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SAC Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla launch lotus robes-weaving ceremony for Maravijaya Buddha Image



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla view round the 15 looms during the launch of the lotus robes-weaving ceremony yesterday.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla launched the ceremony to weave Mathoe Shwekyia Thingan (pure unspoiled robes made of fabrics from lotus stocks) to be offered to Maravijaya Buddha Image for the second time.

The ceremony took place at the water fountain square in the precinct of Buddha Park in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory yesterday evening.

Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin read a paper on Jayamangala.

The Senior General and his wife cut the ribbon to open the robe-weaving ceremony for the second time.

Member of the Image Board of Trustees U Thant Swe launched the ceremony by beating a gong, and all looms started their weaving process to make the robes.

At that time, artistes from the Myanma Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information, cultural troupes from the Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of

Religious Affairs and Culture and artistes from the Myawady Band under the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare performed dances with the song “Myaing-Myaing Hsaing-Hsaing Latazaungdine”. The attendees to the ceremony released hot-air balloons and lanterns.

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Reflections on a Career in Public Service as a Lifelong Learner

By Dr Thazin Lwin,
Pro-Rector, West Yangon University

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Tokyo Expo showcases Myanmar costumes, Japanese bags for cultural exchange

NATIONAL

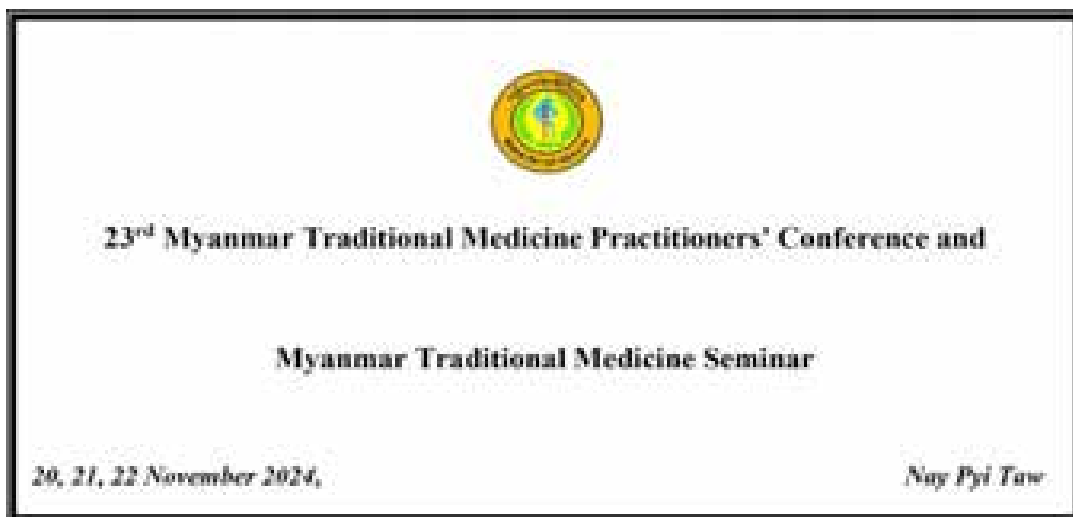
Boosting GDP: The Interconnected Growth of Agriculture, Industry, and Services

Agriculture, industry, and service sectors all support the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The agricultural sector, which includes agriculture, livestock, and forest products, is interrelated with the other industries and must be developed.

Successfully advancing the agriculture and livestock sectors will help develop the industrial and service sectors, thereby increasing the State's GDP.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the Union government meeting 5/2024 on 5 July 2024)



Theme for 104th Anniversary of National Victory Day 2024

Let's unite all nationalities for Union peace

10th Waning of Tazaungmone 1386 ME
25 November 2024

Objectives for 104th Anniversary of National Victory Day 2024

- To foster mutual respect and trust among all nationalities, ensuring durable peace
- To cultivate a well-educated populace with the knowledge and skills necessary for the State's development
- To encourage nationwide support for the education sector, contributing towards the all-round development of the State
- To enhance domestic production, ensuring the prosperity and food security of the State

Tazaungdine lighting, hot-air balloon festival at Mawlamyine Taungwine Lake

A three-day Tazaungdine lighting and hot-air balloon festival will be celebrated at Taungwine Lake, a well-known destination in Mawlamyine, Mon State, from 14 to 16 November, said the Sasana Nwe Foundation.

As a communal donation to Facebook friends, ice cream will be served free at the lake on Tazaungmone full moon day from 6 pm to 8 pm.

Visitors are invited to come to relax at the lake, which is peaceful and tranquil, while having a fantastic evening, enjoying the cool breeze and visiting pagodas on the mountain, said the foundation.

Free motorcycle parking lots, which can house 160 motorcycles, and a free car parking lot which can house more than 50 cars, have been provided.—MT/ZS



This photo captures the Tazaungdine Festival celebration in Mawlamyine Taungwine Lake.

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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)



Event-goers watch the ascent of a giant hot-air balloon during the "Mothoe Thingan" (pure unspoiled robes) weaving ceremony at the Buddha Park of the Maravijaya Buddha Image.

SAC Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, wife ...



SAC Chair Premier Senior General Min Aung Hlaing reviews the dedicated performance at yesterday's ceremony.

FROM PAGE 1

Artistes from the MRTV, the Fine Arts Department and Myawady Band presented choral dances while other artistes performed songs.

The Senior General, his wife and audiences interestingly viewed round weaving of the robes at 15 looms from regions and states, including Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The Senior General, his wife and the audience enjoyed the release of hot-air balloons, together with pilgrims who visited the Tazaungdine lighting festival of the Maravijaya Buddha Image.

Also present at the ceremony were the SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister and his wife, the Secretary and his wife, the Joint Secretary and his wife, council members and their wives, Union-level dignitaries, Union ministers and their wives, the Nay Pyi

Taw Council chairman and officials.

The Tazaungdine lighting festival was being held grandly at the Buddha Park of the Maravijaya Buddha Image in Dekkhinathiri Township from 13 to 15 November. During the period, religious associations were reciting Maha Pathana and religious verses, whereas fireworks were displayed in addition to the release of hot-air balloons. The lotus robes will be offered to the Buddha Image for the second time. The precinct of the Buddha Image is illuminated with LED bulbs. Moreover, the precinct is also occupied by shops that sell MSME products, foodstuffs, personal goods and traditional Myanmar snacks. People can enjoy the drama entertainment of the Fine Arts Department and the theatrical performance of the Po Chit theatrical troupe. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Russian Buryatia delegation arrives in Nay Pyi Taw, meets Union Ministers



The Russian Buryatia delegation holds talks with Deputy Prime Minister MoTC Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo, Deputy Prime Minister MoPF Union Minister U Win Shein and other Union Ministers yesterday.

A Russian delegation, led by Mr Alexey Sambuevich Tsydenov, visited Chaungtha beach yesterday morning and planted a star-flower tree at the entrance to Chaungtha as Russia-Myanmar friendship together with Russian Ambassador Mr Iskander Azizov. Arriving in Nay Pyi Taw, they were welcomed by Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Than Tun Oo, council members, officials, and students. The delegation was received at the Ministry of Transport and Communications by Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo, Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein, and other union ministers.

The meeting focused on strengthening people-to-people ties

and enhancing cooperation across various sectors, including air travel, banking, investment, religion and culture, agriculture, livestock, industry, trade, health, tourism, and education.

Union ministers and senior officials from the Ministries of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Religious Affairs and Culture, Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Industry, Commerce, Health, and Hotels and Tourism, along with the Russian ambassador and the Russian delegation, participated in the discussions.

In the evening, the delegation was hosted for dinner at the Aureum Palace Hotel. Following this, the delegation visited the Uppatasanti Pagoda, where they offered flowers, water, and candlelight. — MNA/TMT

MoE Union Minister, Deputy Governor of Yunnan Province meet

YESTERDAY evening, the Myanmar delegation, led by Union Minister for Energy U Ko Ko Lwin, met the deputy governor of Yunnan Province.

