

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

## Myanma Tourism Bank launches MTB Pay

**M**yanma Tourism Bank (MTB) launched MTB Pay on 28 August. The service is currently available at 23 branches.

The service will extend to its branches across the country. MTB Pay aims to promote tour operators. Meter bills, bills for broadcasting channels and top-up services are available at the moment. Later, it will provide instant payment with a QR scan at the shopping centres. It aims to reach people from remote areas for cash transfer, withdrawal, deposit and transaction services, helping develop the country's economy.

"MTB Pay is not a mere mobile wallet platform. It is a customer commitment to deliver value. Let's move forward to a brighter and vibrant future together," CEO U Win Lwin of MTB Bank affirmed.

Individuals can open the MTB Pay account easily by providing personal information such as name, date of birth, address and citizenship scrutiny card. After verifying them, automatic processing will follow within 24 hours.

Consumers can download the MTB Pay application via <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/mtb-pay/id6470009961> for IOS users and <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mtb.wallet> for Android users. — TWA/KK

The service will extend to its branches across the country. MTB Pay aims to promote tour operators.



This image showcases a Myanma Tourism Bank advert with the 'Together Forever' catchphrase.



This photo shows gifts being exchanged between the Myanmar ambassador to Nepal and the president of the Nepal-Myanmar Chamber of Commerce.

## Myanmar, Nepal discuss strengthening cooperation in tourism, tech, and trade

MYANMAR and Nepal are working to enhance cooperation in several key sectors, including tourism, technology service, trade, and direct flights, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A meeting to discuss these initiatives was held at the Myanmar Embassy in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 26 August. During the meeting, U Myo Myint Maung, Myanmar Ambassador-designate to

Nepal, met Mr Shiva Kumar Agrawal, President of the Nepal-Myanmar Chamber of Commerce, and its members. The discussion focused on promoting and expanding collaboration in areas such as direct flights, tourism, technology service, trade, infrastructure, health, and education, as well as cultural and people-to-people exchanges between Myanmar and Nepal. — ASH/TMT

## Article

### The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

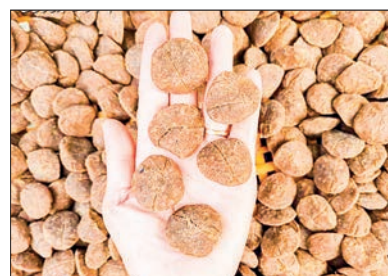
By **THAN HTUN**  
(GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

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Kyaiktiyo Pagoda raises Mpox awareness amid rising concerns



**BUSINESS** PAGE 7

Shan soybeans mostly ordered from Yangon amid Thai demand surge



# NATIONAL

## Public Notification

THE fee for an ordinary passport in Myanmar will be increased from K35,000 to K40,000 effective 1 September 2024.

## Low-Pressure Area Condition

Issued at (14:00) hours MST on 28-8-2024

ACCORDING to the observations at (13:30) hrs MST today, a low-pressure area may form over Eastcentral Bay and adjoining North Bay of Bengal around 29-8-2024.

## National Complaint Mechanism (NCM) to deal with forced labour complaints

THE Myanmar government has been dealing with forced labour complaints in cooperation with ILO and relevant ministries since 2007. Since 2020, forced labour complaints have been settled through the National Complaint Mechanism (NCM), which includes representatives of the National Human Rights Commission, employer organizations, employee organizations, and relevant ministries, including the Ministry of Labour.

Nowadays, it is reported that forced labour

victims can safely contact and complain to the Office of the State Administration Council, Region and State governments, the Nay Pyi Taw Council, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, the ILO Liaison Office (Yangon) and other organizations or to the Ministry of Labour Office No 51, Nay Pyi Taw, in person or in writing via 067 3430184, 067 3430229, 067 3430274 and [directorgeneral.dol@gmail.com](mailto:directorgeneral.dol@gmail.com), [moloffice51@gmail.com](mailto:moloffice51@gmail.com), and [research.org.dol.mm@gmail.com](mailto:research.org.dol.mm@gmail.com). — MNA



## Objectives of 25<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2024

- (a) To uplift national prestige and integrity and to preserve the cultural heritage and national characteristics
- (b) To explore, preserve and uplift the traditional cultural heritage of performing arts of ethnic nationals and national cultural characteristics
- (c) To explore and preserve the traditional cultural heritage for the young generation and further propagate the national spirit
- (d) To serve as a national cultural entity for State development, peace, and stability

## Myanmar students in Korea eligible for ASEAN-Korea Youth Summit

MYANMAR Embassy in Seoul notified on 27 August 2024 that Myanmar undergraduate and master's students aged 19-30 are eligible to apply for participation in the ASEAN- Korea Youth Summit.

ASEAN-Korea Centre

(AKC), headquartered in Korea, will hold the ASEAN-Korea Youth Summit on 5 November 2024 to establish friendship between Korean and ASEAN youths and promote strategic partnership of ASEAN-Korea.

They will select five ap-

plicants to attend the summit, AKC said.

Individuals can fill in the ASEAN- Korea Youth Summit application form and submit documents through [jedo@aseankorea.org](mailto:jedo@aseankorea.org) by 8 September 2024. — NN/KK

ASEAN-Korea Youth Summit

APPLICATION FORM

\*Please write that the application form must be typed or clearly written in English.

**A. PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  Male  Female  
 Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_

**B. EDUCATION & EXPERIENCES**

University: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Undergraduate: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expected Month and Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Master's: \_\_\_\_\_  
 University: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Major: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expected Month and Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

English Proficiency:  Fluent  Advanced  Intermediate  Basic

Relevant Experiences: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (e.g., Model United Nations, International Forum, etc.)  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**C. SHORT ESSAY QUESTIONS**

1. Please describe your motivation in applying for this program. (Max. 500 words)

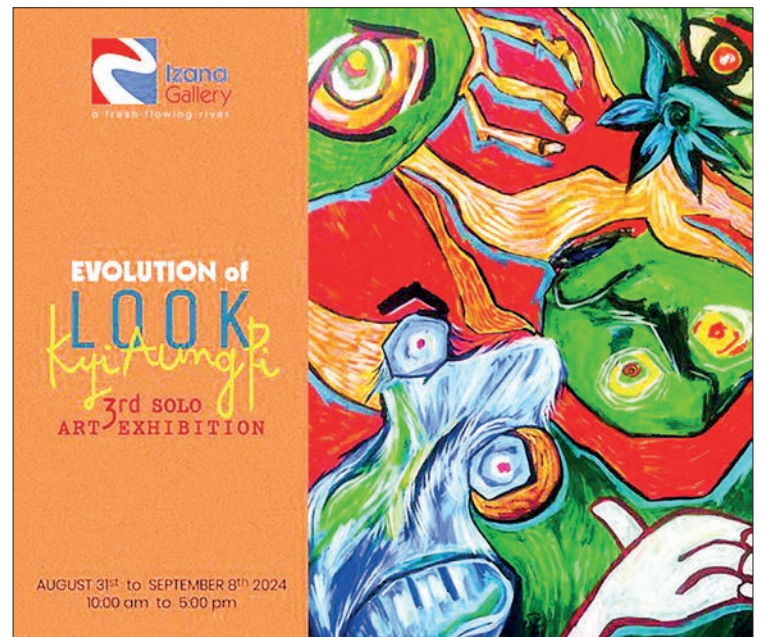
2. What are the key areas of cooperation that should be prioritized in the ASEAN-Korea Comprehensive Strategic Partnership? (Max. 300 words)

I hereby submit my application for the ASEAN-Korea Youth Summit and declare that all information provided herein is true and correct.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Images show the application form of the ASEAN-Korea Youth Summit.

## “Evolution of Look” art exhibition opens at Izana Art Gallery



This image showcases an exhibition catalogue featuring the work of Artist Kyi Aung Pi.

A solo art exhibition titled ‘Evolution of Look’ will be held at Izana Art Gallery in Pazundaung Township, Yangon.

“The exhibition will run for nine days, from 31 August to 8 December. Art enthusiasts are encouraged to visit in person to witness how the artworks evolve through the continuous efforts of an artist who never ceases to

create. Visitors will see an artist expressing his perspective and love for the natural world through his brushwork and every drop of paint,” said Artist Kyi Aung Pi.

This will be Artist Kyi Aung Pi’s third solo exhibition, showcasing paintings created using watercolours, acrylics, and oil paints. — ASH/MKKS

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

## DPM Union Defence Minister receives PRC's Ambassador

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San received Ms Ma Jia, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar, at the Union Minister's office yesterday afternoon.

They cordially discussed continued increasing defence cooperation between Myanmar and China,

the stability and security of the border areas of the two countries, and training and education between the two armed forces. — MNA/TS

State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San receives Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma Jia in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.



