

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing poses for the commemorative group photo alongside ASEAN Navy Chiefs and delegation leaders during their courtesy calls on him yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

Myanmar to cooperate with ASEAN in line with charter and spirit

Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received ASEAN Navy Chiefs and leaders of delegations who will attend the 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting to be hosted by Myanmar, at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

First, the Senior General discussed the best cooperation of Myanmar in ASEAN. Maritime collaboration in the ASEAN region needs to cooperate in conducting rehearsals for preparedness against natural disasters, exchange of experiences in rescue, relief, and rehabilitation for loss and damage in natural disasters, and cooperation among ASEAN navies at the time

of natural disasters. ASEAN navies should exchange expertise in rescue, relief, and rehabilitation for natural disaster response, enhancing cooperation and mutual support to address loss and damage during crises.

of natural disasters.

ASEAN Navy Chiefs and delegation leaders introduced themselves and talked about the full hospitality of Myanmar to delegations while attending the meeting and arriving in Myanmar. They discussed the plan to host the 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting and further enhance the cooperation of ASEAN Navies with Myanmar.

In his response, the Senior General revealed that Myanmar aspires to have

friendly relations with all ASEAN member states. He pledged that Myanmar would cooperate with all ASEAN member states in terms of friendly relations and ASEAN spirit, following ASEAN charters and cementing friendly ties. He expressed his thanks to all ASEAN Navy Chiefs and leaders of delegations to attend the 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting.

Also present at the meeting together with the Senior General were SAC member

Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Maung Maung Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Htein Win, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Aung, and senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, Navy Chiefs and leaders of delegations from Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines who will attend the 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting. — MNA/TTA

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Most Hpa-an visitors hike Mount Taungwine

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Strong foreign demand boosts konjac sales

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BANCA rescues two of Myanmar's few remaining Irrawaddy dolphins

NATIONAL



Nationwide Census Collection continues on the 11th day.



Education as a Catalyst: Building Myanmar's Future through Qualified Educators

COUNTRIES with the highest levels of education among their citizens are also the most developed.
A well-educated population signifies both competence and quantity.
Myanmar must cultivate a large number of qualified educators to drive progress.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the opening of the Myanmar National Education Conference 2024 on 25 June 2024)





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INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (2024)

“အနာဂတ်မှာ ကြံ့ကြံ့ခိုင်ခိုင်ဖို့၊ မျိုးဆက်သစ်တို့စွမ်းအား မြှင့်တင်ဖို့”

“Empowering the next generation for a resilient future”

အောက်တိုဘာလ (၁၃) ရက်

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.

Objectives of 25th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2024



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

Most Hpa-an visitors hike Mount Taungwine

LATELY, hiking has been the main activity for the majority of visitors to Hpa-an. Mount Taungwine, Mount Zwegabin, and Mount Kyainn are significant destinations.

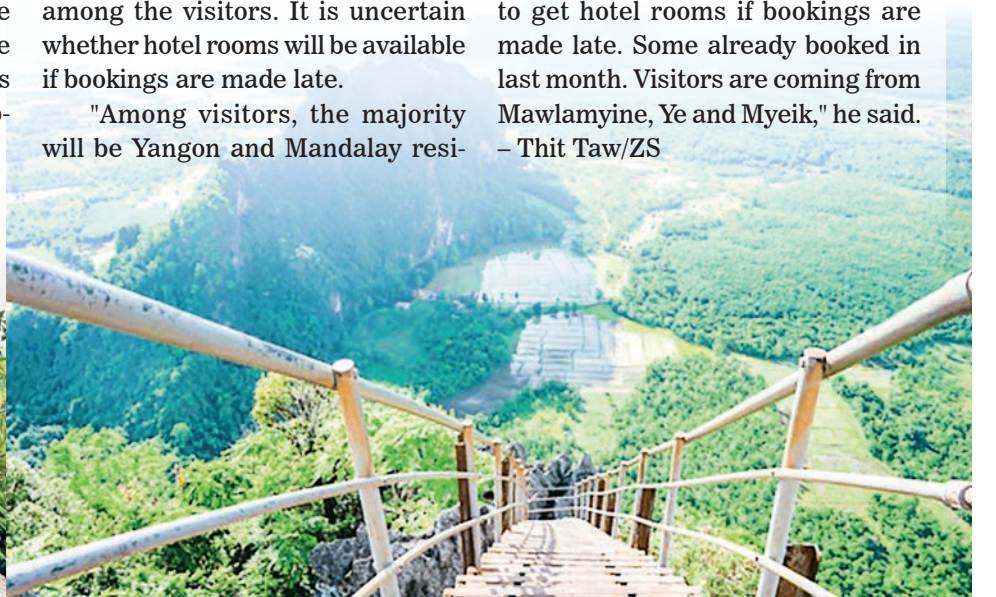
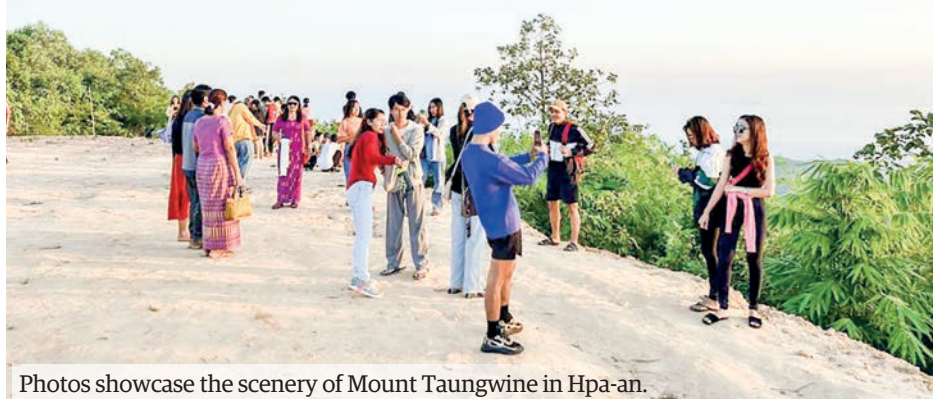
"Visitors come from different cities but majorly from Yangon and Mandalay. Among visitors, some go visit popular tourist destinations, and some don't go to such places but go

hiking Mount Taungwine. Most of the visitors come here by travel and tour packages. Some who have time go hiking Mount Zwegabin. Some go hiking at Mount Kyainn, which is situated downtown. Just a few people go to Zwegabin and Kyar Inn. The number of visitors who go hiking has increased recently," said a travel operator in Hpa-an Township.

During the forthcoming Thadingyut holidays, visitor arrival from Yangon and Mandalay is expected to rise in Hpa-an, and currently, residents from Mawlamyine, Ye and Myeik are among the visitors. It is uncertain whether hotel rooms will be available if bookings are made late.

"Among visitors, the majority will be Yangon and Mandalay resi-

dents during the coming Thadingyut holidays. It is expected that many people will visit Hpa-an during the Thadingyut holidays, and they will go hiking Taung Wine. It is not easy to get hotel rooms if bookings are made late. Some already booked in last month. Visitors are coming from Mawlamyine, Ye and Myeik," he said.
- Thit Taw/ZS



Photos showcase the scenery of Mount Taungwine in Hpa-an.

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)

Regional and State MSME agencies need to increase the ratio of MSME to GDP and create more employment opportunities through their OROP under the leadership of region and state chief ministers.

MSME businesses need training to develop human resources



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win views the products displayed at yesterday's meeting.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win emphasized that MSMEs are being enhanced with the aim of encouraging domestic products, substituting import commodities, and increasing export volume.

Chairman of the MSME Development Work Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win said so at the 2/2024 meeting of the working committee at the Ministry of Industry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Speaking on occasion, the Vice-Senior General underscored that Southeast Asian countries secured 30-50 per cent of MSME to GDP, ASEAN countries 39 per cent, and OECD countries 41.58 per cent.

Moreover, he continued that South-east Asian countries created 66.87 per cent of employment opportunities, ASEAN countries 72.3 per cent, and OECD countries 62.25 per cent.

The Vice-Senior General noted that MSMEs are being enhanced to encourage domestic products, substituting import commodities, and increasing export volume.

He disclosed that as the MSME ratio to GDP is expected to reach some 30 per cent, regional and state MSME agencies need to increase the ratio of MSME to GDP and create more employment opportuni-

ties through their OROP (One Region One Product) under the leadership of region and state chief ministers.

So far, he revealed that a total of 102 state-owned factories, 47,119 private-owned factories, 33 industrial wards, three special economic zones, and two deep sea ports have been earmarked to encourage MSME operations across the nation.

He highlighted that relevant ministries conducted 387 training courses from January 2022 to date 5,512 times with an attendance of 117,118 trainees, and 875 trainees are attending the courses.

He underlined that in accord with the guidance of the Prime Minister, it is necessary to emphasize the operation of manufacturing and industries, development of services, an increase of State GDP, efficient production of quality foodstuffs and consumer goods at home to reduce import volume, encouragement for the

development of MSME businesses, cultivation of quality long-staple cotton to develop production chains cotton, and turning out skilled workers.

He stressed that the working committee formed by the State Administration Council must have efficient governance for the prompt development of MSME businesses. Moreover, the effective governance must conduct selective intervention and adaptive service provision in order to contribute to the MSME businesses, he added.