During the meeting, discussions focused on cooperation concerning the use of oil and natural gas transported through the Myanmar-China oil and gas pipeline in Yunnan. Topics included opportunities for entrepreneurs and investors in Yunnan's energy sector to invest in Myanmar, engineering studies related to the energy industry, and encouraging Yunnan business owners to invest in Myanmar's growing energy sector.

Further discussions also covered the upcoming Asian Oil & Gas Equipment Exhibition and Investment Forum for the Oil & Gas Sector, set to take place in Myanmar in 2025

in cooperation with the People's Republic of China. Additionally, the Yunnan Provincial government expressed its willingness to grant aid for the construction of solar power plants in Yangon and Mandalay. Following the meeting, the deputy governor of Yunnan Province hosted a dinner for the delegation.

Earlier, on 13 November, the Myanmar delegation visited the PetroChina Yunnan Petrochemical Company refinery in Yunnan Province, which processes oil and natural gas sourced from the Myanmar-China pipelines. During the visit, the factory manager and officials provided an overview of manufacturing processes, quality control systems, factory maintenance procedures, and the use of advanced technology to prevent environmental damage.



Union Energy Minister U Ko Ko Lwin meets the Yunnan Province Deputy Governor yesterday.

They also discussed safety measures in place. Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin enquired about technical details and the possibility of offering practical training courses.

In the afternoon, the heads of Yunnan Construction Investment Holding Group Co Ltd (YCIH) and Yunnan Provincial Overseas Investment Co Ltd. (YOIC), both Chinese

state-owned organizations, gave briefings on the upgrading of oil refineries, new expansion projects, and investment opportunities in the energy sector. — MNA/TKO

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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.
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NATIONAL

Myanmar marks 2024 World Diabetes Day

UNION Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win attended the ceremony marking 2024 World Diabetes Day in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the event, the Union minister said diabetes is a major factor in causing premature death, and at least one in ten is suffering from diabetes in the world. The International Diabetes Federation (IDF) projects that diabetes will increase in the coming years.

The theme for World Diabetes Day 2024 is "Empowering Global Health". This year, the focus emphasizes improving

global access to diabetes education, resources, and healthcare solutions, and encouraging some amazing interactions between experts and people around the globe.

The ministry also opens clinics for diagnosis of diabetes and high blood pressure at rural health centres every Wednesday and provides the patients with basic medicines and medical supplies. There are 7,516 clinics now, and the Centres of Excellence for Diabetes are established to offer quality treatment, prevent the complications of diabetes and raise health



Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win looks into the exhibition in marking the 2024 World Diabetes Day yesterday.

awareness regarding diabetes, at four general hospitals in Yangon, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw, and Magway.

Then, the Union minister

observed the booths displayed at the ceremony.

Departments under the Ministry of Health conducted health check programmes for

diabetes patients at Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1,000-bed) yesterday morning, hailing and honouring World Diabetes Day. — MNA/KTZH

YBS-18 bus line resumes service with city buses on 27 Nov

THE YBS-18 bus line will restart running on 27 November using city buses, according to the Khit Thit Bayintnaung Public Company Limited.

Based on the requests of the commuters, an opening ceremony will be held at the bus stand on 27 November, and the service will start, said an official, adding that the line will have 52 vehicles, and the fare will be K400 in cash or K350 by card, like other bus lines.

"The opening of the YBS-18 service will be held on 27 November from 6 am to 8 am at the Htaukkyant-Hlawga junction start stand. It will begin running with 52 vehicles, starting at 5 am as usual and in the evening, it will run according to passengers. Fares can be



This image shows the YBS-18 route map.

paid by cash or card, just like other lines," he said.

The route of the bus line is from Hlawga junction-Htaukkyant junction-Wireless-Mingaladon-Khayaybin junction-No 3 Highway-Aungmyingala Long-Distance Terminal-Thudamma Street- North

Okkalapa Roundabout-Bailey-Sanpya Market-South-North Junction to Cultural University.

The bus line previously ran with minibuses before temporarily stopping, and now it will run again in a new form. — MT/ZN

Govt assists citizen facing difficulties in UAE, ensures safe return

THE Myanmar Government, dedicated to the welfare of its citizens, is committed to ensuring that Myanmar embassies and consulates, in coordination with relevant embassies and ministries, take prompt action to support Myanmar nationals abroad and help them return home safely, regardless of any challenges they may face.

The Myanmar Consulate-General collaborated with the UAE's Department of Immigration, Myanmar Airways International (Head Office), and other relevant departments to secure an out-pass for Myanmar national Ma Zin Myo Thu, who faced difficulties while working in Fujairah, the UAE. She departed for Yangon on the Dubai-Yangon flight and arrived back at 9:30 pm on 13 November.

The Myanmar Consulate-General continues to assist and facilitate the safe return of Myanmar nationals in the UAE who face challenges, through the efforts of the Myanmar Consulate-General and the Myanmar Embassy. The Myanmar Government is committed to supporting



Ma Zin Myo Thu. PHOTO:THIHA

the repatriation of Myanmar nationals encountering difficulties while working abroad. Workers' families have expressed their deep gratitude to the government, the Myanmar Consulate-General, and the Myanmar Embassy for their assistance in rescuing their loved ones during times of distress. — Kyaw Gyi/MKKS

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NATIONAL

Yangon's prominent pagodas host Mathoe Robe-Weaving Competitions



Shwedagon Pagoda.

YANGON Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein attended the opening ceremony of the 36th Mathoe Robe-Weaving Competition at Shwedagon Pagoda yesterday.

After the ceremonial procedures, the chief minister and competition organizing central committee members observed

the Mathoe-robe weaving occasions and donated cash for the looms.

A total of nine looms – Khwanyopann loom, Myatlaypann loom, Sagawah loom, Ingyin loom, Gangaw loom, Nguwah loom, Padauk loom, Sabei loom and Thazin loom – participated in the compe-

titution.

The cash prize is K2.7 million for the first winner, K2.5 million for the second winner, K2.3 million for the fourth winner, K2.1 million for the fourth winner, and K1 million for consolation prize.

Similarly, the chief minister attended the 40th Mathoe Robe-Weaving Ceremony at Botahtaung Pagoda and donated cash for looms.

A total of 24 looms competed in the ceremony, and cash awards were K1.5 million for the first prize, K1 million for the second prize, K800,000 for the third prize and K400,000 each for the consolation prizes.

Yangon Region Transport Minister U Kyaw Kyaw Soe attended the 24th Mathoe Robe-Weaving Ceremony at Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda and donated cash for looms.

Seven looms took part in the competition, and it is K1 million for the first prize, K800,000 for the second prize, K600,000 for the third prize, and K500,000 each for the consolation prizes.

All the robes of the competitions will be offered to the pagoda and Buddha statues around the pagodas on the full moon of Tazaungmone. — Zaw Min Latt (MNA)/KTZH



Botahtaung Pagoda.

Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda.

Mandalay's Mahamuni holds 35th Mathoe Robe Offering Ceremony

THE Mahamuni Buddha Image in Mandalay hosted the opening ceremony for the 35th annual "Matho Thingan" robe weaving event on the morning of 14 November at the Mahamuni Buddha Image Dhamma Hall.

Mandalay Region Chief Justice Daw Khin Thin Wai, Minister for Security and Border Affairs Colonel Nay Lin Soe, other regional government ministers and their spouses, Mahamuni Buddha Image Board of Trustees Chair U Mya Win, and invitees attended the event.

During the ceremony, regional ministers and members of the Buddha Image board of

The opening event of the 35th Mathoe Robe Offering to the Mahamuni Buddha Image in progress yesterday.

trustees cut ceremonial ribbons to inaugurate the robe weaving. Gold and silver confetti showered the occasion as the ritual began with the weaving of robes using fine wool, followed by skilled craft artisans and volunteers creating robes for the Buddha image at looms. Officials also greeted and expressed their appreciation to traditional weavers and sewing artisans.