## 19<sup>th</sup> Asia Media Summit & Associated Meetings to be held in Malaysia



The poster of the 19<sup>th</sup> Asia Media Summit & Associated Meetings.

THE 19<sup>th</sup> Asia Media Summit & Associated Meetings organized by the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) will take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 1 to 5 September.

The summit anticipates hosting over 500 regional media practitioners from 50 countries across Asia, the Pacific, Africa, and Europe. Additionally, several Ministers of Communication and Information from the Asia-Pacific region will join the summit.

The theme is "Media: The New Odyssey", and the summit will examine the shifting global dynamics and explore collaborative efforts for learning and advancements, various facets of AI in media and broadcast, and the importance of inclusivity and accessibility to empower diverse voices in these changing times.

In collaboration with various strategic partners, the AIBD will organize ten pre-summit workshops on 1 and 2 September and the main summit on 3 and 4 September.

Returning to Malaysia after nine years, the Asia Media Summit was last held in Kuala Lumpur in 2015 before travelling to various countries, including South Korea, China, India, Cambodia, and Indonesia.

Established under the auspices of UNESCO in 1977, the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) is a regional inter-governmental, international organization committed to broadcast and media development. AIBD plays a pivotal role in fostering a vibrant and cohesive electronic media environment in the Asia-Pacific region. — MRTV/KTZH

## K46B+ in loans available for Myanmar oil millers

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Industry, oil millers and entrepreneurs can still apply for over K46 billion in available loans. These loans are part of a K50 billion fund established by the State Economic Promotion Fund to support the development of oil refineries. So far, K3.493 billion has been loaned to 31 oil millers and entrepreneurs.

Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than said on 23 August that efforts will be made to ensure the remaining K46.507 billion is issued promptly and accurately. Statistics show that K46.507 billion remains available for loans to oil mills.

In Myanmar, there are more than 4,250 oil mills, including over 230 large mills, more than 920 medium mills, and over 3,100 small mills. Some mills have been suspended due to

various challenges, while some cannot operate at full capacity.

The difficulties faced by oil millers include competition with cheap imported oil, the need for financial capital to purchase and store oil crops when they are available, the export of oil crops like peanuts and sesame as raw materials, difficulties in producing raw materials for domestic edible oil production, and the need for funds to upgrade oil mills.

Recently, low-interest loans have been provided through the Oil Industry Development Loan Fund, established by the State Economic Promotion Fund, to support the expansion, upgrading, and installation of advanced equipment at domestic oil mills, as well as the construction of new modern oil mills and other business investment needs. — TWA/TKO



One of the domestic oil mills in operation.

### Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise





# NATIONAL

## MoPF holds awareness seminar on anti-corruption



Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister U Win Shein delivers a speech at an awareness seminar on anti-corruption jointly organized by the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Ministry of Planning and Finance in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

THE Anti-Corruption Commission and the Ministry of Planning and Finance jointly organized an awareness seminar on anti-corruption at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein, first in his remark, highlighted the purpose of the seminar, mentioning that corruption-free civil servants must establish clean government and good governance and they should regard the anti-corruption

measure as a national task.

He continued that the ministry offers services directly to the public, so it needs to focus on the ability to perfect services and be free of corruption. He then urged the staff to serve their duties honestly with accountability and transparency without fear or favour.

Attendees also discussed anti-corruption measures and their experiences with CPU (Corruption Prevention Unit) members. — MNA/KTZH

## Waibargi Hospital prepares for suspected Mpox cases

HEALTHCARE will be provided at Waibargi Hospital if suspicious cases of Mpox are found inside the country, said the Ministry of Health.

So far, no suspicious case has been found in Myanmar; however, it has been identified in neighbouring countries; therefore, preparations have been made.

Nine thousand four hundred and fifty people who returned from foreign countries were observed from 21 to 26 August, and no suspicious patient was found, the ministry announced.

At present, Mpox awareness campaigns are being conducted, and temperature measurement and filling health declaration forms are carried out at ports and airports, including Yangon International Airport.

World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus says Mpox prevention and control measures will focus on providing medical treatment for residents of countries where the outbreak of mpox is high, including vaccination for close contacts and health workers. — TWA/ZS



Preparedness is underway at Waibargi Hospital for possible Mpox-suspecting patients.

## Outstanding students, matric passer soldiers tour Beijing



Outstanding students of Myanmar pose for a group photo during their excursions in Beijing, China, yesterday.

AS per the instruction made by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, soldiers and children of servicemen/ servicewomen and war veterans, civilian substitute-appointed staff, who passed the matric exam

of the 2023-2024 academic year with flying colours went on a foreign excursion to study international culture and enrich knowledge.

The group left for China on 26 August evening and arrived on 27 August morning.

They visited Tian Tan

Park and Ling Guang Temple in Beijing on 27 August. They also visited the Great Wall and Summer Palace in Beijing yesterday.

Students asked relevant officials what they wanted to know about respective places. — MNA/KTZH

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



# NATIONAL

## Sweeping raids seize goods and vehicles nationwide

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts are being made to effectively prevent and take action against illegal trade activities in accordance with the law.

On 26 August, under the management of the Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, an inspection team conducted checks at the Myitnge checkpoint. A vehicle travelling from Yangon to Mandalay was intercepted, leading to the seizure of 16 types of industrial goods without proper documentation, estimated to be worth K210 million. The Hino Profia truck transporting these items, valued at K33 million, was also seized, bringing the total estimated value to K243 million. Legal action was taken according to Customs procedures.

Additionally, on 26 August, an inspection team under the management of the Shan State Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee conducted checks within Kengtung Township. Three vehicles carrying ten types of



Confiscated vehicle and beverages in Kengtung on 26 August 2024.

food products and two types of consumer goods, lacking proper documentation, were seized. The total estimated value of the seized goods, including the three Mitsubishi Canter trucks, was K92.6 million. The action was taken in line with Customs regulations.

Furthermore, on 27 August, an inspection team under the management of the Kachin State Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee conducted checks in the Mankhin Ward of Myitkyina. The team seized 8,760 kilogrammes of ammonium nitrate, estimated to be worth K8.8

million, due to a lack of proper documentation. The action was taken under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

On the same day, an inspection team under the management of the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee conducted checks within the Taungoo District and Nyaunglebin District.

The team seized 0.885 tonnes of other illegal teak and 1.586 tonnes of other illegal hardwood, with a total estimated value of K1.85 million. The action was

taken under the Forest Law.

Moreover, on 27 August, an inspection team under the management of the Magway Region Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee conducted checks within Sinbaungwe Township and Mindon Township. The team seized two unregistered motorcycles, estimated to be worth K600,000, and 1.521 tonnes of illegal timber, valued at K380,566. The total estimated value of the seizures was K980,566. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law and the Forest Law.

On 28 August, an inspection

team under the management of the Kayin State Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee conducted checks at the Thanlwin Bridge checkpoint. A vehicle carrying 1,000 bottles of palm oil and other goods without proper documentation, estimated to be worth K27.3 million, was intercepted. The Sunlong bus transporting these items, valued at K50 million, was also seized.

Additionally, another vehicle was intercepted near Nwachankon Village in Kawkareik Township, carrying 500 Deestone motorcycle tyres and other industrial goods, with a total estimated value of K25 million. The Cheng Long bus transporting these items, valued at K42 million, was also seized. The total estimated value of the seizures was K144.3 million. Legal action was taken as per Customs procedures.

In total, the seizures made on 26, 27, and 28 August amount to 21 cases, with an estimated total value of K491.6 million, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/KZL

### Counter-argument to false information

## False allegations against Thayet Prison administration clarified

THE Facebook page “Khit Thit” posted false and misleading reports claiming on 22 August that the deputy warden of Thayet Prison had been extorting money from inmates and engaging in drug trafficking activities.

The prison administration has vehemently denied these allegations, emphasizing that they are baseless and not in line with the facts. According to the official statement, the administration of Thayet Prison operates strictly in accordance with the prison laws and regulations, ensuring that no inmate is subjected to unlawful treatment, including extortion, physical abuse, or drug-related activities.

The prison officials have

reiterated their commitment to maintaining strict discipline and security within the prison. Regular and special searches are conducted in collaboration with the Myanmar Police Force to prevent the entry of prohibited items, such as drugs and mobile phones.

Any prohibited items discovered are promptly confiscated, and appropriate legal action is taken. New inmates are subject to a 14-day quarantine upon admission, after which they are assigned to their respective cells under the supervision of responsible officers. The prison has confirmed that there have been no instances of extortion or intimidation during this process. If any such incidents occur, firm action will

be taken against those responsible. The administration also assured that all staff, inmates, and their families have been informed of these procedures and the commitment to enforce them rigorously.

