

## Dawei ethnic people to focus on Union development via Dawei region's economic opportunities

**C**hairman 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 delivered the message to the ceremony to mark the seventh Anniversary of Dawei National Day. The following is the full text of the translated message.

**Esteemed Dawei ethnic national brethren,**

On the occasion of the seventh Dawei National Day organized on the 1<sup>st</sup> Waxing of Nattaw 1386 Myanmar Era, 1 December 2024, I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all national brethren residing across Myanmar together with Dawei ethnic people for physical and mental well-being and prosperity in all aspects of their lives.

Under the leadership of the Dawei ethnic organizing committee, the Dawei National Day has been held for the seventh time on the 1<sup>st</sup> Waxing of Nattaw annually since 2017. So, I am proud of having a chance to send the message of felicitations to the ceremony to mark the Dawei National Day, showing the unity of the Dawei ethnic people.

**SEE PAGE 3**



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits the dairy cow farm of U Kyaw Min in Twantay livestock breeding zone in Twantay Township, Yangon Region, yesterday.

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General on his inspection tours at Twantay Livestock Breeding Zone

1. Breeding entrepreneurs to calculate how to operate livestock farms, produce finished products and manage commercial production to manufacture value-added industrial products from agro-based industries.
2. Government officials are obliged to address the sufficiency of food for the people, the sale of basic foodstuffs at fair prices and the creation of a good environment.
3. Raw materials in relevant regions must be used in feedstuff production to be able to sell agricultural and livestock products at reduced prices.

## Green zones to be established in livestock breeding areas

Preparations must be made to control animal-borne communicable diseases and to prevent natural disasters in relevant livestock zones.

**S**enior General Min Aung Hlaing underlined that breeding entrepreneurs must calculate how to operate livestock farms, produce finished products and manage commercial production to manufacture value-added industrial products from agro-based

industries.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday morning inspected the progress in implementing the Twantay livestock breeding zone in Twantay Township, Yangon Region.

During the inspection tour of livestock zones, the Senior General highlighted that green zone areas must be set at relevant livestock breeding zones, adding solar power can contribute to livestock farms as part of electrification for relevant zones.

**SEE PAGE 3**

# NATIONAL

## Six Peace Principles Key to Ongoing Peacemaking Efforts

THE Six Peace Principles are not only aligned with the essence of the NCA but also stem from the “Knowledge” gained through continuous peace efforts over successive periods, and they represent the “reality” that must be pursued to strengthen ongoing peacemaking efforts.

*(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the 79<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armed Forces Day parade on 27 March 2024)*

### Cyclonic Storm “FENGAL” News, No 17, 2024

19:00 MST, 30 November 2024

#### Cyclonic Storm

According to the observations at 17:30 hours MST today, the Cyclonic Storm “FENGAL” over the southwest Bay of Bengal has moved westwards. It is centred at about 765 nautical miles west of Coco Island (Myanmar), 45 nautical miles south-southeast of Chennai and 40 nautical miles east-northeast of Puducherry (India). The centre pressure of cyclonic storm is 994 hPa and maximum wind speed near the center is 50 miles per hour.

It does not intend to move towards Myanmar coasts at the present stage and therefore the Cyclonic Storm “FENGAL” is coded as yellow stage.

#### Forecast

It is likely to move slowly westwards and may cross north Tamil Nadu coast near Puducherry (India) tonight.

Due to the Cyclonic Storm “FENGAL”, rain are likely to be isolated to scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions and Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Kayah states during the next 24 hours.

### Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Saturday 30 November 2024)

**BAY INFERENCE:** According to the observations at 17:30 hours MST today, the Cyclonic Storm “FENGAL” over the southwest Bay of Bengal has moved westwards. It is centred at about 765 Nautical miles West of Coco Island (Myanmar), 45 nautical miles south-southeast of Chennai and 40 nautical miles east-northeast of Puducherry (India). The centre pressure of cyclonic storm is 994 hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is 50 miles per hour. Weather is cloudy over the Bay of Bengal and partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 1 DECEMBER 2024:** Rain will be scattered in (southern and eastern) Shan State and isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Northern Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Kayah 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 Magway Region and Rakhine State. 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 moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-7 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 DECEMBER 2024:** Partly cloudy and likelihood of isolated light rain. Degree of certainty is 60%. — DMH

## Proactive management of Bago’s 8 reservoirs reduces flood damage



Mazin Dam, which is one of the dams in Bago Region, protects flooding in Bago Region. **PHOTO: ZWE MARN**

DUE to the impact of Typhoon Yagi, several ASEAN countries faced severe flooding. In Myanmar, Bago is one of the affected areas where management to mitigate damages to urban areas, villages, and farmlands could be conducted with eight reservoirs prior to the typhoon’s arrival, according to the Bago Township Department of Irrigation and Water Utilization Management.

“There are eight reservoirs in Bago. Before Typhoon Yagi struck, early warnings were issued by the head office on preventive measures. Therefore, a plan was developed to regulate and lower reservoir water levels ahead. During the typhoon period, no damage was reported to the reservoirs due to these preparatory measures. However, rising river levels caused flooding in parts of the city and nearby villages. The proactive management of reservoir water levels significantly mitigated the impact of flooding in Bago. Reservoirs play a vital role in ensuring the nation’s food security, particularly in

irrigated rice farming in Summer. Bago Region is one of Myanmar’s key contributors to rice production, consistently meeting its target yields. The reservoirs in Bago not only support the socioeconomic development of farmers but also help protect the region from severe flooding,” U Zaw Myo Naing, a staff officer from the department said.

During the typhoon period, eight reservoirs in Bago District experienced significant inflows, causing excess water to be discharged at a rate of 2 to 3 feet above normal levels. This posed a risk of flooding to Bago and its surrounding areas, including paddy plantations, and villages, potentially resulting in substantial damage and losses. However, proactive measures mitigate and reduce the extent of damage caused by these situations.

Usually, Bago City typically receives up to 130 inches of rainfall during the monsoon season. This year, rainfall exceeding 130 inches led to two incidents of flooding. Due to

river water levels rising and heavy rainfall, the Bago City experienced the first major flood in over 60 years. By learning to these incidents, the Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department took proactive measures in preparation for the 2024 monsoon season and warnings, which could significantly reduce the damage and losses in the villages and agricultural lands of Bago.

In Bago Region, where rice, oil crops, agriculture, and livestock farms boom, there are 39 irrigation reservoirs spread across several districts: eight in Bago District, five in Nyaunglebin District, eight in Toungoo District, three in Nattalin District, eight in Thayawady District, and six in Pyay District. Additionally, there are 13 weirs diversion weirs and 14 sluice gates, making a total of 66 facilities that provide irrigation water and store water during the rainy season, strengthen reservoir infrastructure, and implement flood control measures. — Thitsa (MNA)/TMT

# 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)*

## Dawei ethnic people to focus on Union development ...

### FROM PAGE 1

All national races, including Dawei ethnics, have been residing in Myanmar together through unity and fraternity for many years, and they have been maintaining relations among national races. When Myanmar fell under colonial rule, Dawei ethnic people showed off their brilliant courage and strong Union spirit by fighting colonialists, together with other patriotic national races. Likewise, they also sacrificed lives and limbs in fighting in battles to regain the independence of the State together with other patriotic national races showing their solidarity during the period of independence struggle. All national races including Dawei ethnics have to sharpen patriotism and spirit of sacrifice not to lose independence which is a legacy left by forefathers.

Dawei ethnics put faith in Theravada Buddhism, as a common religion of other national races in Myanmar. It should take pride in the activities of Dawei ethnics who have been preserving cultures and customs based on Buddhism. As such, it is necessary to protect subtle cultural and adorable traditional cultural heritages of

Dawei ethnics for long-term existence.

Dawei region is situated in the southern part of Myanmar, blessed with plentiful coastal resources, underground and aboveground as well as underwater and above-water natural resources. It is a region with abundant sound foundations and opportunities to operate manufacturing industries based on agriculture and livestock breeding, trading and tourism industry. Dawei region possesses proper transport links with other regions, located at the focal point of land roads and waterways. Being a strategic point for the economic sector, the region is gaining development momentum year by year, contributing to the economic growth of Myanmar. Moreover, as Dawei Special Economic Zone can support the development of not only Myanmar but regional countries, resident Dawei ethnic people have to strive for improvement of the economy.

