

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

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Government supports development of MSME businesses

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Kayin State welcomes 450,000+ travellers in Jan-Nov 2024

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Pilgrims flock to Ananda Temple Buddha Pujaniya Festival in Bagan



Fishing boats loaded with hilsa fish from Myanmar's water arrive at jetty of Sanpya Fish Market, Yangon. **PHOTO: ZWE MARN**

Yangon market sees bounty of hilsa fish

The Yangon market is experiencing a bounty of hilsa fish, providing opportunities for locals to consume the fish at lower prices and for businesses to manage its export to foreign

markets, according to the Kyimyindine Sanpya fish market. "Early this year, there has been a continuous influx of hilsa. People can consume adequately, and businesses can also export. Last year, the price for 10-20-ti-

cal-sized hilsa was K8,000. This year, it is only K5,000," said a fishery business owner at the Sanpya fish market. Large marketable hilsa fish are exported to China, Thailand, and Bangladesh with the use

of cold storage facilities. The prices for export-quality hilsa are K20,000 per viss for 30-50 tical size, K30,000 per viss for 50-80 tical size, K38,000 per viss for 80 tical to one viss size, and over K50,000 per viss for 1-1.4 viss size.

Locally consumed sea hilsa fish are priced at K5,000 per viss for 10-20 tical size and K7,000 per viss for 20-30 tical size. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH



The view of the traditional houses constructed in Hoyan village for the CBT tourism project in Kengtung Township.

Hoyan village in Kengtung Township becomes third CBT tourism site

THE Loi ethnic group's Hoyan village, located in Kengtung Township, Shan State (East), is being developed as the third community-based tourism (CBT) village, according to an official from the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism (Kengtung).

Hoyan village, where the Loi ethnic people reside is located about 40 miles from Kengtung. Currently, the village is being established as a CBT des-

tinuation with the completion expected by the end of March.

An official said, "We are setting up the third CBT-based tourism village in Kengtung Township named Hoyan. We are constructing five traditional Loi-style houses where visitors can stay overnight. The construction will be completed by the end of March."

The first CBT village in Kengtung Township was established as four Hokyin villages

where the Arkha ethnic people reside. The second CBT village is being developed in Penseng village where Wa ethnic people live.

Kengtung is a destination where visitors can explore ancient historical buildings belonging to the Shan ethnics. The area is known for being a region where different ethnic groups including Arkha, Wa, Lahu, Loi and Shan coexist in harmony. — ASH/KZL

NATIONAL



National Objectives for 78th Anniversary of Union Day 2025

1. To strive for the perpetual development of the Union through the Union spirit, patriotic values, a sublime state of mind and a genuine nationalist spirit.
2. To encourage collaborative efforts among all ethnic nationals to pursue dialogue for durable peace and to end armed conflicts.
3. To collectively advance cooperation amongst all national people, the government, and Tatmadaw to ensure stability and the rule of law.
4. To enhance collaborative efforts to ensure nationwide stability and tranquillity, enabling the successful conduct of multiparty general elections.
5. To promote balanced development across all regions and states, as well as enhance health, education and job opportunities for ethnic nationals.

Gold Market Rate as of 12 January 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,400,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

Cybersecurity Law (State Administration Council Law No 1/2025)

CONTINUED FROM 9 JANUARY

70. If anyone is found guilty of establishing a VPN or providing VPN services without permission of the ministry;
 - (a) he or she shall be imprisoned for a minimum of one month and a maximum of six months or a fine of at least K1 million to a maximum of K10 million, or both punishments must be imposed, and the evidence related to the case shall be confiscated as a national treasure.
 - (b) If the perpetrator is a company or organization, the company or organization shall be fined not less than K10 million, and the evidence related to the case shall be confiscated as national treasure.
71. If anyone is found guilty of establishing online gambling system,
 - (a) he or she shall be imprisoned for a minimum of six months and a maximum of one year or a fine of at least K5 million to a maximum of K20 million, or both punishments must be imposed, and the evidence related to the case shall be confiscated as a national treasure.
 - (b) If the perpetrator is a company or organization, the company or organization shall be fined not less than K20 million, and the evidence related to the case shall be confiscated as national treasure.
72. Anyone who distributes, spreads, sends, copies or sells inappropriate information using an electronic system shall be imprisoned for a minimum of one month and a maximum of six months or a fine of at least K1 million to a maximum of K10 million, or both punishments must be imposed.
73. Anyone convicted of breaking the bylaws, rules, regulations, notification, order, directive and procedures released as per this law;
 - (a) he or she shall be imprisoned for a minimum of one month and a maximum of three months or a fine of at least K1 million to a maximum of K10 million, or both punishments must be imposed, and the evidence related to the case shall be confiscated as a national treasure.
 - (b) If the perpetrator is a company or organization, the company or organization shall be fined not less than K10 million, and the evidence related to the case shall be confiscated as national treasure.
74. Anyone who attempts to commit or cooperate or support to commit the offences mentioned in this law shall face the punishment stipulated in this law.

Chapter (16) Miscellaneous

75. If the evidence prosecuted with this law is not easy to submit to the court, the report and documents of the investigation unit regarding the storage form can be submitted to the respective court. Such action can be recognized as the pieces of evidence are submitted to the court, and the court shall manage under the law.
76. The cybersecurity unit formed before the enactment of this law shall apply for permission within six months from the date of enforcing this law.
77. The department shall collect the outstanding fees and fines in this law and

- consider them as outstanding balances.
78. (a) If it needs to cooperate with international countries, it shall perform under the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Law.
 - (b) If the offender is a foreigner, it shall follow the Extradition Law.
79. If the authorized person to manage the essential information infrastructure is a government employee, he or she will be taken action under the Civil Services Law when it is found out that he or she fails to follow subsections (a) or (b) of Section 17.
80. A member of the leading committee or working committee or investigation unit who is not a government employee, shall be recognized as Public Servants while serving duties of this law under Penal Code Article 21.
81. It shall not be allowed prosecuting for a person or organization, that performs responsibilities and duties assigned under this law.
82. Permission of ministry shall be sought in advance for prosecuting under this law.
83. If offences mentioned in this law shall be taken action under this law.
84. The offences mentioned in Sections 60,62,64,66,68,71 and 72 are recognized as cognizable cases.
85. If it is responsible for solving the losses of the public regarding a case even though actions related to management or prosecuting for offences are made under this law for that case, the person who is taken action or the offender is not recognized to be free from his or her duty.
86. The central committee or leading committee shall;
 - (a) allow the government department, organization or person not to pay for permission, licence registration or fees under this law with the permission of the Union government for the sake of the public.
 - (b) exempt from seeking permission or licences or paying fees under this law without seeking the approval of the Union government when it comes to State emergency cases, State defence and security measures and natural disaster cases.
 - (c) submit to the Union government regarding the exempted cases under subsection (b).
87. The ministry can issue a notification with the agreement of the central committee to clarify if it is needed to clarify the terms or words of this law.
88. In implementing the provisions of this law;
 - (a) The ministry can issue bylaws, rules and regulations with the approval of the Union government.
 - (b) The central committee, leading committee, working committee and department can issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures.

