

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivers speech at the third anniversary of the Myanmar Coast Guard and patrol vessels commissioned into service ceremonies at No 3 Naval Jetty (Thilawa), Yangon Region, yesterday.

**Salient points of the speech delivered by the Senior General at the ceremony to commission four fast patrol vessels into service**

1. A plan is underway to extend the work establishment of the Myanmar Coast Guard with many vessels, materials and manpower.
2. The Myanmar Coast Guard needs to initiate the White Hull Diplomacy in relationship with international maritime organizations to serve humanitarian aid and maritime security measures.
3. The MCG members have to serve their duties as civilian oriented troop to protect civilians by carrying out non-military maritime search and rescue measures, conservation of maritime natural environment and combatting pirates.

## Four 48-metre fast patrol vessels commissioned into service for Myanmar Coast Guard

The Coast Guard must be built with the capability to ensure the safety of national maritime interests, the maritime environment, and uphold the rule of law on the water and in aerospace, from the primary coast to the exclusive economic zone.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing outlined that Coast Guard members have to cooperate with internal maritime organizations to conscientiously serve their assigned duties in relations with international maritime organizations

while protecting maritime interests and resources.

In commemoration of the third anniversary of the Myanmar Coast Guard, a ceremony to commission four 48-metre fast patrol vessels into service took place

at No 3 Naval Jetty (Thilawa) yesterday afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

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Japan expands new job for Myanmar technological trainees

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Myanmar Government facilitates safe return of its citizen facing difficulties abroad

# NATIONAL



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



## Fostering a Love for Forests: Cultivating Trees for a Greener Future

Embracing a love for forests and nurturing the growth of all planted trees is essential. Trees must be systematically cultivated to ensure a lush, green environment and favourable weather for future generations.

*(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the first monsoon tree-growing ceremony 2024 of Tatmadaw families at the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) on 7 June 2024)*



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

<p>(a) To uplift national prestige and integrity and to preserve the cultural heritage and national characteristics</p> <p>(b) To explore, preserve and uplift the traditional cultural heritage of performing arts of ethnic nationals and national cultural</p>	<p>characteristics</p> <p>(c) To explore and preserve the traditional cultural heritage for the young generation and further propagate the national spirit</p> <p>(d) To serve as a national cultural entity for State development, peace, and stability</p>
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## Replanting efforts underway for flood-damaged paddy fields in Yangon Region

According to the Department of Agriculture in Yangon Region, 46,796 acres of paddy have been replanted after flooding caused by the effects of Typhoon Yagi. For this year's rainy season, 1,148,222 acres were planned for monsoon paddy cultivation in the region, of which 1,101,506 acres were planted. However, due to rising water levels from the Hlaing River and Ayeyawady River, 99,205 acres of paddy fields were flooded and damaged. As of 25 September, 46,796 acres of paddy have been replanted.



Farmers replant monsoon paddy at a field damaged by flooding caused by the effects of Typhoon Yagi in Yangon Region. **PHOTO: KANU**

In the flood-affected areas, the Department of Agriculture has undertaken recovery efforts. These include salvaging seedlings, supplying water to help the plants grow, broadcasting gypsum powder (112 pounds per acre), and adding urea and compound fertilizers at a rate of 56 pounds per acre when the plants turn. In addition, 1/4 of a bag of potash fertilizer per acre

was applied during the flood recovery. The Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) is providing the necessary monsoon paddy seeds and fertilizers through the crop delivery system based on the level of damage.

For the 2024-2025 season, efforts are being made to fully replant the monsoon paddy areas affected by flooding. This includes coordinating with re-

gional, district, township, ward, and village agricultural supervision groups to manage seedling reserves and ensure stable yields in flooded areas. Awareness activities are also being conducted. The Department of Agriculture and farmers are working together to replant the remaining fields by the end of October. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/TKO

## Weather

### Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 6 October 2024)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Weather is partly cloudy over the North-east Bay of Bengal. Monsoon is weak over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 7 October 2024:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing Region and (Northern and Eastern) Shan State, scattered in Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions and Kayah, Kayin and Mon states, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Southern Shan and Rakhine states and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Upper Sagaing Region. Degree of certainty is 100%.

**THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD:** The Cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Sagaing and Taninthayi regions and Kachin and Chin states. The area along the Cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance these phenomena.

**STATE OF THE SEA: STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-6 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of withdrawal of southwest monsoon from the Deltaic Myanmar Areas.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 October 2024:** Partly cloudy and isolated light rain. Degree of certainty is 100%.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 October 2024:** Partly cloudy and isolated light rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 October 2024:** Partly cloudy and isolated light rain. Degree of certainty is 100%.—DMH

# 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)*

## Four 48-metre fast patrol vessels commissioned into service for Myanmar Coast Guard

### FROM PAGE 1

Director General of Myanmar Coast Guard Rear-Admiral Ko Ko Kyaw reported on facts about the commissioned vessels.

SAC member Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San presented a scale model of the vessel to the Senior General.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General pledged to extend the work establishment of the Myanmar Coast Guard with many vessels, materials and manpower for Myanmar to be able to protect 143,110.72 square nautical miles of water territory with some 1,300 nautical miles of coastal area.

He said that the Coast Guard has to cooperate with regional and neighbouring countries to serve rescue and relief measures in natural disasters and give aid to victims in emergency time at the seas, adding they have to crack down maritime illegal trade and serve port state control inspections for ensuring maritime security and prevention of dangers.

He continued that the Myanmar Coast Guard must be built with the capability to ensure the safety of national maritime interests, the maritime environment, and uphold the rule of law on the water and in aerospace, from the primary coast to the exclusive economic zone.

Moreover, the Senior General added his speech, saying that coast guard members are key actors to primarily take protection of maritime natural en-



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects a vessel commissioned into service for Myanmar Coast Guard at No 3 Naval Jetty (Thilawa) yesterday.

vironment and solve the problems of oil leakage and water pollution at the sea.

He noted that the Myanmar Coast Guard needs to initiate the White Hull Diplomacy in relationship with international maritime organizations to serve humanitarian aid and maritime security measures.

He noted that they have to serve their duties as civilian oriented troop to protect civilians by carrying out non-mil-

itary maritime search and rescue measures, conservation of maritime natural environment and combatting pirates.

The Senior General underscored that the Coast Guard members have to cooperate with internal maritime organizations to conscientiously serve assigned duties in relations with international maritime organizations while protecting maritime interests and resources.

Chief Supervisory Captain Kyaw

Kyaw Lin of the Myanmar Coast Guard Headquarters declared four fast patrol vessels as commissioned vessels and other commissioning procedures.

The Senior General inspected the 48-metre fast patrol vessels and signed the record book of the vessel.

The Senior General visited the Myanmar Coast Guard Headquarters and gave necessary guidance to officials.

— MNA/TTA

### Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

# NATIONAL

## Union Minister for Health inspects NCI, New Yangon Specialist Hospital projects



Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win looks into the progress of the construction of New Yangon Specialist Hospital project in Lanmadaw, Yangon on 5 October 2024.

DR Thet Khaing Win, the Union Minister for Health, inspected the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Dagon Myothit (Seik-

kan) Township yesterday.

During the visit, the Union Minister announced that the NCI is currently installing a CT

Simulator, which is an essential component of radiation therapy. This will complement the existing radiation treatment

machines and is expected to be operational soon.

Clinical teaching and treatment are set to begin in the third week of October, followed by the acceptance of new patients.

The recently installed Linear Accelerator for radiation cancer treatment can handle between 50 and 100 patients daily. With the addition of two more radiation treatment machines in December, the centre will have the capacity to treat up to 200 patients per day. To ensure patient safety and comfort, the Union minister has ordered preparations for human resources to commence in October.

