

# Myanmar rolls out Nationwide Census Collection

Census collectors, led by Union Minister U Myint Kyaing, gathered data from State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at Tatmadaw Guesthouse yesterday.



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing provides census data to enumerators led by Union Minister for Immigration & Population U Myint Kyaing (2L) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

**T**HE 15-day enumeration of nationwide population and household census commenced yesterday, and it will end on 15 October.

The enumerators led by Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing collected census data of State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior-General Min Aung Hlaing at the Tatmadaw Guesthouse in the office of Commander-in-Chief (Army) at noon yesterday.

The Senior General altogether provided the needed data.

Similarly, the enumerators conduct census collection on the families of SAC

Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, SAC Secretary General Aung Lin Dwe, Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo and SAC Member General Maung Maung Aye at their respective houses.

Every country takes a national census every ten years as it has to set policies and projects to ensure proportionate development in social, economic, and manage-

ment sectors, depending on the population received from the census.

The data from the census-collecting process is concerned not only with the government and ministries but also with each and every citizen of the country as they are the focal information for political, economic, social, defence and public affairs management sectors. The Ministry of Immigration and Population is leading the enumeration process of the population

and household census, and it can be done successfully with public participation.

The 2024 enumeration process of the population and household census is being conducted to collect accurate population and socioeconomic data in time, adopt policies, projects, strategies and tactics for social, economic and management measures by conducting research on population and

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## Article

### One Tree for Ten Thousand Birds

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

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Monsoon military training for UTC volunteer students, faculty launched

## NATIONAL

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New train carriages deployed on Yangon-Bago route

# NATIONAL



**Nationwide Census Collection continues on the second day.**



## Towards a Prosperous Future: Achieving Harmonious Development in Myanmar's Key Sectors

MYANMAR must achieve harmonious development across the economic, social, educational, and health sectors to become a peaceful, prosperous, modern, and developed nation.

Education is essential for all.

*(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting to provide guidance to outstanding students for the 2023-2024 academic year on 26 April 2024)*

# Myanmar rolls out Nationwide Census Collection

**FROM PAGE 1**

socioeconomic changes between 2014 and 2024, compile the necessary index in implementing the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) and develop the national statistic system to contribute the national strategy.

Although there were 41 questions in the 2014 census, there were 68 questions in 2024, adding 27 new questions to receive more precise data.

Some of the examples of additional data questions are the main reasons for not joining school in the education sector and waste system or sanitation system for household data. These questions are practical facts for the government to consider in order to fulfil the needs of the people in the education,

health, and social sectors. The census team will collect data at homes from 7 am to 6 pm, and they will inform the date in advance. The census-taking process is not concerned with whether the people have a household census form 66/6 or from 10, CSC, or whether they are ethnic people or citizens. However, all the data of the people in Myanmar territory will be enumerated within the census reference timeframe except for those who are not included. Moreover, the tax will not be levied, and action will not be taken against the possessions based on the census. There is no need to worry about the family members residing abroad as there is no occasion to take action. — MNA/KTZH



Census enumerators collect information from State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, his wife, and his family members in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

## Statement of Federal Democratic Party

1 October 2024

1. Our Federal Democratic Party accepts the policy of resolving political issues through political means. Our nation has experienced widespread suffering since gaining independence, and the smoke of gunpowder still lingers throughout the entire country. Only when the country is peaceful can it progress. Recognizing this, the State Administration Council invited dialogue on 26 September 2024 to discuss resolving political issues through political methods.
2. Our country must build a union based on democracy and a federal system. The State Administration Council has been dedicated to conducting free and fair general elections to transfer state power to a government emerging out of the general elections. However, armed groups have been resorting to violent methods instead of resolving political issues through political means. As a result, innocent monks, civil servants, and citizens have lost their lives and are forced to flee their homes, which the people are well aware of. The public does not desire any violent actions of terrorists and armed groups.

*Federal Democratic Party*

## DPM MoFA Union Minister departs for ACD Summit in Qatar

THE Myanmar delegation led by U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, left Yangon for the State of Qatar on the morning of 1 October 2024 to attend the Third Summit of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) to be held in Doha, the State of Qatar. The Myanmar Delegation was accompanied by U Minn Minn, Deputy Minister for Commerce, U Kyaw Soe Moe, Director-General of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Myanmar delegation was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Dr Rashid Abdullah MA Al-Kuwari, Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Yangon and senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

# 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)*

## MPF must serve as a reliable law enforcement agency

Operation 39/24 (2024) arrested 5,286 suspects in 3,832 cases with seizures of drugs and accessories worth K750 billion from 1 January to 31 August 2024.

**S**ENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing recounted that, between October 2023 and August 2024, Myanmar has officially extradited 54,433 foreigners who illegally entered Myanmar from 28 countries.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech at the ceremony to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MPF Day at the Myanmar International Convention Centre II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

First and foremost, the Senior General said that he recognized police members for their sacrifices of life and limbs in dutifully serving their respective duties and was proud of their

spirit, industry and endeavours.

He urged all MPF members to be a reliable organization of the people and to serve their duties in unison.

He underlined that MPF needs to cooperate with people in taking measures on the rule of law and security and stability while exposing crime breakers to be arrested and taken action under the law.

He called on MPF, together with Tatmadaw, to join hands with the people to eliminate terrorism.

He underscored the functions of MPF to prevent crimes, expose the crimes to take action against offenders, manage disciplinary tasks in the country, ensure the security of the



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks round the exhibition at yesterday's event in Nay Pyi Taw.

people, combat the danger of narcotic drugs and psychotropic

substances, and carry out public welfare tasks.

The Senior General gave guidance that the MPF has to establish border liaison offices (BLOs) with five neighbouring countries in combatting transnational crimes and hold BLO meetings for the timely exchange of information.

He recounted that Myanmar has officially extradited 54,433 illegal foreigners in Myanmar from 28 countries from October 2023 to August 2024.

He revealed that in conducting Operation 39/24 (2024) from 2013 to 2024, a total of 5,286 suspects were arrested in 3,832 cases with seizures of drugs and accessories worth K750 billion from 1 January to 31 August 2024.

Moreover, he continued that Myanmar took action against 96 persons in 27 cases of trafficking in persons from October 2023 to August 2024 and rescued 49 trafficked victims.

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### Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the ceremony to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> birthday of MPF

1. Myanmar has officially extradited 54,433 illegal foreigners in Myanmar from 28 countries from October 2023 to August 2024.
2. In Operation 39/24 (2024) from 2013 to 2024, a total of 5,286 suspects were arrested in 3,832 cases with seizures of drugs and accessories worth K750 billion from 1 January to 31 August 2024.
3. Myanmar took action against 96 persons in 27 cases of trafficking in persons from October 2023 to August 2024 and rescued 49 trafficked victims.

# NATIONAL

## MPF must serve as a reliable law enforcement agency

### FROM PAGE 3

The Senior General highlighted that the government conferred titles and medals of gallantry and performance on 9,851 police members from 1 October 2023 to 1 October 2024.

He urged all police members to serve the interests of the people and try hard to become reliable law enforcement, upholding Our Three Main National Causes in order for them to discharge four missions of MPF and six tasks dutifully.

Before the ceremony, they all took a one-minute silence to honour the fallen police members.

At the ceremony, a video clip on the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MPF Day was presented.

The Senior General presented gallantry medals to four police members, SAC Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, gallantry

medals to three police members and SAC Member Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, gallantry medals to two police members and performance medal to one member, respectively.

The Senior General visited the exhibition to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MPF Day.

In the evening, the Senior General attended the dinner in honour of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MPF Day at MICC II in Nay Pyi Taw.

Also present at the dinner were Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the Senior General, SAC Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo and his wife, council members and their wives, union ministers, union-level dignitaries and their wives, officials, the Chief of MPF and police members and retired senior police members.