I hereby sign under section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Chairman
State Administration Council

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)

Govt emphasizes national unity, improves language, literature, art, and culture of ethnic groups

The government is helping to develop the language, literature, art, and culture of ethnic groups, as well as promoting unity, friendship, and mutual assistance among them, said State Administration Council Member Admiral Tin Aung San, who is Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister, at a meeting with district-level departmental officials, town elders, ethnic literature and cultural associations, and residents at Phonkanrazi Hall in PutaO, yesterday.

During the meeting, the Admiral emphasized that serious measures are being taken to further improve the socio-economic conditions of ethnic groups. Additionally, he urged the residents of PutaO to expand local agricultural and livestock activities, increase the production of agricultural and livestock products, and strive for regional self-sufficiency by promoting MSME activities.

Then, he presented cash



State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Admiral Tin Aung San encourages teachers and students from the Training School for Development of Nationalities Youth from Border Areas (Putao) in Putao, Kachin State yesterday.

awards to 13 religious groups, basic food items to employees, and cash awards to the public security and anti-terrorism squads of PutaO and Machanbaw townships. He also provided 30 DTH sets to literary and cultural groups, bags of maize and vegetable seeds to farmers,

50 household solar kits, and notebooks provided by the State, and viewed locally produced ready-to-eat products displayed in the hall.

While in Putao, the Admiral paid homage to the abbot of the Hilly Region Missionary Central Monastery Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Vic-

araññana, and members of the Sangha. He supplicated religious affairs and donated K3 million as nine prerequisites, 50 bags of rice, and five jerry cans of cooking oil. They also visited the ancient Kauhmulon Pagoda in Machanbaw Township, where they donated funds for the overall renovation

of the pagoda.

At the 500-acre integrated farm (Namtale) in PutaO station, he inspected the cultivation of crops, raising of layers and breeding of pigs, and inquired about the conditions of cultivation and the sales of produce in the region. He also provided livestock support, medicines, and nutritious feed bags.

At the Training School for Development of Nationalities Youth from Border Areas (Putao) of Education and Training Department under the Border Affairs Ministry, he met with teachers and students, presented cash awards, school uniforms and school equipment, and toured the dining hall and student dormitories.

On the evening of 11 January, the Admiral, and other officials met with leaders of religious associations and officials from literary and cultural groups in PutaO at the Khakaborazi Hall to discuss regional development issues and address their needs. — MNA/TH

Private health services need to provide quality, effective, and safe healthcare to people

THE Myanmar Medical Council has to emphasize proper development of private health sector, said Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win at the Myanmar Medical Council Executive Committee Meeting 1/2025, at the Department of Medical Research in Yangon yesterday.

He emphasized that private health services need to ensure that people receive quality, effective, and safe healthcare.

The Union Minister stated

that as the current executive committee of the Myanmar Medical Council is about to complete its second four-year term, new executive members will be elected for the third term in the near future. Therefore, it is important to carefully select individuals who can serve the interests of the medical profession in accordance with the Myanmar Medical Council Law. The Myanmar Medical Council is an important organization for

monitoring and maintaining the ethics and rules of doctors.

Then, Professor Dr Khin Maung Aye, President of the Myanmar Medical Council, explained the activities of the Myanmar Medical Council Executive Committee during its second four-year term and provided an update on the process of selecting executives for the third four-year term.

Afterwards, the Patron of the Myanmar Medical Council,



The Myanmar Medical Council Executive Committee Meeting 1/2025 in progress in Yangon yesterday.

Dr S Kyaw Hla, and the executive members discussed their work and activities, while the

Union Minister and the patrons coordinated the matters. — MNA/TH

NATIONAL

Youth Education: Essential for Personal and National Growth

IF youths lack educational knowledge, they cannot develop themselves, their families, society, the nation and nationals.

Therefore, in the basic education sector, it is crucial to ensure all youths and school-age children attend and complete their education.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting to provide guidance to outstanding students in the 2023-2024 academic year on 26 April 2024)

Government supports development of MSME businesses

EARLIER in yesterday morning, Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than visited the dried meat businesses and frozen meat production units in KanU Model village, Meiktila Township.

In meeting with businesspersons, he expressed the government's ongoing efforts to support the development of MSMEs. He encouraged the continuous improvement of pro-

duction processes and urged business owners to openly present any challenges they may face, so that collaborative solutions can be found. He underscored the need to ensure that food products remain aligned with health regulations and that businesses are able to expand their operations effectively.

The Union Minister on 11 January visited the Research Branch (Py-

inOoLwin) in Mandalay Region, where he observed the ongoing efforts to establish a laboratory capable of testing waste water from MSME food and manufacturing businesses. During the visit, he emphasized the importance of ensuring that the food products produced align with health standards.

The Union Minister instructed that the laboratory should comply with



Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than visits the dried meat businesses and frozen meat production units in KanU Model village, Meiktila Township on 11 January 2025.

good laboratory practice (GLP) standards. He also urged that the necessary equipment be provided in

a timely manner to support the growth and development of MSMEs. He emphasized that the labo-

ratory should assist in the advancement of MSMEs while maintaining high standards. — MNA/KZL

2-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K2.030B

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

On 9 January, the Customs on-duty teams confiscated 10 kinds of industrial materials worth K192.245 million without official documents from three containers at the Thilawa Port, 73 kinds of industrial materials worth K1.226 billion without official documents from 16 containers at the

Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint, industrial materials worth K24.215 million without official documents from two containers at the Myanmar Industrial Port, a Mitsubishi Fuso truck, a Chenglong tractor head with a trailer (estimated value of K123 million), heading to Yangon from Mawlamyine, carrying two kinds of industrial materials worth K53.708 million without official documents at the Ywathagyi Dry Port.

The action was conducted following Customs procedures.

Similarly, on 10 January, the on-duty teams seized a Nissan Diesel tractor head with a trailer (estimated value of K71 million), travelling from Yangon to Mandalay, carrying industrial materials valued at K9.126 million without official documents at the Myitnge checkpoint, a Hino truck (estimated value of K25 million) carrying consumer goods,

industrial materials and foodstuffs valued at K25.790 million without official documents on the outskirts of Kyaukse Township and a Nissan Condor truck (estimated value of K33 million), carrying consumer goods valued at K7.106 million without official documents on the Yangon-Mandalay expressway. The action was carried out per Customs procedures.

