

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Armed Conflict Over Political Solutions Leads to Freedom Without Peace

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing sends a message to the ceremony to mark the 104th Anniversary of National Victory Day 2024 which falls on 25 November 2024. The full text of the translated message is as follows: -

Esteemed entire Myanmar people,

I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all the people of Myanmar, including fellow citizens and ethnic communities, for good health, happiness, and prosperity in all aspects of life on the auspicious occasion of the 104th National Victory Day which falls on the 10th Waning of Tazaungmone 1386 Myanmar era and 25 November 2024, today.

This historic and significant day marks the resist-

ance against the colonial rulers' oppressive education system designed to perpetuate their domination. It is also the day that inspired patriotism and revitalized national pride among the entire Myanmar people. Therefore, it remains an unforgettable day for all citizens of Myanmar.

Colonialists exploited the nation's valuable natural resources for their own benefit and ruled oppressively. They deliberately prevented the Myanmar national races from accessing higher education and used various methods to hinder their ability to progress on par with the times. As a result of repeated demands by the Myanmar people for the establishment of a university in Myanmar, the colonial rulers enacted the University Act on 1 December 1920.

This act imposed various restrictions that hampered Myanmar youth from continuing their university education. As a result, students with a strong sense

of nationalism, including Ko Ba Shin, Ko Pho Kun, and Ko Pe Thein, led a group of 11 senior students to protest against the education system. In the colonial era when Myanmar was under foreign occupation, their movement encouraged the entire Myanmar people to awaken with the nationalistic spirit to be free from foreign rule. It also inspired the people to take action for their freedom and social justice, motivating them to endure personal sacrifices for the greater cause of national liberation from colonial rule.

The history of Myanmar's struggle for independence showed the spirit of patriotism and unity which have proven to be a powerful force, as evidenced by the national victories that were achieved. The celebrations of National Victory Day, which were held annually without fail across the entire Union of Myanmar, have now reached their 104th year.

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Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium: Seventh day sees sale of 1,823 jade lots

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Over 20,000 visitors flock to Ayeyawady beaches during Tazaungdine Festival

BUSINESS

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Myanmar sends some 30,000 workers to Laos



Russian Federation's humanitarian aid supplies for the rehabilitation of areas affected by floods triggered by Typhoon Yagi are being unloaded at Nay Pyi Taw Airport yesterday.

Russian ministries, companies hand over humanitarian aid for rehabilitation of disaster-affected areas

A transport aircraft carrying humanitarian aid supplies sent by the Ministry of Civil Defence, Emergencies and Disaster Relief, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the State Atomic Energy Corporation-Rosatom and the Aquarius Group of Companies

on behalf of the Russian Federation for the rehabilitation of Myanmar's areas affected by floods triggered by Typhoon Yagi arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport yesterday morning.

The handover ceremony of the humanitarian aid was held at Nay Pyi Taw Airport, attend-

ed by Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board Chairman of the Myanmar-Russia Friendship Association U Aung Thaw, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Kyi, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)

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NATIONAL

Leveraging Agricultural Strength for Export Growth through Nationwide Collaboration

OUR country has a strong foundation for successfully operating agricultural and livestock activities and is strategically positioned to export these products based on market demand.

Collaboration among all departmental officials and citizens is essential for the development of agriculture and livestock farms.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with members of the Shan State government and regional- and district-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

Ongoing translation of Tipitaka Pali-Myanmar dictionaries into English

A coordination meeting for the ongoing English translation project of the Tipitaka Pali-Myanmar dictionaries, undertaken by the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, was held on 23 November in the Seminar Hall of the university in Mayangon Township, Yangon Region.

The meeting was attended by distinguished professors, members of the Tipitaka Pali-Myanmar Dictionary Translation Committee, and other relevant officials.

Rector Sayadaw Aggamaha Pandita Maha Dhamma Kah-tika Bahujanahitadhara Dr Bhaddanta Hsekinda gave an opening speech. Then, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin explained that the translation project of the Tipitaka Pali-Myanmar dictionaries into English was initiated by the Ministry of Religious Affairs in 2004, following a directive from the Head of State. In 2010, under



A coordination meeting for the ongoing English translation project of the Tipitaka Pali-Myanmar dictionaries in progress in Yangon on 23 November 2024.

the leadership of Dr Bhaddanta Nandamala Bhivamsa, the university's faculty, monks, and teachers formed teams to carry out the translation. In January 2017, the first volume, 'Volume I (A-Uḷurāja)', was successfully published in a print run of 1,000

copies. Under the guidance of current Rector Dr Bhaddanta Hsekinda, the second volume, 'Volume II (Ka-Kvaci)', was published in December 2023 with a print run of 1,000 copies. Since October 2024, the Tipitaka Pali-Myanmar Diction-

ary Translation Committee and working committees have been reorganized to continue the translation process.

As of November 2024, the committee has completed the translation of 7,236 entries from volumes 1 to 4, which have

been published. Of the 5,036 entries in volumes 5 to 8, 2,034 have been published, with the remaining 3,002 entries to be published soon. Furthermore, out of the 4,390 entries in 9 to 12 volumes, 3,273 entries have been reviewed. The committee plans to translate 9,005 entries for volumes 13 to 18 and subsequently, volumes 19 to 25.

Afterwards, the pro-rector (Administration) presented a PowerPoint detailing the progress of the English translation project for the Tipitaka Pali-Myanmar dictionaries. Subsequently, the pro-rector (Academic Affairs) and professors provided feedback on the project.

Following this, the Union minister then visited the university's tamarind plants area. He instructed officials to plant tamarind trees at precincts of monasteries, learning centres, pagodas, and along expressways in Yangon during the next rainy season. — MNA/TRKM

ICRC: Restoring family links is a global priority

MS Ene Abah, deputy protection coordinator from Protection of Family Link-RFL under the International Committee of the Red Cross said reconnecting families is a globally important task, during an opening ceremony of the RFL upgrade training course, jointly conducted by Myanmar Red Cross Society and ICRC held at Nay Pyi Taw headquarters of MRCS on 20 November.

"Volunteers from the Myanmar Red Cross Society could successfully carry out the role of reconnecting families in natural disaster response measures. I'm proud of meeting Red Cross volunteers and working together with them," she added.

Along with the presence of full-time executives, RFL officials, ICRC officials and trainees attended it.

"Encouraging the capacity of Red Cross volunteers can help identifying possible consequences resulting from natural disasters, migration and temporary refuge, as well as timely facilitating the implementation and sustaining the RFL," said full-time executive, professor Dr Daw Mya Thu during her speech.

It was a two-day training course on 20 and 21 November and was joined by 17 Red Cross volunteers from 13 townships of Mandalay Region and southern Shan State. — Htun Htun/ZS



This photo captures Ms Ene Abah, Deputy protection coordinator (Protection of Family Link-RFL), officials and trainees.

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)

Union Information Minister visits Sitagu Academy, Sarso Beikman construction site

UNION MINISTER for Information U Maung Maung Ohn visited the Sitagu International Buddhist Academy yesterday afternoon, where he inspected its facilities, and proceeded to Mingala Taungnyunt Township to observe the progress of the Sarso Beikman building.

During his visit to the academy, the Union minister paid homage to Sitagu Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maharathaguru Abhidhaja Aggamaha Saddhammajotika Aggamaha Pandita Bhaddan-

ta Nyanissara, Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academies and Shwegyin Sangharaja, and offered donations. He toured key facilities, including the Seminar Hall and the Eye Surgical Operation Theatre. He also consoled patients receiving treatment at the Sitagu Eye Hospital.

He inspected the construction site of the Sarso Beikman building on Bo Min Khaung Street. The project director from Myanmar Land & Development



Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn looks into the progress of the construction of the Sarso Beikman building on Bo Min Khaung Street, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon yesterday.

Ltd reported on the design, land excavation, and site preparation. The monument, supported by the Indian government, is being built as a symbol of India-Myanmar cultural and literary ties. The Union minister stressed the im-

portance of ensuring high-quality construction following the Prime Minister's guidance. He reviewed a 3D scale model of the building.

The Sarso Beikman building, part of a two-year project,

is being constructed on a 2.18-acre plot in Mingala Taungnyunt Township. The three-storey reinforced concrete structure will measure 160 feet in length, 140 feet in width, and 57 feet and 8 inches in height. — MNA/KZL

Russian ministries, companies hand over humanitarian aid ...