The robe weaving will continue overnight, with the completed robes scheduled for offering to the revered Mahamuni Buddha image on the morning of the Tazaungmone full moon day. — MNA/KZL

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NATIONAL

THE second day of the Tazaungdine lighting festival continued at the world's highest Maravijaya Buddha Image in Dekkhinathiri township of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory.

The officials conducted security measures at the stairways of the Buddha image and guided the way to the oil lamps offering, releasing hot-air balloons, Mathoe-robe weaving site, markets and other places.

The image precinct was crowded with visitors and people who were donating oil lamps and reciting Maha Pathana treatises while the religious organizations recited Gathas.

The 2nd Mathoe robe will be offered to the Maravijaya Buddha Image, and the weaving ceremony was conducted yesterday evening in which 15 weaving teams participated.

The ministries also organized hot-air balloon-releasing

Maravijaya Buddha Image's Tazaungdine enters second day



Visitors and devotees are seen thronging the Buddha Park of the Maravijaya Buddha Image yesterday.

competitions, and the venues were packed with visitors and accompanied by traditional

ethnic dances, the display of fireworks, and the release of hot-air balloons: Nyameegyi

and Seinnapan.

Moreover, the Buddha Park was illuminated with

LED lights for public observance and obeisance.

The famous singers entertained the visitors with modern and classical songs, and Myanmar traditional theatrical artiste Phoe Chit and artistes of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture performed at the event under the supervision of the Myanmar Theatrical Association.

Stalls sold MSME products, foodstuffs, and commodities, and Myanmar traditional snack shops were also packed with visitors, including fun fairs for children. Moreover, healthcare services were also arranged for the pilgrims.

The Tazaungdine lighting festival will be held at the Buddha Park of the Maravijaya Buddha Image in Dekkhinathiri Township on 15 November, on the full moon day of Tazaungmone. — Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant/KTZH



This photo reveals the Tazaungdine fair at People's Square in the previous year.

People's Square hosts 2024 Tazaungdine Fair, Concert with more shops

THE 2024 Tazaungdine fair and concert are being held at Yangon's People Square in Dagon Township with more shops than last year, according to Yangon Region Government Office.

It will take place from 14 to 16 November with 483 shops, 71 food stalls and showrooms for marine products, and ready-to-eat seafood shops.

"The 2024 Tazaungdine fair and concert are being held at Yangon's People Square on

14-16 November. A total of 483 shops will display products from 29 industrial zones in Yangon Region and SME entrepreneurs. For convenient meals, 71 food stalls are arranged for visitors. There were 459 shops and 59 restaurants at last year's fair. So, there are more shops this year. The festival will also include fireworks, lighting in the square and launching small hot air balloons," said an official of the Yangon Region government

office.

The visitors can enjoy Saturday, entertainment and performances by actors, singers, performers comedians, magicians, circus and dancing. In addition to them, E-sport game competitions for young people have been included. The entertainment programmes are from 9 am to 8 pm and will be held until 10:30 pm on the full moon day of Tazaungdine with fireworks and hot-air balloons launching. — ASH/ZN

Weekend visitor numbers rise at Yangon's nearby camps and resorts

VISITOR arrival at camps and resorts near Yangon has mounted on weekends, according to Union of Myanmar Travel Association Chair U Naung Naung Han.

Recently, people have been going on day trips, either by families or friends, to Bago from Yangon and camps and resorts near Yangon on weekends, and the travel sector has increased this year compared to previous years.

"Visitor arrival at places near Yangon has mounted on the weekend. We can say the travel sector has increased this year compared to previ-

ous years. Many families and youths go on day trips to camps and resorts near Bago and Yangon," he said.

A woman who is preparing to go on vacation during Tazaungdine said, "Our family has planned to take a short trip to a resort surrounding Yangon".

In addition to short trips to places near Yangon, many people from Yangon Region have made preparations to visit the Taunggyi Tazaungdine Festival, Bagan-NyaungU-Popa and Chaungtha and Ngwehsaung beaches during Tazaungdine holidays. — MT/ZS

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OPINION

Prioritize the green economy for urban civilization

CIVILIZATION offers urban residents numerous opportunities while imposing various demands. Currently, urban areas – both developed and developing – account for 75 per cent of global energy consumption and over 70 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions, highlighting the significant impact of urbanization on the environment.

Currently, approximately 4.5 billion people live in major cities globally, and this number is expected to double by 2050, according to the United Nations. Additionally, over 1.6 billion individuals in urban areas face mid-summer temperatures around 35 degrees Celsius. Therefore, it is crucial to manage urban projects with foresight to alleviate the challenges residents encounter due to rising populations and extreme heat. Effective planning can significantly improve living conditions and reduce tensions in densely populated urban environments.

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly hindered poverty eradication efforts, increasing poverty levels. According to a UN-Habitat report, approximately 119 to 124 million people were affected by poverty in 2020, with that number rising to between 143 and 163 million in 2021. This alarming trend highlights the urgent need to prioritize addressing poverty and promoting equitable development, particularly in urban areas, to mitigate the negative impacts of the pandemic on vulnerable populations.

Over two-thirds of Myanmar's population lives in urban areas, contributing to increased population density nationwide. Yangon, which is the city of the Yangon Region as well as the commercial hub of the country, experiences the highest density among cities. As people from other regions migrate to Yangon, its urban areas continue to grow. Consequently, in 2019, the Yangon region emerged as the most populated area in Myanmar, boasting over eight million residents.

Residents of Yangon City grapple with high population density, environmental challenges, and inadequate infrastructure. The loss of shade trees contributes to the decline of green spaces, while public areas are increasingly occupied by high-rise buildings. As a result, the city faces rising temperatures, heightened air pollution, and reduced water infiltration into the ground. These issues collectively diminish the quality of life for its inhabitants, leading to significant health and environmental concerns.

Habitable urban areas require essential infrastructure, the rule of law, accessible healthcare, and standardized services. Prioritizing environmental harmonization and green business investments is crucial for long-term sustainability. Without these initiatives, urban populations will suffer from severe consequences, including high carbon emissions, air pollution, and the adverse effects of climate change. To ensure healthy living conditions, cities must focus on developing resilient and eco-friendly facilities.

Reflections on a Career in Public Service as a Lifelong Learner

“A Doctorate in Chemistry Amidst Economic Figures”

By Dr Thazin Lwin, Pro-Rector, West Yangon University

AS I approach my 62nd birthday, a certain milestone that calls for reflection, I find myself contemplating not just retirement but my legacy, asking, “To what extent have I contributed to ‘A Century of Economic Studies for the Benefit of the People?’” With nearly four decades in public education, this reflection isn’t just a question — it’s a guiding principle that has steered my journey in academia, particularly at Yangon University, where I have been a dedicated educator and researcher for almost 28 years.

Surprisingly, despite my doctorate in chemistry, much of my work has been shaped by a profound engagement with economics and data. In the 1990s, as the field of environmental sciences grew, I discovered the Box-Jenkins ARIMA model – a time-series statistical tool that became central to my research

in environmental science. Remote sensing, a key part of my work using satellite technology, further reinforced my reliance on economic and statistical data to measure environmental changes over time. For nearly 30 years, these tools have provided the lens through which I interpret the world of economic development, not just from the perspective of wealth but as a layered, dynamic system.

This intersection of chemistry, statistics, and economics has also defined my approach to teaching and administration. While economics often gets distilled down to wealth accumulation, I believe development – true, sustainable development – demands much more. It requires careful planning, disciplined management, and, above all, a commitment to excellence. I have endeavoured to instil these principles in my students, helping them

see economics as a holistic framework that goes beyond numbers, encompassing society’s larger aspirations.