The on-duty teams seized six vehicles (estimated value of K180

million), travelling from Thaton to Bago, carrying foodstuffs and consumer goods valued at K32.369 million without official documents near Shwe Thanlwin tollgate in Phayagyi and illegal charcoal weighing 42.020 tonnes and illegal teak weighing 7.913 tonnes worth K7.039 million in Bago district. The action was taken under the Forest Law and Customs procedures.

Illegal teak weighing 2.806 tonnes and 0.526

tonne of other timbers worth K5.1 million were confiscated from a Hina rainbow bus (estimated value of K15 million) that was parked by the side of the Tahlay-Tachilek Road in Tachilek Township. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 37 arrests on 9 and 10 January, seizing illegal goods worth approximately K2.030 billion. — MNA/MKKS

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NATIONAL

Sareitta II movie crew celebrates success with 10-day free bus rides

BO Bo Film Production, The Ray Film Production and the cast crew of the 'Sareitta II' movie donated bus fares worth 10-day rides on 9 January. "They donated 10-day bus fares for public free rides on five YBS buses. Starting from 10 January, they donated for 50 days – 10 days each for five times. We are happy to accept and welcome such donations so that the public can ride for free," said YRTC joint secretary U Lyan Cing Mang. The bus lines receiving donations include YBS 28 and YBS 145 from YUPT Company on 10-19 and 20-29 January, YBS 61 from Khit Thit Bayintnaung Company from 30 January-8 February, and YBS 89 and YBS 107 from YBPC Company on 9-18 and 19-29 February.

"Two lines – YBS 89 and YBS 107 – from YBPC Company are included. We will put a free ride vinyl in front of these buses. Our bus lines will run on the same routes as before," said U Kyaw Zin Min, in-charge of YBPC Company.

The movie 'Sareitta II' was released in November 2024. While a movie is usually allowed to show only for a week in cinemas, 'Sareitta II' was so successful that its show period was extended to two consecutive weeks. — MT/ZN



The crew of the movie 'Sareitta II' donate cash for free public YBS rides for 10 days.



This photo showcases some places that tourists visit in Kayin State.

Kayin State welcomes 450,000+ travellers in Jan-Nov 2024

OVER 450,000 domestic and foreign travellers visited tourist destinations in Kayin State from January to November 2024, according to the Kayin State Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

As a result of more than 450,000 domestic and foreign travellers visiting tourist destinations in Kayin State during the 11 months of 2024, the income of hotels and guesthouses amounted to K4.761 billion.

Currently, 60 hotels and guesthouses are operating in the hotel and tourism sector of Kayin State, with a total of 2,159 rooms. The

region's beautiful water, land, forests, mountain landscapes, caves, waterfalls, springs, traditional culture, seasonal festivals, and rich natural resources have attracted many domestic and foreign visitors.

In addition, a resort project will be implemented in Kawmayan Village, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State, to develop agro-tourism based on agricultural tasks. Kawmayan Village is also the recipient of the Sustainable Tourism Award 2022, presented by Southeast Asian countries. — ASH/MKKS

Myanmar film 'Kankaung' nominated for Suwon International Film Festival 2025

THE Myanmar film 'Kankaung' has been selected as a nominee for the Suwon International Film Festival 2025 of the Republic of Korea in the International Feature Film category. This recognition comes after the film won three awards at the 2023 Myanmar Film Awards. Directed by Win Lwin Htet, Kankaung was chosen as a nominee for the Suwon International Film Festival, which will take place on 19 January 2025, in South Korea.

Director Win Lwin Htet said,

"I am hopeful that the film will continue its journey and success. I am also deeply thankful to everyone who contributed to this movie from all corners."

Kankaung is based on the story written by Kyel Su Thit, and was scripted by Moe Ni Lwin. The film was produced by Khatthiya Film Production, with Win Lwin Htet directing. Notable actors such as Paing Takhon, Academy Award winner Thu Htoo San, Khin Zar Chi Kyaw, and Nay Htut starred in the film.

In addition, Kankaung has achieved significant success at other international events. It won the Best Producer Award, Best Director Award, and Best Actor Award at the SEA International Film Festival 2024. Furthermore, at the 2023 Myanmar Film Academy Awards, the movie won the Best Film Award, Best Cinematography Award, and Best Film Music Award. — ASH/KZL

This image reveals a poster depicting scenes from the film 'Kankaung'.



Mottos for 78th Anniversary of Union Day 2025

1. When all ethnic national brethren stand in unity, hand in hand, the Union will firmly stand.
2. Drifting in one boat, on the same voyage we float; Bound together in communion, the heart of the Union.
3. United in heart and soul, Marching towards the Union's goal.
4. Let's build peace to achieve prosperity.
5. Strong in unity, ethnic national brethren ensure the nation's strength.

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NATIONAL

Notification 1/2025

CONTINUED FROM 9 JANUARY

Title recipient Sayadaws abroad

79. Bhaddanta Jatila, Myanma Gonyi Buddhist Temple, No 31-1, Jalan Datok Haji Hassan, 84000, Muar, Johor, Malaysia
80. Most Venerable Maha Khamma Panyavichit, Abbot of the Hongkha Nakharam, Chanthabouly District, Vientiane Capital, Laos
81. Most Venerable Hipankande Saddhasiri Anunayaka Thero, Vidya Samadhi International Buddhist Centre, Kottawa, Pelenwatta, Pannipitiya, Sri Lanka
82. Most Venerable Phra Phrommuni (Boonrueng Poonyachoto, Worakhamvichai), Wat Phra Sri Mahathat Woramahawihan, 149 Anusaowaree Sub-District, Bangkok District, Bangkok 10220, Thailand

Title recipient Nuns

83. Daw Viranani, Nunnery Primary School, Zabumyaing Nunnery, Ward 6, Hpa-an, Kayin State
84. Daw Dhammatheri, Aungthiri Monastery, Kaleinaung, Yephyu Township, Taninthayi Region
85. Daw Tikkhindariya, Ngantay Dhamma Yeiktha (Hpa-auk Tawya Branch), Ngantay Ward, Mawlamyine, Mon State
86. Daw Tiranani, Parami Nunnery, Bogyoke Village, Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region
87. Daw Aggesi, 969 Naphathla Nunnery, Shwepyauk Village, Kyauktan Township, Yangon Region
88. Daw Malasingi, Myatheingi Nunnery Parahita Post-Primary School, Myawady Ward, Hinthada, Ayeyawady Region
89. Daw Sudhammavati, Dhamma Kiti Vihar, Kathmandu, Nepal

