

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Nearly 10,000 acres to add to **Mainmahlakyun Wildlife Sanctuary**

This photo depicts migratory birds coming to graze at the Mainmahlakyun Wildlife Sanctuary.

A total of nearly 10,000 acres will be added to the Mainmahlakyun Wildlife Sanctuary in Bogale Township, Pyapon District, Ayeyawady Region, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.

The Mainmahlakyun Wildlife Sanctuary covers an area of 52.78 square miles. It serves as a breeding ground for 18

species of mammals, 190 species of birds, 38 species of amphibians and reptiles, 110 species of fish, six species of crabs, 14 species of prawns, 35 species of butterflies, 29 species of mangroves, and six species of orchids, as well as Irrawaddy dolphins and turtle species.

“Currently, we have a total area of nearly 10,000 acres to expand. The reason for the expansion is to support the flyway

of wintering birds, as the sanctuary is located along this route. Therefore, it has been designated as an important wetland area. We are planning to expand it so that migratory birds from around the world can roost along this route,” said Daw Zin Mar Tun, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. — ASH/MKKS

Article

Frequently asked questions about the Myanmar Copyright Law (2019)

By Kyaw Kyaw
(Dominance Literature)

PAGE 8-9

NATIONAL

PAGE 4



Potato production drops, prices rise in Naungtaya

BUSINESS

PAGE 7



Additional exports included in land border earnings repatriation programme

Mobile top-ups for YPS cards need CBM approval

IN order to top up YPS cards used for riding YBS vehicles through mobile money applications such as KBZ Pay and Wave Money, it is necessary to obtain approval from the Central Bank of Myanmar.

According to the Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC), YPS cards are planned to be topped up through mobile money applications.

“Right now, top-up can only be done at G&G stores and designated

locations. We are planning to extend it to top-up via mobile money application. Asia Starmar Transport Intelligent Company is implementing it. It needs the CBM’s approval. The process is underway, but we cannot say the exact date when it will start,” YRTC Joint Secretary U Lyan Cing Mang said.

There are also reports that YPS top-up through the mobile money application will be launched in 2025.

Currently, more than 3,900 YPS POS devices are installed in YBS vehicles of 18 YBS bus line companies, and plans are being made to continue installing them in the remaining cars. There are presently more than 200,000 YPS card users and more than 2,000 QR system users in Yangon. — MT/ZN

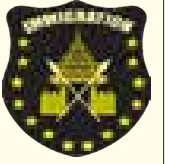
This image shows a commuter paying for the YBS fare by tapping the YPS card through the device.



NATIONAL



Citizens yet to be counted in Nationwide Census to be reassessed



- The 2024 Nationwide Census activities were conducted from 1 to 15 October.
- The people who have not completed census processes due to various reasons can contact the relevant ward and village census committees and township census committees to collect census data again.
- Individuals can also contact 067 431062, 067 431359, 067 431067, 067 431339. — Central Census Commission

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

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

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

Domestic tourists to Hpa-an expected to surge during Tazaungdine



This image shows a famous night bazaar in Hpa-an.

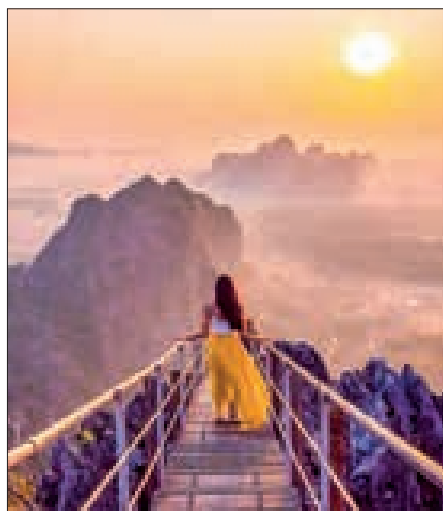
AFTER the end of Thadingyut, the number of domestic tourists to Hpa-an has continued to increase without any decrease, and it is likely to increase during the Tazaungdine festival, according to the locals.

People from Yangon, Mandalay and nearby areas arrived at the place, and most of them visited Mount Taungwyine, Mount Kya-inn, Mount Zwegabin, Kawgun cave, Lonnya Blue Lake, Naunglon Valley, Kanthaya, Hpa-an Strand Road night bazaar.

"There are many domestic tourists. They come from Yangon, Mandalay, and nearby areas. It was more crowded on weekends. These days, it rains in the evening, and if it rains in the

evening, the cloud sea is so beautiful in the morning. Right now, there are many climbers on Mount Taungwyine, Mount Kya-inn, and Mount Zwegabin. It seems that there will be many visitors too in Tazaungdine," said a Hpa-an local.

During the Thadingyut holidays, there were many domestic tourists, so the guest houses, hotels and motels were full. There are more trips made by friends and young lovers than by families. Most of the tourists enjoyed the beauty of Hpa-an, which had cloud seas and snow and mist during the transition to



This image showcases the beauty of Mount Taungwyine with some visitors.

the fall, he said.

Due to the large number of tourists, there will be more income-generating opportunities for locals in Hpa-an. — MT/ZN

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 1 November 2024

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Southwest Bay of Bengal and a few cloud elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 2 November 2024:

Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region and isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and, Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Southern Shan, Kayin and, Mon States. Degree of certainty is 80%. Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Bago, Ayeyawady and, Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and, Mon 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 of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 3-6 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and, Taninthayi Regions and Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayin and, Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 2 November 2024: Partly cloudy and likelihood of isolated light rain. Degree of certainty is 60%.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 2 November 2024: Partly cloudy and isolated light rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 2 November 2024: Partly cloudy.

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Regions. — 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)

MoTC Deputy Minister attends 5th Myanmar-China Think Tank Forum



This photo shows Deputy Minister U Aung Myaing participating in the forum on 31 October.

DEPUTY Minister for Transport and Communications U Aung Myaing attended the Fifth Myanmar-China Think Tank Forum held in Yunnan Province, China, on 29 and 30 October. The forum aims to enhance cooperation in the transport, trade, and economic sectors between the

two countries.

The forum, established in 2017, fosters collaboration to strengthen connectivity, increase trade volumes, and build stronger economic partnerships. Deputy Minister U Aung Myaing delivered an opening speech, participated in discus-

sions, and addressed collaboration on transport initiatives.

Forum attendees discussed ways to expand transport networks, boost trade volume, and establish strategies for enhanced economic cooperation. Senior officials from Myanmar's Department of Transport

Planning, Myanmar Railways, Department of Trade, and Department of Highways, along with representatives from the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS), Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar Fishery

Products Producers and Exporters Association, and private sector organizations joined the deputy minister.

Representatives from the Yunnan provincial government, led by the deputy administrator of Yunnan Province, also joined the event. — MNA/KZL

YRTC holds awareness session for 100 rule-breaking YBS drivers

ORGANIZED by the Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC), an awareness seminar No 19/2024 was held at the YRTC head office's training hall on 30 October for 100 YBS

drivers who broke the rules.

Altogether 100 attendees in addition to responsible YRTC officials were 15 red light violating drivers, 17 overtaking drivers, two drivers who al-

lowed getting on/off passengers at traffic lights, 55 drivers for driving with side door open, two drivers who did not stop properly at the stops, three drivers who did not stop for passen-

gers and six drivers who broke speed limits.

In the opening speech, YRTC vice chairman U Chit Ko Ko said that about 1.5 million passengers are transported by 4,000 drivers every day, and that YBS drivers are the main driving force to develop YRTC's main goal of "Safe Public Transport to All". YBS drivers who have repeatedly violated traffic rules more than three times will be inspected and educated to ensure that they are not driving under the influence of drugs.

The main reason for this undisciplined driving is that these drivers are paid per trip and to get more paid by more trips, they tend to compete with others. For the cases of YBS buses overtaking other buses

on the road, reverse driving, driving through red lights, and overspeeding, the YRTC will not tolerate at all, and in addition to cancelling driver's smart card by YRTC for reckless driving, the Yangon Region Road Safety Council has decided to take measures to revoke the driving licence for a certain period of time, he said.