FROM PAGE 1

and the Disaster Management Department, and officials from the Russian Embassy to Myanmar.

At the ceremony, the Russian Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr Iskander Azizov, and an official on behalf of Russian donor organizations explained the purpose of donating humanitarian aid, and

Deputy Minister U Soe Kyi expressed gratitude for the donations and presented a certificate of appreciation.

A total of 35 tonnes of humanitarian aid materials from ministries and companies of the Russian Federation will be delivered to the flood-affected areas as quickly as possible. — MNA/TKO



Russian Ambassador Mr Iskander Azizov explains the purpose of donating humanitarian aid during the handover ceremony yesterday.

Russia starts recruitment of Myanmar workers, says MOEAF official

RUSSIA has worked on recruiting Myanmar workers, said an official from Myanmar Overseas Employment Agencies Federation (MOEAF).

There is a plan that Russia will recruit foreign workers for their manufacturing and agriculture and livestock sectors, and some have now made preparations.

"Russia has trained language course for recruitment. It is under implementation as a new labour market. For recruiting workers in manufacturing and agriculture and livestock industries, Russia has taught their language in particular. Some have made preparation after interview. It is an employment plan working through agencies," he said.

It is also a zero-cost employment plan and just some expense needs to be incurred, he added.

At present, majority of Myanmar migrant workers go to work in Thailand and Japan which are two major destinations, as well as in Singapore, middle east, China and South Korea.

— MT/ZS

NATIONAL

Armed Conflict Over Political Solutions Leads to Freedom Without Peace

FROM PAGE 1

Esteemed entire Myanmar people,

Peace is the foundation for the country's economic development, the improvement of the social lives of its citizens, the harmony and stability within the Union, and the rule of law. Through mutual respect and understanding between national races, cooperation between individuals can be fostered, and misunderstandings and conflicts can be reduced, resolving issues through dialogue. Relationships based on trust allow challenges to be overcome together, ultimately leading to a more harmonious and collaborative coexistence, ensuring long-term and sustainable peace. If political issues are resolved through armed conflict instead of political means, it will result in a situation where there is freedom but no peace. Furthermore, it is essential to be mindful that the non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty must be preserved to avoid any potential risks.

The State Administration Council has been holding discussions with political parties and ethnic armed organizations to achieve durable peace, and has been able to document the positions obtained from these bilateral talks for further discussion and approval in future sessions of Hluttaw. The talks are being continuously conducted and will continue to be carried out. This being so, it is time for all national brethren to eliminate misunderstandings and doubts, reject undesirable ideologies, and come together in mutual trust, respect, and love. Everybody must join hands to build durable peace. By exercising the rights granted under the nation's constitution, I urge everyone to work together in unity to achieve national stability, peace, and development.

Esteemed entire people and national brethren,

For the development and progress of a nation, it is necessary to nurture and develop the intellectual capacity of its citizens. Focusing on the growth of their intellect and knowledge plays a key role in ensuring the continuous development of the country. In terms of nation-building and development, the State Administration Council is actively supporting the emergence of skilled human resources who are proficient in advanced fields of study, ensuring that highly qualified human resources are available for further development.

Essentially, it is easier to acquire knowledge and skills only when one has received formal education. The government is implementing a comprehensive education system that allows everyone to access education, with the aim of nurturing skilled and exceptional young people with five strengths of capacity who can contribute to the country's growth. When educated youth serve with dedication and a sense of responsibility, they will bring benefits to the nation. The balance between knowledge and skills will create advantages in various fields such as politics, economics, and society, and it will foster unity and harmony in the country.

Parents and teachers are key figures in nurturing high-quality, thoughtful, and outstanding human resources. Parents must guide their children from birth to adulthood, providing education, healthcare, moral development, and discipline. Teachers, on their part, must carry out their duties with dedication,

striving to embody the qualities of an exemplary educator. They must foster a sense of responsibility and accountability, with the mindset, discipline, and knowledge necessary to nurture future generations of well-rounded citizens who will contribute positively to the nation.

Esteemed entire Myanmar people,

It is essential that every citizen has to accept the concept that they have to serve a duty to train and nurture educated, compassionate, and capable young people who will become the future builders of the nation, and to carry out this responsibility with great seriousness and care.

The government has implemented a free education system to ensure that all school-age children have access to education and can attend school until at least the completion of the KG+9 scheme. This system is designed to produce a well-rounded human resource base capable of contributing to the development of a modern, developed nation. Achieving this goal requires the full cooperation of parents, teachers, and students in order to ensure success at every level.

The national education process is not something that can be completed in a short time, nor is it a task that can be accomplished by the efforts of just one person. Success can only be achieved when all citizens actively participate with a national spirit. In implementing this process, success can only be achieved through patience, determination, and perseverance in the face of challenges. While the government provides support from all sectors, all responsible individuals and the public need to work together in unity. Therefore, I urge everyone to be aware of, understand, and collaborate in the efforts to improve and elevate the education sector for the better future of the nation.

Esteemed entire Myanmar people,

The State Administration Council has been implementing national prosperity and food security as part of the national cause. National prosperity refers to the ability of all citizens to live peacefully under the rule of law, to receive education, and to engage in employment. In areas of national races, activities of terrorists and armed insurgents have disrupted peace, the rule of law, and regional development. Furthermore, the learning opportunities for students and the employment opportunities for locals are being lost, severely impacting their socioeconomic lives. As the State Administration Council continues to take responsibility for maintaining the peace and prosperity of the community, upholding the rule of law, and contributing to nation-building endeavours, it is crucial that all national races come together in unity and cooperation.

To ensure food security, it is essential for the people of Myanmar to not only maintain traditional agricultural and livestock practices but also to innovate in food production using modern techniques. It is necessary to form cooperative societies to develop agriculture, livestock, and manufacturing industries, and through these efforts, to establish factories and workshops based on agricultural and livestock products. Across the country, in each state and region, micro, small and medium-scale enterprises

based on domestic raw materials and agriculture and livestock products must be developed to ensure success. In these endeavours, the government will provide support with capital, technology, and other necessary resources.

In successive eras, domestic production industries have weakened, and the importation of foreign goods increased, leading to a growing need for foreign currency. During the period when the State Administration Council took responsibility, they made efforts to preserve natural resource production as much as possible. Instead of exporting natural resource materials, they focused on increasing the export of agricultural and livestock breeding products. As economic growth is crucial for national development, efforts are being made to foster economic development.

I would like to urge the entire national people to place special emphasis on boosting domestic production for food security. Similarly, efforts should be made to enhance the production of export goods, which will reduce the need for foreign currency and increase revenue. If the national economy improves, the socioeconomic lives of the people will also develop, and in accordance with the country's economic policy objectives, development will progress equally across regions and states.

Esteemed entire people and national brethren,

The National Victory Day marked the beginning of the dawn of independence and the early period of national cause. It is through the noble virtues of those who sowed the seeds of the National Victory Day that the final victory was achieved. Thanks to National Victory Day, the spirit of nationalism was elevated to such an extent that it has now reached the point where everybody can approach the goal of independence. This progress is now clearly visible to all.

On this distinguished and auspicious National Victory Day, in accordance with the 104th National Victory Day theme, 'Let's unite all nationalities for Union peace', I urge all citizens of Myanmar to harness the strength, resolve, and energy passed down by our ancestors for the durable peace and sustainable development of the Union of Myanmar which is a heritage of our ancestors through the Union spirit and united national strength.

In conclusion, I would like to urge all ethnic people to unite with a national spirit, working together with determination and building a great Union based on democracy and a federal system to achieve success in the implementation of the national objectives of the this year's National Victory Day: 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; and To enhance domestic production, ensuring the prosperity and food security of the State.

*Senior General Thadde Maha Thray Sithu
Thadde Thiri Thudamma Min Aung Hlaing
Prime Minister
Chairman, State Administration Council*



NATIONAL

Easily Spot Voting Fraud and Unlawful Acts on Our Website and Mobile App

Findings from the investigation into voting fraud and unlawful acts in the 2020 multiparty democratic general election are available in five languages.

