

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla join Maha Kathina robe-offering ceremony of families of Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air)

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Festival-goers cheer as a giant hot-air balloon ascends during the opening ceremony of Taunggyi Tazaungdine on 11 November 2024.

Stunning hot-air balloon event lights up Taunggyi Tazaungdine

THE 2024 Tazaungdaing Hot Air Balloon Festival in Taunggyi, Shan State (South), officially began with an impressive opening ceremony on 11 November at 4:30 pm at the Awayar Hot-Air Balloon Ground. Amid serene, mist-covered mountains and the season's cool weather, the event infused vibrant festivities into the region.

Officials commenced the event with a floral and light offering at the Culamuni Pagoda, followed by the release of a giant Seinnapan hot-air balloon in dedication. Traditional Shan music, contemporary songs, and performances by local artists added to the festivities. Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung, along with

state government officials, then inaugurated the event by cutting the ribbon.

The festival will run for seven days from 11 to 17 November, featuring traditional activities such as candlelight offerings, and large hot-air balloon competitions. This year's event includes a variety of balloon contests: 147 two-legged balloons, 40 four-legged balloons, 22 figure-shaped balloons, 26 giant night-launch balloons, and 24 Seinnapan balloons. The chief minister expressed his hope that the Tazaungdine Festival would continue to promote unity among ethnic groups and preserve Myanmar's cultural heritage.

Following the official opening, the

festival continued with the launch of a giant Seinnapan balloon and displays of over 50 medium-sized balloons. Thousands of students released over 300 small hot-air balloons, accompanied by fireworks. Renowned singer Hein Ko performed his award-winning song of 2019 Tazaungdine, and cultural dance troupes entertained the crowd.

The 2024 Taunggyi Tazaungdine Festival will feature daily competitions for 47 night-launch balloons, with contests starting at 6 pm. The daytime competitions for figure balloons will run from noon to 4 pm, promising exciting celebrations throughout the week. — Maung Maung Than (Taunggyi)/KZL

OPINION

Make preparedness against possible disasters to reduce risks

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Myanmar delegation attends opening ceremony of 2024 China-Myanmar Cultural Week, 4th Twin City Media Forum

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Supervisory Committee meets on Myanmar rice export to China

NATIONAL

Education: The Foundation of a Nation's Strength and Future

- The strength of a country lies in its education.
- Students with five key capabilities are not only the nation's strength but also the future of the State.

(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)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Announcement No 6/2024

12th Waxing of Tazaungmone 1386 ME
12 November 2024

Registration Approval of the Union Farmers and Workers Power Party as a Political Party

THE Union Farmers and Workers Power Party, headquartered at No A/406, Lan San Housing, Hmawkan 1 Street, Leikpyakan Ward, Bago Region, has been officially registered as a political party under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law, effective from 12 November 2024.

The registration number of the Union Farmers and Workers Power Party is 53.

U Ko Ko
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Tourism expects Tazaungdine boom with trips to Taunggyi and more

U Naung Naung Han, chairman of the Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Association, said that since domestic tourists have been preparing to travel to some areas, including Taunggyi, during the coming holidays, there is a possibility of an increase in tourism during the Tazaungdine festival.

Local tourism rose again from the dry season, Thadingyut, and it is also expected to increase in Tazaungdine amidst many preparations. These intended destinations include the Taunggyi Tazaungdine festival, beaches like Chaungtha and Ngwesaung, and pilgrimages to Bagan and Mandalay.

"Domestic tourism can rise in Tazaungdine. Some are preparing to visit the Taunggyi hot-air balloon festival. Due to floods in Thadingyut, there was no visitor to Kalaw. Many packages are being sold. People also visit Chaungtha and Ngwesaung

beaches, as well as Bagan and Mandalay, for pilgrimages. There will be a lot of tourists during Tazaungdine, like Thadingyut. The main reason is having long holidays, so they go on a long trip," he said. Domestic tourism will rise again in the coming New Year period, he added.

"Just like the number of 2023, there is a situation where many tourists can visit. With some limitations in locally accessible areas, there is little difficulty in travelling. Because of floods, areas such as Kalaw and Inlay were affected. In the areas that can be visited, they are crowded with many travellers," he said.

During this Thadingyut, many domestic tourists reportedly visited Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Bago, Kyaiktiyo, Bagan-NyaungU, Hpa-an, and beaches such as Chaungtha and Ngwesaung. — MT/ZN



A crowd of festival-goers enjoy the Taunggyi Tazaungdine.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 12 November 2024)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (17:30) hrs MST today, the low-pressure area over Southwest Bay and adjoining Westcentral Bay of Bengal off North Tamil Nadu and adjoining South Andhra Pradesh coasts (India) still persists. Weather is a few cloud over the North Andaman Sea and partly cloudy to cloudy over the South Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. **SPECIAL Features:** According to the observations at (17:30) hrs MST today, the Tropical Storm“(TORAJI)” over the South China Sea is likely forecast continue to move west-northwestwards.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 13 November 2024: Light rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Southern Shan State and isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Taninthayi Region and (northern and eastern)Shan, Chin, Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is 80%. Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

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 slight decrease of night temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, Shan, Chin States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 November 2024: Partly cloudy and likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 November 2024: Partly cloudy. — DMH

Low-Pressure Area Condition

Issued at (19:00) hours MST on 12 November2024

ACCORDING to the observations at (17:30) hrs MST today, the low-pressure area over Southwest Bay and adjoining Westcentral Bay of Bengal off North Tamil Nadu and adjoining South Andhra Pradesh coasts (India) still persists. — 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)

SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla join Maha Kathina robe-offering ceremony of families of Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air)



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, and the congregation observe the Nine Precepts from the Thanlyin MinKyaung Sayadaw and members of the Sangha at yesterday's event.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla attended the 2024 Maha Kathina robe-offering ceremony of families of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) at Anawrahta Hall of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief

(Army) yesterday morning.

The ceremony was also attended by 27 members of the Sangha and Ovadacariya Sayadaws of Uppatasanti Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The Senior General and his wife, together with distinguished guests, viewed the display of Kathina robes and offertories to be donated to monasteries. The

Senior General paid homage to the Buddha image in the hall and donated alms, flowers, water, oil lights and fruits.

The Senior General and his wife donated Kathina robes and alms to Yezin KanU monastery Sayadaw of Zeyathiri Township Aggamaha Pandita Bhaddanta Javana and Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka

Committee Presiding Patron of Thanlyin Minkyaung Pahtamabyan Buddhism Learning Centre Aggamaha Pandita Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Dr Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa.

SAC Vice-Senior General Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and his wife Daw Than Than Nwe offered Kathina robes and alms to Secretary of the SSMNC Patron of Mandalay Masoeyein Taikthit Sayadaw of Dhamma Thameikdi Monastery Aggamaha Pandita Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Maha Dhammakathika Bahujanahitadhara Bhaddanta Vasettha Bhivamsa, and the SAC member Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) and his wife donated Kathina robes and alms to Yezin KanU Monastery Sayadaw.

Senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives also presented

Kathina robes and donations to members of the Sangha.

Two members of the Sangha from Yezin KanU Monastery performed the question-and-answer session on the Kathina affairs.

Mandalay Masoeyein Taikthit Sayadaw delivered Kathina Anumodana and the congregation shared merits gained.

The Senior General, his wife and the congregation offered day meals to members of the Sangha led by the Chairman Sayadaw.

The offerings from the Maha Kathina robe-offering ceremony were conveyed from Anawrahta Hall to Uppatasanti Pagoda by car.