Deputy Warden Kyaw Zeya Soe has been explicitly cleared of the allegations made by “Khit Thit”, with the prison authorities affirming that no such illegal activities are taking place. The prison continues to prioritize the safety, security, and proper management of inmates in full compliance with the prison law. The misleading reports by “Khit Thit” are seen as an attempt to create public confusion and distort the truth regarding the situation at Thayet Prison. — Ko Phyto/KZL

## Fake news spreads on acts of security forces setting fire to two villages in Letpadan Township



The screenshot validates misinformation.

SUBVERSIVE media spread fake news, claiming that security forces raided Yengan and Okpo villages in Letpadan Township of Bago Region at night on 27 August and set fire to them.

An official from the secu-

rity force clarified an actual event that PDF terrorists arrived at Yengan Village on 27 August to gather their groups. According to secret information given by residents, security forces took necessary security measures in the area and fired at the terrorists with the use of heavy weapons. In the incident, PDF terrorists sustained injuries and retreated. Hence, the news of security forces torching the village was totally wrong.

Malicious media intentionally circulates wrong and fake news, misleading the people about security forces and blaming security forces for crimes of terror acts committed by PDF terrorists. — MNA/TTA



# NATIONAL

## MoI announces photo contest for 77<sup>th</sup> Independence Day



The picture captures Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn presenting an award to U Win Toe, who won the first prize in the colour photo contest for the 76<sup>th</sup> Independence Day.

THE Ministry of Information plans to hold a colour photo competition titled 'Beautiful Myanmar' to commemorate the 77<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, which will be observed on 4 January 2025.

Anyone can participate in the competition by submitting photos that portray national development, beauty, peace and stability, national race unity, and traditional cultures, as well as symbols, places, and individuals prominent in the struggle for independence.

In the competition, only col-

our photos taken in Myanmar will be accepted, regardless of the type of camera used, with each photo required to be 10 inches by 15 inches in size. Contestants may submit an unlimited number of pictures in hard copy, along with their soft copies on CD.

Digitally processed photos, those that have won awards in local or international photo competitions, printed photographs, and pictures previously used on websites will not be allowed to compete. Photos entered in the contest must include consent

for use in public exhibitions, books, publications, websites, pamphlets, lectures, and videos.

For each photo submitted for the competition, a separate piece of paper attached to the back must include the contestant's name, Citizenship Scrutiny Card (CSC) number, address, phone number, the subject of the photograph, and the location where it was taken. Photos must be submitted to the Information and Public Relations Department in Kyauktada Township by 4:00 pm on 31 October. — TWA/TH

## Kyaiktiyo Pagoda raises Mpox awareness amid rising concerns

ACCORDING to the Health Department of Kyaikto Township, posters have been put up at the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda to raise awareness about Mpox (formerly known as monkeypox).

Additionally, a talk was held to inform those responsible for the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda about important information regarding Mpox.

As Mpox has been detected in countries neighbouring Myanmar, there is an urgent need for caution. The Ministry of Health has advised the public not to believe false information and assured that any confirmed cases of Mpox



The photo taken on 27 August shows posters being erected to raise awareness of Mpox.

in Myanmar will be officially announced.

In 2023, nearly 300,000 local and foreign pilgrims visited the Kyaiktiyo area, where the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda is located, according to the Pagoda Board of Trustees. — TWA/MKKS

## Yan Aung makes donations to 1,500 households in memory of late mother



MULTIPLE Academy Award recipient Yan Aung donated food to 1,500 households in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Region, in memory of his late mother.

The donation event, which included servings of ice cream and glutinous rice cooked in oil with chicken, was held at the Khaing Hnin Wai Children's Centre in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon.

"My sister, Khine Hnin Wai, covered the cost of the meals, and I provided the ice cream. I want to express my deep respect and gratitude to my sister, Khaing Hnin Wai, for organizing the donation. I feel delighted and fulfilled because I was able to make this offering in honour of my mother, and those who attended the ceremony prayed for her," said Yan Aung. Yan Aung's mother, Daw Thein Thein, passed away on 19 August at the age of 93. — ASH/TKO

## MMU announces 5-year engineering and science courses for 2024 intake

MYANMAR Maritime University will offer five-year Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Science (Honours) courses for students who pass the 2024 matriculation examination.

Upon completion of the courses, students will be awarded degrees in the following disciplines: BE (Naval Architecture), BE (Marine Engineering), BE (Port and Harbour Engineering), BE (River and Coastal Engineering), BE (Marine Electrical Systems & Electronic Engineering), BE (Marine Mechanical Engineering), and BSc Hons (Nautical Science).

For the first-year intake, the university will accept a total of 300 students, with only 20 per cent of places available to women due to the nature of

the industry.

Applicants must have achieved a minimum score of 420 in the matriculation exam to be eligible. Application forms for the first-year courses will be available from 28 August on the university's website, [www.mmu.edu.mm](http://www.mmu.edu.mm), or from the Student Affairs Department. Applications can be submitted either in person or by post to the Student Affairs Department by 30 September at the latest.

The list of candidates eligible for an interview, along with the dates for medical check-ups, eye tests, and interviews, will be announced based on admission serial numbers. This information will also be available on the Myanmar Maritime University website, [www.mmu.edu.mm](http://www.mmu.edu.mm). — TWA/TKO



The graduation building of the Myanmar Maritime University.



## MoALI, ICRC discuss agricultural cooperation projects

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MoALI) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) discussed agricultural cooperation projects for those farmers living in conflict areas on 27 August at the meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

The discussions highlighted projects which the Department of Planning, the Agriculture Department, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD) and ICRC will sign for those residents from conflict areas to

enhance agricultural and livestock production, services and agricultural equipment,

The projects will primarily focus on farm infrastructure to handle and process seeds and provide agricultural inputs in cooperation with the Agriculture Department.

Additionally, opening community-based animal health workers courses and providing necessary assistance to optimize livestock production in collaboration with the LBVD are included as well.

These projects also aim to



The file photo shows the harvesting of monsoon paddy with a combine harvester in Ayeyawady Region.

make agriculture and livestock businesses more sustainable with climate-resilient practices and encourage community self-

help projects.

Dr Ye Tint Tun, director-general of the Agriculture Department, addressed the

need to forward projects to senior officials to ensure they are in line with the State's policies and directives. — NN/KK

## Sesame association to open purchasing centre



A customer checks the quality of sesame seed in a market.

SESAME Farmer Development Association (SFDA) will set up a centre where a number of sesame growers can sell their harvest together in a bid to buy white sesame and black sesame.

White sesame harvest sea-

son started in mid-August in the SFDA member villages, so the SFDA and Myint Myat Taw Win Company discussed opening the centre.

They joined hands in 2022, holding awareness campaigns for growers across over 80

countries in Magway, Sinbaungwe, Taungdwingyi and Myothit townships continuously. They opened a centre in Thityarkauk village in Magway Region for two consecutive years. This year, their attempt to open a sales hub in Thityarkauk failed amid some unfortunate circumstances in the area. Therefore, they will move the centre to Myint Myat Taw Win Company's factory in the north of the teaching hospital situated beside Magway's ring road and start buying white and black sesame seeds beginning from 30 August 2024 without brokerage fees and labour wages.

The centre will be closed only on Sundays. Opening hours are from 9 am to 4 pm. Therefore, the sesame growers are notified to join the group selling at the centre. The SFDA is trying to disseminate information and go on tours by linking with committees. — NN/KK

## Shan soybeans mostly ordered from Yangon amid Thai demand surge

ACCORDING to market sources, Shan State's local soybeans are mainly ordered from Yangon, and the order from Thailand is also increasing. There is a lot of demand for soybeans during this rainy season, but there is a little difficulty in getting raw materials. Starting from last summer until early this month, the price of soybeans was stable, but it has improved a little these days.

"Sales of soybeans are brisk this rainy season. The raw material is not very convenient, as it needs to dry in the sun. The raw material cannot keep up with the demand. The demand is good. In terms of prices, it does not increase much. In terms of orders, we get more orders from Yangon. There are also many orders from abroad. There are orders from Mae Sot and Bangkok." Ma Phway Phway, an official at The Hometown local produce trading in Nyaungshwe township, said.

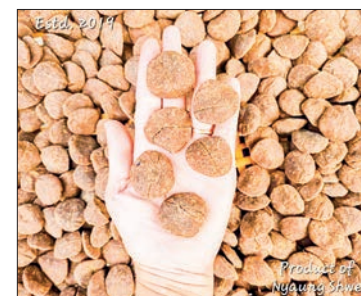
Soybeans are primarily produced in Nyaungshwe, Laikha, and Panglong in southern Shan State, and they are the most consumed soybean varieties.

