. "Home is where the heart is." There truly is no place like home.

Even if we find ourselves in a five-star hotel or a luxury guesthouse with top-notch facilities, we still miss our own homes. It is where our feet may leave, but our hearts always remain. The love we have for our home grows sweeter when we go abroad for further studies or better jobs. Being away from where we belong can feel odd, giving rise to the term "homesick".

### What we learn about house

A house is constructed with walls and beams, while a home is built with love and dreams. Its rooms echo with laughter, and its windows open to the possibilities of life. It gives us a sense of belonging. If walls could talk and ceilings could see, they would tell stories of happy families.

This concept applies not only to humans but also to ani-

mals. Consider the little birds of various colours and shapes; tall trees are their homes. They cannot imagine life without these trees, just as we cannot imagine being homeless. It doesn't matter how big or small our homes are. What matters is that there is no one who isn't happy at home. A person with a tiny home loves it, and a person in a grand mansion loves it too. Love is collected behind the curtains, and sometimes home isn't just four walls; it's two eyes and a heartbeat. There's a feeling when we are at a place where we are supposed to love, but all we have in our hearts and minds is the word "home."

### An interesting quote

One day, I know I will have to leave my home, where I have painted sweet memories and built laughter bridges with my parents. I fear that if I return, everything I cherished will be gone, echoing Leo Christopher's words: "Home is wherever you

leave everything you love and never question that it will be there when you return." The thought of being away from home saddens me deeply. The four walls of my home reflect my growth and playfulness, reminding me of who I truly am. A house is built with hands, but a home is built with tenderness among family members. Home is where we stick our daydreams on the ceilings and hide our nightmares in the cupboards. It protects us from the harshness of the outside world. While seeking a better life, we should never forget our roots. In the end, whether east or west, home is the best place for us.

### Distinguishing Between Home and House

While the words "house" and "home" are often used interchangeably, they hold distinct meanings. A house is a physical structure, a building with walls, a roof, and rooms. It is a tangible

entity, an architectural creation that provides shelter. A home, however, is more than just a structure; it is an emotional space, filled with love, memories, and a sense of belonging.

### The Physical versus The Emotional

Consider a house that is newly built, with fresh paint and modern amenities. It stands empty, waiting for a family to move in. As a house, it is complete, but as a home, it is lacking. It becomes a home only when a family brings their personal touch — photos on the walls, children's drawings on the fridge, the smell of home-cooked meals. The house becomes a home when it starts to reflect the lives and personalities of its inhabitants.

### Temporary Residence versus Permanent Belonging

Think about a hotel room. It may be luxurious, with all the comforts one could wish for, but it is temporary. We stay in a hotel for a few days or weeks, and then we leave. It is a place to sleep and rest, but it doesn't offer the warmth and familiarity of a home. A home is where we return day after day, year after year. It is a place where we can be ourselves, where we are surrounded by the things and people we love.

### A Space for Everyone

Even within the animal kingdom, the concept of home

is evident. Birds build nests, and animals find dens or burrows. These places are not just shelters; they are spaces where animals feel safe and secure, and where they raise their young. Just like humans, animals need a place to call home, a place where they belong.

### Memories and History

A house might change hands multiple times, but a home holds the history of those who lived there. Each family adds their chapter to the home's story. The laughter, the tears, the celebrations, and the quiet moments all become part of the home's essence. A house might be bought and sold, but a home is built with experiences and memories.

### Personalization

A house may have a standard design, with rooms serving specific functions. However, a home is personalized. It might have a wall full of family photographs, a garden where children play, or a cosy corner for reading. These personal touches make a house feel like a home. The difference lies in how the space is used and cherished.

### A Reflection of Our Identity

Our homes reflect who we are. They showcase our tastes, our values, and our lifestyle. The way we decorate our homes, the colours we choose, and the items we display all tell a story about us. A home is a place where we can express our true selves, without fear of judgement.

### The Emotional Connection

The emotional connection we have with our home is profound. It is where we feel most comfortable and secure. The familiar sounds, smells, and sights of home have a soothing effect on us. When we are away, we long for the comfort of our own bed, the warmth of our family, and the familiarity of our surroundings.

### Building a Home

Building a home is not just about constructing a house. It involves creating a space where love and care are abundant. It means fostering an environment where everyone feels valued and respected. A home is built

with shared experiences, with the ups and downs of life. It is a place where we grow together, learn together, and support each other.

### The Importance of Home

In times of trouble or distress, home is our sanctuary. It is where we find solace and strength. It is the one place where we can retreat from the world and recharge. The importance of home cannot be overstated. It is the foundation of our well-being and happiness.

A house provides shelter, but a home provides much more. It is a place filled with love, dreams, and memories. It is where we feel safe and cherished, where we can be ourselves. The difference between a house and a home lies in the emotional connection we have with the place and the people we share it with. No matter where we go, home will always be the best place for us. As the saying goes, "There is no place like home."