At the ceremony, Tatmadaw members and families from the offices and departments of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) donated offerings worth K136,293,395 and cash K106,985,010. These offerings were conveyed to relevant monasteries by car. — MNA/TTA



A procession of donated Kathina trees heading to Uppatasanti Pagoda at yesterday's event.

NATIONAL

DPM MoFA Union Minister receives Brazilian Ambassador to Myanmar



DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Than Swe received Mr Gustavo Rocha de Menezes, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federative Republic of Brazil to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the call, they cordially exchanged views on matters pertaining to the enhancement of Myanmar-Brazil bilateral relations. They explored potential areas of collaboration for mutual benefit, including the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, the fourth political consultation between Myanmar and Brazil and closer cooperation in the international arenas. — MNA

Brazilian Ambassador Mr Gustavo Rocha de Menezes calls on Deputy Prime Minister Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Than Swe yesterday.

Russian Buryatia Delegation arrives in Myanmar

A delegation led by Mr Alexey Sambuevich Tsydenov, Head of Russia's Buryatia Republic, arrived in Yangon yesterday afternoon. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, regional ministers, Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Iskander Azizov, officials from the Ministry of Border Affairs, and

students from the Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College welcomed the delegation at Yangon International Airport.

In the evening, the Yangon Region chief minister hosted a dinner in honour of the delegation at the Lotte Hotel. — MNA/KZL



A welcome event for the Russian Buryatia delegation in progress at Yangon International Airport yesterday.

MIFER Union Minister receives delegation led by UNICEF Deputy Executive Director



The Deputy Executive Director-led UNICEF delegation calls on Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw yesterday.

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw received the delegation led by Mr Edward Chaker Chaiban, Deputy Executive Director (Humanitarian Action and Supply Operations), UNICEF New York Headquar-

ters, at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters relating to UNICEF's supportive humanitarian programmes and future work plans to be carried

out in Myanmar.

Senior officials from the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, as well as representatives from the UNICEF Myanmar office, were also present at the meeting. — MNA

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NATIONAL

DPM MoFA Union Minister welcomes UNICEF Deputy Executive Director

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Than Swe received the delegation led by Mr Edward Chaker Chaiban, Deputy Executive Director, Humanitarian Action and Supply Operations, UNICEF Headquarters (New York), yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed

and exchanged views on matters relating to the existing cooperation between the Government of Myanmar and UNICEF, as well as future UNICEF programmes in Myanmar.

Also present at the meeting were senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Regional Director of UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office, and the UNICEF Representative to Myanmar. — MNA



UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Mr Edward Chaker Chaiban and the delegation call on Deputy Prime Minister MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe yesterday.

MoFA and UPEACE co-organize Training on Peaceful Coexistence and Cultural Diversity

THE Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the University for Peace (UPEACE) co-organized the “Training on Peaceful Coexistence and Cultural Diversity” at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw, from 11 to 12 November 2024. The

training was attended by 30 mid-level officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other related ministries and organizations.

The purpose of organizing the training is to develop knowledge in peacebuilding, peaceful coexistence, cultural

diversity, negotiation and conflict mediation, multilateral diplomacy, international law, and cultural diversity, negotiation and conflict mediation, multilateral diplomacy, international law and human rights.

UPEACE was founded as an international institution by the United Na-

tions in 1980. Its primary mission is to promote peace, conflict resolutions and sustainable development. The headquarters of UPEACE is located in Costa Rica, offering various training in the fields of peace, human rights, and international relations. — MNA

Myanmar Theravada Buddhist Organization and Border and Hilly Region Religious Association

Announcement
12 November 2024

THE Myanmar Theravada Buddhist Organization and the Border and Hilly Region Religious Association (Central) express admiration and pride in a statement regarding the achievements of State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. Responding to an official invitation, he attended the Eighth Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Summit, the 11th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit, and the 11th Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Summit in China from 5 to 10 November. In these meetings, he actively promoted Myanmar’s comprehensive development. He served as the alternate chairmanship of the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy Summit, further contributing to the nation’s progress and regional collaboration.

The Myanmar Theravada Buddhist Organization and the Border and Hilly Region Religious Association proudly recognize these efforts, acknowledging the significant role he played in Myanmar’s socioeconomic development and regional cooperation.

Myanmar Theravada Buddhist Organization and the Border and Hilly Region Religious Association (Central)

Myanmar-India International Business Federation

Announcement
12 November 2024

AT the invitation of the Government of the People’s Republic of China, State Administration Council Chairman and Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the Eighth Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Summit, the 10th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit, and the 11th Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Summit, all held in China.

We take pride in the positive outcomes achieved by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing during his meetings with the leaders of China, Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand, which will benefit both the country and its people. We also extend our congratulations on his assumption of the alternate chairmanship of ACMECS.

Myanmar-India International Business Federation

Myanmar India Friendship and Development Association

Announcement
12 November 2024

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing, State Administration Council Chairman and Prime Minister, attended the Eighth Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Summit, the 10th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit, and the 11th Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Summit, all held in the People’s Republic of China.

We take pride in the positive outcomes achieved by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing during his meetings with prime ministers and officials of ASEAN countries. These outcomes will not only benefit the people of Myanmar and China but also create valuable opportunities for neighbouring countries.

Myanmar India Friendship and Development Association

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

Myanmar delegation attends opening ceremony of 2024 China-Myanmar Cultural Week, 4th Twin City Media Forum

A 48-member Myanmar delegation, led by Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, attended the opening ceremony of the 2024 China-Myanmar Cultural Week and the fourth Twin City Media Forum in Kunming, Yunnan Province, China, yesterday.

The event aims to deepen the sector-wise bilateral cooperation and advance the media cooperation of the two countries as preliminary activities marking the 2024 China-ASEAN Socio-Cultural Exchange Year and the establishment of the 75th anniversary of China-Myanmar diplomatic ties in 2025.

The Chinese cultural dance troupe and the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture's dance troupe first performed with songs.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn said various kinds of ancient cultural heritage are preserved using modern technology in China while possessing fine arts and cultural heritage. Moreover, the Chinese government provided the needed technologies for the renovation of the earthquake-hit Thatbyinnyu Temple in Myanmar.

Moreover, the events will deepen the cultural exchange and people-to-people exchanges. The booths depicting Bagan of Myanmar are included in the event to develop the tourism industry.

He then mentioned the efforts of the Head of State to



The Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn (2nd R) views round the display booths during the opening event of the China-Myanmar Cultural Exchange Week in Kunming, China.

emphasize the agricultural sector to produce agricultural, livestock, and MSME products as value-added products that add to the economic objectives of the country.

He continued that Myanmar will work with China to create advanced media using modern technology like AI, starting from the fourth Twin City Media Forum. He pledged to overcome the difficulties and challenges, ensure significant progress in bilateral relations in new eras and accelerate measures heading to peaceful and prosperous future.

An agricultural expert of Yunnan Province and Daw

Phway Phway Thant, managing director of ASIA Flower Mall Myanmar Co Ltd, introduced the "Mingalaba Hmyawlintchin Lalyamyay" Phase I agricultural project handbook.

An online presenter of the Bilibili Myanmar language "Thaik Nee (Hsaung Nay Chi), and Mya Nanda from MRTV announced the "Mingala Nyiama Atu Pyaw Kya" international information project's first weekly video song.

The MRTV staff performed with the "Hmone Shwe Yee" song, and Dr Htaik Lwin Ko from Yunnan YICC talked about the "Living style called Yunnan" Pauk-Phaw project.