"Among soybeans, the consumption of Shan soybeans is

very high, and it has a less salty taste. The soybeans are ordinary Shan soybeans that have no taste, sticky-rice soybeans, herbal soybeans, and Pa'O soybeans. Most people eat Shan beans that have no other ingredients. The second-best seller is ginger soybeans, which has chilli, garlic and ginger," she said. — Thit Taw/ZN



Showing the quality of soybeans produced in Shan State.



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# OPINION

## Peacefully utilize nuclear energy instead of nuclear weapons

GLOBAL opposition to nuclear weapons continues to grow, with the understanding that their use could devastate the world, leading to uncountable fatalities. Since the Cold War, the United Nations has been a consistent voice reminding the global community of the dangers of nuclear weapons. It urges nations possessing these weapons to manage their tensions and avoid using them.

In 2009, during its 64th session, the UN General Assembly declared on 29 August as the International Day against Nuclear Tests. The purpose of this day is to raise awareness and educate people about the catastrophic effects of nuclear weapon test explosions. It also serves to emphasize the need for the cessation of

Everybody, regardless of religion and racism, wishes to live in peace. Hence, it is necessary to transform nuclear weapons into nuclear energy, which is beneficial for society to be able to upgrade the whole world with facilities based on electricity. If so, all people around the globe will have the chance to enjoy a safe and sound socioeconomic life.

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). While the global consensus acknowledges the life-threatening risks of atomic weapons tests, suspicions persist that some nations may still conduct secret tests.

After the establishment of the International Day against Nuclear Tests, a significant development occurred in May 2010, when all state parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) committed to achieving global peace and security in a world without nuclear weapons.

Advocating for the CTBT's entry into force and ensuring its universal adherence is crucial. This requires the active promotion of dialogue and cooperation among all stakeholders, including governments and civil society. Public engagement and action against nuclear testing and nuclear weapons must be mobilized to work toward a safer, nuclear-weapon-free world.

Everybody, regardless of religion and racism, wishes to live in peace. Hence, it is necessary to transform nuclear weapons into nuclear energy, which is beneficial for society to be able to upgrade the whole world with facilities based on electricity. If so, all people around the globe will have the chance to enjoy a safe and sound socioeconomic life.

### The Geology of the Mergui District

This is the continuation of Episode 41, entitled "The Geology of the Mergui District", contributed by Sethu Rama Rau in 1930. **Economic Minerals**

The ores of tin and wolfram occurring in the Mergui district may be classed according to their position as follows: — Occurrences of tin and wolfram ores.

As original constituents

- I. As constituents in the granite.
  - (a) In quartz veins traversing the granite and the sedimentaries.
  - (b) In pegmatites, associated with muscovite and tourmaline.
  - (c) In greisens as segregations.

As transported material.

- II. In talus (eluvial) deposits on the slopes of hills near the outcrops of the above-mentioned occurrences.
- III. In stream deposits and alluvial flats bordering streams which rise in mineralized zones.
- IV. In the deposits along the lower courses of the rivers.

### The Origin of the Tin and Wolfram Ores

The examination of several lodes containing tin and wolfram shows that they are associated with the sulphides of iron, copper, arsenic, and molybdenum and that all of them, except the sulphide of molybdenum, are abundant among the lodes of the Tagu and Maliwun areas. Their origin has been fully dealt with by Drs J Coggin Brown and A M Heron, and there is little to add to their observations. The detailed examination of the mines of the Mergui district fully confirms the following statement made by these authors: -

The whole process of mineral vein formation appears to be a direct sequence of the process of differentiation or fractional crystallization through a series of varying phases in the original magma by decreasing temperature.

The localities where tin and wolfram ores are worked on the mainland may be classified according to position and concerning the different ranges of granite and mineralized zones, as follows: -

# The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

## EPISODE: 42

### I. The northern group

*Palauk Township (Wolfram and Tin)*

Shauk Chaung, Kanko Aing, Mwechaung Chaung, Bankadun Chaung, Gyaw Chaung, Naku Saku, Saku (Kathe) Chaung, Legataung, Hkyekhat Taung.

*Palaw Township (Tin)*

Shanthe Chaung, Palawgon, Palawpya, Medaw and Kyaukpyu, Zadiwin, Migyaungthaik Chaung.

### II. The central group

*Mergui Township (Tin)*

Yamon, Kahan, Mayinhla, Tenasserim Township (Wolfram and Tin)

Tagu, Thabawleik, Theindaw.

### III. The southern group

*Bokpyin Township (Tin)*

Bokpyin River Valley, Yanngwa, Hangpru, Yengan, Sadein, Migyaung Chaung, Manoron Chaung, Khe Chaung, Hsankhu Chaung, Ahnyinzon Chaung, Kyauk-kon Island and Lundaung, Karathuri, Kyauk Kyi Chaung.

*Victoria Point sub-division (Tin and Wolfram)*

Klong Banhuni, Long Yung, Klong Lam Noi pre-sai, Klong Lama, Klong Sadein, Maliwun.

In the Archipelago, the islands in which tin ores are mined on a commercial scale are: -

- I. Pulo Basin (Long Island).
- II. Pulo Bada (Sir James Island).
- III. Pulo Lampi (Sullivan Island) and others situated along this line.

The Ngawun and Theinkun chaungs, tributaries of the little Tenasserim, were examined by Rao Bahadur M Vinayak Rao, who has panned small quantities of cassiterite in their courses and also observed wolfram in a pegmatite vein in the Tichyin chaung, a tributary of the Theinkun chaung.

The tin ore mined in the district is exclusively cassiterite and is found in distinct zones, more or less parallel to and associated with granite, situated near the granite bosses, at and near their junctions with the sedimentary rocks of the Mergui Series. Its chief modes of occurrence are: -

- I. As a constituent of decomposed pegmatite or as greisen formed at the margins of granite, it is associated with tourmaline and muscovite mica. The following areas come under this class: -
  1. Palaw River source area,
  2. Yamon area,
  3. Manoron area,
  4. Yengan area,
  5. Migyaung area,
  6. Inner Bokpyin area,
  7. Yanngwa area,
  8. Kyaukkyi area,
  9. Banhuni area,
  10. Nam Noi area.

- II. As a constituent of quartz veins at the margin of granite, the width of the veins ranges up to nine or ten feet. Cassiterite is associated with sulphides of other metals, chiefly pyrites, chalcopyrite, molybdenite, stibnite, bismuth, and iron ores. The following mines have such quartz veins exposed in the open quarries.
  1. The North Hill, Khow Maung, and Peetolai of the Maliwun area.
  2. The Thittat of Tagu area.
  3. The Hkyekhat taung of the Pyicha chaung area.
  4. The Shanthe Chaung area.

- III. In narrow quartz veins, quartz stringers form stockworks in the rocks of the Mergui Series. Such occurrences are in the following localities: -
  1. The Tuthwe area,
  2. Lampi and adjoining islands,
  3. The Hangapu area,
  4. Portions of the Palauk area.
  5. Parts of the Palawpya area.

The chief tin-producing and wolfram-producing areas of the district form an intermediate link in the mineralized chain extending from Banka and Billiton Islands in the Dutch East Indies through Malaya, Western Siam, and the Tenasserim division of Burma, which consists of the Mergui, Tavoy, and Thaton districts. Although tin and tungsten ores are associated in the lodes as vein minerals along this belt, the southern portion of the mineralized zone is rich in tin ores, while the northern part has a larger proportion of wolfram and less tin. This is illustrated by the mines that were located in the Mergui district. In the northern part of the district, the Palauk area yields more wolfram from lode mining and detrital sluicing, while, in the southern part, the mines worked in the Victoria Point and Bokpyin townships account for larger production of tin ores, etc.

The summary of tin mines is as follows: -

*The Palauk area:* The mines of this area are situated at the sources of two chief tributaries of the Palauk chaung. Mines worked for Wolfram during the War.

*Spider Island* is situated at the mouth of the Palauk River and is composed of the Mergui Series, which are traversed by narrow, irregular quartz veins containing tin and wolfram.

*The Palaw area:* The Palaw River is formed by the union of two tributaries, the Impon and Palaw Chaung, which join near Palawgon. These streams traverse a mineralized zone, extending from Shanthe to Kadingpeya over a length of nearly 16 miles.

*The Tagu mines* are situated on the slopes of a hill range about 12 miles north of Tenasserim town. This area is one of the largest producers of tin and wolfram in the district during 1914 and 1918.

*Theindaw mines* are situated near the source of the Theindaw



Satellite Views of Mergui Archipelago. SOURCE: NASA

chaung, which flows southwards on the western slope of Theindaw taung. The Theindaw dredge was producing tin ore in 1928.

