

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Group stage events of 5th National Sports Festival kick off

THE group stage fixtures of the Fifth National Sports Festival kicked off at the designated stadiums in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday.

The Inter-State and Region U-20 Volleyball tournament took place at Wunna Theikdi Gymnasium B, and during the men's competitions the Nay Pyi Taw team beat the Kayah State team 3-0, the Yangon Region team won over Magway 3-0, while the Mandalay Region team beat Sagaing with 3-0. At the women's events, the Yangon Region team beat the Bago Region team 3-0 and the Sagaing Region team won over the Mon State team 3-0.

Similarly, the Inter-State and Region Futsal events commenced at the futsal court of the Wunna Theikdi Stadium, and the Mandalay Region team and the Kachin State team made a draw, the Kayah State team won over the Chin State team 4-2, the Taninthayi Region team beat Rakhine State 1-0, and Ayeyawady Region made a victory of 3-1 against Kayin State in men's competition. During the women's competitions, the Ayeyawady Region team beat Rakhine State 2-0, Mandalay Region ended with a 2-2 draw against

SEE PAGE 3



The Sagaing Region team beats the Mon State team in the Inter-State and Region U-20 Volleyball tourney, commenced yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.



Futsal players in action.

Article

Why transitional elections in Myanmar would be good for Asia and the world

By Atul Aneja

PAGE 8-9

NATIONAL

PAGE 5



Toddy palm grove depicting nature: Anya tradition

NATIONAL

PAGE 6



Dhamma Puja ceremony to commemorate 114th birthday of First Ledi Sayadaw

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Stay Vigilant as Terrorists Use Civilians as Human Shields

TERRORISTS launch attacks while hiding behind public houses in towns and villages.

Residents must exercise caution and awareness to avoid these groups, as they use people as human shields in their temporarily controlled areas to successfully combat terrorism.

(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 Kayah State government, state-level departmental officials, town elders and locals on 4 September 2024.)

Myanmar Gazette

Head of Service Organization transferred and appointed

THE State Administration Council has transferred and appointed U Kyaw Swe Linn, Director-General of the Department of Planning under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, as Director-General of the Union Minister's Office of the same ministry from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification 8/2024

2nd Waxing of Nattaw 1386 ME
2 December 2024

AS of 2 December 2024, Unity and Development Party (UADP), with its headquarters located at No 26, Seinpan Street, ACE Housing, Thakayta Township, Yangon Region, has been allowed to register under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law.

The registration number of the Unity and Development Party (UADP) is 55.

U Ko Ko
Chairman
Union Election Commission

The people are urged to receive vaccination of COVID-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of COVID-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.



A commemorative group picture of the Russian delegation with the Maravijaya Buddha Image in Nay Pyi Taw.

Russian State Duma Deputy Chairman leads delegation to Nay Pyi Taw

A delegation led by Mr Sholban Kara-Ool, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation currently in Nay Pyi Taw, visited the significant sites of Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

On arrival at the Mini Theatre of Nay Pyi Taw National Museum, the officials explained the history of the museum, and the delegates observed the booths showcasing pre-history and early history

periods, utensils, Thiha Thana throne and vehicles used by the presidents.

They proceeded to the Gems Museum and observed the jade replica of Uppatasanti Pagoda, the largest pearl of Myanmar and mineral resources. The Deputy Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly signed in the guests' book and viewed round the gems and jewellery shops.

The delegation also visited the Maravijaya Buddha Image, and officials explained the construction processes of the Buddha Image and holding of religious events via video clip.

Afterwards, they donated flowers, water and oil lamps to the Buddha Image, and observed the Agga Dhipati Sasana Beikman and stone plaques bearing inscriptions on Tri Pitaka in Pali and Romanized languages. — MNA/KTZH

5 special civil appeal cases passed judgements; 5 special civil appeal cases heard

A special appeal tribunal consisting of Chief Justice of the Union U Tha Htay and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union U Khin Maung Gyi, Daw Thin Thin Nwet, Daw Pyone Pyone Aye and Dr Ko Ko Naing was convened Monday morning at the Supreme Court of the Union and passed judgements on five special civil appeal cases — Nos 19/2024 (Yangon), 41/2024 (Ayeyawady), 45/2024 (Yangon), 46/2024 (Yangon) and 71/2024 (Ayeyawady).

In addition, a total of five special civil appeal cases — Nos 59/2024 (Yangon), 60/2024 (Yangon), 61/2024 (Yangon), 68/2024 (Yangon) and 72/2024 (Mon) were heard. — MNA

COVID-19 report, 2 December 2024

NEW TESTS	NEW CASES	CASUALTIES
4,330	Four	NIL

Myanmar National Centre for Diseases Control
Department of Public Health

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.

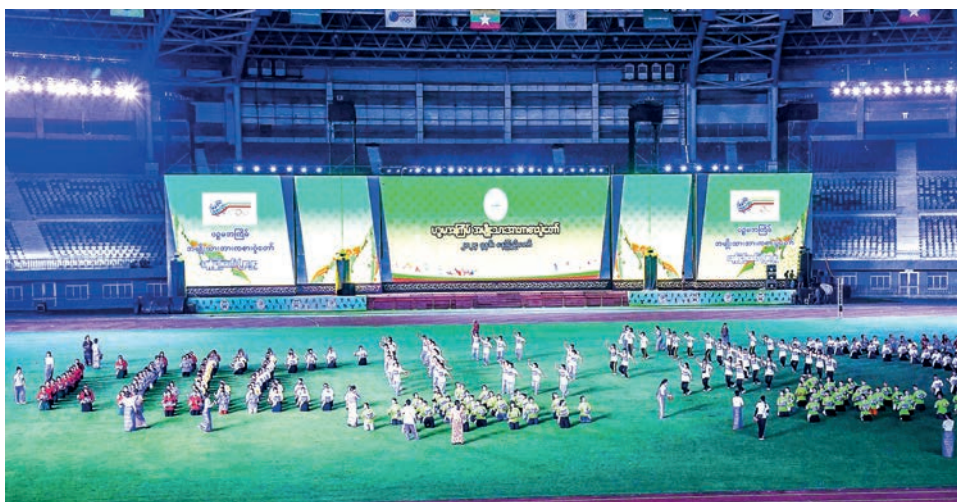
(Excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

MoI Union Minister watches Inter-Ministry Men's Football Tournament, inspects opening/closing preparations

THE sports competitions of the Fifth National Sports Festival took place at the designated stadiums yesterday.

The ministry-level football tournament was at Pyithu Paunglaung stadium, while Inter-State and Region U-21 Men's football tournament at training grounds 3 and 4, the Inter-State and Region U-25 Women's football tournament at Bawgawadi and Lewe Football Grounds, Inter-State and Region court (men's and women's) futsal at Wunna Theikdi futsal court, and the Inter-State and Region Men's and Women's Volleyball tournament at Wunna Theikdi Stadium B.

Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Deputy Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn oversees preparations for the opening and closing of the Fifth National Sports Festival in Nay Pyi Taw.



Htein Lin, Permanent Secretary U Win Kyaw Aung and relevant officials watched the match between the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and the Ministry of Information in the Inter-Ministry Men's

Football Tournament. The former beat the latter 2-1. After the event, Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn met with the administrator, coaches and athletes of the ministry and presented cash award. In

the evening, Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn, accompanied by Daw Nu Mra Zan and officials, inspected the rehearsals of group dance of students from the National University of Arts and Culture,

Myanmar Comedians' Association and Myanmar Theatrical Association, installation of the lighting system, LED, sound and electricity for opening and closing event of the sports festival. — MNA/KTZH

Group stage events of 5th National Sports ...

FROM PAGE 1

Sagaing Region, Yangon Region beat Magway Region 4-0, and the Taninthayi Region team beat the Kayin State team 4-2.

Similarly, the Inter-State and Region U-21 Men's Football matches also took place at Training Grounds 3 and 4 of the Wunna Theikdi Stadium, and the Bago Region team made a 5-2 victory over Rakhine State, and the Ayeyawady Region team beat the Taninthayi Region

team 1-0.