Title recipient laypersons

90. U Min Htaik, Ward 2, Shwepyiaye, Homalin Township, Sagaing Region
91. Daw Than Than Htay, Apartment 21, Building 745, Bawgatheikdi Ward, Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw
92. Dr Min Thant (a) U Min Htay, No 546, Tabinshwehtee Road, Ward 38, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region
93. U Tin Moe Aung (a) U Nay Shine, No 16/A-1, Ariyamaggin Road, Ward 14, Yankin Township, Yangon Region
94. Daw San San Win, Building 28/2, Bawsin Road, Ward 24, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region
95. U Ar Soh, Moingyan Road, Ward 4, Nwenaw Arkha Village, Kengtung Township, Shan State

Title recipient laypersons abroad

96. Mr Sakuma Susumu, No 3-16-7, Kamitomino, Kita Ward, Kitakyushu, Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan
97. Mrs Kazuko Yasaka, No 1-9-2, Yanagi, Moji Ward, Kitakyushu, Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan
98. Mrs Naly Sisoulith, Thaphalanxai Village, Sisattanak District, Vientiane Capital, Laos

Saddhammajotikadhaja title

1. Bhaddanta Tiloka, Wayyanbonmyint (Sasana Uyin Parahita) Monastery, Nankwe Village, Myitkyina Township, Kachin State
2. Dr Bhaddanta Vannita, Myitzimawuntha Shwe Monastery, Aungmainggon Ward, Myitkyina, Kachin State
3. Bhaddanta Vimala, Kyuntaw Monastery, Kyuntaw Village, Shwegu Township, Kachin State
4. Bhaddanta Pannananda, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Mulashide Ward, PutaO, Kachin State
5. Bhaddanta Pannadhaja, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Ward 4, Shwebweyang, Tanai Township, Kachin State
6. Bhaddanta Tejanaya, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Nano 1 Village, PutaO Township, Kachin State
7. Bhaddanta Nipuna, Nipunarama Dhammayon Monastery, Saikkwin 3 Village, Loikaw Township, Kayah State
8. Bhaddanta Suriya, Dhammanada Monastery, Htaypalawku Village, Loikaw Township, Kayah State
9. Bhaddanta Jotika, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Dawsawphya Village, Demawhso Township, Kayah State
10. Bhaddanta Kundala, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Nganyoe Village, Demawhso Township, Kayah State
11. Bhaddanta Pannacara, Phapya Mingala Theikpan Monastery, Phapya Village, Kya-in Seikkyi Township, Kayin State
12. Bhaddanta Dhammavudha, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Khitaw Village, Kanpetlet Township, Chin State
13. Bhaddanta Khemindacara, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Amlaung Village, Mindat Township, Chin State

14. Bhaddanta Varinda, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Daukdwe Village, Mindat Township, Chin State
15. Bhaddanta Kumara, Donein Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Donein Village, Mindat Township, Chin State
16. Bhaddanta Osadha, Myoma Theravada Buddhist Missionary School (Central), Haka, Chin State
17. Bhaddanta Indacariya, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Lakyan Village, Lahe Township, Naga Self-Administered Zone, Sagaing Region
18. Bhaddanta Aggasara, Kyaukkyeetaung Monastery, Kyeek Village, Monywa Township, Sagaing Region
19. Bhaddanta Kumara, Yayhsankyun Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Cikon Village, Kalay Township, Sagaing Region
20. Bhaddanta Issariya, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Ahtet Ward, Pasawng, Nanyun Township, Naga Self-Administered Zone, Sagaing Region
21. Bhaddanta Pannacara, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Gahone Village, Lahe Township, Naga Self-Administered Zone, Sagaing Region
22. Bhaddanta Jotika, Taungpaya Monastery, Taungpaya Village, Yebyu Township, Taninthayi Region
23. Bhaddanta Dhammananda, Khemathiwun Monastic Primary School, Shwepyitha Ward, Kawthoung, Taninthayi Region
24. Bhaddanta Khemacara, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Mazawbyingyee Village, Myeik Township, Taninthayi Region
25. Bhaddanta Palita, Myoma Thihanada Buddhism Learning Centre, Bo Min Yang Ward, Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw
26. Bhaddanta Pannasiri, Gonmin-aing Ayenyeinchantha Thabawa Meditation Centre, Gonmin-aing Village, Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw
27. Bhaddanta Vayama, Hmanpya Monastery, 6th-Mile Village, Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw
28. Bhaddanta Sunanda, Dhammapala Monastery, Shasaypho Village, Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw
29. Bhaddanta Jagara, Yadana Manaung Monastic Post-Primary School, Hsesu Village, Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw
30. Bhaddanta Pannasami, Shwekya Pyokhin No 1 Monastic Middle School, Shwekya Village, Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw
31. Bhaddanta Pandicca, Monastic Primary School, Koehsaung Monastery, Htonbo Village, Padaung Township, Bago Region
32. Bhaddanta Nemindalankara, Dhammapala Monastic School, Shwekyeebin Kwetthit, Thanatpin Township, Bago Region
33. Bhaddanta Vepulla, No 16, Ngagyee-in Monastic Post-Primary School, Ngagyee-in Village, Bago Township, Bago Region
34. Bhaddanta Jotika, Shwebontha Monastic Post-Primary School, Kyaiksakaw Village, DaikU Township, Bago Region
35. Bhaddanta Vimala, Myitta Uyin (Panditarama Myataung), Novice Nurturing and Orphanage Parahita Monastic Primary School, Myohla, Yedashe Township, Bago Region
36. Bhaddanta Dhammapala, Pyithsimarama Monastic Primary School, Ward 8, Oktha Myothit, Bago Township, Bago Region
37. Bhaddanta Javana, Htagauk Monastery, Htagauk Village, Kanma Township, Magway Region
38. Bhaddanta Nandobhasa, Mataunta Monastery, ShweOh 2 Ward, Taungdwingyi, Magway Region
39. Bhaddanta Soma, Sasanapala Monastery, Ywathagyi Village, Pwintbyu Township, Magway Region
40. Bhaddanta Silacara, Saytawwin Tawya Monastery, Ward 1, Sedoktara, Magway Region
41. Bhaddanta Teja, Sasana Nuggaha Monastic Post-Primary School, North Shadow Village, Hsinbyukyun, Salin Township, Magway Region
42. Bhaddanta Osadha, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Panihson Village, Minhla Township, Magway Region
43. Bhaddanta Varadipa, Shweyankin Monastery, Uyintaw Village, Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region
44. Bhaddanta Sumananana, Gainghtauk Monastery, Hseto Village, Mahlaing Township, Mandalay Region
45. Bhaddanta Vicara, Maha Wizaya Monastery, Maha Myaing Ward 2, Mahaaungmyay Township, Mandalay Region
46. Bhaddanta Kovida, Mingalarama Monastic Post-Primary School, Thechaung Village, Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region
47. Bhaddanta Jotipala, Phayaphyu Monastic Post-Primary School, Satoe Village, Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region
48. Bhaddanta Nanda, Okshitkon Monastic Primary School, West Thirimala Ward, Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay Region
49. Bhaddanta Acara, Yadana Theikdi Monastery, Aungthaya Ward, Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay Region
50. Bhaddanta Manita, Padamya Monastic Post-Primary School, Aungnila Ward 2, Mogok, Mandalay Region
51. Bhaddanta Janaka, Dekkhinarama Phayagyi Monastery, Ywagyi Village, Thazi Township, Mandalay Region

