

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

SUNDAY EDITION

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After attending the second cash donation ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw, Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presents foodstuffs to students at BEPS in Ahsonzeegon Village, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Government to aid flood-damaged homes

Businesspersons were requested to invest in agricultural tasks like capital to be delivered by the State.

The Senior General expressed that the first cash donation amounted to more than K32.2 billion and the second cash donation, more than K10 billion for rehabilitation measures in flood-affected areas.

Chairman of the State Administration

Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing expressed his thanks to all contributors for their cash donations to take relief and rehabilitation measures in the flood-stricken areas triggered by Typhoon Yagi.

SEE PAGE 4

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the second cash donation ceremony for the flood-affected regions

1. The government pledged to fulfil the needs of damaged houses in flooding as much as it can.
2. Businesspersons were requested to invest in agricultural tasks like capital to be delivered by the State.
3. The first cash donation amounted to more than K32.2 billion, and the second cash donation, more than K10 billion, for rehabilitation measures in flood-impacted areas.

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NATIONAL



One (1) day remains until the National Census.



Promoting Forest Establishment: A Collaborative Effort to Reduce Disaster Risk and Combat Deforestation

- Establishing forests can help reduce disaster risk; therefore, forest plantations should be developed in relevant village-tracts. Officials must collaborate with the community to successfully establish forests nationwide.
- A united effort is needed to prevent deforestation and to promote stewardship with a national spirit.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the Union government meeting 4/2024 on 22 April 2024)



Objectives of 25th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2024

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

Health services and donations provided to flood-hit areas



S&R measures are ongoing in the flood-impacted areas.

HEALTH services and donations have been swiftly organized for impacted communities in response to the recent floods across nations, including Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Combined efforts from Tatmadaw, police, firefighters, Red Cross, and social welfare associations have been mobilized to aid recovery efforts in various towns and villages, such as Lewe Township in Nay Pyi Taw, Kalaw and Hopong townships in southern Shan State, Loikaw in Kayah State, Tachilek in eastern Shan State, Yamethin in Mandalay Region and Toungoo in Bago Region. These teams have provided crucial assistance, such as relocating people, cleaning public facilities like schools, monasteries, and hospitals, and clearing debris on roads and bridges, including fallen trees.

Additionally, temporary shelters have been established for displaced families, where medical teams have been providing essential healthcare and educational talks on hygiene. Tatmadaw members, various organizations, and donors have also contributed supplies, clothing, food, and financial assistance to the affected communities and monks.

Chief ministers and officials have visited these areas to provide support, ensuring that necessary resources like food, supplies, and funds are distributed. Efforts to restore damaged infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, are also underway, with temporary Bailey bridges being installed to restore connectivity quickly. Further repairs are being expedited to ensure the complete restoration of transportation routes in the flood-impacted regions. — MNA/KZL

WEATHER REPORT

Special Weather News

Issued at 19:00 hours MST on 28-9-2024

ACCORDING to the observations at 17:30 hours MST today, due to the Western disturbance, development of cumulonimbus clouds and the convergence of warm air from the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal and cold air from the China high pressure system, rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady regions and Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon states with likelihood of regionally and isolated heavyfalls and strong wind from 1 October 2024 to 5 October 2024.

Advisory
People should be aware the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strike, lightning, hails, flash flood and landslide in the hilly areas and near small rivers and inland water transport and domestic flight. — DMH

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 18:00 hours MST on 28-9-2024)


ACCORDING to the 17:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Madauk has exceeded by about 1.5 feet above its danger level. It may fall from the present water level by about 0.5 foot during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

It is especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas in Madauk to stay away from the flood-prone areas. — DMH

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News and Periodicals Enterprise



NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

(Excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects the repair work of five fallen towers along the 230 kV Thazi-Shwemyo national grid near the Kintha junction in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday.

Repairs in Nay Pyi Taw accelerate

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, union ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and officials, inspected the progress of rehabilitation measures in damaged parts in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday morning.

The Senior General and party viewed the Muntegwin-Kyitaung-Khawma-Nyaungbintha route by car. At Paunglaung Bridge (Awayya) in Pyinmana Township, Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant reported on damage and loss in flooding along the road sector and the progress of repairing.

The Senior General stressed the need to repair damage to the road section linking the Pyinmana and Zeyathiri districts for the improvement of transport facilities and gave guidance on the upgrade of the road sector and the bridge.

He also inspected the progress of installing a bailey bridge on the damaged approach road to Paunglaung Bridge (Awayya) on the bank of Pyinmana, which was eroded by the flood.

The Senior General looked into repairing the broken bund of the right canal from Paunglaung (Awayya Dam).

It is necessary to upgrade the Muntegwin-Kyitaung-Khawma-Nyaungbintha route through a systematic survey due to the people's travel.

In his instructions, the Senior General underlined that repairing works must focus on long-term existence. Dredging drains must be done at different levels of water flow, and these facilities must be inspected yearly.

The Senior General inspected the clearing of silt and debris at the Basic Education High School Branch in Hsinthay Village and instructed officials to reopen the school as quickly as possible.

He cordially greeted members of the Myanmar Police Force and firefighters who participated in cleaning up silt and debris at the school and presented cash awards to them.

He also viewed the conditions of Nyaungbintha village road and underscored the soonest completion of re-

moving damaged parts and debris. He emphasized that it is necessary to upgrade the Muntegwin-Kyitaung-Khawma-Nyaungbintha route through a systematic survey due to the people's travel.

At Kyaukchet Village BSHE in Zeyathiri Township, the Senior General viewed round cleaning up the school, learning of students and provision of stationery and school textbooks by the Ministry of Education.

He also inspected repairing the piers of Thaikchaung Bridge crossing Hsinthay Creek on the Pobbathiri circular road linking Zeyathiri and Pobbathiri townships, where the Union Minister for Construction and officials reported on the progress of repairing works.

In his response, the Senior General

stressed the need to consider systematic repairing of the bridge for long-term existence with resilience to natural disasters and presented foodstuffs to construction workers.

During the trip along the Nay Pyi Taw-Tatkon route, the Senior General inspected repairing the five fallen towers along the 230 kV Thazi-Shwemyo national grid near Kintha junction and four towers along the 230 kV Shwemyo-Nay Pyi Taw-2 national grid. In his instructions, he noted that the erection of towers must be existent for the long run with safety measures.

The Senior General visited flooded BEPS in Ahsonzeegon Village, where he viewed the learning of students and presented foodstuffs to teachers and students. He also gave foodstuffs to police and firefighters for their efforts in clearing debris.

On arrival at Nawin Creek Bridge (Ahson), the Senior General looked into the completion of building a Bailey bridge on the eroded approach road and repairing the approach structure of the bridge.

— MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Government to aid flood-damaged homes

FROM PAGE 1

At the second cash donation ceremony for flood-affected areas held at the city hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon, the Senior General accepted cash donations and spoke words of thanks.

Speaking on occasion, the Senior General said that the government pledged to fulfil the needs of damaged houses in flooding as much as it can.

He underlined that suitable crops should be planted in the arable lands damaged by the recent Typhoon Yagi.

He requested businesspersons to invest in agricultural tasks like capital to be delivered by the State, adding that all businesspersons have to consider rehabilitation of the livestock breeding sector.

The Senior General urged well-wishers to participate in education promotion plans for citizens as the government is striving for the soonest opening of schools in flood-inflicted areas.

The Senior General expressed that the first cash donation amounted to more than K32.2 billion and the second cash donation, more than K10 billion for rehabilitation measures in flood-battered areas.

At the ceremony, a video clip on har-



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing cordially greets well-wishers at yesterday's event in Nay Pyi Taw.

monious participation in the rehabilitation of flood-impacted areas to overcome the challenges of natural disasters was presented.

The Senior General accepted cash donations from region and state governments and staff, as well as well-wishers at home and abroad, and returned cer-

tificates of honour.

Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Council members General Mya Tun Oo, Admiral Tin Aung San, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and General Nyo

Saw accepted cash donations from region and state governments, staff, organizations and well-wishers and presented certificates of honour.

At the ceremony, well-wishers donated more than K10.5 billion for relief and rehabilitation measures to be taken in flood-hit regions. — MNA/TTA

Myanmar Ambassador speaks on PEOP Certification for ASEAN-China Trade



This picture captures Myanmar Ambassador U Tin Maung Swe delivering the speech on the occasion.

MYANMAR Ambassador to China U Tin Maung Swe delivered remarks at the opening ceremony of the Seminar on Protected Eco-Origin Product (PEOP) Certification for Promoting Sustainable Development in International Trade in the ASEAN-China Area, held at the Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre on 25 September, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The event took place under the framework of the 21st ASEAN-China Expo in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

In his speech, U Tin Maung Swe emphasized the significance of the seminar in deepening coopera-

tion in sustainable development to promote eco-friendly products that feature characteristics of origin, aligning with green, low-carbon, energy-saving, and circular economy requirements. Furthermore, the seminar aims to enhance the protection of eco-origin products, which not only possess specific characteristics and high quality derived from their origins but also meet strategic production and processing requirements without harming the environment.