The Vice-Senior General urged the working committee to strategically invest primary inputs in the correct places while managing human resources, monetary, and inputs under the limit.

Hence, he added that agencies need to correctly choose the mechanisms for conducting domestic and foreign market research based on MSME surveys to enhance work process, give services and

guide the work process according to the market demand.

In addition, the Vice-Senior General emphasized that MSME agencies need to pay flexible guidance to potential MSME in order to overcome relevant difficulties depending on market response.

He pointed out that it is necessary to systematically enhance capacity and work power of the survey and research branches and conduct monitoring and inspection branch formed by the work committee through training.

He highlighted that training courses must be opened continuously for development of human resources for factories from industrial zones operating MSME businesses.

Secretary of the Work Committee Deputy Minister for Industry U Yin Maung Nyunt reported on accomplishment of minutes of the previous meeting and work progress of the work committee.

Deputy Ministers U Yin Maung Nyunt, Daw Than Than Lin and U Win Shein read the reports to be submitted to the work committee.

Vice-Chairs of the work committee Union Ministers U Win Shein and Dr Charlie Than discussed implementation of the cotton, textile and oil crop measures in accord with the guidance of the Prime Ministers, implementation of policies of MSME, financial measures, and value-added products of agriculture and livestock farms and OROP tasks. Work Committee members Union ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council chair, chief ministers of regions and states, deputy ministers and scholars also discussed implementation of relevant sectors, display of MSME products at international expos, conducting of vocational courses, encouragement for development of domestic and foreign market research works, and procedures and frameworks of MSME development.

The Vice-Senior General gave concluding remarks after coordinating the discussions. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Myanmar hosts 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting

STATE Administration Council Member Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy, and Air) General Maung Maung Aye addressed the opening ceremony of the 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting held at M Gallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by Commander-in-Chief(Navy) Vice-Admiral Htein Win, Acting Commander of Royal Brunei Navy Captain Haji Mohamad Sarif Pudin Bin Matserudin, Deputy Commander Vice Admiral Sam Sokha of Royal Cambodian Navy, Deputy Chief of Staff of Lao People's Army Major General Vanthong Bouttavong, Deputy Commander of the Vietnam People's Navy Rear Admiral Pham Nhu Xuan, Vice-Admiral Puchong Pradittheera of Royal Thai Navy Intelligence Department, Captain Mohd Irwan bin Che Mohd Rani RMN, Director of International Relations of the Royal Malaysian Navy, Indonesian Defence Attaché to Myanmar



The 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting in progress yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

Captain (Navy) Taufiq Darlem, S T, Philippine Military Attaché to Myanmar Colonel Jose P Navarro JR PA(MNSA) and

relevant officials.

In his opening speech, the General said that, being an ASEAN member, Myanmar

actively works with neighbouring countries in addition to ASEAN states in a friendly manner. This year's theme of

the 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting is "Rowing towards peace and prosperity," which is very compatible with the current situation, and all have a shared vision and collective spirit. The water areas of ASEAN are a community for the development of the socio-economic status of ASEAN people, and it should prioritize regional peace, stability, security, and prosperity. It should be aware of external interference in ASEAN waters. Moreover, all should work hand in hand regarding the safety and stability of regional waterways in ASEAN waters.

Then, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) made a greeting speech, and they posed for a documentary photo.

ASEAN Navy Chiefs and representatives presented gifts to the SAC Member Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy, and Air), marking the 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting. — MNA/KTZH



Photos showcase ASEAN navy chiefs and delegates being welcomed upon their arrival at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

ASEAN navy chiefs, delegates arrive in Myanmar for 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting

THE delegation led by Acting Commander of Royal Brunei Navy Captain Haji Mohamad Sarif Pudin Bin Matserudin, Deputy Commander Vice-Admiral Sam Sokha of Royal Cambodian Navy, Deputy Commander of the Vietnam People's Navy Rear Admiral Pham Nhu Xuan, Deputy Chief of Staff of Lao People's Army Maj-Gen Vanthong Bouttavong, Vice-Admiral Puchong Pradittheera of Royal Thai Navy, Captain Mohd Irwan bin Che Mohd Rani of Royal Malaysian Navy and Colonel Jose P Navarro of the Philippine Navy arrived at Nay Pyi Taw on 9 October evening to attend the 18th ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting. They were welcomed by Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Aye Min Htwe, senior naval officials, and relevant officials at Nay Pyi Taw Airport. — MNA/KTZH

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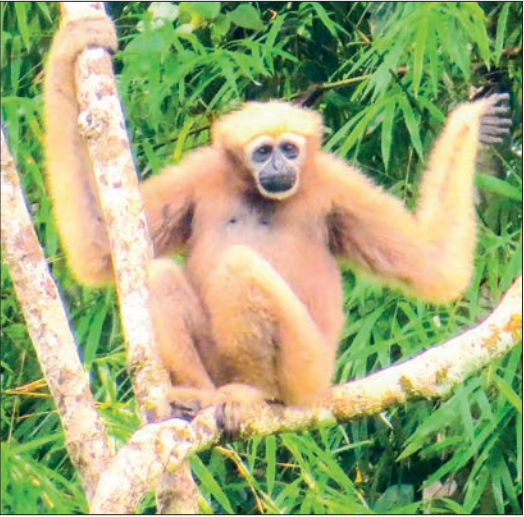
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NATIONAL



an ASEAN heritage park on 8 October 2019. It is situated in Khamti and Homalin Townships in Khamti District of Sagaing Region. It stretches 53,456 acres (830.4 square miles). It is located beside the Chindwin River, which flows from north to south, and Uru Creek, which flows from east to south. It boasts the world's rarest wild animals, such as Indian (or Bengal) tigers and other endangered species, and it is also a proper place to conduct biological research and provide inhabitants for rare animals.

Wildlife sanctuary, treasure house for country

The forests play a crucial role in fulfilling the country's rice bowl. A nation with millions of forests and trees is prosperous in wild animals and botanical plants and can earn revenues from the forest products and agriculture and livestock breed-

ing sectors. Moreover, it can create jobs for locals with the help of the ecotourism industry. With the existence of wild animals, medicines can be produced using herbal plants and roots, new fish species can be bred in the fishery resource sector, research can be done by conserving the domestic fish species, and foreign income can be received by producing value-added forest products. Conservation of wild animals is a symbol of the dignity of the country. Wildlife sanctuaries benefit the climate and become treasures for the country. As Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary possesses the tradition and culture of lo-

Survey on tiger and bear population

Officials from the Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary of the Forest Department and WCS (Wildlife Conservation Society) jointly installed 50 camera traps in Namyanyin and Nampheelin areas to collect the Indian or Bengal tiger population in October 2016. The 2023 survey shows there were 20 Indian or Bengal tigers in Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary. There are two types of tigers in Myanmar: Indian or Bengal tigers and Indo-China tigers. Indian or Bengal tigers can be found in the Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary. The Indo-China tiger species live in Taninthayi Region, and their food chain and population were surveyed with the help of WCS. Moreover, the second bear

tion activities were initiated in Myanmar in 1993. The species are recorded yearly via the data of camera traps, and surveys on land animals are also conducted jointly with the biological monitoring team so the increasing population of world rare species can be recorded. Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the sanctuaries that is rich in biodiversity. It also protects the largest wild animals. The Sumatran and Javan rhinos once lived there, and they were threatened with extinction starting in 1980. The elephant, Hoolock Gibbon (Hoolock hoolock), leopard, Masked Fin-foot, and Muscovy duck can be found in the Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary. The sustainable existence of biodiversity depends on respecting forest law and valuing the region. Moreover, the protection of wild animals, development in natural resource management, and socioeconomic status

MYANMAR is rich in natural forests, lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, waterfalls, springs, mountains, and seas. There are over 60 natural protected lands, wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, and botanical gardens in the country. Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the ASEAN Heritage Site lists and is home to wild animals that provide environmental conservation and biodiversity. Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary goes well with the beauty of the Chindwin River and is also as beautiful as the Amazon rainforest, and it protects wild animals. Being an evergreen forest, Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary is similar to the Amazon rainforest, which extends over nine countries.

Amazon rainforest is rich in rivers and streams, representing over a half of the total area of remaining rainforests on Earth. It controls global climate changes, benefits human beings and the Earth, and constitutes its single most significant reserve of biological resources. The Amazon rainforest contains over 390 billion individual trees comprised of over 16,000 different species. However, these numbers are drastically declining due to alarming deforestation rates and other climate change-related threats.

A must-visit site

Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary is as charming as the Amazon rainforest, which contains many rivers, streams, and lakes. It is higher in the eastern part of Nweta-mein Hill and lower in the western part of Chindwin Valley, so there are many lakes, ponds, and streams. Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary is home to 57 species of mammals. They include 32 bird species, 67 fishes, 77 species of amphibians and reptile animals, 432 plants, 19 herbal plants, 14 types of bamboo, eight types of canes, 23 aquatic plants, 18 grass, and 16 orchids, as well as other rare animal species and roofed turtles. Being an evergreen forest and moist upper mixed deciduous forest, it is evergreen in three seasons. It is the best place for nature lovers.