*Manoron mines* are situated near the source of the Khe Chaung, which is one of the westerly flowing tributaries of the Manoron Chaung. The area has not been fully explored, but it deserves careful prospecting as geological conditions are favourable.

*Yengan mines* are situated east of the village on the mainland. Quartz veins about 10 to 14 feet wide are exposed in the sedimentary series, and pegmatite veins one to one and a half feet in width, with large crystals of tourmaline and muscovite, are abundant.

*Migyaung Chaung mines:* The pegmatites and quartz veins of the Yengan-Kyauktan area continue on the south side of the Yengan Creek and croup out in Migyaung Chaung Village near the source of the chaung, where they are worked.

*Sadein mines:* The tin mines operating west of Huachaung Village, near the sources of Klong Cha, Klong Thun, and Klong Huachaung, are situated south-east of the Migyaungchaung areas and form a continuation of that mineralized zone, which extends to Bokpyin.

*Bokpyin mines:* The valley containing the Bokpyin mines is situated on the eastern flank of the Yanngwa range, which is drained by the Bokpyin Chaung,

which flows northwards. The western part of the valley consists of many lenticular patches of pegmatites and quartz stringers.

*Hangapru mines* are situated north of the village, and eluvial deposits are on the surface of a small hill being worked. Narrow stringers of quartz traversing the sedimentary rocks are worked in open quarries. The tin ores obtained from the mines are smelted locally and exported as block tin.

*Tuthwe mines:* Another outcrop of tourmaline-muscovite pegmatite carrying tin ore is exposed near Tuthwe, on the sea coast southwest of the southern end of the Yanngwa range.

*Karathuri mines:* The area is situated in the middle of the chain

By THAN HTUN  
(GEOSCIENCE  
MYANMAR)

of granite bosses, which, extending from Bokpyin to Maliwun, are disconnected on the surface but probably connected underneath. The boss of granite east of Karathuri intruded into the sedimentary rocks, which were traversed by pegmatite and quartz veins. Marine denudation has assorted the debris of these, leaving the coarse tin in deep gravels west of the village of Karathuri and transporting the finer ore to the shallow water near the coast, now covered with mangrove swamps.

*Banhuni area:* The mineralized zone of the Banhuni area is situated on the eastern slope of the ridge, composed of intruded slates and quartzites, extending from the source of Klong Ply Ngan to that of Klong Nam Noi, and forms the southern continuation of the Karathuri zone.

*Maliwun mines:* Maliwun is one of the well-known mines in the district and is situated on the flanks of a granite range extending from Victoria Point to Talobusa, the eastern slopes of which are traversed quartz veins. Tin ore occurs associated with wolfram in the quartz veins and greisen at the peripheries of the granite.

*Lampi (Sullivan) Island:* Most of the islands of the Archipelago are composed of micaceous slates and quartzites with quartz veins, and aplite dykes intruded into them. In 1925, the island was divided among several prospecting concessionaires. The beach deposits of Lampi Island were worked by Salons (sea gypsies), who bartered the tin concentrates for salt and other necessities of life. Later, Siamese miners from Karathuri and Hangapru commenced illicit prospecting and mining.

### Other minerals

During the survey of the Mergui district, Dr Heron and Mr Page examined the antimony, arsenopyrite, bismuth, gas, galena, gold, monazite, and salt, but those cannot be worked economically. This concludes the geological overview of the Mergui district.

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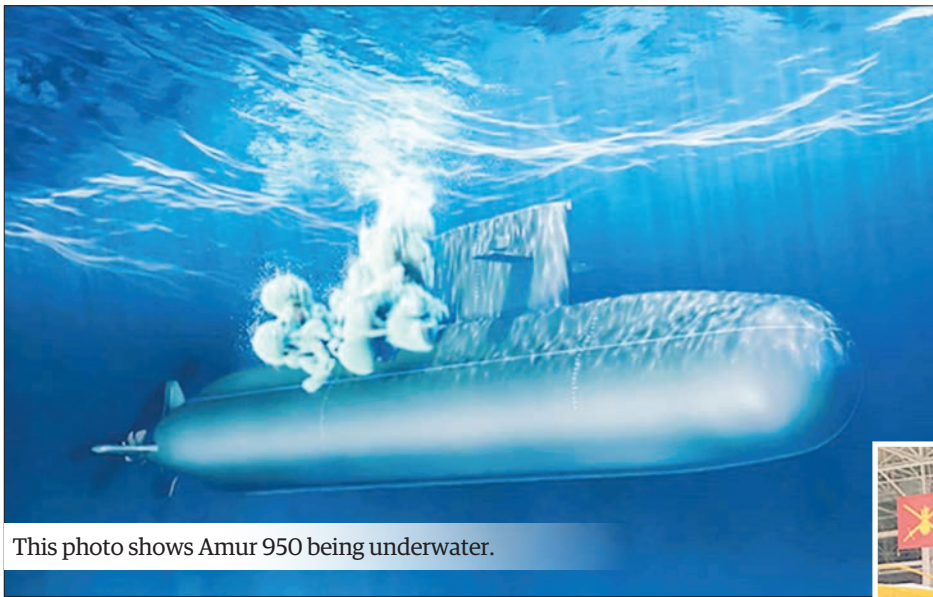
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# ARTICLE/SCI/TECH WORLD

## ARMY-2024: Amur 950 with Vertical Launchers - a Floating Battery for Salvo Firing



This photo shows Amur 950 being underwater.

**AT** the Army 2024 show, Rubin Design Bureau, the leading Russian developer of submarines, unveiled the conventional Amur 950 ocean submarine with vertical launchers. In fact, according to the company, it is a floating battery capable of inflicting a powerful preventive salvo strike upon opponent's ships and shore-based facilities.

Low noise characteristics and sonar equipment, which ensures high

cognizance, make the boat perfectly suitable for reconnaissance and covert surveillance operations. 30-day endurance enables Amur 950 to operate as far as up to 1,000 miles from the shore. Its full submerged speed is 20 knots. The complement is 19 people. The vessel's displacement is about 1,000 tonnes.

Due to its small displacement and technical solutions implemented by Rubin during the creation of the

third- and fourth-generation conventional submarines, the Amur 950 is a primary platform for designing national submarines to meet the requirements of customers — Navies.

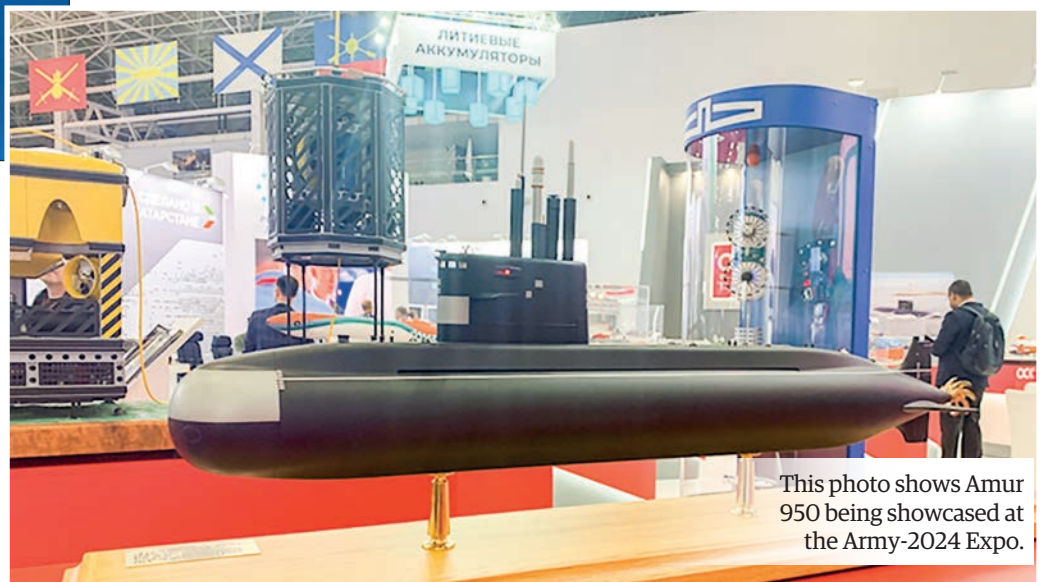
Igor Vilnit, General Director of the Rubin Central Design Bureau, spoke about Amur 950, answering questions from Rossiyskaya Gazeta newspaper (RG):

“Thanks to such a launch system, a small-displacement submarine turns into a floating salvo battery. Until recently, only

four countries in the world, including Russia, had experience in creating submarines with VPU. Now, the number of countries developing submarines with such weapons has increased, which indicates the undoubted demand for this solution.”

“Rubin Design Bureau possesses and elaborates all necessary technologies, and these can be offered to customers,” announced Rubin's press service during the ARMY-2024.