အမျိုးသမီးများအပေါ် အကြမ်းဖက်မှုပျောက်ရေး(၁၆)ရက်တာ လှုပ်ရှားမှု
၂၅-၁၁-၂၀၂၄ ရက်မှ ၁၀-၁၂-၂၀၂၄ ရက်ထိ

“အမျိုးသမီးများအပေါ်အကြမ်းဖက်မှု ရပ်တန့်ဖို့ အားလုံးပေါင်းစု ကြိုးပမ်းလို့
ဘေဂျင်းကြေညာစာတမ်းနှင့် လုပ်ငန်းစီမံချက် နှစ်(၃၀)ပြည့်ဆီ အရောက်လှမ်းဖို့”

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Training on pesticide residue analysis on agricultural products launched in Yangon

THE opening ceremony for a training course on Pesticide Residue Analysis on Agricultural Products was held yesterday morning at the Agricultural Products Testing Laboratory (APAL), a branch of the Department of Agriculture's Plant Protection Division in Insein Township, Yangon Region. APAL is certified under ISO 9001 and ISO 17025 standards.

Union Ministers U Min Naung, Dr Charlie Than and U Htun Ohn, Deputy Minister Dr Tin Htut, departmental officials, the course instructor, and 20 trainees attended the event.

In his speech, Union Minister U Min Naung addressed the excessive use of pesticides in Myanmar's agriculture, stressing the importance of reducing pesticide residues in food products to meet international standards and ensure



Photo shows the opening event of training on Pesticide Residue Analysis on Agricultural Products in Yangon yesterday.

public health. He encouraged the trainees to apply the skills gained during the training to lower pesticide residues in Myanmar's agricultural exports, facilitating smoother trade in global markets.

Director-General of the Planning Department U Kyaw Swe Lin explained the objectives of the training, while the Director-General of the De-

partment of Agriculture highlighted the laboratory's new ISO 17025 accreditation.

The five-day training, which runs from 24 to 28 November, is being attended by 20 participants from various government departments. The course aims to improve the safety of Myanmar's agricultural products for export. — MNA/TRKM

Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium: Seventh day sees sale of 1,823 jade lots



Gem merchants seen viewing and evaluating gem stones at the 2024 Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium yesterday.

THE seventh day of the 2024 Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium continued at the Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, drawing both local and international gem traders. Jade lots from Group C, displayed in designated outdoor areas, were available for inspection and bidding.

In the morning session, jade lots numbered 1701 to 2559 were offered for sale through

an open tender system. Organizers announced that 595 lots were successfully sold during the session.

In the afternoon, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, U Khin Maung Yi, who also chairs the Gems Emporium Central Committee, visited the exhibition areas. He observed traders inspecting jade lots, monitored the submission

of tender offers, and reviewed the tender evaluation process, providing guidance to officials.

On the eighth day, jade lots numbered 2560 to 3309 from Group C will be available for inspection and bidding by domestic traders. The sales results will be announced on the morning of 25 November.

The emporium, held from 18 to 27 November, showcases 4,800 jade lots from Groups A, B, and C for sale through an open tender system. As of the seventh day, 1,823 out of 2,559 jade lots from Groups A and B have been sold.

Group C jade lots are reserved exclusively for Myanmar's MSME enterprises to support local businesses. Only domestic traders can purchase these lots, with payment strictly in Kyats at the designated floor prices. Sales of Group C jade lots will continue until 27 November. — MNA/KZL

Counter-argument to false information

Prison authorities refute torture allegations at DaikU Central Prison

A recent claim on the Facebook page of the Khit Thit media alleging that DaikU Central Prison guards tortured a prisoner, Ko Htet Lin Oo, who suffers from asthma, has been debunked as false. Authorities clarified that there are no political prisoners at DaikU Central Prison. Instead, only inmates convicted of violating existing laws are held there. The incident in question involved a fight on 19 October between inmates Htet Lin Oo (also known as O One) and Soe Thu Aung. During the altercation, Htet Lin Oo's associate, Kyaw Zin Thet, also assaulted Soe Thu Aung.

Following an investigation by the prison's disciplinary board, all three inmates were found guilty of breaching prison regulations.

As a result, they were shackled, placed in solitary confinement, and stripped of their privileges. Htet Lin Oo was released from solitary confinement on 4 November but was later returned on 10 November after attempting to incite conflict among inmates.

Claims that the warden ordered Htet Lin Oo to be shackled and forced to run around the dormitories were categorically denied. Prison authorities stated that all actions taken against him were in strict accordance with the 1894 Prison Act and under the supervision of relevant officials.

The allegations made by Khit Thit media have been dismissed as baseless and misleading, intended to deceive the public. — Thit Sar/ TRKM

NATIONAL



Ngwehsaung beach, Ayeyawady Region where tourists usually visit during the Tazaungdine festival.

Over 20,000 visitors flock to Ayeyawady beaches during Tazaungdine Festival

IT has been reported that over 20,000 visitors from various towns and cities travelled to the beaches in Ayeyawady Region during the Tazaungdine Festival.

The majority of visitors were from Yangon Region, with many arriving via Myanmar Airways International (MAI) flights on the Yangon-Pathain-Homalin-Mandalay route, according to the Union of Myanmar Travel Association (Ayeyawady Region).

Among the popular destinations in Ayeyawady Region, Chaungtha Beach, Ngwehsaung Beach, Ngwetaung Beach, and Shwethaungyan Beach remain the top attractions for domestic travellers throughout the year.

During the Tazaungdine Festival, visitor numbers included over 8,100 to Chaungtha Beach, more than 500 to Shwethaungyan Beach, over 10,000 to Ngwetaung Beach, and over 9,600 to Ngwehsaung Beach.

To ensure tourists enjoy a peaceful and safe experience in the region's coastal areas, relevant organizations have implemented various measures.

Additionally, services such as bicycle rentals, motorboat rides, and horse carriage rides are available for visitors. Local stalls offer food, souvenirs, and other products, providing tourists with memorable keepsakes from their trip. — ASH/TMT

Ketumati, Hanthawady ancient cities to become tourist destinations

RESEARCH activities are being conducted to enable both domestic and international tourists to explore the ancient cities of Ketumati and Hanthawady within the Bago Region, according to the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw), under the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture.

Currently, plans are underway to excavate and research the city walls and towers in the old city of Ketumati, and the towers between the Inwa Gate and Toungoo Gate in the old city of Hanthawady, as well as the Toungoo Gate. The research on the ancient cities of Ketumati and Hanthawady is being conducted in two parts: the first involves systematically re-excavating the cities, while the second focuses on preserving the buildings un-

covered during the excavation.

“After the conservation is completed, it will be open to the public for study. We aim to conduct feasibility studies to enable tourists to visit and study, particularly the ancient cities of Ketumati and Hanthawady, through arrangements with tourism companies. We also aim to restore the landscapes associated with the two cities to their original state, similar to the preservation efforts in Ayutthaya, Thailand,” said an official from the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw). Ketumati city in Toungoo Township, Bago Region was founded by King Mingyi Nyo in 1510 AD and is now 514 years old. The old city of Hanthawady, which was built by King Bayinnaung in Bago Township, is over 450 years old. — ASH/TH



This photo showcases the moats and Laykyun lake of Ketumati city in Toungoo Township, Bago Region.

Myanmar welcomes more than 130,000 Chinese, Japanese, Russian tourists in Jan-Oct

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, more than 130,000 tourists from China, Japan and Russia visited travel destinations in Myanmar within ten months from January to October 2024.

In detail, it was a total of 120,853

Chinese, 15,726 Japanese and 2,975 Russians.

Myanmar has granted arrival tour visas for persons who hold the passports of Japan, the Republic of Korea and the Macau Special Administrative Region of China commencing on 21

October 2024 for one year.

A national-level tourism exhibition is projected to be held in 2025 to promote the tourism industry of Myanmar. The exhibition will be organized by the Myanmar Tourism Federation (MTF) and its associates.

The Union of Myanmar Travel Association (UMTA), one of the sister associations of the MTF, also plans to host a tourism expo in June 2025. The tour agencies are expanding the tourism market to attract more inbound tourists in 2025. — ASH/TMT

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

Myanmar sends some 30,000 workers to Laos



This photo depicts some Myanmar workers working in Vientiane of Laos.

AN official from the Myanmar Overseas Employment Agencies Federation (MOEAF) has reported that Myanmar recently sent approximately 30,000 workers to Laos through the agency.

He added that Laos recruited garment factory workers in particular and workers were despatched by air.