Additionally, the Union minister oversaw the construction of three staff housings, managed by the Ministry of Construction for health workers at the NCI and an eight-storey L-shaped building for can-

cer ward.

The Union minister also visited the New Yangon Specialist Hospital (New YSH) project in Lanmadaw Township, which is being developed with assistance from JICA. He met with representatives from the Ministry of Construction and emphasized the importance of fully implementing the construction project for the seven-storey hospital building.

The New Yangon Specialist Hospital project was initiated through a Grant Agreement between the Ministry of Health and JICA, with construction and preparatory work having resumed in June 2024.

Once completed, the hospital will feature an international standard design and equipment, specializing in cardiology and neurology to provide high-quality healthcare services to the public.— MNA/TRKM

## Kayah State Chief Minister inspects flood prevention efforts at No 2 Biluchaung Hydropower Plant

ON 30 September, flooding occurred at the No 2 Biluchaung Hydropower Plant due to overflow of Bilu Creek. The Kayah State government and departmental officials have worked together to prevent further water influx into the plant.

Yesterday morning, Kayah State Chief Minister U Zaw Myo Tin visited the No 2 Biluchaung Hydropower Plant (Lawpita) to inspect the flood prevention arrangements and the ongoing water removal operations inside the facility. The Chief Minister also presented cash rewards to the Tatmadaw members, police, factory workers, and other volunteers who actively participated in the flood prevention efforts.

Additionally, the Chief Minister provided a satellite internet receiver, with assistance from the regional government, to sustain communication with the No 2 plant.

He then visited the flooded area between the No 1 and No 2 plants, inspecting the construction activities for a new dam that involved four backhoes, along with the collaborative efforts of Tatmadaw members, departmental staff, and local villagers. The Chief Minister emphasized the importance of maintaining safety at the construction site and managing water flow into the creek, while also rewarding those who contributed to the efforts.

The team further examined the area where water was being diverted into the old Bilu Creek channel by temporarily opening the concrete drain that connects the No 1 and No 2 plants, in order to reduce flooding.

Afterward, they visited the Lawdalay Station Hospital (16-bed), where the medical officer in charge detailed the



Kayah State Chief Minister U Zaw Myo Tin looks into the ongoing water removal operations inside the No 2 Biluchaung Hydropower Plant (Lawpita) yesterday. **PHOTO: KAYAH STATE IPRD**

healthcare services and requirements of the facility. The Chief Minister instructed that more staff be appointed and that necessary medicines and

medical equipment be supplied to the hospital.

Arrangements are currently being made to reduce water levels at the No 2 Bi-

luchaung Hydropower Plant following the flooding that occurred on 30 September.— Kayah State IPRD/TMT

# NATIONAL

## Terrorists abduct census auditors and enumerators in Launglon, Tiddim townships

THE 2024 enumeration process for the population and household census began on 1 October, conducted by audit and enumeration teams across various regions and states, including the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. This process aims to gather data that will help formulate and implement policies and projects to ensure balanced development in the social, economic, and management sectors based on the population figures obtained from the census.

In doing so, people are participating in the census process by providing accurate and complete information. Terrorists who oppose the census have been using various methods to disrupt and prevent individuals from engaging in the process.

PDF terrorists abducted seven auditors and enumerators living in Lower Yebyu Village, Launglon Township, Taninthayi Region yesterday evening at their homes after

they returned from their enumeration work in Dawei Township. They are Daw May Mie Moe, 27, daughter of U Kyaw Lin, and Daw Ohnmar Tun, 48, daughter of U Aung Tun, who are teachers from Basic Education Post-Primary School (Gaw-inn), Daw Khin Aye Set, 47, daughter of U Khin Lone, Daw Yin Yin Soe, 60, daughter of U Soe Myint and Daw Mya Aye, 56, daughter of U Aung Kyin who are teachers at Basic Education High School

(Yebyu), Daw Phyu Phyu Htwe, 44, daughter of U Khin Than, Headmistress of BEPS (Cadek Ngehtein), and Daw Thida, 57, daughter of U Khin Than, the clerk of the Yebyu Village-tract Administration Office.

Similarly, on the afternoon of 4 October, terrorists arrested U Kam Lian Thang (aka) U Kup Sawon, 65, a town elder who was assisting with census collection activities in Tiddim Township, Chin State, as he was on his way to an agricultural farm near

Lamzan Village, where he lives.

As the census is the only planning effort capable of obtaining important socio-economic information for national development projects and policies, it is a national duty to ensure its successful implementation. The public is protesting against the terrorists preventing and harassing the auditors and enumerators involved in the census, and security forces are increasing necessary security measures. — MNA/TH

## Eruption occurred at Wetin Nagar mud volcano in Kyaukpyu Township

THE northernmost of a cluster of four mud volcanoes, locally known as Wetin Nagar, near Saichong Kyaywa Village in Kyaukpyu Township, Rakhine State, erupted for 30 minutes at around 11:00 am on 5 October. During the eruption, hot mud was spewed up to a height of approximately 10 feet, covering an area of about 300 feet around the volcano. Fortunately, there was no damage to people, animals, or farmland as a result of the volcanic activity.

There are three groups of mud volcanoes near Saichong Village in Kyaukpyu Township on Yanbye Island: the Wetin Nagar mud volcano group, the Panshay Nagar mud volcano group, and the Thabyaytaw Nagar mud volcano group. Reports indicate that the Panshay Nagar and Wetin Nagar mud volcano groups experience the most frequent eruptions. These mud volcanoes rise to heights of approximately 50 to 60 metres above sea level. The



The map shows at the site of eruption of Wetin Nagar mud volcano, near Saichong Kyaywa Village in Kyaukpyu Township, Rakhine State.

Wetin Nagar mud volcano that recently erupted last had an eruption on 5 November 2023 and has been reported to have erupted six times between 2016 and 2024.— MNA/TKO

## Over K224M worth of stimulant tablets seized in Mandalay

STIMULANT tablets valued at over K224.2 million were seized in Mahaaungmyay Township and Chanayethazan Township in Mandalay, as reported by the Myanmar Police Force.

The combined team with anti-narcotic squad searched the motorbike driven by Kaung Htet San accompanied by Ye Yint at Satkyanwesin Ward, at the corner of 38<sup>th</sup> street, between 74<sup>th</sup> x 75<sup>th</sup> streets in Mahaaungmyay Township at 8 pm on 2 October and seized 0.028 kilogramme of Happy Water.

According to the investigation, the team conducted inspections and seized 0.035 kilogramme of Happy Water from Sai Naw Kham (aka) Naw Kham at the corner of 66<sup>th</sup> x 41<sup>st</sup> streets in Mahayayng Ward 1 in Mahaaungmyay Township at 8 pm of that day. On 3 October, the team searched the room of Ye Yint at the corner of 62<sup>nd</sup> street x 43<sup>rd</sup> street in Yemontaung Ward of in Mahaaungmyay Township at 8 pm and

seized 0.028 kilogramme of Happy Water; seized 50 Ecstasy tablets and 0.045 kilogramme of Ketamine from Thet Paing Zaw on 66<sup>th</sup> street and corner of 30<sup>th</sup> x 31<sup>st</sup> streets in east Pyigyiyawbwe ward of Chanayethazan Township. On 5 October, the team also confiscated 5.2 kilogrammes of Ketamine drugs from the house of Thet Paing Zaw located on 66<sup>th</sup> street between 30<sup>th</sup> x 31<sup>st</sup> streets in east Pyigyiyawbwe ward in Chanayethazan Township, and six Ecstasy tablets from the house of Ye Yint Win located on 66<sup>th</sup> street between 30<sup>th</sup> x 31<sup>st</sup> streets in in Pyigyiyawbwe east ward, Chanayethazan Township at 2:30 am.