Moreover, the Inter-State and Region U-25 Women's Football matches started on the same afternoon at Bawgawady Football Ground and Lewe football sports ground. The Ayeyawady Region team won Bago Region with a 4-0 victory and the Kayah State team beat Rakhine State 1-0.

During the Inter-Ministry Men's Football matches held at Paunglaung, Shwekyapin and Lewe TC-2 stadiums,

the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs beat the Ministry of Information 2-1, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation beat the Ministry of Electric Power 1-0 and the Ministry of Border Affairs made a 4-0 victory over the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs.

Departmental officials, staff, students and locals enjoyed the events at the designated places.

The festival aims to enhance the

country's sports standards, facilitate successful participation in the XXXIII SEA Games and other international sports competitions, develop skilled athletes as well as promising young talents, promote friendship among regions, states and ministries, and lure high public participation in sports.

The festival features six sports at the ministry level, 23 sports at the state and regional level, and four para-sports.

— MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

Victory flag offered to MoCRD's athletes



THE ceremony to present the flag to ensure success to athletes representing the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development who will compete in the Fifth National Sports Festival was held yesterday afternoon at the ministry's conference hall. Union Minister U Hla Moe, Deputy Minister U Myint Soe, permanent secretaries, directors-general, administrators, coaches, athletes and officials were present.

The Union minister first instructed them to practise and

Union Minister U Hla Moe looks into the sportswear for his ministry's contingent.

raise their morale, strive for sports success according to the motto: "The best comes first", and enhance the honour of the ministry through sports, thereby uplifting the prestige of the country.

The deputy minister then stated that the requirements for success in each sport have been met and preparations have been made. The Union minister also presented the flag to ensure success to sports team leaders.

At the Fifth National Sports Festival, the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development will participate in events such as football, volleyball, Sepak Takraw, athletics, and golf with 100 athletes. — MNA/TS

MSWRR athletes for National Sports Festival encouraged

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win and the deputy minister visited the Wunna Theikdi Sports Training Camp yesterday morning to observe the training of the ministry's sports teams preparing for the Fifth National Sports Festival.

The Union minister watched the training sessions of the Sepak Takraw team, men's and women's volleyball teams, futsal teams, and football team. He encouraged athletes to compete with honesty, dedication, and

full sportsmanship, adhere to the rules and regulations, maintain good health, eat properly, and aim to uphold the success achieved in the previous year. He also urged them to strive for excellent performance to enhance the reputation of the ministry and the nation. The Union minister provided food and refreshments to athletes as a gesture of support.

A total of 99 athletes from the ministry will compete in five events at the Fifth National Sports Festival. — MNA/TKO



Union Minister Dr Soe Win views the training session of his ministry's athletes yesterday.

MoEP Union Minister views football match of 5th National Sports Festival



Union Minister U Nyan Tun watches the group match between the football teams from the Ministry of Electric Power and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation yesterday.

UNION Minister for Electric Power U Nyan Tun attended the Group A round-robin match between the football teams of the Ministry of Electric Power and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation at the Shwekyabin Football Ground in Zabuthiri Township yesterday, as part of the Inter-Ministerial Open Football Tournament in the Fifth National Sports Festival 2024.

The competition was attended by Union Minister U Nyan Tun and his wife, Deputy Minister U Aye Kyaw and his wife, officials from the Union Minister's Office, departmental heads, representatives from enterprises, and their families, as well as staff members from the Ministry of Electric Power, their families, and sports enthusiasts.

In Group A, the Ministry of Electric Power faced the Min-

istry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. The remaining group matches are scheduled as follows: the Ministry of Electric Power will play against the Ministry of Information on 4 December, the Ministry of Electric Power will face the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs on 7 December, and the Ministry of Electric Power will compete with the Ministry of Energy on 10 December. — MNA/MKKS

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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.

NATIONAL

THE rows of toddy palm or toddy groves are a symbol of the beauty and tradition of the rural life of Anya (up-country).

The toddy palms are common in the central part of Myanmar; and can be seen in Aungmye, the entrance to Magway Region, along the Yangon-Mandalay Highway on the bank of the Ayeyawady River. As soon as one arrives in the Anya region, he or she can see the gloomy scene of the region, including the beauty of toddy groves and various actions of toddy palm climbers, and such views are picturesque for the photographers.

Palms have a lifespan of 150 to 200 years, with very slender two-foot diameter stems and their average height being 60 feet to 80 feet. It can reach heights six inches to one foot a year, and palms like dry season with 20-40 inches of rainfalls.

There are male palms and female palms. The male palms are medicinal, and they develop buds in Tazaungmone and Nattaw, afterwards, the palmate leaves grow out, like fingers.

Toddy palm grove depicting nature: Anya tradition

After beating and cutting these palmate leaves, the toddy sap can be received. The toddy sap is used to make jaggery. The female palm trees bear buds and fruits in Tabodwe and Tabaung, and the toddy sap can get after cutting or beating these fruits like the male ones. That toddy sap can be used to make jaggery.

All parts of palms are useful. The inner part is soft and the outer part is hard, so it can be used as a cross beam and a tie beam of barns of farmers. At this stage, they are used for cross beams, rafters, tie beams and furniture of houses. Moreover, the palm branches are used for

boxes, chairs, bottles and huts, and leaves are used for leaving beads, fans and roofing the huts and houses. The middle

parts of the leaves are for combs and strings.

The useful palms are common in Magway, Sagaing and Mandalay regions, and Ye-

nyaung, Chauk, Gwaycho, Kyaukpadaung, NyaungU and Yesagy townships, and also in Bago Region, Yangon Region, Ayeyawady Region, Mon State, Kayin State and Shan State. Therefore, all should save toddy palms and groves as they depict the natural beauty of rural areas. — Zeyar Naing (Shwe Kan Myay)/KTZH



Photo captures toddy palm climber with pot at waist in Anya grove. **PHOTOS: ZEYAR NAING (SHWE KAN MYAY)**

Victory flag presented to MoC sports teams



Union Minister U Myo Thant and officials pose for the group documentary photo with contingent.

A ceremony to present the flag to ensure success to the athletes representing the Ministry of Construction at the Fifth National Sports Festival 2024 was held today at the Ministry's conference hall in Nay Pyi Taw. The event was attended by Union Minister U Myo Thant, Deputy Minister U Win Pe, officials, team managers, coaches, and athletes.

In his speech, Union Minister U Myo Thant noted that athletes from various regions, states, and ministries would participate in the festival. He announced that the Ministry of Construction would be competing in six sports disciplines. He encouraged the athletes to participate with full sportsmanship, emphasizing that success in the competition would not only enhance the ministry's reputation but also contribute to the development of the nation's sports sector.

The Union minister also highlighted that the National Sports Festival aims to promote

long-term health and fitness, improve the healthcare and sports sectors, foster unity among citizens, and cultivate national athletes who can bring honour to the country. He urged the participants to make the most of this rare opportunity, striving with determination, dedication, and perseverance.

Following the speech, the Union minister presented the flag to ensure success to the Ministry of Construction's sports teams. Director-General U Kyaw Kaung Cho of the Department of Bridges accepted the flag on behalf of the delegation, accompanied by the athletes.

The Ministry of Construction's delegation for the Fifth National Sports Festival consists of 130 members, including athletes and officials, who will compete in six sports disciplines: volleyball, football, futsal, open-class golf, Sepak Takraw, and athletics events. — MNA/TMT



Yangon Mayor U Bo Htay views the preparatory training of Yangon Region's athletes yesterday.

Yangon Mayor supports athletics contingent for National Sports Festival

CHAIRMAN of the Yangon City Development Committee (Mayor) U Bo Htay and officials visited the Institute of Sports and Physical Education in Tamway Township yesterday to motivate Yangon Region's athletics team, which is currently preparing for the Fifth National Sports Festival.

During the visit, they provided eggs to support the athletes' nutritional needs during training.

Yangon Region will compete in 19 athletics events with 19 athletes at the Fifth National Sports Festival, which will take place in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA/TRKM

NATIONAL



IBEC Sayadaw and responsible personnel of the Lumbini Garden project meet.