“We have also sent workers to Laos, through agencies and about 30,000 workers were already sent as far as I know. Garment factory workers are

highly demanded but must be skilled workers. The next advantage is workers can go under a zero-cost plan, even though we have some who need to cost but are not expensive. It is excellent for workers. The primary necessity is workers need to be skilful so that they can go at no charge,” he added.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) on labour cooperation was signed between the Myanmar Ministry of Labour and the Laos Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare in

October in Vientiane, intending to establish basic principles and practices in the labour sector between the two countries.

“There are workers who already arrived in Laos through the border, so the worker population has gradually increased through the introduction of these people. Now we have signed an MoU on bilateral cooperation in labour affairs. That makes it better for workers,” he said.

— MT/ZS

Rising orders of handcrafted Pathein parasols mark early dry season

PATHEIN parasol traders report an increase in orders this month as the fair-weather season begins.

They added that its price has improved slightly, but trading is brisk, the traders said.

“Trading is good this month. Since the open season has arrived, there are orders and people’s interest is increasing. The prices of Pathein umbrellas are slightly and gradually higher than before. Sales are brisker than in the rainy season. The market has already been established,” said an official of Zabu Tun Pathein Parasol Trading in Mandalay.

In February, there were continuous orders for Pathein umbrellas, but the orders decreased in April and sales were low.

There are various types of Pathein parasols in the market for monks, nuns, fashion, rain, Eaindawya-made umbrellas, tabletop, lamps, hotel decorations and beach umbrellas. — Thit Taw/ZN



This image depicts Myanmar handcraft Pathein parasols.



People are buying chicken and eggs selling at cheap price.

Yangon to start selling chicken and eggs at cheap prices

MYANMAR Livestock Federation has introduced a plan which helps consumers to directly buy chicken and eggs at cheap prices that just cover the production cost and it is being started at some markets in Yangon Region on 23 November morning.

MLF thanks its member poultry farms and chicken and egg distributors who cooperated in this plan.

MLF said it always focuses on supplying nutritious, clean and fresh meat and meat-related food cheaply for consumers. — MT/ZS

Myanmar Textile & Machinery Fair at YCC in Dec



This image shows the press conference for holding Myanmar International Textile and Machinery Fair.

MYANMAR International Textile and Machinery Fair will take place at the Yangon Convention Centre (YCC) from 6 to 8 December 2024, said Chair U Myint Soe of the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA).

Textile products and machinery of the members of MGMA, Korea Garment Associations in Myanmar, Hong Kong Myanmar Manufacturers’ Association (HKMMA) and regional countries will be showcased at the fair.

“The fair will help explore new potential markets for products of Myanmar’s garment

industry, expand network with business partners through B2B matching making sessions and enhance the capacity of Myanmar’s garment sector,” U Myint Soe elaborated.

Additionally, international business partners can observe the capacity and textile-based arts and crafts of textile and garment factories of regional countries. The visitors can also witness a significant shift from traditional methods to innovations, a wide range of vibrant garments made by Myanmar entrepreneurs and machinery. — ASH/KK

OPINION

Remember National Victory Day to initiate future State

THE emergence of National Victory Day is based on fine traditions and a good history, showing patriotism and the nationalistic spirit of the entire national people. This historic and significant day marks the resistance against the colonial rulers' oppressive education system designed to perpetuate their domination.

Colonialists exploited the nation's valuable natural resources for their benefit and ruled oppressively. They deliberately prevented the Myanmar national races from accessing higher education and used various methods to hinder their ability to progress on par with the times. It is also the day that inspired patriotism and revitalized national pride among the entire Myanmar people. Therefore, it remains an unforgettable day for all citizens of Myanmar.

The history of Myanmar's struggle for independence showed the spirit of patriotism and unity which have proven to be a powerful force, as evidenced by the national victories that were achieved. The celebrations of National Victory Day, which were held annually without fail across the entire Union of Myanmar, have now reached their 104th year. As such, all national people need to preserve the national victory to commemorate National Victory Day yearly. To be able to do so, the whole nation must foster durable peace. Peace is the foundation for the country's economic development, the improvement of the social lives of its citizens, the harmony and stability within the Union, and the rule of law. Through mutual respect and understanding between national races, cooperation between individuals can be fostered, and misunderstandings and conflicts can be reduced, resolving issues through dialogue. Relationships based on trust allow challenges to be overcome together, ultimately leading to a more harmonious and collaborative coexistence, ensuring long-term and sustainable peace.

If political issues are resolved through armed conflict instead of political means, it will result in a situation where there is freedom but no peace. Furthermore, it is essential to be mindful that the non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty must be preserved to avoid any potential risks.

Everybody must join hands to build durable peace. They have to work together in unity to achieve national stability, peace, and development. Now is the time for all national brethren to eliminate misunderstandings and doubts, reject undesirable ideologies, and come together in mutual trust, respect, and love. Whenever everybody remembers National Victory Day, they have to forge durable peace for all through united strength to develop the nation without any hindrances.

THIS morning, I read an article about polytechnic universities in Myanmar in the state-owned newspapers. The name piqued my interest quite a bit because I had never known them, so I decided to research and learn more about them to share my findings with readers.

Polytechnic education plays a vital role in preparing skilled professionals who contribute to the technological and economic growth of a nation. In an ever-evolving global landscape, the need for a robust polytechnic system has become more apparent, as it serves as a foundation for practical learning and innovation. Myanmar's polytechnic universities, while striving to meet the growing demands of industrial and technological advancements, often face challenges in competing with their counterparts in Asia and Europe. Let us delve into the current state of polytechnic education in Myanmar, comparing its structure, curriculum, and outcomes with institutions in neighbouring Asian countries and leading European nations to identify opportunities for growth and collaboration.

Polytechnic education in Myanmar has its roots in the nation's efforts to equip its youth with practical skills and technical knowledge. Emerging as a vital component of the country's educational landscape, polytechnic universities have been instrumental in fostering a skilled workforce to support industrial and economic development. Among the prominent institutions are Nanyitaw State Polytechnic University, which serves as a central hub for technical education, and regional universities such as Kengtung, Panglong, Myeik, Dawei, and Maubin, which cater to students from various parts of the country.

These institutions offer a range of diploma and certificate programmes aimed at providing hands-on training and theoretical knowledge in essential fields. The curriculum emphasizes science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines, reflecting the global demand for professionals in these areas. While the primary focus remains on technical education, programmes also include components of soft skills and entrepreneurship, preparing students for diverse career paths in both local and international industries. However, despite these strengths, Myanmar's polytech-

nic universities face challenges in keeping pace with the rapidly evolving global educational standards, necessitating a closer look at practices in Asia and Europe for potential enhancements.

Polytechnic education in Asia has seen significant growth, driven by a commitment to bridging the gap between academic knowledge and industrial needs. Countries such as Singapore, Japan, South Korea, and India have established robust systems that prioritize both theoretical understanding and practical application, ensuring that graduates are well-prepared to meet the demands of modern industries.

Prominent institutions like Singapore Polytechnic, Tokyo Polytechnic University, Korea Polytechnic University, and the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have set benchmarks in technical and vocational education. These universities offer a diverse range of programmes, with a curriculum structure that includes foundational courses, advanced technical modules, and interdisciplinary studies. Specializations are tailored to emerging fields such as artificial intelligence, renewable energy, robotics, and biotechnology, aligning with global trends.

One defining feature of polytechnic education in Asia is its emphasis on research and industry collaboration. For instance, Singapore Polytechnic partners with leading corporations to provide internship opportunities, while Japan's Tokyo Polytechnic University focuses on integrating cutting-edge research into its academic framework. Similarly, Korea Polytechnic University works closely with industrial sectors to align its training programs with market requirements, and India's IITs are globally recognized for their contributions to engineering and technological innovation.

This strong focus on industry collaboration and practical research not only enhances students' employability but also ensures that these institutions remain at the forefront of technological advancements in Asia.

Polytechnic education in Europe is renowned for its integration of applied sciences and vocational training, aiming to equip students with practical skills and theoretical expertise. Countries such as Germany, Finland, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands

Bridging Educational Horizons Via Polytechnic Universities

By Min Zan



PHOTO: THE MIRROR DAILY

have developed highly regarded polytechnic systems that contribute significantly to their industrial and technological advancements.

Notable institutions include the Technical University of Munich (Germany), which excels in engineering and technology disciplines, and the Metropolia University of Applied Sciences (Finland), known for its innovative programmes in healthcare, business, and ICT. In the United Kingdom, the University of the West of Scotland focuses on applied learning and industry-relevant research, while the Delft University of Technology (the Netherlands) stands out as a leader in engineering, design, and sustainable development.

