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SUNDAY EDITION

CBM to inject foreign currencies into key sectors next week

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) will pump US\$6 million, five million yuan and 10 million baht into the edible oil, fuel oil and pharmaceutical sectors through online foreign exchange trading platforms in the coming week.

CBM sold \$5 million and five million yuan for the fuel oil, edible oil and pharmaceutical sectors on 2 August, after selling 69 million baht and nine million yuan for those importing edi-



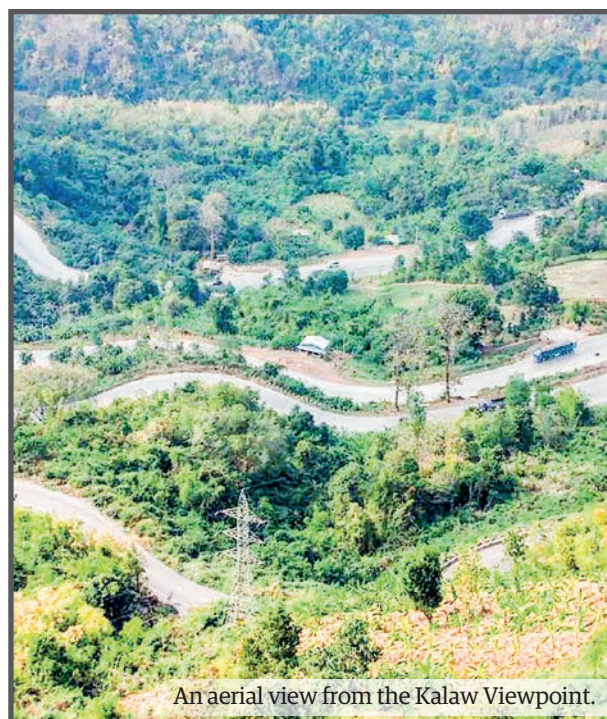
ble oil, fertilizer, pharmaceuticals and medical devices on 1 August.

CBM governs the foreign exchange market by injecting foreign currencies into the financial market to curb volatile exchange rates. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been joining hands with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK



Yangon residents journey to **Ywangan** and **Pindaya**, staying in **Kalaw**

A scenic destination in Kalaw.



An aerial view from the Kalaw Viewpoint.

Recently, many visitors from Yangon have flocked to Ganankya Waterfall, Blue Lake, and Mainmaye Mountain, located between Kalaw and Ywangan, while staying at Kalaw.

Many visitors from the Yangon Region have taken vacations in Kalaw, and from there, they've continued touring Ywangan and Pindaya, according to residents.

SEE PAGE 2

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NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Order 46/2024

6th Waxing of Wagoung 1386 ME
10 August 2024

Appointment of Judge of Supreme Court of the Union

THE State Administration Council has appointed Dr Ko Ko Naing as Judge of the Supreme Court of the Union under Section 419 of the Constitution.

By order,

Aung Lin Dwe
Lieutenant-General
Secretary
State Administration Council

Press Release

1. The Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) stated on 9 August 2024 that illegal activities of certain destructive elements, including those in the Nuggets (Viber group), are unlawful. These groups are engaging in actions aimed at manipulating foreign exchange rates, destabilizing financial stability, and conducting unauthorized currency exchanges for their own interests. CBM will take legal action under the law.
2. In this context, the Nuggets (Viber group) announced their intention to discredit the Central Bank of Myanmar by spreading misleading information and providing services for illegal foreign currency transactions.
3. Consequently, CBM, in collaboration with law enforcement agencies, is actively working to take necessary legal actions against the Nuggets (Viber group). The public is advised to avoid engaging in unauthorized foreign currency transactions and only conduct such transactions through licensed banks and authorized money changers to prevent undesired losses and disruptions.

Central Bank of Myanmar
10 August 2024

အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာလူငယ်များနေ့
International Youth Day

“စဉ်ဆက်မပြတ်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေး
လူငယ်များရဲ့ ဒစ်ဂျစ်တယ် ကျွမ်းကျင်မှုဖြင့် ဖော်ဆောင်ပေး”
“From Clicks To Progress: Youth Digital Pathways
For Sustainable Development”

၁၂-၈-၂၀၂၄ ရက်နေ့ (တနင်္လာနေ့) ဝတ္ထုသိပ္ပံအားကစားရုံ (C)

Myanmar govt builds hospitals and clinics despite terrorist attacks



UNION Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win attended the second day of the 16th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting (16th AHMM) and its related meeting held in Vientiane of Lao People's Democratic Republic.

The first session of the second-day meeting was held under the theme "Digital Transformation in Health Care", and the Union Minister said that the ASEAN countries should cooperate with partner countries like Korea as it is an ideal country in digital transformation in the healthcare sector. Digital healthcare can develop the proper exchange of health information.

The 10th ASEAN+ 3 Health Ministers Meeting was convened with the topic of "Strengthening ASEAN Health Security through Digital Innovations for Cross-Border Health Emergencies in the Next Context Post Pandemic", and the Union Minister discussed enhancement of health security through digital innovation for cross-border health emergencies and firm health system in resolving the global health emergencies.

At the 9th ASEAN-China Health Ministers Meeting, the Union Minister delivered a speech that focused on the establishment of a healthier ASEAN community through ASEAN-China health cooperation measures. At the ASEAN-US

Special Session Health Ministerial Meeting on "Advancing Optimal Health and Well-Being in the ASEAN Region", he said the ministry is facing challenges currently. The terrorist groups target hospitals and clinics and destroy these places. Therefore, the buildings were seriously destroyed, and the healthcare workers died. Despite these actions, the government established new hospitals, clinics and infrastructures, upgraded these sites, provided medicines and medical supplies and recruited health workers. Moreover, the government tries hard to create a better healthcare system than before. The ASEAN countries should respect the fundamental principles and standards of the ASEAN Charter. The ASEAN should cooperate with member countries on the basis of ASEAN centrality, mutual respect and shared responsibilities. He added that Myanmar welcomes cooperation with member countries, partner countries and unlimited assistance and urged the member countries to achieve equal positive aid. Then, they released joint declarations.

Myanmar delegation also attended the dinner hosted by Health Minister of Lao PDR Mr Bounfeng Phoummalaysith at Landmark Mekong Riverside Hotel. — MNA/KTZH

Yangon residents journey to Ywangan and ...

FROM PAGE 1

Recently, many visitors from Yangon have flocked to Ganakya Waterfall, Blue Lake, and Mainmaye Mountain, located between Kalaw and Ywangan, while staying at Kalaw.

“Yangon residents come to Kalaw, and on the next day, they go to Ganakya Waterfall in Ywangan, visit the Blue Lake and Mainmaye Mountain during their return, and come back to Kalaw for an overnight stay after visiting Pindaya. It takes a day to come to Kalaw from Yangon. They spend a day visiting Kalaw, Ywangan and Pindaya and another day visiting around Kalaw, such as Palaung Hill, so it is four days and three nights,” said an official from Aye Change Myae travel agency.

At the same time, local visitors from the Ayeyawady Region have gone to visit Bago Region and made an overnight trip to Kyaiktiyo Pagoda.

“Kalaw is a major destination for most Yangon residents, and Ayeyawady residents take an overnight trip to Kyaiktiyo and Bago Region. It rains in Kyaiktiyo but it is not much cold like Kalaw. There are people going on vacation during this period,” he said.

Due to the monsoon season, the visitor arrival has been low. However, domestic travellers across the country have taken trips to Kalaw’s famous tourist destinations, such as Kalaw Viewpoint and Hnee Phaya, by either connecting with local travel companies or using private cars. — Thit Taw/ZS

NATIONAL

DPM MoTC Union Minister inspects railway upgrades, departmental activities in Bago

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Aung Myaing and officials, inspected the circular train services at Yangon Railway Station. They assessed the ongoing renovation of the exit platform to accommodate new DEMU coaches, focusing on ensuring passenger safety and convenience during embarking and disembarking, as well as optimizing the efficiency of station staff operations.

The Deputy Prime Minister and officials then embarked on an RBE train journey from Yangon to Bago station to test the increased speed capabilities enabled by the completed upgrade of the Yangon-Mandalay Railway.

Following the inspection, General Mya Tun Oo engaged with Myanmar Railways' managing director and regional officials to address issues such as clearing litter along the railway tracks, removing squatter tents,

and ensuring orderly passenger boarding and disembarking at Toegyaukalay Station. Additionally, the General inspected the newly installed Relay Interlocking System at Kyauktan Station to evaluate its operation and maintenance.

The Deputy Prime Minister, accompanied by the Bago Region Chief Minister, continued the inspection by train, assessing railway sections damaged by recent floods between Bago and Shwehlay stations. He also examined the newly installed motor-operated railway interchange at Bago Station, emphasizing the importance of proper handling and maintenance of the advanced electronic interlocking and train control systems.

The General and officials also had lunch with departmental staff at Bago City Hall. The General encouraged staff to focus on professional development, knowledge acquisition, and the establishment of departmental libraries. He also visited the Myanmar Post in Bago, where



State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo hears the report by an official on Electronic Interlocking System yesterday during his inspection tours in Yangon and Bago.

he met staff and their families, highlighting the need for effective communication about the postal service's capabilities.