Currently, the State Administration Council has adopted and is implementing the roadmap to strengthen the path of democracy for the State while making utmost efforts to cement the sound foundations to

develop the country and boost the socioeconomy of the people. It can be seen that Dawei ethnic people support the endeavours of the State and contribute to serving the interest of the Union. So, Dawei ethnic people have to emphasize the development of the entire Union based on economic opportunities from the Dawei region.

Dawei ethnic people are obliged to continue posting milestones in preserving fine historical records. Hence, I send this message of felicitations to the Dawei National Day while urging Dawei ethnic people to actively participate in the development process of the State by correctly utilizing existing natural resources from the Dawei region to show off their united strength based on the Union Spirit.

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

## Green zones to be established ...

### FROM PAGE 1

He urged breeding entrepreneurs to calculate how to operate livestock farms, produce finished products and manage commercial production to manufacture value-added industrial products from agro-based industries.

The Senior General underscored that preparations must be made to control animal-borne communicable diseases and to prevent natural disasters in relevant livestock zones.

He spotted that raw materials in relevant regions must be used in the production of feedstuffs to be able to sell agricultural and livestock products at reduced prices.

The Senior General stressed the need to continue efforts to achieve success in the contributions of livestock farms to meeting sufficiency in Yangon Region to some extent.

He pointed out that it is necessary to supply necessary water for agriculture and livestock farms without fail.

The Senior General noted that government officials have to address the



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits the layer duck farm of U Za Yar in the Twantay livestock breeding zone in Twantay, Yangon Region, yesterday.

sufficiency of food for the people, the sale of basic foodstuffs at fair prices and the creation of a good environment.

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U

Soe Thein reported to the Senior General on breeding domestic cows and dairy cows and buffalos, pigs, goats and sheep, poultry farming tasks, production of

feedstuffs, operation of fish, prawn and crab farming in the region, production of fish from fish farms in Shwemay-in region, plans to improve breeding tasks in the region, implementation of the Twantay livestock zone in relevant sections, and supply of water.

The Senior General visited the breeding of goats, broiler ducks, layer ducks, quail, dairy cows and pits at relevant farms of local breeders at Twantay Livestock Zone.

In a meeting with officials at the livestock zone hall, the Senior General urged them to systematically operate livestock farms since their establishment, pledging to fulfil requirements of feedstuffs, water and other needs to local livestock breeding businesspersons.

Twantay Livestock Breeding Zone was established on 581.54 acres of land in Twantay Township in June 2023 to produce sufficient fish and meat for public consumption in Yangon Region. Three livestock zones engage in the operation of breeding chicken, pig, goat, cow, fish, quail and duck through collaborative efforts of officials and businesspersons. — MNA/TTA

# NATIONAL



SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San encourages the Defence Ministry's sports teams to prepare for the upcoming Fifth National Sports Festival yesterday.

## DPM Union Defence Minister observes National Sports Festival team preparations

SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San visited the Zeyathiri Sports Complex yesterday afternoon to observe and encourage the Defence Ministry's sports teams to prepare for the upcoming Fifth National Sports Festival.

The Deputy Prime Minister began his visit at Zeyathiri Sports Complex B, where he watched training sessions of the men's and women's volleyball teams and the Sepak Takraw teams. Team managers and coaches briefed him on the

athletes' preparation, management, and readiness for the competition.

He continued his visit to the football field within the Zeyathiri Sports Complex, where he observed the men's football team and track and field athletes during their training. He engaged closely with managers, coaches, and athletes, offering encouragement and advice.

During his interactions, Admiral Tin Aung San urged the athletes to embody teamwork and sportsmanship, striving to become departmental and na-

tional pride.

He emphasized the importance of fair competition and diligent training, encouraging athletes to focus on their health and fitness as the competition approaches. He also presented nutritional supplements and cash award to the athletes.

The Defence Ministry plans to field 133 athletes in six sports at the Fifth National Sports Festival: men's football, men's and women's volleyball, men's Sepak Takraw, men's futsal, men's and women's athletic events, and men's golf. — MNA/KZL

## Athlete training, electricity distribution for sports festival inspected

UNION Minister for Electric Power U Nyan Tun, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Aye Kyaw, visited Basic Education High School No 8 in Zabuthiri Township yesterday afternoon. They observed training sessions of the ministry's athletes who will compete in the Fifth National Sports Festival.

The Union minister first arrived at the school and observed the training of male football, male futsal, male and female volleyball, male Sepak Takraw, male and female athletics, and male golf teams. These teams represent the Ministry of Electric Power. He also encouraged athletes, warmly interacted with them, and urged disciplined training under the guidance of their coaches and administrators. He also emphasized maintaining fitness through proper nutrition and rest. Financial support and nutritional supplies were provided to the athletes. The ministry will participate in the Fifth National Sports Festival with 113 athletes, including officials, coaches, and athletes competing in six sports.

Following this, the Union minister inspected the Nay Pyi Taw No (1) 230 kV main substation in Ottarathiri Township and the 33/11 kV Wunna Theikdi sports substation in Zabuthiri Township. They checked the power distribution systems for sports venues to ensure a continuous, safe, and reliable electricity supply. They also reviewed equipment such as transformers, electrical devices, and power lines to ensure they remained in good condition and instructed proper maintenance. Union Minister U Nyan Tun further inspected the power supply arrangements from substations to sports venues, ensuring all were functioning efficiently. — MNA/KZL



Union Minister for Electric Power U Nyan Tun observes training sessions of the MOEP's athletes who will compete in the Fifth National Sports Festival yesterday.

## Students rehearse traditional cane ball for sports festival opening

THE Ministry of Science and Technology is actively training 270 students from the Government Technical High School (Nay Pyi Taw) to perform traditional Chinlone (cane ball) demonstrations for the opening ceremony of the 5<sup>th</sup> National Sports Festival. Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya, along with officials, observed the practice yesterday morning at the Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium B in Nay Pyi Taw.

Students rehearsed with precision, forming various group formations, including a national flag display, accompanied by background songs.

During his visit, the deputy minister commended students for preserving Myanmar's traditional sports heritage and emphasized its importance for future generations. He expressed confidence in their ability to deliver an impressive performance and presented

them with refreshments, supplements, and cash awards.

The deputy minister then attended a friendly volleyball match between the men's volleyball teams representing the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Science and Technology at the Volleyball Training Hall 1. After the match, he presented cash awards to team officials, coaches, and athletes from both sides. — MNA/KZL

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# NATIONAL

## World AIDS Day 2024 held

A ceremony for World AIDS Day 2024 was held on 29 November at Office 4 of the Ministry of Health.

Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win stated the goal of achieving an HIV-free generation by 2030. The Ministry of Health is implementing the National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS (2021-2025) to achieve this goal, which includes increasing access to ARV treatment through enhanced government funding.

He also mentioned that efforts are being made to ensure that patients in hard-to-reach areas have uninterrupted access to medicines. Additionally, individual data for patients taking ARV medications, monthly reports, and medication inventories are being electronically recorded and managed.

This year's World AIDS Day theme is 'Take the Right Path,' and the Union Minister emphasized that it is crucial for everyone, including key populations and people living with HIV, to work together to ensure that HIV prevention and treatment services are accessible to all, especially those who are hard to reach.

The ceremony continued with the awarding of prizes to the winners in the essay, painting, and poster competitions in commemoration of World AIDS Day. A documentary highlighting Myanmar's progress in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment was also screened.

In 2011, approximately 40,000 HIV-positive patients were able to receive ART treatment. However, according to the latest data, by the end of September 2024, over 215,000 patients had received treatment, representing a fivefold increase compared to 2011. The peak of new HIV infections occurred in 2000, with nearly 30,000 new cases, but this number has since decreased by about one-third, to just over 10,400 cases in 2023. — MNA/TRKM



The 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY) and the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY+3) in progress yesterday.