The curriculum in European polytechnic universities is designed to balance theoretical knowledge with practical application. Courses are often structured to include internships, cooperative education, and project-based learning, allowing students to gain hands-on experience. Specializations in fields such as renewable

energy, digital technologies, biomedical engineering, and sustainable urban planning reflect Europe's focus on addressing global challenges through education.

A distinctive feature of European polytechnic education is its alignment with vocational training and applied sciences. Institutions collaborate closely with industries, research centres, and government bodies to ensure that programmes remain relevant to evolving market needs. This approach not only enhances employability but also fosters innovation and entrepreneurship, positioning European polytechnics as global leaders in technical education.

Polytechnic universities in Myanmar and Asia share a common emphasis on practical skills and hands-on training, with both systems aiming to produce job-ready graduates for technical fields. However, a key distinction lies in the extent of industry partnerships and internship opportunities. Asian institutions, such as Singapore Polytechnic and Korea

vocational training and applied sciences. European universities, such as the Technical University of Munich and Metropolia University of Applied Sciences, emphasize a strong connection between academia and industry through extensive vocational programmes and applied research. These programmes are deeply integrated with their respective industries, ensuring that students gain practical knowledge and develop skills

Asian and European counterparts. Industry collaboration is a cornerstone of polytechnic education, bridging the gap between theoretical learning and real-world application. By partnering with industries, polytechnic institutions provide students with opportunities to gain practical experience, develop professional skills, and enhance their employability. Internships, cooperative education programmes, and research projects aligned with industry needs are crucial in preparing students for the dynamic job market. Such collaborations also enable universities to stay updated with technological advancements and tailor their curricula to meet industry standards.

In Myanmar, industry collaboration and internship opportunities are still in their nascent stages. While some polytechnic institutions partner with local industries, the scale and scope of these collaborations are often limited. As a result, students might have fewer opportunities for hands-on training in modern industrial settings.

In contrast, Asian polytechnic universities, such as Singapore Polytechnic and Korea Polytechnic University, excel in fostering strong partnerships with industries. These institutions offer extensive internship programmes, where students work with leading corporations, gaining valuable experience and networking opportunities. For instance, Singapore Polytechnic collaborates with multinational companies like Siemens and Rolls-Royce, enabling students to work on cutting-edge projects.

A notable example from Asia is Singapore Polytechnic's partnership with Dyson, where students participate in designing and developing new consumer technologies. These internships often lead to employment opportunities and contribute to the student's professional growth.

In Europe, the partnership between the Technical University of Munich and Siemens demonstrates the power of collaboration. Students working on joint research projects in automation and renewable energy have developed industry-relevant solutions, earning accolades and job offers from top-tier companies.

These success stories highlight the transformative impact of industry collaboration on polytechnic education. By adopting similar approaches, Myanmar's polytechnic universities can strengthen their ties with local and international industries, providing students with the practical skills and global exposure necessary to thrive in competitive job markets.

ARTICLE

Research and innovation are integral to polytechnic education, driving technological advancements and practical solutions to societal challenges. In Asia, institutions like India's IITs and Singapore Polytechnic focus on applied research in AI and renewable energy, while Europe's Technical University of Munich leads in robotics and sustainable technologies. These advancements are supported by substantial funding and industry partnerships, enabling groundbreaking projects. Myanmar can enhance its research capacity by fostering collaborations, increasing government support, and modernizing facilities to match global standards.

Myanmar's polytechnic universities face challenges such as limited funding, outdated infrastructure, and rigid curricula. These issues will a little hinder their ability to compete with international standards. However, growth opportunities include fostering international partnerships, securing government support, and updating curriculum frameworks to align with global trends. Learning from Asian and European models, Myanmar could integrate industry collaborations, enhance research programmes, and adopt modern teaching methodologies. Strategically, Myanmar's polytechnics surely have the potential to become key contributors to the nation's industrial and technological progress.

Polytechnic education plays a vital role in preparing skilled professionals for modern industries. Comparing Myanmar's institutions with those in Asia and Europe highlights gaps in industry collaboration, research, and curriculum. However, by adopting best practices such as fostering partnerships, modernizing infrastructure, and embracing innovative teaching methods, Myanmar's polytechnics have vibrantly immense potential to grow and contribute significantly to national development.

Reference: *The Global New Light of Myanmar* 22 November 2024.

NATIONAL

6th Myanmar Cardiology Conference concludes with expert discussions



THE second day of the 6th Myanmar Cardiology Conference commenced yesterday morning with six lectures delivered by leading experts. Cardiologists from Myanmar, China, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and the United Kingdom shared insights on various topics, including preventive measures for cardiovascular diseases, screening and treatment methods for coronary artery disease, advancements in hypertension therapies, the progress of cardiac pacemaker treatments, and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in cardioversion. Discussions also covered cardioversion for arrhythmia and emerging approaches in cardiovascular care.

Attending general practitioners and physicians from Myanmar actively participated by asking questions, sharing their experiences, and exchanging practical treatment strategies with Myanmar cardiologists.

The conference successfully concluded in the evening, fostering valuable knowledge exchange and collaboration in cardiology. — MNA/TKO

The second day of the 6th Myanmar Cardiology Conference in progress in Yangon yesterday.

3-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K1.707B

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

On 20 and 21 November, the combined teams seized the mineral to be assumed as antimony weighing 593,500 kilogrammes valued at K362.687 million that were different from the Import Declaration (ID) from 25 containers at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint, Zirconia and industrial

materials worth K24.163 million without official document at the Yangon International Airport, illegal timbers weighing 124.444 tonnes worth K16.874 million in Patheingyi, Labutta and Pyawbwe districts and an unregistered vehicle and ten unregistered motorbikes (approximately K34.6 million) in Patheingyi, Pyawbwe, Myaungmya, Maubin and Hinthada districts. The action was taken under the Forest Law, the Export-Import Law and Customs procedures.



Mineral assumed as antimony seized at Asia World Port in Yangon (L) and a vehicle seized in Mandalay Region (R).

On 22 November, the combined teams conducted inspections in the seizures of four kinds of industrial material and foodstuffs valued at K12.76 million that were smuggled and piled up at the fishing jetty in Kawthoung Township, foodstuffs worth K13.44 million without official documents from a warehouse in Mingaladon Township. The action was carried out according to Customs procedures.

Additionally, the squads nabbed a Hino Ranger truck

(approximately K35 million) carrying a kind of foodstuff worth K17.255 million without official documents at the Yadanabon bridge (Mandalay) checkpoint, seven tractor heads with seven trailers (estimated value of K457 million) carrying seven kinds of industrial materials valued at K376.138 million without official documents near Myitnge Tollgate on Sagaing- Mandalay Road, a Kia truck (approximately K30 million) carrying illegal teak weighing 18.952 tonnes worth

K66.333 million at the Myitnge Dry Port and two Hino Profia trucks (estimated value of K110 million) that were parked carrying 13 kinds of consumer goods worth K150.944 million without official documents in Aungban Township. The action was conducted following Customs procedures.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 47 arrests from 20 to 22 November, confiscating illegal goods worth approximately K1.707 billion. — MNA/MKKS



Confiscated illegal items assumed as Zirconia at Yangon International Airport.

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

Junior scriptwriters pay respect to veteran scriptwriters

VETERAN scriptwriters Chit Than Myint and Ba Thet Swe were honoured by their juniors at their respective homes on 23 November, according to U Aye Kyu Lay, Vice Chairman of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization.

Reportedly, junior scriptwriters paid their respects to the senior writers, each of whom received K150,000 along with food and drinks.

“We organize an annual ceremony to pay respect to our seniors. This year, we visited them at their homes. Sayagyi Chit Than Myint, now 95 years old, lives in Thanlyin Township, so we travelled there to pay our respects. Sayagyi Ba Thet Swe, who is 85, resides in Thingangyun Township. We presented them with K150,000



Offering to 95-year-old Sayagyi Chit Than Myint.

each, as well as various foods and essential items,” explained U Aye Kyu Lay.

The respect-paying group included prominent figures such as U Aye Kyu Lay, Direc-

tor Aung Soe Oo, Thet Thakhin, Mei Khaing, Dr Aung Moe, Chaw Kalya Zaw, Chaw Kabya Zaw, and actor Nay Shine.—ASH/TKO



Poster of 'Yin Hnint Yinn Ywae' new film.