The team also searched the motorbike driven by Khin Maung Tun at Ba Htoo Ward in Yaksawk at 11 am and confiscated 98,000 stimulant tablets. Action was taken as per the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA/TMT

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# NATIONAL

## Japan expands new job for Myanmar technological trainees

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo, Japan has increased a new job type under the Myanmar technological internship programme in Japan.

The embassy said this information in a statement on 4 October 2024.

Among the types of jobs

that Japan is recruiting technical interns from Myanmar through the Technical Intern Training Programme, the Organization for Technical Intern Training (OTIT) has informed that one new type has been added in the Agriculture and Forestry industry, it said.



Company employees seen on a forest therapy training programme.

The added job type is silviculture/production of logs, it also stated. In addition to the

internship trainees from Myanmar, Myanmar employees are also going to work in Japan,

which is one of the major destinations for Myanmar migrant workers. — MT/ZN

## Illegal trade cracked down in regions, states

UNDER the supervision and control of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, illegal trade is effectively prevented and prosecuted in accordance with the law.

On 3 and 4 October, during the inspections by the combined teams under the management of the Customs Department, one kind of industrial materials without legal document (estimated value of K15.3 million) carried by a Hino Profia truck (estimated value of K40 million), driven from Myawady to Yangon, was seized at the Mayanchaung checkpoint. Nine kinds of industrial materials and two kinds of consumer goods (estimated value of over K1.2 billion) were also seized at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint. Moreover, at the Ywathagyi Dry Port, one kind of industrial materials and one kind of consumer goods (estimated value of over K40 million) were also inspected from one Nissan Diesel truck and one Hino Profia truck that were driven from Myawady to Yangon. The action was undertaken in line with Customs procedures.

Similarly, on 4 October, the combined team also inspected under the management of Yangon Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force near the Ayeyawun Road in Thakayta Township, Yangon. They seized



Confiscated illegal goods across states and regions.

an unregistered Toyota Lexus (estimated value of K10 million) and the action was taken under the Export/Import Law. Moreover, a combined team under the management of Magway Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force also inspected Magway

District and Thayet District and confiscated two illegal unregistered motorcycles (estimated value of K1.5 million). The action was taken under the Export/Import Law.

The combined team under the Mandalay Region Illegal

Trade Eradication Task Force confiscated 41 kinds of industrial materials and six kinds of consumer goods (estimated value of over K61 million) at the Myitnge checkpoint. One Man Star microbus, one Mitsubishi Canter truck and one Toyota Wish (estimated value of K93 million) carried those illegal items and were seized. The action was also conducted as per Customs procedures. Besides, the combined team under the management of Ayeyawady Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force inspected Patheingyi District and Maubin District. They nabbed 4.648 tonnes of illegal timbers and 25.60 tonnes of charcoal (estimated value of K1 million) and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

A combined team under the management of the Mon State Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force also seized unregistered vehicles: one Daihatsu Hijet, one Isuzu D-Maz and one motorbike (estimated value of K32.5 million). The action was taken under the Export/Import Law.

Also, a combined team under the Shan State Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force seized seven kinds of industrial materials (estimated value of K7.82 million), which were heaped near a road around the Sinphyu border in Muse Township and the ac-

tion was carried out according to Customs procedures.

Again, under the management of the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force, the combined team also conducted inspections at the Nyaungkhashay x-ray checkpoint and impounded five kinds of illegal foodstuffs, two kinds of consumer goods (estimated value of K5.36 million) from one Asia Star bus and one Golden Dragon bus (estimated value of K80 million) which were driven from Hpa-an to Taunggyi. They also inspected one Mitsubishi Fuso truck (estimated value of K40 million) and confiscated one kind of consumer goods that cannot show legal documents. The action was also executed in accordance with Customs procedures.

Furthermore, on 5 October, a combined team under the Sagaing Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force seized two unregistered two Daihatsu Hijets (estimated value of K12 million) at the Yadanabon combined tollgate and the action was taken under the Export/Import Law.

Therefore, on 3, 4 and 5 October, 44 cases (estimated value of over K1,736 million) were reported, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/TRKM

# Demand for EVs on the rise amid decline in sales of non-electric cars

THE sale of EVs is on the rise, despite the continued decline in sales of non-electric cars, said U Kyaw Swa Tun Myint, the general secretary of the Myanmar Automobile Manufacturer and Distributor Association (MAM-DA).

“The current car market is more stagnant than it was two months ago. Sales of particular cars that deserve a decline have already decreased. I have to say that the overall car market is down. However, the EV market is on the rise. If five people bought EVs last year, seven might buy them this year. Demand is also increasing. The EV market is thriving more this year than last year,” U Kyaw Swa Tun Myint said.

Although there are reports in the car market suggesting that sales may continue to decline until the end of the Buddhist Lent or mid-October, internal combustion engine (ICE) cars prices ranging between K30 million and K100 million are currently being traded.

The 16<sup>th</sup> Myanmar’s Biggest Property and Car Expo was held at the Lotte Hotel in Mayangon Township, Yangon Region, on 5-6 October. The event aimed to improve the market and featured booths from banks offering services to clients interested in purchasing apartments, condominiums, plots of land, and cars on instalments. — ASH/TH



This photo depicts an auto show that sold EVs.



A housing in Pathein.

## Cheap land plots sell well in Pathein

RATHER than land-included home, sale of land-only estate has increased in Ayeyawady Region’s Pathein Township, according to local estate agents.

Of total 14 wards in Pathein, sale of land plots in Ward 1 and Ward 2 has been slow, however, transactions have increased in the rest wards.

“In Pathein, land plot transactions have happened to some extent. Rather than land plus

home, land-only estates which are cheaper have been sold better. Pathein has 14 wards and downtown wards are expensive, so transactions have happened more in all the rest of inner wards. But there is just a few transactions in Ward 1 and Ward 2,” said an official from Shwe Yaung Lan real estate service agency in Pathein.

Property prices have changed in Pathein but no dra-

matic surge has been seen and some of buyers are from Yangon Region.

“Prices have fluctuated now depending on exchange rate and gold price. But no dramatic increase has been seen. We can say the property sale has increased this year compared to last year. Some of buyers are Pathein residents and some are migrants,” he said. — Thit Taw/ZS

## Yangon International Trade Expo 2024 scheduled for late October

THE Yangon International Trade Expo 2024, an international fair and networking event, will take place from 25 to 27 October, according to the Silver Sea Event Management Team.

The expo will be held at the Yangon Convention Centre-YCC within the Inya Lake Hotel compound, running daily from 10 am to 5 pm. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore essential goods and services for Myanmar businesses, attend seminars led by industrial experts, and participate in business matching programmes and networking events.

Industries represented at the expo will include construction, machinery, real estate and

investment, education, health-care, IT and telecommunications, renewable energy, agriculture, food production, and other service sectors. Business owners and companies interested in exhibiting can contact Silver Sea Event Management by dialing 09 409 4000 55, 09 409 4000 66, 09 409 4000 77, and 09 43125185.

The event, organized by Silver Sea International Ltd., will also feature the “Medical, Hospital, Health & Beauty Care Myanmar 2024” and “Myanmar Education & Further Study 2024” expos. The Myanmar Tourism Federation signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 26 September to support these exhibitions. — Htun Htun/KZL



Officials from Silver Sea International Ltd and Myanmar Tourism Federation seen at the MoU signing ceremony.