## 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY) meeting, related meetings held

THE 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY) and the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY+3) were held yesterday at the MGallery Hotel in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw. Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Min Thein Zan, who chaired the ASEAN Youth Ministers' Meeting, along with Deputy Ministers and Myanmar delegates, ASEAN Youth Ministers from member states, the ASEAN Deputy Secretary-General for the Social and Cultural Community, and officials from the ASEAN Secretariat, attended the meeting either in person or virtually.

At the meeting, the Union Minister emphasized the importance of continued collaboration among member states to provide opportunities for the younger generation to succeed.

The meeting continued with the reading of the report of the 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth (SOMY), followed by country statements from the ASEAN Youth Ministers and discussions on joint statements. The time and venue for the 14<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth were also discussed, after which the first part of the meeting was adjourned.

In the second part of the meeting, the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on

Youth (AMMY+3) was convened. The Union Minister, as Chair, encouraged the sharing of suggestions for creating stronger ASEAN Plus Three youth cooperation through the use of digital technology, in line with new visions and plans for 2025 and beyond. The minister also expressed hope for positive outcomes that would lead to better opportunities and development for the youth.

Following the presentation of the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth reports, Youth Ministers discussed Myanmar's chairmanship theme and approved joint ministerial statements. The date and venue for the next meeting were also determined.

Afterward, the chairmanship of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth was passed to the Philippines, while the co-chairmanship of the ASEAN Plus Three Ministerial Meeting on Youth was transferred to the Philippines and Japan. The meeting was then concluded.

The related meetings — the 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth and the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Youth — were also held on 28 and 29 November at the MGallery Hotel under the chairmanship of the Director-General of the Department of Youth Affairs. — MNA/TRKM

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## 2-day illegal trade crackdown seizes items worth K886M

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

On 28 and 29 November, the combined teams impounded foodstuffs worth K53.371 million without official documents in Patheingyi and Pyaw Bye Districts, industrial materials worth K60.9 million without official documents from two containers at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint, six kinds

of industrial materials valued at K344.599 million without official documents from five containers at the Myanmar Industrial Port, a kind of consumer goods valued at K1.134 million without Import Licence at the Yangon International Airport (Import Desk), a Volvo tractor head with a trailer worth K80 million, heading to Yangon from Mandalay, carrying industrial materials worth K36.75 million without official documents at the Ywathagyi Dry Port and

a kind of industrial materials worth K15 million without official documents from a postal parcel which were delivered from Australia at the EMS International, Yangon Post Office. The action was conducted following Customs procedures.

Additionally, the combined teams conducted inspections in the seizures of two vehicles and three motorbikes (approximately K47.9 million) carrying illegal petroleum weighing 207 gallons and diesel weighing 112

gallons in Mohnyin Township, a Yutong bus (approximately worth K95 million) carrying two kinds of consumer goods worth K15.709 million without official documents at the 358 Milepost on Yangon- Mandalay expressway, a golden dragon bus (approximately K30 million), travelling from Mawlamyine to Nay Pyi Taw, carrying two kinds of foodstuffs worth K2.2 million at the Nyaungkhashay x-ray station. The action was carried out according to Customs pro-

cedures.

A total of two kinds of industrial materials worth K94.347 million without official documents was impounded from a boat that was docked at Mother jetty in Shwepyitha Township. The action was taken per Customs procedures.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 18 arrests on 28 and 29 November, confiscating illegal goods worth approximately K886 million. — MNA/MKKS

# NATIONAL

## Weekly Roundup

**26 November**

### Gallantry titles and medals conferred

The State Administration Council conferred gallantry medals of Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Forces on outstanding service men and women. Thura title was conferred on four military personnel, the Gallantry medal on 26 military personnel, the Ye Thura medal on seven police officers and firefighters, Ye Bala medal on 61 police officers, firefighters and civilians for their excellent performance in serving national defence and security duty of the State.

**28 November**

### Financial Commission meets



Union ministries and regional and state governments have to scrutinize the spending of additional budget on prompt development of the State economy and the socioeconomic development of entire people, said Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the financial commission meeting in Nay Pyi Taw.

### Second Amendment to Myanmar Accountancy Council Law

The State Administration Council has enacted the Second Amendment to Myanmar Accountancy Council Law as State Administration Council Law No 57/2024 under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

**29 November**

### 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of economics education in Myanmar marked

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing urged economists to analyze how to tackle the State economy based on basic data of the nation and implement short- and long-term plans for different regions, at the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of economics education in Myanmar held in Nay Pyi Taw.

**30 November**

### DEMU train launched on Yangon Circular Railway



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech at the ceremony to launch the operation of the new Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) along the Yangon Circular Railway, at Yangon Railway Station in Mingala Taungnyunt Township of Yangon Region. — GNLM/TTA



An illustration showcasing a vibrant Southeast Asian city with a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive urban solution.

## Grants of US\$20,000 to US\$400,000 for MSMEs, organizations reducing carbon emissions

ORGANIZATIONS engaged in carbon reduction initiatives and MSMEs (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises) will be supported with grants of up to US\$400,000, according to the Department of Industrial Supervision and Inspection and the Department of MSME Development.

The ASEAN Secretariat has informed that proposals should be submitted to the US-ASEAN Smart Cities Partnership (USASCP) Business Innovation Fund (BIF) for consideration regarding the grant.

The programme is aimed at NGOs, aca-

demic institutions, and MSMEs that are actively addressing urban challenges related to Carbon Neutral Solutions in ASEAN countries. The funding will range from \$20,000 to \$400,000.

The call for proposals includes Myanmar, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. Detailed information can be accessed on the US-ASEAN Smart Cities Partnership (USASCP) website. Proposals must be submitted between 15 January and 15 February 2025. — ASH/TMT

## Popa sees 500 visitors on weekends, public holidays

IN this year's dry season, visitor arrivals to Mount Popa have visibly elevated and there are around 500 on weekends and public holidays.

In addition to youths, international school students were also among visitors this year, said residents.

"Visitor arrival dramatically rose this year, especially on weekends and public holidays. Most visitors are from Yangon, Mandalay and Pakokku. Among visitors, there are youths and international school students," said Ko Tin Ko Min from Mahagiri Group.

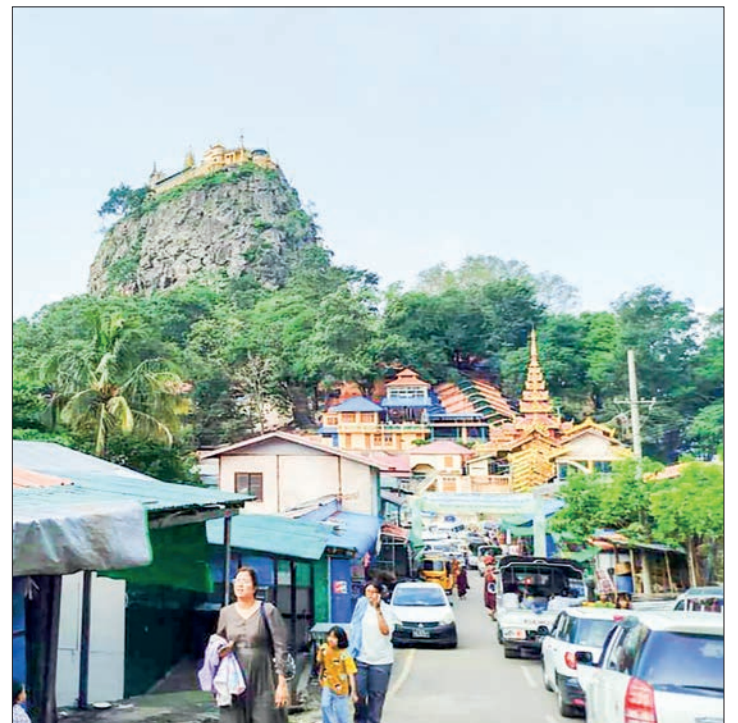
People who love nature have been growing, leading the visitor number mounting.

During the last Thadingyut and Tazaungdine holidays, visitor arrival was around 500 who joined the overnight-stay trek tour and day trips to Mount Popa, he said, adding that about 100 visitors stayed overnight at

the mountain over last weekend.

It is also expected that visitor arrivals in Popa will be large

on New Year and an increase in visitor arrivals can help the development of the livelihood of residents, he said. — MT/ZS



This photo showcases the entrance to Mount Popa and visitors at the foot of Mount Popa.