When applying for a YBS driver's licence, those who have attended driver's training for large vehicles are allowed to drive only after passing a drug-free test. The YRTC is monitoring it with sound evidence obtained by using high-tech telematics devices from the Traffic Control Centre, making conclusions based on CCTV records and scientific drug test results, he added. — MT/ZN



This photo reveals an awareness session in progress for 100 YBS drivers who broke the rules.

NATIONAL

Yangon places high demand for durable, juicy Ywangan limes



Limes from Ywangan in the picture.

SHAN STATE'S limes, which are durable and juicy, are produced in Ywangan and are ordered mainly from Yangon, according to the information asked in the lime market.

Good quality local limes are ordered from all over Myanmar.

"The price of limes is good. Ywangan limes are available all year round. The fruit is sometimes rare. This time, they are plentiful. The price is good. The advantage of these limes is that they don't lose their condition for about a week after being picked. They are juicy, and the order is from all over the country. If the fruits from Pyay and Ye are sold out, many people from the south buy our limes. It is almost the whole country. Yangon tops among the buyers right now," said Daw Than Oo, a lime wholesaler and retailer from Ywangan.

Ywangan limes, sold by the viss, attract attention for their appealing quality. "The fruit is quite large. This year, sales are not as good as last year. It's because of many circumstances," she said. — Thit Taw/ZN

Potato production drops, prices rise in Naungtaya

POTATO production has declined in Shan State's Naungtaya, causing price increases. Potatoes are transported to cities, including Yangon, from Naungtaya.

Naungtaya-produced potatoes have high consumption in Myanmar. "Potato production peaks in April, May and June. Prices differ by nearly one-third between the peak period and now. The production has been low, and the price has been high at present. All potato plantations

are already harvested and newly grown, not produced yet," said an official from the Naungtaya Potato Association.

Currently, only rain-fed potatoes are available, and prices will return to normal when new potatoes harvest in late November or early December, he said.

Based in Aungban, Naungtaya-produced potatoes are distributed across the country. The potato plantation acre has been regular in Naungtaya this year, too. — MT/ZS



This image showcases a farmer harvesting potatoes at a plantation in Naungtaya.

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

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

Nowadays, it is reported that forced labour victims can safely contact and complain to the Office of the State Administration Council, Region and State governments, the Nay Pyi Taw Council, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, the ILO Liaison Office (Yangon) and other organizations or to the Ministry of Labour Office No 51, Nay Pyi Taw, in person or in writing via 067 3430184, 067 3430229, 067 3430274 and director-general.dol@gmail.com, moloffice51@gmail.com, and research.org.dol.mm@gmail.com. — MNA

Ginger trade rises with strong domestic demand



This image shows gingers at a wholesale trading centre.

FARMERS say the ginger trade has increased.

"Ginger price has declined slightly, at present, due to the quality impacted by flood. And ginger export has been slow down, so we have to rely on the domestic market. However, the price for end-users doesn't decrease sharply. The sale in the internal market doesn't fall because ginger has high domestic consumption," said a ginger

farmer in PyinOoLwin Township.

The ginger season falls beyond January, and it is expected that the price will return to normal, he said.

"Demand is still low for those who have stocked ginger because it is not its season. So, we can't say about the price for now. Last year, the ginger price wasn't good, but it has been doing well this year," he said.

In 2022 summer, the ginger price was just around K500 a viss, causing losses for farmers. However, the price elevated again in early 2023, helping the population of ginger farmers increase back this year.

Myanmar could make ginger export to China, Thailand, India, Bangladesh, Yemen, Indonesia, Pakistan, Malaysia, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates, according to statistics from the Department of Trade. — Thit Taw/ZS

Global NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.gnlm.com.mm



CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.

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

NATIONAL

Ticket shop seeks K500M winner of 68th Aungbarlay Lottery

AT the opening of the 68th Aungbarlay Lottery, ticket Gagyi 543140 won the highest grand prize of K500 million, and officials are trying to get connected with the owner of the winning ticket, said an official from the Maha Aunggay Hein lottery ticket trading.

Five hundred fifty-two thousand two hundred seventy-six ticket booklets were sold at the 68th Aungbarlay Lottery. It earned K5,522.760 million, of which 70 per cent will be allo-

cated for winning tickets worth K3,865.932 million, according to the Internal Revenue Department's statistics.

"We are still searching for the ticket owner. It is still unknown who the winner will be," he said at 4 pm on 1 November.

At the 68th Aungbarlay Lottery opening, the winning tickets for K200 million is Kha 992523, for K100 million Gagyi 977229, for K50 million Hsalein 209590, Salone 481577, Kagyi 235733, Kagyi 799297, and for

K20 million are Zamyinzwe 640460, Zamyinzwe 231788, Nga 526329, Nga 881893 and Hsalein 914669.

The first 5-digit online lottery will open on 2 November 2024, and 70 per cent of the total earnings of the online lottery sale will be awarded to winning tickets. — Htet Oo Maung/ZS



The general view of the Aungbarlay Lottery Office.

K1.32 bln worth of drugs seized in Mandalay

MYANMAR authorities seized 0.88 million stimulant tablets near Thanywa village in Kyaukse township, Mandalay Region, on 27 October.

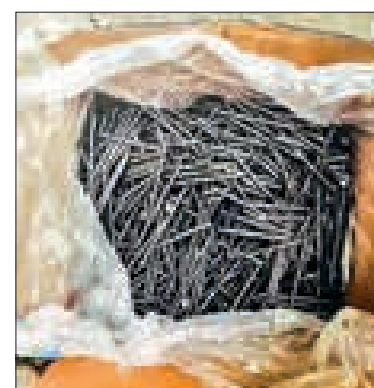
The report said that anti-narcotics police searched a vehicle driven by Ko Ko Maung (aka) Chan Pyae Maung, heading to Kyaukse from Taunggyi, and seized the drugs worth K1.32 billion, along with Isuzu D-Max vehicle.

According to the investigation, the suspect transported the drugs from Shan State (South) to Phayathonzu in Kayin State. The offender involved in the case has been charged under the country's Narcotics Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA/KTZH

Two-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K1,839B



Confiscated illegal industrial items in different states and regions.



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

On 29 and 30 October, the combined teams nabbed two boats, travelling from Myeik to Yangon, carrying eight industrial materials and a kind of consumer good worth K327.598 million without official documents at the Thakayta jetty and Shwemae jetty. The action was taken following Customs procedures.

Similarly, on 30 October, the combined teams supervised by the Customs Department conducted inspections, resulting in the seizures of five kinds of industrial materials and two kinds of consumer goods

worth K1.086 billion without official documents from 19 containers at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint, a kind of industrial material worth K175.518 million without official document from a container at the Myanmar Industrial Port, two kinds of industrial materials and a kind of foodstuff valued at K79.726 million without official documents at the Thilawa Port Terminal container checkpoint and two vehicles (approximately K100 million), heading to Yangon from Thaton, carrying two kinds of consumer goods worth K10.78 million without official documents at the Ywathagyi Dry Port. The action was carried out according to Customs procedures.

Additionally, the com-

bined on-duty teams impounded two Toyota HiAce (estimated value of K50 million), travelling from Hpa-an to Yangon, carrying three kinds of foodstuff and a kind of consumer good worth K3.215 million without official document near the Shwethanlwin Tollgate in Phayagyi. The action was conducted as per Customs procedures.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 30 arrests on 29 and 30 October, seizing illegal goods worth approximately K1,839 billion. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

Subversive media continues to defame security forces

MALICIOUS media outlets intentionally spread fake news, claiming that Tatmadaw members and administrative officials detained youths and extorted them for People's Military Servant Training 7 in Insein and Dagon Myothit (South) Townships, Yangon.

According to an official, Tatmadaw did not gather youths for military training by force, and the summoning processes are underway in accordance with the law. Terrorists forcefully gathered youths regardless of their ages.



This screenshot validates misinformation.