A pride for the country

Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary was recognized as a wildlife sanctuary in May 1974, and the administrative office was established in Homalin Township on 1 September 1994 to operate wildlife conservation activities. It was recognized as

Myanmar's Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary compared to Amazon rainforest

By NyaungU Phee



PHOTO: OKTHA



survey and camera trap installation was conducted in December first week of 2017. Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary has two bear species, Sun bear and Himalayan bear, bearing V and U shape on the chest. The survey was conducted for the first time in December 2016 and the second time in December 2017. The study on tiger and bear populations has been temporarily suspended after 2020.



Biodiversity wealth

The camera traps were installed with the help of WCS to watch the world's rare species in Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary in 2014. The long-term wild animal conserva-

also rely on the rich biodiversity of Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary.

Close observation of botanical and biological wealth

Preparations are made in tourist destinations to lure travellers in the open season. The people can study the research on rare bird species, the footprint of wild animals, and biodiversities, and recreate with the beauty of the forest and waterfalls, enjoy boat rides along the creek, tour to Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary Training and Research Centre, go camping in the forest, explore the culture, tradition and living styles of Shanni and Naga ethnic people. Moreover, they can enjoy the beauty of nature and the botanical and biological wealth of the Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary.

Tour to Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary

The people who love nature can pay a visit to the Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary by Yangon-Mandalay-Khamti flight, a small motorboat along the Chindwin River, and Yangon-Mandalay-Homalin flight. —

Translated by KTZH

NATIONAL

MoI Union Minister inspects English daily; Cash, books, publications provided to Yankin libraries

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn inspected The Global New Light of Myanmar on Nga Htet Gyi Pagoda Road in Bahan Township, Yangon, yesterday morning.

During the tour, the Union Minister met with the chief editor and editorial staff of the newspaper at the meeting hall.

First, the General Manager of the newspaper reported on the working processes.

Then, the Union minister instructed to continue the newspaper processes with the minimum errors as per the objectives and policies of the government, promote the feature and essence of the newspaper to ensure the media development, make efforts to be a reli-



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn meets editorial personnel from the Global New Light of Myanmar yesterday in Yangon.

able paper for the country and people, apply proper political vision in selecting news and work altogether in paper production processes.

Next, the chief editor and relevant editorial officials dis-

cussed the nature of the paper and work processes.

After the meeting, the Union minister proceeded to Myoma Library in Ward 4 and Yankin Gonyi Library in Ward 5 of Yankin Township.

During the meeting with library supervisory committee members, he stressed the need to upgrade the library services, place newspapers and journals for the people and youths to receive trustworthy information,

create a safe environment to share or discuss their knowledge gained from reading habits and work hard to be better libraries than before.

Then, he presented cash assistance, library-related materials, books, and publications for two libraries.

At noon, the Union minister visited Sarpay Beikman and inspected the Sarpay Beikman library and bookshop.

He then met the staff of the Printing and Publishing Department and instructed them to focus on raising reading habit campaigns in accord with the mottos: "Only through elevation of literature can the nation be uplifted" and "Light, where darkness was". — MNA/KTZH

Donations gathered to honour elderly scholars

IN commemoration of the 37th Myanmar Literary Day (1386 ME), generous donors contributed funds for the upcoming elder literary scholars' honouring ceremony. Donations were accepted by U Nyunt Tin (Maung Nyein Thu-Gyopingauk), the association's secretary, and U Aung Kyi (Aung Kyi Nyunt-Tekkatho), joint secretary 3, who expressed their gratitude.

Among the contributions, the Thingangyun Township Writers' Association donated K500,000, U Soe Myint (Soe Hmu), Daw Kyi Kyi Khin (Soe Kyi Phyu), and their daughter Academy Soe Myat Thuzar family donated K300,000, and the Dawbon Township Writers' Association contributed K225,000. Meanwhile, the Hmawby Township Writers' Association donated K150,000, the Bahan Township Writers' Association gave K100,000, and the Thanlyin Township Writers' Association offered K30,000.

Those who wish to donate, either in cash or in-kind, can contact the Myanmar Writers' Association at No 173/175, 7th Floor, Middle Block Pansodan Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, or reach them by phone at 01 252417 or 09 450090486. — MNA/KZL

CBM injects 660,000+ yuan into private sectors on 9 October

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over 660,000 yuan on 9 October and over 10 million Thai baht to those engaged in the private sector on 7 October.

CBM pumped US\$13.1 million and 288,000 yuan on 4 October; \$780,000, 1.2 million yuan, and one million baht on 3 October, and over 1.2 million yuan and 10.2 million baht into the financial market on 2 October.

CBM also injected over \$76 million, 86 million baht, and 4.8 million yuan into financial markets in September. Moreover, CBM sold over \$190 million, 19 million yuan, and 79 million baht in August.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and the currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has

been joining hands with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

Embassy warns of PP revocation for fake recommendations

WHEN people are found coming to respective departments in Thailand, along with fake recommendations, their passports shall be revoked, and action will be taken against them, the Myanmar Embassy to Thailand warned on 9 October.

In the warning, the Myanmar Embassy has provided a recommendation that is required for visa extension to those who arrived in Thailand under a visa on arrival and tourist visa. However, those who have at least seven days of visa validity, expired visas, and overstays are not permitted at all.

Thailand authority reported that some who overstayed their visa are found seeking visa extensions along with fake recommendations at the Thailand Immigration Department, it said. The person who holds Passport No MF364672 (DOB 01 March 1997) will need to come to report to the Myanmar Embassy, and his passport shall be nullified if he fails to do so by 25 October.

For recommendation and passport service, international embassies have to submit the signature of respective consulate officers, seal sample, and number and date of

recommendations issued daily, and respective authority can conduct an investigation at once and can verify the number and date of recommendation and name of approval after reporting to the respective embassy if they feel doubt a recommendation.

When people who made counterfeit documents and people who come to respective departments of Thailand with fake recommendations are found in the future, officials have already negotiated to revoke passports and take legal actions, it said. — MT/ZS

Myanmar's transport & communications sector tops FDI rankings in H1 this FY

MYANMAR'S transport and communications sector attracted foreign direct investments of US\$87.7 million in the first half (April-September) of the current financial year 2024-2025, including the expansion of capital by the existing enterprises, according to the statistics released by

the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The Myanmar Investment Commission gave the green light to 30 foreign projects from various countries including China, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, and Thailand to make investments of \$223

million in the past six months, adding increased capital by the existing enterprises.

The transport and communications sector pulled \$87.7 million with a capital expansion of \$82.66 million this FY. The manufacturing sector drew \$81.225 million, and the services sector received

\$44 million. The power sector brought in FDI of \$8.5 million, while investments of less than one million flowed into the agriculture sector, respectively.

Singapore has so far invested \$87.74 million of FDI in the H1 of the current FY, followed by Thailand and China.

There are 2,485 permit-

ted foreign projects from 53 countries under the Myanmar Investment Law and the Special Economic Zone Law as of September 2024. Of them, 1,958 from 48 countries are existing projects, with China, and Hong Kong SAR as the leading investors in the country so far. — KK

Over 1,600 Myanmar food processing businesses apply for GACC

A total of 1,623 Myanmar food processing companies and factories submitted 3,295 applications to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) over the past one and a half years, according to the Domestic Trade Division (GACC team) of Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization under the Ministry of Commerce.

According to GACC Decree 248 and 249, GACC registration is mandatory for food exporters starting from 1 January 2022.

Those individuals executing edible oil, oilseeds, stuffed pastry products, edible bird's nest and related products, edible grains, grains milling industrial products and malt, fresh and dehydrated vegetables, dried beans, plant species, nuts and seeds, dried fruits, unroasted coffee and cocoa bean, special dietary food excluding milk-based formula, functional foods, bee products, aquatic products including farm products, animal products and animal feed and livestock animal businesses need to apply for GACC licence to place their goods in China's market.

Relevant authorities for the registration with GACC are the Agriculture Department, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the Fisheries Department, and the Food and Drug Administration.

Exporters can directly access China International Trade Single Window through <https://cifer.singlewindow.cn> by creating accounts for those food groups that are not listed in the aforementioned 18 groups.

Between 1 December 2021 and 4 October 2024, 3,295 appli-

cations by 1,623 factories have been forwarded to the GACC through the Agriculture Department (3,132 applications), the Fisheries Department (140), the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (14) and the Food and Drug Administration Department (nine).

Regarding the registration of the importing companies, the Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine under the GACC will check quarantine access for the imported grains (unroasted coffee beans, cocoa beans, fresh and dehydrated vegetables, plant seasonings (plant spices), edible grain, dried beans, oil seeds (oil plant) and herbal animal products and plant for their origins.

Companies cannot directly proceed with registration, and they need to carry out this step through competent authorities and departments concerned by sending an email to dapq@customs.gov.cn or submitting a letter to the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar or the Myanmar Embassy to China.

As of 7 October 2024, a total of 1,067 applications have been successful in registering with the GACC with the approval of the competent authority. Additionally, a manual registration list of overseas manufacturers of imported foods with the GACC as of 25 September 2024 has been uploaded on <http://dzs.customs.gov.cn/>. Individuals can enquire further information through the contact numbers of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 3408605, 067 3408617 and email: myantrade.domestic@gmail.com. — NN/KK

Strong foreign demand boosts konjac sales



Pictures display the konjac plantation and konjac (elephant yam).