The Senior General and his



The Senior General and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla present the bouquet and cash awards to the police band and performers during the dinner yesterday.

wife had dinner together with the attendees of the ceremony.

The Senior General and his

wife presented the flower basket and cash awards to the police band and entertainment troupe

of MPF for their entertainment at the dinner. — MNA/TTA

## SAC Member inspects 2024 Nationwide Census Enumeration in Myitkyina

STATE Administration Council Member Daw Dwe Bu, accompanied by Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan and officials, attended the elderly persons day ceremony and 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Myanmar Po-

lice Force Day, and inspected the 2024 household and census enumeration processes in Myitkyina Township yesterday.

The SAC member and party attended the elderly persons day ceremony held at Antaw-

shin Taungtan Sasanapyu Monastery in Yangyiaung Ward, Myitkyina. At the event, she delivered speech and presented gifts and cash to the senior citizens.

The SAC member also

joined the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary event of Myanmar Police Force Day at the stadium in public sports area of Myitkyina.

The Kachin State chief minister made a remark, and the commander of the kachin Police Force read out the message sent by Police Director-General Police Lt-Gen Win Zaw Moe. Then, the state chief minister, the deputy commander of the Northern Command, the state security and border affairs minister presented the outstanding police members. The Kachin State Police Major presented gifts to the State Administration Council member marking the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Myanmar Police Force Day.

The data collection processes of the state census supervisory committee chairman, the chief minister and party, district and township census committee members, supportive members,

data collectors were conducted with Mobile Tablets at the SAC member's house in Sitapu (Naungya) ward.

At noon, the SAC member and party inspected the enumeration of census at the temporary camp of Ywaynoke salvation compound in Mahnkhein Ward of Myitkyina.

They observed the living condition of families living at the camp, and provided them with cash.

Similarly, they inspected the enumeration of census at the Myanmar Philadelphia Pentecostal Church, and cordially greeted data collection members and families.

The SAC member also attended the cash donation ceremony for flood-hit people at Malikha hall of the Kachin State government office, and received K220 million cash donation from seven donors. — MNA/KTZH



State Administration Council Member Daw Dwe Bu views the Nationwide Census Collection work in Myitkyina Township yesterday.

# NATIONAL

## SAC Member inspects 2024 Nationwide Census Collection in Pathein

STATE Administration Council member Mahn Nyein Maung visited Pathein and Kangyidaunt townships yesterday afternoon to oversee the ongoing 2024 population and household census activities, accompanied by the Chief Minister of the Region and other government officials.

The team first observed the census-collecting process in Ward 2 of Pathein, encouraging accurate data collection and urging citizens to respond to inquiries thoroughly and accurately. Additionally, the SAC member and team visited Anouksugyi Village in Kangyidaunt Township to support the census activities and emphasized the importance of com-

pleting the process within the designated timeframe.

In Ayeyawady Region, the 2024 population and housing census is being conducted across 26 townships, 302 wards, and 1,920 village-tracts, covering a total of 14,296 household enumeration areas. A total of 1,022 enumeration teams, 1,150 supervisors, and 4,328 enumerators are involved in the process, alongside supporting groups, including ethnic literature and cultural associations, 426 ethnic language teachers, and 49 university faculty and students, as well as community leaders, household heads, and fire brigade members. — MNA/KZL



State Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung views the Nationwide Census Collection process in Pathein yesterday.

## Nay Pyi Taw commences Nationwide Census Collection



The Nationwide Census Collection is underway in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

**BEGINNING** on 1 October, the nationwide population and household census collections are underway, with the census teams conducting operations in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, yesterday morning.

The census teams were involved in collecting data on the population and housing for Union-level dignitaries, Union ministers, and their family members within the Zeyathiri Ward of Zabuthiri Township yesterday morning.

Additionally, the census

is being conducted in 22 enumeration areas in Zabuthiri Township, including two locations in Wunnatheikdi, two in Thukhatheikdi, two in Danatheikdi, one in Bala-theikdi, two in Mingalatheikdi, two in Bawgatheikdi, one in Nyanatheikdi, two in Pyinyatheikdi, two in Shwekyap-in Ward, one in Thabyaygon Ward, two in Aungzabyu Ward II, and one in Telgyigon Village-tract.

The census will collect information on family members of departmental heads,

national staff, and residents in the designated areas, coordinated with the township census oversight committee, ward census committees, and support teams using household questionnaires (68 questions) via mobile tablets. The collected data will be sent to the Nay Pyi Taw office server using the CAPI system.

In Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, the 2024 population and housing census will cover 271 enumeration areas, with 23 supervisors and 88 enumerators assigned according to the designated locations. Ethnic communities are urged to collaborate for their benefit and the nation's interests.

The census will be conducted from 1 to 15 October. The information gathered on population statistics will serve as the basis for formulating policies and planning related to the country's social, economic, and administrative matters to ensure balanced and sustainable development. The population and housing census is conducted every ten years. — MNA/KZL

## 60<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Police Day celebrated with awards and honours

THE 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Myanmar Police Day was celebrated yesterday at the Myanmar International Convention Centre II in Nay Pyi Taw, with Chief of the Myanmar Police Force Police Lt-Gen Win Zaw Moe delivering a speech.

The event was attended by deputy police chiefs, officers, award recipients, artistes, and invitees. Following the speech, an award ceremony took place where two officers and three other ranks were promoted to the Sanpya (model) police rank, and three officers were recognized for their gallantry. Additionally, a celebrity received an honorary certificate.

Deputy Police Chief 1 Police Maj-Gen Tin Ko Ko presented bravery awards to five other ranks and performance promotions to five more. Deputy Police Chief 2 Police Maj-Gen Aung Naing Thu recognized seven officers for administrative excellence, awarded four officers for best uniform, and presented an award for women's performance and for cleanest housing.

A video tribute to the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Myanmar Police Force was shown, followed by a group photo with Police Lt-Gen Win Zaw Moe, police officers, awardees, and celebrity representatives. — MNA/TMT



The 60<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Police Day celebration is in progress yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

# NATIONAL

## Myanmar rolls out Nationwide Census Collection

Myanmar's Nationwide Census Collection is underway across states, regions and Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory.



Nay Pyi Taw.



Mandalay.



Homalin, Sagaing Region.



Taunggyi.



PaO Self-Administered Zone.



Shwegyin, Bago.



Mongyal, Shan State (North)



Myeik.



Monywa.



Myawady.



Taungdwingyi.



Einme.



Dawei.



Patheingyi.



Pyin Oo Lwin.



Namhsan.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$13.1 million and 1.8 million yuan on 30 September.

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 \$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 notification dated 17 September, it would sell 10 million baht to importers on 18 September.

## CBM sells US\$13M, 1.8M yuan on 30 September



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

It also injected \$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 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, \$90,000 on 5 September and \$12.4 million and 80 million baht on 4 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 devaluation of currency. 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

### ADVERTORIAL

# People-Oriented, Safety First | Datang Dapein (1) Hydropower Station in Myanmar Wins "2024 Overseas Security Excellent Practice" Award

ON the morning of 10 September 2024, the 2024 Conference of Global Public Security Cooperation Forum and Sub-forum on Safe Development were held in Lianyungang City, with the theme of "Building High-Level Security, Fostering High-Quality Development Together". As the representative of central State-owned enterprises (SOEs), Datang Dapein (1) Hydropower Station in Myanmar won the "2024 Overseas Security Excellent Practice" award. A total of 10 projects in the national state-owned assets system won this award, including 3 in the power industry.