Myanmar's IBEC to join Europe's largest Buddhist Park project in Spain

THE International Buddhist Education Centre (IBEC) has announced its participation in the Lumbini Garden project in Spain, which is set to become the largest Buddhist Park in Europe.

This significant initiative will involve contributions from several countries, including Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Sri Lanka, China, Hong Kong, Nepal, Bhutan, and Chinese Taipei. The project will feature advanced Buddhist education programmes supported by IBSC (Thailand), SSBU, SIBA, and IBEC-Myanmar.

IBEC Sayadaw, serving as a project board member, will oversee the construction of the

Myanmar Temple Embassy and a replica of the Shwedagon Pagoda.

Initially, the project faced challenges as the original site was deemed unsuitable due to Spanish environmental regulations. However, a new location has been secured, and the Spanish government has issued the necessary construction licence. A redesigned plan will be developed, and the project will move forward at the new site.

On 30 November, IBEC Sayadaw held discussions with project officials in Cáceres, Spain, to finalize plans and ensure the smooth implementation of the project. — ASH/TMT

Dhamma Puja ceremony to commemorate 114th birthday of First Ledi Sayadaw

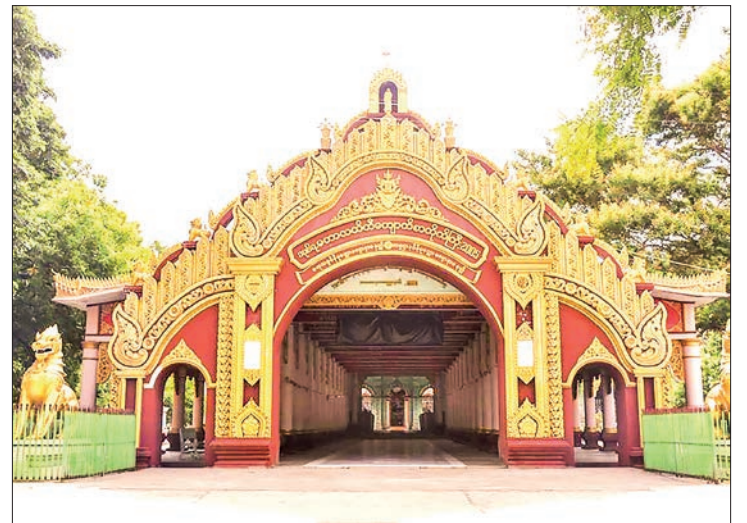
A Dhamma Puja ceremony will be held to mark the 114th anniversary of the birth of the first Ledi Sayadaw at the Ledi Stone Inscription Building in Monywa Township, Sagaing Region. The event will take place from 11 to 13 December, according to the Board of Trustees of the Ledi Stone Inscription Building.

“As in previous years, monks and pilgrims will recite the Mahasaranagon Pali scriptures written by Ledi Sayadaw, accompanied by the offering of 5,000 candle lights at the Ledi Stone Inscription Building,” said U Soe Thoung, a member of the board of trustees.

During the ceremony, the

Mahasaranagon Pali scriptures will be recited daily from 7 am to 7 pm by members of the

board of trustees and pilgrims for the duration of the three-day event. — ASH/MKKS



This image shows the Maha Ledi stone inscription building in Monywa Township.

Cash contributions, foodstuffs provided to elderly scriptwriters

ACCORDING to Vice-Chair U Aye Kyu Lay of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO), three veteran scriptwriters — Shin Moe Htwe, Maung Seinn Nwe, and Tekkatho Ko Ko Naing — accepted donations, including cash contributions from their junior screenwriters, on 30 November.

Scriptwriters paid tributes to their senior counterparts by visiting their homes and presenting donations of K150,000 each, along with food and other essentials.

“This annual gesture is organized independently by scriptwriters to honour our seniors. This year, we visited their homes to pay homage.

We honoured Sayagyi Maung Seinn Nwe, who is approaching 90 years old, Sayagyi Shin Moe Htwe, aged 83 and now in his fifth year as a monk, and Sayagyi Tekkatho Ko Ko Naing, who is over 80 years old. Each received K150,000 along with food and other offerings,” explained U Aye Kyu Lay. — ASH/TKO

Myanmar-American film ‘Metta’ premieres in Dec; Profits to aid orphanages

A Myanmar-American co-produced film titled Metta (Unbroken Ties), which has won 11 international awards, is set to be screened in cinemas in the second week of December, according to co-director Dr Grace Swe Zin Htaik.

The film is based on a novel by Mary Khin Ohn Kyway, with the screenplay written by Nway Nway Sein Myint and Mie Mie Lwin. Produced by Mandalay Film Production, it was directed by Graham Streeter, with Dr Grace Swe Zin Htaik serving



This image showcases a poster of the ‘Metta (Unbroken Ties)’ movie, as co-director.

“We began planning the film in 2014, but progress was

delayed due to visa issues preventing some Myanmar actors and filmmakers from travelling

to the United States. However, in 2018, actor Academy Lu Min and actress Academy Htun Eaindra Bo obtained O-1 Extraordinary Ability Visas, allowing us to film in the US in 2019. Hollywood director Graham Streeter directed the scenes shot in America, while I directed those filmed in Myanmar,” explained Dr Grace Swe Zin Htaik.

She added, “The film received its censorship certificate following the COVID-19 period. While awaiting its 2024 theatri-

cal release, it has been featured in numerous international film festivals, earning 11 awards as of October. This is the first Myanmar-American collaboration to gain such international acclaim. All profits from the film will be donated to orphanages.”

The cast includes Gin Mung, Academy Htun Eaindra Bo, and Academy Lu Min, alongside Chrissy Aung, May T Maung, Brittney Powell, Fiona O’Neil, Tyler Dryden, and other supporting actors and actresses. — ASH/TRKM

YGN palm oil wholesale reference rate on upward trend

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market is headed for a sixth-week high to K7,305 per viss for the week ending 8 December.

The figures increased slightly from K7,015 per viss registered last week ending 1 December. The wholesale reference rate continued rising from K6,320 during the week ending 3 November to K7,305 per viss this week, showing a sharp increase of K255 per viss, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs,

tariffs and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high.

To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed the consumers of lodging the complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline in late August. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.



A vender meticulously arranges cooking oil for sale at the market.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department or sent to the Facebook page

of the department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK

Fertilizer reference prices for Dec remain unchanged

THE Myanmar Fertilizer, Seed, and Pesticide Entrepreneurs Association (MFSPEA) announced that fertilizer reference prices for December stayed the same as those in November.

November's reference prices were K97,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Urea fertilizer (large granular), K124,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of rock phosphate, and K137,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Di ammonium phosphate. Prices may vary slight-

ly depending on transport charges in other regions and states as the aforementioned prices are set for the Yangon Region, MFSPEA stated.

Additionally, reference prices will be further announced as per rules and regulations. For overcharging, consumers can complain to the committee through contact numbers 067 410032 and 09 883353358.

At present, the Fertilizer Committee holds a quarterly meeting to

ensure quality fertilizer for growers without facing shortages. Under the approval of the Fertilizer Technology Group, 11,573 fertilizer registrations have been granted after the 41st meeting of the Fertilizer Committee. With individuals' consent, 1,957 registrations were voluntarily cancelled. The department revoked 2,793 registrations for expiration of validity and 6,823 registrations are still under processing for now. — NN/KK

Great millet harvest flooding Mandalay market

THERE is an abundant supply of great millet from various regions to Mandalay market in early December and brisk sales are reported, traders said.

Great millet is utilized as an ingredient in medicine and alcoholic beverages. Therefore, it has grasped a firm market share both in domestic and foreign markets. This year, the yield is good on account of favourable weather. There is a roaring trade of great millets in Mandalay market, said U Soe Win Myint, an owner of Soe Win Myint depot.

"The great millet plantation is thriving in central Myanmar regions. This climate-resilient crop is suitable for the dry zone. The great millet is highly demanded by Lisu liquor manufacturers from Moemeik, Mogok, and Monglong. China also purchases this yearly. Consequently, strong demand raises the price. The millet is an annual crop that is cultivated once a year," he elaborated.