Film highlighting Myanmar traditional boxing set to begin production in December

A new film centred on Myanmar traditional boxing and set in Yangon is to commence production soon, according to actress May Mie Ko Ko.

The film, titled Yin Hnint Yinn Ywae, will be produced by AI Image Myanmar Film Production. The storyline was written by Kuangli Xie, with the script adapted by Min Mu Paing. Aung Chan Lu will direct the film.

Speaking about her role, May Mie Ko Ko shared, “I will portray May Zin, an elder sister as a mother figure to her younger brother, who deeply longs for a

mother’s love. I joined this project after Ma Thiri Aung invited me. She told me her team was working on a boxing-themed movie, and I was immediately interested. I’m not entirely new to boxing; I have been trained in Myanmar boxing and Muay Thai and appeared in boxing scenes in ‘Toxic Season 2’.

The cast includes Aye Chan Maung, Henry San, Min Thu, Mike Mike, May Mie Ko Ko, L Baung Nue, Shun Lei Ko Ko, Min Hein, and other talented artistes. Filming is scheduled to begin in early December.—ASH/TRKM

Writer Maung Myint Mar (Bogale) passes away at 74



Writer Maung Myint Mar (Bogale).

WRITER Maung Myint Mar (Bogale), known for his plays and hunting stories, died of old age on 21 November at his residence in Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region. He was 74 years old.

Born in 1950 as U Tin Win, Maung Myint Mar (Bogale) dedicated his life to literature and service. He held various capacities, including secretary, vice-chair, and executive committee member, at the township

writers’ association, fulfilling his literary responsibilities with unwavering commitment until his passing. Additionally, he worked as a labour officer at the Thanlyin Oil Refinery, where he served until his retirement.

Maung Myint Mar (Bogale) was renowned for his unwavering focus on writing hunting stories, achieving great success in the genre. He authored and published over 20 books.—ASH/KZL

Cele show of ‘Oh, My Somya’ film held at Rangoon Cineplex

ACCORDING to Academy director Win Lwin Htet, the celebrity show for the Myanmar film ‘Oh, My Somya’, which will be in cinemas on 29 November, was hosted at the Rangoon Cineplex in Kanthaya Shopping Mall on 22 November.

“Actor Myint Myat gave his best performance in the film. We filmed with 100 people, making sure to conduct well-prepared dance rehearsals. With the guidance of a Hindu expert well-versed in Hinduism, we made detailed efforts to select locations and film

scenes accurately to minimize mistakes. I hope the audience enjoys watching this,” the director said.

Khatthiya Film Production produces the movie. Moe Ni Lwin wrote both the novel and the screenplay. Academy Myint Myat, Academy Yan Aung, Han Zar Moe Win, Joker, Ashwarya Kumar, Christina, Hmue Hteik Htar, Essential Crews & Other Dancer Group, and May Mie Ko Ko (guest star) all participated in the film.—ASH/TRKM

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 24 November 2024)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at 17:30 hours MST today, the well marked low-pressure area over the Southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining East Equatorial Indian Ocean still persists. It is likely to move West-Northwestwards and may further intensify into a depression over South Bay of Bengal around 25 November 2024. Thereafter, it is likely continue to move Northwestwards and may reach to Tamil Nadu (India)-Sri Lanka coasts during next two days. Weather is cloudy over the South Andaman Sea, South Bay and Westcentral Bay of Bengal and partly cloudy over the North Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 25 NOVEMBER 2024: Rain will be scattered in Taninthayi Region and isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Upper Sagaing and Bago regions and Kachin and Shan states. Degree of certainty is 80%. Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining regions and states.

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

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-7 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated rain in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 25 NOVEMBER 2024: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 25 NOVEMBER 2024: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 25 NOVEMBER 2024: Partly cloudy.—DMH

ECON: WORLD



Attendees sample sake aged in dams at a special tasting event in Nagoya on 13 October 2024.

PHOTO: KYODO

Dam fine vintage: Japan sake brewers take novel approach to storage

Brewers in Japan use dam tunnels for sake aging, saving storage costs while ensuring optimal conditions, boosting exports and preserving traditions.

JUST as with wine, aging a sake can produce a smoother drink, but there is a cost in maintaining the right conditions for storage. A group of brewers in central Japan, however, has found a virtually free alternative — storing the drink inside tunnels in dams.

Thirteen brewers are storing products in the Maruyama, Agigawa and Origawa dams in Gifu Prefecture and the Yah-

agi Dam that straddles it and neighboring Aichi Prefecture at no cost from the operators.

While Japanese sake typically matures over a year, some benefit from longer storage. Usually, investment is required in facilities that can prevent changes in temperature and exposure to ultraviolet rays.

Tunnels within the dams, however, can be maintained at an ideal temperature of around

15 C, eliminating the need for refrigeration. They are also dark.

The ability to save on costs may help the brewers take advantage of growing international appreciation of sake products.

Japanese exports of the rice-based drink soared to around 47.5 billion yen (\$307 million) in 2022 from 8.9 billion yen in 2012. — Kyodo

Trump's mass deportation plan could end up hurting economic growth

PRESIDENT-ELECT Donald Trump's hardline immigration proposals — including a controversial mass deportation plan — could prove economically damaging, analysts say, with US sectors that rely heavily on foreign workers like agriculture and construction especially hard hit.

US authorities estimate that there are around 11 million unauthorized people living in the United States, the vast majority of whom come from Mexico.

Around 8.3 million unauthorized people were in the labor force in 2022, according to a recent estimate from the Pew Research Centre. That was equivalent to just under five percent of the overall workforce.

"Today our cities are flooded with illegal aliens," Trump said on the campaign trail earlier this year, adding: "Americans are being squeezed out of the labour

force and their jobs are taken."

The reality, however, is more complex; many of the sectors that could be the hardest-hit have long struggled to attract US workers.

Former President Trump's proposed immigration policies could significantly impact the US economy, according to recent studies.

The American Immigration Council highlights that mass deportations would result in major workforce reductions, especially in construction, agriculture, and hospitality, where undocumented workers comprise a significant share.

A joint study by AEI, Brookings, and the Niskanen Center predicts these policies could slow GDP growth by 0.4 percentage points by 2025, driven by reduced labor and consumer spending. — AFP



The US-Mexican border in Texas is to be bolstered with 57 miles of barriers. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Thousands demand lower rents at Barcelona demo

THOUSANDS of protesters marched through Barcelona on Saturday demanding lower rents in Spain's second city.

Barcelona, which has already taken action to stop the spread of holiday rental apartments, is the latest Spanish city to see protests for cheaper housing.

Backed by left-wing parties and unions, the demonstrators gathered in central Barcelona behind a giant banner declaring "Lower the rents".



Protesters in Barcelona demand lower rents to counter a housing crisis in Spain's main cities. PHOTO: AFP

"Today a new political cycle starts concerning housing," Carme Arcarazo, spokesperson for the Catalan Tenants Union, the main organizer, told reporters.

"Investors must not be allowed to come to our cities and play with the apartments like a

game of Monopoly," she added.

The union would target "profiteers" who are taking "half of our salaries", Arcarazo said.

The demonstrators demanded a 50 percent cut in rents, leases with an unlimited term and a ban on "speculative" sales of buildings. They threatened to start a rent strike. An estimated 22,000 people took part in a similar demonstration in Madrid on 13 October. Campaigns have been launched in other cities. — AFP

Finnair cancels 300 December flights over pilot strike

FINNISH carrier Finnair said Saturday it had cancelled around 300 flights on 9 and 13 December impacting 33,000 passengers due to a pilot strike called over stranded contract negotiations.

The Finnish Pilots' Association (FPA) has been in negotiations for three months with the employers' organisation Palta over working conditions laid out in a collective wage agreement.

Earlier this week, FPA said the talks had reached an impasse and announced partial work stoppages on the two days in December.

Finnair said other flights in the days before and after may also be affected.

"It is disappointing that the Finnish Pilots' Association has chosen to strike rather than negotiate. This unfortunately disrupts the travel plans of thousands of our customers during the pre-Christmas season," Finnair said in a statement. — AFP



Finnair said other flights in the days before and after may also be affected. PHOTO: FINNAIR

MUFG Bank fires worker for stealing over 1 billion yen from customers

MUFG Bank has fired an employee for allegedly stealing assets worth between 1 billion (\$6 million) and 2 billion yen from safe deposit boxes of some 60 customers in Tokyo, the Japanese megabank said.