The Datang Dapein (1) Hydropower Station in Myanmar is the fourth largest power station in Myanmar. The power station is located on the Dapein in Kachin State in northeastern Myanmar, a region with a complex and sensitive security situation that has been going on for a long time. The project has permanently

attached great importance to project and personnel security. By establishing a sound organizational leadership system, implementing stringent security precaution measures, and consistently integrating security precaution measures closely with the local culture, over time, the power station has become integrated with the local community. From the initial proactive prevention to the current voluntary protection by the local government and ethnic groups, a highly unified security system between the Chinese and Myanmar governments and the people has been gradually formed.

On the one hand, the power station relies on the Power Station Security Management Committee to establish the Emergency Response Leadership Group, with the enterprise's Chief Responsible Person acting as the Group Leader and the Security Director acting as the Managing Deputy



Group Leader. The power station regularly holds security meetings to assess the security situation and coordinate the implementation of the relevant security requirements of both the Chinese and Myanmar governments. The power station has actively implemented a "Station Leader Responsibility System". At the same time, it has established a dedicated Security Office to set up a foreign affairs communication mechanism to strengthen contact with Myanmar-re-

lated departments and ensure the collection and alarm of information. The power station has actively participated in the joint prevention and control mechanism of the central State-owned enterprises in Myanmar under the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council and implemented joint prevention and control through collaboration with the competent authority of the Yunnan Provincial Foreign Affairs Office and

the Border Public Security Mangxian Checkpoint, to enhance risk response capabilities.

On the other hand, the power station has actively fulfilled its social responsibilities and promoted local people's livelihood and economic development. Since its commissioning, the power station has supplied a total of 800 million kilowatt hours of electricity and paid approximately 42 million US dollars in taxes. At the same time, the power station has trained many employees for the Ministry of Electricity and Energy of Myanmar and actively promoted local employment to support Myanmar employees in growing into the backbone workforce. In addition, the power station also organized employees from Myanmar to study in China to promote cultural exchanges and strengthen economic and cultural ties between China and Myanmar. The power station has also actively participated in social assistance, donated

money and supplies to help disaster-stricken people, and received high praise from the local government and people, significantly reducing the risk of damage to the power station. While enhancing its own development, the Dapein Hydropower Station has strengthened its connection with the local community based on social responsibility, leading to voluntary protection of the power station by the local military force, civilians and government.

In the next step, Datang Dapein (1) Hydropower Station in Myanmar will further implement and improve its long-term overseas security mechanism to ensure that it can effectively address various security challenges in a complex and changing international environment, maintain the high-quality and healthy development of central SOEs abroad and promote the friendship between China and Myanmar through fusion.

# OPINION

## Pay respect to the dignity of older persons

**A**ROUND the world, people of all ages—children, youth, middle-aged individuals, senior citizens, and older adults—play essential roles in society. A significant global trend, population ageing, is reshaping demographics across nations. Currently, life expectancy at birth exceeds 75 years in half of the world's countries, reflecting a remarkable increase of 25 years since 1950. By 2030, older adults are expected to outnumber youth globally, with the most rapid growth occurring in developing nations.

This year's theme for the United Nations International Day of Older Persons is "Ageing with Dignity: The Importance of Strengthening Care and Support Systems for Older Persons Worldwide." This theme honours the elders, celebrating their long lives while emphasizing the respect, care, and support that all communities must extend to them.

In Myanmar, society places a strong emphasis on respecting and learning from older individuals. Parents traditionally teach their children to honour their elders and seek their advice and wisdom. In return, older individuals generously share their valuable experiences, providing guidance to the younger generation and helping them navigate life's challenges. In Myanmar, older persons are prioritized and treated with complete respect in all matters, a practice deeply rooted in Buddhist teachings that reflect the nation's cultural values.

*In Myanmar, society places a strong emphasis on respecting and learning from older individuals. Parents traditionally teach their children to honour their elders and seek their advice and wisdom. In return, older individuals generously share their valuable experiences, providing guidance to the younger generation and helping them navigate life's challenges. In Myanmar, older persons are prioritized and treated with complete respect in all matters, a practice deeply rooted in Buddhist teachings that reflect the nation's cultural values.*

rapidly. This intergenerational exchange can help reduce the time spent searching for experiences, allowing more time to implement new ideas and innovations.

It is essential for younger generations to care for older persons, recognizing the significance of their experiences. This care not only provides satisfaction to older individuals but also reinforces the values of respect and dignity. Ultimately, everyone must strive to enhance their capabilities while living in this world. Older persons bear the responsibility of passing down their experiences, while younger generations must carry that knowledge forward to future generations, fostering a society that values and respects the contributions of all age groups without infringing upon each other's dignity. This mutual respect ensures a harmonious and progressive future for everyone.

Globally, societies must strive for balanced development by leveraging the invaluable experiences of elders alongside the energy and innovation of younger generations. Older individuals possess a wealth of knowledge and insights, while younger people have the capacity to absorb these skills and apply them effectively. This collaboration allows older persons to share their wisdom with new generations, benefiting society as a whole. Additionally, younger individuals gain valuable insights from their elders, enabling them to achieve success in their practical fields more

effectively. This collaboration allows older persons to share their wisdom with new generations, benefiting society as a whole. Additionally, younger individuals gain valuable insights from their elders, enabling them to achieve success in their practical fields more

**G**ENERALLY speaking, there are two kingdoms in the world of organisms and living things – the plant kingdom or Plantae and the animal kingdom or Animalia. As far as I can see, the plant kingdom would have lived together with the animal kingdom or even alive earlier than it since the very existence of this world. Whatever is said, vast numbers of plant species belong to the plant kingdom as well, and they are still natural presents to human beings today. According to Biology, plants are often classified as trees or big tall plants, shrubs or medium-sized plants of medium height, and herbs or small short plants, but in this article, I will use the term 'trees' only to cover all the plants as a whole. In actual fact, trees are our closest best friends in terms of food, clothing, and shelter, to put it simply.

It can be seen that thousands of diverse plant species grow very well here and there all around the globe. In particular, they live in groves, forests, tropical forests, and rainforests in the woods, woodland, or jungle, even though some are standing in trace numbers or alone on the

ground. Although some trees are short-lived plants, other trees that are well preserved in the wildlife sanctuary have taken more than 100 years of age in many parts of the world. As we all know, trees all over the world give birth to colourful flowers of beauty, fruits or vegetables of unique flavours or scents, interior decoration, leaves for packaging, shade to lay for, the timber of easy workability, toughness or hardness, vehicles for transportation like boats and ships, grand domestic furniture, wood for the fire, and even fossil fuels which have existed for millions of years after dead huge plants were compressed under the ground due to its pressure and geothermal energy excepting that humans should not live together with some plant species such as weeds. Do you remember 'The Quiet Life' by A. Pope? It said, 'Whose trees in summer yield him shade, in winter fire', of course. Like this, trees are spreading distributively all the way on the Earth with world life, beauty and energy.

How are trees working on Earth? According to my information, a scientific hypothesis

# One Tree for Ten Thousand Birds

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

once stated that the beginning of human life would be the fusion of a kind of algae and solar energy. This might lead to humans of today, from the point of view of evolution. Let it be. It is certain that trees are constantly providing infinite support to both living humans and the world day after day. In the main, the trees are able to carry out gas exchange, i.e. the inhaling of carbon dioxide and exhaling of oxygen into and out of plants during their process of photosynthesis. Of course, this process metaphorically means that trees are helping breathe on behalf of the living world that cannot do so. In the industrialized world, such poisonous gases

as carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide are being emitted from industries and construction sites day by day, and this emission is becoming worse and worse from year to year. Figuratively speaking, the persons who are watching and paying back this carbon debt are trees only. What is more, trees are autophytes; in other words, their 'master chef' leaves mostly make their own food from sunlight, carbon dioxide and water using their pigment chlorophyll, which is also called autotrophic nutrition of plants in Biology. Hence, we humans and other animals that are heterophytes do not need to fight for food against trees. There is

no interspecific competition between us and trees for nourishment at all!