He further stated that investment in green technologies, eco-friendly systems, and carbon reduction innovations will help conserve the environment. He also invited foreign investors to

participate in green development initiatives in Myanmar.

The opening ceremony was attended by prominent figures, including the Member of the Party Committee, the Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CCPCC), the Secretary of the Party Group of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, the Deputy Secretary General of the 13th National Committee of the CCPCC, the Secretary General of the ASEAN-China Centre, ministerial-level leaders, government representatives from China and ASEAN, economists, industry experts, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders, totalling around 200 guests. — ASH/TMT

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
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NATIONAL

Weekly Roundup

22 September

Govt to allocate K30 billion plus contributions of well-wishers

The government plans to spend K30 billion on rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures with cash donations from well-wishers, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the ceremony to accept cash donations from well-wishers for undertaking rescue, relief and resettlement measures in flood-affected areas triggered by Typhoon Yagi in Myanmar at the city hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

25 September

PyinOoLwin station urged to enhance security, peace and stability measures

Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing stressed the need to systematically take local security and peaceful and stable measures in PyinOoLwin Station, adding local Tatmadaw units must cooperate with residents to undertake security measures for the regions and residents.

DSA, DSTA cadets choose military corps

Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the choice of arms for cadets of the 67th Intake of Defence Services Academy and those from the 27th Intake of Defence Services Technological Academy separately. Those cadets chose relevant corps of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) depending on the outstanding endeavours, hobbies and diligence of each cadet in literature and military arts.

Sitagu Sayadaw donates cash to fund for flood-affected people



State Ovadacariya Shwegyin Nikaya Chairman Ganidhipati 16th Shwegyin Sangharaja Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academies and Sitagu Hospitals Abhidhaja Maharatthaguru Abhidhaja Aggamaha Saddhammajotika Mahadhammakathika Bahujanahitadhara Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Nyanissara donated US\$10,000 to State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, who, in the capacity of the National Disaster Management Committee Chairman at the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture in Nay Pyi Taw.

27 September

Second Amendment Law to Counter-Terrorism Law enacted

The State Administration Council enacted the Second Amendment Law to the Counter-Terrorism Law under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar as State Administration Council Law No 56/2024 on 26 September 2024.

Political issues should be resolved in political means

The Information Team of the State Administration Council issued a statement on 26 September, saying that considering the losses of the State due to armed struggle line and terrorism, ethnic armed organizations and PDF terrorists fighting against the State are invited to contact the State to solve the political problems in political ways through party politics or electoral processes in order to join hands with the people to emphasize durable peace and development by discarding the armed terrorism way.

28 September

Myanmar expects increased number of travellers in 2024

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing expressed his aspiration, saying that as the number of travellers in the first five months of 2024 amounted to more than 500,000, it is expected to increase the number of international travellers this year more than one million travellers of the previous year, at the ceremony to mark the World Tourism Day 2024 in Nay Pyi Taw.

Smooth arrangement for flood victims on their return

The people from relief camps should be arranged for their safe return to their respective regions, and all should work together to repair the destroyed materials, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the coordination meeting of National Disaster Management Committee in Nay Pyi Taw. — GNLM/TTA

18th World Rabies Day celebrated in Nay Pyi Taw

THE 18th World Rabies Day ceremony was celebrated at the hall of No 1 Basic Education High School in Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday morning.

Deputy Minister Dr Aung Gyi from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, along with departmental officials from the Department of Forest, the Department of Livestock and Aquaculture Research, and the Public Health Department, representatives from the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, the Myanmar Veterinary Council, the Myanmar Veterinary Association, and the Myanmar Livestock Federation, as well as the headmistress, teachers, and students of No 1 Basic Education High



Deputy Minister Dr Aung Gyi presents books written by Maung Aung to the headmistress of No 1 BEHS in Zeyathiri Township yesterday for the school library.

School, attended the ceremony.

In his address, the Deputy Minister stated that the theme

of World Rabies Day in 2024 is “Breaking Rabies Boundaries,” emphasizing the need

to overcome obstacles and actively participate in rabies eradication efforts. This theme aims to unite all stakeholders in a collective health awareness campaign to eliminate rabies through awareness activities and dog vaccination programmes. He also highlighted that the World Health Organization (WHO) reports rabies causes one death every 15 minutes, resulting in an estimated 55,000 to 70,000 deaths annually worldwide. Therefore, the ‘Zero Rabies Human Death by 2030’ project has been initiated globally. As Myanmar faces rabies outbreaks, it is crucial to reduce the incidence of rabies and achieve eradication by 2030. This goal requires collaborative efforts from all individuals and

stakeholders.

Following the speeches on rabies prevention and control, the Deputy Minister presented books written and compiled by Maung Aung to the school library, which the principal accepted.

Afterwards, the deputy minister and his team inspected the rabies vaccinations. Similar ceremonies were also held at No 3 Basic Education High School in Pynmana and No 14 Basic Education High School in Zabuthiri Township.

Furthermore, the deputy minister inspected the cleanup process at the Fisheries Department’s fish camp and oversaw the vaccination of 221 cattle before addressing the reported matters. — MNA/TRKM

NATIONAL

MMU and NMUC explore collaboration between maritime universities



FOSTERING potential collaboration between Myanmar Maritime University (MMU) and the Netherlands Maritime University College (NMUC) in Malaysia was highlighted during the meeting of the Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia with NMUC held on 26 September, according to Myanmar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Vice-President Mr Syed Waqar Hasan Zaidi of the NMUC in Johor, Malaysia, and U Aung Soe Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia, met at the Myanmar Embassy in Kuala Lumpur,

Malaysia. They exchanged ideas to foster collaboration between maritime universities.

That was the outcome of the Myanmar Ambassador meeting with the NMUC during the "Launching Ceremony of the International Conference on Maritime Logistics and Ports" held on 5 September at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre.

At the ceremony, they also discussed matters to explore possible future collaboration between the maritime institutions of the two countries. — ASH/KK

This photo shows the Myanmar Ambassador presenting the souvenir at the meeting emphasizing collaboration between maritime universities.

Miss Grand Myanmar ready for 12th Miss Grand International 2024



This photo depicts Miss Grand Myanmar 2024 Thae Su Nyein.

ACCORDING to Miss Grand Myanmar Thae Su Nyein, she will participate in the 12th Miss Grand International 2024, which will be held in Mexico in October. Starting 25 October, the

competition will begin, and more than 70 beauty pageants from around the world are expected to participate.

"I feel excited to participate since MGI is one of the major pageant competitions. I've prepared for my Pre-Evening Gown and National Costume. I'm so ready to take part in the 12th Miss Grand International 2024, as I had full training in Bangkok. I'll compete with confidence while all the representatives will try their best in the competition," Miss Thae Su Nyein said.

A stunning Pyu Era-inspired Myanmar national costume featuring mural paintings and 45 ticals of jewellery will be worn by Miss Myanmar Thae Su Nyein at the Miss Grand International 2024 National Costume competition. — ASH/TRKM



This photo captures visitors at the Taungthaman Bridge and Taungthaman Lake in the rising water period.

Taungthaman Bridge and Lake draw thousands of visitors in rainy season

ACCORDING to U Soe Win, secretary of the Taungthaman Bridge maintenance team, Taungthaman Bridge and Taungthaman Lake in Mandalay Region attract both local and foreign visitors this rainy season, with approximately 1,500 visitors on daily and 3,000 on each holiday.

This site is a popular tourist destination for both domestic and international travellers. "Recently, many visitors have been enjoying boat rides on Taungthaman Lake.

Around a thousand people come to relax at the Taungthaman Madhuca area, which has been set up as a leisure zone. Visitors especially appreciate the evening views of the lake. The area is safe and secure, and we encourage people to visit," said U Soe Win.

Visitors from Mandalay, PyinOoLwin, Taunggyi, and Yangon frequently come to the bridge and lake, while international tourists mostly hail from Thailand, Vietnam, and Korea. — ASH/TMT

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CBM to sell 5M yuan, 30M Thai baht for importers in coming week

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) notified on 27 September that it would sell five million yuan and 30 million Thai baht to importers through the foreign exchange trading platform in the coming week.

CBM sold US\$84,170 on 27 September, \$40,000 on 26 September, over \$12.8 million and 700,000 yuan on 25 September and \$22.6 million on 23 September.

CBM also announced on 20 September that it would inject \$30 million into the fuel oil sector. Then, it sold over \$1.2 million and 800,000 yuan on 20 September.

CBM pumped over \$8.5 million and two million baht on 19 September and over 3.2 million baht on 18 September into the financial market. According to the CBM's notification dated 17 September, it would sell 10 million Thai baht to importers on 18 September.

It also injected US\$30,000 on 17 September, \$5 million on 16 September, \$230,000, over 1.5 million yuan and over 956,000 baht on 13 September into the financial market.