As mentioned above, a house can be a wooden building, a small hut, an apartment, or a condo. It is merely a structure built with physical materials and does not possess any emotional foundation. However, the essence of a home goes beyond being a mere structure. For example, if a monk lives and meditates under a tree in the forest, that place is a home for him. In ancient times, people lived in caves. There were no buildings or wooden houses, yet the caves were their homes, not houses. A home is seen as a state constructed with friendship, intimacy, and emotional bonds. Similarly, for a monk who has renounced all attachments, that state of detachment itself can be considered a home.

Therefore, in brief, while a house is a physical structure, a home is an emotional haven. It is where we begin and where we return, where our hearts always remain. Whether big or small, a home is a place of love and belonging, a sanctuary from the world. As we seek better lives, we must never forget the importance of our homes, for they are the foundation of our happiness and well-being.



## ARTICLE

### Guidelines stress ethics in human genome editing research

#### KEY POINTS

- The use of human genome editing technology must undergo careful assessment considering its scientific and social value, as well as potential risks.
- In clinical research, it's crucial to evaluate the severity of the disease and potential risks to find a balance between action and precaution.
- Editing of germ cells, fertilized eggs, or embryos for pregnancy and reproduction is strictly prohibited. Clinical research involving germline genome editing is currently not allowed, deemed irresponsible by the guidelines.

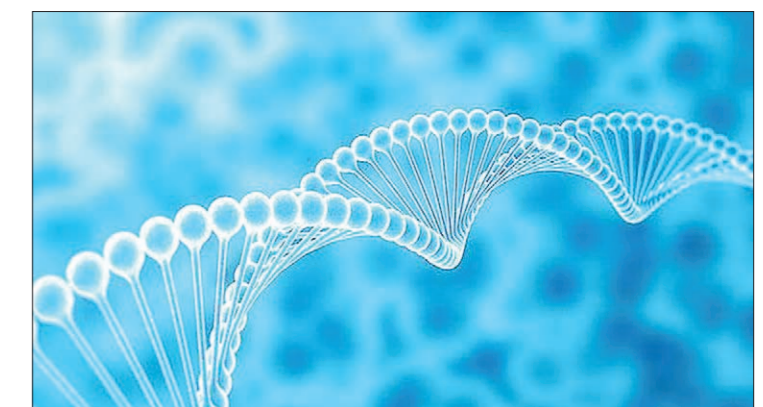
**C**HINA'S Ministry of Science and Technology has published ethical guidelines to regulate human genome editing research and promote its healthy development.

Human genome editing research should follow the principles of promoting human well-being, respecting individuals, maintaining prudence and responsibility, ensuring fairness and justice, and being open and transparent, according to the guidelines.

"The use of human genome editing technology in research must be carefully assessed, taking into full consideration its scientific and social value, as well as potential risks," said the guidelines, formulated by the medical ethics subcommittee of the national science and technology ethics committee.

In clinical research, particularly, it is necessary to fully evaluate and address the severity of the disease and potential risks to strike a balance between action and precaution, according to the guidelines.

Regarding human genome editing research on germ cells, fertilized eggs, or embryos, it is strictly prohibited to use edited



The guidelines aim to regulate human genome editing research and ensure its healthy development. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/WHO

germ cells, fertilized eggs, or embryos for pregnancy and reproduction, the guidelines stated. "Currently, any clinical research involving germline genome editing is irresponsible and not allowed," the guidelines added. Clinical research can only be considered when benefits, risks and alternative options are fully understood and weighed, safety and effectiveness issues are addressed, and there is broad social consensus, rigorous evaluation and strict supervision in place, according to the guidelines.

The guidelines have also outlined general requirements for human genome editing research, which include having reasonable objectives, protecting research participants, possessing relevant qualifications and conditions, and obtaining informed consent.

Source: Xinhua



# NATIONAL

## Hanlin Pyu City may date back earlier than 3000 BC: Archaeologist

COMMENTING on the research article in *Antiquity Archaeology Journal* based on radiocarbon dating that the Hanlin chronology is from early 3000 BC to beyond 1000 AD, it could even be earlier with more studies, U Kyaw Myo Win, an archaeologist from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture (Bagan Branch), told *The Global New Light of Myanmar* (GNLM).

The ancient Pyu city-state of Hanlin is located in Wetlet Township, about nine miles southeast of Shwebo in Sagaing Region,

and the *Antiquity Archaeology Journal* described a research article in its February 2024 issue, namely "Late prehistoric and early historic chronology of Myanmar: a four-millennia sequence from Halin (Hanlin)".

The research team has conducted new radiocarbon dating on 94 samples from Hanlin, a UNESCO-listed site in Myanmar, and after lengthy comparative studies of the dating results with the site's stratigraphy and pottery traditions, the researchers concluded that Halin shows a