The Yunnan Daily Press Party Committee Secretary Director-General of Newspaper and MRTV Director-General U Ye Naing announced the LOI for the 2024 Online New Media Refresher Course by pressing the button while the LOI for China-Myanmar agricultural new quality production TV programme by Yunnan State YICC Editor and Directorate Committee Vice-Chairman, Director-General of Printing and Publishing U Ko Ko Naing and Director of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Daw Khine Khine Htwe, 2025 cooperation between "Shwe Zarmani" Chinese lan-

guage newspaper media and information sector by the YICC Editor and Directorate Committee Vice-Chairman and General Manager of "Shwe Zarmani" Daw Cho Thet Tun, classical literature translation into both languages by China-Myanmar international information and translation workshop by the YICC Editor and Directorate Committee Vice-Chairman and in charge of Awgatha Publishing House U Hein Latt and the introduction of China-Myanmar tourism and cooperation in the tourism industry of the two countries by the Dehong Party Committee Deputy Head of Information Department, state government, the in charge of newsroom and the Myanmar-China Culture and Tourism Promotion Association Chairman.

The Chinese Information Minister, and Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn then pressed the button to inaugurate the China-Myanmar Cultural Exchange Week event.

After the ceremony, attendees and officials observed the booths of the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, photos of Myanmar-China cooperation activities, and products of Yunnan Province. Finally, they watched the joint puppet show performances of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture and Yunnan province. — MNA/KTZH

Union Health Minister receives UNICEF Deputy Executive Director

UNION Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win received Mr Edward Chaker Chaiban, Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) headquarters in New York, and his delegation at the guest hall the ministry yesterday afternoon.

They exchanged views on cooperation between the Ministry of Health and UNICEF in healthcare initiatives, increased cooperation in expanded immunization and nutrition development, and current collaboration efforts in Oral Cholera Vaccine (OCV). —MNA/TS



UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Mr Edward Chaker Chaiban and the delegation call on Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win yesterday.

Supervisory Committee meets on Myanmar rice export to China

THE Supervisory Committee on the Exportation of Myanmar Rice to China organized its coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the Agricultural Department (head office) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation yesterday. Permanent Secretary U Kyaw Min Oo, who is also the committee vice-chair, committee members, chairpersons of private entrepreneur associations, and relevant officials attended the meeting.

The meeting discussed the release of Expression of Interest (EOI) in July for the new companies that want to export rice and non-premium rice to China in 2024, inspections on rice mills

and warehouses of companies by the Agricultural Department, Consumers Affairs Department and MITS, field studies, data of companies that want to export rice and non-premium rice to China under the agreement made by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and China's GACC and report to the supervisory committee regarding inspection findings on rice mills and warehouses to register at GACC.

A total of 43 companies received GACC certificates in 2021, while 18 in 2022 and 50 in 2023, totalling 111 companies to export rice and non-premium rice to China. — MNA/KTZH



The coordination meeting of the Supervisory Committee on the Exportation of Myanmar Rice to China in progress yesterday.

French bean prices decline slightly



French beans.

RECENTLY, French bean prices have increased slightly, and the sales have increased, according to the Aungban vegetables market.

Orders have mounted, and the majority are from Yangon.

"French bean is among best sellers. Recently, the price of French beans has been slightly low, and the trade has been doing well because its price is reasonable compared to other vegetables," said an official from Aye Myat

vegetable retail and wholesale distributor from Aungban Township.

In January this year, the yield of a winter crop, French bean, which is mainly grown in eastern Shan State, was plentiful, but the price declined nearly half compared to last year, according to farmers.

French beans are low in calories and have many health benefits. They are rich in Vitamin A, Vitamin B, magnesium, potassium, and minerals. — Thit Taw/ZS

Macau-Myanmar Friendship Association and Myanmar-China Friendship Association meet

A delegation from the Macau-Myanmar Friendship Association, led by Chairman Mr Jose Wong, met members of the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central), including the chairman and vice-chairpersons, yesterday morning at the UMFCCI Hall.

During the meeting, the Myanmar association's chairman highlighted their commitment to strengthening and sustaining the long-standing ties between Myanmar and China, emphasizing the association's role in facilitating activities beneficial

to both governments and people. He noted the significance of this era as both governments have entered a new phase of cooperation.

The chairman of the Macau-Myanmar Friendship Association then mentioned that their organization focuses on health, education, and cultural initiatives, with business leaders engaged in areas such as IT and pharmaceuticals. He invited Myanmar students to study in Macau, adding that the association would offer necessary support and assistance. — MNA/KZL



The commemorative group photo of the meeting between the Macau-Myanmar Friendship Association and Myanmar-China Friendship Association yesterday.

Hlinethaya sees more rentals than purchases in recent months

ACCORDING to the real estate market, there is more rents than purchases in the Hlinethaya Township property market.

Among them, there are more house and shop rentals in the areas on the left and right of the main road where the buses run.

"All over Hlinethaya between October and November, there were many rentals in the wards. Fewer rentals in Wards 23, 22 and 26, which are in the inner part.

More rentals are in Wards 7, 8 and 144, which are on the left and right of the main entrance roads with running buses.

There are more small tenants and small

shop rentals. The rental market is more active than the buying market." said a real estate broker in Hlinethaya Township.

Currently, as the prices of gold and currency seem to be stable, the real estate market is also steady, and property prices in Hlinethaya are slightly lower than market prices.

"Some rich people wait and see. The price is a little lower than the market price. Not very much. The rental market is active. Some people rented separate houses to open shops," he explained. — Thit Taw/ZN

OPINION

Make preparedness against possible disasters to reduce risks

HEAVY rains and scattered rains occurred in some parts of the country due to the movement of whirlwinds from the South China Sea, interactions between warm winds from the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal with cold winds from the high-pressure systems over mainland China as well as the potential for wind instability in the Andaman Sea and the southeastward of the Bay of Bengal.

Hence, it is necessary to prepare for natural disasters caused by storms related to climate change across the world, particularly considering the conditions of the typhoons occurring in the South China Sea. Myanmar faces various natural disasters due to climate change, similar to other countries. Despite passing the monsoon season, heavy rains continue

in some parts of the nation due to whirlwinds from the South China Sea and the influence of warm winds from the Andaman Sea and cold winds from China. Moreover, it is essential to prepare for the possibility of facing Typhoon Yinxing, which is affecting the Philippines. On 7 November, Typhoon Yinxing crossed the Philippines and then headed westwards and northwards. In this regard, the route of Typhoon Yinxing is similar to that of recent Typhoon Yagi. Typhoon Yagi crossed the Philippines on 2 September, Vietnam on 8 September and Myanmar on 9 September. At that time, Typhoon Yagi caused many casualties and notable damage in central Myanmar and Shan State due to flash floods and heavy rains. That is why it is necessary to make proper preparations to mitigate the impacts of natural disasters such as flash floods, overflow from various sources, and landslides. Authorities and disaster management bodies must supervise rehearsals to reduce disaster risks, stockpile relief supplies and organize rescue and relief squads.

According to the weather forecast released by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, less rainfall is expected from 8 to 17 November. The department emphasized the need to prepare against disasters and conduct rehearsals or drills for relief and rescue measures to avoid the impacts of Typhoon Yagi again. That is particularly important because the entire country suffered heavy rains during this monsoon season, and the soil's humidity may not withstand intense disasters accompanied by heavy rains.