The great millets from Kyaukse, Thaeday, Wundwin, Taungtha, Myingyan, and Monywa areas are currently flowing into the Mandalay market. The great millets are cultivated in June-July and harvested in October-November. It is commonly found in Mandalay, Sagaing, and Magway regions. Millets do not need pesticides and fertilizer to grow. — Min Htet Aung/KK

CBM sells US\$59M, 280M Thai baht, 8.78M yuan in Nov

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$59 million, 280 million Thai baht, and 8.78 million yuan in November.

CBM sold 16.54 million baht and announced to sell 10 million yuan on 29 November,

It pumped 4.97 million baht on 28 November and 3.21 million baht on 27 November into the financial market.

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 No-

vember.

CBM announced on 16 November to sell \$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 though it would sell 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 importers 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

OPINION

Unite strengths to abolish forms of modern slavery

ALTHOUGH the system of slavery was abolished many years ago, various forms of modern slavery still persist around the world, influenced by factors such as religion, racism, and lifestyle in the society.

Currently, people around the world are seeking employments to support their families and earn an income. In this pursuit, many people unexpectedly fall victim to varieties of modern slavery. Both men and women become targets of forced labour and forced marriage. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), forced labour and forced marriage have increased significantly over the past five years. In 2021, a total of

10 million more people were trapped in modern slavery compared to 2016, bringing the global total to 50 million. Women and children are still disproportionately vulnerable. Although modern slavery isn't legally defined, it is an umbrella term encompassing practices like forced labour, debt bondage, forced marriage, and human trafficking. It refers to situations where individuals are exploited and unable to escape due to threats, violence, coercion, deception, or abuse of power. Modern slavery exists in nearly every country and spans ethnic, cultural, and religious boundaries. According to a United Nations press release, over half (52 per cent) of forced labour and a quarter of forced marriages occur in upper-middle-income or high-income countries. Currently, the Myanmar government has established relevant law enforcement bodies to combat modern slavery. These law enforcement bodies have saved many people for their lives and prestige from those engaging in the modern slavery. These authorities are taking action against offenders involved in trafficking, forced labour, and forced marriage. Deterrent measures are being imposed on those who exploit labour, manipulate individuals, and violate fundamental labour rights. Additionally, authorities are addressing money laundering linked to the illegal profits generated from modern slavery activities.

Currently, the Myanmar government has established relevant law enforcement bodies to combat modern slavery. These law enforcement bodies have saved many people for their lives and prestige from those engaging in the modern slavery.

These authorities are taking action against offenders involved in trafficking, forced labour, and forced marriage. Deterrent measures are being imposed on those who exploit labour, manipulate individuals, and violate fundamental labour rights. Additionally, authorities are addressing money laundering linked to the illegal profits generated from modern slavery activities.

The theme for the 2024 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is 'Creating Global Freedom: Countering Racism with Justice in Societies and Among Nations'. Observed on 2 December yearly, the day focuses on ending contemporary forms of slavery.

While efforts to commemorate the abolition of slavery may not fully eradicate all forms of slavery, they contribute to raising public awareness about the dangers of modern slavery. This awareness can inspire new ideas for combating the chains of modern slavery, offering hope that future generations can live free from exploitation and harm and have a safe society.

Why transitional elections in Myanmar would be good for Asia and the world

The possibility of 2025 transitional elections promises to turn Myanmar into a stable and prosperous democracy.

CONFRONTED by a rash of insurgencies across the country, Myanmar's government has devised a plan for an amicable political transition. It has decided in principle to hold national elections next year, paving the way for democratic civilian rule.

Chairman of the State Administration Council (SAC) Senior General Min Aung Hlaing has reportedly told representatives of the 10-nation Association of the South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) as well as authorities in China that his government intends to hold free and fair polls next year in

Myanmar under national and international scrutiny.

There are three compelling reasons why the rest of the world must welcome the senior general's move.

First, elections based on the popular vote promise to restore stability in Myanmar. In turn, a peaceful Myanmar riding on fresh political legitimacy can become the engine of rapid growth. Nay Pyi Taw can become the next Asian tiger as it has all the attributes to steer a game-changing economic transition.

For starters, the country is endowed with abundant natural

resources, which, if leveraged efficiently, can trigger a rapid economic surge.

Myanmar's northern Shan Plateau, which borders China, Laos and Thailand contain rich deposits of silver, lead, zinc, and gold, along with rubies and sapphires. These precious stones are also mined in bulk in Mogoke in the famed Mandalay region.

Tin and tungsten deposits can be found in the Tanintharyi region – a mountainous zone that also shares a border with Thailand.

Since the 1980s copper mining has expanded in Monywa – the largest city in Sagaing

Region that lies 136 kilometres north-west of Mandalay on the eastern bank of the River Chindwin. Besides, Myanmar's restive Kachin state has made its mark on the world's map, on account of copious reserves of jade.

Myanmar is also Asia's energy powerhouse, with oil reserves standing at 3.2 billion barrels, which is coupled with a hefty 18 trillion cubic feet of deposits of natural gas. Most of the energy sites can be found offshore, but Myanmar's Magway Region also produces some oil onshore. Of its total revenues, oil and gas contribute a sizeable 15-20 per cent.

As the seventh largest producer of rice in the world, Myanmar is also a major player in Asia contributing to regional food security.

By Atul Aneja

Second, successful transitional elections can generate regional prosperity across Asia. This is mainly because of Myanmar's unique geo-economic location apart from its rich natural resources and relatively young population. For instance, sharing common borders with two Asian giants, Myanmar can be a bridge between India and China. Myanmar's ties with China are on the upswing in the north, but the government in Nay Pyi Taw is also determined to build an exceptionally solid relationship with India in the South. With ties between India and China gradually improving after Prime Minister Narendra Modi and China's President Xi Jinping met in Kazan on the sidelines of the BRICS summit



on 23 October, a new opening may emerge to co-link China, Myanmar, and India in a mutually advantageous partnership in the future.

In case a trilateral arrangement takes root, it would not be the first time that India, Myanmar, and China would be working together in the economic sphere. In fact, the trio collaborates in Myanmar's offshore Shwe gas field. Ahead of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the development of the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar (BCIM) was also on the drawing board. This corridor would have essentially linked

Kunming in China with Kolkata in India. But with China proposing the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that passes through undivided Kashmir that had acceded to India at the time of Indian independence, as part of the BRI, India lost interest in the BCIM economic corridor.

Instead, the Chinese went ahead with the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC), which is currently being threatened by the raging insurgency in Myanmar. But, in the future, and case relations between India and China continue to warm up, it would be natural to consider the expansion of the CMEC to India. Such an undertaking could naturally drive prosperity in a vast area by hosting Special Economic Zones, tourism pivots, fostering a new wave of urbanization, and much more.

Myanmar, the gateway to Southeast Asia is also at the heart of the Asian highway project – a giant corridor that can link South Asia with the ASEAN. If developed imaginatively, it can link Himalayan Bhutan with

Danang, Vietnam's coastal hub. Once completed, it will add another engine to drive regional growth.

Third, following the political transition brought about by elections, Myanmar can play a major role in consolidating the multipolar global order, which is experiencing a steady evolution. Insulated from the threat of regime change following elections, Myanmar can simultaneously bond with major poles of the multipolar world – India, China, Russia, ASEAN, and the United States. Myanmar has already demonstrated interest in joining the BRICS-plus grouping – a sentiment it shares with many countries of the Global South that are looking for alternatives beyond the west-dominated global system.

With a deep and vibrant cultural history, Myanmar will extend the ambit of civilizational states such as India, China, and Russia, which anchor the rise of a multipolar world.

(Atul Aneja is a strategic analyst based in New Delhi, India.)

Who is to Clean up the Mess of Street Hawkers?



Strict regulations for roadside food stalls are essential to maintain cleanliness. PHOTO: ILLUSTRATION: PEXELS

IF you ask 100 people in Yangon about the apparent reason for the lack of cleanliness in the city, I bet 100 per cent of them would say it's due to a lack of discipline and street vendors. The first part I would say lack of enforcement, rather than the lack to discipline. People need strict enforcement to reinforce discipline in them, instead of the city council putting up signages of what ought to happen, hoping against all odds that capital dwellers would studiously follow. Who possibly is under the impression that people who behave in such a disciplined way in Singapore, could conduct themselves in a similar manner as above, when overseas? The high penalties and Singaporean dollar fines could not conceivably be the reason, could it?