The Central Design Bureau for Marine Engineering Rubin is the largest in Russia among marine engineering companies offering design services. Since its start in 1901, the company's activities have inseparably been linked with national defence, with over 85 per cent of submarines in the Soviet and later Russian Navy built to the designs of Rubin, including several generations of strategic missile cruiser submarines. — Rubin Press Service



This photo shows Amur 950 being showcased at the Army-2024 Expo.

## 16,000 test licences for autonomous vehicles issued in China

*32,000 kilometres of roads across China have been opened for autonomous vehicle testing.*

TO date, Chinese public security authorities have issued a total of 16,000 test licences for autonomous vehicles, the Ministry of Public Security announced on Tuesday.



An autonomous vehicle undergoes road testing at an autonomous driving demonstration area in Yizhuang in Beijing, capital of China, 19 June 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

At a press conference in Beijing, the ministry also revealed that 32,000 kilometres of roads nationwide have been opened for autonomous vehicle testing. These initiatives have provided strong support for the advancement of autonomous driving technology in China, said Wang Qiang, a senior official from the ministry.

He noted that the ministry has collaborated with relevant authorities, including the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and the Ministry of Transport, to improve management and support for the autonomous driving industry.

Over the years, regulations and law provisions have been formulated or revised to govern various aspects of the industry in China, including road testing, registration, and traffic safety liability for driverless vehicles. — Xinhua

## SpaceX to launch historic mission featuring first private spacewalk

SPACEX is poised for another attempt at launching a daring orbital expedition featuring an all-civilian crew that is aiming to carry out the first-ever spacewalk by private citizens.

The Polaris Dawn mission, organized by billionaire entrepreneur Jared Isaacman is now set to lift off from NASA's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida during a four-hour window beginning on Wednesday at 3:38 am local time (0738 GMT), with backup opportunities available Thursday if required.

Weather conditions appeared 85 per cent favourable, according to a US Space Force forecast.

An earlier launch attempt on Tuesday was scrapped due to a helium leak on a line connecting the tower to the rocket.

Riding atop a Falcon 9 rocket, the SpaceX Dragon capsule is set to reach a peak altitude of 870 miles (1,400 kilometres) — higher than any crewed mission in more than half a century, since the Apollo era.

Mission commander Isaacman will guide his four-member team through the mission's centerpiece: the first-ever spacewalk carried out by non-professional astronauts, equipped with sleek, newly developed SpaceX extravehicular activity (EVA) suits. — AFP





Restoration work has left the central part of HMS Victory encased in scaffolding.

PHOTO: AFP

## Deathwatch beetle threat to celebrated British warship

*HMS Victory, the historic British warship renowned for its role in the Battle of Trafalgar, is undergoing a major £45 million renovation to address severe decay caused by rot and deathwatch beetles.*

HMS Victory has survived the cannonballs of Napoleon's navy, being rammed by another warship, a World War II bomb, even UK navy plans to scrap her.

But nearly 260 years after it was launched, Victory — emblem of British maritime heritage and scene of naval hero Horatio Nelson's death during the Battle of Trafalgar — is facing another equally deadly threat: the deathwatch beetle.

The 104-gun warship is

undergoing a £45 million (\$60 million) refit, which is one of the biggest of its kind carried out.

Visited each year by over 350,000 people in Portsmouth Dockyard on England's southern coast, Victory's huge renovation follows the unwelcome discovery that much of the wooden structure was affected by rot.

Shipwright surveys found that rain water had caused decay and created food for the

dreaded beetles.

Without urgent action Victory would have continued to degrade, ending in "catastrophic structural failure", conservation project manager Simon Williams told AFP.

Visitors to the ship currently find it's middle section encased in scaffolding to allow a team of shipwrights to painstakingly replace parts of the "frames" — described as the vessel's ribs. — AFP

## Ghouls, Gotham and Gaga as Venice film festival opens

THE Venice Film Festival kicks off Wednesday with a devilish debut of Tim Burton's "Beetlejuice" sequel and a surge of star power for the glitzy competition on the sun-splashed Lido.

Lady Gaga, George Clooney, Daniel Craig, Julianne Moore and Brad Pitt are among the A-listers expected in Italy's watery city for this year's edition of the world's longest-running festival, known as

"La Mostra".

Arriving via water taxi from across the Venetian lagoon for the 10-day event, the celebrities will return some big-budget Hollywood pizzazz to the venerated festival following a low-key edition last year due to the Hollywood strike. First up is the out-of-competition world premiere of "Beetlejuice Beetlejuice", featuring Michael Keaton as the chaos-causing

ghoul alongside Winona Ryder, Catherine O'Hara and Monica Bellucci.

Then on Thursday, all eyes are on Angelina Jolie, making a star turn as Maria Callas in "Maria", Pablo Larrain's biopic about the opera diva's tormented life.

It is among 21 international films vying for the top Golden Lion prize to be awarded 7 September. — AFP

## Oasis hometown abuzz after reunion tour announced

IN Manchester, the northwest English hometown of legendary rockers Oasis, fans on Tuesday were gushing about the seemingly impossible — the band was getting back together for a worldwide tour next year.

"It's about time," said Ralph Clare, sat in his wheelchair in front of a giant mural of Liam and Noel Gallagher, whose 15-year feud had left many fans wondering if they would ever play together again.

"I got a bit fed up with all the arguments... It's fantastic news — the best news ever," the 82-year-old said.

"Their music, because it's local, it means more. Just the sound of them... gets your feet going!"

The retiree lives in the south of the city, near where the long-squabbling Oasis siblings grew up in Burnage.

It is peppered with band history, old and new, including the recently painted mural outside Sifters Records where the brothers used buy records as teenagers.

They namecheck the store in hit song "Shakermaker", with the lyrics "Mister Sifter sold me songs / When I was just 16."

Inside, still selling records after the band behind the song broke up and then got back together, Pete Howard — or Mr Sifter, as he is known — says the announcement came "out of the blue". — AFP



Oasis fans in front of a mural created by the Manchester-based street artist Pic.One.Art. at Sifters Records in Manchester. PHOTO: PAUL ELLIS / AFP

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Buenos Aires 'taxi dancers' glide tourists through daunting tango scene

IN Buenos Aires, "taxi dancers" provide a crucial service for tango enthusiasts struggling to navigate the complex tango scene. For many visitors, dancing the tango is a dream, but the intricate steps and social pressures of "milongas" (dance events) can be overwhelming.

Taxi dancers like David Tolosa assist novices, offering not only dance partnership but also guidance on the subtle etiquette, such as the "cabeceo" (a non-verbal dance invitation).

This support is particularly valuable for solo women or those new to the tango community, who may otherwise face long waits or impatient reactions from experienced dancers. Taxi dancers charge around \$50 per hour and are especially busy during Buenos Aires' annual Tango Festival in August.

Agencies such as TangoTaxiDancers also offer similar services, helping tourists gain confidence and fully experience the tango culture. — AFP



# ECONOMY WORLD



Chile is the world's top exporter of copper, a crucial metal for the energy transition as it conducts electricity. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Chile hopes to advance trade treaty with India

CHILEAN Foreign Minister Alberto Van Klaveren on Wednesday termed India as a "very important partner" for Chile and hoped to advance bilateral ties to Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) agreement.

Klaveren who arrived on Tuesday on a two-day official visit to India participated in the second India-Chile Joint Commission Meeting co-chaired by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.

Chile is a key partner of India in the Latin American region and as per the External Affairs Ministry Klaveren's visit will provide both sides an opportunity to review the progress in bilateral relations and explore new avenues for cooperation, further strengthening bilateral ties.

Speaking to ANI, Klaveren said India "is a very important

partner for Chile". "We admire India for its growth, for its culture, for its civilization. And we think that there is a big potential to expand our ties with India, to strengthen our ties with India, both in economic terms and also in political terms."

Ahead of the India-Chile Joint Commission Meeting today Klaveren said, "We hope very much that we can strengthen our mutual relations."

On CEPA negotiations with India, the Chilean minister stated, "Precisely one of our objectives with respect to India is to advance to a CEPA agreement. We have already made necessary studies for that. We have also analyzed terms of reference and well we hope that the next step will be the initiation of negotiations. We know that that takes time, but we think we are confident that we're going to be successful." — ANI

## Japan antitrust watchdog to set up new section to regulate IT giants

*A new Japanese law aiming to prevent tech giants from restricting third-party companies in the app market is expected to come into effect by the end of 2025.*

JAPAN'S antitrust watchdog plans to set up a new section to regulate and investigate tech giants amid accusations they use their dominant position in the smartphone app market to hinder fair competition, sources close to the matter said Wednesday.