As such, people need to follow the advice of local authorities to move to safer places if necessary. They must also cooperate with authorities in essential measures such as evacuation, rescue and relief operations, and emergency response to disasters in order to minimize loss and damage in potential disasters.

SMEs in Myanmar

1. In Myanmar, the role of Small and Medium Enterprises is crucial as SMEs comprise approximately 94 per cent of all registered enterprises and 52-97 per cent of the labour force. SMEs in Myanmar can be generally classified into five categories-

- (a) Import substitution in industrialization
- (b) Export-oriented SMEs
- (c) Rural-located SMEs
- (d) Local and traditional SMEs
- (e) International subcontracting SMEs

2. Myanmar is heavily dependent on imported products, even daily necessities. This heavy dependence on imports can be fixed only by promoting import-substituting SME businesses. Some SMEs in Myanmar are engaged in export, but it is needed to promote more varieties of exported goods. Hence, it is essential to encourage SMEs to produce processed export products, using local raw resources. Some business sectors that have a high propensity to export include agricultural processing, food processing, woodworking, metalworking, and the processing of marine products, among others. The registered number of SMEs, in line with the list issued by the SME development centre in 2023,

is approximately 46,014. SME registration rates are the highest in Yangon Region and Shan State. and Medium Enterprises was re-named MSMEs, which stands for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises by the Central Committee for Development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

3. When the State Law and Order Restoration Council was in power, the official law for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) was enacted in 1990. Then, the 2011 Private Industrial Law was promulgated and gave definitions of SMEs based on four criteria: (i) horsepower used, (ii) number of employees, (iii) capital investment, and (iv) annual production. The most recent SME-related law is the SME Development Law (2015), which gives the definitions of SMEs based on business sectors, namely manufacturing, wholesale, retail, service and others. Then, SME development rules were enacted in 2017. In 2018, the term Small

ROAMING the streets of Kunming, the capital city of southwest China's Yunnan Province, one can't help but notice the enticing aroma of lemongrass, galangal, and coconut milk wafting from Thai food stalls, along with the variety of Vietnamese coffee beans on display.

Data from Meituan and Dianping, popular city-guide and review platforms akin to Yelp in China, showed that more than 160 new restaurants serving South-east Asian cuisines have opened in Kunming this year alone, with

An Insight into Factors Enhancing SMEs' Export in Myanmar

By May Thu Htay

is approximately 46,014. SME registration rates are the highest in Yangon Region and Shan State.

SME Development Law and Policies in Myanmar

4. A great deal of previous literature provides factors enhancing SMEs' exports. Concerning factors enhancing export, there are two widely used approaches listed as resource-based approach and the contingency paradigm. The resource-based approach focuses on the firm's internal variables, whereas the second method focuses on the external aspects. Internal determinants include management qualities such as age, education, innovativeness, foreign exposure and export dedication as well as export marketing techniques such as product, pricing, promotion, distribution,

service and networking tactics. The external factors are the characteristics of the foreign market, such as legal, political, and economic system, cultural similarities, market dynamics, consumer and competitor behaviour and the characteristics of the domestic government, which include government tax rates, government export support, government policies and the domestic business environment.

SMEs' export

5. Compared to other ASEAN countries, SMEs in Myanmar are less likely to export, reporting that only 4.2 per cent of medium-sized firms and 0.8 per cent of small enterprises export directly or indirectly at least one percentage of their sales (World Bank's Enterprise Survey, 2014). Export destinations of Myanmar SMEs differ across firm size. Large firms have much more export propensity than SMEs, and large firms can export to high-income markets such as the EU and the US. However, SMEs opt for regional mar-

kets such as China, Malaysia and Thailand, whose target customers are less demanding. According to the World Bank Enterprise Survey, on the bright side, only 27 per cent of medium-sized firms and 13 per cent of small enterprises in Myanmar use material inputs of foreign origin. In Myanmar, SMEs from four states, seven divisions, and the Union Territory, Nay Pyi Taw, are engaged in export. ASEAN is an important market for Myanmar's exports, and Myanmar SMEs mainly export to China and Japan. Most exported products are agricultural products, marine products and wood and wood-related products. Agricultural products mainly include rice, different types of beans, white yam powder, coffee seed and coffee powder, Myanmar Tea, tamarind, jaguar, coconut, groundnut oil, sesame oil, ginger oil, oil palm, rubber, sugar, bees, lemon and honey. Marine products consist of fish, frozen fish stakes, shrimp, soft shell crab, squid and lobster. Wood and

wood-related products are wood, teak, value-added wood products, rattan products and bamboo place-mats.

Government Export Assistance Programmes

6. In accordance with Notification 64/2023, which was issued by the Ministry of Planning and Finance, the government provides exemption of commercial tax on 27 kinds of goods listed as different kinds of corn, fresh fish and shrimp, soil bean, milk and dairy products, yogurt, animals and animal products, fertilizer, various kinds of pesticide and weed killer that are used in agriculture, animal, fish and prawn medicines, veterinary preventative medicines, raw and finished materials for animal, fish and prawn feed (not included animal food that used for pets), pure seeds and seedlings of crops, raw materials for cotton, agricultural products, coconut oil, state flag, stationeries, X-ray, absorbent cotton wool,

gauze, bandages, hospital sundries to take medicines, surgical mask (once used), cap, surgical glove, masks that used to prevent flu infection, household pharmaceutical and other medicines and traditional medicines, fire engine and hearse, raw materials used in making soap, battery electric vehicles and goods purchased by donated fund. The government offers tax incentives such as exemptions for SMEs from income tax for three consecutive years under the Union Taxation Law. The government strives to adjust their tax rates with the enactment of the Union Taxation Law each year as a way of rehabilitating the economy when the economy slows down. Furthermore, SME loans are offered through different loan programmes. It has recently been announced that small and medium businesspeople can get loans from 15 private banks, as well as the State-owned Myanmar Economic Bank (MEB) and Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank (MADB).

7. In conclusion, the Central Committee on Development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has been planning an exhibition of MSME products to encourage SMEs. I happened to visit one of those exhibitions and witnessed a lot of local SMEs' products, which

are displayed well. I gladly realized most SMEs just made use of local raw materials. Some SMEs' products are not well-recognized in the local market, but these products are value for money. These potential SMEs need some assistance in making their quality products well-recognized in the market. Some SMEs do not have enough capital to make mass production, and these quality products sadly disappear from the market. Some of these local products are equal to other imported products. I believe that if these local products are well-promoted with special support from all responsible government organizations, it would be a great thing. If SMEs' requirements and the government's export assistance programmes coincide, these products can survive in the domestic market as well as the foreign market.

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China, Mekong countries forge high-quality cooperation for shared prosperity

The six GMS members – China and the five Mekong countries – launched the GMS Economic Cooperation Programme in 1992 to pool efforts to improve regional infrastructure and enhance trade, investment and economic growth.

ROAMING the streets of Kunming, the capital city of southwest China's Yunnan Province, one can't help but notice the enticing aroma of lemongrass, galangal, and coconut milk wafting from Thai food stalls, along with the variety of Vietnamese coffee beans on display.

Data from Meituan and Dianping, popular city-guide and review platforms akin to Yelp in China, showed that more than 160 new restaurants serving South-east Asian cuisines have opened in Kunming this year alone, with

the majority featuring food from Mekong countries, including Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

One such culinary ambassador is Nannaphat Ananmethaphat from Thailand, who started her first restaurant in Kunming in 2005 and now operates eight Thai restaurants in the city. "When I started, local residents were unfamiliar with Thai flavors," she said. In those early years, Ananmethaphat carefully adapted her recipes, blending local Yunnan ingredients with traditional Thai spices.