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52. Bhaddanta Sobhana, Buddhasaya (Parahita) Monastic Post-Primary School, Yayhtwet Village-tract, Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Region
53. Bhaddanta Pannasami, Sasana Gonsaung Myittataung Monastery, Phyauckseikkon Village, Thazi Township, Mandalay Region
54. Bhaddanta Candima, Yethaung Monastery, Kinmonchaung Village, Kyaikto Township, Mon State
55. Bhaddanta Nandamala, Saungnainggyi Monastery, Kinmunchaung Village, Kyaikto Township, Mon State
56. Bhaddanta Obhasa, Aungtheikdishin Monastery, Kinmunchaung Village, Kyaikto Township, Mon State
57. Bhaddanta Revata, Mepyawtwa Monastery, Kinmunchaung Village, Kyaikto Township, Mon State
58. Bhaddanta Tiloka, Meyongyi Monastery, Kinmunchaung Village, Kyaikto Township, Mon State
59. Bhaddanta Obhasa, Winsein Tawya Branch, Khetya Khetyu Monastery, Lettet Village, Mudon Township, Mon State
60. Bhaddanta Carinda, Kyauktan Kyaunghaung Monastery, Kyauktan Ward, Mawlamyine, Mon State
61. Bhaddanta Pannasiri, MyoU Taungpaw Monastery, Myoma Ward, Gwa, Rakhine State
62. Bhaddanta Devindalankara, Myitzima Padamya Yadana Monastery, Rakhineyoegeyi Village, Htantabin Township, Yangon Region
63. Bhaddanta Nandamalasiri, Myayaungchi Monastic School, Nyeinchanthaya Village, Hlegu Township, Yangon Region
64. Bhaddanta Candasuriya, Mula Pahtan Monastery, Ward 8, Kamayut Township, Yangon Region
65. Bhaddanta Siccapanidita, Mingala Thiri Myanmar Cambodia Pariyatti Buddhism Learning Centre, Ward 21, Shwepaukkan Myothit, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region
66. Bhaddanta Mandala, Myinmu Monastery, Ward 11, Shwepaukkan Myothit, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region
67. Bhaddanta Nanissara, Panditayama Shwetaunggon Sasana Yeiktha, Shwetaunggya Ward, Bahan Township, Yangon Region
68. Bhaddanta Kusala, Wimotti Nyana Dhamma Yeiktha Monastery, Peinnegon Village, Hmawby Township, Yangon Region
69. Bhaddanta Surindadhaja, MingalaU Pariyatti Buddhism Learning Centre, Mongpun, Loikem, Shan State
70. Bhaddanta Narinda, MoeU Monastery, MoeU Village, Pinlaung Township, Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, Shan State
71. Bhaddanta Aggavamsa, Abbot Training School, Ward 1, Kengtung, Shan State
72. Bhaddanta Sucitta, Nagmon Parahita Monastic Primary School, KanthaU Ward, Nagmon Sanpya Village, Hsihseng Township, Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, Shan State
73. Bhaddanta Pandita, Border Area Pariyatti Patipatti Missionary Panditayama Nampun Monastery, Ward 2, Tanyang, Shan State

74. Bhaddanta Vimala, Pankhin Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, 30th-mile Village, Mongping Township, Shan State
75. Bhaddanta Nandana, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Nawngson 2 Village, Kengtung Township, Shan State
76. Bhaddanta Suriya, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Mongkan Village, Mongtung Township, Shan State
77. Bhaddanta Sumanasami, Theravada Buddhist Missionary School, Sakpalauk Village, Pekhoh Township, Shan State
78. Bhaddanta Uttamasara, Ayewingabar Monastery, Eastern Ward, Pantanaw, Ayeyawady Region
79. Bhaddanta Osadha, Withokdayon Monastery, Tagongyi Village, Kangyidaunt Township, Ayeyawady Region

Title recipient Sayadaws abroad

80. Bhaddanta Muninda, Thiri Mingala Gegong Monastery, Gegong, Ruili Township, Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China
81. Bhaddanta Pannacakka, Wat Sai Mon Myanmar Monastery, Chiangmai, Thailand
82. Dr Ven Nandaratan, Sri Lanka Buddha Vihara, Buddha Nagari Ward, Kusi-nayon, UP State, India
83. Dr Ven Dhammaratana, Chinese Buddhist Temple, Nalanda, Bihar, India

Title recipient nuns

84. Daw Pannasiri, Nunnery Primary School, Thirihayma Nunnery, Ward 9, Hpan, Kayin State
85. Daw Inkuravati, Thakyadita Nunnery, Alegon Ward, Saya San Myothit, Thawawady Township, Bago Region
85. Daw Hitakari, Shwemaung ManiyadanaU Nunnery, Thabyeyoe Village, Singaing Township, Mandalay Region
87. Daw Indacari, Pyinsagiri Chanmyaesi Lawki Lawkottara Learning Nunnery, Leik-in Ward, Thaton, Mon State
89. Daw Pannawati, Pyinnyatheingi Nunnery Primary School, Sawbwagyigon Ward, Insein Township, Yangon Region

Title recipient laypersons

89. U Ngwe Thein Win, No 285, Zeya 5, Myothitgyi Ward, Myitkyina, Kachin State
90. Dr Kyaw Zin Oo, District Hospital, Staff Housing, Myoma Ward, PutaO, Kachin State
91. U Aung Naing Soe, Building 9, Myayinanda Housing, 117-D Street, 45th by 46th streets, Aungthaya Ward, Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay Region
92. U Kyaw Soe, Apartment 005, Building 2, Kyitaw Housing, Kyitaw Ward, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region
93. Daw Myint Myint Aye, No 18, Zaygyo Street, North Myoma Ward, Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region
94. Dr Lin Seng, Panlinseng Village, Namsang Township, Shan State