The Japan Fair Trade Commission's new section will be set up next April at the earliest with around 50 officials, the sources said. It will also strengthen cooperation with foreign counterparts to monitor IT giants such as Google LLC and Apple Inc, which provide the Android and iOS smartphone operating systems, respectively.

The organizational revamp comes as a new Japanese law to restrict tech giants from limiting third-party companies from selling and operating apps is set to take effect by the end of 2025.

Currently, only 14 officials at the fair trade commission are involved in regulating tech gi-



Apple became the first US company to hit a \$3 trillion valuation. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

ants. In addition to 35 new staff, the section will get a director general-level official to lead it, the sources said.

The commission will request 17.4 billion yen (\$120 million) for the section in the budget for fiscal 2025, up 43 per cent from the initial fiscal 2024 budget.

The new law, enacted in June, follows similar regulations introduced by the European Union in March that are being implemented by around 100 personnel. Britain is also set to bring in legislation targeting IT giants, with plans to allocate around 200 people to oversee them. — Kyodo



Egypt and Sudan have voiced concerns about the operation of Ethiopia's GERD dam without a three-way agreement, fearing it could threaten their access to vital Nile waters. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

## Ethiopia says mega-dam doubles electricity output

ETHIOPIA said it has more than doubled electricity production from its controversial mega-dam on the Blue Nile after two more turbines started operations.

The multi-billion-dollar Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), long a source of tensions with downstream nations Egypt and Sudan, is now generating 1,550 megawatts of electricity, GERD said in a post on X late Tuesday.

"The overall progress of the GERD has now transitioned from

construction phase to operation phase," it said, adding that construction of the concrete dam was now complete. "The two turbines generating 400MW each have now started operations, adding to the already functional two turbines generating 375MW each, totalling an output of 1,550MW." Ethiopia first began generating electricity at the dam in February 2022. It is ultimately expected to produce more than 5,000 megawatts, more than doubling Ethiopia's current output. — AFP



## Beijing Daxing airport expands business aviation

*The newly opened FBO provides comprehensive services for general aviation, including refuelling, maintenance, and hangar access, and features a 24-hour international passenger channel.*



The terminal building of the Beijing Daxing International Airport in Beijing, capital of China. **PHOTO: CAI YANG/XINHUA/FILE**

THE Beijing Daxing International Airport on Tuesday opened the international passenger channel of its fixed-base operator (FBO) as well as a maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility for business jets.

Business aviation is an important part of civil aviation transport, and the latest move will greatly promote the develop-

ment of business aviation at Beijing Daxing airport, said Jia Jianqing, deputy general manager of Capital Airports Holdings Co Ltd. FBO offers a wide range of services to general aviation aircraft, including refueling, maintenance and hangar facilities.

The FBO's international passenger channel, open 24 hours a day, aims

to become the top entry and exit choice for business aviation, offering high-quality services for business travellers and VIPs worldwide.

The Daxing airport FBO will focus on international flights, medical emergency services, aircraft maintenance, aviation tourism and low-altitude business. — Xinhua

## Vietnam's coconut exports to reach US\$1 bln in 2024

VIETNAM'S coconut exports are projected to hit US\$1 billion this year, driven by the signing of a protocol for official export of fresh coconuts to China earlier this month, Vietnam News reported, citing the Vietnam Coconut Association, on Wednesday.

The newspaper quoted Nguyen Huu Tai, a

farmer with 1 hectare of coconut trees in Ben Tre Province, as saying that the protocol was good news for coconut growers, as opening up the Chinese market will develop a stable consumption market for coconuts and avoid falling prices.

The Vietnam Fruit and Vegetable Associa-

tion expected the export of fresh coconut to increase by around \$200-300 million by the end of the year and continue to grow significantly in the near future.

Vietnam's fresh coconut exports reached around 800 million dollars in the 2022-2023 period with China being the biggest importer. — Xinhua

## Hyundai Motor aims to sell 5.55 mln cars, including 2 mln EVs, by 2030

SOUTH Korea's biggest carmaker Hyundai Motor on Wednesday announced its new long-term strategy that aims to globally sell 5.55 million cars per year, including two million electric vehicles (EVs), by 2030 through the expansion of hybrid lineup and the introduction of new EV technology.

To bolster the 2030 global sales target, up 30 per cent from its 2023 performance, Hyundai planned to invest 120.5 trillion won (US\$90.1 billion) for the next 10 years, comprising an investment of \$40.7 billion in research and development, \$38.6 billion in

capital expenditure and \$10.8 billion in strategic investment.

Under the "Hyundai Way" strategy, the automaker planned to expand its hybrid lineup from its

current seven models to 14, applying its hybrid system beyond compact and midsize cars to small, large and luxury vehicles including its luxury brand Genesis.— Xinhua



People watch an EV (electric vehicle) platform displayed during the Seoul Mobility Show at the KINTEX exhibition hall in Goyang, South Korea, 31 March 2023.

**PHOTO: WANG YILIANG/XINHUA**

## Weight-loss drug Zepbound on sale in vials at half price

US drug-maker Eli Lilly will begin offering its popular new weight-loss drug Zepbound in vials, in addition to standard injection-pen devices, at about half the price of the original for certain doses, The Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday.

To date, Zepbound has been packaged in a single device, an injection pen that contains both the drug and the needle. Patients press a button on one end to insert a needle on the other end that delivers the dose. With the new vials, patients will use a syringe to draw out their dose and then to inject themselves.

Indianapolis-based Lilly said it is rolling out the vials largely to help boost overall supplies, in response to high demand, because vials are easier to make than injection pens. — Xinhua

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL-4 VOY.NO. (03N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL-4 VOY. NO. (03N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-8-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMT** 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 MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS  
COMPANY LIMITED**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V LUDWIG SCHULTE VOY.NO. (432W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V LUDWIG SCHULTE VOY.NO. (432W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-8-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** 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 MAERSK A/S.**



# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

# India calls for urgent reform in UN Security Council negotiations

AT a recent United Nations (UN) forum, India Ambassador Yojna Patel, Deputy Permanent Representative of India, reiterated the call for a more decisive and transparent approach to the reform of the Security Council, emphasizing the need for text-based negotiations to address long-standing issues.

Ambassador Patel expressed gratitude for the efforts by the co-chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) process, particularly highlighting initiatives like the digital repository and webcasting that were introduced to enhance discussions.

However, she noted that despite these initiatives, progress remains slow and falls short of expectations given the critical nature of the issue.

Central to India's position is the urgent need for text-based negotiations within the

*Patel expressed dissatisfaction with the Elements Paper on UNSC reform, pointing out its contradictions and the inclusion of contentious references, such as cross-regional groupings, which lack consensus.*



The UN Security Council during a debate in New York on 19 May 2022. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

IGN framework.

Patel pointed out that, unlike other multilateral processes, the discussions on UNSC reform have yet to adopt text-based negotiations, a practice crucial for substantive progress. This delay is increasingly problematic as global crises continue to challenge the effectiveness of the Council.

The Ambassador also criticized the Elements Paper, a document that summarizes input on UNSC reforms. She highlighted its shortcomings, including contradictory references and a lack of consensus on certain points.

For instance, a reference to cross-regional groupings in the Convergences section of the Elements Paper was included despite the lack of consensus, which Patel described as misleading and counterproductive.

— ANI

## IAEA chief warns of risk of nuclear incident in Russia's Kursk region

DIRECTOR-GENERAL of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael Grossi on Tuesday warned of a risk of a nuclear incident at the Kursk nuclear power plant due to the conflict nearby.

"There is a risk of a nuclear incident here now," Grossi said after visiting the plant in Russia's Kursk region at the

invitation of Russian President Vladimir Putin to assess the situation and work with Russian colleagues on solutions to current issues.

Following his visit to its main facilities, Grossi noted that the nuclear plant is operating under nearly normal conditions.

Grossi said he was in-

formed about attempted drone attacks on the plant's facilities, adding that he personally saw "traces of these attacks". He noted that military activity near the nuclear plant ultimately raises security concerns.

Russia accused Ukraine on Friday of trying to attack the Kursk nuclear power station. The drone fragments were reportedly located roughly 100 metres from the plant's spent fuel nuclear storage facility.

The IAEA can propose a range of technical steps and measures aimed at ensuring nuclear safety, Grossi noted.

He said the UN nuclear watchdog has already established a framework for cooperation with Russia's state nuclear power conglomerate Rosatom, representatives of the Russian armed forces, security forces, and the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — Xinhua



IAEA head Rafael Grossi visits the Kursk nuclear power plant, 50 kilometres (30 miles) from fighting between Russian and Ukrainian forces. PHOTO: AFP

### BRIEFS: WORLD

#### DPRK top leader oversees test-firing of rocket launcher

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), oversaw on Tuesday a test-firing of the 240-millimetre multiple rocket launch system in production at defence industrial enterprises under the Second Economic Commission, the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported Wednesday.