The fusion of flavours, increasingly embraced by residents, is a byproduct of the ever-closer people-to-people exchanges. It is also a microcosm of the deepening cultural ties and economic connections between China and the Mekong countries.

The deepening ties culminated at the eighth Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Summit, which concluded in Kunming on Thursday. Chinese Premier Li Qiang attended the summit, calling on the six GMS members to upgrade their cooperation following a pro-

ductive partnership spanning three decades since the mechanism's establishment.

The six GMS members — China and the five Mekong countries — launched the GMS Economic Cooperation Programme in 1992 to pool efforts to improve regional infrastructure and enhance trade, investment and economic growth.

Over the past three decades, the GMS has increasingly become an important platform for China and the Mekong countries to discuss cooperation and promote common development. Their co-

operations have yielded fruitful results, covering various fields such as infrastructure construction, economic and trade cooperation, cultural exchanges, and innovation. In trade alone, China's trade with the Mekong countries surpassed US\$200 billion in the first half of this year, a 12 per cent increase from the same period last year.

ACCELERATED CONNECTIVITY

The China-Laos Railway, which connects the Lao capital,



This undated file photo shows Nannaphat Ananmethaphat (1st R) posing for a photo with her friends in Kunming, southwest China's Yunnan Province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Vientiane, with Kunming, has transported more than 41.7 million passengers and 46.7 million tonnes of cargo, including 10.7 million tonnes of cross-border goods,

since its launch in late 2021. This vital link has transformed Laos from a landlocked country into a connectivity hub. It has expanded the international

logistics network, significantly reducing transportation costs and time and injecting vitality into the regional economy.

SOURCE: XINHUA

NATIONAL

Pilgrimages to Bodh Gaya and Thailand increase



MYANMAR'S number of local tourists who visited Bodh Gaya and Thailand has increased, according to the Myanmar Travel Association.

The local tourist arrival has elevated again as of October. Currently, a visible increase has been seen at some famous local destinations, as well as overseas trips to Bodh Gaya and Thailand.

"Pilgrimage tour to Bodh Gaya has been steady, and there are people who are taking vacations in Thailand," said the

association's official.

Among the arrival of foreign tourists to Myanmar, Chinese and Thais are the largest.

"Business visitors are the largest among foreigners visiting Myanmar. It is expected that the number of vacationers will be the same as that of 2023. According to statistics released by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the arrival of foreign visitors has developed. There was an increase in the number of foreign visitors arriving early this year. However, there was a slight decline in September and October compared to last year. China and Thailand are the largest among foreign tourists," he said. — MT/ZS

This photo shows international travellers on vacation to Thailand.

Counter-argument to false information

Media accuses security forces of torching houses in Sagaing

MALICIOUS media circulated false news, claiming that security forces burnt down the houses in Kaunggon, Phogon and Thab-

aytha villages in Zigon, Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Region, on 9 and 10 November.

According to a security official, security forces conducted their usual security measures near the villages on that day, and there was no arson attack. Terrorists committed arson attacks holding the stance that "those with opposite attitude are their enemies".

Subversive media outlets spread misinformation, covering up their terror acts and misleading the people about security forces. — MNA/KTZH



This screenshot validates misinformation.

Illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K390M on 11 Nov



Confiscated illegal goods in Mandalay Region.

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

On 11 November, joint teams impounded a Mitsubishi Fuso truck, valued at approximately K30 million, which was transporting consumer goods worth K9.63 million without official documentation at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint. The operation was conducted in line with Customs procedures.

On the same day, combined teams also conducted inspections at various locations, seizing two trucks, with an es-

timated value of K68 million, carrying industrial materials, consumer goods, and motorbike spare parts valued at around K89.84 million at the Myitnge checkpoint. Additionally, a Nissan Diesel truck, valued at approximately K40 million, was impounded in Sintgaing Township for carrying industrial materials and motorbike spare parts worth about K30 million without official documents. Another Mitsubishi Fuso fighter van, valued at K32 million, was seized in Myittha Township, carrying industrial materials worth around K15 million without official documentation. The action was undertaken as per Customs procedures.

A joint on-duty team also seized 950.25 litres of sulphuric acid, valued at K1.34 million, from a warehouse in Kawthoung Township. They also confiscated two unregistered vehicles and three unregistered motorbikes, valued at K62 million, in Maubin, Danuphyu, and Myaungmya Townships, along with 97.476 tonnes of illegal timber, worth K12.72 million, in Pathein and Pyapon Districts. The action was carried out under the Forest Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 19 arrests on 11 November, seizing illegal goods valued at approximately K390 million. — MNA/MKKS

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NATIONAL

Myanmar joins ACC Heads of Mission meeting in Canberra, Australia

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar Chargé d’Affaires in Canberra U Thet Tun attended the ASEAN Committee in Canberra (ACC) Heads of Mission meeting held on 8 November at the Commonwealth Club.

Mrs Ma Hellen Barber De La Vega, Filipino Ambassador to Australia, chaired the meeting. During the meeting, the minutes from the Heads of Mission Meeting 4/2024 were approved, and the ACC’s activities for 2024 were reviewed.

Additionally, the attendees discussed ACC activities planned for implementation from January to June 2025. Topics related to the ASEAN-Australia Centre and preparations for the ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Kao Kim Hourn’s upcoming visit to Australia were also addressed.

Following the meeting, the Philippine Ambassador officially handed over the ACC Chairmanship to Mr Anil Kumar Nayar, Singapore’s High Commissioner to Australia. — ASH/TMT



This photo shows attendees of the ASEAN Committee Canberra (ACC) meeting in Canberra on 8 November 2024.

Ramayana Art Exhibition at Yangon’s National Museum celebrates India-Myanmar cultural ties



A glimpse of the Ramayana painting exhibition.

THE Indian Embassy in Myanmar has announced a painting exhibition featuring artworks on the Ramayana, organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR). The exhibition is open at the National Mu-

seum in Yangon from 8 to 15 November.

The display includes 32 paintings, six sculptures, and 18 marionettes, all created by renowned Indian artists. These pieces skilfully combine traditional and contem-

porary styles, presenting a fresh interpretation of the Ramayana.

The “Ramayana” resonates across South Asia, Southeast Asia, and internationally, reflecting regional cultures and traditions in unique ways. Its themes convey the triumph of justice over injustice, the value of family, and self-sacrifice for the good of others.

This exhibition aims to strengthen relations between the people of Myanmar and India, fostering a more profound mutual understanding between the two nations.

Attendees at the event included Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Shri Abhay Thakur, and notable figures from cultural fields and the Indian community in Myanmar. — MT/TRKM

New TV horror series premieres on 16 Nov

A new television series titled ‘Atta Lun’ starring Myanmar theatrical artiste Tin Maung San Min Win in the leading role will premiere on the HEY Play App starting 16 November.

The storyline was created by Aggaman and Yone Lay (TMK), with Yone Lay writing the script and Aggaman directing the series for Malar Myo Film Production. The se-

ries will also be broadcast on Fortune TV.

“It’s a horror series that explores themes of love and devotion. Actress Phoo Sone portrays my wife, and Yadana Bo is my daughter. The story follows a father who continues to care for his daughter even after his death. Academy Tun Tun also stars as my son-in-law,” explained Tin Maung San Min Win.