Subversive media outlets circulated false information to lead youths in the wrong way and mislead the public about security forces. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

Pyay Shwesandaw to host Buddha Pujaniya Festival

THE Buddha Pujaniya Festival at the Shwesandaw Pagoda in Pyay Township, Bago Region, will be held on a grand scale from 8 to 17 November, according to U Myat Soe, a member of the pagoda board of trustees.

The festival will include a consecration ceremony and a rice-offering ceremony for 109 venerable monks on the morning of 8 November.

“On the 11th waxing day of Tazaungmone, the proces-

sion for the sacred Buddha tooth relic will be held in the platform of the pagoda. On 17 November, it will be taken back to the temple, where it will be enshrined for one year,” U Myat Soe said. — ASH/TKO

This image shows the Pyay Shwesandaw Pagoda, to which pilgrims pay homage.



Myanmar’s UN Representative urges IACA to offer free online courses to least-developed countries



This photo captures U Min Thein, Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations and other international organizations in Vienna, attending the 13th IACA session.

PERMANENT Representative U Min Thein of Myanmar to the United Nations and other international organizations in Vienna attended the 13th session of the International Anti-Corruption Academy Assembly in Vienna, Austria, on 30 October 2024 and addressed policy matters, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He gave a remark that he concurred with the IACA Strategic Plan (2025-2028). He addressed the roles of capacity-building programmes and technical assistance in

the least developed countries while making efforts to combat corruption. He appreciated the value of IACA’s online master’s courses and training and called for free online courses or affordable class fees for officials of the anti-corruption agencies of the least developed countries.

Myanmar concentrates on anti-corruption and promoting good governance. It has been implementing the Anti-Corruption Strategic Plan (2022-2025), raising awareness of anti-corruption, preventing corruption

and promoting ethical norms. It has been accelerating cooperation with regional and international partners. The Anti-Corruption Commission of Myanmar has been conducting public awareness on anti-corruption. Anti-corruption awareness is integrated into the curriculum of basic education, and anti-corruption and ethical practices are disseminated at universities. The commission uses mass media for public awareness and holds anti-corruption and prevention programmes, workshops, and education talks.

He also reiterated commitments to prevent and fight corruption and implement obligations of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and Sustainable Development Goals, together with IACA.

YB Dato’ Sri Azalina binti Othman Said acted as president of the session. The high-ranking officials, including the Deputy Prime Minister of Montenegro and anti-corruption institutions officials and representatives based in Vienna, attended the session. — ASH/KK



Public Notice

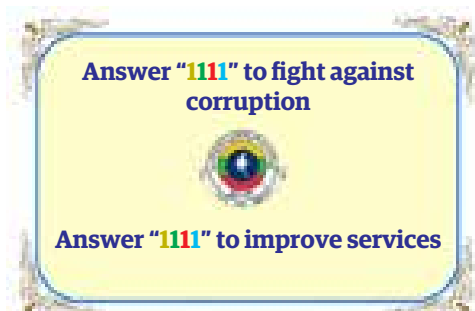
THE Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to curb corruption effectively.

The ACC used SMS on mobile phones to ask the public who sought services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via short code No “1111” for feedback, including the public feedback programme (PFP).

According to the PFP, the proper replies of the citizens via short code No “1111” will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.

Therefore, the public should reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at short code “1111”. Such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

Anti-Corruption Commission



MIC permits SKD import labelling for motorcycle assembly until May 2025

MYANMAR Investment Commission (MIC) allows semi-knocked down (SKD) descriptions on import invoices of motorcycle and three-wheel motorcycle assembling businesses until May 2025.

MIC grants permit to import alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, kits of assembled vehicles and motorcycles, and industrial sugar raw materials with Customs duty every year, according to its notification 26/2021 dated 14 December 2021.

The auto parts and kits of the assembled vehicle manufacturing businesses that the commission allowed to import were announced as per notification 85/2017 of the commission.

Notification 42/2024 of the Ministry of Planning and Finance stated that Customs duty rates on trucks are divided upon the completely built unit (CBU), semi-knocked down (SKD) and completely knocked down (CKD) system to assemble bodybuilding of the vehicles, motorcycles and three-wheel motorcycles.

The Ministry of Industry is making efforts to set large categories for imported items from assembled motorcycle and three-wheel motorcycle manufacturing businesses. Meanwhile, SKD descriptions in import invoices were allowed until 31 May 2025 from the effective date (1 June 2024) of the Commerce Ministry's notification 42/2024 to simplify Customs duty rates. — NN/KK



The auto parts and kits of the assembled vehicle manufacturing businesses that the commission allowed to import were announced as per notification 85/2017 of the commission.

Additional exports included in land border earnings repatriation programme



Lorries loaded with export cargo ready for land border crossing at the Muse 105-Mile Border Trade Post.

TRADE Department under the Ministry of Commerce added more commodity items to the export earnings repatriation programme at land borders, in which only 25 per cent of export earnings must be deposited into authorized banks as per the CBM's set exchange rate, and exporters can keep the remaining, according to export-import news bulletin 6/2024 released on 30 October.

According to the Foreign Exchange

Supervisory Committee's meetings 66/2022, 16/2023, and 49/2023, 25 per cent of export earnings of eight commodities that are exported through seaborne and border trade channels must be repatriated.

The commodities include various pulses (black gram, pigeon pea, green gram, chickpea), oil crops (peanut, sesame), maize, rubber, fisheries (various fish, shrimp, crab, eel), live-stock products (live cattle, live goat,

buffalo hides, goat hides, frozen meat and dried meat), rice and broken rice, and sugarcane. This time, seven more commodities, including various pulses, garlic & onion, fruits and vegetables, rattan, cotton, metal and ores and other minerals, were added to that list for border export. Export earnings of those items will be converted into kyat according to the CBM's rules from 1 November 2024, the Trade Department stated. — NN/KK

MRF urges members to follow export regulations

THE Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) called for member companies to strictly adhere to rules and regulations while carrying out rice and broken rice export, according to its notification 15/2024 released on 31 October 2024.

Companies need to stock 50 per cent of export volume before seeking the export licence.

A combined team comprising officials from Myanmar Inspection and Testing Service Limited under the Consumer Affairs Department and MRF conducted pre-licence cargo inspection activities to issue export licences starting from March 2023.

MRF requested companies to meet the demand of the buyers and strictly comply with contract rules, quality control procedures and criteria of the importing countries and follow the regulations of Myanmar.

MRF again notified the warehouse operators and wholesalers to seek registration on the MyRO. www.myro.com.



A farmer harvests rice in a paddy field in this image.

mm for procurement of rice and register inventory list in the first seven days of every month on the MyRO system in accordance with the notification of the Commerce Ministry with a view to ensuring rice price stability and steering the market to avoid price manipulation.

Additionally, export companies are responsible for repatriating export in-

comes to authorized dealers within the set time frame, which is in line with the export declaration.

Moreover, MRF notified them to draft and report purchasing and storage plans as per each company's export plan. For further inquiries, the member companies can contact the MRF. — NN/KK

**Advertise
with us/ Hotline:**



**09 255597511
09 454237515**

Encourage MSME growth for a thriving State economy

MICRO-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) form the backbone of a country's economy, significantly impacting livelihoods and fostering economic growth. By recognizing their vital role, the government is actively promoting MSME development to stimulate the State economy.

MSMEs contribute to economic growth by creating jobs and reducing poverty, thereby enhancing the socioeconomic status of citizens. Currently, characterized by global political shifts, economic challenges, and rapid technological advancements, there is a pressing need for MSMEs to adapt. Successful MSME operations require access to financial resources, modern technology, skilled labour, effective management systems, and support for entering the global market. A flexible economic environment further facilitates this growth.

To support MSME development, the government has established the State Economic Promotion Fund, which allocates resources to various projects aimed at enhancing MSME capabilities. Additionally, educational initiatives are being launched nationwide to cultivate leadership skills and professional expertise among students, preparing them for future roles in the MSME sector.

A key focus for MSMEs should be on producing value-added products derived from local agricultural and livestock resources. By prioritizing domestic manufacturing, the State can reduce reliance on imports, boost export volumes, and forge connections with larger industries. This approach not only creates employment opportunities but also invites foreign investments, further stimulating economic activity.