Title recipient layperson abroad

95. Ms YOSHIDA IKUKO, No 4-32-4 (801), Shinjuku Township, Tokyo City, Japan

TO BE CONTINUED

Notification 2/2025

CONTINUED FROM 9 JANUARY

Excellent Performance Medals in Technology (Third Class)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 12. Major Naing Lin Tun | Ministry of Defence |
| 13. Major Htaik Aung | Ministry of Defence |
| 14. Major Kyaw Soe Lin | Ministry of Defence |
| 15. Major Ye Win Kyaw | Ministry of Defence |
| 16. Major Thwin Zaw Toe | Ministry of Defence |
| 17. Captain Kyaw Kyaw Hsan | Ministry of Defence |
| 18. Captain Thet Khaing Soe | Ministry of Defence |
| 19. Captain Ye Min Thaw | Ministry of Defence |
| 20. Captain Moe Wint Aung | Ministry of Defence |
| 21. U Lin Htet Aung | Staff Officer
Union Election
Commission Office |
| 22. Air 20568 | Warrant Officer Than Oo
Ministry of Defence |
| 23. Air 20672 | Warrant Officer
Saw Aye Han
Ministry of Defence |
| 24. Air 20819 | Warrant Officer
Khin Maung Htwe
Ministry of Defence |
| 25. Air 20872 | Warrant Officer Kyaw Min
Ministry of Defence |
| 26. Air 20969 | Warrant Officer Nyan Tun
Ministry of Defence |
| 27. Air 21043 | Warrant Officer
Aung Zaw Moe
Ministry of Defence |
| 28. Air 21059 | Warrant Officer
Thaung Sein
Ministry of Defence |
| 29. Air 21347 | Warrant Officer Thein Tun
Ministry of Defence |

- | | | |
|----------------|--|---------------------|
| 30. Air 21548 | Warrant Officer-I
Zaw Myint | Ministry of Defence |
| 31. Air 22121 | Warrant Officer-I
Than Nyein | Ministry of Defence |
| 32. Air 27551 | Warrant Officer-I
Tun Tun Naing | Ministry of Defence |
| 33. Navy 32906 | Chief Petty Officer/35
Aung Aung Khaing | Ministry of Defence |
| 34. Air 27148 | Staff Sergeant
Aung Zaw Min | Ministry of Defence |

Excellent Performance Medal in Fine Arts (First Class)

1. U Ohn Pe (Maymyo Khin Maung Myint) Vocalist
2. U Sein Tin Han (Ywasagyi Sein Tin Han) Musician

Excellent Performance Medal in Fine Arts (Second Class)

1. U Bo Musician
2. U Win Kyi (Waziya Win Kyi) Theatrical Performer
3. Daw Aung Nyunt Sein (a) Daw Nyunt Nyunt Sein Theatrical Performer
4. U Ye Nyunt Theatrical Performer

Excellent Performance Medal in Fine Arts (Third Class)

1. Daw Khaing Wah (a) Mei Thida/Thida Tun Vocalist
2. Dr Hla May Oo (a) Hsu Yi Vocalist

Sd/Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Chairman, State Administration Council

OPINION

Eradicate drug abuse and trafficking for mankind

LAW enforcement agencies and local authorities frequently seize substances such as Happy Water, Ice, stimulant tablets, heroin, and various other narcotic drugs across different regions of the country, as reported in State-owned newspapers and on social media.

Narcotic drug producers create various drug forms to penetrate the user market. As a result, authorities investigate and seize large quantities of chemical drugs. These seized drugs are incinerated during ceremonies held on the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in major cities across the nation.

In 2024, local authorities destroyed 77 items of narcotic drugs and chemicals valued at over K1,163 billion (approximately US\$349.443 million), including more than 1,366 kilogrammes of opium, 2,178 kilogrammes of heroin, over 239 million stimulant tablets, 23,393 kilogrammes of Ice, 1,775 kilogrammes of opium speciosa (*Mitragyna speciosa*), 1,257 kilogrammes of marijuana, over 4,165

kilogrammes of ketamine, and more than 12 kilogrammes of morphine during the incineration ceremonies.

Everyone needs to recognize the dangers of narcotic drugs. Narcotics are a harmful legacy of colonialism. Drug users often find it difficult to escape addiction, while drug traffickers, who seem to earn unprecedented incomes from participating in the drug trade, are also hard to leave due to the unseen dangers and threats they face.

Those who truly understand the dangers and disadvantages of narcotic drugs often seek help from authorities for the treatment of drug addiction. However, most drug users experience profound devastation in their own lives and the lives of their families. They also face legal consequences for violating laws related to narcotic drug use. Therefore, all citizens need to recognize that drug abuse and drug trafficking offer no benefits to individuals or society.

Parents must guide their children to avoid narcotic drugs, as schools and educational materials have long been providing information about the dangers of these substances. Furthermore, governments have enacted laws aimed at eradicating narcotics in all forms. Indeed, no country accepts drug abuse or trafficking and works to eliminate them for the well-being of society. Authorities should also monitor and dismantle domestic drug trafficking routes while addressing potential international inflows of narcotics.

International communities approach the issue of narcotic drug problems in diverse ways, influenced by factors such as background, culture, development, resource ownership, location, and geographical conditions. Myanmar's governments have consistently worked to eradicate narcotic drugs in successive eras. It is essential to emphasize supervision over the trafficking of prohibited chemical raw materials to prevent their access to drug production areas.

EDWARD Snowden hoo-ha might have ended ten years ago, but illegal spying by the US carries on, both on its partners and anyone it wants to control, via warrantless surveillance rights to indiscriminately monitor communications of all internet users around the world.

Snowden popularized the term 'metadata' and started a heated debate about mass surveillance. He had succeeded beyond imagination. But who is there to defend our democracy and rights in this digital age?

The intelligence agencies (CIA, NSA, FBI - acronyms stated at end of article) dismissed such claims at that time, arguing that their programmes are constitutional, and subject to rigorous congressional and judicial oversight, yet critical to meet their overriding aim of protecting the public from terrorist attacks. As usual, they regurgitate the age-old slogan: if you have nothing to hide, you have nothing to be scared of!

The whole world was shaken at that time. Its allies were rightly upset, its so-called enemies were proven right about what they had suspected all along, people were livid due to lack of some social responsibility, US internet companies claimed they were forced into cooperation and NGOs warned that surveillance was going beyond the intention of lawmakers.