The cast includes Academy Tun Tun, Tin Maung San Min Win, Ye Yint Maung Maung, Phoo Sone, Yadana Bo, Aye Thandar, Htet Yam-in Eain, Ba Gyan, Myo Kyi, Phone Myat Lin, Nadi Tun, child actor Pyi Lin Kyaw, and Yoon Wut Hlwa Phyu. The series will feature 16 episodes, airing at 7 pm every Saturday and Sunday beginning 16 November. — ASH/TRKM



This image depicts a poster of artistes who are in the ‘Atta Lun’ television series.

2024 Myanmar Film Academy Awards to take place in Nay Pyi Taw with enhanced judging panel



This photo showcases the winners of the Myanmar Film Academy Award ceremony in the previous year.

THE Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO) has announced that the 2024 Myanmar Film Academy Awards ceremony will be held in Nay Pyi Taw in February 2025. Experts will be carefully selected to serve on the judging panel to ensure a fair and professional evaluation process.

To determine the 2024 Academy Award winners, the MMPO has invited specialists to join the judging panel to provide exper-

tise and impartial assessments.

“The 2024 Myanmar Film Academy Awards ceremony will take place in Nay Pyi Taw in February 2025. We must form a systematic evaluation committee to ensure that deserving artistes receive awards. Additionally, we plan to evaluate last year’s ceremony’s strengths and weaknesses to improve this year’s event,” said MMPO Chair U Kyi Soe Tun. — ASH/MKKS

NATIONAL BUSINESS

SEPF-backed K4B+ loans distributed to oil millers

MYANMAR Edible Oil Mills Development Loan Management Task Force stated that K4.193 billion in loans allocated from the State Economic Promotion Fund have been disbursed to oil millers recently.

The Myanmar Edible Oil Mills Development Loan Management Task Force's meeting 3/2024-2025, led by Deputy Minister U Min Htut for Planning and Finance, who also acts as the task force chairperson, was also held on 7 November at the Union Minister's office building.

The deputy minister said that K4.193 billion of loans had been paid out to 34 oil millers from nine regions and states, including Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, through two participating financial institutions (Myanma

Economic Bank and Myanma Agricultural Development Bank) since July 2023.

He also welcomed ideas and suggestions from attendees regarding the participation of private authorized dealers (private banks) rather than the existing two participating financial institutions and raising loan amounts.

Afterwards, MADB Managing Director U Min Thu, in his capacity as the task force secretary, elaborated on the discussion with the Myanmar Banks Association regarding the involvement of private banks in extending loan services and discussions with related members of the task force to offer more significant amounts and plans for the future. — NN/KK

CBM to sell 15M Thai baht to importers



The facade of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) in Nay Pyi Taw.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 11 November that it would sell 15 million Thai baht to importers on 11 November.

It sold over 800,000 yuan on 11 November, over 2.17 million yuan and US\$3,000 again on 8 November after sales of over 2.1 million baht, two million yuan and over \$3,300 on 7 November and about \$9,000, 490,000 yuan and 1.2 million baht on 6 November.

It announced on 5 November the sales of seven million yuan and 20 million baht to im-

porters on foreign exchange trading platforms. CBM sold \$15 million, 1.5 million yuan and 100.8 million baht on 4 November.

CBM injected over \$91 million, over 9.8 million yuan and over 610 million baht into the financial market in October 2024. CBM also sold over \$76 million, 86 million baht and 4.8 million yuan 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



Workers diligently operate at the oil mill.

Ayeyawady salt businesses prepare to produce 160,000 tonnes

AN official from the Ayeyawady Region Salt Department said that they are preparing to start working on salt in the region and plan to produce about 160,000 tonnes of salt this year.

With farmers' preparation, they can start as soon as the weather permits.

"Now, some salt farmers are preparing to start work. The rain has not stopped, and some are waiting until it gets hot. Preparatory works include ploughing the fields, killing grass, and repairing equipment. If the weather improves, the salt season will begin. In this year's salt season, the department

expects the production rate to be about 160,000 tonnes," he said.

They started working on salt in this month in previous years, and production began in January and February. However, as the rain hasn't stopped yet, there is a delay this year, and the production may also be late.

"Salt production time may be late, but the yield varies depending on the number of farmers, the acreage, and the weather. If the weather warms up afterwards, the situation could be better. Production cannot decrease," he said.

The current price of salt in Ayeyawady Region is still lower than



Workers are harvesting salt in Labutta Township, Ayeyawady Region.

last year's price. In the salt season of last year, 21,166 acres of salt produced 172,815 tonnes in Ayeyawady Region, and it was supplied to many places, including Mandalay Region, by roads and waterways via Ayeyawady, he added. — MT/ZN

Yangon to host Myanmar-Vietnam Expo 2024 on 26-28 Nov

THE Myanmar-Vietnam Expo 2024 will be held in Yangon from 26 to 28 November to build business partnerships in Myanmar's renewable energy and green energy sectors, according to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

This expo will expand understanding of rules related to renewable energy and market climate in Myanmar and create a platform to cooperate with governmental institutions, potential organizations and companies from respective sectors. Mr Lai Nguyen, CEO of Vinatoken Renewable JSC Co Ltd, will attend the expo as well.

Individuals can register to join the expo through the contact number of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 408622 and via email: event.td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

SoftBank posts 1st profit in 3 years in April-Sept on stock rally



File photo taken May 2019 shows the logo of Softbank Group Corp in Tokyo. **PHOTO: KYODO**

SFTBANK Group Corp said Tuesday it posted a net profit of 1.01 trillion yen (\$6.5 billion) for the six months to September, returning to the black for the first time in three years

for the period, thanks to rising stock prices in its investment portfolio.

The figure compares to a 1.41 trillion yen loss for the same period a year earlier when it wrote down

investments in startups.

Sales rose 7.5 per cent to 3.47 trillion yen for the fiscal first half. The Japanese investment and technology group does not release an earnings forecast.

SoftBank posted 2.65 trillion yen in investment profit, compared with a loss of 963.6 billion yen in the same period last year, the operator of the Vision Fund said.

The company benefited from a rise in the value of firms such as TikTok operator ByteDance Ltd and South Korean e-commerce giant Coupang Inc, it said. — Kyodo

China's manned airship receives new orders, ready for commercial operations

CHINA'S independent-developed AS700 civil manned airship has secured 10 more purchase orders, ready for commercial operations, according to its developer - the Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC) on Tuesday.

The total number of booked orders for AS700 has reached 23, said the aircraft maker at the 15th China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition, also known as Airshow China, in the port city of Zhuhai in Guangdong Province, south China. The signing ceremony on Tuesday also witnessed the signing of 164 intend-

ed orders for the aircraft.

A type of single-capsule manned airship, AS700 boasts a maximum flight range of 700 kilometres and endur-

ance of 10 hours. Its designed maximum speed is 100 kilometres per hour, and it can carry up to 10 people, including a pilot. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 29 December 2022 shows a prototype of China's independently-developed AS700 civil manned airship in Jingmen, central China's Hubei Province. **PHOTO: AVIATION INDUSTRY CORPORATION OF CHINA/ HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

Malaysia's analysts foresee higher CPO prices amid tight supply

ANALYSTS have foreseen higher crude palm oil (CPO) prices moving forward amid tight supply in the region.

Maybank Investment Bank said in a note on Tuesday that it has raised 2024/2025 CPO average selling price (ASP) forecasts to 4,200 ringgit (US\$948) per tonne (+9 per cent) and 4,000 ringgit

per tonne (+8 per cent) given the year-to-date strength of CPO price.