Now we dive straight to the issue of the street vendors. I once sat together at the same table with the previous Mayor of Yangon, HE Hla Myint and posed this question to him: what is the most difficult issue that you have to deal with as a mayor? The answer given to me was

By U AC

'the issue of street hawkers'.

They are everywhere in every part of Yangon, from little back streets to the main arterial roads. And most of them are selling food. The ugliest thing about food sellers is the food waste and the mess that they leave behind at day's end.

Go around central Yangon, townships such as Pabedan, Kyauktada, Lanmadaw, Latha, etc., and you cannot help but notice a lack of hygienic practices and the habit of throwing away whatever waste in the nearby area or whatever little drain or hole that the hawkers could find. Most of the streets colonized by these food stalls display unsightly arrays of nasty rubbish, threatening both the health and safety of the whole city population.

This behaviour is both unethical and unjust. How can they earn all the revenue and profits from their trade, while the cost of cleaning up their horrible leftovers is having to be borne by the residents and the local government (YCDC)? Every six months or so, YCDC (Yangon City Development Council) would

ask residents in the respective townships, for their contributions to cleaning up the streets, the back streets, the rats, the cockroaches, etc. But most of the mess that caused the infestation of these lovely creatures is not mainly due to the residents themselves. Indeed, they have to pay for the negative externalities brought about by street hawkers. We have not even started talking about the diseases such as Cholera, Typhoid or Plague yet. As recent as a couple of months ago, street vendors in Thakayta township were told to close their roadside food stalls for at least two months, because the source of the cholera pandemic in the neighbourhood was traced back to them.

Contrast that with our neighbouring Thailand, please. They do have street vendors like us. But the streets remain relatively clean as there is enforcement to ensure that these roadside hawkers clean up their mess at day's end. Now even Thailand is tightening up its grip on the regulations governing roadside stalls.

Based on new Bangkok city council rules governing street vendors announced in September of this year, only economically deficient Thai nationals would be allowed to ply this trade. Specifically, migrant workers would have to be prohibited from working on these stalls, implicitly targeting Myanmar migrants, who are at the top of both legal and illegal migration lists in Thailand. These vendors would also be forbidden from venturing out into pedestrian walkways. These Thai citizen vendors would have to apply for permits from public health authorities and they can deploy an additional helper at their store. It was not clear from the announcement if the helper also had to be a Thai citizen. The rules also specified the maximum dimensions that the stalls can have and the areas that they can station relative to the size of the roads and walkways.

It's high time YCDC updated its rules on roadside food stalls across Yangon and began strict enforcement of these rules, for a cleaner, brighter and safer Yangon.

NATIONAL

Super star's family holds Kathina robes offering in Nay Pyi Taw

ACTRESS Moe Hay Ko and her family organized a successful Kathina robe-offering ceremony in conjunction with the re-ordination of monks at the Naga Phyu Garden Monastery in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 29 November, according to the actress herself.

During the ceremony, Moe Hay Ko's family donated offerings worth K7 million to Sayadaw Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Dr Bhaddanta Vamsasiri of the monastery and 100 members of the Sangha.

"This meritorious ceremony was dedicated to my parents. I also extend the merit to my fans and the public," said Moe Hay Ko.



This photo showcases the donation by actress Moe Hay Ko with other artistes.

Actor Aung Ye Linn, vocalist Sein Linn, and other artistes were also present at the event. — ASH/TKO



This image showcases a poster of the Sai Sai One-Person Show.

Sai Sai Kham Leng to stage One-Person Show in Nay Pyi Taw on 14 Dec

SINGER Sai Sai Kham Leng has announced that his Sai Sai One-Person Show will take place at the Excellent Bar in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw at 7 pm on 14 December.

The musical accompaniment for the event will be provided by the Mercury IX band. "This show is dedicated to my fans in Nay Pyi Taw. However, due to the limited capacity of the venue, we won't be able to accommodate everyone. I hope you'll understand," said Sai Sai Kham Leng. — ASH/TRKM

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Statement 11/2024

1. Out of the world's eight billion people, more than one billion are persons with disabilities. To better understand the role of persons with disabilities and to protect and promote their rights, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the fundamental rights of persons with disabilities through resolution 47/3 at the 47th session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1992 and designated 3 December as International Day of Persons with Disabilities.
2. In 2006, the United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) to further safeguard the rights of persons with disabilities. The Convention has been signed by over 190 countries. Myanmar has acceded to the Convention in 2011. Additionally, to enhance the realization and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities in the country, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law was enacted in 2015, followed by its rules in 2017. Furthermore, the National Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has been established, and a five-year strategic plan on the rights of persons with disabilities (2022-2027) was developed and is being implemented.
3. The number of persons with disabilities increases worldwide, reforming attitudes towards them and reducing physical barriers will enable them to participate in various sectors and live independently, enjoying further developments just like others. This year, the United Nations has chosen the theme for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities as "Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future".
4. In honour of the 32nd International Day of Persons with Disabilities, which falls on 3 December, we urge that persons with disabilities be enabled to participate in the leading role in implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in line with this year's theme.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
Date: 3 December 2024

3-day illegal trade crackdown seizes items worth K215M

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

On 30 November and 1 December, the combined teams impounded an unregistered Kenbo Wave-110 (worth approximately K300,000) in Wakema Township, illegal teak weighing 0.912 tonne (worth K97,270) in Taungdingyi Township and an unregistered Honda fit (worth approximately K11 million) at the MaU combined checkpoint in Monywa Township. The action was conducted under the Export-Import Law and the

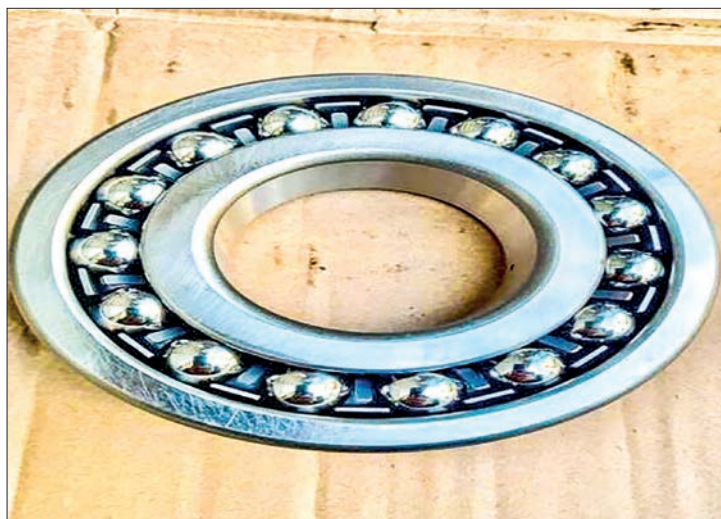
Forest Law.

Additionally, the combined teams conducted inspections and seized three vehicle parts and consumer goods (worth K101.9 million) without official documents from a Nissan Diesel tractor head with a trailer (worth approximately K85 million) in a compound of Yetha temporary vehicle checkpoint and, on 1 and 2 December, illegal teak weighing 15.477 tonnes and illegal hardwood weighing 0.188 tonne (worth K17.25 million) in Toungoo and Nyaunglebin Districts. The action was taken under the Forest Law and Customs procedures. The Illegal Trade Erad-

ication Steering Committee reported 14 arrests on 30 No-

vember, 1 and 2 December, confiscating goods worth ap-

proximately K215.54 million. — MNA/MKKS



Confiscated illegal items from Kayin State.

NATIONAL

Embassy announces approved list for passport renewal

OF passport renewal applications submitted from 18 to 22 March and from 25 to 29 March 2024, those on the approved list can come to take out passports on the appointment date, announced by the Myanmar Embassy to Malaysia.

The embassy released the

approved list on 2 December.

Applicants can check whether their names are included in the approved list or not at www.myanmarembassykl.org and listed ones can request appointment dates at <https://www.mekl.org>.