CBM announced on 12 September that it would pump \$10 million into the



The facade of the Central Bank of Myanmar, in Nay Pyi Taw.

fuel oil sector and \$7 million into the edible oil sector through the foreign exchange trading platform. It sold \$12.4 million and 80 million baht on 4 September, \$90,000 on 5 September and \$100,000 on 6 September, respectively.

Moreover, CBM sold over \$190 million, 19 million yuan and 79 million baht in August.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and the currency devaluation. 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

Importers notified to follow reference prices starting from 30 Sept

IMPORTERS need to stick to pre-established reference prices starting from 30 August 2024 when seeking import licences and processing Customs declarations for imports, according to notification 12/2024 of the Trade Department released on 27 September.

The Customs Value Appraising Committee, consisting of officials of the Customs Department and Trade Department, revealed import reference prices on 6 August 2024 for 3,279 items (HS code 373 lines), with a view to ensuring the right price for imported goods.

The importers were notified to proceed to 1,958 items (HS code 136 lines) as per the reference prices set by the committee while seeking import licences or making Customs declarations for imports starting from 30 September 2024.

Import prices will be analyzed and changed accordingly. The reference prices can be observed on the Tradenet 2.0 system, the Trade Department stated. — NN/KK

MPA: 52 container vessels slated to arrive at Yangon Port in Oct

A total of 52 container vessels are scheduled to enter the Yangon Port in October, the Myanmar Port Authority announced.

Seven container vessels run each by Maersk A/S Line and SITC Shipping Line, six each by Cosco Shipping Line and Samudera Shipping Line, five by MSC Line, four by CMA CGM Line, three each by Ti2 Container Line, ONE Line and BLPL Shipping Line, two each by Evergreen Line, PIL Line and RCL Line, and one each by BAY Line and Land and Sea are slated to call in the Yangon Port in October.

Myanmar Port Authority has arranged maritime trade channels to handle increasing imports to meet domestic demand, bolster exports, and improve port capacity for significant arrivals in ships. Myanmar Port Authority notified that it would inform exporters and importers of ship arrival schedules in a timely manner.

Myanmar Port Authority stated that



Aerial panoramic view: Vessels are docking at Yangon Port along the Yangon River.

49 vessels in January, 53 in February, 55 in March, 50 in April, 52 in May, 50 each in June, July and August and 55 in September arrived at the Yangon Port.

Yangon Port handled 629 container vessels in 2023. Thanks to the draft extension, the international ocean liners can access the inner port for now, according to the Myanmar Port Authority's statement on 22 June 2022.

After the new navigation channel

(Kings Bank Channel) accessing the inner Yangon River had been found, the draft extension work was accelerated. After that, the port can now handle larger ships. The container vessel MV SITC Zhaoming (185.99 metres LOA, 35.25 metres Beam, 29,232 GRT and 2,698 TEU) of Hong Kong-based SITC Shipping Line docked at Asia World Port Terminal for the first time on 22 June, which is the largest ship that AWPT Port handled.

Since May 2021, the arrival of ships at terminals in Yangon has increased again. Three new container vessels by Maersk Line Myanmar (Sea Land Maersk) started to run to fulfil the seaborne trade requirements in 2021. Earlier, the larger ships had draft problems preventing sailing on the Yangon River. With the draft being extended up to 10 metres, more giant ocean liners can enter the Thilawa Port. — NN/KK

OPINION

BOOKRACK POEM

Beware of dog bites and danger of rabies

RABIES, a disease known to have existed since 2300 BC, is a significant global health issue. It commonly spreads through the saliva of infected animals, primarily bats and wild animals. Transmission occurs through bites from animals carrying the rabies virus.

The threat rabies poses to human life is severe. If someone bitten by an infected animal does not receive timely medical attention, their life is at risk. Even if medical treatment is administered after symptoms appear, the survival rate is meagre, with 99 per cent of symptomatic patients dying from the disease.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has raised awareness about the deadly nature of rabies. According to WHO,

someone dies from rabies every 15 minutes worldwide, resulting in approximately 55,000 deaths annually. Of these, 31,000 cases of death occur in Asia and 24,000 cases in Africa. The WHO aims to eliminate rabies deaths by 2030, but the goal remains challenging.

Many people in Myanmar still rely on ineffective and improper treatments for rabies, which often delay crucial medical interventions. These unscientific methods hinder the fight against rabies. It is essential for authorities and medical professionals to educate the public about the importance of proper treatment and the dangers of rabies.

Myanmar faces a significant issue with dog bites, a primary cause of rabies. In 2017, approximately 15,000 people were bitten by dogs each month, and by 2019, this number had decreased to about 10,000 monthly. However, many cases likely go unreported, suggesting the problem could be even more widespread.

Many people in Myanmar still rely on ineffective and improper treatments for rabies, which often delay crucial medical interventions. These unscientific methods hinder the fight against rabies. It is essential for authorities and medical professionals to educate the public about the importance of proper treatment and the dangers of rabies.

Street dogs are a major contributor to rabies transmission, especially since most are not vaccinated. This poses a severe public health issue, particularly in cities like Yangon. That is why the development committees in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and other major cities have implemented measures to combat rabies, but the results have been modest.

The increasing population of street dogs further exacerbates the rabies problem. Pet owners must vaccinate their animals to prevent the spread of the virus. In fact, 75 per cent of diseases that break out in humans are based on animal-borne infectious diseases. So, pet animals need to be injected to prevent rabies without fail. Moreover, individuals who are bitten must seek immediate medical treatment at nearby hospitals or clinics. Combating rabies requires coordinated efforts from the public, authorities, and healthcare providers to ensure the safety of all.



Book Title - Myanmar Yoeyar Zagahtarmyar
Writer - Kyi Oo
Publishing House - Seikku Cho Cho
Publication Date - August 2024 (5th Edition)
Price - K6,000

Myanmar Yoeyar Zagahtarmyar

ZAGAHTAR is a Myanmar word which means a riddle. This book is a collection of traditional Myanmar riddles. Myanmar people, especially those from the countryside, would test one another's intelligence by demanding that the riddles be settled. They would chat in their leisure hours or ask one another about the conundrums.

The book under review was written by Sayamagyi Kyi Oo, the beloved wife of Writer Nan Nyunt Swe and the mother of Zarganar, whose name is Maung Thuya. Zarganar is a famous comedian who is noted for his great satire. He is a satirist turned director. The practice of demanding the people to solve the riddles has its origin in the royal court, where

the ministerial-level think tanks are asked to solve the riddle. The monarch would test the intelligence of his think tank member experts by asking them to solve the riddles. However, this practice has lost its place in daily conversation among the Myanmar people. Realizing the need to preserve this fine tradition, Sayamagyi Kyi Oo has exerted effort to contribute towards the revival of the practice of solving the riddles.

The book was opened with the foreword by the writer, who recalled her experiences of an excursion trip to upper Myanmar during which she gave the riddles to her fellow teachers from the Youth Affairs Evening School to solve. She said they

were pretty happy, finding the solutions to the puzzles. Since then, the writer has been collecting the riddles with the help of her sister, who has obtained a book of riddles from their mother.

The writer said that solving the riddles makes one better able to solve problems, develop team spirit, love and cherish Myanmar traditions, and have fun.

This book contains not only the riddles but also the puns. A pun is a joke that exploits the different possible meanings of a word or the fact that there are words that sound alike but have different meanings. To give an example, a pun is made with two same-sounding words - Handel and handle, with the former

being the name of a composer. Thus, the pun has become 'Handel with care.' In the sentence 'He is a layback cool', there are no words that sound the same; this is a play of different meanings of the same word - lay. This is, in fact, a combination of the two sentences - he lay on his back, and he lays a woman. He is cool because he is quite indifferent to the woman he has laid - i.e. He ignores the woman he has just had a sexual union with.

Riddles have been used for many purposes throughout history, including entertainment, education, bonding, mental health, and moral instruction. First, riddles can be fun and entertaining and can make people laugh. Secondly, riddles can help people learn new words and ideas and develop problem-solving skills. Thirdly, riddles can be a great way to share and bond with friends and family. In the fourth place, riddles can help relax the brain and body, release stress, and encourage positive mental health. Last but not least, riddles can impart indigenous knowledge and entertainingly give moral instruction.

This book is strongly recommended to the readers.



Book Title - Myanmar Pyaw Thaw Myanmar Zagar
Translator - Hein Latt
Publishing House - Khit
Publication House - August 2024 (1st Edition)
Price - K12,000

Myanmar Pyaw Thaw Myanmar Zagar

SAYA Hein Latt held a book launching ceremony on 25 August in the compound of the old secretariat on Theinbyu Street, Yangon. The book under review is one of the two books launched at the said ceremony. The writer has compiled more than 1,000 everyday words and their correct uses in the appropriate contexts. He has provided concise and compact clarifications. This book is strongly believed to be of dramatic value to the readers and thus recommended to the readers.