## 60 container vessels scheduled to arrive at Yangon Port in Dec

A total of 60 container vessels are slated to arrive at the Yangon Port in December 2024, the Myanmar Port Authority announced.

Thirteen container vessels run by SITC Shipping Line, eight by Cosco Shipping Line, six by Samudera Shipping Line, five by Maersk A/S Line, four each by MSC Line, CMA CGM Line, Ti2 Container Line and RCL Line, three each by BLPL Shipping Line and ONE Line, two each by PIL Line and Evergreen Line, and one each by Ocean Salute Shipping Line and Land and Sea are scheduled to enter the Yangon Port in December.

Myanmar Port Authority has arranged maritime trade channels to handle increasing imports to meet domestic demand, bolster exports, and improve port capacity for significant ship arrivals. Myanmar Port Authority notified that it will inform exporters and importers of ship arrival schedules promptly upon extended schedule.



An overseas container vessel docks at Yangon Port for loading and unloading.

Myanmar Port Authority stated that 49 vessels in January, 53 in February, 55 in March, 50 in April, 52 in May, 50 each in June, July and August, 55 in

September, 52 in October and 57 in November arrived at the Yangon Port.

Yangon Port handled 629 container vessels in 2023. Owing

to the draft extension, the international ocean liners can access the inner port for now, according to the Myanmar Port Authority's statement on 22 June 2022.

After the new navigation channel (Kings Bank Channel) accessing the inner Yangon River had been found, the draft extension work was accelerated. The port can now handle larger ships. The container vessel MV SITC Zhaoming (185.99 metres LOA, 35.25 metres Beam, 29,232 GRT and 2,698 TEU) of Hong-Kong based SITC Shipping Line docked at Asia World Port Terminal for the first time on 22 June, which is the largest ship that AWPT Port handled.

From May 2021, the arrival of the ships at terminals in Yangon has increased again. Three new container vessels by Maersk Line Myanmar (SeaL and Maersk) started to run to fulfil the seaborne trade requirements in 2021. Earlier, the larger ships had draft problems preventing sailing on the Yangon River. With the draft being extended up to 10 metres, the larger ocean liners can enter the Thilawa Port. — NN/KK

## CBM to sell 10M yuan to importers

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 29 November the sale of 10 million yuan to importers.

CBM sold 16.54 million baht on 29 November, 4.97 million baht on 28 November and 3.21 million baht on 27 November.

It injected over 1.79 million yuan on 26 November after sales of 17.8 million baht and \$25,000 on 22 November into the financial market.

It sold 50 million baht to importers through the foreign exchange trading platform on 21 November.

CBM sold over \$3,900 on 21 November, \$24 million on 20 November, \$20 million and 100 million baht on 19 November and over \$12,000 on 18 November.

CBM announced on 16 November the sale of \$35 million to fuel oil importers on 16 November.

CBM injected \$400,000 into the financial market on 14 November. It sold 14.5 million baht on 12 November, after selling 15 million baht to importers on 11 November.

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

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

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

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

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and the currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been joining hands with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK



The office building of the Central Bank of Myanmar in Yangon.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Act East Business Show in India welcomes Myanmar businesspeople

THE seventh Act East Business Show that is scheduled to take place on 12-14 February 2025 in Shillong City, Meghalaya, India, invites Myanmar business delegates engaged in agriculture, fresh produce sector, IT, infrastructure, tourism, health, handicrafts, traditional weaving and investments, according to Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

It was co-organized by the National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency (Invest India) and the Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region.

The seventh Act East Business Show will highlight discussion connectivity potentials between northeastern India and South East Asia, a meeting between the provincial government and attendees, business match-making and displays of products for three days.

Accommodation and transport to and from Guwahati-Shillong will be provided for attendees. Interested individuals can register through the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 408622 and email event.td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

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# OPINION

## Initiate steps of MR to give better rail transport to people

RESEARCH and surveys are being conducted to provide better rail transport services to the people to run electric trains to ensure smooth and swift transport of commodities and passengers.

Plans are underway to operate Battery Electric Locomotives (BELs) instead of diesel locomotives which are being used on long trips. Myanma Railways uses Rail Bus Engine-RBE on short trips. The services of Myanma Railways will be aligned with the advancement of technologies to benefit public transport.

Recently, Diesel Electric Multiple Units (DEMU) have been used in running the transport service of the Yangon Circular Railway. These carriages were imported from Spain as part of improving the rail transport services. In this regard, new carriages are facilitated with air-conditioners, automatic lighting changing systems and communication systems for the safety of passengers. These trains can run 60 kilometres per hour on their trips.

The Yangon City Circular Railway upgrade project was implemented with preliminary engineering works from 2015 to 2016 and the construction process in 2017. Now, the railway will host 20 RBE trains and 15 DEMU trains on a daily basis for the convenience of passengers.

for the city circular railways whereas diesel locomotives can be shifted into battery electric locomotives for long journeys.

Diesel locomotives need costs of fuel but battery electric locomotives do not need fuel charges to carry out the least cost in transport services. Moreover, as BELs are speedier than diesel locomotives, it is necessary to take care of driving for traffic safety on priority with the use of advanced signals and communication equipment.

The initiatives to transform diesel locomotives into battery electric locomotives are a great step for Myanma Railways to improve its services for the people. Hence, emphasis must be placed on upgrading rail tracts and overpasses aligned with running advanced carriages and locomotives on railway sections for the safety of transport. On the other hand, passengers and people residing not far from railways need to take care of traffic safety to minimize accidents. As the Myanma Railways manages more than 3,800 miles of railways in total and 962 railway stations nationwide, its improvement projects need to cover all rail transport facilities comprehensively.



Book Title	-	Kyaswa Min Yei Kyauk Sar Karl Marx Yei Paragu Kyan Hnint Ah Char Sar Su Myar
Writer	-	Dr Myint Zan
Publishing House	-	Myanmar Heritage Publications
Publication Date	-	June 2024
Price	-	K18,000

### Kyaswa Min Yei Kyauk Sar Karl Marx Yei Paragu Kyan Hnint Ah Char Sar Su Myar

(King Kyaswa's Royal Order on stone inscription, Karl Marx's doctoral thesis and other essays)

THE book is a collection of 21 essays arranged in nine Chapters. The two preliminary essays are indicated in the title of the book.

On 6 May 1249 Common Era (CE) King Kyaswa (Klacwa, phonetic name) issued a Royal Order on a stone inscription threatening thieves and robbers with severe punishments. It was the very first stone inscription extant (not extinct) and written in medieval Myanmar. Dr Myint Zan discussed and juxtaposed the earliest Royal Order discovered on a stone description inscribed in the year 1249 with that of a poem by Minister Ananda Thuriya more famously known and allegedly written during the Bagan era. There are major differences in Myanmar vocabulary, terms, syntax, and sentence structures between the Royal Order (inscribed on stone

in 1249) and Ananda Thuriya's poem allegedly composed at the latest at 1174 CE if not a few decades earlier. No reference is made in contemporary stone inscriptions or sources during the Bagan era of the alleged poem by Ananda Thuriya. With support from elder scholars Dr Myint Zan averred that the (so-called) Ananda Thuriya's poem was not composed in the Bagan era but perhaps centuries later during the Inwa era.

Fast forward from 6 May 1249 to April 1841. Philosopher and the main founder of Communism (Marxism anyway) Karl Marx submitted his doctoral thesis in German which in translation reads 'The Difference between Democracy and Epicurean Philosophy of Nature' to the University of Jenna in Germany. By his

23<sup>rd</sup> birthday on 5 May 1841, two weeks after the submission of his thesis and on the eve of the 592<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the day when King Klacwa issued his 'edict on theft' Karl was already Dr Karl Marx. Dr Myint Zan (somewhat) mischievously wrote that Karl Marx famous and greatly influential as he was — and to a certain extent still is — would not have been aware of Klacwa's Royal Order.

The author is a legal scholar and a retired Professor of Law. There are six articles on law and legal philosophy. Another Chapter concerning Marx is on 'Karl Marx's Legal Philosophy'. It discusses Marx's thesis that 'law is an instrument of oppression' and Marx and Engel's 'postulate' first proposed in 1878 that the State and law 'will wither away'. Another law-related article dis-

cusses two cases decided in the United States (an appellate court and the US Supreme Court) where the courts used radically different interpretations of statutory laws. In the photo on the back cover, a fish and a dam are depicted in a painting to illustrate one of the cases. For elaboration, you can read the book.