# OPINION

## Engage youth in creating a better urban future

WORLD Habitat Day, observed on the first Monday of October each year, serves as a reminder that everyone has the power and responsibility to shape the future of urban spaces. The theme for the significant day in 2024, "Engaging youth to create a better urban future," highlights the critical role young people play in shaping sustainable cities. The global event on 7 October 2024 will be held in Querétaro, Mexico, and will focus on addressing the challenges and opportunities of rapid urbanization by actively involving youth in planning and decision-making processes.

Urbanization is happening at a fast pace, and young people, particularly in regions like Africa and Asia, make up a significant

portion of the urban population. Currently, youth in the global South represent over 70 per cent of urban residents. The United Nations projects that by 2050, nearly 70 per cent of the world's population will live in cities, making inclusive urban planning more urgent than ever. This trend underscores the need for youth involvement in building sustainable, inclusive communities.

The concept of habitat is central to human development. Since prehistoric times, humans have lived in organized societies to protect themselves from dangers and improve their living conditions. Over time, these societies evolved from small villages to towns, cities, and eventually countries. As civilizations advanced, so did their ability to use technology and innovation to shape their environments. Today, society benefits from these advancements, but it is crucial that the younger generation be empowered to continue this development and create sustainable urban futures.

The United Nations recognizes the ongoing challenges in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in urban areas. Issues such as inequality, lack of resources, and environmental concerns pose significant threats to the growth and resilience of cities. Engaging youth is essential in addressing these obstacles. By involving them in urban planning and leadership roles, cities can harness their energy, creativity, and fresh perspectives to promote more sustainable and equitable urban development.

As such, World Habitat Day 2024 emphasizes the importance of youth engagement in shaping the future of urban spaces. By giving young people a platform to participate in decision-making and planning, cities can move towards more resilient and inclusive futures, benefiting both current and future generations. Empowering youth is not just an option but a necessity for creating a brighter, more sustainable urban future for all.

# Milestones on achievements, unforgettable for life

By April Son

MILESTONE originated from its use in the road construction sector, but it can also be applied to marking significant achievements in the lives of individuals or society. Similar to mileposts along roads, milestones are dedicated to great victories in various realms of lifespan. As such, it should be proud of pouring out endeavours to accomplish any missions or visions in the past events.

### Setting milestones in memory

In fact, these milestones should not be used to oppress others or to display evidence of owners' efforts. The journey toward achieving these milestones in life should be free from dishonesty, unethical practices, or actions taken merely to gain prestige. It is certain that nobody will set their failures and losses as milestones in memory for their lives. I think everybody wishes to place their victories, achievements, and accomplishments in significant events as their milestones in life.

For example, somebody has made the utmost efforts for the development of a region or a nation without considering their selfishness, and they invest their property and souls in their work processes for the sake of the nation and the nation. Those persons did not have spare time to consider how to set milestones in their lives. But, when they have passed away, the entire people would set significant accomplishments and victories along the lives of those persons as milestones in their honour. It is because those persons are admirable to all, and they are symbols of the country. Such milestones should not be compared to milestones of other ordinary people, and the formers will be historical shreds of evidence of the country.

We have all experienced various situations in our lives, witnessing both good and bad throughout successive eras, from childhood to the present day. We also tasted fruits of new and old items, secret and open reasons, wickedness and righteousness and so on in our lives. During these times, we actively participated in some events. Among these, some experiences were sweet, others bitter,

some acceptable, and others not. Throughout our lifespan, we have inevitably encountered truth and falsehood, compassion, and the tyranny of time and cruel fate. We have had the opportunity to experience the ways of the mundane world, where gain and loss, fame and dishonour, praise and blame, and happiness and suffering are all excellent factors of life.

In fact, we all try hard to overcome things we cannot accept and do not like. At the same time, we kept some good things and achievements in life in mind. We were happy for the successful and good things, but we regretted the bad things we faced.

### Needs to assess events of life

Sometimes, we intentionally or unintentionally encroach upon

others in our lives. Likewise, we have unexpectedly been subjected to mistreatment. We have experienced both loss and progress. Sometimes, we rejoiced in our successes, while at other times, we agonized over the painful impacts of problems and challenges. Similarly, we enjoy the greatest happiness when our hopes and once-lost dreams come true. Gradually, these good and bad experiences accumulated as precious lessons for us. However, we should ask ourselves: how often have we genuinely reflected on and analyzed these experiences?

The experiences we have had throughout our lives, from childhood to the present, should never disappear. We cannot forcibly erase the events we have

faced, nor can we make efforts to preserve them for the long run intentionally. These experiences and events are invaluable milestones in our lives.

In fact, no one can intentionally create the milestones of life day and night. Similarly, it is impossible to pray for their emergence or prevention. The good and bad experiences we deeply embrace throughout our lives gradually transform into the milestones of our existence. Actually, the general public wishing to set milestones in their honour needs to try hard to overcome great challenges by showing their unprecedented capacity. If so, these incidents will be milestones in their lives. However, it will be similar to the scene set in the movie shooting. Actual

milestones must be based on unexpected occurrences in which those capable persons would show off their excellent prowess with better management over the situations.

Some milestones have emerged naturally throughout our lives, marked by bitter, sweet, joyful, sorrowful, energetic, and depressing events. Other milestones were intentionally set through our most incredible efforts as defining moments of our lives. While the history of life is an abstract noun that cannot be tangibly shown, these milestones are genuine reflections of our existence and cannot be suppressed or discarded.

### Different types of milestones

Looking back on our current situation, we can see some life milestones clearly, while others

appear faint or dull, barely recognizable. Some are vivid and firm, while others are fading. Certain milestones still shine brightly, while others have dimmed over time. These milestones vary in form depending on their significance, context, and timing. There are milestones we avoid reflecting on, as they threaten our sense of security by exposing flaws in our prestige and integrity. While we may confidently reflect on those milestones shaped by good deeds, we hesitate to revisit those marred by corruption and dishonesty. Even so, these milestones cannot simply be erased because we lack the courage to face them. In truth, the milestones of life are indestructible because they represent the experiences imprinted on our hearts and minds.

It is delightful to review certain milestones in life. As we look back on them, the mind relives happiness and pleasure, often accompanied by a renewed sense of strength in the body. Everyone wishes to build milestones that will exist forever, but they cannot. Some milestones naturally emerge on their own strength. We have invested our blood, sweat, labour, and hearts into the creation of these milestones, which reflect the history of our lives. Therefore, we cannot simply prioritize the good and favourable milestones while ignoring the less desirable ones. In reality, these milestones cannot be arranged or erased at will because they are, in essence, our duplicates – our offspring.

These milestones reflect our lives. Every action we have taken throughout life is directly recorded in these milestones. Everyone desires goodness, and we all strive for the best. Thus, we wish to accumulate an abundance of positive milestones. To achieve this, we must engage in sound and virtuous actions. In order to do so, we should analyze all the milestones from our past, learning valuable lessons from them to contribute to the emergence of more positive milestones in the future.

### The best path and solutions for the future

We all need to seek the best path and solutions for the future while reflecting on the milestones

of life that benefit both our secular and spiritual lives; as the Myanmar saying goes, 'Bring home the bacon'. By doing so, we will have the opportunity to prepare and shape new, more beautiful milestones in the future. That will allow us to enjoy happiness when looking back at these milestones along the journey of life. Similarly, we may experience moments of remorse or accumulate knowledge. Only by regularly reflecting on the milestones of life can we ensure that our future milestones will be better, stronger, and brighter.

In fact, the milestones of life reflect our good and true performances. Likewise, they also reveal our wrongdoings and bad activities. Although it is impossible for anyone to fully know or seek out both evil deeds and goodwill performances, we can inevitably see all aspects. Therefore, we need to learn from these milestones to cultivate the best lifestyle while analyzing our life records in order to build a life of prestige. Since the milestones assess how we stand with integrity and honour, we have the opportunity to correct our wrongdoings and uphold what is right before our final days. At the right time, we must work to improve our lives. Those who do not dare to make improvements themselves risk falling into the dark ravine of life.