Naturally, native speakers of any language would not take the same great care in their speech or writing as a sec-

ond-language speaker. They would not make extra effort regarding grammar and/or syntax.

There is a Myanmar saying, 'ga ga na na ma thi boo', which means people cannot differentiate between Ga Nge and Ga Gyi as well as between Na Nge and Na Gyi. Na Gyi is a combination of two Na Nges, while Ga Gyi is a combination of two Ga Nges. Actually, Ga Gyi should be spelled Gha Gyi. We have to pronounce Ma Gha Dewa as Meggadaywa. There is also another famous saying, "Na gan ta lone hma thi boo". In the Myanmar language, there are two kinds of Nga Nge - Nga Gan and Na Gaung, with

the former suggesting mute or silent, whereas the latter is pronounced. For example, we pronounce 'than nate htan' in that the sound of Nga Nge, i.e. 'n' in 'than' is mute, whereas Nga Nge, i.e. 'n' in nate is a nasal sound. So, this Nga Nge is pronounced, and so this Nge Nge is not Nge Gan while the former Nga Nge is a Nga Gan because it is mute or silent or not pronounced.

We used to say, 'Sauk Hman Kan Hman Ma Thi Boo.' In this sentence, the word 'Sauk' means deep, whereas the word 'Kan' means shore where the water is shallow. This being so, the sentence, when literally translated, will

refer to those people who now know whether the water is deep or shadowy. The actual meaning is that they do not know the real situation of a case.

A book review writer called Ko Kyaw Soe Win, who writes the book review section for Mahaythi Magazine, has expressed his profound thanks for Saya Hein Latt's painstaking effort to compile such a book of great value to Myanmar literature and language.

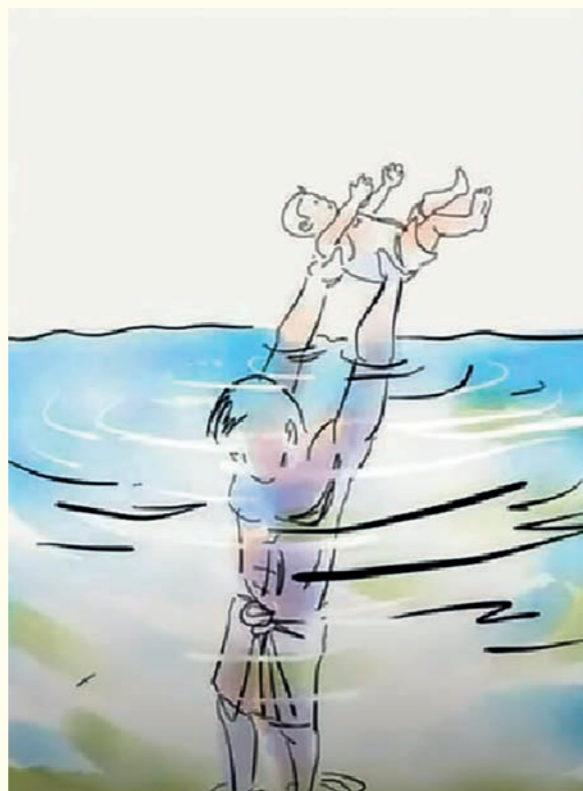
Saya Hein Latt also deals with Myanmar's partitives. We call a slice of cake, a colony of ants, a school of fish, a series of accidents, a crowd of people and a herd of cows, etc, according to the rule of the English partitives.

Saya Hein Latt has admitted that his compilation of the vocabulary is based on his own notes as well as on those notes taken by his grandfather, U Ba Yee, who was the first-ever BA degree holder from Myanmar. In addition to the BA degree, U Ba Yee also held BCS and TPS. BCS stands for Burma Civil Service, whereas TPS stands for Taing Kyo Pyi Kyo Saung.

သမီးအတွက် အဖေလက်

Father's Hands for Daughter

By Chit Ko Pe



ထွေးပွေ့ပိုက်ချို ရင်ခွင်မှီစေ
စုံညီမတ်ရပ်၊ လမ်းလျှောက်တတ်စေ
သနပ်ခါးဖွေး၊ ပါးပြင်မွှေးစေ
ခွဲကျွေးအစာ၊ အားပြည့်သာစေ
မေတ္တာပြည့်ဖိတ်၊ မိဘစိတ်ဖြင့်
ချွေးသိပ် မအား၊ မနေနားခဲ့
ကပ်ပါးရေဘေး၊ လွတ်မြောက်ဝေးဖို့
အရေးကြုံဆိုက်၊ ခေါင်းမငိုက်ပဲ
စိုးထိုက်မကြောက်၊ ပင့်မ မြှောက်လို့
ရေအောက်ရေဖုံး၊ ရင်တားဆီးသည်
သမီးအတွက် အဖေလက်။

Not sparing time to take a rest
and wipe off the wet sweat,
the father got himself the busiest
with the infant daughter, who was let
to be embraced to his chest,
to stand and walk on a self-help,
to get her cheeks smeared with
Thanaka patch
and to be energetic with food fed.
In the face of a flash flood swept,
she was lifted above water in no time left
without a bit of fear or distress
submerging in water his head.
He sacrificed his life, in fact,
clasping her in a brave act.

(ရေဘေးတွင် သမီးအတွက် အသက်ပေးဆက်သွားသော ရမည်းသင်းမြို့နယ် သပြေဝင်ကျေးရွာမှ ကလေးအဖေအား လေးစားဂုဏ်ပြုလိုက်ပါသည်။)

(Dedicated to the father who sacrificed his life for his daughter by lifting her with his hands above the water during a flash flood occurred recently in Thapyaypin village, Yamethin township)



All buds to bloom

By Mya Thae (Research)

- Ma Lay saw the Jasmine's buds in the mud, Because of the storm, they are ruined and hurt.
- All kinds of buds bloom, we prevent ruin to get good fortune.
- Likewise, children are essential in parents' and teachers' regard,
- The future of our country will get good luck.

The World of Literature

By Zawgyi,
Translated by Myint Zan

စာပေလောက

စာပေလောက၊ ကျယ်ပြောလှ၏
သူက တစ်ဖြာ၊ ငါက တစ်ဖုံ
ထုံတတ်သည်မှာ၊ ဓမ္မတာတည်း။

ငါ့ဉာဏ် ငါ့ယု၊ သူ နှင့် မညီ
ဖိတ်တတ်သည်မှာ၊ ဓမ္မတာတည်း။

အထုံ အစီ
စုံညီ အတွဲ၊ ရှိစမြဲတည့်
ငါစုံမသို့၊ ကိုယ်စုံမထား
စာပေအားသာ၊ ပွားပါစေချင်
ကြိုးစေချင်သည်
ငါ့တွင်ဆန္ဒ ကြီးနိုင်မှာ။

the world of literature is vast
'tis natural that she said thus
and I said otherwise
(such disagreements)
permeate the discourse
regarding literature

my knowledge, my belief
(regarding issues of literature
doesn't synchronize with theirs)
so I oppose them:
such attitudes can
also, be discerned

there can be binary
yet syntheical viewpoints
don't be obsessed with
'my views' only
with self-absorbed attitudes:
[for] one wishes the
strength of literature to grow
'tis can be achieved only
when efforts are made
for its progress and enlargement

Published in Myawady magazine, Volume 11, No 1, 1962.
Translated on 13 September 2024.

NATIONAL Entertainment



Khin Maung Htoo

A music performance event for flood victims led by legendary studio vocalist Khin Maung Htoo will be organized at Modern Radio on 6 October. Singers Khin Maung Htoo, Bo Bo Han and Victor Khin Nyo will perform together with the Lucky Hand band. "Ko Bo Bo Han had laryngeal surgery and started singing after 40 days of operation. His voice is softer and clearer than before," Khin Maung Htoo made a post on his Facebook page.

John Lwin

The Ananda Cetana Foundation of Myanmar's godfather of fashion, John Lwin, and his brother U Aung Moe Kyaw and Daw Mar Mar Tun family made cash donations for flood victims in Toungoo on 28 September and in Tatkon on 29 September, dedicating to their late father U Hla Myint and mother Daw Mya Mya Aye. John Lwin will open a modelling class and introductory acting skills course at his Stars & Models International Yangon Myanmar on 12 October 2024.



'Thuchikhin' stars donate K500,000 each to 71 flood victims at Kalaw Hospital

Stars of the Myanmar movie 'Thuchikhin' donated K500,000 each to 71 flood victims who were being treated at the Kalaw Township Hospital in Kalaw, Shan State, on 26 September, according to actor Nyi Htut Khaung.

Producers and film stars of 'Thuchikhin' collaborated with the Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation to provide K60 million to flood victims in Kalaw Township. The foundation also donated K250 million at the rate of K3 million per household for 70 families inflicted by the Kalaw landslide.