According to the research house, the CPO price strength has caught the market by surprise over the past month, rapidly rising to above 5,000 ringgit per tonne, due to tight CPO supply in the region, especially in Indonesia.

It noted that Indonesia's crop was unexpectedly poor in the third quarter due to biological tree rest and lagged impact of mild El Nino.

Meanwhile, Malaysia's CPO output appeared to have peaked in August, and is heading lower towards a low cycle period of the first quarter of 2025. — Xinhua

Job Vacancy Announcement

The Embassy of Bangladesh in Yangon is looking for a suitable candidate for the post of Translator/Protocol Assistant (Local Based). Application deadline is 25 November 2024.

The requirements for the post are as follows:

- Minimum Bachelor's degree;
- Very good command on Burmese and communicative English Language in the field of reading, writing and speaking;
- Good at translation of documents, articles, and other content from Burmese to English and vice-versa.

For details please contact:

Email: mission.yangon@mofa.gov.bd
Phone: 01-7515275

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V WISDOM VOY.NO. (001N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V WISDOM VOY.NO. (001N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-11-2024** 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 K. NAVIGATE CO.,LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC CHENMING VOY.NO. (2414S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC CHENMING VOY.NO. (2414S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-11-2024** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V METHI BHUM VOY.NO. (440N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V METHI BHUM VOY.NO. (440N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-11-2024** 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD



People are seen during the launch of a new digital filter application to reconstruct damaged ancient Egyptian artefacts at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, Egypt, on 11 November 2024 **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Egypt launches online application to reconstruct damaged antiques virtually

EGYPT launched on Monday a new digital filter application to reconstruct damaged ancient Egyptian artefacts at the Egyptian Museum in Tahrir Square and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization.

Dubbed the Interactive Mobile Application to Promote Egyptian Antiquities, the project uses virtual reality technology to show how the selected uncomplete items originally looked thousands of years ago.

The Instagram filters, designed by technology giant Meta

and overseen by the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, started with some ancient artefacts, including a rock statue of ancient Egyptian King Tutankhamun, Ali Abdel-Halim, director-general of the Egyptian Museum, told Xinhua.

He added that the project aims to promote and protect Egyptian culture by taking advantage of modern social media platforms. The official noted that the project also aims to allow visitors to virtually view damaged statues and artefacts

in their full form by scanning a barcode installed under each statue. "This experience is also meant to boost cultural tourism in the country that is rich in historical heritage and monuments," Abdel-Halim said. In recent years, Egypt has witnessed several major archaeological discoveries, launched a number of new museums, and renovated many archaeological monuments to preserve its ancient heritage and boost tourism, a main source of the country's hard currency. — Xinhua

Russia will not tolerate powers alien to Black Sea to establish permanent naval presence there

MOSCOW is not going to allow powers alien to the Black Sea to maintain a permanent naval presence there, Russian presidential aide Nikolai Patrushev has said. Russia has no intention of letting anyone weaken its positions in the region in question, Patrushev said during an interview with a Russian newspaper, adding that permanent naval presence of non-Black Sea countries in the waters "in

violation of the Montreux Convention" will not be tolerated. He further pointed out that the Russian Black Sea Fleet still retains its combat capabilities and is ready to repel all naval threats, despite the fact that Kyiv's "aggressive actions" in the region are being "coordinated by NATO specialists".

In the meantime, Patrushev pointed out, the US and the UK have since lost much of their

once-considerable naval power.

The British navy, for example, suffers from a severe deficit of sailors because naval service is simply no longer prestigious there, he said.

Russia, on the other hand, maintains its status as one of the world's leading naval powers and the Russian navy continues to perform all its duties, "including the most important one — nuclear deterrence." — SPUTNIK

BRIEFS: WORLD

UNFPA buys dignity kits for women, girls affected by natural disasters in Cambodia

THE United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has procured 1,000 dignity kits to be distributed to women and girls affected by floods, typhoons, droughts and other natural disasters as well as survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) in Cambodia, said its press release on Tuesday.

Dignity kits are designed to meet the unique needs of women and girls in crisis situations, the press release said, adding that each kit contains essential hygiene supplies, clothing, and vital information on sexual and reproductive health and rights and GBV support services.

UNFPA is collaborating with key partners such as the Cambodian Red Cross, the Provincial Department of Women's Affairs, and the Cambodian Women for Peace and Development to give out these kits to the needy people.

"Dignity kits help women and girls at a time when they are the most vulnerable. They provide a few essential supplies to help them during these difficult periods," Sandra Bernklau, UNFPA Cambodia representative said. — Xinhua

Japan govt urges COVID shots for seniors amid sluggish vaccinations

THE Japanese health ministry on Tuesday called for seniors to take routine coronavirus vaccinations ahead of the winter, when infections are expected to rise, with data signalling sluggish progress in getting the shots. It is the first winter since the government ended in March its free COVID-19 vaccinations for anyone aged six months or older. Those aged 65 years or older and others at risk, however, are eligible for shots at a reduced fee.

As of Friday, however, only about 4.57 million doses had been delivered to medical institutions out of a total of 32.24 million doses estimated to have been supplied for the winter season, according to Health, Labour and Welfare Minister Takamaro Fukuoka.

"We usually see the spread (of COVID-19) in the winter," the minister said as he called on more people to be inoculated.

The vaccination period has been set between 1 October and 31 March, targeting individuals aged 65 and above, and people aged between 60 and 64 with an underlying disease. Five vaccine products are available. In Japan, around 32,500 people died of COVID-19 in the first year after most coronavirus-related guidelines were lifted in May 2023, with people aged 65 or older accounting for 97 per cent of the total, according to statistics compiled by the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry. — Kyodo



From left: the Kolpino diesel submarine, the Pyotr Veliky nuclear-powered guided-missile heavy cruiser, and the Dmitry Donskoi nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine during the final rehearsal of the naval parade to celebrate Russian Navy Day in Kronstadt. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

SPORTS

Obituary for Naw Charity Sein Oo Age (88) Years Retired Associate Professor (Department of English, Yangon University)

It is with heavy hearts and profound sadness that we announce the passing of Naw Charity Sein Oo, a beloved daughter of (U Saw Sein Oo and Daw Naw Grace Nyo Dun). Beloved wife of the late Rev. Victor San Lone, mother of Saw Nay Thar-Naw Wah Dee Moo, beloved grandmother of Saw Jeff Vincent Naymoo and Naw Grace Donita Naymoo, Naw Charity Sein Oo got a call from her heavenly Father on 11th November 2024, Monday night, 11:10 PM at her home, No.(82), Mahar Thukhitar Road, East Gyogone, Insein.

Funeral service will be held on 13th November 2024, Wednesday, 1:30 PM at Hpu Tha Phyu Memorial Hall, Seminary Hill, Insein. The family appreciates the thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Bereaved family



The warm welcome ceremony for the victorious Myanmar women's cricket team in progress on their arrival at the Yangon International Airport.

Myanmar women's cricket team wins Merlion Trophy in Singapore

THE Myanmar national women's cricket team secured the championship trophy at the Merlion Trophy Singapore Women's Cricket Championships 2024, held from 20 to 30 October in Singapore. Competing against host Singapore and Kuwait in a round-robin format, Myanmar triumphed over Kuwait in the finals to claim first place. Additionally, the team also achieved third place in the Belt and Road Women's T20I tournament in Hangzhou, China, which was held from 31 October to

10 November. This tournament featured a knockout format with teams from China, Hong Kong, Mongolia, and Myanmar. Hong Kong took first place, with China in second and Myanmar in third.