In today's world, 'climate change' is not a sheer term; it is a global threat to all animals and humans living on the Earth. The year 2024 is supposed to be the world's hottest year by almost all people from every corner of the globe. Undoubtedly, the coming years after 2024 will be hotter than now, as far as I am concerned. And nowadays, mass flooding, landslides or storm-tossed death and destruction in the monsoon season, and drought or glacier melting in hot summer become much worse natural disasters in the world than expected. Really,

greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, which is even used for dry ice and chloroform, are naturally good for humans by giving the whole world adequate warmth after sunset, especially if they are contained in small amounts in the atmosphere. But 'enough is enough', as the saying goes. Owing to urbanization and industrialization, the amount of GHGs is extremely rising in nearly every area of the world, especially in developed countries. Now, Ching Mei City in Thailand is standing on the top of the list of the hottest ASEAN countries by the year 2024. As far as I am aware, Chauk in the Magway Region of Myanmar shot to the top of the hottest world region list this year. Clearly, such climate changes always have a close relation with trees. After all, climate change is simply the world's cry of despair on neglected human activities, most notably overlogging.

The roots of a tree tend to fix firmly at any place where it grows. This by itself can prevent soil damage from strong river water flow and high winds. Also, the dense growth of trees automatically stops fierce storms from intensely entering inland parts,

and such growth acts as a natural barrier to these parts, making less storm damage break out than normal. But without trees – particularly mangrove forests in coastal regions – natural damage limitation cannot be done as mentioned above. Even worse, when trees are cut down or burnt for fuel, carbon is given to break loose from the trees to my certain knowledge. By the time this carbon combines with oxygen from the atmosphere, gases like carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide are formed, as usual. Too many of those gases will certainly make the world a scorched environment in the not-too-distant future. Out of human activities related to the natural environment, coal mining or burning fossil fuels – petroleum, coal and natural gas – is the worst. We cannot or must not control nature, yet we are able to conserve nature as much as we can. All animals, including humans, must rely on nature for their survival chances. Quite apparently, trees will give off moisture and have a cooling effect on humans, mainly those who are feeling blistering heat in the summer.

To cut a long story short,

almost every tree all around the world keeps the natural environment green, beautiful, clean and healthy. Without any deforestation, the entire world would turn out to be greener and cleaner even than before, causing little or no natural damage. And animals will not face the loss of their habitats. Also, trees are home to birds and leopards. Global climate change depends on forests to an obvious extent. As to trees, there can be found some Myanmar sayings: Weather and climate depend upon forests (ဥတုရာသီ တောကို မှီ၏), Plants keep the wind clean as well as gardens and woods make the mind fresh (ပန်းမနံ့သစ်ပင် လေသန့်စင်၍ ဥယျာဉ် တောတန်း စိတ်ရှင်လန်း၏), Plant trees in our world to make it scenic and greenish (သစ်ပင်စိုက် ဝါ တို့ကမ္ဘာ သာယာလှပ စိမ်းမြေ့). Of course, trees even play an essential role in the non-living world, which means that the beauty of trees is put forth and written in poetry and stories by nature-lover authors.

Try to think. Rarely does the whole body of a tree have any useless thing. Thus, we ought to plant as many trees as possible for our lifetime happiness.

# Computing empowers medical services, disaster warning capabilities

*Individuals hesitant to see a therapist in person can now consult an AI therapist through a WeChat mini programme, which assesses mental health and emotional states via facial recognition.*

**W**HEN someone with an emotional issue or mental illness struggles with the idea of seeing a therapist in person, there is now another option: speaking to an artificial intelligence (AI) therapist through a WeChat mini program.

The AI therapist can answer questions about mental health, conduct mental health assessments and judge a person's emotional state by capturing facial expressions with the camera on the mobile phone. It was presented at the two-day 2024 World Computing Conference held this week in Changsha, the capital of

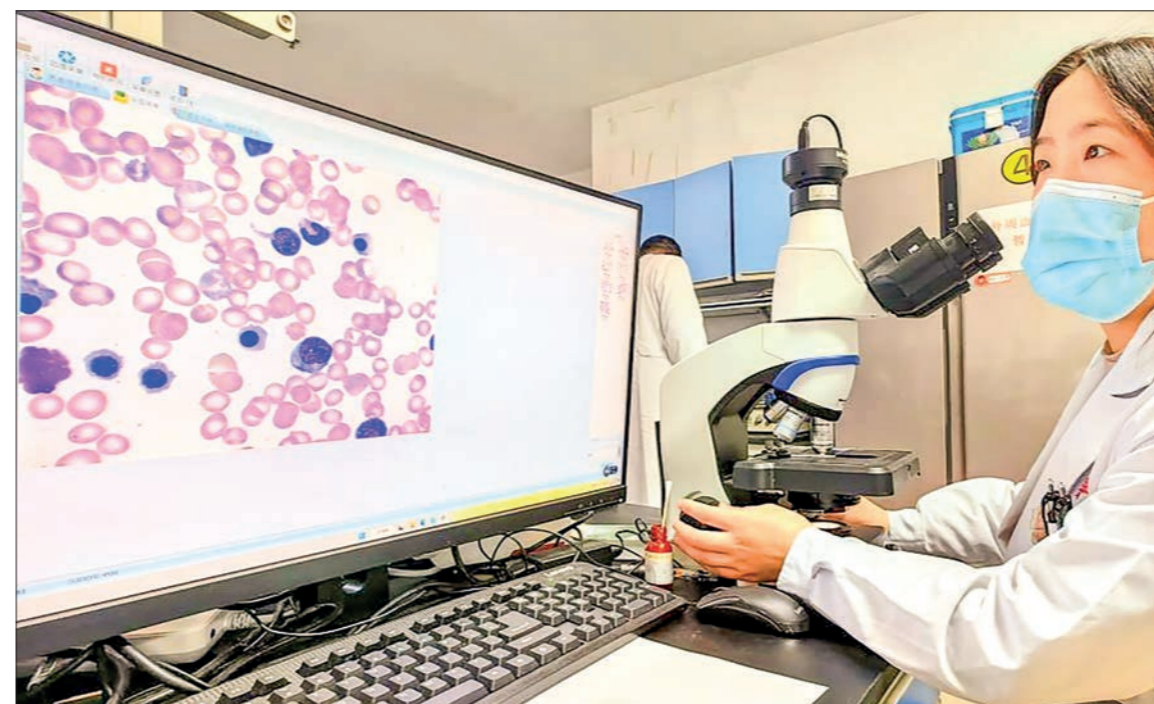
central China's Hunan Province. "The AI therapist will reply accordingly with its diagnosis and recommendations, speaking in an appropriate tone that should help comfort the person," said Yu Min, executive dean of the innovation research institute of Hunan Trasen Science & Technology Corp Ltd, developer of the AI medical system.

People can also reach out to an AI doctor that can diagnose users after they describe their symptoms. It can also carry out traditional Chinese medicine tongue diagnosis and provide recipes and exercise recom-

mendations to achieve improved balance and harmony within the body.

"Traditional models cannot meet the need to develop such systems in medical services, which require a high level of accuracy. However, fast-developing computing power has provided us with strong support to develop this medical system in a more accurate way," Yu said.

According to Pan Yunhe, an academician at the Chinese Academy of Engineering, new models are expected to help us become more knowledgeable and work toward preventive treat-



An examiner checks the results made by an artificial intelligence (AI) model for blood cell testing in a laboratory at Xinqiao Hospital under the Army Medical University in southwest China's Chongqing, 14 February 2023. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ XINQIAO HOSPITAL/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA

ments for diseases in the coming years if data gathered from physical examinations, disease cases,

families and regions is combined. With extreme weather events increasing in frequency,

computing power also has a huge role to play in the prevention and control of natural disasters.