"We provided K500,000 each to 71 flood victims who were treated at the Kalaw Township Hospital. In addition, we visited the areas where houses were destroyed in Kalaw to offer encouragement and support," said Nyi Htut Khaung, an actor who participated in the film 'Thuchikhin'. - ASH/MKKS

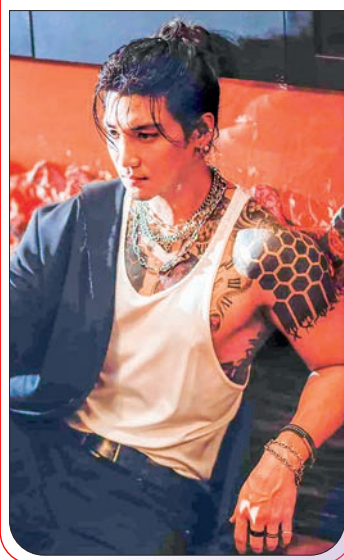


Nay Htoo Naing

Actor Nay Htoo Naing made donations worth over K50 million for flood-impacted people in August. He also prepares to donate medicines, clothes and kitchen utensils for 200 flood-stricken households. He also urged the people to love trees as the trees saved many lives in flooding. He plants shady trees in tropical regions and also encourages people to plant trees.

Paing Takhon

Actor Paing Takhon made donations for flood victims at the Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation and participated in donation events in flood-hit areas. The movie 'Kan Kaung', in which he took a lead role, was screened in Cambodia, and all the cinemas were crowded with movie lovers.



Phyu Phyu Htwe

Facebook celebrity Phyu Phyu Htwe is preparing to make her sixth donation to flood victims. "We face difficulties in transport, and their (victims) hardships they face will be even larger in scale. I will donate over K40 million - K15 million and K30 million worth of materials," she said. - Htun Htun/KTZH



CELEBRITY BRIEF

Christina

Actress Christina donated K1 million and clothes to the Lethwei Parahita organization of Lethwei champion Tun Tun Min on 26 September. A Parahita organization donated these items in Kalaw on 27 September. The actress made a post on her Facebook page saying she would make cash donations for the flood-inflicted areas.

NATIONAL

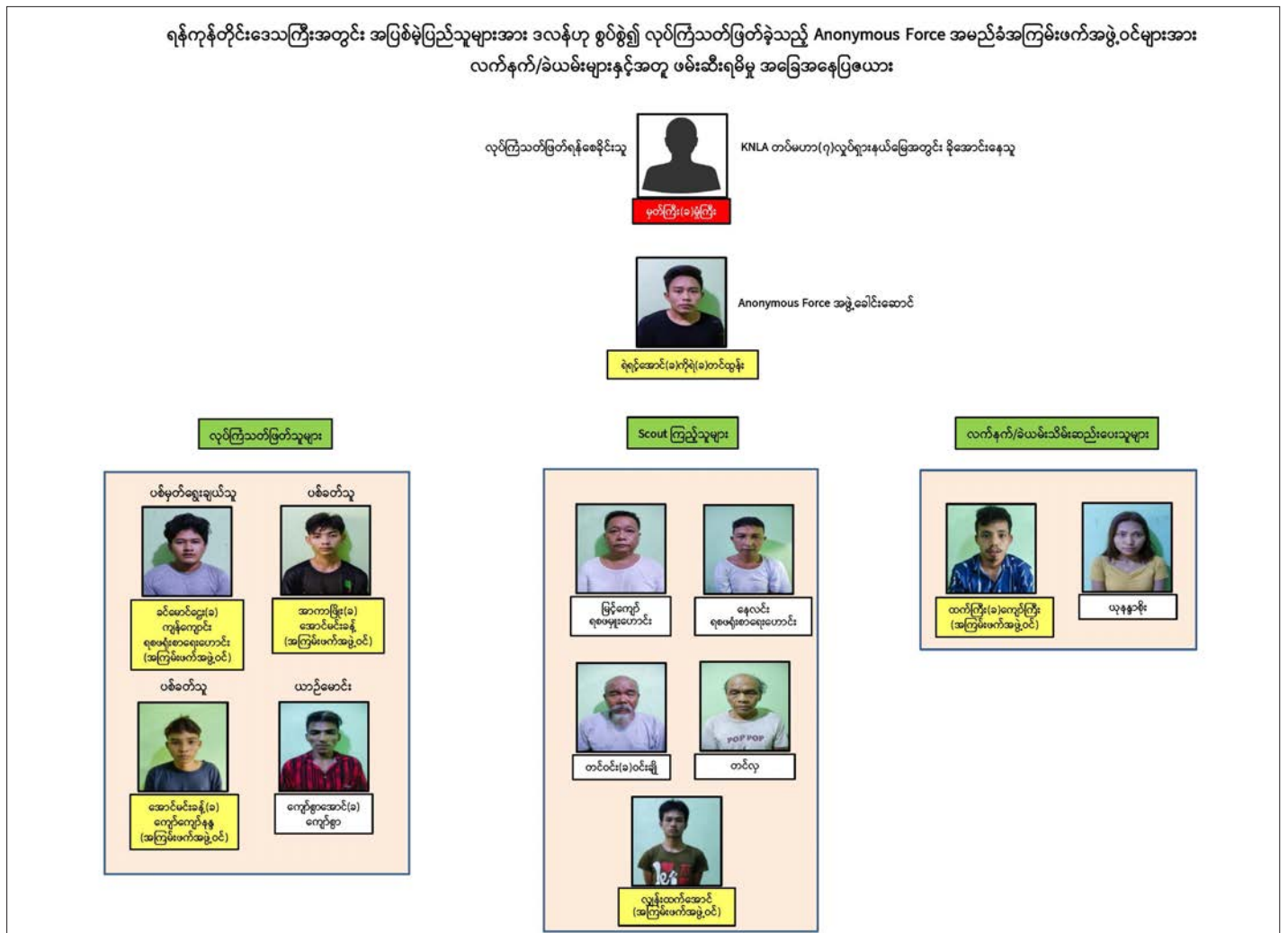
Anonymous Force members arrested for killing innocent people in Yangon

TERRORIST groups CRPH, NUG and their subordinates PDF terrorists, groups and individuals intentionally murdered innocent civilians, including government employees, bombed public areas and robbed the people's property, aiming to impact the State stability and impose fear among the public.

On 20 September, four unscrupulous men arrived at the administrative office at Ward 107 in Nguwahmyaing Street in Dagon Myothit (South) Township. They shot administrator U Kyi Tun, 100-house elder U Swe Myint Aung and office staff U Myo Myint Tun (aka) Thar Gyi who were working. The administrator and 100-house elder died on the spot, and the office staff was injured.

Acting on a tip-off, the security force members arrested Kyaw Swa Aung (aka) Kyaw Swa in Zizawa Street and Tin Win (aka) Win Cho in Bominyaung Street in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

According to the confession of Tin Win (aka) Win Cho, security forces arrested other suspects Aung Min Khant (aka) Kyaw Kyaw Nanda and his illegal wife in 85th Street in Shwepaukkan Myothit, Khin Maung Htay (aka) Kyan Kyaung at Kywepwe railway station and Ye Yint Aung (aka) Ko Ye (aka) Tin Tun



A diagram illustrating the Anonymous Force terrorist network, responsible for killing innocent people by labelling them as Dalan (informants) in Yangon Region.



Seized arms and munitions Anonymous Force used in their terror acts.

at Ward 12, Yankin Township, on 25 September.

Based on the words of suspect Ye Yint Aung (aka) Ko Ye (aka) Tin Tun, other suspects Htet Gyi (aka) Kyaw Gyi, Arkar Phyo (aka) Aung Min Khant and Hlan Htet Aung were arrested together with one Sigsauer pistol, one Glock pistol, two magazines and 20 9MM bullets at Dagon Ayeyar Highway bus terminal on 27 September. Moreover, another three suspects – Nay Lin, Tin Hla and Myint Kyaw – were arrested in Ward 107, Dagon Myothit (South) Township on the same day.

A total of 11 males and one female, who participated in murdering of a ward administrator and 100-house elder in

Yangon, were arrested with one Sigsauer pistol, one Glock pistol, two magazines and 20 9MM bullets.

The suspects Ye Yint Aung (aka) Ko Ye (aka) Tin Tun, Htet Gyi (aka) Kyaw Gyi and Arker Phyo (aka) Aung Min Khant attended a one-month explosive training at KNLA brigade (2) in November 2023. After the training, they returned to Yangon and formed Anonymous Force in February 2024. It was led by Ye Yint Aung (aka) Ko Ye (aka) Tin Tun and included Khin Maung Htay (aka) Kyan Kyaung, Htet Gyi (aka) Kyaw Gyi, Arkar Phyo (aka) Aung Min Khant, Hlan Htet Aung, Aung Min Khant (aka) Kyaw Kyaw Nanda and Phyo Zin Aung (still at large).

Arms and munition were provided by Hmat Gyi (aka) Hmon Gyi (still at large), residing in the KNLA Brigade 7 area, and they were hidden by Htet Gyi (aka) Kyaw Gyi and Yu Nandar Soe.