Furthermore, General Mya

Tun Oo and officials boarded the RBE special train from Bago station to assess the progress of railway and bridge construction along the Bago-Yangon route. The

inspection focused on increasing track mileage, station improvements, overall railway safety, and the removal of settlers. — MNA/TRKM

Chief of General Staff (Army, Navy, and Air) consoles injured Tatmadaw members



Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy, and Air) General Maung Maung Aye visits the local Tatmadaw Hospital in Kholam, Shan State (South), yesterday.

CHIEF of the General Staff (Army, Navy, and Air) General Maung Maung Aye visited Tatmadaw members wounded in the line of duty at the local Tatmadaw Hospital in Kholam, Shan State (South), yesterday.

He engaged warmly with each patient,

discussing their conditions and treatment plans and providing essential support and cash assistance to patients.

He then observed the hospital compound and made proper instructions. — MNA/KTZH

Irrawaddy fabricates stories: Former commander of Laukkai Regional Control Command attempted suicide at DaikU Central Prison

THE Irrawaddy Burmese Edition posted fake news on their Facebook page, falsely claiming that the former commander of the Laukkai Regional Control Command attempted suicide at DaikU Central Prison.

According to a prison official, the prisoner has been in good health since arriving at the prison. The prisoner is being held in accordance with the law, procedures, and rules.

He is living a healthy lifestyle, does not suffer from depression, and has no suicidal thoughts. Additionally, prison officials are ensuring that no prohibited items are present inside the prison.

Therefore, the Irrawaddy media outlet is spreading misinformation to mislead the public about the routine operation of the prison. — Ko Phyto/TKO

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NATIONAL



SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San is seen off by the Military Attaché from the Embassy of the Russian Federation to Myanmar at Yangon International Airport yesterday.

DPM Union Defence Minister departs for Russia for 10th Army-2024

STATE Administration Council Member, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San led a delegation that departed for Russia yesterday evening by air. The delegation will attend the 10th International Military-Technical Forum (Army-2024) in Moscow, the Russian

Federation.

Upon departure from Yangon, the delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by the Yangon Region chief minister, the Yangon Command commander, the military attaché of the Russian Federation to Myanmar, and other relevant officials. — MNA/KZL

Weekly Roundup

4 August

Myanma Railways needs reform

Priority must be given to upgrading the Yangon-Pyay railway section and Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay railway section, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on its inspection tour of New Locomotive Assembling Factory (Nay Pyi Taw) of the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Section of Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

Return to military duties granted

The State Administration Council issued order 45/2024 on 3 August, granting Lt-Gen Ni Lin Aung, who was appointed as Deputy Minister for Home Affairs and concurrently assigned him to the duties of Chief of the Myanmar Police Force, to return to the original military responsibilities under Section 419 of the Constitution.

MPF Chief appointed

The State Administration Council has appointed Deputy Chief (1) of the Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Win Zaw Moe from the Ministry of Home Affairs as Chief of the Myanmar Police Force under Section 419 of the Constitution.

Organizations condemn MNDA's attack

Various organizations issued statements strongly

condemning the MNDA's attacks on the non-military target of the Tatmadaw hospital, causing deaths and injuries to residents, departmental personnel and families of security forces receiving medical treatment at the hospital.

5 August

25 political parties issue statement condemning terrorists

A total of 25 political parties, allegedly representing millions of Myanmar people, including monks, issued a statement on 4 August strongly condemning the inhumane, violent, and brutal acts reportedly committed by the MNDA, AA, TNLA and their allies in Lashio Township, Shan State (North).

6 August

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing's speech

Our people have been fighting against external invaders and various internal insurgents by joining hands with Tatmadaw in successive eras, and Tatmadaw and the people cooperate with each other to overcome internal and external dangers, said Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on his clarification on security condition of the State.

8 August

Message sent to 57th ASEAN's birthday

Chairman of the State Administration Council

Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing sent a message to mark the 57th anniversary of ASEAN, mentioning that while fulfilling the purposes and principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, ASEAN Member States need to work together to render constructive support to member countries and address internal matters smoothly.

CBM issues notification

The Central Bank of Myanmar issued Notification 26/2023 on 6 December 2023 that exporters shall convert 35 per cent of the export earnings to Myanmar kyats according to stipulations mentioned in Notification 12/2022. It amended that exporters are to exchange only 25 per cent of their export earnings for Myanmar kyats instead of 35 per cent as per stipulations mentioned in Notification 12/2022.

9 August

SAC Chairman receives Chinese special envoy

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Mr Deng Xijun, Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, at the Office of the SAC Chairman in Nay Pyi Taw, holding talks about friendly ties and diplomatic relations between Myanmar and China, internal peace processes in Myanmar, and peace and stability measures in the border region. — GNLM/TTA

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NATIONAL

Gonkha price falls due to supply surge when trade remains stable

THE supply of Gonkha (*Lepadenia reticulata*) is usually ample during monsoon season, resulting in a decline in price and trading doing well at the same time.

The Gonkha price was pretty good in summer, and it is used as an ingredient of betel quid as well as in making herbal medicines.

“The price is not very good because the supply is abundant during monsoon season. Price has fallen now compared to summer. Last summer, the price was pretty good. Gonkha is mostly used by betel accessory shops and betel quid shops. It is also used in powder form in traditional medicines, such as

traditional mineral powder. It is also bought by herbal medicine shops. Both Yangon and Mandalay have placed orders for Gonkha,” said a Gonkha trader from Meiktila Township.

Jivanti or Gonkha is available in all seasons but is produced mainly during the monsoon season. It can't be planted as it is included in the group of Gamon species. “It produces in all seasons, especially abundant in monsoon. It grows naturally. We tried to plant it but failed. We can make it preserved,” he said.

Gonkha quickly gets rotten under the heat of summer, so the price typically gets high in summer. — Thit Taw/ZS



This photo shows Gonkha being transported to the market.

Hpa-an residents protest MNDAAs terrorists



Protest against MNDAAs terrorist acts in action yesterday in Hpa-an Township, Kayin State.

ON the afternoon of 10 August, local people in Hpa-an Township gathered to peacefully protest against the terrorist acts of MNDAAs.

During the protest, demonstrators held placards with various statements, including condemnation of MNDAAs inhumane atrocities, rejection of MNDAAs and associated groups, calls to maintain national sovereignty, demands to stop killing innocent people immediately, and calls to cease shooting in public places that are not military targets. Placards also included statements such as “No

to foreign-influenced subversives”, “Support security force’s righteous war”, and “Stop MNDAAs inhumane atrocities”.

Additionally, banners featured images of CRPH, NUG, PDF, MNDAAs, AA, and TNLA’s terrorist actions. Protesters took their places, saluted the national flag, and sang the national anthem together.

A Buddhist monk then delivered a talk condemning MNDAAs and related groups. Furthermore, a local from Hlaingbwe Township gave a speech in the Kayin language, denouncing the violent acts of

MNDAAs and its allies.

Afterwards, slogans were chanted, including calls for the strengthening of national sovereignty, rejection of MNDAAs and its associated elements, immediate halt to the killing of innocent people, end to shootings at non-military public property, stop to MNDAAs inhumane cruelty, rejection of foreign-influenced subversive elements, and support for the security force’s just war.

Protesters chanted these slogans and demonstrated peacefully before calling off the anti-MNDAAs demonstration. — State IPRD/TKO

ME Singapore to renew passports for 280+ nationals on 12-16 Aug

THERE are more than 280 approved nationals out of those registered to renew their passports with less than 14 months’ validity who can have renewal service from 12 to 16 August, according to the Myanmar Embassy to Singapore.

Among those who applied for WhatsApp numbers, the embassy will provide the service to 57, 57, 57, 55, and 56 persons, respectively, on 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 August.

Those who seek the service must come to the embassy by 10:00 am on the appointment

date and bring their original passport and CSC, copies of the passport data page and CSC front/back, and completed renewal forms with a photo. If a person fails to come on that date, a separate application is required, the embassy said.

Fake documents or making submissions through agents won’t be allowed for extension, and the embassy warned that any private service companies or agents are not permitted to provide this service and make a waiting list for submitting documents to the embassy’s

WhatsApp.

For submitting to the embassy’s WhatsApp, two submissions can be made per day, but the embassy reminds them not to make more submissions in the next few days; if they do, they can be moved behind the waiting list. Applicants should wait and see whether they are included in the list that will be announced on the embassy’s website in a week.

Myanmar nationals in Singapore aged 65 years and above are not required to seek a reservation on the embassy’s



People waiting to renew their passports at the Myanmar Embassy to Singapore in 2023.

website or WhatsApp, but the embassy will provide them with a passport renewal service as

a privilege, and they can come in person in the mornings. — MT/ZN

NATIONAL

YBS driving course to open in Sept first week

ACCORDING to the organization, the Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC) plans to open a YBS driving training course in the first week of September 2024.