Thanks to a disaster monitoring and early warning platform, six households in Dayinggang Village, Hunan's Changde City, were able to relocate before a landslide occurred due to a week of rainfall in June.

The platform, developed by Hunan BDS Micro-chipset Data Technology Co Ltd, is able to capture subtle changes in mountains by deploying high-precision monitoring equipment and sensors based on the BeiDou Navigation Satellite System, said Long Pengyu, the company's deputy general manager.

"The platform can analyze the monitoring data to determine the mountain's status and predict natural disasters such as mudslides and landslides more than three hours in advance of their occurrence," he said.

The prevention of geological disasters such as landslides is an important task during the flood

season in Hunan. Landslides develop quickly in extreme weather, and early warnings can now be sent via radio and text messages to help residents relocate in advance to avoid deaths, injuries and financial losses, Long added.

To date, the monitoring and early warning platform has been applied in more than 10 provinces in China.

"With accelerating technological innovation and algorithm improvement, we now have better warning results and accuracy levels. As a developer, we're also making efforts to reduce costs so that the platform can be used over a wider range and benefit more residents," he said.

The scale of China's computing industry reached 2.6 trillion yuan (about US\$370 billion) in 2022, according to official statistics.

SOURCE: Xinhua



# NATIONAL

## MSWRR hosts International Day of Older Persons

THE celebration for the International Day of Older Persons took place yesterday morning at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the event, the Union Minister shared that, according to the 2019 Interim Census, the population of senior citizens aged 60 and above in Myanmar was approximately 5.2 million. This number is projected to increase to over 6.5 million by 2024, based on estimates from the Department of Population.

The Union minister emphasized the need for comprehensive healthcare, support, and social services for older adults, both in Myanmar and globally. The theme for this year's 26<sup>th</sup> In-



The documentary group photo of the International Day of Older Persons event held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

ternational Day of Older Persons is "Fostering the Dignity of Older Persons Through Inclusive Care

Worldwide". The Myanmar National Committee for Older Persons,

established in 2017, continues to implement initiatives to protect the rights and welfare of older

people. A national social pension scheme, introduced in 2017 aims to provide financial security for seniors. For the 2024-2025 financial year, the scheme is planning to distribute pensions to 110,796 elderly individuals aged 85 and above. As part of the celebrations, Myanmar will continue its tradition of honouring the oldest living grandparents in each state and region with a cash reward of K1 million each.

Additionally, a documentary on the welfare and rights of older people was screened during the event. The Union minister, deputy ministers, and committee members for elder care also donated essential goods, medicines, and monetary gifts to senior citizens. — MNA/KZL

## Monsoon military training for UTC volunteer students, faculty launched



Trainees are seen attending the training for volunteer students and faculty members of the University Training Corps yesterday.

THE University Training Corps of the Directorate of People's Militia and Border Guard Force of the office of Commander-in-Chief (Army) conducted training for volunteer students and faculty members of the University Training Corps (UTC). The monsoon training opening ceremonies for UTC of the 2023-2024 academic year were opened in Nay Pyi Taw, Hmawby of Yangon,

Myittha of Mandalay, Maingmaw, Patheingyi of Ayeyawady and Toungoo of Bago regions yesterday.

Respective region chief ministers attended the opening ceremonies, as did commanders of respective commands, officials of the Directorate of People's Militia and Border Guard Force of the office of Commander-in-Chief (Army), and trainees. Officials also

made opening speeches respectively.

They also presented the cash awards, foodstuffs and sports gear to the trainees.

The first-year basic military training, second-year basic military training, and first-year advanced training will be conducted, and trainees will be trained as per the ordinary training and camping training framework. — MNA/KTZH

## Myanmar participates in 'Ambassador Talk Programme' in Nepal

MYANMAR Ambassador to Nepal U Myo Myint Maung participated in the 'Ambassador Talk Programme' at the Army Command and Staff College of Nepal on 29 September, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The programme is dedicated to the 31<sup>st</sup> batch of the Command and Staff Course at the college. At the college's invitation, the ambassador delivered a lecture on Myanmar's foreign policy and Myanmar-Nepal relations to trainees from ten countries, including Myanmar, who are participating in a 10-month course.

The ambassador and his wife also attended a ceremony to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China at Hotel Yak & Yeti at the invitation of Chinese Ambassador to Nepal Mr Chen Song, along with heads of other embassies based in Kathmandu on 27 September.

Additionally, the ambassador was present at the 45<sup>th</sup> World Tourism Day ceremony, celebrated by the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation of Nepal at the Cultural Corporation Centre. — MNA/TH



Myanmar Ambassador to Nepal U Myo Myint Maung (C) is seen alongside officials at the Army Command and Staff College of Nepal, where he gives a lecture at the 'Ambassador Talk Programme' of No 31<sup>st</sup> Command and Staff Course on 29 September 2024.

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

## Film artistes, KBZ Bank join for Kalaw, Nyaungshwe relief efforts

ACCORDING to actress Su Pan Htwa, donations of money and food supplies were made on 29 September to the offices of the flood relief and rehabilitation teams in Kalaw and Nyaungshwe, Shan State, through the “Charity Song, Charity for Flood Relief” programme, which involved film artistes.

KBZ Bank provided funds and food supplies to flood victims in Kalaw and Nyaungshwe, with film artists accompanying bank staff to these towns. The artists performed songs and offered words of encour-

agement to the affected communities.

Actress Su Pan Htwa said, “Our group, along with KBZ Bank, travelled to Kalaw for flood relief efforts. We were able to make meaningful donations to those in real need in Kalaw and Nyaungshwe. It was rewarding to be part of this, and we also entertained them with songs to help lift their spirits, even if only briefly.”

The entertainment group reportedly included Ngapyaw Kyaw, Zin Myo, Kyaw Kyaw, and Su Myat Noe Oo. — ASH/MKKS



This photo showcases film artistes performing for flood victims as part of the flood donation programme.

## Relief, rehabilitation underway in flood-hit areas after water recedes



Rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures are ongoing amid the receding water.

EFFORTS for relief and recovery are proceeding vigorously in regions and states affected by flooding, including the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. Assistance is being provided to relocate essential items for monasteries, schools, hospitals, and government buildings, while sanitation work is ongoing on local roads, bridges, and villages in Zeyathiri, Pyinmana, Lewe, and Pobbathiri townships within Nay Pyi Taw, as well as in Kalaw in southern Shan State and Loikaw in Kayah State. Members of Tatmadaw, police officers, firefighters, Red Cross personnel, and civil society organizations are collaborating with resi-

dents to clear debris and fallen trees, ensuring safety and cleanliness.

Additionally, temporary shelters are offering vital health care services and awareness programmes to flood victims. Essential supplies, including clothing, food, and funds, have been distributed by the Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, chief ministers of the relevant states and regions, and other officials.

Furthermore, efforts to repair roads and bridges damaged by the flooding are underway. Temporary steel Bailey bridges are being installed as replacements, while repairs on other damaged bridges are

progressing swiftly.