THE Mandalay market is bustling with trading of konjac (elephant yam) on the back of strong foreign demand, traders said.

During the harvest season, konjac from Kachin State and the upper Sagaing Region is flooding the Mandalay market. There is a steady demand from China and Japan every year. This year, konjac fetches high prices, said U Soe Win Myint, a commodity depot owner from Mandalay.

"Konjac processing factories are located in Mandalay and Pakokku cities. Value-added konjac noodles are also distributed in the Mandalay market," he continued.

Konjac is naturally grown in Kachin and Chin states and Sagaing and Taninthayi regions. High profitability and foreign demand prompted locals to cultivate konjac (elephant yam) under a mixed cropping system, so the number of konjac growers on a commercial scale has grown, according to the Agriculture Department.

Earlier, growers were not interested in konjac as it had only domestic demand. At present, konjac has penetrated some foreign markets so locals eye konjac cultivation. — Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)/KK

YSX share trading plunges in Sept

THE grand trading value of the eight listed companies on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) dropped to K920.7 million with 382,286 shares traded in September from a record high of K3.35 billion with over one million shares in August 2024, according to the monthly report released by the exchange.

The equity market registered trading values of K1 billion with 425,102 shares in January 2024, K693 million with 253,178 million in February, K1.34 billion with 560,687 shares in March, K473 million with 177,812 shares in April, and K1.55 billion with 603,906 shares

in May respectively. The trading value hit a record high of K1.7 billion, with 593,392 shares traded in June. Then, the value fell sharply to K974 million, with 321,007 shares traded in July.

The trading value in September is K2.43 billion lower than that of August.

At present, shares of eight listed companies — First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), TMH Telecom Public Co Ltd (TMH), the Ever Flow River Group Public Co Ltd (EFR), Amata Holding

Public Co Ltd (AMATA) and Myanmar Agro Exchange Public Co Ltd (MAEX) are traded in the security market.

FPB topped the trading with 255,623 shares worth K466 million, followed by 71,883 shares of MTSH worth over K247 million, 10,092 shares of FMI worth over K89 million, 16,205 shares of MAEX worth over K54 million, 20,235 shares of EFR worth K34.5 million, 5,850 shares of TMH worth over K16 million, 1,891 shares of AMATA worth K8.5 million and 507 shares of MCB worth K4.48 million respectively last month. — NN/KK

OPINION

ARTICLE

Grasp learning opportunities for shaping a modern nation

HUMAN resources, alongside money, materials, and manpower, are essential for a country's development. By investing in education, countries aim to cultivate skilled human resources, which are crucial for their growth and progress.

The interim census of 2019 revealed that 18.2 million people over the age of 25 missed out on completing middle school education and lower levels. In response, the government prioritizes projects aimed at enhancing the education sector. Surveys show that only about 20 per cent of students who began kindergarten reach the matriculation level, meaning over 80 per cent of students do not advance beyond primary and middle school education.

In this context, the primary reason for halting education is the need for families to earn income and support family businesses. All citizens must understand the importance of completing at least basic education through middle school rather than settling for minimal literacy.

The Constitution (2008) states that all citizens shall have a chance to learn in accord with the educational policies adopted by the government. Additionally, the government has implemented compulsory primary education, and all citizens must complete primary school education at a minimum. Since high-quality education is crucial for the State's development and the democratization of the nation, all citizens need to take advantage of the educational opportunities provided by the government.

Currently, the government provides opportunities for students who have completed middle school to pursue further education in agriculture, livestock, and industrial techniques. They can either enter vocational training and join the workforce or continue their education at higher levels. However, if they discontinue their education due to poverty, they risk becoming trapped in a cycle of poverty with limited capacity to improve their situation.

Therefore, it is essential for both children and parents to fully understand the learning opportunities provided by the government for ongoing education. By taking advantage of these opportunities with diligence, perseverance, and hard work, they can improve their socioeconomic status.

Significantly, governments are implementing projects to provide learning opportunities for children aged 10 to 14 who missed out on primary education for various reasons, as well as for those aged 13 to 18 who need alternative middle school education. Students who complete middle school will then have the opportunity to pursue a basic high school education. The success of this alternative education system relies on the thorough understanding and engagement of both students and parents.

The Constitution (2008) states that all citizens shall have a chance to learn in accord with the educational policies adopted by the government. Additionally, the government has implemented compulsory primary education, and all citizens must complete primary school education at a minimum. Since high-quality education is crucial for the State's development and the democratization of the nation, all citizens need to take advantage of the educational opportunities provided by the government.

Connecting on the Universal Dance of Words

BY AUGUSTIN

KNOWING idioms is useful in everyday conversation to sound more fluent and natural, as they can convey complex ideas briefly and add a layer of cultural richness to your language, making interactions more engaging and relatable.

ရောင်တော်ပြန်နှင့် ရောကျတ်
/ raung tau pyannhang raw kyawat /

The Buddha's relics will unite to form a complete figure representing liberation from samsara.

ရောင်တော်ပြန်လွတ်ရာတွင် သတ္တဝါများ အကျွတ်တရားရနိုင်ကြသည် မဟုတ်ဘဲလျက် ထိုရောင် တော်ပြန်နှင့် ရောကျတ် အကျွတ်တရားရသည်ဟု ပြောဆိုသကဲ့သို့ အခွင့်ကောင်းတစ်ခုနှင့် သက်ဆိုင် အကျိုးဝင်ခြင်း မရှိဘဲလျက် ပတ်သက်ဆက်စပ်လေဟန် ပြုမူ ပြောဆိုသည်။

ရောင်တော်ပြန် = သာသနာ့ကွယ်ပမည့် အချိန်၌ မြတ်စွာဘုရား၏ ဓာတ်တော်အားလုံး စုဝေး၍ ဓာတုပရိနိဗ္ဗာန်ပြုသည့်အခါတွင် လွတ်သည့် ရောင်ခြည်တော်။

- **Those who wait for easy gains without effort fail.**
- **People who seek easy rewards without putting in hard work.**
- **Those who rely on luck without making an effort**

To be emancipated due to the efforts of another is a belief related to the relics of the Buddha. It is said that these relics, scattered across various locations, will one day come together to form a complete figure that will deliver the final sermon.

On this occasion, many people will have the chance to be freed from samsara, the cycle of birth and rebirth.

Emancipation signifies freeing individuals from restrictions and oppressive control, commonly associated with the liberation of enslaved people.

In Buddhism, it refers to liberation from samsara and achieving enlightenment (Nibanna) through ethical conduct, meditation, and wisdom, resulting in freedom from suffering and worldly attachments.

Consequently, anyone who does not put in diligent effort and merely waits for an easy opportunity to benefit themselves is referred to as someone who will be emancipated when the relics are reassembled.

This Myanmar idiom discusses a belief in Buddhist tradition regarding emancipation from samsara, the cycle of life, death, and rebirth. It explains that the Buddha's relics, believed to hold spiritual significance, will unite to form a complete figure that will impart an important message in a future event.

This moment is seen as a chance for many to escape the endless cycle of rebirth. However, the text critiques those who do not engage actively in their spiritual progress but instead wait for an effortless opportunity to gain benefits.

It emphasizes the importance of personal effort and diligence in

seeking emancipation, suggesting that relying solely on the efforts of others is not a commendable path.

USAGES:

“Waiting for a handout.”

- **Definition:** To expect help or benefits without making an effort on one's own.
- **Example:** “She often complains about her financial situation, but she's just waiting for a handout instead of finding a job.”

“You can't win the jackpot without buying a ticket.”

- **Definition:** One must put in effort or investment to achieve success or rewards.
- **Example:** “If you want to make it to the top, remember: you can't win the jackpot without buying a ticket.”

“No pain, no gain.”

- **Definition:** Without some effort or struggle, you won't achieve anything worthwhile.
- **Example:** “He's been hitting the gym every day, and he knows that no pain, no gain!”

“The early bird catches the worm.”

- **Definition:** Those who start early or work diligently are more likely to succeed.

- **Example:** “She got a head start on her project, proving that the early bird catches the worm.”

“Don't put all your eggs in one basket.”

- **Definition:** Don't focus all your efforts on one single venture; diversify your efforts.
- **Example:** “When it comes to investments, it's wise to diversify; don't put all your eggs in one basket.”

“God helps those who help themselves.”

- **Definition:** People are more likely to succeed if they actively seek solutions rather than waiting passively.
- **Example:** “If you want to succeed in your studies, remember that God helps those who help themselves.”

“Nothing ventured, nothing gained.”