Individuals who want to attend the course must have held a "B" licence for at least five years, be between the ages of 23 and 55, and have passed the secondary level of basic education. Selection will be based on driving skills. Interested individuals should obtain application forms at the YRTC office in Bwetgyi village-tract, Hmawby township, and submit their applications for the training. The selected trainees must attend the course for one month. — TWA/MKKS



This photo depicts a driver driving the YBS bus.



'80's Queen Night' music show to hit Yangon on 16 August

A glimpse of the poster for '80's Queen Night'.

A music show titled '80's Queen Night', featuring two famous female singers, May Khalar and Connie, will be held at Inya Lake Garden in Mayangon Township, Yangon Region.

On 16 August, the show will start at 7 pm, and the Daily Gita Band is also set to perform.

"We haven't performed together for a long time, so we're preparing a nostalgic set of our classic duets. Let's meet at Inya Lake Garden, where fans' desires align perfectly with our favourite selections," said singer May Khalar. — ASH/TRKM

Sagaing Region monitors ten types of commodities

THE Sagaing Regional Consumer Affairs Committee is monitoring ten types of commodities within the region, according to the committee's business coordination meeting held in March 2024.

In the meeting, it was decided to continue monitoring these ten prioritized commodities during the 2024-2025 financial year after reviewing the monitoring process for these commodities from the 2022-2024 financial year.

During the meeting, Sagaing

Region Consumer Affairs Committee Chairman and Regional Economic Affairs Minister Daw Yi Yi Than emphasized the need for the committee to implement consumer protection activities. This includes raising consumer awareness about their rights, how to file complaints for physical and emotional losses to receive settlements, and conducting educational activities related to the department's regulations, rules, and procedures. — TWA/TKO



The Sagaing Region Consumer Affairs Committee's 3/2024 meeting in progress on 8 August 2024.



This photo shows attendees at the 57th ASEAN Day celebration.

Myanmar participates in 57th ASEAN Day Celebration in Indonesia

MYANMAR Permanent Representative to ASEAN U Aung Myo Myint attended the 57th ASEAN Day celebration and the celebration of the ASEAN traditional food in Jakarta, Indonesia on 8 August, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

U Aung Myo Myint, along with other distinguished guests, explored the Traditional Food Festival organized by

the ASEAN Women Circle in observance of the 57th ASEAN Day at the ASEAN Secretariat. The Permanent Mission of Myanmar also participated in the festival, serving traditional Myanmar foods and drinks.

The event was officiated by Dr Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary-General of ASEAN, and attended by Mr Retno L P Marsudi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, Co-

ordinating Minister for Economic Affairs of Indonesia Mr Airlangga Hartarto, as well as Permanent Representatives to ASEAN, Ambassadors of ASEAN external partners, representatives from ASEAN entities, and invited guests. The Secretary-General of ASEAN and the Foreign Ministers of Indonesia and Lao PDR delivered remarks. — ASH/TMT

Four Myanmar food processors join ASEAN Trade Fair 2024

FOUR food processing companies from Myanmar are participating in the ASEAN Trade Fair 2024, which will take place from 8 to 11 August 2024 at the Convention & Exhibition Centre in Seoul, the Republic of Korea.

U Thant Sin, Myanmar Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, cut the ribbon at the opening ceremony of the trade fair on 8 August, along with the Secretary-General of the ASEAN-Korea Centre and ambassadors from ASEAN in Seoul, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Cho Cho Industry Limited, Kaung Ko Group Co Ltd, Mani Sanda Maritime Services Co Ltd and Mak-



This photo captures moments from opening ceremony of ASEAN Trade Fair 2024 on 8 August 2024 in Seoul, the Republic of Korea.

ro Manufacturing Co Ltd showcase their products at the trade fair. It is an annual trade fair organized by the ASEAN-Korea Centre, with a

view to bridging the network between Korean and regional entrepreneurs, supporting food processing SMEs in ASEAN, promoting regional

food and beverage products in South Korea's market and deepening economic ties between South Korea and ASEAN. — ASH/KK

CBM warns again on digital currency and Hundi activities

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) warned again on 9 August against those involved in illegal digital currency conversion and operating Hundi businesses (illegal cash transfer) without holding a valid licence.

The statement revealed that CBM is selling petty cash at a daily-issued market online trading rate by adding K10 for those studying abroad, working abroad, travelling abroad for medical treatment and attending official meetings at Yangon International Airport or money changer of authorized banks to stabilize foreign exchange rates when capital inflow is plunging.

CBM issues reference exchange rates and forex trading activities on its online portal, www.cbm.gov.mm. Yet, some are still found spreading malicious news through social platforms (Facebook, Telegram, Viber) stating deceptive pricing in an attempt to trigger public concerns, manipulate the foreign exchange market and exploit it for their own interests. Authorities inspected and prosecuted those engaged in Nuggets (Viber group), Hlaing Htet Arkar (nGa wAi), gathering for euro/dollar exchange transfer, dollar buyer seller direct, Su Myat Kyaw, US versus Burma Dollar Kyat Trade, Shwemangan Exchange, Khit Thit Media Facebook page, Myo Zaw Aung — Gold & Currency and Khit Thit Media Telegram channel under existing laws.

Therefore, individuals are urged to transact foreign currencies through authorized dealers (private banks) and money changers so as not to have unnecessary and untoward losses, CBM warned again. — NN/KK

New minimum wage of K6,800 starts 1 August

THE National Committee for Setting Minimum Wages announced on 9 August 2024, through Notification 1/2024, that the new minimum wage of K6,800 will be implemented starting from 1 August.

This decision comes after discussions with representatives from various sectors under Sub-section (D) of Section 10 of the Minimum Wage Law 2013. The previous minimum wage, set at K4,800 for an eight-hour workday (K600 per hour), was established by the National Committee on 14 May 2018 by Notification 2/2018, with approval from the Union Government.

In response to the existing wage rate of K4,800 for an eight-hour workday, an additional allowance of K1,000 was approved by Notification 2/2023, dated 9 October 2023, which also covers working days, public holidays, and paid leave under the 1951 Leave and Holidays Act.

Starting from 1 August 2024, workers will receive an additional allowance



Workers in the Hlinethaya Industrial Zone.

of K1,000 on top of the current K1,000 allowance, applicable on working days, public holidays, and paid leave under the 1951 Leave and Holidays Act. This adjustment, however, does not apply to small businesses with fewer than ten

workers, family-run companies, and similar entities.

Moreover, Notification 2/2023, issued by the National Committee on 9 October 2023, has been overlapped and repealed by this new notification. — TWA/KZL

Trade Dept announces CBM forex rule relaxation

THE Trade Department notified on 9 August that the Central Bank of Myanmar eased foreign currency conversion rules for exporters. It encouraged the exporters to repatriate foreign currency earnings within the specified period in line with the directives of CBM.

The CBM's Notification 37/2024, dated 7 August, stated that only 25 per cent of export earnings must be converted into kyat at the rate as per its Notification 12/2022. Additionally, the CBM allows exporters to repatriate earnings until 30 November 2024 with

a 25 per cent ratio (in which they can keep 75 per cent of foreign income) from export declarations made between 3 April 2022 and 7 August 2024. Unless they fail to do so within the given time, they cannot enjoy 25 per cent and must act according to the

previous set percentage for the respective years. Furthermore, they might face licence revocation or legal action under Myanmar Companies Law or Foreign Exchange Management Law, according to the CBM's notification dated 8 August 2024. — NN/KK

OPINION

BOOKRACK POEM

Raise nuclear non-proliferation activities worldwide

ON 6 August 1945, the atomic bomb known as “Little Boy” was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, leading to an immense loss of life and widespread injuries. Just three days later, another atomic bomb was detonated over Nagasaki, resulting in additional catastrophic casualties. The combined death toll from these two incidents is estimated to range between 129,000 and 226,000 people, with countless more suffering from long-term health effects. The survivors faced years of suffering due to radiation exposure and the traumatic aftermath.

These events are etched in global memory for all of humanity. They underscore the devastating consequences of war and have fuelled a global desire for a world free from nuclear weapons. It was a horrific legacy that caused atomic conflict and the need to avoid such destruction.

Since the end of World War II, countries around the world have drawn lessons from the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Efforts have been made to limit, reduce, and ultimately eliminate nuclear weapons. There have been ongoing calls to halt nuclear testing and to strengthen global non-proliferation efforts. The United Nations has played a crucial role in promoting these initiatives, emphasizing the need for international cooperation to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

In fact, terrible lessons should be taken from the impacts of the misuse of nuclear power because past incidents are still posing threats to the world today. Nuclear weapons from a handful of powerful countries are threatening the world due to sparking geopolitical tensions. So, the United Nations organized all global countries, including powerful countries, to follow the provisions of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. Only when they all follow these provisions will the whole world be peaceful and the people of the world be free from devastating consequences.

However, despite these efforts, the number of nuclear weapons globally has continued to rise, driven by the competitive dynamics among powerful nations. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) reported that the number of nuclear warheads held by powerful countries is projected to reach 12,121 by January 2024. This growing stockpile of nuclear weapons poses a constant threat to global security.