Original citizenship scrutiny card (CSC), copy of the house-

hold list and copy of CV form issued by the embassy are required when applicants come to take out the passport, it said.

— MT/ZS

This photo captures the Myanmar Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



Mt Popa Geopark trekking tour gains significant interest

KO Tin Ko Min from the Maha Giri group said that there is a lot of interest in the trekking tour where people will have the opportunity to learn the essence of Mount Popa National Geopark, which is Myanmar's first of its kind.

During the trip, people can study the summary of the geopark, which is displayed at the Mount Popa Education Gallery. There is also a small model of Mount Popa that is suitable for those who are unable to climb to the summit and students.

"Now, private schools have contacted us about the trip. We have arranged camps and barbecues for trips. We introduce the natural forest as GeoGuide, let them walk for two hours in the forest, learn about geology, and our natural guide explains plants, animals, and biodiversity. After studying at the deer farm at Geosite 7, we will visit and study the summary of Mount



This photo depicts the study tour for kids.

Popa Park opened by the Forest Department," he said.

Currently, many people have shown interest in it and some private schools from Yangon, Mandalay and Pakokku have been contacted for this trip. On the trip, people can study the importance of the forest and trees, which collect rainwater from the plants in Mount Popa and provide essential support for other living creatures,

and have a chance to pass through the traditional belief handed down from ancestors for thousands of years, see rare sandalwood trees and golden deer in the remote areas, and learn the summary of Mount Popa.

During the tour, a natural guide who explains about biodiversity and a local guide who cares for the children along the trip will accompany the visitors. — MT/ZN

More travellers expected this New Year compared to last year

THE number of people who will travel during the coming New Year period can be more than last year, according to the Union of Myanmar Travel Association.

Due to the floods that occurred in Myanmar in September, people were so busy with rescue activities that they couldn't travel, resulting in a sharp decline in travel rate in October, as a result, tourists may flock to visit at the end of December and New Year, exceeding the number in 2023.

"Travel rate was higher at the end of 2023. It will bounce back in December and January. We saw a drop in October, but the domestic travel rate recovered in November. People were sad due to floods in September,

causing a sharp travel decrease in October. But, due to the recovery in November, the rate of tourism may rise again in December. It may even exceed the rate of 2023 a little because people may be so eager to travel for their inability to do so in September and October," said U Naung Naung Han, chair of the association.

Months of high tourist arrivals to Myanmar are from October to April every year, and tourist arrivals have been increasing since the beginning of this year, and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is also making efforts to promote the tourism sector with more foreign tourists, and to develop more attractive destinations. — Thit Taw/ZN



This photo showcases some travellers visiting Ngwehsaung Beach in November.

Mount Taungwine trekking season begins 1 Dec, over 1,000 join



This photo shows people joining the commencing day of the Mount Taungwine trekking season.

MORE than 1,000 people joined the first day of the trekking season reopened at Mount Taungwine in Mon State's Mawlamyine where visitors can enjoy viewing a sea of clouds while going on a pilgrimage tour, according to Sasana Nwe Foundation.

The trekking season, which is designed in December, January and February for three months, reopened on 1 Decem-

ber morning and attracted many visitors.

Except for officials and monastery vehicles, other private cars, motorcycles and bicycles are prohibited from climbing the mountain from 5 am to 9 am for the safety of travellers on Saturday and Sunday during the trekking season. Cars and motorcycles are allowed to park at free parking lots from 4:30

am to 9 am and smoking and littering are prohibited along the journey, it warned.

Among visitors, there are residents and people nearby as well as pilgrims from other regions and states and the visitor arrival is usually large on weekends, public holidays and on the days of well-known festivals, according to residents. — MT/ZS

ECONOMY WORLD

African countries applaud China's zero-tariff treatment for least developed countries



Local farmers harvest rice at a high-yield hybrid rice demonstration field in Mahitsy, Madagascar, on 8 May 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

STARTING Sunday, China will give all the least developed countries with which it has diplomatic relations zero-tariff treatment for 100 per cent tariff lines, becoming the first major developing country and the first major economy to take such a significant measure.

As observers have noted, the move meets the development needs of countries from the global south, highlighting China's commitment to sharing development opportunities with nations worldwide through tangible actions.

It demonstrates China's willingness to further open its market and will promote China-Africa trade, Christopher Mutsvangwa, Zimbabwe's ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU PF) party Politburo member and ZANU PF secretary for information and publicity, told Xinhua in an interview.

Chinese consumers are showing a growing interest in African agricultural products, with Zimbabwean oranges and other agricultural products making their way into the Chinese market, said Mutsvangwa.

In the future, it is hoped that

sesame and other agricultural products can also find their place in the Chinese market, he said.

Benefitting from China's zero-tariff treatment are products from Madagascar, includ-

ing agricultural products, textile and clothing products, seafood products and handicraft products, said Rabenja Claudio, a Malagasy international relations expert.

On top of tariff exemptions, China is exploring comprehensive measures to assist Africa in promoting trade, not least by facilitating trade agreements, supporting cross-border e-com-

merce, and assisting exhibitors from African countries to participate in various exhibitions in China, said Yang Baorong, a researcher at the China-Africa Institute.

During the 7th China International Import Expo last month, China provided over 120 free booths to exhibitors from 37 least developed countries while focusing on showcasing special agricultural products from Africa.

Tanzania Future Enterprises Company Limited, which produces, processes, packages, and sells beekeeping products, is one of the 34 Tanzanian exhibitors participating in the expo.

Jackson Mponela, the company's production manager for commerce and development, said the expo paves the way for Tanzanian honey products to enter the Chinese market, an important milestone for the Tanzanian honey brand to go global.

China's policies such as tariff exemptions, support for cross-border e-commerce, and platforms like the expo provided immense growth opportunities for African businesses, he said. — Xinhua

Paris stocks, euro fall on France budget standoff



The euro has come under pressure as a budget standoff in France — the eurozone's second-biggest economy — threatens to bring down the government. **PHOTO: AFP**

PARIS stocks and the euro fell Monday as a budget standoff in France fuelled concern about the eurozone's second-biggest economy.

Positive data from China helped boost equity markets elsewhere, with Germany's DAX index hitting a record above 19,700 points.

Oil prices jumped on

hopes of higher Chinese demand.

That followed a strong lead from Asian markets and the United States, where the Dow and S&P 500 both ended at record highs in a holiday-shortened session Friday.

The euro sat near 14-month lows as opposition to France's belt-tightening

draft budget threatens to topple the government.

Prime Minister Michel Barnier faces the risk of being deposed by a hostile National Assembly as his government presents a social security financing plan Monday that has the opposition up in arms.

Lacking a majority, Barnier could use executive powers to force through the legislation.

Such a move would likely expose him to a no-confidence vote within days, with the left wing and the far-right National Rally of Marine Le Pen willing to back that motion bringing down the government.

Le Pen "has the power to destroy Barnier and his mission to get France on a sustainable fiscal track", said Kathleen Brooks, research director at traders XTB. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Thailand's manufacturing sector improves slightly in November

THAILAND'S manufacturing sector saw a marginal improvement in November due to slight increases in output and employment while new orders remained broadly unchanged, a survey showed on Monday.

The Southeast Asian country's manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI) came in at 50.2 last month, edging up from 50 in October, signalling a modest overall improvement in manufacturing sector performance, according to S&P Global.

A PMI reading above 50 indicates expansion in the manufacturing sector, while a reading below 50 reflects contraction. — Xinhua

Vietnam's manufacturing sector hindered by weak exports in November

VIETNAM'S manufacturing sector reported slower rises in output and new orders which were hindered by weak exports in November, according to a report released by S&P Global Market Intelligence on Monday.

The sector remained in growth territory during November, but overall business conditions improved to a lesser extent than in October, said the report.

The S&P Global Vietnam Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index remained above the 50.0 no-change mark in November and signalled a second consecutive monthly improvement in business conditions following the contraction caused by Typhoon Yagi in September. — Xinhua

Indonesia-Canada CEPA to expand trade, investment opportunities for both countries

INDONESIA and Canada signed the Indonesia-Canada Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) at the opening of Canada's Trade Mission to Indonesia on Monday in Jakarta.