KCNA said the rocket launcher has been technically updated on its maneuverability and concentrated firing capability, and the test-firing verified the advantages of the weapon system in terms of its newly applied guiding system, controllability and destructive power. — Xinhua

#### US special counsel files new indictment against Trump

US Special Counsel Jack Smith on Tuesday filed a new indictment in the federal criminal case against former President Donald Trump, the Republican presidential nominee, following a Supreme Court decision that granted Trump sweeping immunity from prosecution for his "official" conduct as president.

The new indictment dropped certain specific allegations against Trump but retains the same four criminal charges, including conspiracy to defraud the United States and conspiracy to obstruct an official proceeding. — Xinhua



# SPORTS



Mamardashvili impressed at Euro 2024, helping Georgia reach the last 16. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

## Georgia goalkeeper Mamardashvili to join Liverpool in 2025

LIVERPOOL announced the signing of goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili from Valencia on Tuesday but the Georgia international will not arrive at Anfield until next season.

Mamardashvili shone during his nation's first ever major tournament at Euro 2024 as Georgia reached the last 16 before bowing out to eventual winners Spain.

"Liverpool have reached an agreement for the transfer of Giorgi Mamardashvili, subject to a work permit and international

clearance — with the Valencia goalkeeper set to move to Anfield ahead of the 2025-26 season," Liverpool said in a statement.

"The Reds have secured a deal for the 23-year-old that will see him stay in Spain for the remainder of the current campaign with Los Che before switching to Merseyside next summer".

Liverpool will reportedly pay 30 million euros (£25 million, \$34 million) plus a further five million euros in add-ons for their first signing of the transfer window. — AFP

## MBC boxing event returns for 2<sup>nd</sup> showdown on 26 Sept

THE Myanmar Boxing Commission (MBC) has announced that the second MBC professional boxing event will be held on 26 September. The event is organized to increase the records of participants in MBC Professional Boxing, to pave the way for them to participate in JBC competitions, and to issue MBC professional boxer licenses.

The cash award will be in -



creased, and both the winners and quality performers from the previous event, including those who lost, will be allowed to compete again. The registration date for participants, as well as the weight classes and eligibility criteria, will be announced soon.

The first MBC professional boxing event was held on 20 August, featuring ten bouts, including a women's fight between Naw

Ohnma Soe and Ei Ei Htwe. The winners were awarded official medals by the World Boxing Commission (WBC).

The event featured national athletes, state and regional champions, traditional boxers, and emerging talents, with free admission for spectators. — TWA/KZL

The first MBC boxing event in action on 20 August 2024.

## China's Wang Xinyu advances to US Open second round

OLYMPIC mixed doubles silver medallist Wang Xinyu staged a comeback victory at the ongoing US Open, defeating Australian qualifier Arina Rodionova 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 in the first round of the women's singles on Tuesday.

"It took some time to adapt to the court and read my opponent's shots at the beginning. Actually, I was the first to be broken, but I still played my own game firmly in the end," Wang said.

This is Wang's second time advancing to the second round of the US Open, after reaching the round of 16 here last year.

Elsewhere, Wang's compatriot Zhang Shuai and Zheng Saisai both failed to advance to the next round in the women's singles.

Wang's mixed doubles partner at the Paris Olympics, Zhang Zhizhen, faced a completely different situation in the first round of the men's singles. Due to injury, he chose to withdraw from the match against Britain's Jack Draper in the third set. "I don't want to play the upcoming Asian season and possibly the European season with injuries. There are still five or six weeks of matches to play, so I don't want to risk a serious injury just to compete in the Grand Slam this time," Zhang said. — Xinhua

## Champions League expands, overhauls format

THE 2024/25 UEFA Champions League introduces a revamped format with significant changes. The number of participating clubs increases from 32 to 36.

This expansion includes an additional spot for the fifth-ranked European league, now France's Ligue 1, and extra places for the top two leagues from the previous season, Germany and Italy. A national champion from the qualifiers also secures a spot. Gone are the traditional group stages with eight groups of four. Instead, the 36 teams will compete in a single league using a "Swiss system," akin to chess tournaments.

Each team will play eight matches, facing two teams from each of four seeded pots, home and away. This change aims to feature more high-profile matchups early in the competition and will result in 144 league phase games, up from the previous 96. — AFP



The UEFA Champions League is expanding from 32 teams to 36. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

## 3,000 clubs to be accessible to disabled people in France after Paralympics

FRANCE has decided to make it a nationwide project to make 3,000 clubs accessible to people with disabilities, IPC President Andrew Parsons said at a press conference here on Tuesday.

As a legacy of Paris 2024 Paralympics, the measure aims to support people with disabilities who want to go back to school and have better inclusion, and they will have coaches and physical education teachers in the clubs who know how to welcome them, Parsons noted.

Taking the chance of the Olympics and Paralympics, other projects focusing on inclusion and accessibility throughout the country have also been launched, where the French government has announced an investment of 1.5 billion euros (around US\$1.673 billion) while the city of Paris is investing 125 million euros (about \$139.44 million).

"Previously, our benchmark was Beijing, they have invested a similar amount," said Parsons, adding that Paris has made noticeable progress over the past seven years in improving the transport system and making them more accessible. — Xinhua





solutions from across the solar and energy storage sector, the expo is poised to mark a pivotal moment in advancing sustainable energy solutions in South Africa and across international borders.

Solar & Storage Live Cape Town 2024

*With more than 150 global exhibitors, the event focuses on advancing solar and energy storage solutions.*

aims to bring together industry leaders, innovators, policymakers, and investors to discuss the latest trends, technologies, and strategies in solar energy and energy storage, according to the organizers.

The two-day event will feature a comprehensive agenda filled with insightful sessions, panel discussions, and networking opportunities designed to foster collaboration and innovation in the renewable energy sector. It will also offer practical training and workshops tailored for installers and contractors.

“The event will highlight the critical role of renewable energy in addressing the country’s energy challenges, promoting energy security, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. By bringing together key stakeholders, the event aims to accelerate the adoption of solar and storage technologies, driving the transition to a sustainable and resilient energy system,” said the organizers. — Xinhua

People attend Solar & Storage Live 2024 in Cape Town, South Africa, on 27 August 2024. PHOTO: XABISO MKHABELA/XINHUA

## Solar energy event kicks off in South Africa’s Cape Town

SOLAR & Storage Live 2024, a premier gathering for professionals and stakeholders in the renewable energy sector, kicked off on Tuesday in Cape Town, the legislative capital of

South Africa.

Held on 27-28 August at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), this event is expected to attract over 5,000 attendees, including energy

providers, government representatives, investors, installers, and end-users.

With more than 150 exhibitors from all over the world gathering at the CTICC, showcasing cutting-edge products and

### THE SM-DEEP HOLE

#### Indian woman falls into sinkhole

AUTHORITIES are continuing their search to locate an Indian national, Vijaya Lakshmi Gali, who fell into a sinkhole in Malaysia’s Kuala Lumpur on 23 August, the Indian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur said on Wednesday.

According to the Indian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur, search and rescue (SAR) teams have been methodically deducing newer probable paths and likely locations of the missing Indian woman.

Vijaya Lakshmi Gali (48) a tourist in the country disappeared after falling into the eight-metre-deep hole, Malaysia-based The Star reported. She was walking to a temple for breakfast when the ground suddenly caved in.

In a post on X, the Indian High Commission in Malaysia stated, “The search continues to locate Indian citizen (Ms Vijaya Lakshmi Gali) who fell into a sinkhole in Kuala Lumpur on Friday 23 August. — ANI

## Saudi Arabia to host global AI summit to propel innovation

SAUDI Arabia is set to host the third edition of the Global AI Summit from 10 to 12 September, aiming to establish the kingdom as a global leader in artificial intelligence (AI) and to emphasize the role of governments in leveraging AI for economic growth,

the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported on Tuesday.

The summit, themed “Leveraging AI for the Betterment of Humanity,” will take place in Riyadh. It will address topics such as ethical AI development and AI applications in urban life, focusing on transport, urban design, mental health, and resource management. It will also address the role of AI in governance, according to SPA.

“The summit will delve into AI’s current capabilities, its future, and the ethical boundaries we must establish to ensure its beneficial impact on society,” said Abdullah bin Sharaf Alghamdi, president of the Saudi Data & Artificial Intelligence Authority, the organizer. The summit will gather over 300 experts and speakers from 100 countries and feature more than 120 interactive sessions and workshops. These will explore diverse aspects of AI, including generative AI and its integration into smart cities, as stated by the organizer. — Xinhua



Meet Desdemona, a humanoid robot employing AI to understand and care about people. PHOTO: AFP