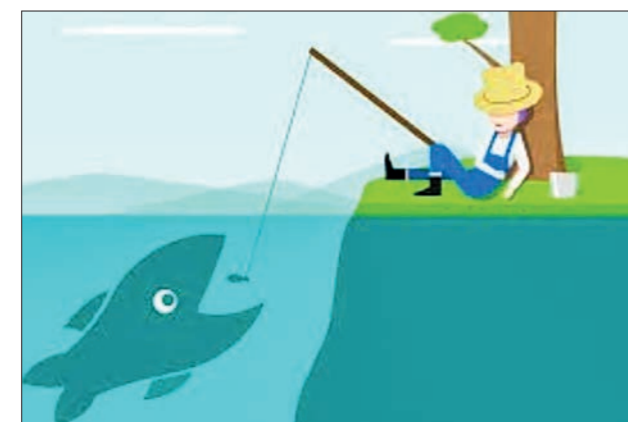
- **Definition:** If you don't take risks or make efforts, you won't achieve anything.
- **Example:** “She decided to start her own business because nothing ventured, nothing gained.”

ရုံခါ

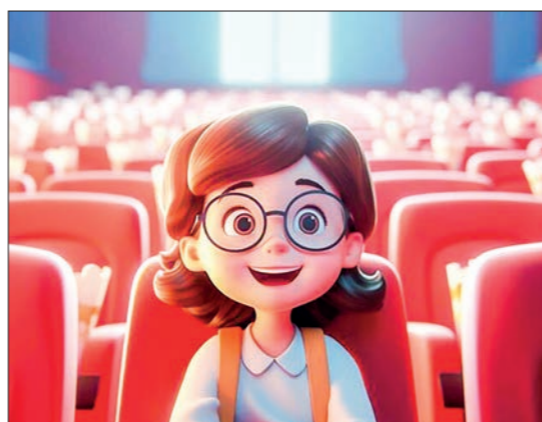
/joun kha/

“Shaking off the hall”

- ဝင်ကြေးယူ၍ ရုံအတွင်း၌ ဓာတ်သဘင်စသည်ကို ခင်းကျင်းပြုသည့်။ ရုံသွင်းတာကို သွားကြည့်ပါသတဲ့...
- ရုံပွဲကို သန်းခေါင်ကျော်ခန့်တွင် မည်သူမဆို အခမဲ့ဝင်ရောက်ကြည့်ရှုခွင့်



ရောင်တော်ပြန်နှင့် ရောကျတ်
/ raung tau pyannhang raw kyawat /



ရုံခါ
/joun kha/



ရင်ဘောင်တန်း
/ rin bhaung tann/

ပြုသည်.....

- လက်မှတ် မရောင်းမီ ဇာတ်ရုံထဲရောက်နေသူအားလုံးကို အပြင်သို့ထွက်စေသည်။ ညနေခါခါရုံထိုးလျှင် ရုံခါတယ်.....
- **To remove distractions and people who aren't helping the cause.**
- **To eliminate distractions and those who are not contributing to the goal.**
- **To remove distractions and people who are not aligned with the purpose**

“Shaking off the hall” refers to the process in Myanmar theatres where visitors are asked to leave before the paying audience enters, thus purging unnecessary individuals.

The Myanmar idiom **“shaking off the hall”** derives from the practices within traditional Myanmar theatre, where it is customary for non-paying visitors to observe the performance prior to the start of the show.

However, when the paying audience is permitted to enter, these visitors must vacate the space. This ritual serves not only as a means of maintaining the integrity of the experience for those who have paid but also as a metaphor for removing unwanted or superfluous individuals from a situation.

It conveys the idea that to maintain an appropriate and focused environment; one must sometimes eliminate distractions and those who do not contribute to the purpose at hand.

USAGES:

“Clear the deck”

- **Definition:** To prepare for action by removing unnecessary items or distractions.
- **Example:** “Before we tackle the new strategy, it's essential to clear the deck of any irrelevant discussions.”

“Kick to the curb”

- **Definition:** To discard or get rid of someone or something undesirable.
- **Example:** “After he mismanaged the resources, she knew it was time to kick him to the curb.”

“Cut the fat”

- **Definition:** To eliminate unnecessary elements to streamline a process.
- **Example:** “The CEO emphasized the need to cut the fat from our presentations and stick to the main points.”

“Trim the excess”

- **Definition:** To remove unnecessary parts to improve efficiency or clarity.
- **Example:** “In order to maximize our resources, we need to trim the excess from our project plans.”

“Sweep out the rubbish”

- **Definition:** To remove things or people that are no longer needed or beneficial.
- **Example:** “In order to move forward, it's crucial to sweep out the rubbish from our organization.”

“Do away with”

- **Definition:** To eliminate or abolish something.
- **Example:** “To enhance productivity, we should do away with practices that hinder our progress.”

“Send packing”

- **Definition:** To dismiss someone or something decisively.
- **Example:** “When their lack of effort became apparent, we had no choice but to send them packing.”

- **To stand abreast**
- **To try to level up with others who are more successful or accomplished.**
- **To strive to be on par with others who are more skilled or better off.**
- **To aim to rival or surpass others who are more accomplished or superior.**

When people of equal height stand side by side in a row, their chests will be almost level. Therefore, trying to achieve the same position, stand on the same level, or attain a similar status as those who are more accomplished is referred to as **“standing abreast”** with others.

In Myanmar, the idiom **“to stand abreast”** means to strive to equal or match oneself with others who are superior or more successful.

The idiom **“ရင်ဘောင်တန်း” (to stand abreast)** is derived from the physical phenomenon where people of equal height standing side by side will have their breasts almost at the same horizontal level.

This idiom is used to convey the idea of trying to match oneself with others who are superior or more accomplished. It is often used to caution against trying to compete with those who are better than oneself, as it is a futile effort. Instead, one should focus on personal growth and development.

USAGES:

“Reach for the stars”

- **Definition:** To aim high and strive for excellence.
- **Example:** “In your career, always strive to be your best; reach for the stars and chase your dreams.”

“Keep up with the Joneses”

- **Definition:** To try to equal or match oneself with others who are more successful or wealthy.
- **Example:** “Instead of worrying about their fancy vacations, remember that we shouldn't keep up with the Joneses; happiness comes from within.”

“Try to keep pace”

- **Definition:** To attempt to match oneself with others who are faster or more accomplished.
- **Example:** “As the industry evolves rapidly, we need to try to keep pace and adapt to the latest trends.”

“Measure up to”

- **Definition:** To meet or match the standards set by others.
- **Example:** “To secure that promotion, you must measure up to the high expectations set by your colleagues.”

“Compete with the best”

- **Definition:** To try to match oneself with others who are considered the best in their field.
- **Example:** “In order to grow, our startup needs to compete with the best and innovate constantly.”

“Rise to the challenge”

- **Definition:** To accept and meet the standards set by others.
- **Example:** “When faced with a difficult project, the team was determined to rise to the challenge and exceed expectations.”

“Match wits”

- **Definition:** To try to equal or outdo others in intellectual pursuits or competitions.
- **Example:** “In the upcoming quiz competition, our goal is to match wits with the top students and showcase our knowledge.”

NATIONAL

Kyaukse readies for annual elephant dance festival



This photo showcases the Kyaukse elephant dance in the previous year.

THE Shwethalyaungtaung Buddhist Temple will host the annual elephant dance festival on 16 October, according to U Aung Myo Thein, Chairman of the festival organizing leading committee.

“The Kyaukse elephant dance festival is bustling with people every year. We have established clear rules and regulations for all participating elephant dance groups to follow. At the opening ceremony, groups that have been performing for over 30 years will be honoured for their dedication. In addition, traditional prizes

will be awarded to those groups that perform music and dance as they parade around the Kyaukse Myoma market three times on foot. As in previous years, there will be a traditional elephant dance competition, an elephant costume contest, and a children’s elephant dance competition,” explained U Aung Myo Thein.

The Kyaukse elephant dance festival dates back to the reign of King Anawrahta when the Buddha’s sacred tooth relic was transported on a white elephant to the site where a pagoda was built. — ASH/MKKS

Aung Htet, Irene Zin Mar Myint to perform in Yangon for flood relief

VOCALISTS Aung Htet and Irene Zin Mar Myint are set to perform



This image showcases a music show poster of Aung Htet and Irene Zin Mar Myint.

at a music show at The Heart of Rangoon (THOR) in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region.

This event will also aim to raise funds for the restoration of areas impacted by flooding.

Singer Aung Htet announced, “In addition to our performances, we plan to collect donations for the restoration of flood-stricken areas. We encourage fans who wish to contribute to attend the event and donate”. The performance will be accompanied by the Daily Gita Band and is scheduled to start at 6:30 pm on 24 October. — ASH/TKO

Korean donors contribute to Myanmar’s flood relief efforts

THE Ministry of Foreign Affairs has reported continued donations from well-wishers in the Republic of Korea to assist flood victims in Myanmar. On 8 October, Myanmar’s Ambassador to Korea received a donation of US\$1,000 from Mr Huh Cheol-hong, Honorary Consul of Myanmar in Incheon. Additionally, Aggamaha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Venerable Mok Tak and members of the Korea-Myanmar Friendship Interchange Association contributed 2.3 million Korean won. The Ambassador expressed his heartfelt gratitude for their generosity.

Earlier, on 7 October, Ven-

erable Chung Myung and Abbess Jeong In from Myungsa Buddhist Temple, together with Abbess Ja Woon from Daejongs Buddhist Temple, visited the Myanmar Embassy to donate five million won. Similarly, on 30 September, Mr Won Bae Dahn, Honorary Consul-General of Myanmar in Busan, donated US\$3,000 to aid relief and rehabilitation efforts in flood-affected areas.