The potential consequences of nuclear proliferation are underscored by historical incidents. The continuing accumulation of nuclear weapons heightens the risk of catastrophic events that could have devastating consequences for the entire world. As such, the need for renewed global commitment to nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament has never been more urgent.

In fact, terrible lessons should be taken from the impacts of the misuse of nuclear power because past incidents are still posing threats to the world today. Nuclear weapons from a handful of powerful countries are threatening the world due to sparking geopolitical tensions. So, the United Nations organized all global countries, including powerful countries, to follow the provisions of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. Only when they all follow these provisions will the whole world be peaceful and the people of the world be free from devastating consequences.



Book Title - Anupatiloma Yoke Wada
 Writer - Mya Than Tint
 Publishing House - Mahar Sarpay
 Publication Date - May 2024 (3rd Edition)
 Price - K5,000

Anupatiloma Yoke Wada

(Dialectical Materialism by Maurice Cornforth)

IN those days, the world outlook was based on Marxism-Leninism. Their ideology is known as dialectical materialism. As a matter of fact, there is no such word in Pali as Anupatiloma; this word is coined through a combination of two Pali words — Anuloma and Patiloma. Anuloma is reasoning from cause to effect, whereas patiloma is reasoning from effect to cause. To make it crystal clear, we need to look at Paticcasamuppada. From the Anuloma approach, out of ignorance, people commit volitional activities, etc. — this is cause and effect approach. On the other hand, the Patiloma approach can be compared to reverse thinking.

We tend to think that the traffic police and the traffic lights manage the vehicles running on the roads and the streets. In fact, it is the roads and the streets that manage the traffic police and the traffic lights, which exist as demanded by the busy roads and the streets. According to Paticcasamuppada, people die because they are born. If they are not born, they will not die. This ideology is derived from cause-effect reasoning and effect-cause reasoning.

Saya Mya Than Tint, the writer of this book under review, has divided his book into 12 chapters. He has used various aspects — physics, biology,

mathematics and anatomy. This is not a book of direct translation. He has used this book more as a reference than as a text for direct translation. His first edition was published in 1963, and this current edition is the third edition published by Mahar Sarpay in May of this year. Saya Mya Tha Tin said that the world outlook derived from dialectical materialism is quite reasonable, consistent and perfect. Additionally, he said that this ‘ism’ has come into existence from efforts to solve the problems of the world we are living in.

The publisher of the first edition is Tun Linn Sarpay. The publisher also said in his fore-

word from the publisher that this book is meant for the workers, that this book seeks a solution to the problem arising between the employers and the employees, and that this is concerned with trade relations or the settlement of commercial disputes, that this book is aimed at seeking ways to transform the societal structure and that he hoped that the workers would be able to find an excellent way to solve the issues of production relation.

In my capacity as a writer of book reviews, I am strongly confident that this type of book is not merely read-only; this genre of literature deserves a place on the bookshelves.

Chapter I deals with the ideology of the political party, which is concerned with the class outlook, the class struggle, the woes of the downtrodden workers, the dirty tricks played by the employers and their dirty agents and the exploitation of labour. This book has provided a revolutionary outlook for the workers. The writer has emphasized the fact that the exploitation of labour has posed a great danger to socialism.

For easy reference, the list of indexes is provided at the end of the book.



Book Title - Naing Ngan Daw Thit Tee Hsawk Yay
 Writer - Kyaw Win
 Publishing House - Tagaung
 Publication Date - July 2024 (1st Edition)
 Price - K8,000

Naing Ngan Daw Thit Tee Hsawk Yay (A Collection of Talks on Various Topics)

THE title can be roughly translated into Nation Building. The writer is Saya Kyaw Win, who is particularly noted for his writings on politics. He is said to have pursued political science thoroughly and in-depth.

Nowadays, nation-building versus state-building is a popular topic among people who are in pursuit of political studies. If nation-building is essential, the building of a new nation can be said to be more critical. It will be of vital importance to be able to build a new nation, considering multi-faceted aspects so that no vital sector is neglected. Saya Kyaw Win, the writer of this book, has not ignored the events

in the past and has applied his theoretical knowledge in light of the political, cultural, and social backgrounds of the nation of Myanmar. This book is divided into two parts, with Part I concerning the talks on nation-building (building the union) and peace process (2011-2020), while Part II deals with state-building.

In the foreword of the writer, it is said that building a new nation involves both nation-building and state-building. In other words, this is the establishment of a federal union based on democracy. The writer emphasized the background history of Myanmar Ngan in the introduction. As for a country like Myanmar, building a

nation means building a union, for Myanmar is made up of a plethora of indigenous races or ethnic groups. Myanmar is inhabited not only by the Bamars but also by a multitude of national races. This being so, building a nation must involve establishing the fundamental principles of federalism. The peace-building process in the aftermath of independence wrestled back from the British colonialists is attached with an addendum. State building is concerned with the establishment of democratic norms and criteria as well as with the setting up of a new bureaucratic mechanism.

Part I includes the declaration of the self-determination policy of nations initiated by American President Woodrow Wilson. The policy was adopted in the aftermath of World War First. Under this policy, nations under

the rule of a colonizer must be granted independence someday. At that time, there were many British colonies, the rule of which was left to the hands of the Maha Rajas, Sawbwas and the princes by the British. As a host of national races inhabited these colonized regions, they could have different opinions and ideologies, which could cause disunity and the disintegration of the union. Realizing this, the British had already made preparations to help them build federal unions based on democracy upon the attainment of independence.

Then, the writer has also differentiated between nation-building and state-building. According to him, nation-building is constructing shared memories, cultures, values, languages and common identity, whereas state building is the creation of new government institutions and strengthening of the existing ones. Additionally, the writer said that nation-building is the selection of a system which will suit the races residing within a nation. If there is only one race speaking the same language, we can choose a unitary system. Otherwise, federalism is the best. ■



By Mya Thae (Research)

I adore fragrant flowers very much,
 admit them; Padauk is my sweetheart.

When the rain started to splash,
 I sought Padauk flowers to get.

But Padauk was hiding safely,
 I bemoan greatly.

This year, I was exhausted and gave up,
 Next year, I will manfully seek my sweetheart.

Rain is falling like a scattering bomb
 but Padauk is not blooming long
 Ref: Mya Thae's idea
 Based on true events

YEARNING OF THE LONG-LIVED OLD MAN

By Minthuwun, Translated by Myint Zan

ဘိုးသက်ရှည်၏ တောင့်တချက်

ထမင်းကြမ်းကို ယပ်ခတ်စား
 စောင့်စားမျှော်လင့်ခဲ့သည်မှာ
 နှစ်ပေါင်းများစွာ ကြာခဲ့ပါ။
 ခုခါ ရှစ်ဆယ်ကျော်ပေမယ့်
 ချမ်းသာခွင့်ကို မတွေ့ခဲ့။
 မတွေ့ခဲ့လည်း မထောင်းတာ
 ကျန်းမာဖို့က အရေးပါ။
 ကျန်းမာပါလျှင် သူ့အကျိုး
 မနားမနေ သယ်ဆောင်ပို့။
 ဆင်းရဲမှုကို ချောင်မှာထိုး
 အများအကျိုး သယ်ဆောင်ပို့။

မင်းသုဝဏ်
 (၂၀ ရက် ဇူလိုင်လ ၁၉၉၄ ခုနှစ်)

Translators note: Sayagyi Minthuwun (10 February 1909-15 August 2004) composed the poem when he was eighty-five years old, roughly the same age as the character in the poem, who is described as ‘over eighty’ years old.

for years, he has waited and hoped for
 a peaceful, tranquil life
 (for his meals) he used a fan to swipe
 the cold, left-over rice
 and eating it
 for over eighty years
 he did not have the chance
 (to live) a peaceful life

now, it doesn't matter
 if he did not experience such peace
 'tis important to be healthy
 if one is healthy
 one can fulfil one's obligation
 to contribute to the welfare of others
 poverty can be put into abeyance:
 Work for the benefit of others