Offenders said they (Anonymous Force) were instructed by Hmat Gyi (aka) Hmon Gyi (still at large) to kill government employees and innocent civilians in Yangon. Before 2021, suspect Myint Kyaw served as an administrator, and other suspects – Khin Maung Htay

(aka) Kyan Kyaung and Nay Lin – served as office staff in Ward 107, Dagon Myothit (South) Township. They were not satisfied with the current administrator and office staff and killed them, labelling them as informants.

Perpetrators Myint Kyaw, Nay Lin, Tin Win (aka) Win Cho and Tin Hla scouted one week in advance for the Anonymous Force terrorist group to kill the administrator and 100-house elder of Ward 107 in Dagaon Myothit (South) Township. On 20 September morning, Khin Maung Htay (aka) Kyan Kyaung, Kyaw Swa Aung (aka) Kyaw Swa, Arkar Phyo (aka) Aung Min Khant and Aung Min Khant (aka) Kyaw Kyaw Nanda went to the administration office of Ward 107 in Dagaon Myothit (South) Township by car, and Arkar Phyo (aka) Aung Min Khant and Aung Min Khant (aka) Kyaw Kyaw Nanda shot administrator U Kyi Tun, 100-house elder U Swe Myint Aung and office staff U Myo Myint Tun (aka) Thar Gyi.

Moreover, Anonymous Force committed one murder and one bombing attack, labelling departmental staff and innocent people for not having healthy relationships with them.

On 13 May 2024, Arkar Phyo (aka) Aung Min Khant and Aung Min Khant (aka) Kyaw Kyaw Nanda shot administrator U Aung Kyaw Thu of Ward 6 in Hlinethaya Township, and Htet Gyi (aka) Kyaw Gyi and Hlan Htet scouted for the mission.

During the first week of June, Arkar Phyo (aka) Aung Min Khant and Aung Min Khant (aka) Kyaw Kyaw Nanda launched an attack on the Kamayut Myoma police station using two grenades, and Htet Gyi (aka) Kyaw Gyi and Hlan Htet scouted for the mission.

According to the confession of the perpetrators, Hmat Gyi (aka) Hmon Gyi provided K3 million for one terrorist attack to Anonymous Force, and leader Ye Yint Aung (aka) Ko Ye (aka) Tin Tun allocated among the members.

Arrestees will face legal action under the law. People can participate in the fight against terrorism to arrest insurgents as quickly as possible. They can also secretly report to officials about offenders' hiding places and activities, and whistle-blowers and those who help arrest perpetrators will be covertly rewarded. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

3 Myanmar fishers rescued after floating at sea for 16 days

THE MT PVT Neptune palm oil tanker sailing under the flag of Vietnam rescued three Myanmar nationals about 124 nautical miles west of Kawthoung in Myanmar EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone) while heading to Haldia from Phuket at 11:12 am Myanmar Standard Time on 24 September.

Rescued Myanmar nationals were provided with medical care and clothes, and ship of-

officials informed the MRCC of Myanmar and Thailand.

The MRCC informed the Directorate of Marine Administration of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, and Myanmar officials contacted the captain of MT PVT Neptune in a timely manner to collect the data of three victims and inspect whether they were Myanmar citizens or not. After the identifica-



Three Myanmar fish workers who floated in the water for about 16 days are rescued by MT PVT Neptune palm oil tanker.

tion processes, a naval vessel from the Pammawady Naval Region Command was sent to repatriate them in Myanmar waters and received them near Hainggyikyun at 10:50 pm on 25

September.

Three Myanmar fish workers who floated in the water for about 16 days on the raft were Kyaw Kyaw (aka) Kyaw Gyi, Phyo Wai and Kyaw Paing Oo

from Aunghlaing village from Labutta township. They were taken to the Tatmadaw Hospital in Hainggyikyun, and plans are underway to ensure their safe return. — MNA/KTZH

Comprehensive crackdown on illegal trade: K632 million worth of goods seized in two days

SUPERVISED by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, action is being taken under the law against illicit trading across the nation.

During inspections on 27 September, the combined on-duty teams seized a Yutong bus (approximately K70 million), heading to Yangon from Hpa-an, carrying one kind of consumer goods and one kind of foodstuffs worth K7.56 million without official documents at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint and a Hino Ranger truck (approximately K22 million), travelling from Aungban to Mandalay, carrying one kind of foodstuff worth K9.5 million at the Kywetatson checkpoint, a Faw tractor head with a trailer (estimated value of K81 million), travelling from Mandalay to Mongyai, carrying illegal petroleum weighing 176 barrels worth K128,597,385 and illegal teak weighing 0.546 tonne worth K180,000 and one kind of industrial materials, two unregistered vehicles with a machinery vehicle valued at K250.4 million in Thazi township. The action was taken



Confiscated illegal timbers in Bago Region.

under Customs procedures, the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law and the Forest Law.

On 27 and 28 September, the combined teams managed by the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force impounded an Anka express bus (approximately K40 million) heading to Mandalay from Mawlamyine carrying four kinds of foodstuffs worth K3.792 million, an unregistered Honda Fit (estimated value of K5 million) in

Waw township and illegal teak weighing 7.978 tonnes and illegal other timbers weighing 3.401 tonnes valued at K4,857,456 in Toungoo, Nyaunglebin, Pyay and Thayawady districts. The action was taken under Customs procedures, the Export and Import Law and the Forest Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 16 arrests from 27 and 28 September, with an estimated value of K632 million. — MNA/MKKS

PDF terrorists kill father, 4-year-old child in Ngaphe

PDF terrorists attacked a father and his four-year-old daughter with small weapons, killing them as they delivered food to the Tawya Monastery in Gokegyi village, Ngaphe Township, Magway Region. This horrific act of violence occurred around 9:20 am on 27 September. In response to the brutal and inhumane attack by PDF terrorists, security forces have launched a thorough investigation. They are searching the village and surrounding areas to identify and capture the perpetrators.

Innocent civilians, including children, are being brutally murdered by PDF terrorists supported by CRPH and NUG. These terrorist groups have targeted villages, destroying homes and terrorizing the population. Their indiscriminate use of weapons and drones has created a climate of fear. The public feels disgusted by their inhumane acts of terrorism and is actively cooperating with Tatmadaw's counter-terrorism operations. — MNA/TRKM



The map shows the incident place where PDF terrorists attacked a father and his four-year-old daughter with small weapons in Gokegyi village, Ngaphe Township, Magway Region.

S Korea's number of businesses grows in 2023

South Korea saw a 1.6 per cent increase in the number of businesses in 2023, reaching 6,238,580, driven by growth in wholesale, retail, and transport sectors.

SOUTH Korea's number of businesses grew last year due to an increase in the wholesale and retail and transport sectors, statistical office data showed Friday.

The combined number of businesses was 6,238,580 at the end of 2023, up 1.6 per cent from a year earlier, according

to Statistics Korea.

The number of manufacturers tumbled 9.2 per cent last year, but those for transport businesses and wholesalers and retailers expanded in single digits amid the growing online shopping market.

The wholesale and retail industry posted the

highest number of businesses with 1,572,296, followed by the lodging and eatery sector with 861,863 and the transport sector with 668,999.

The number of workers, employed by local businesses, went up 0.4 per cent from a year earlier to 25,321,526 at the end of 2023. — Xinhua



Gukje Market or Nampodong International Market is a market in Sinchang-dong, Jung District, Busan, South Korea. PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Vietnam's gold ring price surges to new record high

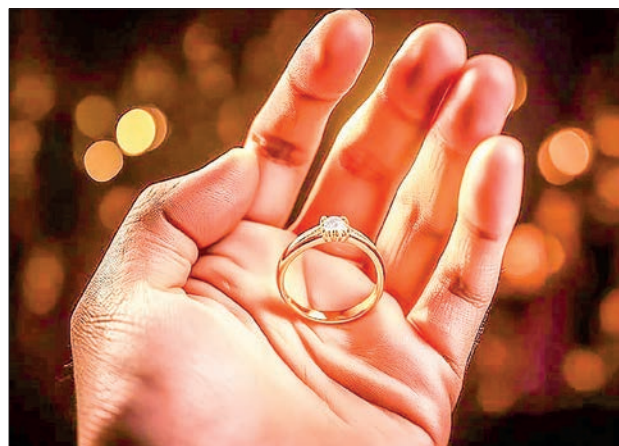
THE gold ring price in Vietnam jumped to a new historic peak of over 83

million Vietnamese dong (US\$3,375) per tael on Friday morning, local media

reported.

Saigon Jewelry Company's gold ring price shot up by 700,000 dong (\$28) on Friday morning to 81.5 million dong (\$3,314) for sellers and 83 million dong for buyers per tael.