In some ways, my academic path was destined. My family has a legacy of working with economic data. Starting with my father, economic analysis has been a part of our lives and, I believe, a critical component of our contributions to society. Even as I specialized in chemistry, earning my PhD in 1998, this legacy led me naturally into administrative roles, where I’ve been able to shape institutional practices at two major universities.

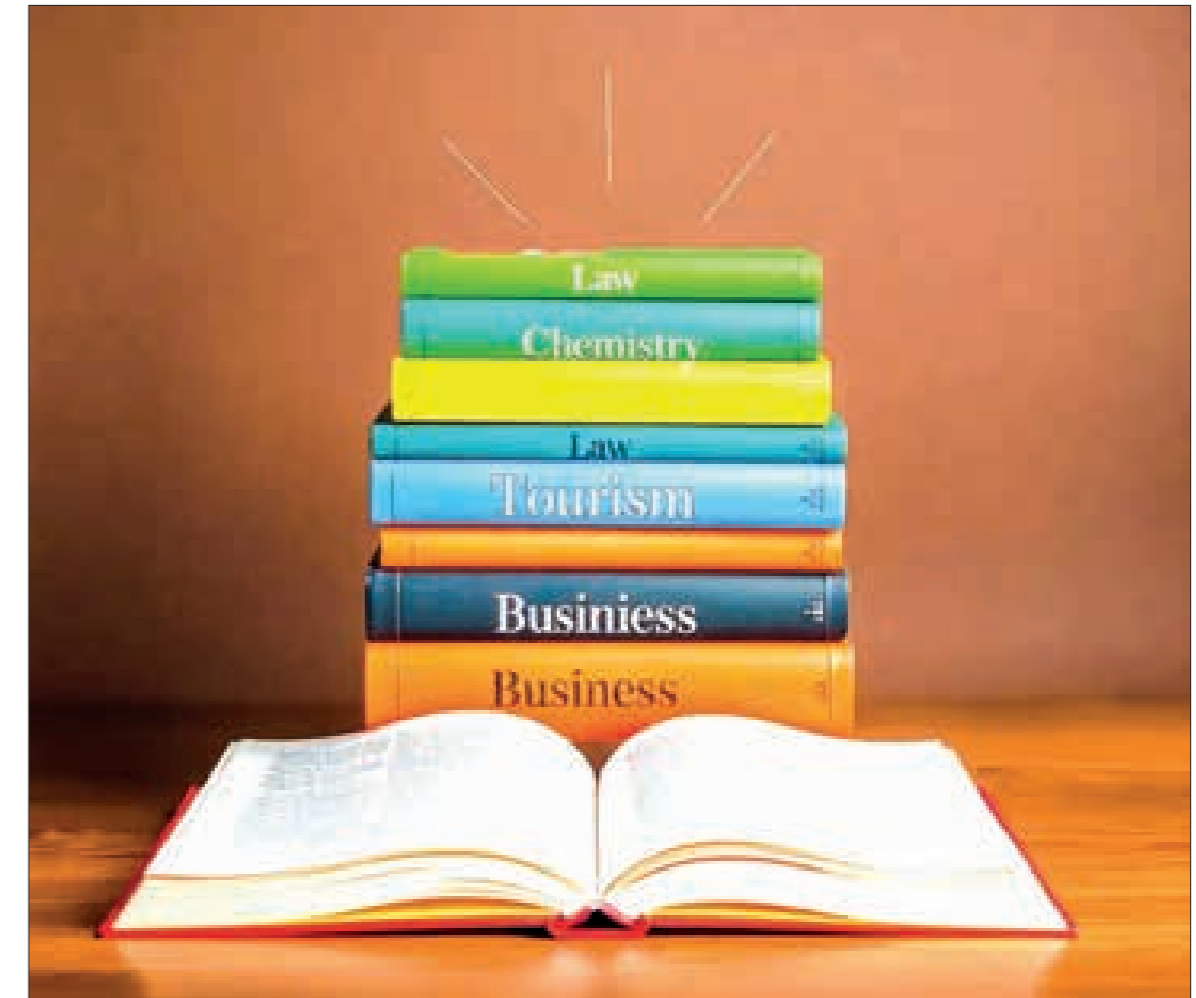
Lifelong learning has always been a core value in my career. While working as an educator, I sought new knowledge to enhance my contributions to academia and public service. Over the years, I

completed online diploma courses in Law (2014-2015), Tourism (2019-2020), and most recently, Business (2023-2024) from Yangon University of Distance Education, always striving for top grades. This commitment is not about chasing qualifications; it’s about honing my skills to remain relevant, adaptable, and forward-thinking. At nearly 62, I am genuinely excited to attend the upcoming graduation ceremony for my Post-Graduate Diploma in Business (PGDB). This programme, tied to the centennial celebration of economic education in Myanmar, is a personal milestone that feels serendipitously aligned with my life’s work.

Reflecting on my coursework in this business programme, I realize how much these subjects – General Management, Macro-

economics Environment, Business Statistics, Legal Frameworks for Business, Management Accounting and Financial Management – represent a continuity in my journey. Each topic, from Marketing Management, Production and Operations Management, Human Resources Management, and International Business Management to Case Study-Based Projects, has deepened my perspective on the economic dimensions of public service, equipping me with tools to tackle new challenges.

As I move towards retirement, I am invigorated rather than daunted. This next chapter invites me to consider fresh ways to contribute to society, to perhaps mentor others in their academic pursuits, and to apply my knowledge in consulting or advisory



Despite a chemistry PhD, expertise was expanded through diplomas in Law, Tourism, and Business, enhancing understanding of economics and public service. ILLUSTRATION: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ DIGITAL ARTWORK

roles. Reflecting on my journey, I am profoundly grateful to my parents, who instilled in me the importance of hard work, and to my mentors, whose guidance has been invaluable.

It’s rare to end a career with the same curiosity and enthusiasm that sparked it. I find myself incredibly fortunate to be both fulfilled and eager to continue serving the broader mission of

public education in some new form. Lifelong learning, after all, is less about personal achievement and more about ensuring that knowledge continues to serve the greater good.

WHEN one begins to think about the application of learning principles to instruction, there is always one worthwhile question to be asked. What is to be learned? The responses to that question may fall into one of three general classes – intellectual skills, cognitive strategies, information, behavioural patterns, or attitudes. Of course, learning intellectual skills is of central importance to school learning. An intellectual skill makes it possible for an individual to respond to his environment through symbols, in which language and numerals represent natural objects of the environment. In other words, individuals communicate aspects of their experience to others by using such symbols. For most instructional purposes, the valuable distinctions among intellectual skills are discriminations, concrete concepts, defined concepts, rules, and problem-solving.

Discrimination is the capability of making different responses to stimuli that differ from each other between one or more physical dimensions. Most simply, a person indicates by responding that two stimuli are the same or different, for instance, in art, music, foreign language, and science. Discrimination is essential to intellectual skills. As far as

Parts of Intellectual Skill

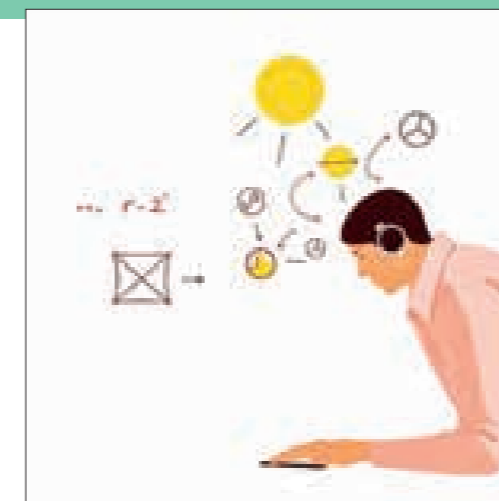
By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

most school learning is concerned, relevant discriminations are usually supposed to have been learnt early in life. In describing the characteristics of discrimination as well as other types of intellectual skill to follow, it is necessary to account for three components of a learning situation: the performance that is required, the internal conditions present for learning to occur, and the external conditions which provide stimulation to a learner.