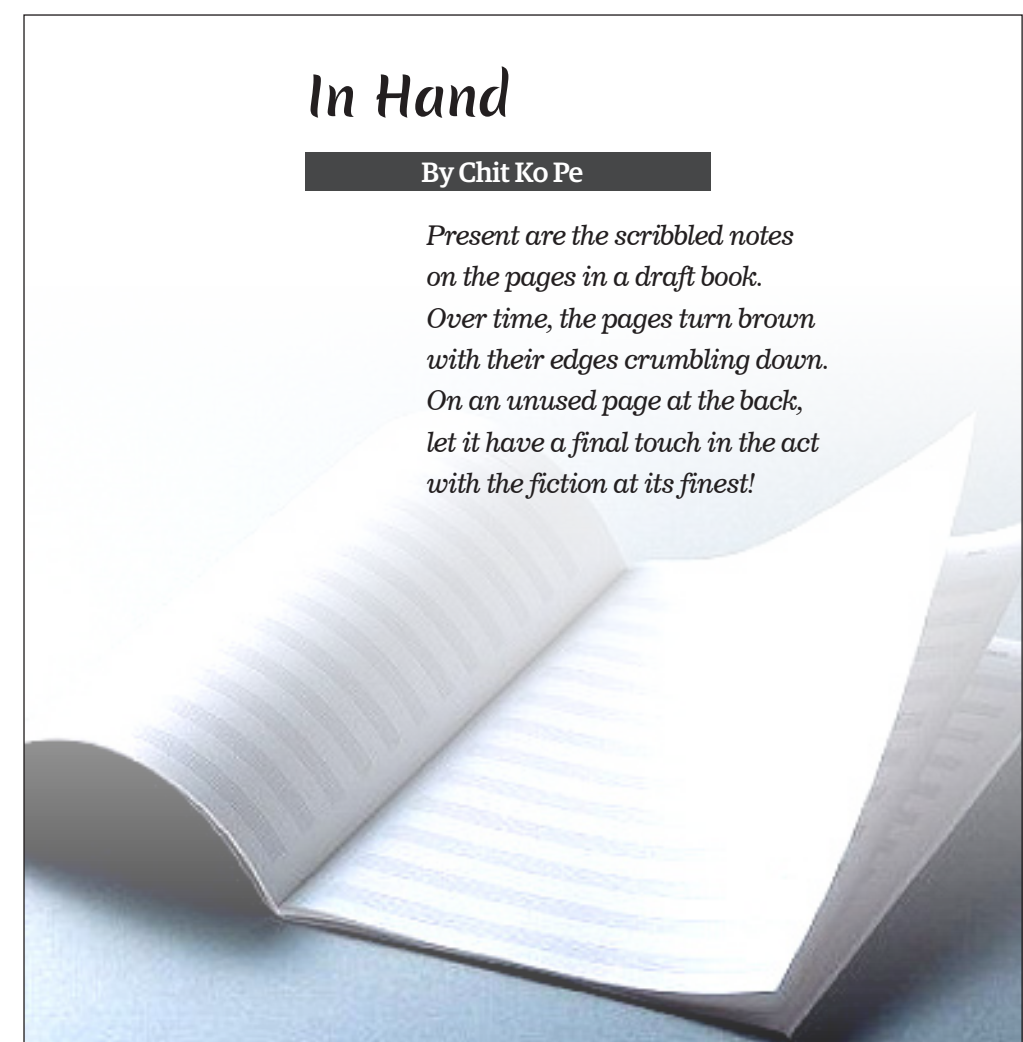
Composed on 20 July 1994
 Translated on 20 July 2024, the 30th anniversary of the
 day when Sayagyi Minthuwun composed the poem.



In Hand

By Chit Ko Pe

Present are the scribbled notes
 on the pages in a draft book.
 Over time, the pages turn brown
 with their edges crumbling down.
 On an unused page at the back,
 let it have a final touch in the act
 with the fiction at its finest!



NATIONAL Entertainment

'The Eyes' exhibits for art-lovers



THE nine-day solo art exhibition, named 'The Eyes', by Sayagyi U Win Pe, took place from 10 to 18 August at the Myanmar Ahla Art Gallery in Kyauktada Township of Yangon.

"I have been drawing pictures since I was three years old and will continue to do so until I am 89 years old. Those like my paintings Ko Nyi Nyi Tun, Ko G Latt, Ko Kyaw Zaw Han and Ko Tun Aung Win, will hold an art exhibition 'The Eyes' featuring their collections of my paintings. I appreciate it," said Sayagyi U Win Pe.

The solo art exhibition titled The Eyes by great artist Sayagyi U Win Pe features Myanmar's traditional styles, customs, and perspectives. The exhibition showcases paintings with captivating



Sayagyi U Win Pe and his paintings.

expressing a sensory experience rather than realistic depictions. Visitors can see new artworks with abstract elements and get a unique artistic experience.

The exhibition will open to the public from 10 am to 5 pm at Myanmar Ahla Art Gallery. – ASH/KTZH

compositions, vibrant colour combinations, and lively eyes. It also presents distinct abstract designs and techniques, which are more about

Maung Dee

WRITER Saya Maung Dee, born on 7 August 1941, is now 83 years old this year. Saya Maung Dee writes poems, novels, essays and articles, and he also draws pictures for magazines under the pen name Myo Nyunt. Saya Maung Dee suffered from a stroke in 2022 during the trip to Popa. Now, he is recovering from his illness. His fans posted birthday wishes for him on social networks.



Ko Nay Win

A memorable event for the late composer-vocalist Ko Khine Htoo was held at the 'Yadana Thu' restaurant in Hlinethaya Township on 9 August, marking the seventh anniversary of his demise. Composer Ko Nay Win participated in the event, and Ko Naung Naung and friends of Ko Khine Htoo sang Ko Khine Htoo's masterpieces.



Photographer Peter

PHOTOGRAPHER Peter established a Peter's Bridal Garden photo studio for wedding events. He organized 'Dake Dake Kye' wedding fair at Sky Star Hotel last month. His photo studio offers services for love memory, wedding ceremonies and maternity portraits. The studio is located at No 542, Ozzana Street, Ward 11, Mya Thida Housing in South Okkalapa Township.

Thae Su Nyein

MISS Grand Myanmar 2024 Thae Su Nyein left for Bangkok on 8 August for training. The beauty pledged to try her best to grab the crown, to uplift the dignity of the country despite the pressure, and to showcase her skills, representing Myanmar as a powerhouse.



Celebrity Brief

Hsaung Wuttyi May

ACTRESS Hsaung Wuttyi May stars in the 'Ngyo' movie produced by W Entertainment. The film was made by director Snow Miley, and the artistes are Aye Chan Maung, Hsaung Wuttyi May, Phone Thiri Kyaw, and Than Than Soe, among others. The actress takes the villain character in this movie.



Composer May Thaw

THE most fabulous music concert in Myanmar was organized at the Novotel Hotel on 10 August. The concert's name was 'Tagal So Yin Aчит Pe Lo Tal', and it featured the famous songs of composer May Thaw. The event was conducted by Hey Play and singers Zaw Paing, Phyo Pyae Sone, Aung Htet, Nay Min Eain, Hay Mar Nay Win, Chaw Su Khin, Irene Zin Mar Myint, Mee No, Jewel, Kay Kay Moe, Wuttyi Htet, Phyu Phyu Han, Su Htet Hlaing and Chan Myae Maung Cho performed in the concert accompanied by Plus Three Band of Okka Oo Thar. – Htun Htun/KTZH

WORLD

Russia, China agree to strengthen coordination in use of space

The foreign ministries of both countries recently met in Moscow to discuss peaceful space activities, international legal regulations, and the long-term sustainability and safety of space operations.



Russia and China have decided to enhance their cooperation in outer space exploration and safety. A view from the International Space Station, in orbit above the Earth. **PHOTO: IMAGE USED FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSE/SCOTT KELLY/UN**

RUSSIA and China have agreed to strengthen coordination in the use and exploration of outer space, as well as ensuring the safety of such activities, the Russian Foreign Ministry said.

“An agreement was reached to strengthen coordi-

nation in this area both bilaterally and at relevant multilateral venues,” the ministry said in a statement on Thursday.

The statement added that the foreign ministries of Russia and China held consultations in Moscow on peaceful space issues. During the consulta-

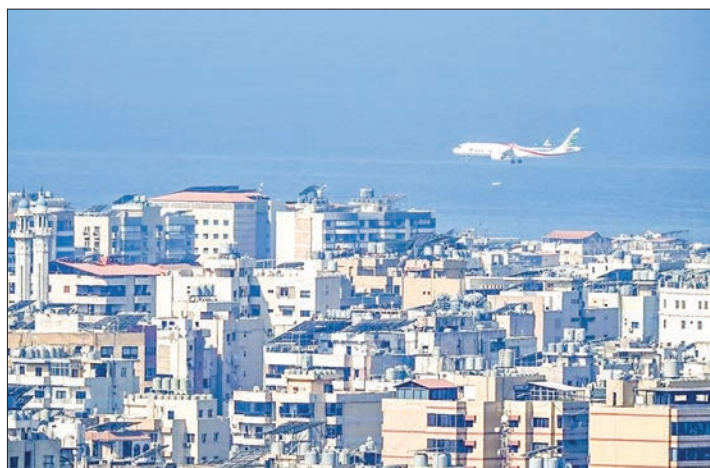
tions, a number of topics in the areas of the use and exploration of outer space for peaceful purposes, international legal regulation and ensuring the long-term sustainability and safety of space activities were discussed, the ministry said. — SPUTNIK

Lebanese on edge amid fears of all-out Israel-Hezbollah war

FEARS of a major escalation between Israel and Hezbollah have left many Lebanese on edge, exacerbating mental health problems and reviving traumas of past conflicts in the war-weary country.

One 29-year-old woman, who lives near the southern city of Sidon, said she dreaded the thunderous, explosive boom of Israeli jets regularly breaking the sound barrier.