There are four essays concerning science. One of them is a discussion of the main cause of the extinction of the Dinosaurs 65 to 66 million years ago. One chapter translates the historic speech that the late US President Richard Nixon made to the pioneer astronauts on the moon on 20-21 July 1969. While the astronauts were still on the moon Nixon spoke by telephone with the late Neil Armstrong and Edwin ('Buzz') Aldrin (alive and well at 94, as of mid-November 2024).

The final Chapter on 'Literature' consists of translations of a few poems by the British poet William Blake and American poet Emily Dickinson. A brief comment on Dr Ba Han's doctoral thesis (in English) 'William Blake: His Mysticism' (submitted to the University of Bordeaux, France, in 1924) is stated.

In two Chapters Dr Myint Zan gives his tributes to legal scholar and Advocate the late U Mya Sein and to Professor of Medicine and medical researcher the late Dr Aung Than Batu. The book is a compilation of intellectually stimulating and informative essays.



Book Title	-	Colony Khit Myanmar Naing Ngan Thamaing
Writer	-	Bhamo Tin Aung
Publishing House	-	Gangaw Wut Yi
Publication Date	-	October 2024 (6 <sup>th</sup> Edition)
Price	-	K17,500

### Colony Khit Myanmar Naing Ngan Tha Maing By Bhamo Tin Aung

THE writer said this book is dedicated to Ba Hein Aung and Kyaw Zaw Aung, the two brothers who in their childhood used to keep importuning me to tell the battle stories, particularly on the hot summer nights when they had difficulty sleeping. They were never tired of listening to the battles waged by General Bandoola, the anti-fascist wars against the Japanese, the independence struggles against the British colonialist led by Maj-Gen Aung San, and battles against the White Chinese led by Brig-Gen Kyaw Zaw.

Sayagyi Bamaw Tin Aung wrote this book with a focus on the political history of Myanmar. Although this book is concerned chiefly with the historical events of the colonial

period, the writer starts with the history of early Myanmar. He started with the geographical location and the territorial area in the early Myanmar Kingdom. Additionally, he described the national races in those days, their culture and the religious faiths they professed throughout Pyu Era, Bagan Era, Inwa Era and successive periods. Afterwards, he mentioned how the imperialist colonialists like the British, French, Dutch and Americans had brought colonialism into Myanmar. He also dealt with the conflicts between Myanmar monarchs and the aggressive imperialist colonialists, the three Anglo-Myanmar Wars and the conflicts between the political parties in the post-independ-

ence period up to 1958. This book has four parts with 23 episodes. Part I is about the situation of Myanmar in the pre-colonial period whereas Part II deals with capitalism, imperialism and colonialism. Part III is concerned with the situation of Myanmar during the colonial era while Part IV is about neocolonialism.

Episode I is titled, "The Geographical and Historical Developments of Myanmar". Under this title, the readers will be able to read the general geography of Myanmar and its historical background. There is no need to say that historical developments and the geographical location of a country have a great influence and impact on the political trend of

that particular country. The natural, economic, racial and political geography of a nation needs to be considered when a government and/or the ruling party formulate the political, economic, social and cultural policies. Knowing the country's own strengths and limitations is important in effectuation of national economic growth and development. Additionally, there must be unity within diversity. Despite Myanmar being inhabited by 135 national races, we must be united if we want to be prosperous. Without peace prevailing, there can be no prosperity. Only with concerted effort by all ethnic groups, can the nation develop.

In addition to building unity within the country, we also need to build friendly ties with all neighbours, for we cannot live in isolation. In this regard, we ought to be mindful of geopolitics and aware of who should be our closest ally.

As the book review writer, I strongly recommend this book without any reservation whatsoever because it deserves a due place on your bookshelf.

လုံမလေး

ကေသာထက် ပန်းခက်လေး မွေးလို့၊

ခလေ့မြတ် သနပ်ခါး ပါးတို့၊

လုံမလေး ငေးမဝ လှလို့။

ချစ်ကိုဇေ

## Damsel

By Chit Ko Pe

A sweet scent is shared from a stalk of flowers adorned in the hair.

The face looks brighter, with Thanaka pasted over keeping a tradition bolstered.

Appealing to onlookers with such charms and lures, a damsel is prettier than ever.

## The Farthest Lovers and Nearest Enemies

By Mya Thae (Research)

- My Lovers are in abroad.
- I can never see in a time short.
- My heart is deeply suffering for this cause.
- I ever miss my students, grandson, nieces and elder sister.
- They are my sweet lovers.
- Nearest are awful enemies, they were in prison for theft.
- They were always peeping into our house when we left.
- When we went outside, they stole a lot of money.
- We are in enormous fear for the nearest enemy.

Based on a true event

ဘဝကျက်သရေ

နားခါစတွင် ခဏတဖြုတ်၊ သစ်ကိုင်းလှုပ်၍ ရုတ်ရုတ်သဲသဲ၊ ဖြစ်ပေါ်ပြီ။

အတန်ကြာသော် ငှက်ပြာ သေးနပ်၊ အတောင်ရုပ်၍ မလှုပ် စိတ်ဗျာ၊ မခါ သူ့ကိုယ် မတို မာန၊ ကျောက်ဆူး ချသို့ ဘဝ သည်မှာ၊ သူနားလာလျက် နေရာ အစွဲ၊ အသိုက်မြှုပ်၍ မကွဲ ရင်အုပ်၊ မြေခွဲ ကုပ်သော် စိမ်းပုပ် ရင်မိုင်း၊ ဤ သစ်ကိုင်းတို့ ခါတိုင်းပမာ၊ မလှုပ်ပါပြီ

တင်မိုး

## Splendour of Life

By Tin Moe, Translated by Myint Zan

when (the bird) began to rest on the branch its branch of the tree shudders: almost a pandemonium occurs a while later the little bird, in a rush folded its wings: no emotions arise does not shake its body no pride is displayed anchoring itself on the tree branch here (this tree branch) is its home its resting place 'tis a place it settles in nested its children are in one pack its feet firmly entrenched (on the branch): henceforth the dark-green old branches do not shake as before

Translated on 29 November 2024  
Translator's note: This translation commemorates what would have been the 91<sup>st</sup> birthday (on 19 November 2024) of poet Saya Tin Moe (19 November 1933-22 January 2007).



# NATIONAL Entertainment

### Villain Htin Kyaw

THE criticism among Facebook users rose due to a photo of villain Htin Kyaw as he was selling balloons at Yegyaw funfairs and bazaar. The villain actor explained he was starring in an MV for the 'Father of My Daughter' song, and he also appreciated the goodwill of his fans.



### Guitar Naing Zaw

GUITAR NAING ZAW posted his opinion on his Facebook page on 28 November, and his fans gave feedback and commented. He also replied, "Artistes are famous due to the support of people. So, they should respect the people. Now, they make high income due to the people and they focus on money. Artistes must be real artistes. Real artistes are not the ones for money. Such people cannot be found in Hollywood. There are so many real artistes like Bo Htee, Ko Toe Gyi, Ko Hnget, U Ye, Saya Nyein, Saya Ko Paw, Amay Amar, Saya Mya, Sayama Moe Moe (Inya) and Saya Aw P Kye.



### Myo Kyawt Myaing

THE first generation of Myanmar Hip Hop Myo Kyawt Myaing will perform at the Hello December Music Concert of Mingala Moments together with singers Zaw Paing and Wyne Su Khine Thein at Golden Inya in Yangon. The event will be at 6 pm on 7 December. The singer is expecting fans of oldies music and modern music.



### Shwe Sin Yote Hlwar

A song of singer Shwe Sin Yote Hlwar becomes famous after singing a song by singer Hlwan Paing 'Kyar Chay Yar'. The singer explained singing that song including the request she made to Hlwan Paing. The singer living in Dedaye Township has been singing songs since she was in Grade 3, and can sing modern and classical songs.