The Myanmar Embassy continues to receive various contributions for flood relief, which will be forwarded to those in need through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — ASH/TMT

New cancer treatment machines boost capacity at Dagon Seikkan Hospital



This photo depicts officials inspecting newly installed radiotherapy cancer treatment machines.

THE National Cancer Treatment Centre in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, Yangon Region, will soon be able to treat up to 200 patients per day following the installation of two new radiotherapy machines, according to the Ministry of Health.

In addition to these new

radiotherapy machines, a CT Simulator is also being installed to assist in the treatment process. Once the installation is complete, hands-on treatment is expected to commence by the third week of October.

“We are preparing to treat new patients. With the newly

installed Linear Accelerator radiotherapy machine, we will be able to treat 50 to 100 cancer patients per day. After the installation of the two additional radiotherapy machines, we will be able to treat up to 200 patients daily starting from December,” said an official from the Ministry of Health.

Furthermore, once the construction of the new specialist hospital in Lanmadaw Township, Yangon, is complete, the facility will be equipped with international-standard medical equipment. This hospital will focus on advanced treatments for cardiovascular and neurological care conditions, further enhancing the quality of healthcare services provided in the region. — ASH/KZL

He Lay’s ‘Chit Tine Lel Ma Nyar’ wins most streamed award on Flow App



He Lay’s ‘Chit Tine Lel Ma Nyar’ wins most streamed award on Flow App.

SINGER He Lay’s song titled ‘Chit Tine Lel Ma Nyar’ (Not all lovers are destined to marry) has won the Most Streamed award for November 2023. This accolade was presented by the streaming application Flow App, which recognized the song for having the highest number of streams.

“In previous years, FM channels were the primary platforms for music awards. Now, an online streaming app is also honouring musicians, which makes me very

happy as it allows all music creators to receive such recognition. I wrote this song in July 2023. Hlwan Paing composed it for me, and it received immediate acclaim from listeners upon its release. I am thrilled that my song was the most streamed in 2023, and I draw strength from this award,” said singer He Lay.

The song ‘Chit Tine Lel Ma Nya’ was written and performed by Hlwan Paing and was officially released in October 2023. — ASH/TRKM

NATIONAL

BANCA rescues two of Myanmar's few remaining Irrawaddy dolphins

A mother and her offspring of the Irrawaddy dolphin, which is an important species with less than a few hundred animals left in Myanmar, have been saved by the Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association (BANCA), according to BANCA.

They were first found at 4:29 pm on 5 October on a sandbank near Bilin township, Mon State, while the association was carrying out its conservation activities.

The mother is about five feet long, her baby is about 2.5 feet, and they were moved by boats to a safe, deeper place by

the Muthin village conservation team at 4:52 pm.

“We started our wetland, water resource, and migratory bird conservation activities during the cold season on 2 October. While we were searching for a place to rest on 5 October, a shape believed to be an Irrawaddy dolphin was seen diving and reappearing. When we zoomed it with the camera, we saw its head. After we followed it about 100 feet, we found the baby stuck ashore. Then we found its mother about 50 feet away. The third dolphin, presumably a male, entered into the creek,” said U



Thaw Phyto Shwe, an official from BANCA.

BANCA has been active since 2004 to identify and conserve critically endangered spe-



Photos show the attempt to save the Irrawaddy dolphin mother and its baby.

cies and other important areas in Myanmar in cooperation with locals, conservation teams, partner organizations, and international experts.

Recently, BANCA has ini-

tiated working with HELVETAS Myanmar to continuously conserve wetland and water resources and monitor and observe beach birds and migratory birds. — MT/ZN

Bamboo market grows with rising demand for handicrafts



Photos showcase bamboo crafts and accessories.

THERE is an increase in market availability and orders for bamboo handicrafts because of their wide uses, according to U Kyaw Win, a bamboo craftsman.

Bamboo handicrafts such as accessories have been widely used in local food shops and resorts to create a bamboo taste, and the orders are regular and continuous, he said

“The bamboo handicraft market has expanded recently, and we have regular orders for it to run the business. There are local orders continuously. In the past, sofas, air conditioners, and TVs were strange things to see only at hotels. Now, people have become familiar with them. People tend to realize that they must use natural products if they want to live longer.

Moreover, they prefer a natural look. Cafes, tea shops, and

restaurants come to decorate their locations with a natural look of bamboo. In the shops in Nay Pyi Taw, it is becoming more popular to decorate them with lanterns, dustbins, tissue boxes, spoons, and stick baskets made of bamboo. With a broader use, the bamboo market has expanded,” he said.

The prices of related materials for bamboo handicrafts are higher than before, so bamboo products have higher prices.

At present, there is a shortage of bamboo due to slash-and-burn cultivation and the incorrect method of cutting bamboo shoots. Therefore, they are planning to provide training on how to harvest bamboo shoots in the right way, and they will work to provide support to the bamboo conservation in their own capacity, he said. — MT/ZN

Two new fish species discovered in Moeyungyi Lake

THERE are 46 fish species in Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary, located in Waw Township of Bago District. Last month, two new species of silver crap and Sareng catfish were found, according to the officials of Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary.

The sanctuary also boasts the endangered species – Sareng catfish and slivery catfish. The survey on fish species is conducted once every three months, and the two new fish species were recorded during the flood caused by Typhoon Yagi in September.

The Fisheries Department frees fish species such as Channa striata, Carplet, limbing perch and swamp barb into Moeyungyi Lake to ensure the sustainable development of fish resources and the socioeconomic status of locals.

The Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary is home to migratory birds, water birds, and various fish species, and so it supports environmental con-



PHOTO: MOEYUNGYI LAKE

servation and wetland area research, biodiversity, and the tourism industry.

“There are 46 fish species in Moeyungyi Lake, and we recorded two new fish species recently. The world endangered species – Sareng catfish and slivery catfish, can also be found there, and now

there are two new species — silver crap and Sareng catfish. Currently, we have recorded 48 fish species,” said Daw Thin Thin Yu, head of the sanctuary.

Moeyungyi Lake covers 40 square miles (25,600 acres), possessing 189 bird species and 48 fish species. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH

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NATIONAL

Crackdown on illegal trade seizes K664M in goods over 3 days

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat the illicit trade continue effectively in accordance with the law.

On 7 and 8 October, combined teams captured 40 barrels of smuggled fuel oil, five kinds of foodstuffs and two kinds of consumer goods valued at K21.7 million in Patheingyi District, a kind of industrial materials worth K128.498 million without official documents from two containers at the Myanmar Industrial Port, three kinds of industrial materials and a kind of consumer goods valued at K157.749 million without official documents at the Yangon International Airport

and a Dongfeng tractor head with a trailer (approximately K60 million) carrying a kind of foodstuffs and a kind of industrial materials valued at K70.88 million at the Ywathagyi Dry Port. The action was taken under Customs procedures and the Counter-Terrorism Law.

On 8 October, combined teams conducted inspections and seized illegal teak weighing 0.837 tonne worth K736,912 from Toyota Voxy (worth approximately K9 million) in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, illegal timbers weighing 3.378 tonnes worth K1.756 million in Taikkyi Township, and two unregistered motorbikes (es-

timated value of K600,000) in Magway and Thayet Districts. The action was carried out under the Export-Import Law and the Forest Law.

On 9 October, the combined on-duty teams captured a Mitsubishi Fuso truck and a Toyota Dyna truck (worth approximately K55 million) carrying jewellery worth K89.952 million without official documents in Pyigyidagun Township, a Nissan Diesel truck (worth approximately K35 million) carrying 25 kinds of motorbike spare parts and two kinds of consumer goods valued at K33.504 million without official documents at the checkpoint in Singaing Township. The action



Seized illegal items in different states and regions.

was conducted in line with Customs procedures.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported that 22 arrests were made

on three consecutive days from 7 to 9 October, resulting in the seizure of illegal goods worth approximately K664.377 million. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

Fake news claims arrests at Nyaunglebin monastery



This screenshot reveals fabricated stories.

FALSE reports were circulated by malicious news media claiming that around 100 displaced persons were arrested by security forces at Nyaunglebin Village Monastery, Ngazun Township, Mandalay Region.

These fabricated stories were deliberately spread as part of a misinformation campaign. According to a statement from a security official, terrorists posing as local civilians have been carrying out violent activities in villages and towns. In response, security forces have been conducting patrols and necessary inspections to ensure public safety.

Displaced persons were assisted and supported by authorities, contrary to the claims made by these media outlets. These malicious media sources are intentionally spreading false and misleading information about security forces to tarnish their image while covering up the violent acts of terrorists. These deceptive reports aim to mislead the public and serve the interests of terrorists. — MNA/KZL

Monk wounded by terrorists' homemade landmine in Kayin State

A monk residing at Kyuntaw Monastery in Papun Township, Kayin State, was wounded after stepping on a homemade landmine planted by terrorists. The explosion occurred at around noon on 9 October as the monk, Venerable Bhaddanta Tesantiya, was travelling to Yaypu Monastery. About 450 metres west of Yaypu Village, he accidentally triggered the landmine, resulting in injuries.