“I feel the house will fall down on top of me... Sometimes I freeze... or start crying,” said the woman, a contract worker for a non-governmental organization. She was 11 years old when Israel and Lebanese



A Middle East Airlines commercial aircraft flies near Beirut's southern suburbs as it approaches the airport runway on 9 August 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

militant group Hezbollah went to war in the summer of 2006,

and said bombs fell near her house. — AFP

Passenger plane crashes in Brazil's Sao Paulo state, all 61 aboard killed

A passenger plane crashed in the interior of the Brazilian state of Sao Paulo on Friday, killing all 61 aboard, the airline company Voepass confirmed.

The airline said the number of death was 61, not 62 as initially reported.

In a statement, Voepass said the plane that crashed in the city of Vinhedo was carrying 57 passengers and four crew members, and none of them survived the accident.

The plane of the Brazilian regional airline was travelling from the city of Cascavel in the

southern state of Parana to Guarulhos International Airport in Sao Paulo.

The aircraft, which has a capacity to carry 68 passengers, fell on houses in the neighbourhood of Capela de Vinhedo.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva called for a minute of silence before starting his participation in an event in the port of Itajai in the southern state of Santa Catarina.

The president expressed “total solidarity with families and friends of the victims” on the social platform X. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Chinese, New Zealand publishers discuss strengthening cooperation

A seminar on China Books Overseas Distribution and Copyright Cooperation was held on Friday in Auckland, New Zealand.

The seminar, organized by the China International Book Trading Corporation (CIBTC) and Prime Media Group of New Zealand, aimed to deepen cooperation and exchanges between China and New Zealand in the publishing industry, said organizers.

Minister of Arts, Culture and Heritage Paul Goldsmith said New Zealand values its friendship with China, and is looking forward to deepening relations between the two countries.

New Zealand is well known for creative industries. The connections between our two countries have enormously potential opportunities in trade and books and many other creative industries, he said. — Xinhua

Central Asia leaders call for joint policy on water issues

CENTRAL Asian leaders met in Kazakhstan Friday to seek to agree a shared policy on water management in a region where the scarce resource causes frequent disputes.

Interruptions to water supplies are a regular occurrence in the five ex-Soviet Central Asian countries – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan – whose territory is 80 per cent desert and steppe.

Hosting the summit, Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev said it was “necessary to develop a new consolidated water policy, based on equal and fair use of water and strict fulfilment of obligations”, the presidential website said.

The way water access is shared in the Central Asian states has remained the same since the Soviet era and is fraught with problems: those countries with more water exchange it in return for electricity from the more energy-rich countries. — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

NEWS IN BRIEF

Beach clubs protest EU pressure

ON the beach at Toni's seaside business, tanned sunbathers relax on lounge chairs under sunny skies as blue waves lap the sand in a scene of time-honoured Italian idyll.

But beneath the surface rages a longstanding battle over Italy's public beaches, and whether the shoreline's ubiquitous beach operators will continue to enjoy concessions often passed down through generations.

On Friday morning, at the height of the summer season, they closed their colourful umbrellas in a two-hour protest, saying pressure from the European Union and a lack of support from the hard-right government of Giorgia Meloni, is threatening a venerated cultural tradition itself. — AFP

Austria's hyperinflation contained but business sentiment remains bleak

AUSTRIA'S hyperinflation has been contained, with the inflation rate coming down closer to the eurozone average in the past months, but business sentiment in the country remains "extremely pessimistic," the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO) said on Thursday.

High inflation, driven by "buoyant demand for leisure and tourism services, fiscal policy measures and strong wage increases," has pushed Austria's inflation rate to one of the highest among eurozone countries over the past few years. According to the WIFO report, Austria's inflation rate has edged down closer to the eurozone average, with the gap narrowing from 2.8 percentage points in December 2023 to 0.3 percentage points in July 2024.

Statistics Austria also said in a flash estimate at the end of July that Austria's inflation rate for July is expected to stand at 2.9 per cent, marking the first time in three years that the monthly figure has dropped below three per cent.

However, "the cumulative rise in consumer prices (in Austria) in recent years has been much stronger than in the euro area," said Stefan Schiman-Vukan, who authored the WIFO report. — Xinhua

Japan's state debt tops 1,300 trillion yen for 1st time

This represents more than twice the size of Japan's 600 trillion yen economy.



The Bank of Japan is the central bank of Japan. The bank is often called Nichigin for short. It is headquartered in Nihonbashi, Chūō, Tokyo. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

JAPAN'S state debt swelled to a record 1,311.04 trillion yen (\$9 trillion) as of the end of June, topping the 1,300 trillion yen mark for the first time ever, government data showed Friday, underscoring its dire fiscal health.

The debt increased by 13.88 trillion yen from three months earlier, as Japan has had to ramp

up spending to help households hit by accelerating inflation. The total is more than twice the size of the 600 trillion yen Japanese economy. The Bank of Japan has entered its interest rate hike cycle and plans to cut its buying of government bonds, as it whittles down massive monetary stimulus provided over the past decade or

so to achieve its inflation goal of two per cent.

Borrowing costs are expected to rise for households and businesses and debt-servicing costs will increase for the government. The BOJ owned about half of the outstanding government debt in June as part of its powerful monetary easing. — Kyodo

Shanghai land auction sets new national record

SHANGHAI, a metropolis no stranger to eye-catching land deals, has witnessed one of its most coveted plots in Xuhui District setting a new record price

for residential land sales on the Chinese mainland. Greentown China Holdings Ltd., a Hong Kong-listed developer, made the record bid on Wednesday, beat-

ing out six contenders with an average cost exceeding 130,000 yuan (about US\$18,195) per square metre in a public land auction. — Xinhua

Can increased manufacturing orders lift German economy out of recession?

THE manufacturing industry in Germany recorded a surprise growth in the volume of new orders in June while other indicators remained mixed, indicating a fragile recovery of the economy.

Real (price-adjusted) new orders in manufacturing in June were 3.9 per cent higher than in May, according to provisional figures released on Tuesday by the Federal Statistical Office. Previously, new orders had declined for five months in a row.

At the same time, new orders in manufacturing in the second quarter of this year were 1.4



People look at agricultural machinery during the International Green Week in Berlin, Germany, on 19 January 2024. **PHOTO: REN PENGFEI/XINHUA**

per cent lower than in the first quarter.

The automotive industry orders recorded the biggest monthly growth of 9.3 per cent from May to June.

Industrial production increased by 1.4 per cent in June month on month. The biggest growth — 7.5 per cent — was once again recorded in the automotive industry compared to the figure in May.

However, analysts have cautioned against reading too much into the improved June statistics, saying it remains early to predict an economic turnaround on the

horizon after recessions in the past two years.

The increase should not be "overestimated" and "only signals bottoming out", said Joerg Kraemer, the chief economist of Commerzbank. Describing the increase as a "positive surprise", Kraemer noted that the June reading was just a "countermovement to the sharp drops in orders in May".

Other indicators depict a grimmer picture for the German economy, which was the worst performer among major European Union economies in 2023. — Xinhua

Ethiopian Airlines to build mega airport with annual capacity of 100 mln passengers



Ethiopian Airlines carried 17.1 million passengers in the 2023/2024 financial year, and expects to carry 20 million passengers in the new financial year that started on 8 July 2024. **PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

ETHIOPIAN Airlines, the flag carrier of Ethiopia, and Dar Al-Handasah, an international consulting firm, signed an agreement Friday for the design and supervision of a new mega airport to be built near Bishoftu town, about

42 kilometres east of the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa. The new airport will have the capacity to handle 100 million passengers a year and provide parking for 270 aircraft, Mesfin Tasew, chief executive of-

ficer (CEO) of Ethiopian Airlines Group, said in a briefing. "The new four-runway airport will be Africa's biggest when the construction is completed in 2029," Tasew told reporters, highlighting that by undertak-

ing a mega airport project, the airline is writing a new chapter in its aviation history.

The CEO said Addis Ababa Bole International Airport, currently the main hub for Africa's largest airline, will soon reach its capacity of serving 25 million passengers per year.

"The new mega airport is a five-year project that will be finalized in 2029. It will have two phases, and upon completion of the first phase with two runways, the airport will have the capacity to handle 60 million passengers a year," Tasew said.

According to him, phase one alone will cost the airline at least US\$6 billion, and the money will come from loans from companies that have already shown interest. — Xinhua

Laos to intensify fight against wildlife crime

THE Lao Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in cooperation with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), has organized a dissemination of a manual for wildlife crime management standards for forest inspectors in 10 provinces across Laos.

A meeting to disseminate these standards was held in southern Laos' Khammuan province, the local Pasaxon newspaper reported on Saturday.

This standardization aims to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of wildlife crime investigations, ultimately ensuring that perpetrators are held accountable through the justice system. The meeting on Thursday also provided an opportunity to review past efforts in combatting and preventing wildlife crime, assess successes and challenges, and identify areas for improvement. — Xinhua



This standardization aims to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of wildlife crime investigations, ultimately ensuring that perpetrators are held accountable through the justice system. **PHOTO: IMAGE USED FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSE/PEXELS**

"Pair loans" on the rise amid condo price hikes in Tokyo area

MORTGAGE loans specifically designed for couples are on the rise, amid soaring prices for newly built condominiums in the Tokyo metropolitan area and an increase in dual-income households, a recent study has found.