Digital transformation is another critical area for MSME reform. The government is committed to facilitating the adoption of digital technologies to ensure that Myanmar's MSMEs remain competitive with their ASEAN counterparts. This requires collaboration among business owners and employees, who must work together to embrace new technologies and methodologies.

Digital transformation is another critical area for MSME reform. The government is committed to facilitating the adoption of digital technologies to ensure that Myanmar's MSMEs remain competitive with their ASEAN counterparts. This requires collaboration among business owners and employees, who must work together to embrace new technologies and methodologies.

Moreover, the agriculture and livestock sectors play an essential role in bolstering the State economy and are inherently linked to MSME development. By enhancing these sectors, the government can accelerate the production of goods and stimulate industrial growth. This synergy between agriculture, livestock, and MSMEs is crucial for improving the socioeconomic conditions of citizens and fostering peace and stability within the nation.

The promotion of MSMEs is vital for a flourishing State economy. Through targeted government initiatives, investment in the education sector, and the embrace of technology, Myanmar can harness the full potential of its MSMEs, ultimately leading to a prosperous future for all. Myanmar has established 98 per cent of MSME businesses in the nation's economic sector. As these businesses are operational in suburban areas, they can save production and labour costs and service charges more than urban businesses. That is why businesspersons have to respond to the government's encouragement in their efforts to boost MSME businesses.

Frequently asked questions about the Myanmar Copyright Law(2019)

1. What is a Copyright?

Copyright means the exclusive rights of an author of a literary or artistic work in accordance with the provisions of this Law. (Section 2 (i) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

2. What are related rights or neighbouring rights?

Related rights mean the exclusive rights of performers, producers of phonograms and broadcasting organizations contained in Chapter XIV of this Law. (Section 2 (j) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

3. What is an author?

Author means a natural person who creates any literary or artistic work protected under this Law through his own intellect. (Section 2 (l) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

4. What is the owner of Copyright?

Owner of Copyright means any of the following persons, his successor or any legal entity:

- An author;
- A natural person or legal entity which has the economic rights originally, other than the author;
- A natural person or legal entity to which the ownership of the economic rights has been transferred in accordance with law. (Section 2 (m) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

5. What is the owner of related rights?

Owner of related rights means any of the following persons, his successor or any legal entity:

- A performer; producer of phonogram and broadcasting organization;
- A natural person or legal entity which has the economic rights originally, other than the performer; producer of phonogram and broadcasting organization;
- A natural person or legal entity to which the ownership of the economic rights has been transferred in accordance with law. (Section 2 (n) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

6. Who is right holder?

Right holder means the author or owner of copyright or related rights. In this expression, assignee, licensee and legal successor of copyright or related rights are also included; (Section 2 (o) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

7. What is a performer and performance?

Performer means a musician, vocalist, actor, dancer or a person who acts, plays in, sings, dances, interprets, narrates or otherwise performs literary or artistic works or expressions of folklore; (Section 2 (p) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

Performance refers to:

- reciting, singing, playing, dancing or acting the works directly or through any medium or any process or rendering the works by any other means, in the case of other literary or artistic works other than an audiovisual work or a cinematographic work;
- showing of images in sequence and making of accompanying sounds audible in the case of an audiovisual work or a cinematographic work; and
- making the recorded sounds audible in the case of a phonogram. (Section 2 (q) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

8. What is Producer?

Producer means a natural person or legal entity that undertakes making of the audiovisual work or cinematographic work or the first fixation of sounds or the initiative for the first fixation of sounds in a phonogram; (Section 2 (r) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

9. What is collection of work?

Collection of Work means a collection of literary or artistic works which, by reason of selection and arrangement of their contents, constitutes intellectual creations. (Section 2 (s) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)



The law protects various forms of creative expression, including books, music, films, and computer programs, as long as they are original intellectual creations. **ILLUSTRATION: VISUAL FOR DEMONSTRATION/ INVESTOPEDIA**

10. What is work of joint authorship?

Work of Joint Authorship means a literary or artistic work to the creation of which two or more authors have contributed. (Section 2 (t) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

11. What is computer programme?

Computer Programme means a set of instructions expressed in words, codes, schemes or any other form, which is capable when incorporated in a medium that the computer can read, of causing the computer to perform or achieve a particular task or result; (Section 2 (ce) of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

12. What is a collective management organization?

Collective Management Organization on Copyright or Related Rights means an association managing copyright and related rights on a non-profit basis, established on the basis of agreement among authors, copyright owners and related rights owners to protect their copyright and related rights in accordance with this Law; (Section 2 (ll) of the Copyright Law)

13. What can be protected and What cannot be protected?

Copyright Protections can be protected the following works - The following literary or artistic works which are original intellectual creations shall be protected:

- books, pamphlets, poems, novels, articles, computer programmes and other writings;
- speeches, lectures, addresses, sermons and other oral works;
- dramatic works, dramatico – musical works, pantomimes, choreographic works and other literary or artistic works created for stage production;
- songs and musical works, with or without words;
- audiovisual works including cinematographic works;
- works of architecture;
- works of drawing, sketching, painting, carving, sculpture, engraving, mosaic, wood work, pottery, metal ware, terracotta, jewellery, handicrafts, costumes, traditional attires and hair and dressing style of ethnic groups;
- lithographic work, weaving work, tapestries and other works of fine art;
- photographic works;
- works of applied art;
- textile designs;
- illustrations, maps, plans, sketches and three-dimensional works related to geography, topography, architecture or science. (Section 13 of The Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

Literary or artistic works shall be protected by the sole fact of their creation irrespective of their mode or form of expression, their content, quality and purpose. (Section 14 of The Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

The following derivative works shall be protected without prejudice to the copyright of the original literary or artistic works:

- translations, adaptations, arrangements and other alterations or modification of literary or artistic works;
- collections of literary or artistic works, including collections of the traditional cultural expressions;
- compilations of data whether in machine readable or other form, provided that such collections must constitute intellectual creation by reason of the selection or arrangement of their content but contents of the collection shall not be concerned with the protection. (Section 15 of The Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

Copyright Protections cannot be protected the following works -

Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 13, 14 and 15, if a literary or artistic work or an object of related rights is involved in any of the following, copyright or related rights protection shall not extend to:

- idea, procedure, method of operation, mathematical concept, principle, discovery or data;
- news of the day or miscellaneous facts having the character of mere items of press information;
- constitution and legislation;
- rules, regulations and bye-laws, and notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued by the Governmental departments, Governmental organizations and Departments;
- judicial decisions and orders;
- official translation and collection of those in subsections (c) to (e) by the Government. (Section 16 of The Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

14. Who shall be the original owner of the economic right of a literary or artistic work?

Without contrary to the provisions in Chapter XII of this Law, the author or owner of copyright shall have the exclusive economic rights to carry out or to authorize any other person to carry out the following:

- reproduction;
- translation, adaptation, arrangement or other alteration or modification;
- distribution of the origin or a copy of the work to the public through sale or other transfer of ownership; Proviso: The right of distribution does not apply to the original or a copy of the work that has already been subject to a sale or transfer of ownership anywhere with the authorization of the author or owner of copyright.
- rental of the original or a copy of computer programme, an audiovisual work, a cinematographic work, a literary or artistic work embodied in a phonogram, a database or a musical work in the form of notation to the public; Proviso: Provided that the rights of rental do not apply to rental of computer programs where the programme itself is not the essential object of the rental;
- public performance;
- broadcasting;
- communication to the public by any other means;
- collection of literary or artistic works of his creation. (Section 18 of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

The author who has created a literary or artistic work shall be the original owner of the economic rights. Provided that:

- in the case of a literary or artistic work of joint authorship:
 - the co-authors shall be the original owners of the economic rights.
 - the author of each part shall be the original owner of the economic rights in the part that he has created provided

By Kyaw Kyaw
(Dominance Literature)

that their individual contributions can be used separately and author of each part can be identified;