Jewelry firm DOJ's gold ring price saw an increase of 500,000 dong (\$20.3) per tael to 82.75 million dong (\$3,365) for sellers and 83.35 million dong (\$3,389) for buyers per tael, Vietnam News Agency reported. — Xinhua



The gold ring price in Vietnam jumped to a new historic peak of over 83 million Vietnamese dong (US\$3,375) per tael on Friday morning. PHOTO: PIXABAY

Japan's department store sales rise

SALES at Japan's department stores rose for the 30th straight month in August, boosted by record tourist demand for tax-free goods. Department store sales went up 3.9 per cent year on year to 403.4 billion yen, or about

US\$2.78 billion, in August, according to data from the Japan Department Stores Association.

Duty-free sales jumped 45 per cent to more than 46 billion yen, the highest for the month since records began in

2014 despite the yen's recent appreciation.

Earlier government data showed Japan logged 2,933,000 foreign visitors in August, up 36.0 per cent from a year earlier, marking a record high for the month. — Xinhua

Investors dump shares in Australian casino firm

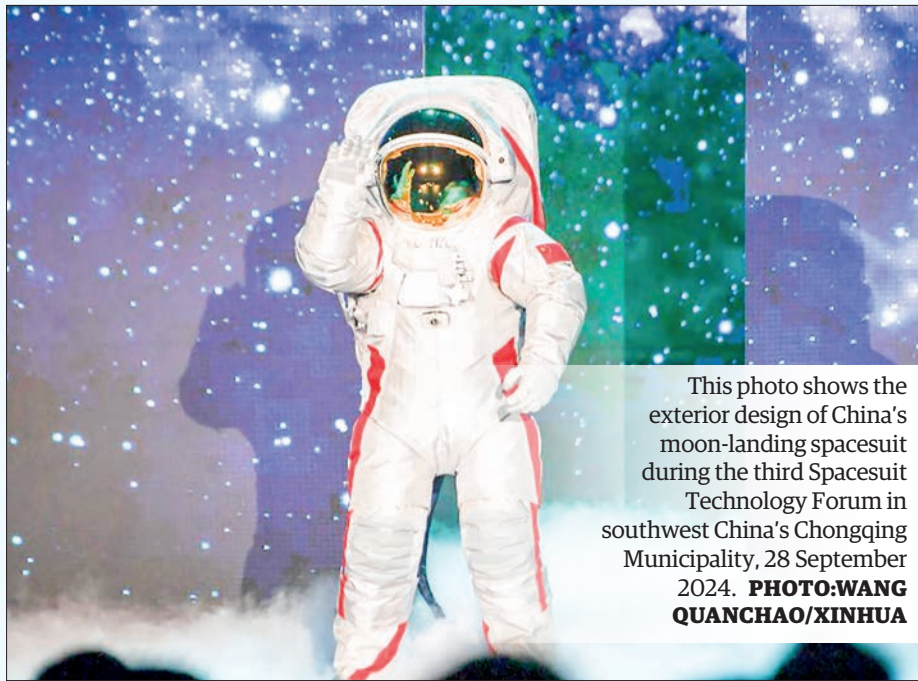
AUSTRALIA'S crisis-racked resort and casino operator Star Entertainment lost almost half its market value Friday, as stock trading resumed after a one-month pause.

Star slumped 41 per cent by the close of Sydney trade, as the firm belatedly published earnings that showed a whopping US\$1.2 billion loss in the last financial year.

The group was temporarily delisted from the Australian Securities Exchange in early September, after failing to post its annual financial results. — AFP

<p>CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V MCL-4 VOY.NO. (05N)</p> <p>Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCL-4 VOY. NO. (05N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29-9-2024 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.</p> <p>Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.</p> <p>No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Phone No: 2301185</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shipping Agency Department Myanma Port Authority</p> <p>Agent For: M/S MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED</p>	<p>CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V MSC SUPARNA F VOY.NO. (SB437A)</p> <p>Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MSC SUPARNA F VOY.NO. (SB437A) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29-9-2024 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.</p> <p>Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.</p> <p>No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Phone No: 2301185</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shipping Agency Department Myanma Port Authority</p> <p>Agent For: M/S MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A</p>	<p>CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V SITC CHENMING VOY.NO. (2412S)</p> <p>Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SITC CHENMING VOY.NO. (2412S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29-9-2024 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.</p> <p>Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.</p> <p>No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Phone No: 2301185</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shipping Agency Department Myanma Port Authority</p> <p>Agent For: M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD</p>
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WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



This photo shows the exterior design of China's moon-landing spacesuit during the third Spacesuit Technology Forum in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, 28 September 2024. **PHOTO:WANG QUANCHAO/XINHUA**

China unveils moon-landing spacesuit for first time

28 SEPTEMBER

THE China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) unveiled the exterior design of the country's moon-landing spacesuit for the first time on Saturday, soliciting its name from the public.

Displayed on the third Spacesuit Technology Forum hosted by the China Astronaut Research and Training Centre in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, the white moon-landing spacesuit is decorated with red stripes.

The new lunar spacesuit features design elements inspired by Dunhuang art and rocket flames, providing protection against the lunar environment. Equipped with a multifunctional control panel, flexible gloves, and a panoramic visor, it allows astronauts to perform various movements. Developed since 2020, it signifies key technological advancements in China's manned lunar exploration, with a planned lunar landing by 2030. – Xinhua

27 SEPTEMBER

Sri Lanka restores online visa application platform

SRI LANKA has restored an online visa application platform to encourage tourism after its top court suspended a controversial multimillion-dollar deal that outsourced visa processing to a foreign consortium.

The government of newly elected President Anura Kumara Dissanayake said late Thursday that the move was intended to promote the island nation's key tourism sector, as its economy limps

out of the 2022 financial crisis.

Tourists will now be able to apply for a visa online without paying the \$25 charged by India-based VFS Global, which won an outsourcing contract in April from the previous government.

Sri Lanka's Supreme Court in August ordered immigration authorities to revert to the online platform that was used prior to the award to VFS. – AFP

26 SEPTEMBER

The world's longest-serving death row prisoner acquitted

THE world's longest-serving death row prisoner was acquitted on Thursday, more than half a century after his murder conviction, when a Japanese court ruled that evidence had been fabricated.

Former boxer Iwao Hakamada, 88, could not attend his retrial verdict due to health issues, but his 91-year-old sister, Hideko, represented him in court. Hakamada was declared innocent after spending 46 years on death row for a 1968

conviction of murder and robbery, which relied on coerced confessions obtained through inhumane interrogations.

The ruling criticized the prosecution's methods as violating Hakamada's rights. The case has drawn significant public interest and scrutiny of Japan's justice system, with hundreds attending the verdict. Prosecutors have two weeks to decide on an appeal against the ruling. – AFP

25 SEPTEMBER

China mulls draft financial stability law

A DRAFT financial stability law was submitted to the ongoing session of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, the national legislature, for a second review on Tuesday.

The draft clarifies which leading bodies are responsible for the central financial work, as well as their duties, and improves financial risk prevention and management provisions.

It also stipulates further ways to reinforce financial supervision, enhance finan-

cial risk prevention measures, and ensure the diligent undertaking of all responsibilities related to financial risk management.

The draft financial stability law underwent its first review in December 2022, and was subsequently opened to public opinion.

The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) is the permanent body of the National People's Congress (NPC), the national legislature of the People's Republic of China. – Xinhua

24 SEPTEMBER

Singapore ex-minister convicted in rare graft trial

A SINGAPOREAN former minister was convicted Tuesday of obstruction of justice and accepting illegal gifts, the public prosecutor said, in the city-state's first political graft trial for nearly half a century.

Ex-transport minister S Iswaran, known for helping bring Formula One to the financial hub, was earlier this year hit with 35 charges mostly related to graft in a nation often cited as one of the world's least corrupt.

But prosecutors moved forward with

five lesser charges only, including some related to a billionaire property tycoon.

S Iswaran pleaded guilty to four charges related to accepting gifts from two businessmen and one charge of obstructing justice.

Iswaran, who resigned after being notified of the charges, has repaid approximately \$295,000 and had gifts seized. This trial is considered highly significant for Singapore's political landscape and the ruling People's Action Party. – AFP

23 SEPTEMBER

Trump won't run again if defeated

REPUBLICAN Donald Trump has ruled out running again in the 2028 US presidential election if he loses in the upcoming November poll, according to an interview aired on Monday.

Responding to a question on whether he would run again if he lost, the 78-year-old former president told US news programme Full Measure: "No, I don't. I think that that will be, that will be it. I don't see

that at all."

The billionaire expressed hopes for success on 5 November as he faces Vice-President Kamala Harris in a tight race. The Democratic Party's support has surged following President Biden's withdrawal. Trump, who lost in 2020 and claimed the election was "stolen", has avoided committing to accepting the upcoming election results. – AFP

22 SEPTEMBER

China unearths largest jade dragon ever

CHINESE archaeologists have unearthed the largest jade dragon ever discovered from the Hongshan culture, an important part of the Neolithic Age, at a stone tomb site in the city of Chifeng, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, according to the regional institute of cultural relics and archaeology.

An artefact measuring 15.8 centi-

metres by 9.5 centimetres and 3 centimetres thick was discovered at a unique archaeological site in Chifeng, featuring a circular tomb and square altar.