"Pair loans", two separate loans to cover the cost of purchasing a property, have proven particularly popular among younger couples as they can borrow larger amounts than if they applied individually.

Married couples with pair loans accounted for 33.9 per cent of contracts for new condominiums in and around the capital in 2023, the highest pro-

portion since the study began in 2018, while individual mortgage holders accounted for 65.0 per cent, according to staffing service group Recruit Holdings Co.

The average purchase price for a condominium in the Tokyo metropolitan area stood at a record-high 60.33 million yen (\$410,000), up by 1.43 million yen from 2022, while the average amount of money borrowed was 52.35 million yen, up 2.72 million yen.

The trend has also been observed in the Tokai and Kansai regions in central and western Japan, respectively. — Kyodo

Mozambique attracted 1.1 million foreign visitors in 2023: report

MOZAMBIQUE received over 1.1 million foreign visitors in 2023, state-run Radio Mozambique reported Friday.

The country registered 1,153,698 visitors in 2023, of

which 65.5 per cent came for leisure, the media outlet quoted Adriano Matsimbe, national director of sectoral and business statistics at Mozambique's National Institute of Statistics, as

saying.

The figure represents a 43 per cent drop compared to that of 2019, when 2,032,923 foreigners visited Mozambique, before the COVID-19 pandemic.

The data was presented by the official at the opening Thursday of the 10th edition of the International Tourism Fair in Maputo, the capital of Mozambique. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR SOLO VOY.NO. (1044E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR SOLO VOY.NO. (1044E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-8-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0327-776N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0327-776N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-8-2024** 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 EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



Philippine General Hospital, Manila.
PHOTO: IMAGE USED FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSE/ WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

DOH orders hospitals to prepare for leptospirosis surge

10 AUGUST

THE Philippines' Department of Health (DOH) on Saturday directed all hospitals in the capital to "activate their leptospirosis surge capacity plan" amid rising cases following the massive 24 July flooding.

"Due to the increasing leptospirosis cases in (Metro Manila) and preparation for the anticipated increases over the coming days, the ability to respond timely and significantly is being

challenged, specifically in the augmentation of human and non-human resources such as the deployment of health workers to serve with the surges and increasing the critical care capacity," the DOH memorandum read.

The DOH memorandum was released after the National Kidney and Transplant Institute (NKTI) and San Lazaro Hospital reported more admissions of leptospirosis patients. — Xinhua

9 AUGUST

Coastal hotels hit by megaquake cancellations

HOTELS and ryokan, Japanese-style inns, in coastal areas in central and western Japan, have been hit by hundreds of cancellations following the weather agency's advisory over a potential megaquake issued at the peak of the summer holiday season.

Sansuien, a ryokan in Kochi Prefecture, western Japan, reported that bookings for around 450 guests were cancelled on Friday, just one day after

the Japan Meteorological Agency issued an advisory, the first of its kind, on an elevated risk of a powerful earthquake in the Nankai Trough, which runs along the Pacific coast

Most of those who cancelled their reservations cited fears of travelling, according to Kazuhiro Kamata, an official of the inn. "While I understand their feelings, it is a tough situation (for us)," Kamata said. — Kyodo

8 AUGUST

Israel's costly strategic mistake

ISRAEL committed a costly "strategic mistake" with its killing of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran last week, Iran's acting foreign minister told AFP in an interview on Thursday.

"The act that the Zionists carried out in Tehran was a strategic mistake because it will cost them gravely," Ali Bagheri said one day after attending an extraordinary session of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in the Saudi coastal city of Jeddah.

Although Israel has not commented on Haniyeh's death, Iran has vowed to retaliate, setting the region on edge.

Bagheri accused Israel of wanting "to expand tension, war and conflict to other countries," while asserting it was not in a position to fight Iran. The meeting on Wednesday of foreign ministers from the 57-member OIC produced a declaration holding Israel "fully responsible" for the "heinous" killing of Haniyeh. — AFP

7 AUGUST

Man jailed for assaulting Prime Minister

A Danish court on Wednesday handed a Polish man a four-month prison sentence and ordered him deported for punching the country's Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen in June.

The 39-year-old, who Danish authorities have ruled cannot be named in the media, was immediately apprehended after the assault on 7 June in a Copenhagen square.

Judge Jacob Scherfig convicted a man for punching the Danish prime minister, Mette Frederiksen, in the shoulder.

The man, who has lived in Denmark for five years, will face deportation and a six-year re-entry

ban after serving a four-month prison sentence. During the trial, he denied the assault, attributing his memory loss to alcohol and the shock of encountering Frederiksen.

The prime minister suffered a contusion and minor whiplash from the incident. Besides the assault, the man was also convicted of indecent exposure and fraud. Frederiksen was not called as a witness, as the prosecution believed the evidence was sufficient. The defendant's lawyer, Henrik Karl Nielsen, acknowledged the conviction but felt the prison term was harsher than expected. — AFP

6 AUGUST

Rocket attack on Iraq base injures seven

A rocket attack on a base in Iraq wounded seven Americans, a US official said Tuesday, with the Pentagon blaming Iran-aligned forces for the violence that comes as the region awaits an expected counterattack by Tehran on Israel.

The rocket fire the previous day was the latest in a series of attacks targeting Ain al-Assad base, which hosts American troops as well as other personnel from the US-led coalition against the Islamic State jihadist group.

"Five US service members and two US contractors were injured in the attack," in which two rockets struck the base, the US defence official said on condition of anonymity. Five of the wounded are being treated at the base while two have been evacuated for further treatment, the official said, adding that all are in stable condition. — AFP

5 AUGUST

Judge orders return of QAnon Shaman's gear

A self-proclaimed "shaman" who was among the Donald Trump supporters who stormed the US Capitol can have his horned fur headdress and spear returned to him, a judge ruled on Monday.

Jacob Chansley, 36, known as the "QAnon Shaman", became one of the faces of the 6 January 2021 assault on the Capitol because of his red, white and blue facepaint, bare chest and unusual headgear.

Chansley, also known as Jake Angeli, was among the first of hundreds of rioters to break into the Capitol on 6 January 2021 as lawmakers were certifying Democrat Joe Biden's victory over Trump in the 2020 presidential election.

He pleaded guilty to obstructing an official proceeding, served 41 months, and successfully sued for the return of his seized property. — AFP

4 AUGUST

Starmer warns far-right protesters: regret awaits

UK leader Keir Starmer warned far-right protesters on Sunday they would "regret" participating in England's worst rioting in 13 years, as disturbances linked to the murder of three children earlier this week flared across the country. Masked anti-immigration demonstrators smashed several windows at a hotel that has been used to house asylum seekers in Rotherham, South Yorkshire. Unrest related to misinformation about the mass stabbing last Monday in the northwestern English seaside town of Southport has hit multiple towns and cities, with anti-immigration demonstrators clashing with police.

The violence is a major challenge for Starmer, elected only a month ago after leading Labour to a landslide win over the Conservatives. "I guarantee you will regret taking part in this disorder. Whether directly or those whipping up this action online, and then running away themselves," Starmer said in a TV address. — AFP

SPORTS



Chinese weightlifter Liu Huanhua claims men's 102kg gold at Paris 2024

AT 22 years old, Liu secured China's first Olympic title in men's heavyweight categories. Chinese weightlifter Liu Huanhua claimed the men's 102 kilogramme gold medal at the Paris Olympics on Saturday in the South Paris Arena. The 22-year-old lifted 186kg in the snatch and 220kg in the clean and jerk, achieving a winning total of 406kg to lift China's first Olympic title in men's heavyweight categories.

Liu, world record holder for both clean and jerk and total, completed his first attempt of 220kg in clean and jerk but failed his next two attempts at 228kg and 233kg.

However, it was enough to secure China's 34th gold medal at the Paris 2024.

This also marks the fourth gold medal for the Chinese weightlifting team, following victories by Li Fabin, Hou Zhihui and Luo Shifang. Akbar Djuraev of Uzbekistan took the silver medal with 404kg and the bronze medal went to individual neutral athlete Yauheni Tsikhantsou from Belarus with 402kg. The women's 81kg and men's +102kg events will take place later on Saturday, while the gold medal for the women's +81kg division will be decided on Sunday, the final day of the Olympics. — Xinhua



Liu Huanhua of China reacts during the awarding ceremony after the weightlifting men's 102 kilogramme competition at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, France, on 10 August 2024. PHOTO: YANG LEI/XINHUA



Shan, Thitsa Arman triumph in MNL matches

THE sixth fixture of the Myanmar National League-MNL 2024-2025 season continued yesterday, with current champions Shan United, Hanthawady United, and Thitsa Arman all securing victories.

At Taunggyi Stadium, Shan United defeated ISPE FC 3-0. Despite a setback against Yangon in the fifth round, the reigning champions made a strong comeback this week, securing full points and maintaining their lead at the top of the table.