- in the case of an audiovisual work or cinematographic work:
 - the producer shall be the original owner of the economic rights unless otherwise agreed;
 - economic rights of the author who makes an audiovisual work or cinematographic work shall not prejudice to the economic rights of the author who created the literary or artistic works that has been adapted in making such audiovisual work or cinematographic work.
- in the case of collection of the works, unless otherwise agreed, a natural person or legal entity which takes the initiative in collection of the works shall be the original owner of the economic rights;
- in the case of a photographic work:
 - the photographer who originally creates the work shall be the original owner of the economic rights;
 - the ordering person to take a photograph shall be the original owner of the economic rights when that photograph is taken by a photographer under a written agreement with that ordering person unless the agreement provides to the contrary.
- in the case of a literary or artistic work created by an author, employed by a natural person, in the course of his employment, the employer shall be the original owner of the economic rights unless otherwise agreed by the employer and employee;

Explanation: Employer includes the legal managerial agent of the employer, and his heir and the legal successor of share if the employer dies in the case of private business. (Section 22 of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

15. Does the copyright owner may transfer the economic right?

The author or owner of copyright may transfer the economic rights to any person in accordance with the provisions contained in Chapter XIII of this Law. (Section 19 of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

- The owner of copyright may transfer the economic rights in whole or in part to any other person or legal entity
- The owner of copyright may transfer economic rights to any other person or legal entity by any of the following means:
 - inheritance under any existing law or custom;
 - transfer by testament;
 - gift or donation;
 - transfer of ownership under any of the existing law;
 - licensing.
- The owner of related rights may transfer his economic rights to any other personal or legal entity by any means included in subsection (b) with the consent of all concerned persons in those related rights.
- The transfer of economic rights by the owner of copyright or of related rights shall be in writing and signed. (Section 34 of the Myanmar Copyright Law 2019)

16. How do I get copyright protection in other countries?

Copyright work acquires automatic right by virtue of creation. Copyright is territorial so there are different copyright laws in different jurisdictions. Most of the countries are parties to international conventions and treaties such as the Berne Convention and The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). The treaties have minimum standards and principles for countries to include in their national legislations, such as the "National Treatment Principle" which ensures there is no discrimination as each country is required to treat works from other countries in the same way as they treat the works of their own nationals.

SEE PAGE 11

SCI/ENVIRON: WORLD

China calls for closer ASEAN cooperation to lower biosecurity and bioweapons risks

The nations agreed to improve communication on biosecurity governance and strengthen the implementation of the UN-backed Biological Weapons Convention.

CHINA has urged tighter cooperation with its regional partners to jointly reduce biosecurity risks.

China has urged collaboration with Southeast Asian countries to improve biosecurity and the governance of bioweapons.

Beijing made the call during the first regional workshop with 11 Southeast Asian countries last week in the science and technology hub of Shenzhen.

China's foreign ministry spokesman Lin Jian said that the 12 nations agreed to improve

communication in biosecurity governance and enhance the implementation of the United Nations-backed Biological Weapons Convention (BWC).

The convention, which China, Russia and the United States are signatories to, is a global safeguard aimed at prohibiting the development and use of such weapons.

"We will strengthen exchanges and mutual understanding, and promote the modernization of the biosecurity

governance system and governance capacity ... and build political consensus, jointly resolve biosecurity risks and promote biotechnology for the benefit of mankind," Lin said.

"We should also strengthen the Biological Weapons Convention and support international and regional organizations to provide more public products, and explore follow-up actions and deepen coordination ... through regular workshops."

— Xinhua



China has called for closer collaboration with Southeast Asian countries to enhance biosecurity and govern bioweapons, as discussed in a recent workshop in Shenzhen. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/GOOGLE**

Google reports strong growth driven by AI, cloud



Tech giant Google reported robust third-quarter results, but worries persist about whether it is losing ground in the AI race. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

GOOGLE'S parent company, Alphabet, reported strong third-quarter results, with revenue increasing 15 per cent year-over-year to \$88.3 billion, largely driven by its advertising business

and cloud services. Net income rose 34 per cent to \$26.3 billion, and earnings per share jumped 37 per cent to \$2.12. Operating margins improved to 32 per cent, reflecting enhanced cost efficiency.

CEO Sundar Pichai emphasized the company's focus on AI innovation, stating that their AI tools are benefiting consumers and partners. Despite facing competition from platforms like Meta and Amazon, analysts noted Google is well-positioned for the holiday ad season. The introduction of AI Overviews in search results has also been successful.

Google Cloud revenue surged 35 per cent to \$11.4 billion, driven by increased demand for AI infrastructure. The core Google Services segment, which includes Search and YouTube, grew 13 per cent to \$76.5 billion, with YouTube's revenues surpassing \$50 billion in the past year. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Summit to save nature enters final day with disagreement on funding

THE world's biggest nature conservation conference enters its final day in Colombia Friday with negotiators at odds over how best to fund plans to "halt and reverse" species loss.

Amid murmurs that the talks may drag into an extra day, summit president Susana Muhamad said Friday's programmed closing session promised to be "heart-stopping" given the number of unresolved issues.

"It's a very complex negotiation, with many interests, many parties... and that means everyone has to cede something," Muhamad, who is Colombia's environment minister, told reporters Thursday.

With some 23,000 registered delegates, the 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) to the UN's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which opened in Cali on 21 October is the biggest meeting of its kind ever. The event is a follow-up to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework agreed upon in Canada two years ago, where it was decided that \$200 billion per year must be made available for biodiversity by 2030. — AFP

1st-ever camera trap study detects endangered species in Cambodia

THE first-ever camera trap study of the Central Cardamom Mountains Landscape in Cambodia has recorded 108 wildlife and endangered species, said a joint press release on Wednesday.

Twenty-three of these species are listed as being at risk, vulnerable or above, on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, underscoring the significance of the region

as a global stronghold for biodiversity and rare and threatened species, the press release said.

The study documents 65 bird species, 38 mammal species, and five reptile species including the endangered dhole, one of the last remaining predators in Cambodia, and its abundant prey base including wild pig, and northern red muntjac, it said. — Xinhua

The endangered dhole, one of the last remaining predators in Cambodia, plays a crucial role in the ecosystem by helping to control prey populations. **PHOTO: IMAGES FOR VISUAL REPRESENTATION /YOUTUBE**



Frequently asked questions about the Myanmar Copyright Law (2019)

FROM PAGE 9

18. What is the duration of related rights?

Under the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) 1996, the term of protection for performers shall last, at least 50 years from the end of the year in which the performance was fixed in a phonogram.

The term of protection for producers of phonograms under Article 17 of WPPT shall last, at least, until the end of a period of 50 years from the end of the year in which the phonogram was published or failing such publication within 50 years from the fixation of the phonogram. An exception is Ghana's Copyright Act Section 29 Act 690 of 2005 which provides seventy (70) years for the protection of Performers' rights.

19. Can copyright be transferred to someone else?

Yes. Copyright can be transferred as it is a property of the right holder. The transfer is normally in writing. It can be transferred, wholly or in part, bought or sold, inherited, transferred through the operation of the law and licensed. Some or all the rights may subsequently belong to someone other than the first owner and may be jointly owned by the ones it has been transferred to (transferee).

Most ARIPO Member States Copyright Laws provide for transfer of economic rights in writing. Exceptions exist for moral rights which normally continue to exist with original author even after the transfer of economic rights.

20. Can moral rights be transferred?

It depends on the laws of each jurisdiction but the right to be recognized as an author remains even after the economic rights lapse, an author will still be the author of a work and the author can object to any use of the work that will water down his integrity though he has sold all economic rights of that work. Moral rights must be respected by anyone who has been licensed to exploit the economic rights. The licensee should not use the work in prejudice of the paternity and integrity of the right holder.

In a testamentary disposition, normally in writing, the author can state to whom the moral rights should be given after their death, also by operation of the law. In some jurisdictions, like the United Kingdom and

Botswana one can waive the moral rights in writing.

21. What is public domain?

This is where the copyrighted work has enjoyed protection for the 50 or 70 years (depending on the country's law) after the death of the last surviving author, so it enters the public domain. Works in the public domain may be used freely without permission from the heirs of the former copyright owner or copyright office or Collective Management Organization (CMO).