These milestones are like torches lighting the way for the remaining days of our lives. Although these torches indicate both the correct and wrong paths, we must choose our own way of walking. The milestones, as referees, will help guide us away from the incorrect route. Therefore, I wish for everyone to follow the correct path while analyzing their relevant milestones.

Actually, milestones are the greatest for us, but these may not be important. We indeed have to deservedly take pride in our milestones because these could be built on a self-reliant basis. Others did not have any consideration over our milestones due to the lack of their participation. Similarly, they would be proud of their milestones.

### A concept for milestones

In fact, these milestones must be built in correct and valid

endeavours without violations against any restrictions and laws adopted by relevant governments, as well as natural characters and social standards set by the natural environment. Anyone should not set milestones based on malpractices and physical and mental offences. Milestones of someone should not harm others, and these milestones should not be based on the sufferings of others.

In fact, these milestones can be dubbed as advising us on how to analyze past events in our lives. We can analyze the nature of these milestones, which are dedicated to the best lifestyle for all, and advise us not to commit unfair and unjustified acts, not to bully others, and to embrace sympathy for all.

These concepts are unchangeable in line with the preaching of the Lord Buddha. But, if all milestones are not regrettable, these will be the best.

Moreover, milestones, which are notable events in life, must be better and better. The milestones at a young age should be in line with the relevant age levels, and these must be basic for great milestones to be set up in the older life. These milestones must be set up depending on the maturity of life. Hence, as people grow older, their life milestones become more meaningful.

Milestones will exist depending on somebody's wonderful endeavours. Some milestones are gradually fading out, but some milestones have existed for many centuries in global history. Some have been notorious for their malpractices, but their titles are still famous in the society. However, these notorious milestones cannot be compared with those of famous persons. Although both types of persons could set milestones in their lives, it is sure that the most remarkable milestone of a famous person can occupy the hearts and souls of the people regardless of enemy, religion, nationality, country and gender. Whenever people know the root causes of a milestone based on notorious deeds, people will denounce it. Otherwise, people will always praise the milestones depending on genuine and acceptable root causes.



An infographic growth vector design shows professional steps depicting milestones of success in life. PHOTO FREEPIK



# NATIONAL

## 16<sup>th</sup> annual Myanmar Real Estate and Car Sales Fair held at Lotte Hotel, Yangon



Officials from iMyanmar House and Cars DB views the displays at the the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Myanmar Biggest Real Estate and Car Sales Fair at the Lotte Hotel on Pyay Road, Yangon, on 5 October 2024.

MYANMAR House and Cars DB hosted the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Myanmar Biggest Real Estate and Car Sales Fair at the Lotte Hotel on Pyay Road, Yangon, with officials from iMyanmar House and Cars DB opening the ceremony.

The fair showcased a wide range of real estate options, including apartments under construction, condominiums, luxurious condos, and solid plots of land for those seeking private property. It also featured detached houses and affordable apartments from various regions across Myanmar. Alongside the real estate offerings, attendees could ex-

plore numerous well-known car brands and a diverse selection of vehicles from different showrooms, providing ample choices for purchase.

Additionally, the fair offered various payment options, including interest-free installment plans for real estate and car purchases, special discounts, bank loans, and convenient payment systems. The organizers highlighted their goal of enabling every Myanmar citizen to own a home through these financing options. The exhibition ran on 5 and 6 October and featured real estate and cars from over 30 companies. — Aung Myint(IPRD)/ TRKM

## Sanitation carried out at Beluchaung hydropower plants

ON 6 October, sanitation and clearing of debris were carried out at schools, hospitals, clinics, departmental buildings, roads, bridges, wards, villages including the removal of trees and branches left behind, in in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, with participation of Tatmadaw members, Myanmar Police Force members, firefighters, Red Cross brigade members and social worker rescue groups in cooperation with the local people.

Commander of the Eastern Command Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt and officials visited Biluchaung No 2 Hydropower Plant in Lawpita, Kayah State yesterday morning and inspected the flood conditions, water inundation conditions in the plant, and the condition of the machinery in the control room.

The security forces and ethnic people observed the



Basic foodstuffs are provided to locals.

conditions of making barriers with sandbags to reduce the inflow of water; the conditions of pumping out the water entering the power plant with water pumps, the conditions of making the water diversion frame with machines, and supported the ethnic people with rice, noodles and food. At No 1 hydropower plant,

the commander inspected the conditions of electricity transmission from the control room, the condition of the machines, diversion of water and fulfilled the necessary needs.

Furthermore, officials manage installation of bailey bridges in the places of damaged facilities affected by floods. — MNA/TKO



## Myanmar Government facilitates safe return of its citizen facing difficulties abroad

THE Government of Myanmar, valuing its citizens, is committed to ensuring that Myanmar embassies and consulates, in coordination with relevant embassies and ministries, take action to ensure that Myanmar nationals abroad can return home safely and promptly, no matter the difficulties they may face.

The Myanmar Consulate-General worked in coordination with the UAE's Department of Immigration, the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization, and the relevant employment agencies to secure an out-pass for Myanmar national, Ma Mary, who had been facing difficulties while working in Dubai, UAE. She departed for Yangon on a Dubai-Yangon flight, arriving back in Yangon at 10:15 pm on 6 October.

The Myanmar Consulate-General continues to assist Myanmar nationals in the UAE who are experiencing difficulties, helping them return home. The Government, through the efforts of the Myanmar Consulate-General and Myanmar embassy, continues to facilitate the repatriation of Myanmar nationals who encounter difficulties while working abroad. Families of the workers have expressed their deep gratitude to the Government, the Myanmar Consulate-General, and Myanmar embassy for their assistance in rescuing their loved ones during times of distress. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/ TRKM

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## Japanese toymaker unveils world's smallest Rubik's Cube

A Japanese toy company unveiled Thursday the world's smallest Rubik's Cube, with the fully functional six-sided puzzle so tiny it can hide under a fingertip.

Using advanced metal processing technology, MegaHouse Corp., a subsidiary of Bandai Co., created a mini cube smaller than one-tenth the size of the standard model, with the length of each face only measuring around 5 millimeters and each square around 1.6 mm.

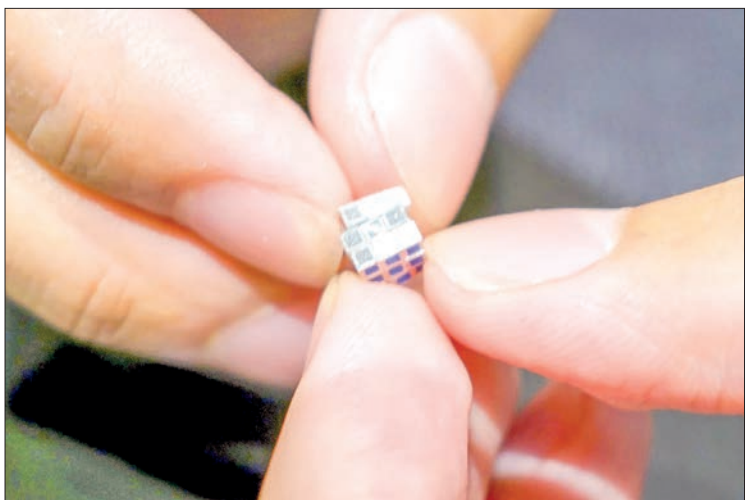
The "World's Record Smallest Rubik's Cube," weighing about 0.3 gram, is priced at 777,777 yen (\$5,300). Orders can be made on the company's online store from Thursday, with plans

to expand sales to other parts of Asia in the future.