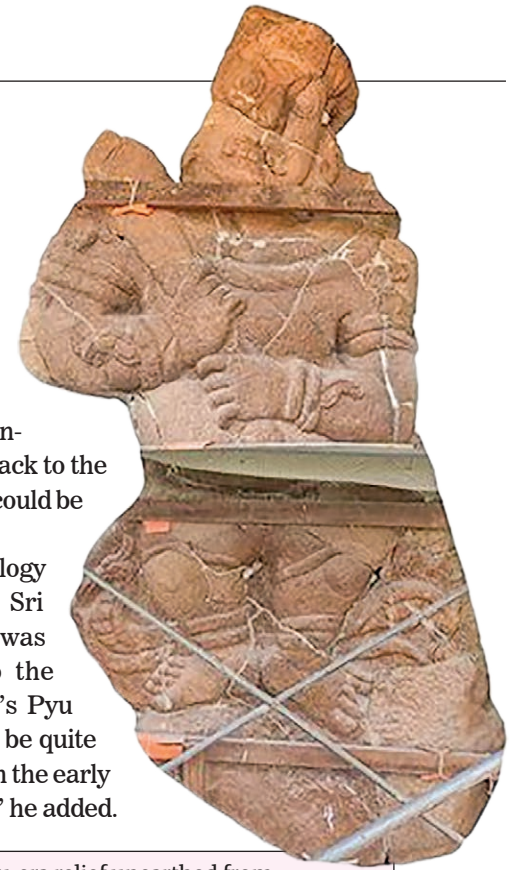
chronological sequence from the early third millennium BC to the early second millennium AD, and due to this finding of the beginning of the sequence, Myanmar's Hanlin is the oldest currently dated neolithic site in mainland Southeast Asia.

"What they said is correct. With more analyses, it could be even earlier. If the research continues with more findings, Hanlin City could have a Stone Age culture," U Kyaw Myo Win replied when the GNLM asked him about the findings.

With more research studies, a continuous settlement back to the Stone Age in Hanlin could be revealed, he said.

"When a chronology study of Beikthano, Sri Ksetra and Hanlin was made according to the stratigraphy, Hanlin's Pyu culture was found to be quite thin. But its culture in the early Pyu era was thicker," he added.

— MT/ZN



A Pyu-era relief unearthed from ancient Hanlin City.

## Efforts strengthened to combat illicit trading nationwide

UNDER the oversight of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, rigorous measures are being implemented to combat illegal trade under the law.

On 12 July, combined teams led by the Magway Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force conducted inspections at checkpoints in Aunglan Township. They confiscated a Nissan truck valued at approximately K20 million and another Honda Fit worth around K6 million at a checkpoint near Kanpya Village, Magway Township. Legal proceedings have commenced under the Import/Export Law.

Simultaneously, a combined team under the Yangon Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force seized goods valued at about K15.675 million, including 80 China-made Ducart e-bikes and a Jac tractor head with a trailer worth approximately K60 million at Ywathagyi Dry Port. Customs procedures were followed in taking action.

On the same day, a combined team under the Nay Pyi Taw Council Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force seized 0.368 tonne of illegal teak valued at approximately K150,912 in Lewe District, with



Confiscated unregistered motorcycle and illegal commodities in different states and regions.

the action being taken under the Forestry Law.

Moving to 14 July, a combined team under the Ayeyawady Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force seized 95 gallons of illegal diesel worth K1.235 million, following the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law. Concurrently, at Yangon International Airport, the Customs Department confiscated illegal goods valued at approximately K638,400, including six Intercom radios, adhering to customs procedures.

On 15 July, a combined team under the Sagaing Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force seized an unregistered Daihatsu Hijet valued at K6 million at the Yadanabon Bridge checkpoint,

with the action being taken under the Import-Export Law.

Similarly, combined teams under the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force seized 0.582 tonne of illegal hardwood and 1.808 tonnes of timbers worth K640,941 in Toungoo District. Additionally, an unregistered Honda Fit worth about K5 million was confiscated near Sittoung Bridge in Waw Township, Bago District. The action was taken under the Forestry Law and Import-Export Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported ten arrests on 12, 14, and 15 July, resulting in the seizure of illegal goods worth approximately K115 million. — MNA/TMT

## Over 194,000 stimulant tablets seized in Kawthoung, Kengtung

MYANMAR Police seized over 194,000 stimulant tablets in Shan State on 14 July.

Acting on a tip-off, the combined drug enforcement task force inspected a Toyota Alphard in Kengtung Township of Shan State on Sunday and confiscated 168,000 stimulant tablets together with four suspects.

On the same day, another 3,000 stimulant tablets were seized from the house of a suspect in Kengtung, and 20,000

tablets were also captured from two suspects after the investigation on a motorcycle was conducted in the same township.

Similarly, the police confiscated 3,900 stimulant tablets on the same day in Kawthoung from two other suspects.

A total of nine offenders involved in drug cases were charged under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, and further investigations were underway.

— MNA/KTZH



Offenders are seen alongside seized drugs and vehicles.



## Crane games keep grip on cultural relevance despite digital disruption

DESPITE digitization rendering many businesses obsolete, crane game enterprises are a shining example of what can never be replaced by the online experience, with their physical prizes an anchor to their enduring appeal.

The Japanese game arcade industry, which took a significant hit due to the COVID-19 pandemic, has seen nearly 8,000 stores disappear over the past decade, with a 30 per cent reduction in the last five years alone, a recent survey from credit research firm Teikoku Databank Ltd showed.

But claw machines have bucked the digital and console trend, with demand for prize games remaining high even during the pandemic. The Japan Amusement Industry Association says revenue from

the games hit 306.2 billion yen (\$1.9 billion) in fiscal 2021 and the genre now makes up nearly 70 per cent of an amusement facility's overall sales.