A concept is a capability that makes it possible for an individual to identify a stimulus as a member of a class having some characteristics in common even though differing from each other markedly. A concrete concept expresses an object property or object attribute such as colour and shape in that the human performance these concepts call for is recognition of a concrete object. The marked difference between discrimination and concept is that the former means responding

to a difference, whereas the latter refers to describing something by name or otherwise. To be said better, acquiring a concrete concept has the meaning that the individual is capable of showing the class of object characteristics.

The acquisition of concepts by definition requires that the learner be able to verify the referents of words used in the definition. An individual is deemed to have learned a defined concept when he can demonstrate the meaning of some particular class of objects, events or relations. The demonstration may include verbal reference to the definition, and demonstration of the meaning distinguishes a kind of mental processing from that involved in memorized verbal information. Only by assuring that the individual is capable of proving the referents of words can one be confident that the meaning of a defined concept has been learned. In practice, the procedure of obtaining verbal answers to oral questions



Learning involves acquiring intellectual skills, cognitive strategies, information, behaviours, and attitudes, with a focus on intellectual skills for effective school learning. ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY

is often used, but such a procedure is always subject to the ambiguity that the learner may be repeating a verbalization, not knowing the meaning of the concept after all. Hence,

a learner had better get a genuine understanding of a defined concept instead of the superficial acquaintance indicated by reeling off a string of words.

Regarding rules, the learner’s performance is regular in a variety of specific situations. The learner is able to respond with a class of relationships among classes of objects and events. There are many common examples of rule-governed behaviour. Most human behaviour comes into this category. Obviously enough, possessing the capability called a rule does not mean being able to state it verbally. If a rule is a defined concept, it is not actually formally different from a rule and is learned in much the same way. Rules, however, contain many other categories apart from classifying. What I want to mean is that they deal with such relationships as equal to, similar to, greater than, less than, before, after and many others.

Sometimes, the rules we have learned are complex combinations of simpler rules. These higher-order rules are invented for the purpose of solving a practical problem in the real world. The capability of problem-solving is naturally a major aim of educational processes; most educators agree that the school should

give priority to teaching students how to think clearly. When students work out the solution to a problem of authentic events, they will engage in thinking behaviour. Thus, various kinds of problems may have as many solutions as possible. However, attaining a workable solution to the problem is a new capability of student achievement. They will be able to learn something that can be generalized to other issues of similar formal characteristics. This also means that they will have acquired a new rule or perhaps a new set of rules.

In summary, problem-solving consists of the formation of higher-ordered rules, which could be related to rules, defined concepts, concrete concepts, and discriminations as prerequisites in order or vice versa. Rules play an essential part in problem-solving. For a learner, acquiring all the rules needed for every situation is always impossible in one way or another. Concepts and rules must be synthesized into new complex forms for the learner to cope with new problematic situations by adding to a student’s repertoire of intellectual skills relevant to those tasks. Briefly speaking, problem-solving is a human activity of previously acquired concepts and rules, not a genetic skill at all.

NATIONAL

Illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K604M on 13 Nov

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

On 13 November, the combined teams impounded consumer goods worth K1.04 million without official documents from a container at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint, a Mitsubishi Fuso truck (worth approximately K40 million) carrying industrial materials valued at K9.3 million without official documents at the Tadakyoe combined checkpoint, four unregistered vehicles and five unregistered motorbikes worth K51 million in Mawlamyine and Thaton Districts, smuggled motorbike spare parts that was piled up near the Kengphaung bridge on the outskirts of Kengtung Township. The action was con-



Seized illegal items in Bago Region.

ducted under the Export-Import Law and Customs procedures.

Similarly, the combined teams conducted inspections and seized two unregistered vehicles worth K33 million at the Yadanabon bridge combined checkpoint in Sagaing Township, a Toyota Dyna (estimated value of K18 million) carrying

foodstuffs worth K6 million without official documents in Dawei Township, a Nissan Diesel tractor head with a trailer (estimated value of K70 million) carrying vehicle parts valued at K9.24 million without official documents near Shwethanlwin Tollgate in Phayagyi and illegal teak weighing 1.122 tonnes, illegal hardwood weighing 0.335 tonne and illegal timber weighing 0.509 tonne worth K1.28 million in Nyaunglebin and Thayawady Districts. The action was taken under the Forest Law and Customs procedures.

The combined on-duty teams nabbed illegal timber weighing 3.474 tonnes valued at K267,023 in Taungdwingyi District, four unregistered motorbikes valued at K5.6 million in Magway and Thayet Districts, a Pyay truck and a Hino Profia tractor head with a trailer (estimated

value of K131 million) carrying industrial materials and consumer goods worth K131.43million at the Myitnge checkpoint and a Mitsubishi Fuso tractor head with a trailer (worth approximately K81 million) carrying industrial materials worth K2.205 million without official documents near the Myitnge Tollgate. The action was taken under the Forest Law, the Export-Import Law and Customs procedures.

Illegal timbers weighing 7.397 tonnes worth about K1 million were also seized in Hlinethaya (East) Township, and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 34 arrests on 13 November, confiscating illegal goods worth approximately K604 million. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

Officials deny PDF members reached Kyaiktiyo Pagoda

A video appeared on social media on 12 November showing alleged PDF youth members dressed in uniforms and fully armed, visiting a pagoda similar to Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township, Mon State. The video depicted the group worshipping in front of a stupa resembling the revered Kyaiktiyo Pagoda.

However, according to the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda Board of Trustees, the video does not show the actual Kyaiktiyo Pagoda on the Paung Laung peak in Kyaikto. Instead, the scene was filmed at a replica pagoda in Myaing Township, Magway Region. Trustees clarified that Kyaiktiyo Pagoda continues to receive thousands of daily visitors in a peaceful atmosphere, with 1,887 visitors on 12 November alone and around 2,000 visitors daily this week.

Trustees also stated that the viral video was deliberately staged to mislead the public and create unrest among pilgrims visiting the sacred site. — Mon State IPRD/KZL

Correction on misleading news about Mandalay Prison conditions

THE subversive media outlet RFA has circulated false information on its Facebook page, claiming that inmates at Mandalay Central Prison (Obo) are experiencing skin diseases.

Both male and female inmates at Mandalay Central Prison have access to twice-daily bathing, with each dormitory equipped with a tube well and water tanks. Around 6,000 litres of purified water are distributed to dormitories in large bottles twice daily to ensure ample drinking water. Each dormitory has a 50-gallon storage tank, and two water pump generators are available for backup during power outages to prevent any water shortage.

The prison doctor closely monitors inmates with conditions like ringworm, scabies, or pruritus and provides oral medication and ointments as needed. Preventive measures are in place to minimize skin diseases, including routine sunning of bedding, maintaining personal hygiene, and regular dormitory cleaning.

The claims by the RFA Facebook page are unfounded and intended to mislead the public. — Ko Phy/TKO

False reports claim 100 homes burned by security forces in Kanbalu



REPORTS circulated alleging that security forces destroyed more than 100 homes in Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Region, on 13 November. However, these reports were fabricated to mislead the public.

According to officials, security forces are currently collaborating with residents to maintain order and prevent terrorists from occupying the area. Security measures are conducted in line with established laws to ensure peace and safety. Malicious news media spread this misinformation to create distrust towards security forces among the public. — MNA/KZL

This screenshot validates misinformation.

Khit Thit fabricates stories about inmates in Thayawady Prison

MEDIA outlet Khit Thit reported misleading claims on its Facebook page on 11 November, alleging that 15 female political prisoners were held in solitary confinement at Thayawady Prison for two years without reason.