Consisting of 39 parts, it can be played like a standard Rubik's Cube, the company said. It is manufactured by Iriso Precision Co., a company that specializes in fine processing.

Designed to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the popular three-dimensional puzzle's invention in 1974, the tiny cube took around four years to develop, MegaHouse said.

"We were able to create a product that embodies Japanese craftsmanship through advanced microfabrication," MegaHouse President Akihiro Sato said at a press conference. — Kyodo



Supplied photo shows the world's smallest Rubik's Cube developed by MegaHouse Corp. PHOTO: KYODO

## Swords and Spirituality: Phuket's vegetarian festival

Taking place from 2-11 October at the Jor Soo Gong Naka shrine, this ceremony symbolizes a connection to the divine, with participants embracing a strict vegetarian diet and abstaining from vices to purify themselves.



The ceremony at the 2-11 October vegetarian festival in Phuket's old town aims to cleanse 'sinful' souls.

PHOTO: AFP

DURING the annual vegetarian festival in Phuket, Thailand, a dramatic ritual unfolds as a swordsman pierces the cheek of 29-year-old Sirinnicha Thampradit, a medium believed to connect with the divine. This ceremony, taking place on 2-11 October, is intended to cleanse "sinful" souls.

Sirinnicha describes her experience of possession as disorienting yet transcendent,

noting she felt no pain due to her strong faith in a protective deity.

The ritual, held at the Jor Soo Gong Naka shrine, features graphic piercings using knives and swords, representing the gods' supernatural power. Participants also adhere to a strict vegetarian diet and avoid vices to purify themselves.

The event, which drew hundreds of thousands of visitors and generated over 9 billion baht

(\$272 million) in 2023, highlights the deep cultural significance of these piercings.

However, rising concerns about hygiene and potential injuries have prompted the shrine to enhance safety measures, including deploying medical staff.

The festival, rooted in Taoist beliefs, showcases a blend of sacrifice, spirituality, and community celebration, enduring since the early 1800s. — AFP

## AI-driven panda keeper joins Madrid Zoo to enhance visitor experience

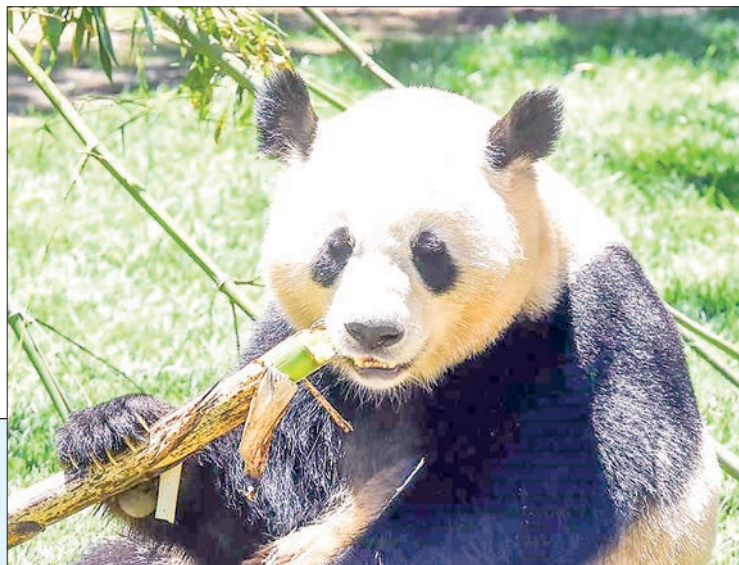
A unique zoo keeper, developed using artificial intelligence (AI) and synthetic biology, has joined the giant panda support team at Madrid Zoo Aquarium, providing information about Jin Xi and Zhu Yu, the panda pair that arrived from China in April.

Irenia, a digital avatar previously featured on the zoo's TikTok channel delivering educational insights about the pandas, has now taken a significant step forward, offering real-time information to visitors.

Developed by experts in consumer experience, cyber-

security, and big data, Irenia is now featured on a large screen positioned behind the giant panda enclosure at the zoo. An expert in all panda-related issues, Irenia uses cloud technology to answer visitors' questions about the animals and other aspects of the zoo in both English and Spanish, incorporating videos and illustrations into her responses. With AI, her knowledge base and language

This photo taken on 30 May 2024 shows female panda Zhu Yu at Madrid Zoo in Madrid, Spain. PHOTO: GUSTAVO VALIENTE/XINHUA



skills continue to grow, enabling her to recognize whether she is interacting with an adult, a child, or a visitor with disabilities, and to adapt her conversations accordingly.

"With Irenia, we have not only taken a major step forward in enhancing the visitor experience at the zoo, but also laid the groundwork for how artificial intelligence will positively and dynamically revolutionize education and entertainment," said Sergio Palomo, the zoo's marketing director, in a press release. — Xinhua

# ECONOMY WORLD



Vietnam has a large and skilled workforce in the garment industry, making it a key player in global textile production. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

## Vietnam economy grows 7.4% in third quarter

*Looking ahead, the Vietnamese government aims for a growth rate of 6.8 to 7 per cent in 2024.*

VIETNAM'S economy grew by 7.4 per cent in the third quarter, government figures showed Sunday, despite severe economic damage caused by deadly Typhoon Yagi.

Vietnam suffered \$3.3 billion in economic losses as a result of Yagi which swept across the country's north, causing devastating flooding and 345 deaths.

The growth rate was the result of "adapting effectively to the fluctuations of the global

economy and addressing the severe consequences of natural disasters", the General Statistics Office (GSO) said in a statement.

The agriculture, forestry and the fishery sector was particularly affected by Yagi, the GSO said.

But exports were up 15.8 per cent compared to the same period last year.

The Vietnamese government is aiming to reach an economic growth rate of 6.8 to

7 per cent for 2024.

But the Asian Development Bank (ADB) warned in September that "geopolitical tensions and uncertainties related to the United States election in November could lead to trade fragmentation, adversely affecting exports, manufacturing activity, and employment".

The United States was Vietnam's largest export market in the first nine months of 2024, according to the GSO. — Xinhua

## Biden seemingly opposes Israel attacking Iran's oil facilities

IN what seemed to be an expression of opposition to Israel conducting strikes on Iran's oil production facilities, US President Joe Biden told reporters Friday he wouldn't do so if he were the one making a decision.

"Look, the Israelis have not concluded how they're — what

they're going to do in terms of a strike. That's under discussion. I think there are — if I were in their shoes, I'd be thinking about other alternatives than striking oil fields," Biden said as he appeared for the first time at the White House press briefing during his presidency. — Xinhua

## Mongolia's GDP per capita expected to reach US\$6,800 in 2025

MONGOLIA'S gross domestic product (GDP) per capita is projected to reach US\$6,800 in 2025, the country's Prime Minister Luvsannamsrai Oyun-Erdene has said. Oyun-Erdene made the remarks while presenting the draft state budget 2025 during a parliamentary session on Friday, according to the government's press office.

"After remaining stagnant at

\$4,000 for over a decade, Mongolia's per capita GDP surpassed \$6,000 in 2023, driven by improvements in port access, the identification of hidden economy in the mineral sector, and growth in tourism. According to projected estimates, the per capita GDP of our country is expected to reach around \$6,800 in 2025," he said. — Xinhua



Mongolia's ecotourism offers a unique opportunity to explore its vast landscapes and rich cultural heritage while promoting sustainable practices that protect the environment and local communities.

**PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

## Hitachi launches AI-powered railway maintenance service



HITACHI Ltd. has launched a new railway maintenance service using the artificial intelligence technology of US semiconductor giant Nvidia Corp., seeking to attract railway operators worldwide.