On their return, the Myanmar women's team was warmly welcomed at Yangon International Airport by U Than Win, president of the Myanmar Cricket Federation, along with officials from the Ministry of Sports and Physical Education. — Arkar Linn/KZL

Japan arrive to fervent welcome ahead of Indonesia clash

A throng of local media gathered for Japan's practice session Monday in Jakarta, signalling the intense interest surrounding the upcoming 2026 World Cup Asian final-round qualifier between the visiting Samurai Blue and Indonesia.

With many of their Europe-based players yet to arrive for Friday's Group C encounter, only six members of Japan's 27-man squad were present for the first session. But that did not deter 50-plus local media members flocking to get a look at Hajime Moriyasu's team.

The Japanese players were also welcomed by a

large number of reporters and football fans upon their arrival in the Indonesian capital in Monday's early hours.

"I've never seen something like this," former Inter Milan fullback Yuto Nagatomo, currently at FC Tokyo, said of the local reception.

"There was a big commotion at the airport, and I felt a bit like a Hollywood star."

Japan lead the group on 10 points after three wins and a draw, including victories away to Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, while Indonesia are fifth on three points after three draws and a defeat. — Kyodo

Van Nistelrooy leaves Man Utd as Amorim arrives

RUUD van Nistelrooy left Manchester United's coaching staff on Monday as new manager Ruben Amorim arrived at the club's training complex to start his Old Trafford reign.

Dutchman Van Nistelrooy, a former star striker at the club, was put in temporary charge after the sacking of Erik ten Hag late last

month. He oversaw three wins and a draw in his four-match spell, signing off with a 3-0 victory against Leicester in the Premier League on Sunday. The former PSV Eindhoven boss, appointed as an assistant coach in July on a two-year contract, had voiced a desire to stay at Old Trafford to work with Amorim. But United issued a statement

on Monday confirming the 48-year-old would not be part of the new coaching set-up.

"Manchester United can confirm that Ruud van Nistelrooy has left the club," the statement said. "Ruud rejoined in the summer and has taken charge of the team for the past four matches as interim head coach. — AFP

ALEXANDER Zverev opened his campaign at the ATP Finals in Turin on Monday evening by dispatching Andrey Rublev 6-4, 6-4 in their round-robin opener.

In the afternoon match, Casper Ruud romped through the opening set before fighting back from 5-2 behind in the second to beat an out-sorts Carlos Alcaraz 6-1, 7-5. Germany's Zverev had last faced Russian Rublev at the same stage of the finals in 2023 and won by the same score.

Zverev, a two-time winner of this event in 2018 and 2021, moved to second in the John Newcombe group, behind Norway's Ruud.

The 27-year-old Zverev, the recent winner of the Paris Mas-

ters 1000, has climbed back to No 2 in the world this season. After an injury-hit 2022 season he had briefly dropped out of the top 25

'Solid' Zverev eases past Rublev as Alcaraz falters against Ruud

in 2023. "I was never sure I was going to get back to this level," Zverev said on the court in Turin. "Second year in a row for me here. I still want to get better. I still want to improve on a few things. We'll see how next year goes."

Rublev held to love in his first three service games. He won a 13th straight point on serve to



Spain's Carlos Alcaraz hits a return to Norway's Casper Ruud during their match at the ATP Finals tennis tournament in Turin on 11 November 2024. PHOTO: AFP

open the crucial seventh game, but Zverev then won the next four to break to 15.

Zverev did not allow a break point against his serve all match and converted immediately

both times he had the chance. "I thought it was a very solid match from my end," said Zverev.

"Andrey is an incredible player; but everyone who plays here is an unbelievable player. "Against anyone here, you have to play your best to have a chance, you have to be solid, mentally strong. I feel like I did that today, I felt like I used my chances quite well and I'm obviously happy with this win."

Ailing Alcaraz beaten

Earlier Alcaraz, the world number three got off to a shaky start to his maiden ATP Finals, making 34 unforced errors in an uncharacteristically errant display. — AFP

Egypt launches online application to reconstruct damaged antiques virtually
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North Korea ratifies treaty on strategic partnership with Russia – Report



NORTH Korean leader Kim Jong Un has signed a decree to ratify the comprehensive strategic partnership treaty between Pyongyang and Moscow, the Voice of Korea has reported.

The decree was signed on Monday in Pyongyang, and the treaty will enter into force from the day the two countries exchange the ratification documents and has no expiration date, the news agency said.

In June, Russia and North Korea signed the Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. According to Article 4 of the agreement, should one of the parties be subjected to an armed aggression by any state or a group of states and find itself in a state of conflict, the other party shall immediately provide military and other forms of assistance with all available means in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter and in conformity with Russian and North Korean laws. — SPUTNIK

Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un pose for a photo during a signing ceremony following bilateral talks at Kumsusan state residence in Pyongyang, North Korea. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

WHO members' pandemic accord talks to spill into 2025

TALKS between WHO member states on a landmark global accord on handling future pandemics will roll into 2025 after countries decided Monday there were too many gaps to seal a deal this year. The key faultline in the negotiations lies between Western nations with major pharmaceutical industry sectors, and poorer countries who do not want to be sidelined when the next pandemic strikes. The emergence of a new strain of mpox, the deadly Marburg virus outbreak in Rwanda and the spread of H5N1 bird flu in recent months have given the talks process a timely jolt.

The negotiations, which kicked off in February 2022, are being held at the World Health Organization's headquarters in Geneva. The WHO's 194 member states "think they still have work to do", talks co-chair Anne-Claire Amprou told a press conference.

"Today member states agreed we need to conclude the agreement as soon as possible, and continue negotiations into 2025, with the goal of concluding the agreement by the next World Health Assembly scheduled in May.

"We are moving in the right direction," she insisted. In December 2021, fearing a repeat of the devastation wrought by Covid-19 — which killed millions of people, crippled health systems and crashed economies — countries decided to draft a new accord on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. While much of the draft text has been agreed, disputes remain over some key provisions, notably over sharing access to pathogens with pandemic potential — and then equitably sharing the benefits derived from them, such as vaccines, tests and treatments. — AFP

Fifth storm in under a month bears down on Philippines

THE Philippines prepared Tuesday to evacuate potentially tens of thousands of people as the fifth major storm in three weeks bore down on the archipelago shortly after the onslaught of Typhoon Toraji.

Now a weakened tropical storm, Toraji blew out to sea overnight after causing relatively limited damage and no reported deaths.

But Tropical Storm Usagi is now just two days away from the coast of Luzon, the archipelago nation's largest and most populous island, and gaining strength, the national weather agency said.

"It's looking like it will follow the track of (Yinxing)," civil defence chief Rueli Rapsing of Cagayan province told AFP, referring to a typhoon that struck the northern tip of the country



Rescuers ferry stranded residents from their flooded houses at a village in Ilagan town, Isabela province on 12 November 2024, a day after Typhoon Toraji hit the province. **PHOTO: AFP**

last week.

"We preemptively evacuated 40,000 people that time, so we could be looking at the same scenario and evacuate 40,000 individuals again," he said, adding Cagayan officials will decide on it at a meeting

on Wednesday.

Rapsing said the water level of the Cagayan river, the country's largest, was four metres (13 feet) above normal, preventing more than 5,000 people who were previously evacuated from returning home. — AFP