Upon investigation, it was found that there were no political prisoners in Thayawady Central Prison. Individuals are serving sentences for offences under existing laws. The majority of prisoners in Thayawady Prison are from other regions, and they were

transferred due to violations of prison rules.

The 15 female prisoners in question are not in solitary confinement. They are simply separated from the general prison population for security reasons. This measure is taken to prevent potential incidents if they are mixed with other inmates. Despite their separation, they retain all rights afforded to prisoners, just like others in the facility.

Furthermore, Thayawady Central Prison is located amidst farmlands, and during

the rainy season, snakes, centipedes, and scorpions often enter the prison. Room cleaning services are provided by male staff only after female inmates have been securely housed in their cells or dormitories. Thus, there is no truth to the claim that female inmates have been beaten or scolded, as reported by Khit Thit Media. The information circulated by this Facebook page is false and intended to create misconceptions about the routine operations of the prison. — Moe Moe/TKO

Khon Kaen's 2024 Intl Silk Festival welcomes Myanmar businesses

KHON Kaen's International Silk Festival-2024, which will take place from 29 November to 10 December in Khon Kaen province, Thailand, invites Myanmar businesspeople to show-

case their finest silk and products, according to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

Two silk manufacturers from each member country of the Greater Mekong Subregion

(GMS) will be provided free booths (2.5 metres by two metres), yet they must bear accommodation, transport and other costs themselves.

It will provide a platform to

extend business networks in the industry, exhibit their finest silk products, attract new customers, and observe the products on display from other countries.

Individuals can register

through the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization by phone at 067 408622 and email event.td.myantrade@gmail.com to join this exhibition. — NN/KK

Bago Region hosts workshop to boost rubber production

A technical workshop to boost rubber production was held at a rubber farm owned by Daw Htet Htet Khin in DaikU Township, Bago Region, on 11 November.

Officials from the Bago Region Agriculture Department, rubber experts from the perennial crop division of the department, soil experts, crop protection specialists and rubber farmers from Bago and DaikU attended the workshop.

The head of the Bago Region Agriculture Department elaborated on the objectives behind this workshop regarding the growth of rubber trees from private rubber farms, technical requirements for high productivity and compliance of farmers.

Then, officials concerned also raised matters related to possible pest control, rubber latex tapping, and technology to produce high-quality rubber.

Bago Region has 117,195 acres of rubber, with an estimated production of 18,000 tonnes (about 700 pounds per acre).

Officials from the department also conducted a field trip to the rubber farms to disseminate rubber technology to boost productivity and increase farmers' income. They also went on

a research trip to rubber farms, took soil samples and observed the growth of rubber trees. The challenges and requirements that farmers have experienced will be tackled as well.

Myanmar aims to meet a rubber export target of 326,000 tonnes in the current financial year 2024-2025 beginning 1 April, according to the Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association. Seventy per cent of rubber produced in Myanmar goes to China. It is also shipped to Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, the Republic of Korea, India, Japan, and other countries.

Global demand for rubber, rubber production in Southeast Asian nations and the market supply influence Myanmar's rubber prices.

Rubber is commonly cultivated in Mon and Kayin states and Taninthayi, Bago, and Yangon regions in Myanmar. As per 2018-2019 rubber season data, there are over 1.628 million acres of rubber plantations in Myanmar, with Mon State accounting for 497,153 acres, followed by Taninthayi Region with 348,344 acres and Kayin State with 270,760 acres. — NN/KK



This image highlights Myanmar's diverse range of rubber products.

DICA report: 1,500 companies fail to file AR in Oct



The facade of the office of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

A total of 1,500 companies were struck off the register in October of 2024 as they failed to file annual returns (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The DICA notified those companies that failed to file their AR on the MyCO and were struck off the register from the date of the directive, under Section 430 (F) of the Myanmar Companies Law, according to the DICA's notification.

The DICA's statistics indicated that 750 companies in January 2024, 600 in February, 1,650 in March and 2,000 each in April, May and June, 2,500 in July, 1,000 in August and 2,000 in September did not file the AR.

A total of 6,400 companies also failed to submit the AR in 2023. The registration and

re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

All registered companies need to submit AR on the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation, and at least once every year (not later than one month after the anniversary of the incorporation), according to Section 97 of the law.

Under Section 266 (A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, public companies must submit annual returns and financial statements (G-5) simultaneously. All overseas corporations must submit ARs in the prescribed format on MyCO within 28 days of the financial year ending under Section 53 (A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

As per DICA's report, thousands of companies were

suspended for failing to submit AR forms before the due date. Newly established companies are required to submit ARs within two months of incorporation or face a fine of K100,000 for filing late returns.

The DICA has notified that any company which fails to submit its AR within 13 months will be notified of its suspension (I-9A). If it fails to submit the AR within 28 days of receiving the notice, the system will show the company's status as suspended. Companies can restore their status only after shelling out a fine of K50,000 for the AR fee, K100,000 for the restoration of the company on the register, and K100,000 for late filing of documents, totaling K250,000. When a company fails to restore its status within six months of suspension, the registrar will strike its name off the register, according to the DICA notice. — NN/KK

NATIONAL



Kyaiktiyo welcomes over 76,000 pilgrims in Oct-Nov

MORE than 76,000 pilgrims from across the nation visited the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Mon State from 17 October to 12 November, according to U Soe Hla, the chairman of the board of trustees.

During this period, visitors from Thailand and Vietnam make up the majority of the

The Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Mon State, as seen in its full glory during the night time.

overseas travellers.

“The Kyaiktiyo Pagoda Festival begins on the full moon of Thadingyut. Pilgrims from across the country come daily to pay homage to the pagoda. A total of 76,059 domestic pilgrims and 162 overseas visitors visited the pagoda between the full moon of Thadingyut and the 12th waning of Tazaungmone. On weekends, about 400 pilgrims visit the pagoda,” U Soe Hla said.

Pilgrims from across the country have been coming daily

to pay homage to the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda since November, with approximately 30 buses providing transport up and down the hill. Additionally, hotels, lodges, guesthouses, public rest houses, and restaurants are available to accommodate the pilgrims.

The Buddha Pujaniya Festival at the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda is held annually from the full moon of Thadingyut to the full moon of Kason. At the same time, the pagoda remains open to the public throughout the year.— ASH/TH

Ruili introduces Pauk-Phaw Friendship Insurance for foreigners

ACCORDING to the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar, the Pauk-Phaw Friendship Insurance Programme has been introduced in Ruili, Yunnan Province, China, specifically for foreigners, including Myanmar citizens.

The programme is designed to support Myanmar nationals working in Ruili. It was developed through collaboration between Ruili local authorities in Yunnan Province and insurance companies. Under this scheme, insured foreign employees

are eligible for compensation to cover medical treatment at hospitals and accidental injuries.

Additionally, insurance providers from the Dehong sub-province have established an insurance service centre for foreign employees in Ruili. The centre offers information about insurance in multiple languages and will host regular awareness sessions and introductory events to educate workers about programme benefits. — ASH/TMT



This photo captures a Myanmar woman joining the Pauk-Phaw Friendship Insurance Programme.

Tokyo Expo showcases Myanmar costumes, Japanese bags for cultural exchange



This photo showcases traditional Myanmar costumes and traditional Japanese bags at the exhibition.

AN exhibition showcasing Myanmar traditional costumes and Japanese traditional bags took place in Tokyo, Japan, on 12 Novem-

ber, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Organized by the Myanmar Embassy, the exhibition aimed to promote

friendship and cultural exchange between the people of Myanmar and Japan. The event was also a collaboration between the Myanmar Embassy and Japanese traditional bag designer Mrs Osawa Michiyo.

During the opening ceremony, Daw Lei Lei Wah, the wife of the Myanmar Ambassador, and Mrs Osawa Michiyo delivered welcome speeches. The show featured young models wearing traditional costumes from Myanmar and Japan, each styled with Japanese traditional bags crafted by Mrs Osawa

Michiyo.