"What we are doing may seem counterintuitive to the times, but we are dedicated to pursuing analog experiences. We use crane games as a tool to achieve this," said Hideo Nakamura, president of Toyo Corp.

The company operates Everyday, a warehouse-style crane game chain headquartered in Saitama Prefecture, which has only grown since it was given a second life in the city of Gyoda in 2011, with a fourth branch opened just over a week ago.

Nakamura, who has been in the crane game industry for over 30 years, previously oper-



Photo taken 16 March 2024 shows rows of crane game machines in Everyday's Yashio branch. PHOTO: KYODO

ated four arcades in Saitama and Gunma prefectures under the Everyday brand. While he was forced to close all of them as times changed with the rise

of smartphones and online games, he refused to give up.

"I firmly believe that analog experiences are stronger than digital ones. What

excites human instincts are things right in front of us — things we can touch, hear, and can feel vibrate," said Nakamura. — Kyodo

## A Chinese villager's journey to become world-class luthier



This photo taken on 1 July 2024 shows Chen Fengjun holding a violin he crafted at his workshop in Donggaocun Town, Pinggu District, Beijing, capital of China. PHOTO: XINHUANET/LIU HE

CHEN Fengjun, a villager from east China's Anhui Province, came to learn the trade of violin-making in a farmhouse-turned workshop in rural Beijing some 24 years ago. Never in his wildest dreams did he think that he would become the world-class luthier he is today.

Chen won the gold medal at the Violin: Soul and Shape

international violin-making competition in 2014. His works have become cherished instruments of top musicians in many countries. Chen's career grew with the violin-making industry in Pinggu District in northeast Beijing. When he journeyed 800 kilometres to get here in 2000, what would be Beijing International Music Valley was still a

village better known for sweet juicy peaches than violins. Now the valley, or Donggaocun town, is home to hundreds of luthiers, with over 80 per cent of its products exported to more than 30 countries and regions.

Making-violin was more difficult than Chen had expected. He would put hours into making fingerboards — the delicate "neck" of the violin, only to be trashed by his master. He even paid the price of blood.

In 2003, Chen was so focused on perfecting a fingerboard that he forgot how close his hand was to the running machine. Before he knew it, his left middle finger was almost cut off by a spinning blade of the planer. Such an injury could have meant the end of a luthier's career. Luckily Chen's finger was saved, and he persisted. The deep scar on the left middle finger was one of many on Chen's sturdy weathered hands. — Xinhua

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Singapore registers fewer marriages last year

SINGAPORE registered 28,310 marriages in 2023, 3.7 per cent lower than the record high of 2022, according to a report released by the Development of Statistics on Monday.

Except for fluctuations in marriage observed during the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of marriages between 2014 and 2023 was stable overall, it noted.

The median age at first marriage for grooms and brides was 31.0 years and 29.5 years, respectively, last year, higher than 30.2 years for grooms and 28.1 years for brides in 2013.

A total of 7,118 marriages ended in a divorce or an annulment last year, a slight increase from the 7,107 marital dissolutions in 2022, the report showed. — Xinhua

#### Ancient Roman Empire harbour discovered in underwater excavations in NW Türkiye

RESEARCHERS have discovered the second harbour in the ancient city of Parion, which dates back 2,700 years, in Türkiye's northwestern province Canakkale, local media reported on Sunday.

According to the Demiroren News Agency, the discovery came during underwater excavations in the ancient harbour city of Parion of the Roman Empire. Vedat Keles, head of excavation and an academic from Ondokuz Mayıs University, said that Parion is a legion colony, hinting at the possibility of it being a military harbour.

"This harbour is slightly smaller than the southern trade harbour, and its inner part is filled with alluvium accumulated by the stream passing through the city," Keles was quoted as saying. — Xinhua



# ECONOMY WORLD

## China expands visa-free transit policy to more ports



Foreign tourists pose for a photo in front of the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests, or Qiniandian, at the Tiantan (Temple of Heaven) Park in Beijing, capital of China, 9 July 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

CHINA'S National Immigration Administration (NIA) announced on Monday that the country's 144-hour visa-free transit policy has been expanded to three more en-

try ports, taking the number of ports covered by the policy to 37. The three new ports include Zhengzhou Xinzheng International Airport in central China's

Henan Province, Lijiang Sanyi International Airport in southwest China's Yunnan Province, and the Mohan railway port in Yunnan, the administration said

in a statement.

Starting from Monday, eligible foreign nationals can enter China through Zhengzhou aviation port visa-free, with their stay limited within Henan Province. Additionally, people entering Yunnan visa-free are allowed to stay in more areas of the province. Previously, they could only stay in the provincial capital Kunming whereas now, they can visit nine city or prefecture-level areas including Kunming, Lijiang, Dali and Xishuangbanna, according to the NIA. The two provinces both boast rich tourist resources.

Henan, where many ancient dynasties had established their capitals, is home to sites of great historical interest including the Shaolin Temple and the Longmen Grottoes. Yunnan boasts multiple UNESCO World Heritage sites, such as the Old Town of Lijiang and the Hani rice terraces. It is also home to over 20 ethnic groups.