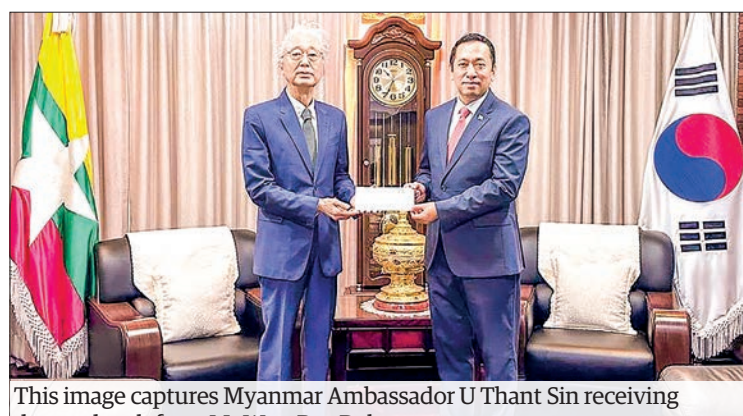
The flooding and landslides in the Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory and various states and regions were caused by the remnants of Typhoon Yagi, resulting in fatalities and widespread destruction. As of 1 October, a total of 436 civilians have died, and 66 others are reported missing. Additionally, 181,491 animals have perished, while 793,619 acres of paddy fields and 73,424 acres of other crop cultivations have been destroyed. Numerous houses, schools, government buildings, and essential infrastructure have also been lost in the floods. — MNA/TMT

## Myanmar Honorary Consul-General in Busan donates \$3,000 for flood relief

MR Won Bae Dahn, Honorary Consul-General of Myanmar in Busan, Korea, donated \$3,000 to the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul on 30 September to support relief and rehabilitation efforts in Myanmar’s flood-damaged areas.

In gratitude for this contribution, the Myanmar ambassador U Thant Sin expressed thanks and presented him with a certificate of appreciation.

Donors in Korea are reportedly contributing funds for flood relief, and donations received



This image captures Myanmar Ambassador U Thant Sin receiving donated cash from Mr Won Bae Dahn.

by the Myanmar Embassy will be transferred to the impacted people through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — ASH/TMT

### Special Weather News

Issued at (17:00) hours MST on 1-10-2024

ACCORDING to the observations at (16:30)hrs 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, remnant of Typhoon “Krathon” over the South China Sea, rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin, Mon States with likelihood of regionally and isolated heavyfalls and strong wind from today evening to 5 October 2024.

#### Advisory

People should be aware of the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, Lightning strike, lightning, hails, flash floods and landslides in the hilly areas and near small rivers and inland water transport and domestic flights.

# NATIONAL

## New train carriages deployed on Yangon-Bago route

YANGON Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein attended the inauguration ceremony for the new Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) trains purchased from Spain at Yangon Railway Station yesterday.

The chief minister spoke on the occasion that the government is making efforts in the transport sector to promote the socioeconomic status of people and keep them up-to-date with the developing trend. The Yangon circular railway line is being upgraded, and the people can enjoy services for the Yangon-Bago route with the Spain-made DEMU train carriages, which is proof of the government's effort. He then urged the passengers and locals to



A new DEMU train is set to begin service on the Yangon-Bago route.

have discipline as the government spent millions of dollars on railway line upgrades and the procurement of new trains. Then, Deputy Minister for Trans-

port and Communications U Aung Myaing highlighted the emergence of 161 miles long Yangon-Pyay railway section, efforts of the government to promote

the socioeconomic status of people, fulfil the needs and proposals of passengers and logistics facilitators, and urged the staff to ensure the safe trips for the train passengers and transport the goods at low prices.

Then, the Myanmar Railways director reported on the train services of No 15 up and No 16 down for the Yangon-Bago section using DEMU trains and the Yangon circular railway upgrade project.

After the ceremonial procedures, the chief minister and party cordially greeted the passengers of the No 15 Yangon-Bago Up train and gave presents to them. Moreover, the chief minister and party took a short ride with the No 15 DEMU train

from the Yangon Railway Station to the Toekyaungkalay station.

The No 16 Bago-Yangon down train will leave at 6 am from Bago railway station and arrive at Yangon railway station at 8:20 pm. The No 15 Yangon-Bago train will depart from Yangon railway station at 4:45 pm and arrive at Bago railway station at 7:5pm. The train will stop at 12 stations – Pazundaung, Mahlwagon, Thingangyun, Toekyaungkalay, Ywathagyi, Laydauntkan, Dapein, Kawchae, Htonegyi, Kyauktan, Tarwa and Phayathonezu. The DEMU train can accommodate 832 passengers; it is K2,500 per head for a single trip and K1,300 for a half-trip. — San Kyaw Oo (IPRD)/KTZH

## 67<sup>th</sup> Aungbarlay Lottery winning numbers announced, generating K5.5B+



This photo shows the opening ceremony of the 67<sup>th</sup> Aungbarlay Lottery on 1 October 2024.

ON 1 October, the 67<sup>th</sup> Aungbarlay lottery took place, revealing the following winning numbers.

The highest prize of K500 million was awarded to ticket A671840, while the second highest prize of K200 million went to ticket F108357. Additionally, the K100 million prize was won by ticket C355533.

In total, 552,276 lottery booklets were sold, generating K5,522.76 million in revenue. — Htet Oo Maung/TRKM

## Counter-argument to false information

### Misinformation fuels Tatmadaw-public misunderstandings after Kawlin attack

MALICIOUS media outlets are circulating misinformation, falsely claiming that Tatmadaw bombarded a road junction east of Oakkan village in Kawlin Township, Sagaing Region.

However, a resident and an official from the area stated that these reports were completely untrue. In reality, terrorists who attacked local people using heavy weapons and drones after losing their support due to their inhumane acts. Their brutal conducts resulted in the destruction of homes and caused several fatalities.

Despite this, subversive media outlets continue to spread misinformation, aiming to create a rift between Tatmadaw and the public while concealing the utter inhumanity of the terrorists. — MNA/TRKM



This screenshot reveals fake news.

## Action against illicit trade seizes illegal goods worth K3.108B

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, legal action is being taken nationwide against illicit trading activities. During inspections on 24 and 30 September, combined teams managed by the Customs Department seized various industrial materials and consumer goods that were not in accordance with the Import Declaration (ID). At the Myanmar Industrial Port, they impounded two types of industrial materials and one type of consumer goods, with a total value of approximately K1.16 billion from 16 containers. Additionally, at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint, they found five types of industrial materials and one type of consumer goods valued at about K1.75 billion from 47 containers, all lacking official documentation. They also confiscated auto spare parts worth K1.36 million without proper documents at the Yangon International Airport (Import Desk). The action was carried out following Customs procedures.

On 30 September, a combined team from the Taninthayi and Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Forces seized two types of industrial materials worth K34.15 million in Myeik Township, as well as four types of industrial materials



and ten types of consumer goods valued at K76.56 million, which were transported in two trucks without official documents (approximately worth K63 million) at the Kyweltatsone checkpoint. This operation also adhered to Customs procedures.

Moreover, the on-duty teams confiscated ten unregistered motorbikes valued at around K3.7 million in the Magway and Thayet Districts, as well as illegal timber weighing 5.098 tonnes and worth K693,355 in Patheingyi District. The action was executed under the Export-Import Law and the Forest Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported that 44 arrests were made on 24 and 30 September, with an estimated total value of K3.108 billion in confiscated goods. — MNA/MKKS

# China ranks first in driving world economic growth from 1979 to 2023

OVER the past 75 years since the founding of the People's Republic of China, the country's economic strength, scientific and technological capabilities, and overall national power have significantly increased, and its international influence has greatly expanded, according to a report from the National Bureau of Statistics.

From 1979 to 2023, China's economic growth averaged 8.9 per cent annually, far exceeding the average global economic growth of three per cent during the same period.

China's average annual contribution to world economic growth was 24.8 per cent, ranking first in the world, according to the report.

Following are some highlights of the country's economic achievements over the past 75 years:

— In 1952, China's GDP was only US\$30 billion. In 1978, China's GDP increased to \$149.5 billion dollars, accounting for 1.7 per cent of the world economy. Since the reform and opening up, China's economic aggregate has continued to expand.



A staff member works at a workshop in the Heihe Area of China (Heilongjiang) Pilot Free Trade Zone in Heihe, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, 31 January 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

In 2023, China's GDP reached \$17.8 trillion, accounting for 16.9 per cent of the world's total and

solidifying its position as the world's second-largest economy.