The worker was dismissed on 14 November after admitting to stealing the assets at two branches from April 2020 to October this year. The bank is investigating the theft and consulting with police, it

said Friday.

The bank said the thefts occurred at the Nerima and Tamagawa branches and the exact value of the items stolen is still being investigated.

The incident came to light on 31 October after the bank received an inquiry from a client, it said. The bank has confirmed there were no similar incidents at other branches after conducting an emergency assessment. — Kyodo

US consumers to bargain hunt in annual 'Black Friday' spree

US shoppers are coming out in force this holiday season, but the festiveness is being tempered by inflationary pressures that have abated but not completely faded. After the sticker shock during the latter stages of the pandemic, a familiar frustration has settled in towards consumer prices that remain broadly elevated even if they have stopped rising rapidly.

Americans are "ready to open their wallets this holiday season," said the Conference Board ahead of Black Friday — the day after Thanksgiving, which this year, falls on November 28 — that traditionally sees US stores kick off the Christmas shopping season with steep discounts. "US consumers plan to spend more than last year, but inflation reduces how far their dollars can go."

In this environment,



US retailers have been unveiling discounts ahead of the annual 'Black Friday' promotions, the day after Thanksgiving. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

nobody expects to pay the full price for items. "Holiday shoppers are likely to increase their budgets this year versus last year but remain selective and are looking for discounts," said a note from Morgan Stan-

ley. The investment bank's survey found that 35 per cent planned to spend more this holiday season. But nearly two-thirds would skip a purchase if an item is not adequately discounted, meaning a price cut of

more than 20 per cent.

"It's gonna be a good year, but I don't think that growth is going to be spectacular because consumers are still under pressure," predicted Neil Saunders of GlobalData. — AFP

Singapore police investigate 95 for illegal moneylending

SINGAPOREAN police are investigating 95 suspects for unlicensed moneylending following an enforcement operation from 11 November to 15 November, according to a statement from the police.

Preliminary investigations showed that five suspects conducted harassment at debtors' residences and 40 assisted unlicensed moneylenders by carrying out ATM transfers.

The remaining 50 helped illegal moneylenders open and use their bank accounts.

Investigations against the suspects, aged from 14 to 76, are ongoing. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HANSA HARBURG VOY.NO. (444W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HANSA HARBURG VOY.NO. (444W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **25-11-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MAERSK A/S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (921N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (921N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **25-11-2024** 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
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ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD



Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the significant contributions of the Indian diaspora in Guyana, calling it a "Mini India" during his Mann Ki Baat address. **PHOTO: ANI**

“A Mini India exists in Guyana,” says PM Modi in ‘Mann Ki Baat’

Prime Minister Modi's visit to Guyana, the first by an Indian PM in 56 years, reinforced the countries' historical and cultural ties.

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday highlighted the impact of Indian diaspora in the Caribbean nation of Guyana and said that 'a Mini India' also exists in Guyana, where people of Indian origin have become

leaders in politics, business, education, and culture.

The remarks by PM Modi came during the 116th episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' and following his official state visit to Guyana.

Prime Minister Narendra

Modi's visit to Guyana, the first by an Indian PM in 56 years, highlighted the historical and cultural bonds between the nations.

He celebrated Guyana's vibrant Indian diaspora, tracing its roots to indentured laborers 180 years ago. PM Modi praised efforts in Oman to preserve Indian family histories dating back to 1838 and acknowledged cultural initiatives like translating the Upanishads into Slovak. — ANI

Swiss vote on Eurovision, motorways and renting rules

THE Swiss will vote Sunday on expanding the country's motorways, the powers given to landlords, and in Basel whether the city's taxpayers should finance hosting the 2025 Eurovision Song Contest. In Swiss referendums, most voters cast their ballots in advance by post, so the polling stations are only open for a few hours until noon (1100 GMT). The results are expected later Sunday.

Swiss voters will decide on key issues through upcoming referendums. Following Nemo's Eurovision 2024 win, Basel was selected to host the 2025 contest, but funding of 34.96 million Swiss francs (\$39.5 million) is under scrutiny. The conservative Federal Democratic Union forced a

vote, citing concerns over costs and logistics. Supporters highlight potential tourism revenue of 60 million francs, while a rejection would drastically scale down the event.

Separately, a 4.9 billion franc (\$5.5 billion) motorway expansion plan, including Rhine tunnels, faces criticism from environmentalists arguing it will worsen congestion and neglect eco-friendly transport alternatives. Finally, new tenancy laws aim to limit sub-letting abuses and simplify lease terminations. Tenant advocates oppose these measures, warning they could lead to higher rents and reduced protections for Switzerland's 60 per cent tenant population. — AFP



Swiss voters will decide on key issues through upcoming referendums. **PHOTO: FABRICE COFFRINI / AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Deals inked at World Forestry Industry Conference

THE 2024 World Forestry Industry Conference kicked off on Saturday in Nanning, the capital city of south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, witnessing the signature of 35 contracts with a total value of 19.4 billion yuan (about US\$2.7 billion).

The two-day conference focuses on innovation as a driver of high-quality development in the forestry industry.

It has brought together representatives of forestry authorities, international forestry organizations and renowned global companies, and attracted the participation of nearly 1,100 companies.

By 2023, China's forest coverage rate had exceeded 25 per cent, with a forest stock volume of over 20 billion cubic meters, Guan Zhi'ou, head of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, said during the opening ceremony. — Xinhua

Cambodian PM says peace “cornerstone” of national resilience, rejuvenation

CAMBODIA highly values peace as it is a “cornerstone” of the kingdom's national resilience and rejuvenation, Prime Minister Hun Manet said here on Sunday.

In his opening speech of the 11th Plenary Session of the Global Parliament for Tolerance and Peace in the capital Phnom Penh, Manet said peace is the foundation on which all else is built.

“Without peace, there can be no development, no prosperity, no future. Without peace, there are no human rights and no developments as such,” he said.

“Peace has allowed us to invest in our peoples, our institutions, and our future,” he

added. The Cambodian leader said under his administration, he has launched a comprehensive framework for growth, employment, equity, efficiency, and sustainability, entitled the Pentagonal Strategy Phase 1.

He added that this strategy focuses on five key priorities, namely people, road, water, electricity, and technology.

“Through this strategy, we aim to protect and strengthen our hard-earned peace by creating opportunities for all citizens and supporting communities to strive together,” he said. “We are on track to effectively graduating from the least developed country status in 2029.” — Xinhua

SPORTS



Mateo Retegui joined Atalanta from Genoa in August. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Retegui fires Atalanta top of Serie A ahead of Inter

SERIE A's leading scorer Mateo Retegui netted as Atalanta beat Parma 3-1 on Saturday to go top of Serie A on goal difference, overtaking Inter Milan despite the reigning champions' rout of Verona.

Retegui claimed his 12th league goal of the campaign after just four minutes for the visitors before Ederson and Ademola Lookman scored to send Atalanta above Inter, who hammered Verona 5-0 earlier.

Napoli drop to third before they host Roma on Sunday on Claudio Ranieri's return to top-flight management.

Juventus meanwhile failed to impress in a goalless stalemate with AC Milan and are sixth, one place above their opponents.

Atalanta coach Gian Piero Gasperini said his team were developing a winning mentality.

"We have to focus on winning every game we can and the rest is not really in our minds," he told Sky Sport Italia.

"That was the case in the Europa League too, we didn't start out thinking we'd win it, but as time wore on and we found ourselves in that position, we weren't going to hold back either."

Argentina-born Italy striker Retegui, 25, opened the scoring early on with a deft header.

The reigning Europa League champions doubled their lead after 39 minutes as Brazil midfielder Ederson scored his second goal of the season.

But five minutes into the second half, the hosts cut the deficit as Matteo Cancellieri fired home. — AFP

Shan United maintains unbeaten streak in 70 MNL consecutive matches

THE 2024-2025 MNL season reached matchday 14 on 24 November, with Shan United, Yangon United, and Dagon Star United securing victories.

At the Taunggyi Stadium, Shan United defeated Yadanabon FC with a score of 2-0. This win extended Shan United's lead at the top of the table and marked an impressive milestone of 70 consecutive unbeaten league matches. In recent years, Shan United has achieved numerous victories and record-breaking performances.