At present, foreign nationals from 54 countries such as the United States, Canada, and Brit-

ain are eligible for the 144-hour visa-free policy for the purpose of short-term activities such as travel and business visits.

The NIA statement said the expansion of the visa-free policy is expected to provide more choices for foreign nationals travelling and doing business in China.

It said the 72/144-hour visa-free transit policy has played an important role in the country's high-level opening-up, facilitating the exchange of people between China and other countries, and promoting exchanges and cooperation. It pledged to continue to improve and optimize the policy and welcome foreign visitors with a more open mind.

The NIA said earlier this month that China had recorded 14.64 million inbound trips made by foreigners in the first half of this year, up 152.7 per cent year on year. Among them, 8.54 million entered China visa-free, accounting for 52 per cent of the inbound trips and representing a year-on-year surge of 190.1 per cent. — Xinhua

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Egypt to drill oil, gas wells worth US\$1.2 bln in current fiscal year: minister

EGYPT is planning to drill 110 exploratory wells for gas and oil, with a total investment of US\$1.2 billion during the current fiscal year 2024/2025, Egyptian Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources quoted Minister Karim Badawi as saying in a statement on Sunday.

In a meeting with a parliamentary committee reviewing the new government's programme, Badawi said that Egypt will have 586 exploratory wells for gas and oil drilled, with a total investment of \$7.2 billion by 2030, said the statement.

Regarding exploration activity, the minister explained that there are currently 145 commitment agreements in force in the field of research and exploration for oil and gas, which have been concluded with 40 partners, it added. — Xinhua

#### Wholesale inflation rises in India

THE annual rate of inflation based on all India Wholesale Price Index (WPI) stood at 3.36 per cent in June, compared to 2.61 per cent in May, according to the federal Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Monday.

"Positive rate of inflation in June 2024 is primarily due to increase in prices of food articles, manufacture of food products, crude petroleum and natural gas, mineral oils, other manufacturing, etc.," the ministry said in a statement.

It added that the annual rate of inflation based on the WPI Food Index increased to 8.68 per cent year on year in June 2024, and was compared to 7.40 per cent in May 2024. — Xinhua

## Austria pivots towards mountain bike tourism as Alps warm

MOUNTAIN bikers hurried on a summer day to catch the last gondola up the mountain at one of Austria's top Alpine resorts, loading their bikes onto racks usually reserved for skis.

Leogang-Saalbach is one of many Alpine resorts betting on warm weather activities, as rising temperatures and dwindling snow have pushed

Austria to invest in alternatives to winter sports.

Bikers from all over Europe are flocking to the Salzburg region in western Austria to race down the steep slopes.

"It's just fantastic. Such kind of mountains and slopes, we just don't have them" in Estonia, 51-year-old mountain biker Jonas Ritson said of his

home nation before hitting a downhill trail.

Since the pandemic, the economic significance of summer seasons has "slightly outweighed" winter seasons in the country, said Oliver Fritz, senior economist at the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO). Traditionally summer and winter have both been responsible for about half of the tourist industry's annual revenue.

But following the pandemic, the percentage has tipped towards summer, with the warm season in 2023 bringing in over half of the 29.5 billion euros (\$31.9 billion) the industry generated, Fritz added.

Bikers have also become the second largest group of summer tourists in Austria after hikers, according to a survey, rising from 22 per cent before the pandemic to 27 per cent in 2023. — AFP



Mountain bikers ride down the Epic Bikepark Leogang, Austria, on 25 June 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**



## S Korea's ICT export rises 28.2% in H1

SOUTH Korea's export of information and communications technology (ICT) products rose in double digits in the first half of this year, government data showed Monday. The ICT products shipment soared 28.2 per cent from a year earlier to US\$108.85 billion in the January-June period, according to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy.

Semiconductor export jumped 49.9 per cent to \$65.83 billion in the cited six-month period on the back of the rapid growth in artificial intelligence.

Display panel shipment expanded 14.6 per cent to \$10.1 billion on solid demand for panels used for TVs and computers, but mobile phone export decreased 2.8 per cent to \$5.58 billion. — Xinhua



A man walks past the Samsung logo displayed on a glass door at the company's Seocho building in Seoul on 5 July 2024. PHOTO: AFP

## Indonesia starts exporting electricity to Papua New Guinea

INDONESIAN President Joko Widodo and Papua New Guinea Prime Minister James Marape met at the Bogor Palace on Monday to discuss cooperation in various fields, including electricity exports to the border region.

"Regarding the development of the electricity network by PT PLN at the border, I would like to announce that starting today, electricity has been turned on in Wutung," Widodo said at a joint press conference.

The electricity network runs from Jayapura in Indonesia to Wutung in Papua New Guinea, thanks to a collaboration between Indonesia's state-owned electricity company PT PLN and its Papua New Guinea counterpart PNG Power Ltd. — Xinhua

## Stocks wobble, dollar mixed as traders weigh Trump shooting

EQUITY markets and the dollar wavered Monday as investors mulled the impact of the assassination attempt on Donald Trump, while the luxury goods sector was slammed by plunging profits at both British fashion label Burberry and Swiss watch group Swatch.