Myanmar Ambassador U Soe Han and Daw Lei Lei Wah presented a bouquet to Mrs Osawa Michiyo, who then gifted a bouquet to young models, and offered traditional Myanmar foods, including Myanmar tea. Following the ceremony, Mrs Osawa Michiyo conducted a workshop on creating traditional Japanese festival bags using Myanmar cotton fabrics. Japanese attendees and members of the Myanmar community in Japan joined the exhibition. — ASH/MKKS

‘Sarita 2’ premiered in Yangon ahead of nationwide release on 15 Nov

ACTRESS May Myint Mo disclosed that the premiere of the film ‘Sarita 2’ (Moral Character) was held on 13 November at Thamada Cinema in Dagon Township, Yangon Region. The film is set to be released in major cinemas nationwide on 15 November.

The story and screenplay were written by De De Htet Aung, and Soe Moe Min directed the film for The Rays Production.

“What makes ‘Sarita 2’ unique is that it includes more intense, climactic scenes than the audience might expect. All the characters gave their best performances, and we believe the audience will truly enjoy it,” said May Myint Mo.

The film stars Academy Nay Win, Min Phone Myat, Charlie, Kaung Myat San, Tayza Lin Yaung, Tun Pearl Yadana, Wai Lar Yi, Okaw Thanthar, and other well-known artistes. — ASH/TRKM



This image depicts the artistes during the premiere show of ‘Sarita 2’.

India's sports market set to soar towards US\$130 billion by 2030

Increased investments from the government are fuelling infrastructure development, grassroots programmes, and sports initiatives across the country.

INDIA'S sports is set for a metamorphic change and is poised to reach US\$130 billion by 2030, according to a new report by Google and Deloitte.

This growth, a 14 per cent CAGR – nearly double the pace of India's GDP, signifies a fundamental shift in how Indians consume and engage with sports, driven by increasing government investments, multi-sport culture, wide digital adoption, and a range of sports content. The report also projects the creation of about 10.5 million jobs and US\$21 billion in indirect tax revenue by 2030.

The joint report asserted that India's booming sports sector presents a huge opportunity – from government agencies and sporting bodies to businesses, investors, content creators, and fans – to collaboratively shape the future of sports.

"We're witnessing a



A 14 per cent CAGR in sports consumption signals India's shift, driven by government investment, digital growth, and diverse content. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/CANVA**

surge in multi-sport fandom, a growing popularity of digital platforms, and deep engagement from Gen Z, who represent the largest segment of India's

sports fanbase," said Roma Datta Chobey, Managing Director (Interim Country Lead), Google India. Romal Shetty, Chief Executive Officer, Deloitte South Asia,

said India's potential to become a global leader in sports is both a tremendous opportunity and a powerful driver for nation-building. — ANI

Workers stage walkout at US maker of Fallout video game

HUNDREDS of US workers at the video game giant behind Fallout staged a one-day strike Wednesday over outsourcing and remote work policies, their labour union said.

"We are not afraid to do what's necessary to make sure that Microsoft meets us at the bargaining table over key issues like remote work options and outsourcing," ZeniMax Workers United said on X, formerly Twitter.

Hundreds of ZeniMax employees in Maryland and Texas, represented by the Communication Workers of America (CWA), went on strike to demand better job securi-

ty and working conditions, including opposing forced return-to-office mandates for remote workers.

The workers voiced frustration with Microsoft's slow response to their concerns since the company's \$7.5 billion acquisition of ZeniMax in 2021. Microsoft acknowledged the strike, expressing respect for employees' rights and commitment to addressing concerns at the bargaining table. The strike follows a growing trend of unionization in the video game industry, with workers at Bethesda Softworks, part of ZeniMax, joining the CWA earlier this year. — AFP



Blockbuster video game franchise 'Fallout' inspired a hit television series at Amazon Prime. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

US consumer inflation rises in October on higher housing costs

US consumer inflation edged higher last month spurred by an increase in housing costs, according

to government data published Wednesday, complicating the US Federal Reserve's plans to cut in-

terest rates.

The consumer price index (CPI) rose to 2.6 per cent in October from

a year ago, up from 2.4 per cent in September; the Labour Department said in a statement. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BANGKOK VOY.NO. (192N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BANGKOK VOY.NO. (192N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-11-2024** 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (920N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (920N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-11-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ST MARY VOY.NO. (0UVAIS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ST MARY VOY.NO. (0UVAIS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-11-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Global South Local Currency Cooperation Forum held in Brazil amid South-South trade rise



Nubank is a Brazilian digital bank headquartered in São Paulo. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Local currency cooperation among Global South nations boosts trade, reduces costs, and promotes economic growth.

LOCAL currency cooperation among Global South nations has broad prospects and great potential, as closer South-South trade ties have spurred the demand for local currency settlements, officials and experts from China and Brazil have said.

In a video address to the Global South Local Currency Cooperation Forum held on Tuesday, Tao Ling, deputy governor of the People's Bank of China, said that local currencies used in cross-border trade and investment activities would help reduce foreign exchange costs, mitigate currency risks, facilitate trade and investment,

boost national economic growth, as well as provide a strong driving force for the common development of the world economy, she added.

Tao noted that the People's Bank of China looks forward to strengthening communication and collaboration with the central banks of Global South nations and creating a better market and institutional environment for cooperation in local currencies by adhering to marketization and rule of law.

The Global South accounts for over 40 per cent of the world's economy, representing a key force in global economic growth. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli forces continue fight in southern Lebanon, Gaza

THE IDF (Israel Defence Forces) forces continue to operate in southern Lebanon and Gaza.

During the last day, the Air Force attacked more than 100 terrorist targets in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon.

The IDF said fighters of its 226th Paratroopers Brigade Combat Team, under the command of the 146th Reserve Division, began to operate in southern Lebanon against the terrorist organization Hezbollah.

Forces of the Kfir Infantry Brigade's combat team eliminated in the last day a terrorist squad that launched anti-tank missiles and fired at the troops. — ANI

Japan rules out ending death penalty

The Japanese government on Thursday ruled out abolishing the death penalty, rejecting calls by domestic legal experts for a review amid international pressure to end executions.

"The government thinks it is not appropriate to abolish" the death penalty, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi told a press conference. "The death penalty is unavoidable for a person who has committed an extremely grave and atrocious crime."

On Wednesday, a 16-member panel, including a former top prosecutor, a former top police official and academics, proposed to the Cabinet and parliament the establishment of a conference body to discuss whether to maintain the death penalty.

Citing the case of Iwao Hakamata, an 88-year-old man who spent nearly half a century on death row before being acquitted in a recent retrial over a 1966 quadruple murder, the panel's report said, "Once a mistake occurs, it takes a very long time to correct it." — Kyodo

Sri Lanka votes in snap elections to parliament called by President Dissanayake



Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake hails from a leftist background but enjoys the backing of the country's business elites. **PHOTO: AFP**

VOTING for the 2024 Parliamentary Election commenced at 7 am on Thursday in Sri Lanka in snap elections called by

President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, who won the polls this September, local media reported.

Dissanayake, aims to secure a majority in parliament to put forward his policies to revive the island nation from its financial crisis. The independent body, Election Commission of Sri Lanka (ECSL) is overseeing the 10th general polls and the inaugural session of the newly elected Parliament is scheduled for 21 November, Daily News reported.

A total of 8,361 candidates, with 5,015 from 408 recognized political parties and 3,346 from 282 independent groups are vying for selection as representatives of the new Parliament, the Daily News reported. — ANI

4,000 illegal miners trapped underground in South Africa

AN estimated 4,000 illegal miners are still trapped underground at an unused mine in Stilfontein, North West Province of South Africa, with rescue operations currently suspended due to heavy rains, provincial police announced on Wednesday.

In a phone interview with Xinhua, North West Police Spokesperson Sabata Mokgwabone said that the community-led rescue efforts would resume once the weather clears.