— In 1985, the number

of invention patent applications in China was 8,558. This number had soared to 526,000 by 2011, making China the world leader in this area. As of the end of 2022, China's number of accepted applications for invention patents reached 1.619 million, firmly securing its position as the world leader.

— In 1950, China's foreign trade of goods was only \$1.1 billion, accounting for 0.9 per cent of the world's total. In 2013, China became the world's largest goods trading nation. By 2023, China's total

goods trade had reached \$5.9 trillion, accounting for 12.4 per cent of the global share, and has consistently ranked first in the world for seven consecutive years.

— Service trade has also undergone tremendous expansions. At the beginning of the founding of the People's Republic of China, China's service trade was almost zero. In 2023, the country's total service trade import and export volume reached \$933.1 billion, ranking fourth in the world. — Xinhua

## Russia, China settling 95% of payments in own currencies - ambassador to Beijing



Chinese 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5 yuan bills and Russian 1,000 and 100 rouble bills. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

TODAY, 95 per cent of settlements between Russia and China are carried out without the participation of third-country currencies, Russian Ambassador to China Igor Morgulov said in an interview with Sputnik.

In March-April of this year, a slight decline was observed in bilateral Russian-Chinese trade. In particular, in March, for the first time since 2022, the total export of goods from China to Russia decreased year-on-year. Many attributed this to the

difficulty of mutual settlements.

Trade between China and Russia increased by 26.3 per cent to a record \$240.11 billion in 2023. Russian and Chinese leaders, Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping, previously set the goal of doubling trade from \$100 billion a year in 2018 to \$200 billion by 2024, a figure that was reached in November 2023. Russia and China celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations on 2 October. — SPUTNIK

## Qatar Airways to buy minority stake in Virgin Australia

QATAR Airways has reached a deal to buy a minority stake in Australia's second-largest airline, Virgin Australia.

Virgin Australia announced on Tuesday that Qatar Airways will acquire a 25 per cent equity stake in the airline from its owner, Bain Capital, pending approval by the government's Foreign Investment Review Board.

Under the proposed deal, Virgin Australia plans to launch flights from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth to Doha. Jayne Hrdlicka, chief executive of Virgin Australia, said that the proposed long-haul services would generate an economic benefit of three billion Australian dollars (US\$2.07 billion) to the Australian economy through incremental visi-

tor flows over the next five years. "This partnership brings the missing piece to Virgin Australia's longer-term strategy and is a huge vote of confidence in Australian aviation," she said in a statement. "Importantly, it will further strengthen Virgin Australia's ability to compete over the long term, which will inevitably translate into more choice and even better value air-

fares for consumers."

Virgin Australia is the country's second-biggest airline and is the only competitor to Qantas, and its budget carrier Jetstar, on major domestic routes.

In April 2020, Virgin Australia became one of the first major airlines in the world to collapse during the COVID-19 pandemic when it entered voluntary administration. — Xinhua

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SEOUL GLOW VOY.NO. (437W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SEOUL GLOW VOY.NO. (437W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-10-2024 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 SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE., LTD

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HE LE VOY.NO. (0UV9CS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V HE LE VOY.NO. (0UV9CS1NC) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-10-2024 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT/AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

## UNGA general debate concludes with call for ceasefire in Middle East



UNGA President Philemon Yang (C and on the screens) delivers concluding remarks during the General Debate of the 79<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) at the UN headquarters in New York, on 30 September 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

THE General Debate of the 79<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) concluded on Monday, with UNGA President Philemon Yang calling on Israel, Hamas and Hezbollah to urgently conclude a ceasefire. In his concluding remarks, Yang said the world has seen an extremely dramatic escalation of violence between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon in the past few days, warn-

ing that escalation risks causing war in the entire Middle East region. "As we speak, peace in the Middle East is hanging delicately on a shoestring! There is pervasive tension and uncertainty in the region," he said.

"The world must not allow an all-out war to happen in this volatile region," he stressed.

Yang called on all those with influence on the parties to demand an immediate cease-

fire and dialogue, and urged all states supplying weapons to the region to desist from such actions and "give peace a chance".

Emphasizing that negotiations and diplomatic solutions must take precedence over brutal force, he said the Charter of the United Nations instructs that member states settle their disputes peacefully, so as not to endanger international peace and security. — Xinhua

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Malaysia plans to create national cloud policy, AI regulatory framework

MALAYSIA plans to create a national cloud policy and artificial intelligence (AI) regulatory framework, Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim said on Tuesday.

The national cloud policy will focus on four core areas, namely boosting public service innovation and efficiency, promoting economic competitiveness and growth, strengthening user trust and data security and empowering citizens through digital inclusivity, he said at a ground-breaking ceremony for Google's new US\$2 billion data centre and cloud region in the country.

"We aim to position Malaysia as a hub for generative AI and investments from tech partners will be critical in building a robust and secure digital infrastructure," Anwar said.

In line with efforts to position Malaysia as a competitive player in the global AI landscape, he said the government is establishing the National AI Office to coordinate all initiatives related to AI technology.

Anwar said the government aims to achieve several key outcomes in the next 12 months including to complete its AI Technology Action Plan (2026 to 2030) and the establishment of a regulatory framework to increase adoption of ethical and sustainable AI technology. — Xinhua

#### Dozens killed after bus catches fire in Thai capital Bangkok

AROUND 25 people were killed and several others missing after a bus carrying passengers on a school trip in Thailand's capital Bangkok caught fire on Tuesday, senior officials said.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transport Suriya Jungrungreangkit said the single-decker bus carrying 44 passengers on board, including six teachers and 38 students, from a school in northern Uthai Thani province became engulfed in flames shortly after midday. Nineteen passengers were rescued from the coach and rushed to hospitals for treatment, Suriya told reporters.

In a social media post, Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra offered her condolences to the families of the injured and deceased, assuring them that the government would pay for their medical bills and compensate those who had suffered losses as a result of the incident. — Xinhua

## S Korean president warns North of 'regime end' if it uses nukes

NORTH Korea's Kim Jong Un would face the end of his regime if he used his nuclear weapons against the South, its president said Tuesday, as Seoul staged a parade showcasing its military prowess.

Fighter jets flew over downtown Seoul and tanks rolled through the streets, as South Korea displayed weaponry including its largest ballistic missile, the Hyunmoo-5, which is capable of destroying underground

bunkers, for the first time.

The event, which marks Armed Forces Day in the South, comes as relations between the two Koreas are at one of their lowest points in decades, with Pyongyang declaring the South its "principal enemy" and moving nuclear-capable weapons to the border.

"If North Korea attempts to use nuclear weapons, it will face the resolute and overwhelming response of our military and the

US and Republic of Korea alliance," Seoul's President Yoon Suk Yeol said.

"That day will be the end of the North Korean regime," Yoon said, addressing thousands of service members gathered at Seoul Air Base for the event.

Washington stations tens of thousands of troops in South Korea to help defend it against the North, and Seoul — which has no nukes of its own — is covered by the US nuclear umbrella. — AFP



Long-range surface-to-air guided missiles are seen during a parade to celebrate South Korea's 76<sup>th</sup> Armed Forces Day in Seoul on 1 October 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

# SPORTS

## Shan United to host AFC Challenge League group matches in Yangon

MYANMAR'S Shan United will host the 2024-2025 AFC Challenge League Group D matches at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon.

The tournament will be divided between the East and West Asian zones, with the West Asian zone featuring four teams in three groups and the East Asian zone having three teams in two groups. Shan United will compete in Group D of the East Asian zone alongside Chinese Taipei's Taichung Futuro and Laos' Young Elephant.

Group D matches will be held from 27 October to 2 November, with Shan United playing as the home team. The fixtures are as follows: Shan United (Myanmar) versus Young Elephant (Laos) on 27 October; Taichung Futuro (Chinese Taipei) versus Young Ele-

phant (Laos) on 30 October; and Shan United (Myanmar) versus Taichung Futuro (Chinese Taipei) on 2 November.