European stocks edged downwards after a divergent performance in Asia, with the focus mainly on developments in the United States after Trump was wounded Saturday at a rally before this week's Republican convention.

"Markets were surprisingly calm given the assassination attempt on US presidential candidate Donald Trump," said AJ Bell analyst Dan Coatsworth.

"While equities saw

a small pullback in parts of the world, there was no panic on the markets as a result of the weekend of violence."

While the odds of him beating President Joe Biden had been rising in recent weeks, they got an extra lift from the shooting.

Observers said a Trump victory could see lower corporate taxes — a boost for companies' bottom lines — but also an increase in tensions with China with fresh tariffs possible. Investors took the news in their stride.

"There has not been an enormous reaction in the markets to the attempted assassination of Donald Trump," noted Fidelity analyst Neil Wilson.

On the corporate front, Burberry stock tumbled 17



An electronic board displays the Nikkei average closing price at 41,190.68 down 1,033 yen, the biggest drop this year, on the Tokyo Stock Exchange in Tokyo on 12 July 2024. PHOTO: AFP

per cent after it announced the immediate departure of chief executive Jonathan Akeroyd as it posted "disappointing" results with the sector pressured by weak Chinese demand.

Another heavy blow came as Swatch posted plunging profits owing to the luxury market crisis

in China — warning that sales in the country were likely to remain difficult this year.

In Paris, Gucci owner Kering saw its stock slide 3.6 per cent and LVMH shed 1.9 per cent in value on the back of concerns for the wider luxury sector. — AFP

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2408S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2408S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-7-2024 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.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NORD HOUSTON VOY.NO. (1)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V NORD HOUSTON VOY.NO. (1) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15-7-2024 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

### CHANGING THE NAME OF INSECTICIDE TRADING

The foreign manufacture Makro Chemical will import and distribute the following insecticides registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board changing trading name –

No	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Target 25% WP	Shwe Mexi	Metalaxyl 25% WP	Full	FF 2023-865

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

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### Announcement the change of company name registered in the Myanmar Pesticides Registration Board

It is hereby notified that Sulfur Mills Limited, which has been registered with the Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board and is exporting pesticides to Myanmar, has now changed its name to SML Limited and will carry out the registration and importation of pesticides under the name of SML Limited.

Wah Wah Agricultural Chemicals Trading Co.,Ltd.



# ROLLING UPDATES WORLD

## Don't leave workers behind in green transition: S Africa president

SOUTH Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa reaffirmed Monday the coal-dependent nation's commitment to moving towards renewable energy but insisted that communities and workers must not lose out. Africa's most industrialized economy is one of the world's



A general view of delegates attending the opening session of the Climate Resilience Symposium 2024 at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) International Convention Centre in Pretoria on 15 July 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

largest greenhouse-gas emitters, relying on coal for 80 per cent of electricity generation. The fossil fuel is a bedrock of the economy, employing more than 100,000 people.

"We are in reality facing a climate challenge of emergency proportions," Ramaphosa told a meeting of government officials and international backers aimed at pushing forward plans for transition towards a more climate-friendly economy.

However, "It is crucial that the transition to a low-carbon economy is just and inclusive and that no worker or community is left behind," he said.

South Africa will decarbonize at "a pace and scale that is affordable to our economy and society," Ramaphosa said at the event, attended by diplomats,

climate scientists and financiers.

Acting too fast, before alternatives were in place, risked damaging huge sections of the economy, he said.

In 2021, rich nations endorsed South Africa's plans to wean itself off coal in an \$8.5-billion plan which is also meant to mitigate the socioeconomic impact of transition by supporting coal-sector workers who lose their jobs. The World Bank in 2022 granted \$497 million in financing to decommission one of its largest coal-fired power plants and convert it into renewable energy.

But there has been some reluctance to move away from coal, including from within Ramaphosa's African National Congress which has a long history of support from labour unions representing mine workers. — AFP

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Oli sworn in as Nepal's new PM

KP Sharma Oli, chairman of the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist Leninist) (CPN-UML), was sworn in on Monday as Nepal's new prime minister. President Ram Chandra Poudel administered the oath of office to 72-year-old Oli. This is the fourth time for him to assume the premiership.

"The president administered the oath to Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli along with 21 ministers," Kiran Pokharel, press advisor to the president, told Xinhua. Arzu Rana Deuba, wife of Nepali Congress party President and former Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba, becomes the foreign minister. The 25-member cabinet is short of three state ministers. Oli becomes the head of a four-party coalition government under a deal reached with the Nepali Congress party on the night of 1 July. — Xinhua

#### Australian experts warn of triple avian influenza threat

AUSTRALIA is facing an unprecedented threat from three different strains of avian influenza according to experts from the national science agency. Debbie Eagles and Frank Wong from the Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACPD) at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) on Monday warned that three strains of the highly pathogenic H7 avian influenza have been detected in Australia in 2024.