The signing was conducted by Indonesia's Minister of Trade Budi Santoso, and Canada's Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade, and Economic Development Mary Ng.

"After more than 2.5 years, Indonesia has successfully secured a comprehensive trade agreement with Canada that will expand market access

for Indonesian products in North America," said Budi. In addition to goods trade, the CEPA also provides special treatment for Indonesian service providers in sectors such as business, telecommunications, construction, tourism, and transport, while easing investment access across various sectors.

The agreement also includes commitments on intellectual property, e-commerce, business competition, small- and medium-sized enterprises, women's empowerment, environment and labour. — Xinhua

China-Pakistan border port in Xinjiang to operate year-round

THE Khunjerab Pass, a land port on the China-Pakistan border in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, will operate year-round starting Sunday, according to local sources.

Located approximately 5,000 metres above sea level, the Khunjerab Pass is a major trade station between China and Pakistan, and an important gateway to South Asia and Europe.

Due to high altitude and harsh weather conditions, the Khunjerab Pass was previously open only from April to November, closing from December to March. Extending its operational period is expected to further enhance economic and trade cooperation, as well as people-to-people exchanges, between China and Pakistan.

Since the resumption



Police officers of Khunjerab border inspection station check a vehicle at the Khunjerab Pass in Kashgar, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, 20 September 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

of passenger customs clearance on 1 April this year, the Khunjerab Pass has recorded over 50,000 inbound and outbound passengers so far.

By the end of October, the number of inbound and outbound vehicles at the Khunjerab Pass exceeded 11,000, and the import and export cargo volume

reached 40,900 tonnes, up 42.6 per cent and 72.7 per cent year on year respectively, according to the Khunjerab Customs. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 9 VOY.NO. (09N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 9 VOY. NO. (09N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **2-12-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMT** 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 MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HONG JIA 11 VOY.NO. (2444)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HONG JIA 11 VOY.NO. (2444)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-12-2024** 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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Changing Distributor for Registered Pesticide

Distribution of pesticide registered by Shandong Weifang Rainbow Chemical Co., Ltd is changing from Agroterrum Myanmar Co., Ltd to RAINBOW AGROSCIENCES CO., LTD. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein within 2 weeks.

No.	Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1	Chrole 240 SC	Chlorfenapyr 240 g/l SC	P2022-5708
2	Nomita 20 SP	Acetamiprid 20% SP	P2022-5707
3	Prize 50 EC	Emamectin Benzoate 50g/l EC	P2022-5906
4	Cleanspray 96 SG	2,4-D DMA 96% SG	F2020-2510
5	Difree 250 EC	Difenoconazole 250g/l EC	P2022-5706

RAINBOW AGROSCIENCES CO., LTD
09456060160, 09441170170

Notice for Change of Registration Trade Name

Notice is hereby given that official registration trade names have been changed for the following herbicide distributed by Arvis Cropscience Co., Ltd.

No.	Trade Name		Active Ingredients	Registration Type	Registration No.
	Old	New			
1	Foison Bigboss	Closhoot 50 WP	Flumioxazin 50% WP	Provisional	P2022-4726
2	Foison Trump	Trump 42 EC	Fluroxypyr 8.5% + MCPA 33.5% EC	Provisional	P2022-4725
3	Foison Longstar	Longstar 50 EC	Pretilachlor 50% EC	Provisional	P2020-4824

Arvis Cropscience Co. Ltd., invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice.

Address: Arvis Cropscience Co. Ltd.

No.14, Block 41, Nawaday Garden Housing, Hlaing Thar Yar, Yangon. Ph-09944473600

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Talks on global plastic pollution treaty fail to reach agreement

COUNTRIES negotiating a treaty to address plastic pollution ended their weeklong meeting in Busan, South Korea, on Monday without an agreement.

The fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee brought together more than 170 countries including the European Union to address plastic pollution with a legally binding treaty, but some oil producing countries opposed plastic output curbs, arguing that the focus should be on management of plastic waste.

Luis Vayas Valdivieso, the UN committee's chair, said while the countries had made progress in Busan, their work was far from complete. The committee said the meeting will resume at a later date.

In March 2022, the UN Environment Assembly adopted a resolution calling for the development by the end of 2024 of an instrument to control plastic pollution.

Up to 23 million tonnes of plastic waste is estimated to enter lakes, rivers and seas each year, according to the UN En-



The UN Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee holds a plenary session on the final day of the fifth meeting to develop a legally binding global treaty on plastic pollution in Busan, South Korea, on 1 December 2024. **PHOTO: KYODO**

vironment Programme.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development says global plastic production and use in 2040 are expected to rise 70 per cent from 2020 levels to 736 million tonnes in the absence of strong policies to control them, with only six per cent coming from recycled sources.

Plastic waste can alter habitats and natural processes. Microplastics resulting from plastics breaking down in the environment can also be harmful to marine life. — Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

6 killed, 130,000 displaced in floods in Malaysia

FLOODING in Malaysia has claimed six lives as of Monday, with the latest deaths being two elderly individuals drowning in Kelantan state while monitoring livestock, authorities said.

Flood victims numbering 134,524 are being housed in 613 flood relief centres at 11 am local time, according to the country's social welfare department.

The worst-hit states are Kelantan and Terengganu, both located on the country's east coast.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim said that the government has allocated additional funds for post-flood follow-up measures, which are expected to begin in the middle of this month. — Xinhua

Stampede kills at least 56 at Guinea football match

A deadly stampede at a football match killed at least 56 people in Guinea's second city N'Zerekore, the junta-controlled government said Monday.

The events at Sunday's match, which were initially reported as clashes between fans, were triggered after a player was sent off at the end of the game, witnesses said.

The match in the southeastern city was the final of a tournament organized in honour of Guinea's junta leader, Mamady Doumbouya, who seized power in a 2021 coup and has installed himself as president.

The opposition has accused the junta of using sport for political ends.

Witnesses said fans invaded the pitch following the referee's decision, with some attacking the stand designated for officials, prompting the intervention of security forces.

"Protests of dissatisfaction with refereeing decisions led to stone-throwing by supporters, resulting in fatal stampedes," said a government statement which was read out on national television.

"Hospital services have put the provisional death toll at 56, with several others injured," it added, describing the incident as a "tragic event". — AFP

WFP appeals for funds to provide food aid ahead of rainy season in South Sudan

THE World Food Programme (WFP) on Monday appealed to donors to provide funds to enable it to preposition 147,000 metric tonnes of food aid in South Sudan ahead of the rainy season when roads become impassable.

The WFP said that it faces a funding gap of \$461 million between December 2024 and May 2025 to support the urgent humanitarian needs of millions of crisis-affected people.

"South Sudan is facing a confluence of crises that con-

tinue to push millions of families towards new levels of vulnerability," the WFP said in its latest report on South Sudan.

The country continues to grapple with a long-standing humanitarian crisis marked by chronic food and nutrition insecurity, it said.

On 1 November, the WFP appealed for \$404 million to ramp up humanitarian operations in 2025 amid warning of rising hunger. It urged donors to provide early funding for next year's operations so that

food can be prepositioned to prevent spiralling operational costs and hunger through 2025.

According to the WFP, the ongoing conflict in Sudan has compounded the situation by driving 854,000 people into South Sudan by 31 October.

"The country continues to grapple with an unprecedented economic meltdown, fuelled by the Sudan conflict that disrupted oil production and food supply, triggering nationwide inflation," the WFP said. — Xinhua



Sudanese refugees and ethnic South Sudanese families who have fled from the war in Sudan line up while waiting to board a truck to go to a Transit Centre for refugees after crossing the border at the Joda Border Crossing Point, near Renk, on 14 February 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

SPORTS

Liverpool beats Man City to go 9 clear in Premier League

LIVERPOOL moved nine points clear at the top of the Premier League on Sunday after a 2-0 win at home to Manchester City, who slips to fifth in the table after suffering four consecutive league defeats for the first time since 2008.

Mohamed Salah set up Cody Gakpo for the opening goal in the 12th minute with a cross that evaded everyone for the Dutch forward to finish at the far post.