Hitachi Ltd.'s latest model of the high-speed train ETR1000 on display at the InnoTrans 2024 railway technology trade fair in Berlin on 24 September 2024. **PHOTO: KYODO**

HMAX, showcased in late September at the InnoTrans 2024 railway technology trade fair in Berlin, uses cameras and sensors mounted on trains to gather operational data, which AI analyzes to detect abnormalities and predict the best timing for replacing parts.

It is the first commercial application of Hitachi's AI solutions in railway maintenance, and the development comes after the company announced its partnership with Nvidia in

March. It has been introduced to some routes in Britain and Italy, the company said.

HMAX employs Nvidia's advanced graphics processing units to instantly analyze images and sensor data, such as heat and vibration, collected from trains in service.

It allows for more frequent data collection than traditional maintenance methods, helping minimize parts replacement and improve overall safety. — Kyodo

# Global food prices rise at fastest rate since 2022

*In September, global food prices rose at their fastest rate since March 2022, driven primarily by a significant surge in sugar prices—up 10.4 per cent—due to adverse weather and fires impacting Brazilian sugarcane crops.*

GLOBAL food prices rose in September at their fastest rate since March 2022, with sugar prices surging as dry weather and fires damaged Brazilian sugarcane crops, the Food and Agriculture Organization said Friday.

The FAO Food Price Index reached 124.4 points in September, a three-per-cent increase from August.

But it remained 22.4 per cent below the peak reached in March 2022 in

the wake of Ukraine war. The index tracks monthly changes in international prices of a basket of food commodities.

Its sugar price index surged 10.4 per cent in September.

“Worsening crop prospects in Brazil, due to prolonged dry weather and fires that damaged sugarcane fields in late August, were the main drivers of the increase in global sugar prices,” the FAO said.

Prices were also affected by concerns over the availability of Indian sugar exports after the government lifted restrictions on using sugarcane for ethanol production, the agency said. — AFP

Prolonged dry weather and fires in Brazil damaged sugarcane fields, significantly driving up global sugar prices, according to the FAO.  
**PHOTO: AFP/FILE**



## Vietnam's CPI inches up 3.88% in 9 months

VIETNAM'S consumer price index (CPI) went up by 3.88 per cent year on year in the first nine months of this year, according to data released by the General Statistics Office (GSO) on Sunday.

The nine-month CPI growth was contributed by the 4 per cent increase of food and beverage services, said the office.

In September, price hikes were reported in nine out of the 11 items in the calculation basket.

Items posting the most significant price hikes last month included education with a 2.09-per-cent increase, food and beverage services with a 0.92-per-cent increase.

According to head of the GSO Nguyen Thi Huong, the country's core inflation rose averagely 2.69 per cent in nine months.

Vietnam has set the target of keeping the CPI for this year at 4-4.5 per cent. — Xinhua

## Japan startup's shoe vibrator helps visually impaired to navigate



Photo taken on 30 September 2024, shows Ashirase's shoe-mounted navigation device (R) and smartphone app for the visually impaired. **PHOTO: KYODO**

A startup backed by Honda Motor Co has launched a shoe-mounted vibration device to help visually impaired people navigate their surroundings.

Paired with a smartphone app, the device developed by Ashirase wraps around the foot and sends prompts by vibration. It contains a motion sensor to detect the user's position and signal a turn at the appropriate time.

The app, which also provides audio navigation,

selects the most accessible route for people with impaired vision, allows destinations to be set with various search options such as “the nearest restroom” and issues audio alerts for potential hazards such as railroad crossings and road intersections.

The company says the employment of vibration ensures that users will not miss navigation prompts even in noisy places. — Kyodo

## Central govt to fund 65 per cent of Chennai Metro Phase 2



Central Government to fund 65 per cent of Chennai Metro Phase 2 costs. **PHOTO: ANI**

WITH the Cabinet's recent approval, the Central Government will now finance about 65 per cent of the total estimated cost of the Chennai Metro Phase 2, including a loan of Rs33,593 crore and an additional Rs7,425 crore in equity and subordinate debt.

According to the Ministry of Finance, the remaining 35 per cent of the project costs will be covered by the State

Government.

The Ministry of Finance will engage with key bilateral and multilateral agencies, including the Japan International Cooperation Agency, Asian Development Bank, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and New Development Bank, following the Union Cabinet's approval of Chennai Metro Rail Project Phase 2. — ANI

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC HAIPHONG VOY.NO. (2435E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC HAIPHONG VOY.NO. (2435E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-10-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

## Macron criticizes Israel on Gaza, Lebanon operations

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron called Saturday for a halt on arms deliveries to Israel for use in Gaza, provoking a sharp response from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Macron also criticized Netanyahu's decision to send troops into ground operations in Lebanon.

"I think that today, the priority is that we return to a political solution, that we stop delivering weapons to fight in Gaza," Macron told French broadcaster France Inter.

"France is not delivering any," he added during the interview, which was recorded Tuesday.

Macron reiterated his concern over the conflict in Gaza that is continuing despite repeated calls for a ceasefire.

"I think we are not being heard," he said. "I think it is a mistake, including for

*In response, Netanyahu condemned Macron's stance, asserting that civilized nations should support Israel in its fight against threats backed by Iran.*



the security of Israel," he said, adding that the war was leading to "hatred".

His comments brought a swift response from Netanyahu.

"As Israel fights the forces of barbarism led by Iran, all civilised countries should be standing firmly by Israel's side," Netanyahu said in a statement issued by his office.

"Yet, President Macron and other Western leaders are now calling for arms embargoes against Israel. Shame on them."

Israel was fighting a war on several fronts against groups backed by arch-foe Iran, the statement added. — AFP

Humanitarian organizations in Israel are already reporting a greater need for their services, with new faces appearing in food distribution queues. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Toddler among 4 dead in migrant Channel crossings

A two-year-old boy and three adults died overnight after two boats crowded with migrants got into difficulty while attempting the perilous Channel crossing from France to England, French officials said Saturday.

The latest tragedies bring to 51 the number of migrants who have died attempting to reach England from France so far this year, according to Jacques Billant, France's prefect for the Pas-de-Calais region.

In one incident, a child was found unresponsive in an overloaded dinghy when migrants issued a call for assistance on Saturday morning.

The boat, carrying nearly 90 people, had suffered engine failure off the coast of Boulogne-sur-Mer in northern France. The boy could not be saved, officials said.

Boulogne-sur-Mer prosecutor Guirec Le Bras said the child, born in Germany to a Somali mother, had been

crushed to death.

Fourteen other migrants were picked up by French officials, including a 17-year-old teenager who had to be hospitalised with burns to his legs, officials said.

The other passengers continued their journey. While French officials try to stop migrants launching their boats, for safety reasons they say they do not intervene once they are at sea except for rescues. — AFP



A two-year-old boy and three adults tragically died overnight as two overcrowded migrant boats encountered difficulties crossing the Channel. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**



A Tunisian casts her vote in the presidential election at a polling station in Tunis on 6 October 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Tunisia votes with Saied set for re-election

TUNISIA holds a presidential election Sunday with no real opposition to incumbent Kais Saied, widely tipped to win as his most prominent critics, including a key contender, are behind bars.

Three years after a sweeping power grab by Saied, the election is seen as a closing chapter in Tunisia's experiment with democracy.

The North African country had prided itself for more than a decade for being the birthplace of the Arab Spring uprisings against dictatorship. Polling stations in Tunisia open at 8:00 am and close at 6:00 pm, with preliminary results expected by Wednesday. Amid an economic crisis and a lack of campaign activity, voter sentiment is largely one of resignation. Many, including 22-year-old Mohamed, feel voting is "useless." President Saied's power consolidation has led to widespread political repression, with over 170 political detainees, including opposition leaders Rached Ghannouchi and Abir Moussi, facing jail time. — AFP

## Emirates bans pagers, walkie-talkies

MAJOR UAE airline Emirates said on Saturday that it had banned pagers and walkie-talkies on board its passenger aircraft following device explosions in Lebanon.