Security forces quickly transported the injured monk to Kamamoung Hospital for treatment. Reports indicate that terrorists have been planting landmines along public travel routes, causing disruptions and creating travel difficulties for locals. The community has strongly condemned these acts, while security forces are increasing their efforts to ensure safety and maintain control over the area. — MNA/KZL



Injured monk.

Findings dispute Khit Thit Media's claims of pressured CDMers in Monywa Prison

ON 6 October, Khit Thit Media reported on its Facebook page that prison officials are pressuring Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) staff currently imprisoned in the Monywa prison to return to their duties.

Upon investigation, it was found that there were no political prisoners at the Monywa prison. Instead, the prison only houses individuals who have been convicted of crimes by the court under existing laws. Among those serving sentences, some are CDM participants,

and the claim that they are coerced to renounce their involvement in CDM is unsubstantiated.

Moreover, prison officials did not summon inmates regarding their crimes in a coercive manner. Rather, they encouraged inmates to adhere to prison rules and regulations.

The allegations made by Khit Thit Media seem to be intended to mislead the public and misrepresent the functions of the prison. — Thitsa/KN

Zantac maker GSK agrees to pay \$2.3 bln in US settlements

BRITISH pharmaceutical company GSK said Wednesday it has agreed to pay \$2.3 billion in the United States to put an end to lawsuits alleging that its Zantac heartburn drug caused cancer.

“GSK today announced that it has reached agreements with 10 plaintiff firms who together represent 93 per cent (approximately 80,000) of the Zantac state court product liability cases pending against GSK,” the company said in a statement.

Under the agreement, whose terms are confidential, GSK will make an “aggregate payment of up to \$2.2 billion” to resolve these cases, the statement added.

The company also said on Wednesday that it had reached another agreement in principle to pay \$70 million to settle a separate Zantac case with US laboratory Valisure — which is still subject to final approval by the US Department of Justice.

Class action and personal injury lawsuits have been filed in US courts after the Food and Drug Administration warned in 2019 that some ranitidine drugs including Zantac contained low levels of an environmental contaminant considered a probable carcinogen.

However the pharmaceutical giant said it “has not admitted any liability” by settling the case as “the scientific consensus remains that there is no consistent or reliable evidence” that ranitidine is carcinogenic. — AFP

7-Eleven owner says to spin off non-core businesses

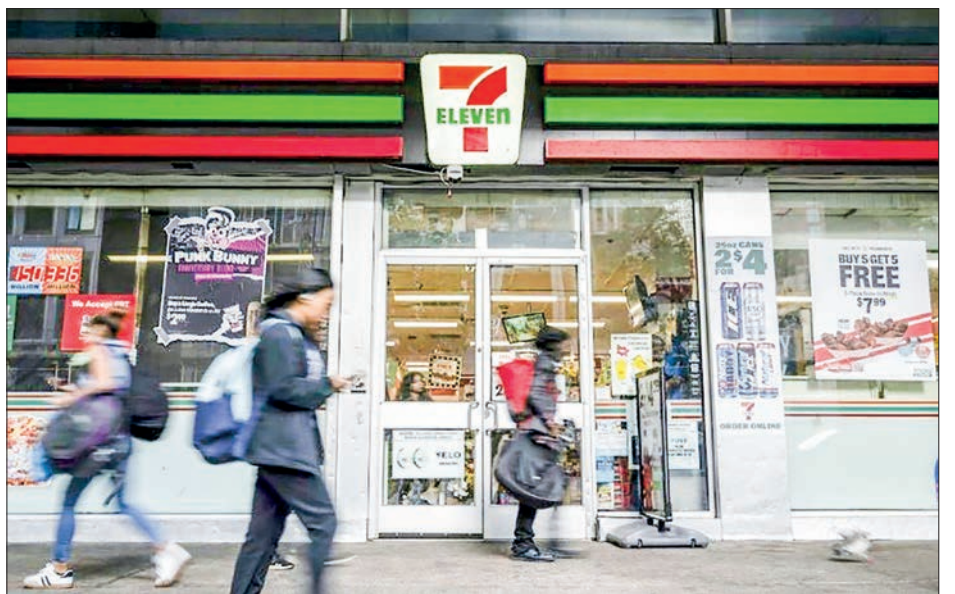
THE Japanese owner of 7-Eleven announced plans on Thursday to spin off non-core operations into a new holding company, a move seen as fending off a takeover bid by Canada’s Alimentation Couche-Tard.

Seven & i Holdings “resolved at the management meeting held today to establish an intermediate holding company... that will preside over the Company’s supermarket food business, specialty store and other businesses”, a statement said.

It said it would consider an initial public offering (IPO) of the new unit “in order to unlock value for the Company’s shareholders and other stakeholders”.

7-Eleven is the world’s biggest convenience store chain and has more than 85,000 outlets worldwide, around a quarter of those in Japan.

7-Eleven is the world’s largest convenience store chain, with over 85,000 locations globally, about a quarter of which are in Japan.



7-Eleven is the world’s biggest convenience store chain. PHOTO: AFP

Seven & i rejected a takeover offer worth \$40 billion last month from Alimentation Couche-Tard (ACT), which owns Circle K. The firm had said that the proposal, which would

be the biggest foreign takeover of a Japanese firm, “grossly” undervalued its business and could face regulatory hurdles.

Seven & i said on Wednesday it had received

a revised offer but declined to give details.

Bloomberg News and other media outlets reported that the new offer totalled around seven trillion yen (\$47 billion). — AFP

Rio Tinto seals US\$6.7 bln purchase of Arcadium Lithium

ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN mining giant Rio Tinto cemented a roughly US\$6.7 billion deal to buy lithium chemicals producer Arcadium on Wednesday, snapping up a significant player in the red-hot battery sector.

The bumper agreement values Arcadium — which was only formed this year — at US\$5.85 a share, a premium of almost 40 per cent over

the market average.

The deal offers Rio Tinto access to many more chemicals needed to create lithium batteries and is a bet that the multi-billion-dollar-a-year electric vehicle market will continue to grow. If regulatory approval is granted, Rio Tinto would become the world’s third-largest lithium supplier.

But the deal is not without risk.

The lithium industry has struggled with oversupply and languishing electric vehicle sales that has pushed lithium prices down and led to mines around the world shutting or scaling back production, at least temporarily.

Arcadium Lithium announced earlier this year it was mothballing a mine in Western Australia, citing low market prices. — AFP



British pharmaceutical company GSK. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Japan govt mulls acquiring stake in domestic chip venture Rapidus

THE Japanese government is considering acquiring a stake in domestic chip venture Rapidus Corp, sources familiar with the matter said Thursday, as it seeks to spearhead efforts to increase financial support for it from the private sector.

A plan is under consideration to exchange part of the company’s gov-

ernment-owned factory for shares in it. The timing and size of the transaction is to be decided later, the sources said. The plan comes as the government has designated semiconductors as strategically important goods in terms of both economic growth and security. It has already decided to offer a 920 billion yen (\$6.2 billion) sub-

sidy to the venture aiming to produce state-of-the-art 2-nanometre chips.

However, the chipmaker has so far received investments totalling only 7.3 billion yen from eight major Japanese companies, including Toyota Motor Corp, SoftBank Corp and Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. — Kyodo

Announcement

Eurofins Assurance Myanmar Ltd hereby announces its intention to give notice of an extraordinary general meeting to approve the reduction of its capital in accordance with the notice and documents filed with the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

NEWS IN BRIEF

EU talks deportation hubs to stem migration

EUROPEAN countries are to discuss “innovative” ways to increase deportations of irregular migrants and rejected asylum seekers on Thursday, including controversial plans to set up dedicated return centres in non-EU nations.

Far-right gains in several European countries have helped put migration issues atop the agenda as home affairs ministers from the bloc’s 27 states meet in Luxembourg ahead of a gathering of EU leaders later this month. Whether the bloc should explore the “feasibility of innovative solutions in the field of returns, notably the return hub concept”, will be the topic on the table at a ministerial working lunch, according to a background note to the official agenda.

The meeting comes only a few months after the European Union adopted a sweeping reform of its asylum policies.

The long-negotiated package, which will come into force in June 2026, hardens border procedures and requires countries to take in asylum seekers from “frontline” states like Italy or Greece or provide money and resources. — AFP

Egypt denies alleged involvement in Sudan war

EGYPT has denied allegations from Sudanese paramilitary chief Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, at war with the army since April last year, that its military has been involved in the conflict.

The war between Daglo’s Rapid Support Forces and the regular military, led by army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, has killed tens of thousands and caused the world’s largest displacement crisis.

In a video posted online Wednesday, Daglo accused Egypt’s air force of carrying out strikes targeting his forces near Jebel Moya, a key area south of Khartoum. “Egypt is fighting us,” he said, accusing it of being one of six countries of interfering in the conflict, including Iran.

Iran’s supply of Mohajer-6 drones, verified by two weapons experts to AFP, appeared to give the army support for an advance on the Sudanese capital earlier this year.