In arrangements of public domain works where substantial new creative work has been done then it automatically acquires copyright in that specific version by the author.

22. Does copyright allow using works without permission of the right holder?

Most copyright laws provide for exceptions and limitations whereby one is allowed limited use without the permission of the copyright owner. One is not to use a substantial part of the copyrighted work and what is substantial is on a case-by-case basis. One is permitted to use the work exclusively for personal and private use, quotations, commentaries, criticism, scholarly reports, news reporting and illustrations, provided it meets the three-step test as enshrined in the Berne Convention. Most importantly is to acknowledge the source and the name of the author.

23. When should one obtain permission to use copyrighted works?

One needs to get permission from the right holder if the use is a substantial part of the work which has not entered into public domain or a specific new arrangement out of a public domain work. Whenever the use does not meet the three-step test permission is required.

24. Where can one obtain permission to use copyrighted works?

One can get permission from the right(s) holder, but it can be cumbersome to get permission from each right holder of the work that one wants to use a substantial part of it that is why there are Copyright Offices (CO) and Collective Management Organizations who can help you get the owners contacts, or they license you to use the work, they collect royalties and distribute to the right holders.

25. What is licensing?

Licensing is where the copyright owner authorizes others to carry out specified acts in relation to his economic rights. This can be done by him/her, or by a third party, preferably a CMO or any other group that has been assigned to license on their behalf.

What is a non-exclusive licence?

A non-exclusive licence shall entitle the licensee to carry out the act concerned concurrently with the copyright owner.

26. What is an exclusive licence?

This is a licence which entitles the licensee to carry out the act concerned to the exclusion of all others including the copyright owner.

27. What is the role of Collective Management Organizations (CMO's)?

CMOs implement the enabling legislation in their jurisdictions which include facilitating legal access to users through licensing, monitoring where, when and by whom the rights are used, negotiating tariffs on behalf of their right holders collecting and distributing royalties to the right holders and entering into a reciprocal or bilateral agreement with other CMOs.

28. How do I protect my copyright in an electronic environment?

Copyright comes into effect automatically as soon as an original work of authorship is made and fixed in a tangible form. You can include a copyright notice; express copyright statements on the extent of the usage of your work; adopting digital protection measures; retaining supporting evidence for proof of copyright ownership; and in some jurisdictions they have registration, depository and notification systems which will be of help in case of an infringement and there is need to prove ownership. Many forms of digital works may contain certain identifiers embedded in the electronic file.

29. What is copyright infringement?

Copyright infringement occurs when a copyrighted work is reproduced, distributed, performed, publicly displayed, or made into a derivative work without the permission of the copyright owner and not within the requirements of the three-step test. The laws of the countries clearly stipulate what entails copyright infringement and the penalties for such infringement.

Mauritius blocks social media after wire-tapping scandal

THE Indian Ocean island of Mauritius blocked access to social media on Friday, just days ahead of a general election, as tensions mounted over a wire-tapping scandal.

Mauritius has been gripped by scandal since secret recordings of phone calls by politicians, journalists, members of civil society and even foreign diplomats began being leaked online last month.

"Following the publication

of certain audio tracks on social media, there is a real risk that the national security and integrity of our Republic and our international partners may have been compromised," said the office of Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth in a statement on Friday.

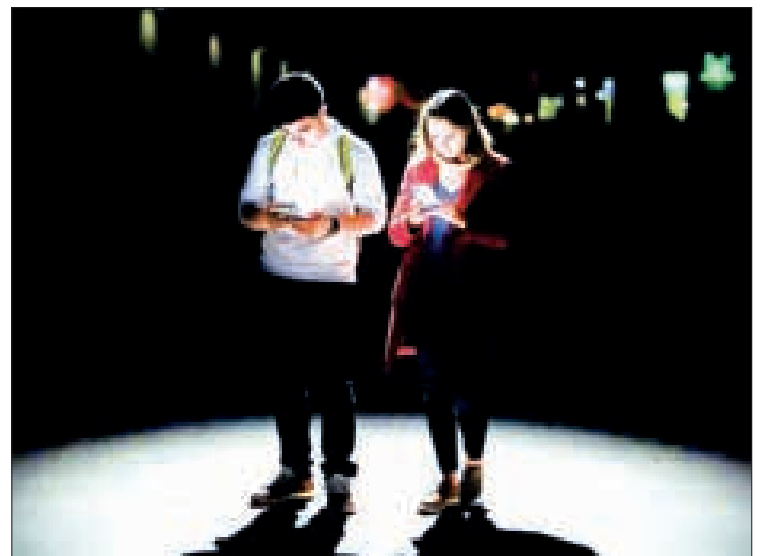
It said internet service providers had been ordered to block access to the most widely used social networks, and that a crisis committee was meeting to

discuss the situation.

The blockage is due to last until 11 November — a day after the election — according to telecoms operator EMTel.

The leaked recordings were released by an account called Missie Moustass (Mr Moustache), primarily on TikTok.

There have been attempts to block the account but it quickly resurfaced elsewhere and has been releasing recordings almost daily. — AFP



The government of Mauritius blocked access to social media platforms just days before a general election, citing national security concerns linked to a wire-tapping scandal. **PHOTO: ILLUSTRATION FOR VISUAL AID/GOOGLE**

ECONOMY WORLD



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has launched a Disaster Risk Management Action Plan for 2024-2030 to enhance disaster resilience in Asia and the Pacific. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

ADB announces new action plan to boost disaster resilience in Asia-Pacific

The action plan aims to incorporate disaster risk management into ADB's operations, project design, and funding decisions.

THE Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Wednesday announced a new action plan to enhance its disaster resilience efforts in Asia and the Pacific region.

The Disaster Risk Management Action Plan 2024-2030 outlines ADB's commitment to supporting its developing members in mitigating the im-

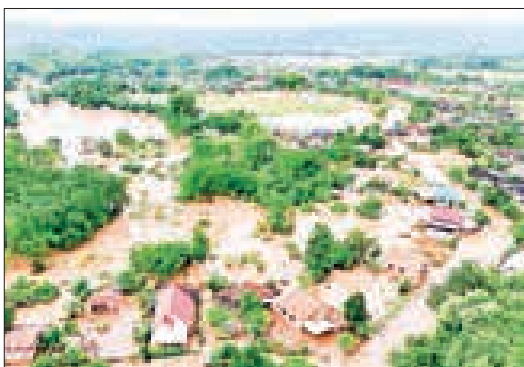
pacts of disasters and climate change.

The action plan promises to guide the integration of disaster risk management components into ADB's operations, project design, and funding decisions.

Key components of the action plan include improving disaster risk analytics and

risk-responsive development planning and budget allocations; increasing investments in disaster risk reduction, disaster risk financing, and sector-based early warning systems; and promoting resilient and effective post-disaster recovery frameworks, regulations, and practices to better rebuild. — Xinhua

Irrigation systems across Laos affected by floods



This handout photo taken and released on 11 September 2024 by Lao National Radio shows an aerial view of flood waters surrounding houses in Luang Namtha province, following heavy rains in the aftermath of Typhoon Yagi. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

SEVERE flooding in Laos from July to September has heavily impacted the irrigation system, damaging 300 projects in 12 provinces across the country and affecting nearly 15,000 hectares of agricultural land.

The total losses are estimated at 592 billion Lao kip (some US\$26 million), Lao National Radio reported on Thursday. Lao capital Vientiane experienced the most severe damage, with 15 projects affected, followed by Luang Namtha province with 14 projects, and Huaphan province five projects. Lao authorities stressed the urgency of restoring all damaged irrigation systems, particularly those essential for the upcoming dry season's crops so that farmers can produce within the seasonal timeline. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

European defence companies struggle to expand production amid shortages

SMALL and medium-sized European defence companies are struggling to expand production as supporting Ukraine continues to bleed the West's weapons stockpiles white.

Cash-strapped firearms makers are hamstrung by lack of access to public funding, red tape, and reluctance of banks to give out loans to smaller players in the field, sources told Reuters.