### Ngwe Ti Oo

DR NGWE TI OO, sister of actor Pyay Ti Oo, will launch her new book 'Refuge' and hold a fan meeting at Yangon Max - Mandalay & Bagan Room of Novotel Hotel at 3 pm on 1 December. The Meiko Myanmar will be a full sponsor for the event. Maha Publishing House praised the writing style of the author and said the author received nearly 1,000 pre-orders.



### Khin Wint Wah

ACADEMY KHIN WINT WAH donated K3 million for the Kathina ceremony at Ponnya Sakava monastery in Shwepyitha Township last month. She also made donations dedicated to her late father U Hla Han in June at Mula Pathana Monastery. She also shared her merits with all the people including her fans. — Htun Htun/KTZH

## CELEBRITY BRIEF

### Premiere show of 'Thu Naing Ko Naing' movie



THE premiere show of 'Thu Naing Ko Naing' movie was made at the President Cinema in Yangon on 27 November.

Arman Film Production produced the film, Ko Shwe created the story, Min Ko Soe (Nat Than Gwin) wrote the script, and Ko Zaw (Aryone Oo) directed it.

"I created the movie with a Shwe-Shwe couple, Mon ethnic Nay San and Wai Lar Yi, and also three pigs. The pigs are so tired, one pig is Ko Khin Hlaing. The plot is based in the Bagan location, so the audience will get an unusual taste," said director Academy Ko Zaw (Aryone Oo).

The cast is composed of Academy Shwe Htoo, Academy Shwe Hmone Yati, Academy Tekkatho Gwan Pone, Khin Hlaing, Wai Lar Yi, Thwet Lat, Nay San (Mon) and other artistes. — ASH/KTZH

# NATIONAL

## One dead, two hurt in shooting by KNDF, PDF terrorists

FIVE monks led by Presiding Sayadaw of Hteesaekha Monastery Bhaddanta Pannya Vamsa in Loilinlay Township, Kayah State, faced attacks from KNDF and PDF terrorists near Aungkalat Village on the Loikaw-Hsihseng Road yesterday morning while they were heading to Mandalay by car to buy materials to construct new pagoda.

After the incident, security forces proceeded to that place, and terrorists retreated and found Sayadaw U Pinobhasa, U Candhima and U Pandita had got gunshot wounds and U

Candhima died from the gunshot wounds. The dead body of the Sayadaw was taken to the military hospital in Loikaw. Kayah State Chief Minister U Zaw Myo Tin and departmental officials paid homage to the deceased Sayadaw and donated cash for the final rites of Sayadaw.

Moreover, the two injured Sayadaws were also taken to the military hospital in Taunggyi and provided with medical treatment. Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt and officials paid homage to Sayadaws and donated cash



The map shows the KNDF and PDF terrorists attack at the vehicle which carries monks on the Loikaw-Hsihseng Road yesterday.

and robes.

Terrorists are attempting to kill Sayadaws in addition to

civilians who do not support them using various reasons. Locals also should report to

authorities regarding suspected movements and activities of terrorists. — MNA/KTZH

### Counter-argument to false information

## Security forces accused of burning homes in Magway Region



Screenshot of Myaelat Athan validates misinformation.

MALICIOUS media circulated misinformation claiming that security forces torched Kyaukpone and Khepyit villages in Sedoktara and

Pwintbyu townships, Magway Region, and over 2,000 residents had to flee their villages on 28 November.

According to a security official, security forces conducted security measures in these villages following rules and regulations and did not make villages ablaze. They protect the lives and properties of people sacrificing their lives, and terrorists stationed in villages and launched attacks taking sheltering at pagodas, schools and houses. Moreover, terrorists set fire to villages and arrested and murdered villagers.

Subversive media attempts to cause misunderstanding between residents and security forces and defame security forces through social network pages. — MNA/KTZH

## K630M+ worth of heroin, stimulant tablets seized in Yaksawk

A total of more than 26.35 kilograms of heroin and 480,000 stimulant tablets, valued at over K635 million, were seized in Yaksawk Township, Shan State (South), according to the Myanmar Police Force.

Acting on a tip-off, a combined team, including members of the anti-drug police force, searched two AD vans: one driven by Yaza Htay, accompanied by Zaw Myo Htwe, and the other by Ye Min Thu, on the Kyaukgu-Nawngwoe road in Yaksawk Township at 9 am on 24 November.

The search resulted in the seizure of 26.35 kilograms of heroin, 480,000 stimulant tablets, and K19 million in cash.

Additionally, police arrested Aung Kyaw Oo, Win Phyo Aung, Zin Phyo Aung, and Ma Nweni Lwin for their involvement in drug trafficking on 25 November in Pyigyidagun Township.

Legal proceedings are underway, and an ongoing investigation is conducted to apprehend others involved in the case. — MNA/MKKS



Offenders seen alongside confiscated drugs and vehicles.

### Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals  
Enterprise



# ECONOMY WORLD



San José, Costa Rica, is the vibrant capital city known for its rich cultural heritage, bustling markets, and proximity to lush rainforests and volcanoes. **PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

## TPP countries to start talks on Costa Rica's entry: Japan minister

*The TPP members have agreed to negotiate Costa Rica's entry into the agreement.*

THE 11 members of the Trans-Pacific Partnership have decided to start negotiations with Costa Rica on the Central American country's entry into the high-standard free trade agreement, a Japanese minister said Friday.

The move comes before the protocol approving Britain's participation takes effect on 15

December, marking the TPP's first expansion since its establishment in 2018. Costa Rica will be the second country to begin talks on entering the deal after Britain. "Costa Rica, which places importance on democracy and free trade, is our crucial partner that shares our fundamental values and principles," said Ryosei Akazawa, Japan's

economic revitalization minister in charge of TPP negotiations. On Thursday, Akazawa attended a TPP gathering in Vancouver, Canada. At a press conference held after his return to Tokyo the following day, he also emphasized the strategic importance of strengthening relations with South and Central American countries. — Kyodo

## WTO chief reappointed as Trump threat looms

WORLD Trade Organization chief Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala was reappointed Friday for a second term, in the shadow of the coming return of Donald Trump and his disdain for international trade rules.

Okonjo-Iweala, the first woman and the first African to head the WTO, was the only candidate in the race, and had been all but assured a second term.

The organization's 166 members "today agreed to give incumbent Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala a second term as director-general," the WTO said in a statement. The 70-year-old Nigerian's reappointment was approved by consensus during a special meeting of the organization's General Council, held behind closed doors, the WTO said.

Her current term ends in August 2025, and

the appointment process for the next mandate had initially been scheduled to take months. — AFP



WTO chief Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala is likely to face turbulence in her second term given Donald Trump's renewed tariff threats. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Romania's economic troubles fuel far-right rise

IN a working class neighbourhood of Bucharest, pensioners like Ana Sandu wait for the afternoon to buy food when prices are lower, as inflation dampens hopes of a better life in the EU state heading into key elections.

Traditionally loyal to the Social Democrats, the 65-year-old Sandu has little faith that any government will offer a remedy. She hinted at favouring far-right contender Calin Georgescu in a presidential runoff vote on 8 December.

Living on a monthly pension of about \$400, suffering from diabetes and with a husband suffering from Parkinson's disease, Sandu depends on money sent by

her son working abroad.

Romania is one of Europe's poorest countries and she spends more than 300 lei (\$60) just on medicine and at least \$150 on electricity, water and other utilities.

"I don't even think about buying meat. I buy vegetables," she said.

"I come to the bazaar in the afternoon because it's cheaper," she said showing a bag of grapes that cost just 6 lei (\$1).

While Romania's inflation has fallen from 10 per cent last year, it remains high with consumer prices at an annual rate of 5.1 per cent in October, according to the EU statistics office. — AFP



Experts say Romania's inflation is linked to its excessive budget deficit. **PHOTO: AFP**

## France says ready for budget concessions to avert 'storm'

THE French government is ready to offer concessions to parliament to pass its budget, the finance minister said Thursday, in a standoff which is causing market turbulence and risks bringing down the government of Prime Minister Michel Barnier.

"Whatever differences in values we have, we are today facing an extremely serious situation for the country... we are obviously ready to make concessions to avoid this storm," Economy and Finance Minister Antoine Armand told BFMTV.