In a statement issued late Wednesday, Egypt’s foreign ministry rejected Daglo’s claim. Egypt “denies the allegations... regarding the participation of the Egyptian air force in the battles taking place in brotherly Sudan,” the statement said. — AFP



A child holding a Chinese national flag enjoys herself at a wetland park in Xigang town, Tengzhou city of East China’s Shandong province, 1 October 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

China launches nationwide sample survey of population changes

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) announced that selected residents will be surveyed on various aspects, including age, gender, ethnicity, education, occupation, marital and fertility status, and housing conditions.

CHINA will conduct a nationwide sample survey of population changes this year to accurately and promptly monitor the country’s demographic development and provide basic information for its popu-

lation policies, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said Thursday.

From 10 October to 30 November selected residents will be asked about their basic information, including age,

gender, ethnic groups, educational levels, job positions, marital and fertility status and housing conditions.

The reference time for the survey will be 1 November 2024, said the NBS. — Xinhua

Strategy of Hezbollah is to hit Haifa, Israel’s 3rd biggest city, says official



Streets in the Israeli port city of Haifa were largely deserted after Hezbollah rockets hit the city outskirts. **PHOTO: AFP**

AMID the ongoing crisis in West Asia, which has resulted in a surge in tensions in the region, Hezbollah appears to be planning to hit Haifa, Israel’s third biggest city, which is incidentally the main city in the country’s north neighbouring Lebanon, according to Head of the Emergency Preparedness Department in the port city.

While speaking to ANI in an exclusive interview, the official Leonid Reznik stated that the purpose of the emergency preparedness department is to monitor the city, for which a few hundred CCTV cameras have also been installed across the city.

“We have a few hundreds of CCTV cameras inside the city. Our purpose is to monitor the city to understand what’s going on and, most importantly, to understand, in case of a straight hit of one of the rockets, where it was so we can send our workers, our police, and home from command soldiers to the place where the rocket hit,” Reznik said.

Hundreds of thousands of people have already fled southern Lebanon, where Israel’s bombardments are most intense and where the Israel Defence Force is conducting ground operations to destroy Hezbollah’s weapons cache. — ANI

SPORTS

Tennis tourney marks 110 years of Dunlop courts in Myeik

A tennis tournament commemorating the 110th anniversary of the Dunlop Tennis Court was held on 9 October at the court in Kanpha ward, Myeik, Taninthayi Region. The event began at 3 pm and aimed to honour the court, which was established in 1914.

To mark this milestone, the tournament ran from 1 to 9 October, featuring 24 players divided into four teams, with six players on each team competing in a round-robin format.

"We are holding this competition to promote the emergence of new generation

sportsmen and sportswomen. Taninthayi Region is known for nurturing young talent. In 2023, two youths from the Dunlop Tennis Club participated in state and regional competitions, securing two bronze medals. Tennis players from the Dunlop Youth Club have also been selected for the regional team heading to this year's National Sports Festival," said Ko Zaw Moe Oo, secretary of Dunlop Tennis Club.

After the tournament, prizes were awarded to the top two teams, and a ceremony honouring senior tennis play-

ers was conducted, recognizing 20 elders over the age of 70 with souvenirs and a history book of tennis. Additionally, a commemorative book detailing the 110-year history of tennis in Myeik Township was published.

The ceremony was attended by approximately 100 people, including U Than Zaw Moe, the sports officer of Myeik District, U Tun Shein, the township sports officer, members of the Dunlop Tennis Club, tennis athletes from Myeik City, and competing players. — Myint Oo (Myeik)/TKO



The tennis tournament in action marking the 110th anniversary of Dunlop courts on 9 October 2024 in Myeik.



Myanmar and Sri Lanka teams in action during their first friendly match. PHOTO: THAW GYI

Myanmar beats Sri Lanka 2-0 in international friendly

IN the first friendly match between Myanmar's national team and Sri Lanka's national team, held on 10 October at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon, Myanmar emerged victorious with a 2-0 win.

That was Myanmar's first international friendly of the year, and the team claimed a solid victory over Sri Lanka. It was also the debut match for new head coach U Myo Hlaing Win, who led the team to this promising start.

The Myanmar starting lineup included star players such as team captain Maung Maung Lwin, goalkeeper Pyae Phyoo Thu, Nanda Kyaw, Soe Moe Kyaw, Thet Htein Soe, Hein Phyoo Win, Zaw Win Thein, Kyaw Min Oo, Lwin Moe Aung, Hein Htet Aung, and Than

Paing. Under the guidance of their new coach, Myanmar's team is expected to focus more on collective team play rather than relying on individual efforts, which could improve their overall performance.

Despite missing a few key players, Sri Lanka's team featured naturalized citizen players and key figures but struggled to find the net due to finishing issues.

Lwin Moe Aung scored Myanmar's goals in 16 minutes, and Maung Maung Lwin from a penalty in 53 minutes, which was set up by Than Paing's relentless effort.

The second friendly between the two teams will take place at 4 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 13 October at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Socceroos coach praises players for keeping cool in World Cup qualifying win against China

THE head coach of Australia's Socceroos has praised his players for remaining calm after conceding the first goal in Thursday night's win against China in the World Cup qualifier in Adelaide.

The Socceroos came from behind to beat China 3-1 in head coach Tony Popovic's first game in charge of the Australian national team.

Speaking after the match, Popovic praised his players for remaining calm and positive after conceding the opening

goal in the 20th minute after dominating possession in the early stages of the match.

"The clear indicator was the next five minutes after the goal, we continued to play the same way," Popovic told reporters.

"That can always be a nervy period where you start forcing the action and it ends with an opportunity to concede another goal but they looked really composed and kept playing. That was a good sign for us".

He said that the team was

more composed in the second half — after scoring the equalizing goal late in the first half — resulting in the opportunities to score the second and third goals.

The win was the first for the Socceroos in the third stage of Asian Football Confederation (AFC) qualifying for the 2026 FIFA World Cup following a loss against Bahrain and draw with Indonesia in September that prompted the resignation of Popovic's predecessor Graham Arnold. — Xinhua



Australia's Craig Goodwin (kneeling) celebrates scoring against China. PHOTO: AFP

China launches nationwide sample survey of population changes
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WORLD

Iranian lawmakers urge nuclear weapons development amid Israeli threats

A GROUP of 39 Iranian parliamentarians has asked the Iranian Supreme National Security Council to revise the country's defence doctrine, in particular to allow the creation of nuclear weapons because of the threat of an Israeli attack, Iranian state news agency ISNA reported on Wednesday, citing an Iranian official.

Despite the prohibition under Islamic law on the development and use of nuclear weapons, as repeatedly stated by Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, it could still be reconsidered, the official said.

Atomic Energy Organization of Iran chief Mohammad Eslami announced earlier this year that the Islamic Republic would build four 1,250 MW reactors at a large new nuclear power plant in Hormozgan province over the coming decade, with the \$20 billion project expected to generate some 20,000 MW of energy by 2041. — SPUTNIK

Despite Islamic law prohibiting nuclear weapons, this stance may be reconsidered, according to an official.




An Iranian military truck carries missiles during a 18 April 2018 parade in Tehran to mark the country's annual army day. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ IRAN PROJECT

Han Kang awarded Nobel Prize for confronting historical traumas

The Nobel Committee recognized her innovative approach, showcasing her deep understanding of the connections between body and soul in her works.

THE NOBEL PRIZE
IN LITERATURE 2024



Han Kang

"for her intense poetic prose that confronts historical traumas and exposes the fragility of human life"

Han Kang awarded the 2024 Nobel Prize for her impactful literature PHOTO: ANI

THE 2024 Nobel Prize in literature has been awarded to South Korean author Han Kang "for her intense poetic prose that confronts historical traumas and exposes the fragility of human life". The Literature Prize was announced by the Nobel Committee at the Swedish Academy and follows announcements for three preceding days of Nobel prizes honouring works in Medicine, Physics and Chemistry.

In her oeuvre, Han Kang confronts historical traumas and invisible sets of rules and, in each of her works, exposes the fragility of human life. She has a unique awareness of the connections between body and soul, the living and the dead, and in her poetic and experimental style has become an innovator in contemporary prose, the Academy said.

Born in 1970, Han Kang gained international fame with her 2015 novel "The Vegetarian", exploring the chaotic reactions to protagonist Yeong-hye's refusal to conform to societal food norms. The Nobel Prize in Literature has been awarded 116 times since 1901, with the last female laureate being Annie Ernaux in 2022.

The Nobel Prize, established by Alfred Nobel's will, honours significant contributions to humanity across various fields, including literature, physics, and medicine. — ANI

GEOMAGNETIC STORMS

Solar ejection may cause auroras as far south

A massive ball of plasma and accompanying magnetic field ejected from the Sun is expected to strike Earth on Thursday morning, potentially triggering auroras as far south as Alabama, according to US forecasters. It comes as the Sun approaches – or is possibly at – the peak of its 11-year cycle, when activity is heightened. In May, powerful geomagnetic storms gripped the planet, creating stunning auroras far beyond the poles.

The Space Weather Prediction Centre anticipated further activity, including a coronal mass ejection (CME) travelling at 2.5 million miles per hour, prompting a G4 storm watch. This could disrupt satellites, GPS, and electricity grids, reminiscent of the "Halloween Storms" of 2003. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and power companies were alerted to take precautions. Despite previous disruptions to GPS and satellite operations, the grid remained stable. — AFP