While global military expenditure soared to an all-time high of \$2.44 trillion in 2023, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, getting financing is problematic for smaller companies.

Production will continue to stall until European governments figure out how to improve cash flows, arms makers, government officials, and defence experts were cited as saying.

The EU's small and medium-sized defence enterprises face a debt financing gap of between \$1.08 billion and \$2.2 billion, a European Commission report estimated at the beginning of the year. — SPUTNIK

Thai economy expected to grow 3% in 2025: finance ministry



Phuket is hoping for a resurgence in tourist numbers. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

THAILAND'S Ministry of Finance said on Thursday that the country's economy is expected to expand three per cent in 2025, primarily driven by private consumption, exports, tourism, and investment. The Southeast Asian country's economy is projected to grow 2.7 per cent this year, unchanged from the previous forecast and accelerating from 1.9 per cent growth recorded in 2023, said Pornchai Thiraveja, director-general of the ministry's Fiscal Policy Office.

The recovery is attributed to the rebound in the vital tourism

sector, as the number of foreign arrivals to Thailand in 2024 is expected to reach 36 million. Meanwhile, private consumption is projected to continue its upward trend, growing by 4.6 per cent, Pornchai told a news conference.

Looking ahead to 2025, Thai exports would see an expansion of 3.1 per cent year-on-year in line with global demand and the economies of the kingdom's trading partners, he said, adding that investment from both the private and public sectors would also be a crucial driver. — Xinhua

New Zealand's Comvita to share "healing power of nature" through CIIE

The CIIE, scheduled for 5 November to 10 November in Shanghai, is a key event for Comvita's global strategy.



Comvita is a New Zealand-based company known for producing and exporting Manuka honey and other natural health products. **PHOTO: GOOGLE**

New Zealand's Manuka honey exporter Comvita hopes to continue to share "the healing power of nature" with more people through the upcoming annual China International Import Expo (CIIE).

"The Chinese market has always been an important part of Comvita's global strategy, and through the CIIE platform, Comvita hopes to show more of its brand story and strength to consumers around the world," Wang Xinru, general manager of Comvi-

ta China, told Xinhua on Friday.

The seventh CIIE will be held in Shanghai from 5 to 10 November.

The Manuka honey exporter has attended the CIIE four times, and the expo has proved an excellent opportunity for Comvita and the Chinese market to get to know each other, not only showcasing the strength of the brand and the high quality of its products, but also building bridges with partners in different fields, Wang said. — Xinhua

Sales slump 27% at carmaker Stellantis

STELLANTIS, the carmaker which owns the Jeep, Peugeot and Fiat brands, said Thursday that its sales fell 27 per cent in the third quarter because of market difficulties in North America.

The group said it had trouble getting through stocks of vehicles in the United States and had

been hit in Europe by the transition to new generation vehicles, with delays for new car launches, including the Citroen C3 and C3 Aircross.

It said it delivered a fifth fewer vehicles than it did in the same quarter last year, also blaming "production gaps in several models as a



No roar from Stellantis in the third quarter but the carmaker hopes that new models will soon rev up sales. **PHOTO: AFP**

global product transition begins... and headwinds from a challenging European market environment."

In North America its revenues collapsed by 42 per cent to \$13.47 billion because of a fall in sales and price cuts to clear its stock of vehicles. — AFP

Thailand's business sentiment rises in October

THAILAND'S business sentiment rose in October due to increased confidence in both the manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors, the central bank said on Friday.

According to the Bank of Thailand, the

Southeast Asian country's business sentiment index (BSI) was recorded at 47.0 last month, up from 45.7 in September, reflecting a slight increase in the proportion of respondents who expressed improved confidence.

However, the headline BSI remained below the 50 threshold, indicating that most businesses had weaker morale than the previous month, the central bank said in a statement.

The manufacturing index picked up across

all sectors, with a notable rise in the electronic appliance industry owing to rising demand for washing machines from trading partners, while geopolitical factors and government projects also contributed to the growth. — Xinhua

Algeria, Russia eye enhanced energy cooperation

ALGERIA'S Minister of Energy and Mining Mohamed Arkab met Deputy Chairman of Russia's State Duma Vladislav Davankov here on Thursday to discuss strengthening energy cooperation, according to a statement from Algeria's Ministry of Energy and Mining.

During the meeting, both sides reviewed the current state of cooperation between Algerian and Russian companies in the fields of energy and mining, expressing a commitment to expanding collaboration by exploring all available opportunities, the statement noted. — Xinhua

Announcement

Eurofins Assurance Myanmar Ltd hereby announces that a reduction of its capital by USD 25,000 has been approved by its members on 1 November 2024.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HONG JIA 21 VOY.NO. (2438)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HONG JIA 21 VOY.NO. (2438)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **2-11-2024** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S OCEAN SALUTE SHIPPING PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY.NO. (441W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY.NO. (441W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **2-11-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MAERSK A/S

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

UNRWA chief says West Bank office destroyed by IDF

Following the legislation, Israeli forces destroyed an UNRWA office in the Nur Shams camp, which served over 14,000 Palestinian refugees.

ON 28 October, the Knesset, Israel's parliament, passed two bills aimed at prohibiting the activities of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in areas controlled by Israel.

This move is part of Israel's longstanding accusations that UNRWA staff have connections to Hamas. Following the legislation, Israeli forces reportedly destroyed an UNRWA office in

the Nur Shams camp in the West Bank, which served over 14,000 Palestinian refugees by providing essential services such as education, healthcare, and sanitation.

UNRWA's chief, Philippe Lazzarini, condemned the destruction, highlighting the broader impact on infrastructure, including roads and utilities.

The Israeli military denied responsibility, claiming that explosives planted by militants near

the UNRWA offices were detonated during an operation.

Lazzarini criticized the Knesset's decision as "collective punishment" that violates the UN Charter, asserting it sets a dangerous precedent and deepens the suffering of Palestinians, particularly in Gaza. He emphasized that such actions undermine international obligations and the protection of UN facilities in conflict zones. — SPUTNIK



A Palestinian woman walks past a damaged wall bearing the UNRWA logo at a camp for internally displaced people in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip in May 2024. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Spain's warning system under scrutiny as flood toll rises

SPAIN'S heavy flood death toll raises questions about how one of the world's most developed nations failed to respond adequately to extreme storms likely to intensify as climate change accelerates.

Torrential rains that began at the start of the week sparked flooding that has left at least 95 people dead, the deadliest such disaster in the western European country since 1973.

National weather agency AEMET launched a red alert for the hardest-hit eastern Valencia region on Tuesday morning and conditions deteriorated throughout the day.

But it was only in the early evening that the regional body in charge of coordinating the emergency services was set up.

And an alert sent by the civil protection service urging residents in the Mediterranean

coastal city of Valencia not to leave home was issued after 8:00 pm (1900 GMT).

For many, it was already too late. Motorists began journeys only to find themselves trapped on roads and left at the mercy of raging torrents of water.

Julian Ormeno criticized Valencia's ineffective flood warning system, stating it failed to prevent tragedy despite advance forecasts. — AFP



Residents walk past wreckage following deadly floods in Sedavi, south of Valencia, eastern Spain, on Wednesday. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Harris blasts 'offensive' Trump for remarks on women

KAMALA Harris on Thursday slammed Donald Trump for "very offensive" remarks about women as she pressed her case that his misogyny has no place in 21st century America, just days ahead of a nail-biter election.

With each candidate seeking even the slightest of advantages, they took their knife-edge White House race to western battleground states, homing in on immigration and wooing Latinos five days before voting concludes 5 November.

In one of three stops in the West, Trump painted a dark picture of immigration run amok as he addressed supporters in border state New Mexico, saying migrants are "unleashing a violent killing spree all across America".

There is no evidence of a migrant crime wave in the United States. — AFP

Strasbourg university cuts ties with Israeli institution over Gaza war

A French university has severed ties with an Israeli higher education institution accusing it of "warmongering" stances over the Gaza war, French media has reported, sparking criticism from Paris.