Cell phones, laptops, Facebook, Instagram, X, Skype, and chat rooms: all allow the NSA to build what it calls 'a pattern of life', a detailed profile of a target and anyone associated with them. And the number of people caught up in this dragnet can be huge. You have to recall the Bourne Identity, Supremacy and Ultimatum trilogy of movies, to visualize the level of spying and black ops

going on. Ten years ago, faced with this growing public and political concern over the quantities of data it is collecting, the NSA said it collected only a tiny proportion of the world's internet traffic, equivalent to a "dime on a basketball court". But in reality, that is still a huge amount of data. It says it needs all this data to help prevent another terrorist attack like 9/11. To find the needle in the haystack, they argue, they need access to the whole haystack. Yet, the US Congress did not find any substantial evidence of NSA actions stopping terrorist attacks. NSA claimed 54 terror attacks being stopped, but was fact-checked to be only 4.

That was ten years ago. The chances were you were already sharing a lot more personal information than you thought, even back then.

Spying Continued
Now Five Eyes countries jointly conduct cyber espionage operations eavesdropping, tapping and collecting metadata upon other countries from Russia to China to Germany and France. Instead of toning down its indiscriminate monitoring and illegal spying operations, the Five Eyes have up their ante by introducing programmes such as False Flag operations, misleading traceability attribution and implanted backdoors in the internet products US companies sold to other countries.

US longstanding strategy of 'forward defence' and carrying out 'hunt forward' operations requires that it continues to stealthily spy on other countries by hook or by crook. At the same time, since Snowden's time, due to investigations by US lawmakers, the tactics have gone underground, trying to cover up its

attacks, erasing fingerprints of cyber espionage and attempting to obscure various identifiable features of its assaults. The worst of all was inputting code 'strings' in other languages to mislead cybersecurity experts and frame other countries for cybersurveillance. According to China's CVERC, Volt Typhoon was one such programme, deployed by the Five Eyes recently. China's Global Times also highlighted a stealth

tool kit codenamed 'Marble' used in such operations. The report claimed Marble can use over 100 algorithms to replace readable content in source code files with unrecognizable content and has the ability to insert interfering strings. False Flag operations are a major component of Influence Operations by the Five Eyes countries. Influence operations include two aspects: (dis) Information op-

Snowden Not Enough, Spying Continued Cyber Version

By U AC



Public opinion is polarized over surveillance, but polls over recent years showed a consistent increase in concern over privacy. **ILLUSTRATION: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ VIRTUAL REALITY**

erations and Technical disruption operations. Its 4D principles of deny, disrupt, degrade, and deceive are in full observation in its cyber spying activities. Five Eyes' illicit spying activities are helped by the fact that much of the world's communications traffic passes through the US or its close ally the UK - what the agencies refer to as "home-field advantage", because of the fact that it can control the world's

most internet choke points such as Atlantic submarine fibre optic cable and Pacific submarine fibre optic cable. The UK is connected to 57 countries by fibre optic cables whereas the US is connected to 63. NSA works closely with the FBI and British NCSC to carry out protocol analysis and data theft of the full amount of data transmitted by fibre optic cables, to achieve wholesale monitoring of internet users around the world.

The NSA has its own cable-intercept programs tapping traffic flowing into and across the US. These are collectively known as the Upstream collection. NSA runs these surveillance programmes through "partnerships" with major US telecom and internet companies. The Upstream project function is to retain all the original communication data of submarine fibre optic cables intercepted by monitoring stations in a massive data 'reservoir'. The second project of NSA is Prism, whose main function is to classify the original data from the Upstream collection accordingly and to analyze its content. It is also a "downstream" programme - which collects the data from Google, Facebook, Apple, Yahoo and other US internet giants.

The above snooping would be sufficient provided if the data that they wanted actually travelled through the above submarine pipelines. What if the data they wanted to spy on stayed just within Russia or China? To solve this problem NSA conducts CNE for specific targets located in such

blind spots and the Office of TAO follows up with the dirty work. To be specific, using advanced US technology and products, in cooperation with US internet, software and equipment suppliers, TAO would intercept and disassemble US products purchased by the entities in these blind spot territories, implant backdoors and repackage them before shipping them to their destination. These products once in use, would transmit back the required top-secret content back to NSA headquarters.

The division inside the NSA that deals with collection programmes that focus on private companies is Special Source Operations, described by Snowden as the "crown jewels" of the NSA, under the heading of 'Corporate Partner Access'. It has already set out its mission: "Leverage unique key corporate partnerships to gain access to high-capacity international fibre optic cables, switches and/or routes throughout the world." The names of many of the NSA's "corporate partners" are so sensitive that they are classified as "ECI" - Exceptionally Controlled Information.

The future
Public opinion is polarized over surveillance, but polls over recent years showed a consistent increase in concern over privacy. Meanwhile, the unlawful activities by the Five Eyes continued, invading the privacy of many, not under its sovereignty as well as stealing the confidential top-secret information of other countries. With the new peace-advocating President in place this year, hopefully, these anti-peace activities will discontinue soon. Optimistically, the \$400 million assistance via Burma Act to anti-government forces could be halted

too, thereby stopping \$20,000+ a month funding to each of the illegal fake news agencies in Chiang Mai, that did more to bring the country down than help any fellow citizens prosper.

ACRONYMS:
NSA: National Security Agency
CIA: Central Intelligence Agency
FBI: Federal Bureau of Investigation
Metadata: Data providing information about other aspects of that data, e.g., information about the time and location of a phone call or email, as opposed to the contents of those conversations or messages.
Five Eyes countries: US, Canada, UK, Australia, and New Zealand,
False Flag operation: an act committed with the intent of disguising the actual source of responsibility and pinning blame on another party.
Traceability attribution: tracing and attributing security-relevant actions (i.e., subject-object interactions) to the entity on whose behalf the action is being taken.
Implanted backdoor: a typically covert method of bypassing normal authentication or encryption in a computer, product, embedded device (e.g. a home router), or its embodiment.
CVERC: China Virus Emergency Response Centre
String: a data type used in programming, that is used to represent text rather than numbers.
NCSC: National Cyber Security Centre
Protocol analysis: tools to identify and create categories of propositions and semantic organization of text segments.
CNE: Computer Network Exploitation
TAO: Tailed Access Operation

with home automation technologies, improving convenience and safety.

Ageing Research
Understanding the Biological Process of Aging: AI models are being used to study ageing at a biological level. Machine learning algorithms can analyze genomic data to understand the genetic factors that contribute to ageing and age-related diseases. This could lead to the development

of interventions that slow down biological ageing. Ageing and Longevity: AI is helping researchers study cellular ageing—the process by which cells lose their ability to divide and function normally as they age. By identifying biomarkers and patterns, AI could help in developing therapies to target senescent cells, potentially improving health span (the period of life spent in good health).