Months of political tensions

since right-winger Barnier became prime minister in September at the helm of a minority government appointed by President Emmanuel Macron in the wake of this summer's elections are coming to a head over the budget, which has yet to be approved by parliament.

The opposition on all sides of the spectrum have denounced the budget, prompting Barnier to consider brandishing article 49.3 of the constitution which allows a government to force through legislation without a vote in parliament. — AFP

# Thailand's economy improved in October on recovering tourism, consumption

*Private consumption, manufacturing, and exports contributed to economic recovery, central bank reports.*

THAILAND'S economy improved in October compared to the previous month, thanks to a steady rise in tourism revenue and improvements in private consumption, manufacturing production and government spending, the central bank said on Friday.

The Southeast Asian country's foreign arrivals remained stable last month but tourism revenue grew

due to a higher number of cumulative inbound tourists and a slightly higher spending per trip, according to the Bank of Thailand (BOT).

Private consumption picked up across all major categories, partially driven by the government's cash handout programme. The manufacturing sector and merchandise exports, which observed higher

shipments in the machinery and equipment category, also contributed to the recovery, the central bank said in a statement.

Looking ahead, economic activities continue to be driven by the tourism and service sectors, while exports and industrial output are gradually recovering, said BOT Assistant Governor Chayawadee Chai-Anant. — Xinhua



Thailand is banking on the return of tourists to boost its economy. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

## Salesforce says US\$33.6 bln spent online globally on Thanksgiving Day

THE Thanksgiving Day on Thursday generated US\$33.6 billion in sales on-

line globally, an increase of six per cent from a year ago, Salesforce said Fri-

day, adding the US market alone went up eight per cent to \$8.1 billion, and

Europe was also a stand-out with a growth of 10 per cent.

Thanksgiving weekend has long been seen as the traditional start of the most important sales period for retailers. This indicates a strong holiday season for e-commerce, the San Francisco-based leading customer relationship management platform said.

Salesforce said its 2024 figures are based on shopping data from 1.5 billion consumers captured across its customers and other data feeds in its Commerce Cloud, Marketing Cloud, and Service Cloud. — Xinhua



A Ronald McDonald balloon floats during the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York. PHOTO: AFP

## 91% of Indian firms plan finance budget reductions

COST pressures have emerged as the top concern for Indian companies, as 91 per cent companies are planning to reduce their tax and finance budgets, reflecting the impact of financial strain on corporate operations, said a EY report.

The survey by the professional services firm highlights that cost pressures are the top concern of the companies for the first time, with inflation and cost-cutting eroding tax and finance budgets.

At the same time, the survey highlights that tax functions face an increasing urgency to manage more complex and data-heavy tax responsibilities. New reporting requirements like BEPS 2.0's Pillar Two rules, are expected to have a significant bearing on the burden of tax and finance functions, it added. — ANI

## Japanese 'god of management' back as AI avatar

JAPANESE firm Panasonic has brought back the "God of Management" in AI avatar form, ready to answer all your business questions. Konosuke Matsushita, the founder of Panasonic, remains one of Japan's most revered entrepreneurs even 35 years after his death

aged 94 in 1989.

Panasonic's website even has a list of quotations from Matsushita with words of wisdom on everything from "Do it now" to "Biding your time".

Panasonic said it created the AI avatar "based on the vast

amount of recorded speech and audio data from Matsushita's writings, speeches and dialogues".

The purpose is to "explore and enlighten his philosophy and pass it on to the next generation", the electronics company said in a press release on Wednesday. — AFP

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PRIX VOY.NO. (05/2024)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PRIX VOY. NO. (05/2024)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-11-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT/SPW** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD**

# WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



Tourists visit the town of Luang Prabang, a UNESCO world heritage site in Laos, 15 July 2022. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

## Laos enhances tourism infrastructure and services

30 NOVEMBER

**LAOS'** Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism is working to improve tourism infrastructure and service standards to make Laos a more attractive destination.

The ministry has formulated master plans and management strategies and has worked to improve tourism standards in coordination with central and provincial sectors, Lao national TV quoted Lao Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism Suanesavanh Vignaket as saying.

These efforts aim to establish clear

guidelines for entrepreneurs, ensuring sustainable development and compliance with regulations.

The ministry is also developing standards for tour guides. Annual training sessions for tour guides have been held, focusing on skill development and professional knowledge.

Looking ahead, efforts will prioritize upgrading hygiene and clean restaurant standards to ensure safety and attract more visitors. – Xinhua

29 November

### EU lifts four-year ban on Pakistan's airline

**THE** European Union's aviation authorities have lifted a four-year ban on Pakistan's beleaguered national airline that was at the centre of a pilot licence scandal, officials said Friday.

Pakistan International Airlines was barred from flying to the EU in June 2020, a month after one of its aircraft plunged into a Karachi street, killing nearly 100 people.

The disaster was attributed to human

error by the pilots and air traffic control, and was followed by allegations that nearly a third of the licences for its pilots were fake or dubious.

It remains banned from operating in the United States.

"EASA has lifted the suspension of the third country operator authorization issued to Pakistan International Airlines," the European Union Aviation Safety Agency said in a statement. – AFP

28 November

### Over 335,000 affected by Sri Lanka's storms

**MORE** than 335,000 people were affected by adverse weather conditions in Sri Lanka starting from 22 November, according to the country's Disaster Management Center (DMC) on Thursday.

The DMC said in its latest situation update that 335,155 people belonging to 99,876 families have been hit by rain-related disasters in 23 out of the total 25 administrative districts across the country.

Twelve people have died in disasters,

with 17 injured, and two people missing, the DMC said.

The DMC said 95 houses were damaged fully and 1,708 houses damaged partially.

The Department of Meteorology said on Thursday that a deep depression over the southwest Bay of Bengal was likely to move closer to the east coast of Sri Lanka and intensify further into a cyclonic storm. – Xinhua

27 November

### Duterte's bodyguards replaced amid threat investigation

**PHILIPPINE** security forces said Wednesday they had replaced Vice-President Sara Duterte's bodyguards, days after the justice department launched a probe into her alleged death threat against President Ferdinand Marcos.

But the decision to swap out Duterte's security detail, a mix of soldiers and police officers, was related to a separate investigation, a police spokeswoman and the country's military chief told reporters.

National police spokeswoman Colonel Jean Fajardo said the force had asked prosecutors to file assault charges against the vice-president and members of her detail for allegedly interfering in the transfer of her detained chief of staff.

A police doctor "was pushed by the head of security" of Duterte and "we cannot let this pass", Fajardo told journalists.

Duterte brushed aside the police complaint. – AFP

26 November

### Foreign institutions expand presence in China's growing market

**SINCE** the start of this year, an increasing number of foreign financial institutions have cast a vote of confidence in China by establishing new securities entities and expanding the scope of their existing businesses in a market that continues to grow and open up.

Singapore-based DBS Group has obtained regulatory approval to increase its stake in the DBS Securities China to 91 per cent from 51 per cent, with the

transaction valued at about 823 million yuan (US\$ 114.33 million), according to the group on Tuesday.

The move demonstrates the group's firm commitment to the Chinese market as it has continued to ramp up investment in the country in recent years. The acquisition would better enable DBS Securities China to tap into the Group's resources to improve the capital market services it provides, according to the group. – Xinhua

25 November

### DHL cargo plane crashes near Vilnius

**A** DHL cargo plane crashed into a residential house near Vilnius, Lithuania, early Monday morning, leaving one person dead and three others injured.

The incident occurred near Vilnius International Airport, approximately 1.5 kilometres (one mile) short of the runway. The aircraft collided with a two-storey home, causing significant damage. Aid has confirmed that three people have been injured and one person has died. 12 people were evacuated

from the house, but all have survived according to Reuters. The Lithuanian airport authority identified the plane as a DHL cargo aircraft arriving from Leipzig, Germany. In a statement on social media platform X, the authority confirmed that emergency responders, including firefighters, were at the scene. The plane, a Boeing 737 operated by Madrid-based contractor Swiftair, had turned north of the airport to align for landing before the crash. – AFP

24 November

### Tugboat capsizes after collision near Kobe

**A** tugboat capsized after colliding with a cargo ship off the coast of Japan's Kobe Port on Saturday, leaving the boat captain dead.