The outbreaks have affected poultry farms in the southeastern states of Victoria and New South Wales (NSW) as well as the Australian Capital Territory (ACT), prompting the culling of over 500,000 chickens. — Xinhua

## Japan sets policy against fully autonomous lethal weapons



Shigeru Umetsu, minister-counsellor of the Japanese delegation to the Conference on Disarmament, speaks at an international meeting on regulating weapons using artificial intelligence, in Geneva in April 2024. **PHOTO: KYODO**

THE Japanese government has recently adopted a policy against the development of fully autonomous lethal weapons, stressing that the use of such arms should never be allowed across the world.

The Foreign Ministry submitted a paper stating Japan's stance on lethal autonomous weapons systems, or LAWS, to the United Nations in May,

saying a "human-centric" principle should be maintained and emerging technologies need to be utilized "in a responsible manner," according to a senior ministry official.

"Human involvement is required, as it is humans who can be held accountable" under international humanitarian laws, the ministry said in the paper publicized on its

website in June. Japan believes that currently, there are no assurances that LAWS will be used in compliance with international humanitarian laws, and it "does not intend to develop" such weapons, the ministry added.

Meanwhile, the paper touched on some potential benefits of autonomous arms, such as reducing human error and addressing manpower shortages, at a time when the Japan Self-Defence Forces have been struggling to recruit new members.

Tokyo also defined for the first time LAWS as systems that "once activated, can identify, select and engage targets with lethal force without further intervention by an operator". Global concerns over the use of autonomous weapons are mounting, and momentum for setting regulations is building, as the deployment of combat drones has become commonplace in conflicts such as the Russia-Ukraine war and those in the Middle East. — Kyodo



# SPORTS

## AFF U-19 Championship to commence on 17 July

THE AFF U-19 Championship 2024 in which Myanmar U-19 men's football team will take part will be held in Indonesia starting from 17 July.

All 12 countries which are members of the ASEAN Football Federation will take part in the championship. Football teams from these countries will be involved in three groups. The top teams from three groups and the best second-placed team, totalling four will advance to the semifinals.

Group A comprises host Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Cambodia and the Philippines. Group B consists of Laos, Vietnam, Myanmar and Australia. Group C is formed with Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and Brunei.

On 17 July Timor-Leste will face Cambodia whereas Indonesia will take on the Philippines as openers. Myanmar will play against Vietnam on 18 July,



Footballers of the Myanmar U-19 team playing against Ayeyawady United in the tune-up match. **PHOTO: MFF**

Laos on 21 July and Australia on 24 July.

Players of the Myanmar U-19 team are under the training of Head Coach U Aung Naing. The team will leave for Indonesia on 16 July. Those players have been taking training since early this

year. The team played tune-up matches with football clubs from the Myanmar National League. In the last week of May this year, the Myanmar U-19 team held two warm-up matches with the Chinese U-19 team in China. — Ko Nyi Lay/TTA

## Manchester United sign striker Zirkzee from Bologna on five-year deal

MANCHESTER United on Sunday announced the signing of Dutch international striker Joshua Zirkzee from Bologna in a deal worth 36.54 million pounds (US\$45 million), with the 23-year-old signing a five-year contract with the English club.

Zirkzee will help cover for the departure of Anthony Martial who left Old Trafford at the end of June when his contract expired. United have reportedly paid a fee slightly higher than Zirkzee's release clause, allowing them to spread the payments over three years to help them meet financial fair-play rules.

The forward netted 12 goals in 37 appearances for the Italian side last season, but only made two appearances as a substitute for the Dutch national side in their 2-1 loss to England in the semifinal of the Euro 2024.

He told the Manchester United website that it was a privilege to join such an iconic club, "adding he was "ready to go to another level in my career and win more trophies". — Xinhua

**M**IKEL Oyarzabal came off the bench and scored the winning goal in the 86<sup>th</sup> minute to help Spain beat England 2-1 in the Euro 2024 final in the Olympiastadion here on Sunday.

England played it safe from the outset, defending deep from the kick-off, while the Spanish side dominated possession. However, Spain couldn't find a way past England's defence and missed a few chances in the final third.

There weren't many goal-scoring opportunities in the first half. John Stones blocked a promising effort from Nico Williams, while the first clear-cut chance fell to England when Phil Foden tested Spain's goalkeeper Unai Simon from a tight angle in the dying seconds of the first half.

The Spanish team started the second half on the front foot, with Daniel Carvajal passing to youngster Lamine Yamal before feeding Williams, who skillfully finished with a well-placed shot past England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford just 69 seconds in.

Luis de la Fuente's team increased the pressure and

## Spain stuns England late to claim record fourth Euro title



Spain's midfielder (16) Rodri and teammates go for a lap of honour with the trophy after winning the UEFA Euro 2024 final football match between Spain and England at the Olympiastadion in Berlin on 14 July 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

should have scored more goals to extend their lead, but Dani Olmo narrowly missed, while John Stones blocked another shot from Alvaro Morata before

Williams also missed.

Gareth Southgate responded to Spain's pressure by making two substitutions, bringing on Cole Palmer and Ollie Watkins.

The Three Lions made the most of Spain's wastefulness moments later as Palmer benefited from Jude Bellingham's lay-up and fired the ball from 21 metres into

the bottom left corner in the 73<sup>rd</sup> minute.