Mokgwabone explained that the situation began on 2 November when over 50 illegal

miners emerged from the relatively "safe" Margaret shaft, reporting that others were still underground. He noted that the trapped miners, currently estimated to be around 4,000, were in other unused and "dangerous" mine shafts far from the Margaret shaft. — Xinhua

SPORTS



Premier League referee David Coote. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

UEFA launches investigation into Premier League referee Coote

UEFA has appointed an ethics and disciplinary inspector to investigate Premier League referee David Coote after a video emerged of him allegedly snorting a white powder during Euro 2024.

It comes after English referees body PGMOL (Professional Game Match Officials Limited) said it was taking fresh allegations about Coote "very seriously".

The 42-year-old was suspended by the PGMOL on Monday after different video footage was posted on social media appearing to show him making disparaging remarks about former Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp.

Coote's comments about the German are also being investigated by the Football Association.

On Wednesday another video appeared on the Sun newspaper's website which it said showed Coote snorting a white powder during Euro 2024 in Germany, where he was officiating.

European football's governing body UEFA, which had already suspended Coote, has now opened an investigation into his conduct.

"A UEFA ethics and disciplinary inspector has been appointed to evaluate a potential violation of the UEFA disciplinary regulations by the referee Mr David Coote," it said in a statement.

"Further information regarding this matter will be made available in due course".

A PGMOL spokesman said on Wednesday that the organization was aware of the second video. — AFP

Olympic javelin champ Kitaguchi aims to break Asian record

OLYMPIC women's javelin champion Haruka Kitaguchi said Thursday she is coming into the peak years of her career and has a recipe for success, with breaking the Asian record of 67.98 metres on her menu for next season.

The 26-year-old, who won the Olym-

pic gold medal with a throw of 65.80 metres in Paris, began training on 1 November for next season.

The season is highlighted by the world athletics championships in September in Tokyo, where she will try to win her second consecutive world title.

"I look forward to seeing how I come into form," Kitaguchi said in Tokyo, where she opened her practice session to the media. "Statistically, these next four years are the peak ones for a javelin thrower. I really want to beat the Asian record next season". — Kyodo

Myanmar narrowly loses 3-2 to Singapore in international friendly

IN a friendly match held on 14 November at Singapore's National Stadium, the Singaporean national team smashed team Myanmar with a 3-2 scoreline.

This match marked a debut loss for Myanmar's new head coach, U Myo

Hlaing Win, as his team conceded to Singapore in an intense exchange of goals.

Myanmar's lineup faced several challenges due to injuries and unavailable players, with key striker Kyaw Zin Phyto missing.

Singapore opened the scoring just four minutes into the game, capitalizing on a defensive lapse as Farhan netted the first goal. Myanmar fought back with opportunities but missed several chances. In the second half, Myanmar ramped up the pressure with substitutions and levelled the score.

In 47 minutes, wing striker Ye Yint Aung scored an equalizing goal, and just five minutes later, Thiha Zaw added a second with a header from a corner kick. However, Singapore retaliated with increased pressure, with Anwar scoring in 84 minutes and Unois sealing the win with a goal in 86 minutes. Near the match's end, Myanmar striker Thiha Zaw narrowly missed a final attempt, leaving Myanmar without an equalizing goal.

Myanmar will play its second friendly of the November international window against Lebanon on 19 November at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Myanmar and Singaporean national teams are in action during their international friendly match. **PHOTO: MFF**

Late drama as Saudis hold Australia in World Cup qualifier

SAUDI Arabia had a goal disallowed in added time as they ground out a scoreless draw against Australia on Thursday, a result that did neither side any favours in their bid to qualify for the 2026 World Cup.

Despite several chances in front of a sold out AAMI Park in Melbourne, the breakthrough both teams desperately needed never came.

The Saudis and their new French coach Herve Renard thought they had won in the 93rd minute when Sultan Al-Ghannam rifled home from just inside the box.

But the flag went up, with one of his teammates offside.

"We had some good opportunities but we have to go give our opponent credit. First half we didn't play very well," said Socceroos coach Tony Popovic.

"We were not very good with the ball while they were sharp and ener-



Australia and Saudi Arabia played out a scoreless draw in a World Cup qualifier in Melbourne. **PHOTO: AFP**

getic.

"We improved significantly in the second half, which is good," he added.

"Overall, it's a point and we move forward but certainly we can improve".

The stalemate played into the hands of Group C leaders Japan and opened the door for Bahrain to leapfrog them as Asian qualifying reached the halfway mark. — AFP



Brazil makes BRICS New Development Bank G20 partner

Western countries are unlikely to be pleased with Brazil's initiative, but Berdyev noted that no country has openly opposed the decision to include the NDB in G20 activities.

BRAZIL has made the BRICS New Development Bank a G20 partner in 2024, and several G20 countries could join it, Russian Foreign Ministry Ambassador Marat Berdyev told Sputnik.



Several G20 countries could join the NDB as potential participants or shareholders, according to Russian Foreign Ministry Ambassador Marat Berdyev, who believes such prospects are realistic despite uncertainties about specific projects. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

"This year, the New Development Bank acted as a partner of the G20 and was invited by the Brazilian presidency for the first time to participate in numerous forum events, including the leaders' summit, which indicates the growth of its international authority and position," Berdyev said.

He noted, however, that it is still difficult to say whether the bank's participation in the G20 events will result in specific projects.

"There are countries in the G20 that could interact with this bank, could consider joining its activities and even becoming shareholders. In my opinion, such prospects are quite real," the diplomat added.

Answering the question about whether Brazil's initiative

had met resistance from Western countries, Berdyev emphasized that they were unlikely to be very pleased with such a decision, "but no one openly spoke out against" the initiative.

A number of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member countries have expressed interest in settlements in national currencies, Marat Berdyev said.

"Yes, there is such interest [in settlements in national currencies]. I would not like to name specific countries, because APEC has rules that internal discussions remain confidential. But there is interest," Berdyev said.

Moreover, APEC has financial issues to be addressed by finance ministries, and they touch upon them, he said. — SPUTNIK

SPACE SCIENCE RESEARCH

New Zealand, Australia collaborate on Earth observation

NEW Zealand and Australian researchers will jointly conduct Earth observation from high altitude and space to help unlock information about the environment and climate.

A trans-Tasman research agreement allows four New Zealand research teams to work alongside their Australian counterparts to test space science research projects using Earth observation tools and techniques, a statement from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) said on Thursday.

The Earth observation projects will monitor soil moisture and improve satellite imaging for agricultural monitoring, among others, said Iain Cossar, head of the New Zealand Space Agency, part of the MBIE. — Xinhua

Global diabetes rate has doubled in last 30 years

World Diabetes Day is the primary global awareness campaign focusing on diabetes mellitus and is held on 14 November each year.

THE percentage of adults suffering from diabetes across the world has doubled over the past three decades, the biggest rises coming in developing countries, a study said Wednesday.

The serious health condition affected around 14 per cent of all adults worldwide in 2022, compared to seven per cent in 1990, according to the new analysis in *The Lancet* journal.

Taking into account the growing global population, the team of researchers estimated that more than 800 million people are now diabetic, compared to less than 200 million in 1990.

These figures include both main types of diabetes. Type 1 affects patients from a young age and is more difficult to treat because it is caused by an insulin deficiency.

Type 2 diabetes primarily affects middle-aged or older adults who become less sensitive to insulin. While global rates of diabetes are rising, national figures show significant variation. In wealthier countries like Japan, Canada, and several Western European nations, diabetes rates have remained stable or even declined. However, low- and middle-income countries are increasingly burdened by the disease. In Pakistan, for example, nearly a third of women are now diabetic, compared to less than 10 per cent in 1990. — AFP

Over 800 million people are now diabetic, compared to fewer than 200 million in 1990, with the largest increases seen in developing countries. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