In the group stage draw, the West Asian zone Group A sees East Bengal (India), Nejmeh (Lebanon), Bashundhara Kings (Bangladesh), and Paro (Bhutan). Group B features Al-Arabi (Kuwait), Arkadag (Turkmenistan), Maldivian side Maziya, and Abdysh-Ata (Kyrgyzstan). Group C comprises Al-Ahli (Bahrain), Al-Futowa (Syria), Al-Seeb (Oman), and Hilal Al-Quds (Palestine). Meanwhile, the East Asian zone Group D consists of Shan United (Myanmar), Tainan City (Chinese Taipei), and Young Elephant (Laos), while Group E includes Madura United (Indonesia), Svay Rieng (Cambodia), and Falcon (Mongolia).

The top two teams from each of the two East Asian groups will advance to the next round, and from the West Asian zone, the top team from each of the three groups and one best-performing second-placed team will qualify. The quarter-finals will feature four teams from the East Asian zone and four from the West Asian zone, with a single match to determine who progresses to the finals, which will feature one team from each zone.

The West Asian group matches will take place from 26 October to 1 November, while the East Asian group matches will be held from 27 October to 2 November. The group matches will be conducted simultaneously, with the quarterfinals and finals being single matches. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Shan United FC has secured the opportunity to compete in the AFC Challenge League. PHOTO: SUFC



The Myanmar Women's National Team in action against the Indian Women's National Team in June. PHOTO: THAW GYI

## Team Myanmar to play 2 friendlies this month

THE Myanmar Women's National Football Team is set to compete in two international friendly matches this month, with training camps scheduled in the lead-up to the fixtures.

Although the team has not participated in international competitions this year, they previously played two friendly matches in June. The upcoming matches will see Myanmar face the Hong Kong Women's National Team in Yangon on 24 and 26 October.

In their last international outings, the Myanmar team se-

cured a 2-1 victory against the Indian Women's National Team in the first match held in Yangon on 9 July, while the second match ended in a 1-1 draw.

Both Myanmar and Hong Kong faced each other last year in the 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games held in China, where Myanmar emerged victorious with a 1-0 win.

The team will be managed by Japanese head coach Yuki Takashiro, who will finalize the squad with players performing well in the domestic league. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

GIRONA make their home debut in the Champions League on Wednesday, while Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid play away matches in the group stage of the tournament.

Girona coach Michel Sanchez has almost a full squad available for the game against Dutch side Feyenoord at the Montilivi Stadium, which will have a festive atmosphere as it hosts its first-ever European match.

A late goal against Paris Saint-Germain denied the Spanish side a point in their Champions League opener two weeks ago. To keep their hopes of qualifying for the knockout stages alive, Girona need to secure wins in their home fixtures.

Key departures like Artem Dovbyk, Aleix Garcia, Eric Garcia, Yan Couto, and Savinho have led to significant changes in the

## Girona ready for Champions League home debut while Mbappe back for Real Madrid



Real Madrid's French forward (9) Kylian Mbappe talks with Real Madrid's Italian coach Carlo Ancelotti as he leaves the pitch during the Spanish league football match between Real Madrid CF and Deportivo Alaves at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 24 September 2024. PHOTO: AFP

Girona squad following their impressive third-place finish in La Liga last season. However, a 1-1 draw away to Celta Vigo over the weekend suggests that the new lineup is beginning to find its rhythm. In a surprise move, Kylian Mbappe has been included in Real Madrid's squad travelling to Lille, despite expectations that the French striker would not play before the international break due to a muscle injury.

Dani Ceballos, David Alaba, and Brahim Diaz remain sidelined with injuries, and they are joined by Thibaut Courtois, who suffered an abductor injury in Sunday's derby against Atletico Madrid. Andriy Lunin will replace Courtois as goalkeeper, having provided cover for much of last season when Courtois was recovering from a knee operation.

Much attention from the Madrid derby has centred on the misconduct of the 'Frente Atletico' supporters group, who threw various objects at Courtois in the second half, forcing a 15-minute stoppage in play.

Atletico Madrid could face a significant fine and a partial stadium closure due to Sunday's incidents, and all eyes will be on their fan behaviour during the upcoming away match against Benfica in Lisbon. — Xinhua



## Leaders of European countries send congratulations on PRC's 75<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary

LEADERS of European countries have recently sent messages or letters of congratulations to Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic said that China has set an example of and injected impetus into global development, and the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind, the Belt and Road Initiative, and the three global initiatives put forward by Xi will promote the building of a more just, equitable and progressive world. He added that Serbia is willing to work with China to jointly build a Serbia-China community with a shared future in the new era.

Hungarian President Tamas Sulyok said that China has become an important force on the international stage, and that Hungary is willing to continue to be China's partner, deepen cooperation in various fields and achieve common development goals.

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier said that China actively responds to global challenges including the climate change, adding that it is more important than ever to carry out close and practical bilateral cooperation. He believed that Germany-China relations will continue to consolidate and deepen. — Xinhua



Shigeru Ishiba stands during a special Diet session in Tokyo, Japan, 1 October 2024. Shigeru Ishiba, leader of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, was officially elected the country's prime minister on Tuesday after winning a majority of votes in both houses of parliament. PHOTO: XINHUA

## Ishiba elected Japanese PM, unveils cabinet lineup

**S**HIGERU Ishiba, leader of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), was officially elected the country's prime minister on Tuesday after winning a majority of votes in both houses of parliament.

The Japanese Diet convened an extraordinary session in the afternoon to choose the new prime minister. As the ruling coalition led by the LDP controls both chambers, 67-year-old Ishiba received 291 of 461 votes in the House of Representatives and 143 of 242 votes in the House of Councillors.

After the special Diet session, the 67-year-old veteran politician unveiled his cabinet lineup consisting of 13 first-time appointees, two reappointments and four returning ministers with previous cabinet experience.

He will later be formally inaugurated in a ceremony at the Imperial Palace and hold a press conference in the evening to lay out his policy priorities.

In the new cabinet, former Defence Minister Takeshi Iwaya became minister of foreign affairs, while former Defence Minister Gen Nakatani once again returned to

the post. Yoshimasa Hayashi, the top government spokesman under Kishida, will retain the post of chief cabinet secretary.

Katsunobu Kato, one of Ishiba's competitors in the LDP race, will take the position of finance minister, while Yoichi Muto will serve as minister for economy, trade, and industry. Only two women were appointed to the cabinet: Toshiko Abe as minister of education, culture, sports, science, and technology, and Junko Mihara as minister for children's policies, reducing the number of female ministers by three compared with the Kishida cabinet. — Xinhua



This photo released on 30 September 2024 shows Israeli troops stationed on the Israeli side of the Israel-Lebanon border. PHOTO: ISRAELI DEFENCE FORCES/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA

## Israel says launches Lebanon ground offensive, escalating conflict

THE Israeli army said it launched a ground offensive in Lebanon and that its forces engaged in clashes Tuesday, further escalating the conflict after a week of intense air strikes that killed hundreds.

The UN peacekeeping mission in Lebanon said, however, the Israeli operation did not amount to a "ground incursion" and while Hezbollah denied any

troops had crossed the border, an Israeli security official said localized raids had taken place and they were limited in scope.

There was no way to immediately verify the claims, which came as Israel targeted south Beirut, Damascus and Gaza, despite international calls for restraint to avoid a regional conflagration.

Israeli Defence Minister

Yoav Gallant warned the fight was far from over, even after a massive strike on Beirut killed Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah on Friday. His death dealt a heavy blow to the Iran-backed group.

The Israeli military said its forces, backed by air strikes and artillery, carried out "limited, localized, targeted operations" in Lebanon. — AFP