The move comes after students at several French universities have, like some of their peers in the United States, protested or held sit-ins demanding a ceasefire in Gaza over the past year.

The Political Studies Institute in the eastern city of Strasbourg cut ties with the Reichman University near Tel Aviv in June, local newspaper Dernieres Nouvelles d'Alsace reported on Wednesday.

Students and several teachers had backed the move over what its initiators called the Israeli institution's "deeply warmongering" stances over the Gaza war, calling them "devoid of any humanist perspective", it said. The institute's director Jean-Philippe Heurtin told AFP he had been strongly opposed, but members of the university board -- which includes students -- approved it in a vote. — AFP

SPORTS

Shan United face Tainan City for Group D supremacy

A press conference was held at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre yesterday in Yangon ahead of the final Group D match in the 2024 AFC Challenge League hosted by Myanmar. The match between Myanmar's Shan United and Chinese Taipei's Tainan City is set for 2 November, and both teams have already secured spots in the quarterfinals, with this game deciding the group leader.

Shan United's head coach Hiro shared his expectations: "The match against Tainan City will be tough. They're a solid team with footballers skilled in aerial plays. We've thoroughly analyzed their strategies, and I'm confident in our players' abilities. We're ready for the game". Team captain

Nanda Kyaw also expressed confidence: "Our team is fully prepared for tomorrow. We've studied their strengths and weaknesses. They're tall, strong, and fast, but we trust in our strategy. We'll give it our all to make our supporters proud".

Tainan City's head coach, Rafael, acknowledged the challenge: "It will be a tough match for both sides. Shan United has a lineup featuring Myanmar national players and versatile athletes who can switch positions seamlessly across the field. We've done our homework on their tactics and aim to win. Our goal remains to secure victories in all group matches, and we'll focus on winning tomorrow".

The match will kick off at 4 pm at



Shan United's head coach Hiro and team captain Nanda Kyaw. PHOTO: MFF

Thuwunna Youth Training Centre on 2 November (today). Both teams are tied at three points, and with quarter-final spots

already confirmed, they will compete for the top position in Group D. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Ruben Amorim named as new Manchester United manager: club

RUBEN Amorim was Friday named as the new manager of Manchester United, replacing the sacked Erik ten Hag.

The 39-year-old Portuguese coach, who won two Primeira Liga titles with Sporting Lisbon, has signed a deal until 2027 and will join the club on 11 November.

"Manchester United is delighted to announce the appointment of Ruben Amorim as head coach of the men's first team, subject to work visa requirements," the club said on its website.

"He will join until June 2027 with a club option of an additional year, once he has fulfilled his obligations to his current club".

United described Amorim as "one of the most exciting and highly rated young coaches in European football".

United sacked Ten Hag on Monday after a 2-1 defeat by West Ham left them languishing 14th in



The 39-year-old Portuguese coach, known for winning two Primeira Liga titles with Sporting Lisbon, signed a contract until 2027. PHOTO: AFP

the Premier League, with just three wins from nine matches.

Ruud van Nistelrooy took charge following Erik Ten Haag's departure on Tuesday. He will still be in the dugouts

for the upcoming three matches.

They will face a big domestic game against Chelsea on Sunday, while playing Leicester City on 10 November. — AFP

Japanese gymnasts named Paris best male individual sport team

JAPAN men's artistic gymnastics team was named the Best Male Team in Individual Sport of Paris 2024 by the Association of National Olympic Committees on Wednesday after winning the Olympic gold medal this summer.

Japan's team of Daiki Hashimoto, Kazuma Kaya, Wataru Tanigawa, Shinnosuke Oka

and Takaaki Sugino snatched the gold after China made mistakes with the last apparatus, the horizontal bar, at Bercy Arena in Paris. "I didn't have any pressure because I had a lot of time practicing and I was confident," captain Kaya said at the award ceremony in Estoril, Portugal. — Kyodo

Premier League top three all in action on Saturday

THE top three in the Premier League all play on Saturday afternoon, with Manchester City, Liverpool and Arsenal all facing potentially difficult rivals.

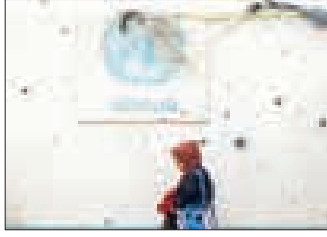
Manchester City has slipped into a challenging situation after recently moving to the top of the Premier League table. Their Carabao Cup defeat to Tottenham, coupled with injuries to key players like Jack Grealish and Kevin de Bruyne, makes their upcoming match against Bournemouth, particularly tricky. Bournemouth, having already secured a win against Arsenal at home, will test City's defensive depth under

the aggressive tactics of coach Andoni Iraola. Meanwhile, Liverpool hosts Brighton just days after a narrow victory in the same competition, with key players Mohamed Salah and Darwin Nunez expected to start. Arsenal faces Newcastle, looking to close the five-point gap to City after their recent draw against Liverpool.

Sunday features significant matches, including Aston Villa against Tottenham and Manchester United facing Chelsea. United, having recently sacked Erik ten Hag, won their first match under interim manager Ruud van Nistelrooy. — Xinhua



Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta. PHOTO: AFP/FILE



The formations of Chinese aircraft carriers Liaoning and Shandong carry out a dual aircraft carrier formation exercise for the first time in the South China Sea in October 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Chinese navy conducts dual aircraft carrier formation exercise for first time

Chinese aircraft carriers Liaoning and Shandong conducted their first dual formation exercise in the South China Sea to enhance combat capabilities.

THE formations of Chinese aircraft carriers Liaoning and Shandong carried out a dual aircraft carrier formation exercise for the first time in the South China Sea, according to the Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy.

Aiming to enhance the integrated

combat capability of the aircraft carrier formations, the exercise was part of the Liaoning aircraft carrier formation's regular real-combat training in the high seas, which concluded recently.

The training was conducted in waters including the Yellow Sea, the East

China Sea and the South China Sea, featuring multiple subjects under real-combat circumstances, the navy said.

Liaoning, China's first aircraft carrier, was delivered and commissioned to the PLA Navy in September 2012.

— Xinhua

THE CORONAL DIAGNOSTIC EXPERIMENT

Korea, US space agencies to send co-developed solar coronagraph to ISS

THE Republic of Korea's national space agency said Friday it plans to send a solar coronagraph jointly developed with the United States to the International Space Station (ISS) to study the sun's outer atmosphere, or corona, and solar wind, reported Yonhap News Agency.

The Coronal Diagnostic Experiment (CODEX), a collaboration between the Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA) and the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), will be delivered to the ISS onboard Space X's Falcon 9 rocket Monday (US time) from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, according to KASA. Part of a bilateral solar research project, the coronagraph will be docked with the express logistics carrier on the ISS to observe the corona for up to 55 minutes per 90-minute Earth orbit. CODEX is the world's first coronagraph designed to observe the temperature and velocity of the solar wind in addition to the density, KASA said, noting it will help researchers better understand solar wind and predict space weather. — ANI

North Korea confident in Russia's victory in conflict in Ukraine: Foreign Minister

PYONGYANG is confident in Russia's victory in the conflict in Ukraine and will always stand next to its Russian comrades, North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui said on Friday.

"We have no doubt that under the wise leadership of the respected Russian president, Vladimir Putin, the Russian army and people will certainly achieve a great victory in their sacred struggle to protect their sovereign rights and defend the security of their state.

We once again assure you that until the victorious day we will always stand firmly next to our Russian comrades," the minister said at a meeting with Rus-

sian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. The situation on the Korean Peninsula is very dangerous and unstable due to the actions of the US and its allies, North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui said.

"Now the situation and security of our country due to the machinations of the United States and its satellites, all this is in a very dangerous and unstable state ... the military alliance of the United States and South Korea is turning into a military alliance with a nuclear component. This shows that the situation on the Korean Peninsula can become explosive at any moment. — SPUTNIK



North Korea's Foreign Minister expressed confidence in Russia's victory in Ukraine, pledging unwavering support alongside Russian comrades. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**