Shan United made several changes to their lineup, including using four foreign players for the first time. The first half saw both teams actively attacking, with Shan United scoring their opening goal in the 26th minute. Khun Kyaw Zin Hein's

assist led to a goal by forward Rintaro da Silva. Shan United led 1-0 at halftime and continued to control the game in the second half. Myo Ko Tun scored their second goal in the 56th minute, and the third goal came from midfielder Mark Sekyi in 69 minutes. The best player award went to Shan United's forward, Rintaro. After this match, Shan United leads with 16 points from six games, while ISPE FC has nine points from six games.

At Patheingyi Stadium, Hanthawady United won 1-0 over Ayeyawady United. Hanthawady remains a strong contender, keeping pace with current champions Shan United. The winning goal for Hanthawady was scored by Aung Myat Thu from a penalty in the 90+1 minute. The best player award went to Hanthawady United's goalkeeper Nay Lin Htet. Hanthawady United now has 16 points from six games, while Ayeyawady United

has four points from six games.

At Thuwunna Youth Training Centre, Thitsa Arman achieved their first win of the season with a 6-0 victory over Rakhine United. Thitsa Arman, who had been struggling at the bottom of the table, finally secured a win and climbed out of the relegation zone. Goals were scored by Thein Tun Aung at 4th minute, Lin Htet Oo at 19, 24, 31 minutes, Sow Myo Zaw at the 58th minute, and Naing Win Tun at the 67th minute respectively. The best player award went to Lin Htet Oo, who scored a hat-trick. Thitsa Arman now has three points from six games, while Rakhine United remains at the bottom with one point from six games.

The third day of the sixth round will continue today at Thuwunna YTC, featuring a match between Yadanabon FC and Yangon United. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Asian Bodybuilding: Myanmar shines with 2 gold medals

MYANMAR has achieved notable success at the 56th Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Championships, taking place from 6 to 12 August in Batam Island, Indonesia. The competition, which commenced on 10 August, saw Myanmar's athletes secure two gold medals.

In the Men's Bodybuilding 75-kilogramme category, Myanmar's Ye Htun Naung emerged victorious, capturing the gold medal.

The silver went to India, while Malaysia claimed the bronze. Additionally, Myanmar's Ni Ni Aung dominated the

Women's Model Physique up to 160-centimetre category, winning gold. China (Macau) secured the silver medal and Thailand took home the bronze.

Myanmar's athletes Hein Htet Kyaw and Than Htike Oo also competed in the Men's Bodybuilding 85-kilogramme and Men's Sports Physique up to 170-centimetre categories, respectively. Hein Htet Kyaw and Than Htike Oo finished in fourth place in their respective events. The championships are ongoing, with Myanmar's bodybuilders continuing to showcase their skills. — Arkar Linn/KZL



Myanmar's gold medallists Ye Htun Naung (L) and Ni Ni Aung (R) at the 56th Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Championships.

Trend of cafes, eateries growing in Pakistan

Khan encouraged visiting chefs to experience Pakistan's street food and suggested that food can enhance cross-cultural understanding and strengthen international relations.

THE trend of eateries and cafes is growing globally, and Pakistan is no exception, with a strong love for food and an expanding food culture, Pakistani Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan said Friday.

Addressing the launch of the Second International Food and Agriculture Exhibition in the country's southern port city of Karachi, the

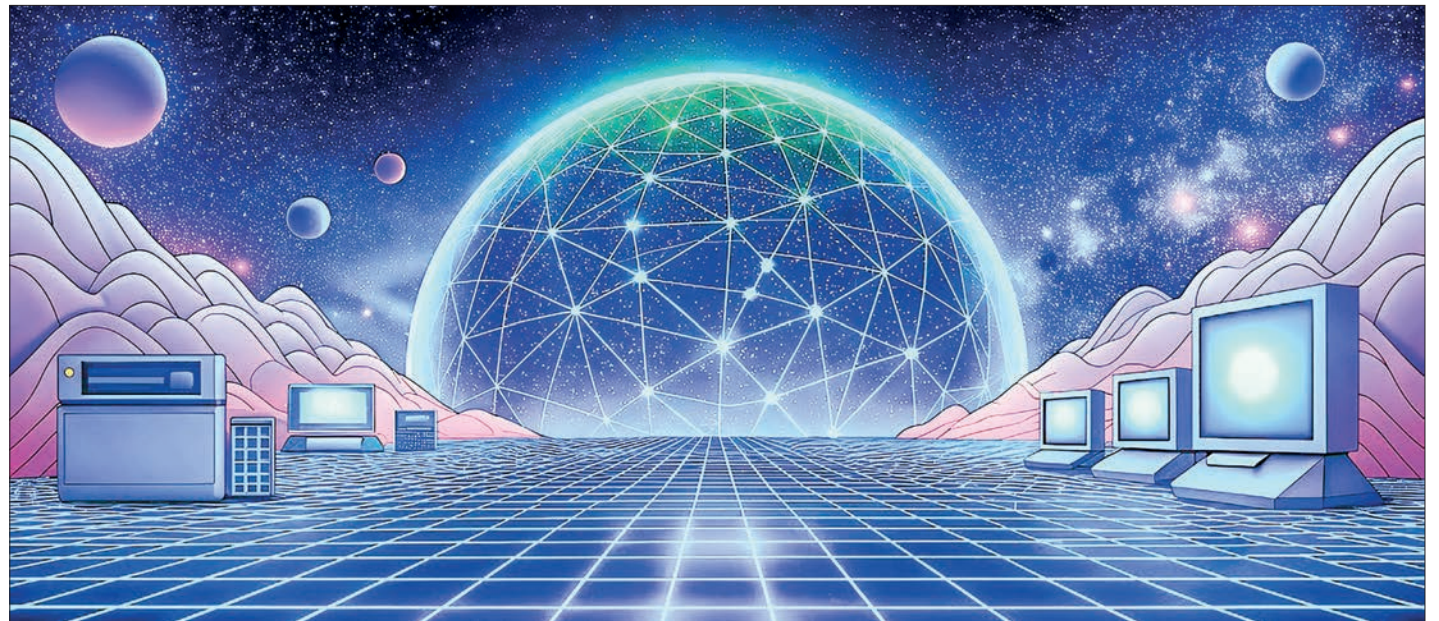


The exhibition, running from 9 to 11 August, features over 1,000 delegates. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

minister said that Pakistan offers a variety of continental food. However, the expertise brought by international chefs participating in the event is something new.

He invited the visiting chefs to explore Pakistan's street food, highlighting its unique taste, and emphasized that food serves as a bridge for people to learn about each other and their cultures.

The minister expressed hope that food could help strengthen and further expand the South Asian country's bilateral relations with other countries. According to Pakistan's Commerce Ministry, over 1,000 delegates are participating in the three-day exhibition from 9 to 11 August. — Xinhua



This decision comes after Ireland's Data Protection Commission (DPC) initiated a court case against X, alleging a violation of users' data privacy rights. **ILLUSTRATION: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/PIXABAY**

Social platform X will pause using European users' personal data from public posts to train its AI chatbot, Grok, while European regulators review its compliance with data privacy laws.

Social platform X said Friday it would work European regulators after agreeing to suspended its heavily criticized use of European users' personal data to train its artificial intelligence

X halts using personal data of Europeans to train AI

chatbot Grok.

After Elon Musk's social platform began using personal data in public posts made by European users Ireland's data protection commission (DPC) launched a court case arguing that violated users' data privacy rights. As X has its European headquarters in Ireland, the country's data protection commission is the lead regulator in Europe for the social platform.

Ireland's Data Protection Commis-

sion announced that X (formerly Twitter) will suspend using European users' personal data from public posts to train its AI model, Grok, while compliance with GDPR is reviewed.

DPC chief Des Hogan emphasized this will safeguard EU and EEA users' rights. Earlier, Meta reversed a similar decision after NOYB complaints. X claims it offers users a clear opt-out option for AI training data. — AFP

Smartwatches may prevent future pandemics, Israeli researchers say

PHYSIOLOGICAL sensors in smartwatches can detect infectious diseases days before symptoms appear, potentially averting future pandemics, Israeli researchers said.

In a two-year study involving nearly 5,000 participants, researchers from Tel Aviv University found that the wearables could detect changes in vital signs 23 hours before the first COVID-19 symptom, 62 hours before symptoms of group A streptococcus (GAS), and 73 hours before influenza symptoms appeared.

Their findings also suggest that early detection via wearable technology can induce behavioural changes — such as reduced social contacts — at a critical stage when the disease is most infectious, thus



This early detection could lead to behavioural changes, such as reduced social interactions, at a time when the disease is most contagious, thereby curbing its spread. **PHOTO: ANI**

potentially preventing widespread contagion. "Infectious diseases and pandemics

In a two-year study with nearly 5,000 participants, the wearables identified changes in vital signs 23 hours before COVID-19 symptoms, 62 hours before group A streptococcus (GAS) symptoms, and 73 hours before influenza symptoms.

pose a great threat to humanity, and we must harness our scientific and technological abilities to prevent them," said Prof Dan Yamin, who led the study, which was recently published in the peer-reviewed Lancet Regional Health Europe. — ANI