Shan United fielded a strong lineup featuring Nanda Kyaw, Thet Hein Soe, Kyaw Zin Phyo (Goalkeeper), Ye Yint Aung, Marc Sarki, and Rintaro. Similarly, Yadanabon FC included Yan Kyaw Soe, Moe Swe, Sitt Mone, and Pyae Moe in their starting eleven. From the start, Shan United adopted an attacking strategy while Yadanabon FC responded resiliently. Shan United opened the scoring just before halftime when Ye Yint Aung converted Hein Phyo Win's cross with a header. In the second half, substitute players strengthened Shan United's gameplay, and Myat Kaung Khant sealed the win with a decisive goal in the 83rd minute.

At the Yangon United Sports Complex, Yangon United edged out Thitsa



Players of Shan United and Yadanabon FC are competing fiercely during their match. PHOTO: SUFC

Arman FC with a 3-2 victory. Despite stiff competition from Thitsa Arman FC, which is battling to avoid relegation, Yangon United managed to secure all three points. Goals for Yangon United came from Okka Naing (45+4 minutes), Wai Lin Aung (81 minutes), and an own goal by Thitsa Arman's Saw Htoo Pwe Mue (48 minutes). Thitsa Arman FC's goals were scored by Naing Win Tun (7 minutes) and Saw Myo Zaw (61 minutes).

In another match at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre, Dagon Star United claimed a 2-0 victory over Myawady FC. Goals for Dagon Star United were

scored by Swan Laman (21 minutes, via penalty) and Aung Kyaw Naing (49 minutes).

After matchday 14, Shan United leads the table with 40 points, followed by Yangon United with 34 points, Hanthawady United with 33 points, and Dagon Star United with 29 points. ISPE FC stands at 23 points, Mahar United and Yadanabon FC each 19 points, and Dagon Port FC 12 points. Both Thitsa Arman FC and Ayeyawady United hold 11 points each, while Myawady FC has 4 points, and Rakhine United sits at the bottom with 3 points. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Dagon Star, Yangon secure wins in MNL U-20 matches

THE 2024 MNL U-20 League continued with Matchday 25 on 24 November, where Dagon Star United, Yangon United, and Thitsar Arman emerged victorious.

At Padonma Stadium, Dagon Star United defeated Shan United 3-2. Despite having already secured the championship title prior to the match, Shan United faced a rare defeat. Goals for Dagon Star came from Soe Aung Myo Myint Thein (23rd minute), Han Myo Zaw (55th minute), and Pho Thaw Kyaw (57th minute). Shan United's goals were scored by Kaung Min Htet (60th minute) and Myo Min Khant (90+3 minute). This win strengthened Dagon Star United's chances of breaking into the top five teams.

Meanwhile, at South Dagon Stadium, Yangon United crushed Ayeyawady United with a 9-0 victory. Yangon's dominance was reflected in goals scored by Ye Win Aung (11th

minute), La Min Pyae Sone (39th, 56th, and 69th minutes), Kaung Khant Kyaw (64th and 67th minutes), Min Thu (84th and 89th minutes), and Naing Ko (87th minute). This emphatic win marked a comeback for Yangon United.

At Salin Stadium, Thitsar Arman defeated Dagon Port 3-1. Although Naing Ko gave Dagon Port an early lead in the 32nd minute, Thitsar Arman equalized through Saw Min Khant Naing in the 53rd minute. Victory was secured with goals by Than Htaik Aung (75th minute) and Zin Phyo Paing (80th minute).

The Matchday 25 fixtures continue today with Hanthawady United taking on Rakhine United at Salin Stadium, Mahar United facing Junior Lions at South Dagon Stadium, and ISPE FC playing Myawady FC at Padonma Stadium. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

With AI robots and creative products, China embraces winter sports boom

AT the ski resort of Lianhuashan in northeast China's Jilin Province, several silver robotic dogs conduct patrols, transport first-aid supplies and pose for photos with the skiers, who now enjoy not only winter sports, but also new services brought by high-tech products.

Winter sports have gained popularity in China in recent years, and people expect the ninth Asian Winter Games, slated for February 2025 in China's "Ice City" of Harbin in Heilongjiang Province, to give a further boost to these activities.

"I am sure that the new products can provide a better experience for visitors from around the world," said Liu Weizhe, a ski enthusiast.

At a ski resort, robotic dogs assist with season pass applications, patrolling, and emergency rescues. Equipped with sensors, they detect safety hazards, deliver first-aid supplies, and guide rescue teams. — Xinhua



Skiers enjoy the sport at the Beidahu Ski Resort in Jilin City, northeast China's Jilin Province, 23 November 2024. PHOTO: YAN LINYUN/XINHUA

"A Mini India exists in Guyana," says PM Modi in 'Mann Ki Baat'

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WORLD

Detailed program released for landmark Russia-ASEAN trade and investment forum in Malaysia

Tourists gather for a photo in front of St Basil's Cathedral in Moscow's Red Square on 19 June. PHOTO: ALEXANDER NEMENEV/AFP/FILE

The agenda emphasizes economic ties, technology, energy, and tourism, with a plenary session spotlighting Russia-ASEAN trade cooperation.

ORGANIZED by the Roscongress Foundation in partnership with the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), the event is set to be a significant platform for advancing trade and investment cooperation between Russia and ASEAN countries.

The full program for the First International Business Forum 'World of Opportunities: Russia-ASEAN,' on 26-27 November 2024, in Kuala Lumpur, has been published.

The agenda focuses on key areas including economic and financial collaboration, energy, transportation, technology, health-care, education and tourism.

The highlight of the program will be the plenary session on 'Russia and ASEAN: Toward a New Era of Trade and Economic Cooperation,' featuring prominent speakers.

They include Deputy Russian Minister of Industry and Trade Alexey Gruzdev, ASEAN-BAC Malaysia Chairman Nadzir Razak, Ayrat Khairullin, Minister of Digital Development of Tatarstan and Abu Bakar Yusof, Deputy CEO of MATRADE.

Other sessions will include discussions on the strategic role of energy partnerships, the potential for digital transformation and opportunities to strengthen tourism and educational ties.

The event also coincides with the 20th anniversary of Russia's accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, highlighting the long-standing strategic relationship between Russia and ASEAN. — SPUTNIK



RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE

European Film Festival kicks off in Libya's Tripoli

AN European Film Festival kicked off in the Libyan capital Tripoli on Saturday.

The six-day event, sponsored by the European Union (EU) Delegation to Libya and the Libyan General Authority for Cinema, Theatre and Arts, will screen films from Spain, Italy, Malta, France, Germany, and Libya, according to the EU Ambassador to Libya, Nicola Orlando.

"This is a unique opportunity to celebrate and promote Libya's rich cultural heritage and vibrant contemporary activity," said Orlando.

Abdul Basset Abu Ginda, chairman of the Libyan General Authority for Cinema, Theater and Arts, said the festival is a "positive step in the path of partnership between Libya and the European Union".

The festival is taking place amid a political stalemate in Libya, where the country remains divided between two rival governments based in the east and west. — Xinhua

Chinese economy progressing well in pursuit of 2024 targets

China's strong Q4 economic performance boosts confidence in achieving targets, defying Western analysts' skepticism.

THE strong performance of the Chinese economy on many fronts in the first month of the fourth quarter makes it premature for some analysts in the West to conclude that China will miss its annual economic targets. On the contrary, the country is increasingly confident of achieving its economic goals and will remain a major engine driving global growth.

The fourth quarter usually contributes the biggest share of China's annual economy, accounting for more than 27 per cent in recent years. According to a number of leading economic indicators released recently, there has been a significant increase in positive factors for economic growth, while the fourth quarter has made a good start thanks to a package of incremental policy measures, including a cut in the reserve requirement ratio, deed tax reductions and trade-in programs for consumer goods.

Consumption, investment, exports and market sentiment all improved significantly in October, while the service



An aerial drone photo taken on 19 November 2024 shows a train loaded with lithium batteries for traction purposes at Dulaying international land-sea logistics port in Guiyang, southwest China's Guizhou Province. PHOTO: LIU XU/XINHUA

production index grew at its fastest pace this year.

The real estate production index last month realized growth for the first time since June 2023, and the retail sales of consumer goods was up 4.8 per cent year on year in October. The value of

goods exports jumped by 11.2 per cent year on year in October, the highest rate since May 2023. The manufacturing purchasing managers' index stood at 50.1 last month — returning to expansion after staying below 50 for five straight months. — Xinhua