Liverpool had less of the ball but looked far more dangerous than its rival, with twice as many shots and three times more attempts on target, but it wasn't until the 78th minute that it doubled its lead.

Luis Diaz got clear between

Kyle Walker and Stefan Ortega and after the goalkeeper brought Diaz down, Salah made no mistake from the penalty spot.

Chelsea continues to impress under Enzo Maresca with a 3-0 win at home to Aston Villa who looks to be running on empty.

Nicolas Jackson put Chelsea ahead in the seventh minute with a first-time finish from Marc Cucurella's pass, and Enzo Fernandez doubled the lead with a powerful half volley past his Argentinean teammate Emiliano Martinez.

Cole Palmer then assured the win in the closing minutes with a wonderful shot into the top-corner of the net. — Xinhua



Liverpool's Cody Gakpo (1st L) scores the first goal during the English Premier League match between Liverpool and Manchester City in Liverpool, Britain, on 1 December 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

Myanmar ranks third at Billie Jean King Cup/ITF World Cup of Tennis



The Myanmar women's tennis team is seen being welcomed at Yangon International Airport yesterday.

MYANMAR women's tennis team ranked third place at the Billie Jean King Cup/ITF World Cup of Tennis competitions held from 23 to 29 November, in Bahrain.

In Group D, Myanmar teamed up with Maldives, Tajikistan, Bhutan and Iraq, and beat Maldives 2-1, Iraq 3-0, Bhutan 3-0 and Tajikistan 3-0, and reached the semifinal as the group first with four wins. During the semifinal with the Northern Mariana Islands, Nilar Win won the first single 6-3, 6-3, and Htay Htay Myint lost the second single 1-6, 0-6. In the doubles, Nilar Win and Thiri Zun faced the

loss with 1-6 and 3-6.

Head coach Daw Kyi Mya Zaw of the Myanmar Tennis Federation, and tennis players Ma Nilar Win, Ma Htay Htay Win, Ma Htet Htet Wai, Ma Thiri Zun and Ma Han Thu Thu Htet arrived back in Yangon yesterday morning. They were welcomed back by Myanmar Tennis Federation Vice-President U Myo Thura, executive members of the federation and athletes.

A total of 17 countries, including 11 Asian countries – Myanmar, Vietnam, Laos, the Philippines, Brunei – and host country Bahrain participated in the competitions. — Arkar Lin/KTZH

Real Madrid cruises, Barca suffers birthday woe in La Liga

REAL Madrid moved to within a point of FC Barcelona at the top of La Liga and with a game in hand after a straightforward 2-0 win at home to Getafe on Sunday.

Madrid went into the game after a 2-0 defeat away to Liverpool in the UEFA Champions League but was rarely in trouble after Getafe defender Allan Nyom was penalized for a shirt pull on Antonio Rudiger, allowing Jude Bellingham to score from the penalty spot after 30 minutes.

A ball into space allowed Kylian Mbappe to add a second goal seven minutes from half-time, and Real Madrid should have won by more as the forward wasted two other good scoring chances.

Donny van de Beek and Ladislav Krejci scored second-half goals as Girona came back from 2-0 down to save a

point away to Villarreal.

The home side looked to be cruising to an easy win after Thierno Barry and Alex Baena put it 2-0 up by the 46th minute, but Girona clawed its way back, with Krejci's volleyed goal from outside of the area coming in the seventh minute of injury time.

Villarreal's draw allowed Athletic Bilbao to move fourth in the table after two goals from Oihan Sancet saw it come back from a goal down to win 2-1 away to Rayo Vallecano.

Randy Nteka took advantage of an error from Aitor Paredes' poor back-pass to put Rayo ahead in the 14th minute, and Athletic failed to break Rayo down until substitute Sancet hit a volley from a narrow angle to convert Nico Williams' cross with 25 minutes left to play.

He then curled in a first-time



Real Madrid's French forward (9) Kylian Mbappe greets Real Madrid's Turkish midfielder (15) Arda Guler at the end of the Spanish league football match between Real Madrid CF and Getafe CF at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 1 December 2024. PHOTO: AFP

shot from outside of the area to make it 2-1 as Athletic won for the first time in five attempts after playing midweek European football.

Real Sociedad won 2-0 at home to Real Betis thanks to a 14th-minute own goal from Diego Llorente, with the former Real Sociedad player sliding a cross

into his own net.

Mikel Oyarzabal doubled the lead from the penalty spot after the VAR decreed penalty from Romain Perraud's slight touch on the forward.

On Saturday, Las Palmas ruined FC Barcelona's 125th birthday celebrations with an impressive 2-1 win away to the league leader in Montjuic.

Las Palmas had threatened before Barca lost left-back Alejandro Balde after a first-half collision and although Raphinha hit the bar for Barcelona on the stroke of half-time, former Barca player Sandro Ramirez put Las Palmas ahead early in the second half with a low shot.

Raphinha equalized with a low shot soon afterwards, but six minutes later Fabio Silva beat the offside trap and beat Inaki Pena with a bouncing shot. — Xinhua

Talks on global plastic pollution treaty fail to reach agreement
PAGE 14



WORLD

UN urges immediate ceasefire, dialogue amid latest conflict in Syria

UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator for Syria Adam Abdelmoula on Sunday urged an immediate cessation of hostilities in northwestern Syria's Aleppo and dialogue among relevant parties.

The recent escalation of violence in Aleppo starting from Wednesday has "resulted in the tragic loss of innocent civilian lives, including women and children, damage to civilian infrastructure, and the suspension of critical services," Abdelmoula said in a statement.

It came "at a time when countless people, many of whom have already endured the trauma of displacement, are now forced to flee once more, leaving behind their homes and livelihoods," Abdelmoula added.

"We urge all conflicting parties to immediately cease hostilities and prioritize the protection of civilians and aid workers," he said, adding, "The people of



People wait outside a hospital after armed groups fired shells at a dormitory complex in Aleppo City, northern Syria, on 29 November 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

Syria must not endure more suffering, and we urge dialogue to be given an opportunity."

Before the recent influx of more than half a million returnees and refugees from Leba-

non, there were more than 16.7 million people in Syria in need of humanitarian assistance, he

noted.

Due to this latest violence, "even more lives now need to be urgently saved", he said.

The UN official reaffirmed the commitment of the humanitarian community to delivering lifesaving assistance to the affected population.

On Wednesday, a major rebel offensive rocked the western countryside of Aleppo, the first significant attack since 2016. The assault was carried out by a coalition of rebel groups, mainly the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, an al-Qaida-linked extremist organization, with the aim of penetrating government-held territories.

On Friday, the rebels swept into parts of Aleppo after they were driven out of the city in 2016. On Saturday, they advanced in Hama province in central Syria and took control of numerous towns and villages in the northern part of the province, after capturing key territories in Aleppo and Idlib.

Faced with overwhelming numbers of militants and multiple attacks, the Syrian army announced a temporary redeployment of its forces. — Xinhua



Ukraine loses over 250 soldiers in Kursk region in past day - MoD

Russian servicemen of the mortar unit of the Akhmat special forces are seen at a position during a mission in Kursk region, Russia. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

THE Ukrainian armed forces have lost more than 250 soldiers in the Kursk region in the past day, the Russian Defence Ministry said on Monday.

"Over the past 24 hours, the Ukrainian armed forces have lost

more than 250 servicepeople.

A tank, an infantry fighting vehicle, two armoured combat vehicles, two cars and four mortars were destroyed. One soldier of the armed forces of Ukraine surrendered," the

ministry said in a statement.

In total, Ukraine has lost over 37,355 servicepeople and 226 tanks during offensive in Kursk area, the ministry added. — SPUTNIK

Xi stresses comprehensively advancing high-quality Belt and Road cooperation

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Monday stressed comprehensively advancing high-quality cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks when addressing a symposium on BRI development.

It is imperative to strengthen strategic confidence, maintain strategic focus and act courageously with a sense of responsibility to create a brighter future for Belt and Road cooperation, Xi said.

Since the initiative was put forth in 2013, major achievements have been made in Belt and Road cooperation, which contributed to enhancing China's friendship with participating countries and promoting their economic and social development, Xi said. — Xinhua