Excavations revealed human remains, fire pits, and artifacts from the late Hongshan culture, dated 5,100 to 5,000 years ago. Research continues. – Xinhua

SPORTS

Argentina goalkeeper Martinez handed two-game ban

ARGENTINA goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez has been given a two-game international ban for breaching FIFA's disciplinary code, the South American country's football association said on Friday.

The 32-year-old was punished for shoving a cameraman to the ground after Argentina's 2-1 FIFA World Cup qualifying loss to Colombia in Barranquilla on 10 September and for holding a replica Copa America trophy near his groin

after a 3-0 win over Chile five days earlier.

The Argentina Football Association (AFA) criticized the ruling but did not say if it would lodge an appeal.

"It should be noted that the AFA expresses its abso-

lute disagreement with the decision taken by the FIFA disciplinary committee," it said.

Martinez will be unavailable for Argentina's World Cup qualifiers against Venezuela on 10 October and Bolivia five days later.

The Aston Villa player also stirred controversy in 2022 when he held the World Cup trophy near his crotch after the Albiceleste secured world football's most important trophy in Qatar. — Xinhua

Shan United continues winning streak in MNL U-20



Shan United and Maha United players are in action. PHOTO: MNL

SHAN United extended their winning run yesterday in the 2024 Myanmar National League U-20 Youth League during Fixture 16. In their match at Salin Stadium, they secured a 3-0 victory over Maha United. With this win, Shan United remains at the top of the table.

Myo Khaing scored the goals in 32 minutes, Htet Myat Lwin in 60 minutes, and Nay Lin Thway in 76 minutes. Myo Khaing was awarded Man of the Match

for his outstanding performance.

Meanwhile, Ayeyawady United and Myawady played to a 1-1 draw at Padonma Stadium. Min Min Khant gave Myawady the lead with a penalty in 57 minutes, but Aung Kaung Khant equalized for Ayeyawady in 78 minutes. Aung Kaung Khant was named Man of the Match.

Following these matches, Shan United leads the table with 35 points

from 15 games.

In comparison, Ayeyawady United sits at 20 points, Myawady with 13 points, and Maha United with seven points from the same number of matches.

Fixture 16 continues today at Bahan Artificial Turf, where Yadanabon will face Hanthawady United. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Myanmar in Group B for 2024 AFF Futsal Championship

IN the group lot-drawing event held on 27 September for the 2024 AFF Futsal Championship, Myanmar was placed in Group B. This year's tournament will take place in Thailand from 2 to 10 November, featuring nine teams. Based on the draw, Group A consists of Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Timor-Leste, and Brunei, while Group B includes Indonesia, Myanmar, Australia, and Cambodia. The AFF Futsal Championship is making a return after a break since the 2022 edition. Myanmar's futsal team has previously finished as runners-up once and claimed third place twice. In the last tournament, held in 2022, Myanmar lost in the penalty shootout to Vietnam in the third-place match.

Myanmar's national futsal team has been training with a 27-man provisional squad since 19 September in preparation for the 2024 AFF Futsal Championship. The team is coached by Thai national Boonlert Charoenwong. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

WIMBLEDON have been given the green light to go ahead with their controversial plans to expand the historic venue for the grass-court Grand Slam.

The All England Club's proposal to build 39 new courts, including an 8,000-seat show court, on the adjacent former Wimbledon Park Golf Club was passed on Friday by London's deputy mayor for planning Jules Pipe. Wimbledon will nearly triple the size of its current site once the project is completed. Plans were first submitted in 2021, but there had been strong local opposition from groups such as 'Save Wimbledon Park' and environmental protesters who claimed the harm caused to open land was not justified.

The issue had become increasingly

Wimbledon given green light for controversial expansion plan

acrimonious, but Friday's decision was expected after Greater London Authority planning officers recommended permission be granted due to the financial and community benefits. "In summary, the proposed development would facilitate very significant benefits," Pipe said. "I agree with my officers that these benefits clearly outweigh the harm." — AFP



Wimbledon's Centre Court at the All England Club. PHOTO: AFP



Reducing food loss and waste enhances food security, benefiting 153 million people

Reducing food loss and waste is vital for enhancing food security, promoting resource efficiency, and addressing climate change, as highlighted during the fifth International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste. **ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY**

Reducing food loss and waste is crucial for improving food security and nutrition, promoting the efficient use of resources, protecting the environment, and fostering a more equitable distribution of food resources globally, QU Dongyu, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), said on Saturday.

In a video message for the fifth International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste, leaders emphasized the urgent need for financing to reduce food loss and waste, which affects global food security and contributes to climate change.

Currently, over 13 per cent of food is lost in the supply chain,

The fifth International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFLW) will be observed on the 29th of September 2024, with the theme 'Climate Finance for Food Loss and Waste Reduction'.

while 19 per cent is wasted at retail and household levels, accounting for 8-10 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Reducing food loss and waste could enhance food security, improve diets, and cut greenhouse emissions by four per cent by 2030, potentially benefiting 153 million people.

The event, organized by FAO and UNEP, highlighted the importance of climate investments, improved storage systems, and public awareness.

The next observance on 29 September 2024, will focus on "Climate Finance for Food Loss and Waste Reduction," aiming to mobilize global efforts for a sustainable future.—ANI

World News Day highlights urgent challenges in global journalism

With only 40 per cent of the public expressing confidence in news sources, younger audiences increasingly rely on influencers over traditional media.

The global media landscape faces significant challenges, marked by disinformation campaigns, declining trust, and economic struggles. World News Day (28 September) aims to highlight these issues, supported by numerous organizations including AFP. In 2022, UNESCO noted the "broken business model" of news media, with advertising revenue plummeting as tech giants like Google and Meta capture the majority of ad spend.

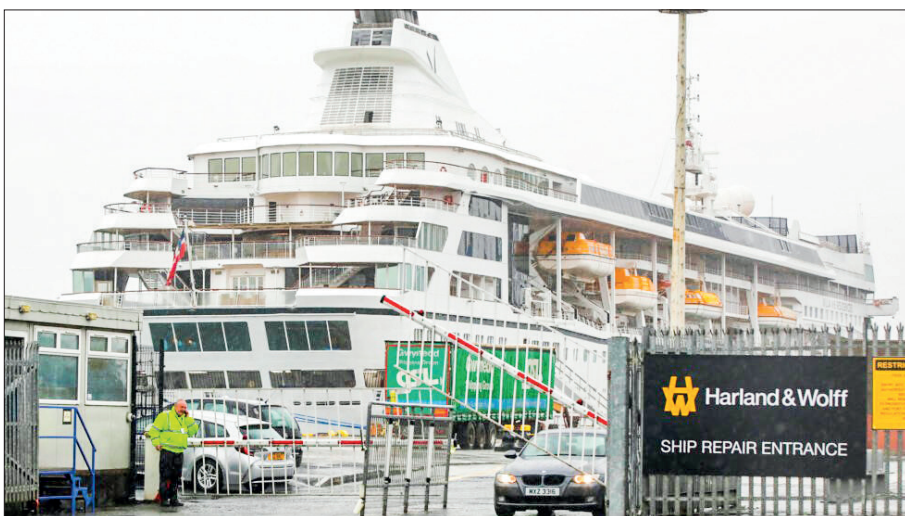
Public trust in media has eroded, with only 40 per cent of respondents expressing confidence in news sources. Young audiences increasingly turn to influencers and platforms like TikTok for information. Disinformation, exacerbated by AI, poses a growing threat, with partisan sites outnumbering traditional outlets in the US. Countries like Brazil are cracking down on fake news, but solutions remain elusive.

Additionally, journalists face challenges in conflict zones like Gaza. In this environment, media organizations are exploring AI to enhance reporting efficiency, despite fears of job displacement. The crisis calls for robust regulation and new strategies to ensure reliable journalism. — AFP



Advertising revenue — the lifeline of news publications — has dried up in recent years. **PHOTO: AFP**

Stranded cruise ship passengers bid bitter-sweet farewell to Belfast



The 'Odyssey' cruise liner has been stuck in Belfast dock since May. **PHOTO: PAUL FAITH / AFP**

A luxury round-the-world cruise ship beset with technical delays and docked in rainy Belfast since May is finally set to depart, prompting mixed emotions among its passengers.

Randy Cassingham, a 65-year-old writer from Colorado, shared his unexpected four-month wait in Belfast due to delays in the Odyssey cruise ship's preparations, originally set to sail on 30 May for a three-and-a-half year journey.

Despite enjoying their time in Belfast, he and his wife Kit are eager to finally depart. The prolonged stay led to an unexpected romance between fellow stranded passengers, who became engaged during

their time together exploring the city.

The Odyssey, which can accommodate around 600 passengers and promises unlimited global voyages, has faced significant delays due to outfitting and engine repairs, remaining in dry dock instead of visiting planned destinations.

With over 425 stops across all seven continents, many passengers, including the Cassinghams, sold their homes to live permanently aboard the ship. — AFP