Despite the equalizer, England retreated and handed control to Spain, who set up their pass play and created chances.

In the 82<sup>nd</sup> minute, Pickford was on guard against Yamal, but he was helpless moments later. Marc Cucurella's pinpoint low ball into the box allowed Oyarzabal to tap home the 2-1 winner. England pressed and almost levelled again in the dying minutes of the clash, but Simon and Olmo cleared on the goal line to avoid another late equalizer by the Three Lions.

As well as being the Euro record champions with the fourth title, Spain is the first team to win all seven tournament matches, beating Italy, Germany, France and England along the way. "I am proud of my team. They gave it their all, but we weren't good enough to win today. Spain was better throughout the tournament and deserved to win the title. We didn't have many chances to score, and we made a few mistakes at the end, which made a difference," said England coach Southgate. — Xinhua





# WORLD

## Trump stars at Republican convention clouded by shooting

DONALD Trump returns to the campaign trail Monday as the star of the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee — a gathering meant to fire up the grassroots that has instead been overshadowed by the weekend attempt on his life.

The 78-year-old former president is carrying Republican hopes into November's election and, days after an assassin's bullets flew by him, is set to be anointed as the party's champion to face his Democratic successor, Joe Biden.

Some 50,000 Republicans are descending on the shores of Lake Michigan for the four-day celebration of all things Trump, culminating in his acceptance speech on Thursday.

Before that — perhaps as soon as Monday — Trump will unveil his vice-presidential pick, a high-stakes mo-



Supporters of former US president and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump wait by Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport, Wisconsin, on 14 July 2024, to try and get a glimpse of his plane landing. The Republican National Convention will take place from 15 to 18 July. **PHOTO: AFP**

ment that could set the tone for the final stretch of his campaign. Yet the Trump shooting is really the only story in town.

Much of the buzz around the made-for-TV convention moments has been eclipsed by the fallout from Saturday's assassination attempt at a rally in Pennsylvania, in which Trump was wounded

and one attendee was killed.

There was talk of a postponement of the convention, but Trump has insisted that the show must go on, vowing to be "defiant in the face of wickedness".

"I'm not supposed to be here, I'm supposed to be dead," Trump told the New York Post in an interview aboard

his plane en route to Milwaukee. "By luck or by God... I'm still here," he added.

Riding high in the polls despite a cascade of indictments, and his first conviction, the tycoon appears on course for victory as Biden, 81, faces calls from his own side to quit the race over concerns around his mental capabilities. — AFP

## Israel hits Gaza from land, sea and air as Hamas halts talks



Relatives and Palestinian Civil Defence members comfort Ahmed, 11, the son of their colleague Bilal Ramadan Farhan, 42, who died of injuries sustained in Israeli bombing of al-Mawasi area two days earlier, during his funeral at Nasser hospital in Khan Yunis on 15 July 2024, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Hamas militant group. **PHOTO: AFP**

ISRAEL hammered the Gaza Strip from the air, sea and land Monday as the war in the Palestinian territory showed no sign of abating, with Hamas saying it was pulling out of truce talks.

Shells rained down on the neighbourhoods of Tal Al-Hawa, Sheikh Ajlin and Al-Sabra in Gaza City, AFP correspondents reported, while eyewitnesses said the Israeli army

had shelled the Al-Mughraqa area and the northern outskirts of the Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza. Paramedics from the Palestinian Red Crescent said they had retrieved the bodies of five people, including three children, after Israeli air strikes in the Al-Maghazi camp, also in the central Gaza Strip.

Meanwhile, eyewitnesses reported Israeli gunship fire east of Khan Yunis, in southern Gaza, and shelling and Apache helicopter attacks in western areas of the southernmost city of Rafah.

The Israeli military said in a statement that it was continuing its activity throughout the coastal territory, and said it had conducted raids in Rafah and central Gaza that killed "a number of" militants, as well as air strikes throughout the strip over the past day. — AFP

## Mainstream media downplays tremendous losses of western military equipment in Ukraine – Journo

THE Western public has little, if any, knowledge of the scale of losses in troops and equipment sustained by Ukraine since the beginning of the special military operation, international observers say.

The Western press is concealing information about the real state of affairs on the ground in Ukraine, including the mass destruction of NATO weapons provided to the Ukrainian military, and the loss of Ukrainian soldiers, Irish journalist and entrepreneur Chey Bowes wrote on X (formerly Twitter) on 15 July.

"Russian Iskander missiles completely destroyed the entire complex consisting of an IRIS-T SAM launcher and its TRML-4D radar station - these are the

high-tech systems Zelensky is so desperately begging the EU for," the journalist pointed out.

According to Bowes, the reason "the Western media doesn't want" the public to see this, is "to maintain your ignorance and, therefore, your complicity in the 'Ukraine can win fantasy.'"

Ukraine has received almost 108 billion euro (\$115.9 billion), including 39 billion euro (\$41.8 billion) of military aid from the EU since February 2022. The US' Ukraine expenditures have so far reached \$175 billion, of which \$107 billion directly aided the Kiev regime, with \$34.2 billion being disbursed for budget needs, and another \$69.8 billion spent on arms and military assistance. — Sputnik