"All Passengers travelling on flights to, from or via Dubai are prohibited from transporting pagers and walkie talkies in checked or cabin baggage. Such items found in passengers'

hand luggage or checked baggage will be confiscated by Dubai Police," the air carrier said. The move comes after a series of explosions of pagers and walkie-talkies in Lebanon from 17-18 September, which killed over 40 people and injured nearly 3,500 others. It is still unknown what caused thousands of devices to explode simultaneously. — SPUTNIK

# SPORTS

## Sabalenka targets world number one and Wuhan hat-trick

ARYNA Sabalenka has set her sights on reclaiming the world number one spot and can close the gap on Iga Swiatek with a good run at the Wuhan Open, which is returning on Monday after a five-year absence.

Sabalenka is the top seed at Wuhan in the absence of Swiatek, who withdrew from the WTA 1000 tournament after announcing her split with her coach of three years, Tomasz Wiktorowski.

Sabalenka, who was upset in the quarter-finals in Beijing



Aryna Sabalenka is targeting the world number one ranking. **PHOTO: AFP**

last week by Karolina Muchova to end a 15-match win streak, can become the first three-time winner at Wuhan.

But Sabalenka said Sunday in Wuhan that she cannot afford to put pressure on herself.

Belarusian tennis player Aryna Sabalenka, who won the Australian and US Opens this year, aims to become world number one but focuses on her performance rather than rankings. She believes that concentrating on bringing her best game will lead her to success.

The Wuhan Open marks its return to the WTA calendar, featuring seven of the top 10 players. Sabalenka, a two-time champion at this event, remembers her past victories fondly and hopes to replicate her success.

Currently just over 1,000 points behind Iga Swiatek, the race for the top ranking will intensify leading to the WTA Finals in Riyadh. — AFP



Myanmar women's national team during a training session. **PHOTO:MFF**

## Women squad begins training for friendly against Hong Kong

THE Myanmar women's national team commenced training on the morning of 6 October in preparation for their upcoming friendlies against the Hong Kong women's national team, set to take place later this month.

Coached by Japanese manager Yukitetsu Hiroka, the squad features a preliminary

selection of 28 players. Key players include goalkeeper Myo Mya Mya Nyein, midfielder Khin Marlar Tun and Naw Htet Htet Wai, and forward Win Theingi Tun and San Thaw Thaw. In addition

to experienced senior players, several emerging talents from the domestic league have also been included in the preliminary squad.

Myanmar's women's team will face Hong Kong in two

friendly matches in Yangon. The first match will be held on 23 October at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre, followed by the second on 26 October at Yangon United Sports Complex. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Real Madrid's Spanish defender Dani Carvajal suffered a bad knee injury against Villarreal. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Real Madrid defender Carvajal confirms cruciate ligament injury after Villarreal win

REAL Madrid are likely to be without Spain international right back Dani Carvajal for the remainder of the season, after he injured his cruciate knee ligament during Saturday night's 2-0 win at home to Villarreal.

The defender had to be carried off the pitch in clear pain after a collision with Villarreal's Jeremy Pino in injury time and later posted on social media in the early hours of Sunday morning that: "serious cruciate ligament injury confirmed, I'm going to have to go through surgery and be off the field for a few months."

"Already looking forward to starting recovery and coming back like a beast," added the 32-year-old.

Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti had previously admitted that he was "worried" for Carvajal in his side's seventh game inside four weeks.

"Something happened that happens a lot, because of the calendar, and it happened to a very, very important player for us," added the coach.

Carvajal's injury leaves Real Madrid with only Lucas Vazquez as their only right back specialist in the first team squad. — Xinhua

## Thuram treble fires Inter past Torino and up to second

MARCUS Thuram shot Inter Milan second in Serie A with a hat-trick in Saturday's 3-2 win over 10-man Torino which moved the champions to within two points of league leaders Napoli.

France forward Thuram headed home first-half crosses from Alessandro

Bastoni and Francesco Acerbi before bundling in his third on the hour mark to give Inter a narrow, but deserved win at the San Siro.

Inter can be overtaken by both Juventus, who host Cagliari, and AC Milan on Sunday with their local rivals at

Fiorentina in the weekend's final fixture before the international break.

Thuram leads the scoring charts in Italy's top flight with seven goals alongside Mateo Retegui, who hit a treble of his own in Atalanta's 5-1 hammering of Genoa earlier on Saturday. — AFP



## Israel plans 'serious' retaliation for Iran's missile strike

*As tensions escalate, Israeli authorities are considering a calculated response to ensure national security while managing potential regional and international repercussions.*

THE Israeli military is in the midst of planning a "serious and significant" response to Iran's ballistic missile attack earlier this week, which saw around 200 missiles strike various locations in the country.

The attack caused damage, including hits on Israeli airbases, though no critical infrastructure or aircraft were affected, according to the Israel Defence Forces (IDF). In a stern warning, the IDF declared that Iran's attack would "have consequences", the Times of Israel reported.

Iran's missile strike marks a significant escalation in tensions between the two countries, and Israeli author-



On 23 September 2024, Israel began a series of airstrikes in Lebanon as part of the ongoing Israel-Hezbollah conflict with an operation it code-named Northern Arrows. Lebanon would be on the front line of an all-out regional war. PHOTO: AFP

ities are currently weighing their response.

While details remain under discussion, the IDF has indicated that the response will be both substantial and well-calculated to address the severity

of the attack.

The Israeli military's next moves will be crucial as they attempt to safeguard national security while navigating potential regional and international fallout.

Meanwhile, the IDF reported that over the past four days, they have eliminated more than 2,000 military targets and approximately 250 Hezbollah militants as part of their ongoing defensive operations in the region. — ANI

## EU's protectionist tariffs on Chinese EVs threaten cooperation, green transition



The recent decision by the European Commission, made amid internal discord, highlights the fragility of the EU's consensus. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

THE European Commission's latest move to push forward its proposal to impose controversial punitive tariffs

on Chinese battery electric vehicles (EVs) despite internal divisions reveals a deep-seated protectionist impulse that

threatens to undermine decades of cooperation between China and the European Union (EU).

Instead of fostering cooperation, these tariffs risk sparking a trade conflict that could harm not only China-EU relations but also Europe's own ambition for a green transition. The decision, made amidst internal discord, has exposed the fragility of the EU's so-called consensus. As reported by Euronews, 12 member states abstained from the vote, five opposed the measure, and only ten voted in favour — hardly the unified front the Commission would like to project. Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban warns that the EU's decision to launch an anti-subsidy investigation against Chinese automakers could escalate into an "economic cold war".

This sentiment is echoed by Finnish foreign ministry official Jukka Kuurma, who questions the evidence of harm to the EU and the wisdom of such tariffs. — Xinhua

### DISINFORMATION AND CONTENT MODERATION

#### Social media X fined US\$5.23 mln in Brazil

SOCIAL media X, formerly known as Twitter, has paid 28.6 million reais (about US\$5.23 million) in fines to the Brazilian government to seek the resumption of its operations in the country, local media reported Friday.

The social media giant, owned by Elon Musk, has submitted proof of payment of the fines imposed by Brazil's Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes, according to lawyers from X.

De Moraes suspended X in Brazil in August after the company failed to appoint a legal representative in the country to hear concerns about disinformation campaigns and content moderation. Musk decided to resume the operations of X in Brazil after Starlink, his satellite internet company, began facing operational difficulties in the country. — Xinhua