The collision occurred around 6 pm local time. Two other crew members of the tugboat were rescued and taken to hospital, while none of the 21 crew members aboard the cargo ship sustained injuries.

The cargo ship was en route from Kobe Port to Singapore at the time of the accident. Japan Coast Guard is conducting an investigation into the cause of the collision. Two other crew members from the tugboat were rescued and transported to the hospital for treatment. – Xinhua

# SPORTS

## Myanmar Chinlone Federation reorganized to boost development

THE Myanmar Chinlone Federation has been restructured under the guidance of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and the Myanmar Olympic Committee. This effort aims to enhance Myanmar's sports standards and systematically promote Chinlone's development. The reorganization ceremony took place this morning at the Shwegondine Hotel in Bahan Township, Yangon.

At the event, the new federation's patron, U Soe Tint, provided insights into Chinlone and outlined future initiatives. The federation's president U Thet Lwin explained the organizational structure, while vice-president U Win Tint presented plans for

demonstrations during the National Sports Festival. Additionally, vice-president U Tun Lin Thaung discussed upcoming international competitions, with executive members delivering updates on Chinlone-related activities. The restructured federation includes patron U Soe Tint, president U Thet Lwin, and vice-presidents U Kyaw Zin Moe, U Win Tint, and U Tun Lin Thaung.

The executive body comprises 17 members, along with a secretary, joint secretary, and subcommittees on referees, international relations, demonstrations, mobilization, communications, fundraising, and event organization. — Arkar Linn/KZL



New members of the Myanmar Chinlone Federation. PHOTO: ARKAR LINN



This photo showcases the Shan United U-20 team celebrating their championship victory. PHOTO: THAW GYI

## Shan United crowns MNL U-20 Championship

SHAN United claimed the championship title of the 2024 MNL U-20 Youth League on the final matchday held on 30 November.

On the final day, Junior Lions defeated Shan United 2-0. Despite the loss, Shan United had already secured the championship title two matches earlier, making their defeat irrelevant to the final standings.

Other results on the final day included Yadanabon beating ISPE FC 1-0, while Ayeyawady United dominated Dagon Port with a 6-2 victory.

The MNL resumed its youth league competitions this season for the first time since 2020. Shan United emerged

as the champions, marking a significant achievement in the league's revival.

After the match between Shan United and Junior Lions at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre, an awards ceremony was held. Yangon United forward Sai Zeya Kyaw received the top scorer award with 15 goals, earning a medal and K300,000.

ISPE FC finished third in the league, earning medals and K10 million, while Junior Lions secured second place with medals and K12 million. Shan United, as league champions, received medals, the championship trophy, and K15 million.

Shan United completed the season with 24 matches played,

securing 16 wins, 4 draws, and 4 losses, achieving a total of 52 points to clinch the title. Junior Lions finished second with 51 points, while ISPE FC came third with 46 points.

The remaining league standings saw Dagon Star United finishing with 42 points, followed by Yangon United with 40 points and Thitsa Arman with 38 points. Ayeyawady United secured 32 points, while Yadanabon earned 31 points, and Rakhine United accumulated 30 points. Dagon Port finished with 21 points, Myawady with 19 points, Mahar United with 12 points, and Hanthawady United ended the season with 11 points. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

## FIFA announces nominees for year-end awards

THE nominees of the 2024 Best FIFA Football Awards were announced on Friday, with voting open across a number of award categories until 10 December.

Six players from Real Madrid are included in the shortlist for Best FIFA Men's Player award, namely Dani Carvajal, Federico Valverde, Jude Bellingham, Vinicius Junior, Kylian Mbappe and the now retired Toni Kroos.

Ballon d'Or winner Rodri was also nominated alongside Manchester City team-mate Erling Haaland, Barcelona's young talent Lamine Yamal, Inter Miami's Lionel Messi and Bayer Leverkusen playmaker Florian Wirtz.



In the women's award, the list was dominated by Barcelona and Spain players, with Aitana Bonmati, Mariona Caldentey — now of Arsenal — Ona Battle and Salma Paralluelo all nominated.

Fans, current captains and coaches of all women's and men's national teams and media representatives can vote for Best FIFA Men's Player, Best FIFA Women's Player, Best FIFA Men's Coach,

Federico Valverde has been shortlisted for the Best FIFA Men's Player award in 2024. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Best FIFA Women's Coach, Best FIFA Men's Goalkeeper and Best FIFA Women's Goalkeeper. — Xinhua



Foreign tourists (bottom L) pose for a photo in front of Himeji Castle in Hyogo Prefecture on 17 April 2024. **PHOTO: KYODO**

## 30% of tourists to Japan experienced overtourism problems in 2024

Over 30 per cent of foreign tourists to Japan experienced problems associated with overtourism during their trips in 2024 and more than 60 per cent said they are willing to accept higher charges as a way to ease congestion and protect natural and cultural resources, according to a recent survey.

*63 per cent of respondents (up from 43 per cent in 2019) said they would accept higher charges at tourist destinations to ease congestion and protect natural and cultural sites.*

The survey of 7,796 foreigners about their travel plans and experiences, jointly conducted by the Development Bank of Japan and the Japan Travel Bureau Foundation and released in October, found that congestion of tourist destinations was the most common problem, with 32 per cent of respondents saying they experienced it during their stay.

The result compares to 30 per cent in the 2019 survey conducted before the COVID-19 pandemic. The second most popular response in the multiple answer question was bad

manners such as littering and entering restricted areas.

In the survey conducted online from 8 July to 18 July on individuals aged 20 to 79 across Asia, Britain, France, the United States and Australia, 63 per cent said they would accept higher charges at tourist destinations and other facilities in Japan if they would help ease congestion and protect those sites, up from 43 per cent in 2019. — Kyodo

## Researchers analyze DNA from dung to save Laos elephants

*Conservationists aim to safeguard genetic diversity through DNA analysis, breeding programmes, and sanctuary care to prevent extinction.*

SLOW and silent, former logging elephant Mae Khoun Nung emerges from a forest in northern Laos and follows her guide to an animal hospital for a check-up.

Once abundant in the forests of Laos, Asian elephants like her have been decimated by habitat destruction, gruelling la-

bour in the logging industry, poaching and scarce breeding opportunities.

But conservationists are hoping DNA analysis of elephants' dung will help them track both captive and wild tuskers, so they can secure a healthy genetic pool and craft an effective breeding plan to protect the species.

Laos — once proudly known as “Lane Xang” or “Land of a Million Elephants” — has between 500 and 1,000 of the animals left, just one-third of the population two decades ago, according to conservation group WWF-Laos.

Around 10 elephants die each year for every one to two born, a rate that puts the animals at risk of dying out completely in the Southeast Asian nation. Efforts to conserve Laos' dwindling elephant population focus on breeding programmes, DNA analysis, and sanctuary care to preserve genetic diversity and support potential wild population recovery amidst declining numbers. — AFP



Tourists check out the elephants at the ECC's 500-hectare sanctuary. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Car-centric Saudi to open first part of Riyadh Metro



A train is tested ahead of the opening on Sunday of the first three lines of the Riyadh Metro, a major project intended to help shift car-centric Saudi Arabia to public transport. **PHOTO: AFP**

*The Riyadh Metro is a fully automated (driverless) system, designed to transport over 3.6 million passengers at maximum capacity.*

SAUDI ARABIA announced Wednesday it is ready to open the first part of the Riyadh Metro, a major project intended to help shift the car-centric kingdom to public transport. Three lines will open to the public on 1 December, “with gradual launches completing the six-line, 176-kilometre (109 mile) network across the city,” the Royal Commission for Riyadh City said in a statement. All six lines are expected to be operating by 5 January, the statement said. The Riyadh Metro, a fully automated (driverless) system, is designed to transport over 3.6 million passengers at

maximum capacity. It will operate with 183 trains and 448 carriages built by Siemens, Bombardier, and Alstom, featuring a unified design by Avant Premiere.

Officially inaugurated by King Salman, the metro is part of Riyadh's transformation under Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. This ambitious project aims to reduce reliance on cars, despite extreme summer temperatures. The metro reflects the kingdom's commitment to sustainability, integrating eco-friendly materials and energy-efficient systems. — AFP