Ageing in the Era of Artificial Intelligence

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

AGEING in the era of Artificial Intelligence (AI) presents unique opportunities and challenges, reshaping how society views ageing, care, and the overall human experience. The intersection of ageing and AI is a rapidly developing field with the potential to transform how we approach ageing, healthcare, and overall quality of life. The mentioned points are the overview of how AI is influencing ageing-related issues:

Healthcare and Disease Management

Early Detection and Diagnosis: AI can analyze large datasets to detect patterns that humans might miss, enabling early diagnosis of age-related diseases like Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and cardiovascular issues. For example, AI algorithms can analyze

medical images (like MRI scans) to detect early signs of dementia or neurodegenerative diseases.

Personalized Medicine: AI systems can assist in tailoring medical treatments to an individual's unique genetic makeup, lifestyle, and health data, which is particularly useful as people age and develop complex, multifac-

rial health conditions.

Drug Discovery: AI is being used to speed up the process of drug discovery, potentially leading to the development of therapies that could slow down or reverse certain aspects of ageing or age-related diseases.

Assistive Technologies

AI-powered Robots and Wearables: AI-driven robots, exoskeletons, and smart devices are helping older adults maintain independence. For example, robots that assist with mobility or daily tasks can support elderly people in their homes. AI-powered wearables can monitor health

metrics like heart rate, and blood pressure, and even detect falls or medical emergencies.

Virtual Assistants: AI-powered virtual assistants like Amazon's Alexa or Google Assistant can help seniors with reminders for medications, appointments, and other daily tasks. These systems are often integrated

with home automation technologies, improving convenience and safety.

Ageing Research

Understanding the Biological Process of Aging: AI models are being used to study ageing at a biological level. Machine learning algorithms can analyze genomic data to understand the genetic factors that contribute to ageing and age-related diseases. This could lead to the development

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Pilgrims flock to Ananda Temple Buddha Pujaniya Festival in Bagan

PILGRIMS from all over the country, including foreign tourists, flock to the Ananda Temple Buddha Pujaniya Festival in the Bagan cultural zone, held annually on the full moon of Pyatho.

The 934th Buddha Puja Festival at Ananda Temple is held on the day before the full moon, on the full moon day, and on the first waning day. There are 120 stalls selling agricultural products, agricultural machinery, Bagan products, food, fishery products, and clothing, and the event is crowded with pilgrims.

“During the Ananda Temple Festival, the recitation of the Maha Pathana treatise and the offering of rice to 250 members of the Sangha take place on the full moon day of Pyatho, with donors from all over the country participating. This is a cultural heritage that has been celebrated without interruption from ancient times to the present, and we will continue to preserve it,” said U Zaw Win

Cho, chairman of the Ananda Temple Board of Trustees.

According to locals, foreign tourists are often particularly interested in learning about the region’s traditions, where pilgrims arrive by bullock-cart during the Ananda Temple Festival.

Festivals are held annually at 18 fa-

mous pagodas in the Bagan region, with the Ananda Temple Festival being the most prominent. It is especially crowded with pilgrims from all over the country on the full moon day of Pyatho. Last year, more than 40,000 pilgrims visited the festival. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/TH



PHOTO: KANU

Strawberry price falls, trade increases

STRAWBERRY production has been large and the price has declined, meantime the trade has increased, said traders.

Strawberry is a favourite among many people and the trade has been fine since the beginning of harvest season, according to fruit traders from Taunggyi Township.

“Wholesale price of strawberry has fallen now compared to the beginning of the season. There are two varieties of strawberries. Chinese Taipei strawberry is softer and it is mainly used by juice shops,” said Ma Sandi Taya, a fruit retail and wholesale trader from Taunggyi.

A seasonal fruit, strawberry has received orders majorly from Yangon as well as from Mawlamyine and Mandalay, and the scope of the market is large.

“Yangon is biggest buyer. Strawberry is mainly grown in Hopong so the price is cheap in Taunggyi and Hopong. It is also grown in Yaksawk, Aungban and Kalaw but the production is lower than Hopong’s, that is why, the price is slightly higher,” she said.

This year’s strawberry production is larger than that of last year. — Thit Taw/ZS



This image depicts a poster for Yangon Zoological Gardens’ 119th anniversary celebration.

Yangon Zoo to celebrate its 119th anniversary over three days

YANGON Zoo will celebrate the commemoration of the 119th anniversary for three days from 24 to 26 January, featuring joyful activities.

Yangon Zoo which is the oldest zoo in South East Asia was founded in 1906 and going to turn 119th year in 2025.

The celebration of the 119th anniversary will include a music concert and kid’s dance performance, a magic show by Joker, game shows and sharing knowledge about wild animals, as well as talk shows and entertainment by Super Star Music Band. Photo shooting with tamed animals, game activities for kids, quiz games and a trade fair will be featured.

Yangon Zoo has invited the public to the celebration of its 119th anniversary to feel nostalgic about their old-time and create a happy moment with family and friends. — MT/ZS

Oil lamps ignited to observe World Hindi Day

SWAMI Vivekananda Culture Centre of the Indian Embassy in Yangon hosted a commemorative ceremony of the World Hindi Day on 10 January.

Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Shri Abhay Thakur and distinguished guests ignited oil lights to mark the World Hindi Day 2025, according to the Indian Ambassador to Myanmar.

The ceremony aimed to enhance learning of Hindi language in Myanmar as Hindi language is playing a key role in the international community.

The Ambassador in his speech remarked: “Hindi language is one of the significant languages worldwide, and its coverage over educational and knowledge arenas is booming across the world. So, we all are proud of its role”.

On the occasion, various competitions on recitation of poems in Hindi language, quiz in general knowledge and writing essay took place for students and teachers. Moreover, the book titled “Hindi: Vishwa bandutav ki bhasha” written by director Shri Ashish Khandhway was introduced to the audiences.

The Indian Ambassador distributed textbooks to the Hindi language schools in Myanmar so as to promote Hindi education.

Cultural entertainments were presented at the ceremony which came to an end with singing the national anthem.

Also present at the commemorative ceremony was joined by Deputy Head of Mission of Indian Embassy Shri Ashish Sharma, representatives from UP Bihar



Indian Ambassador and guests attend the World Hindi Day ceremony.

Parishad, Ramayana Prachar Prasar Samiti, Yangon-Myanmar Hindi Teachers’ Association and Arya Samaj in addition to schools under the management of various

religions, those who are interested in Hindi language, writers and responsible persons from cultural and educational arenas. — Htun Htun/TTA

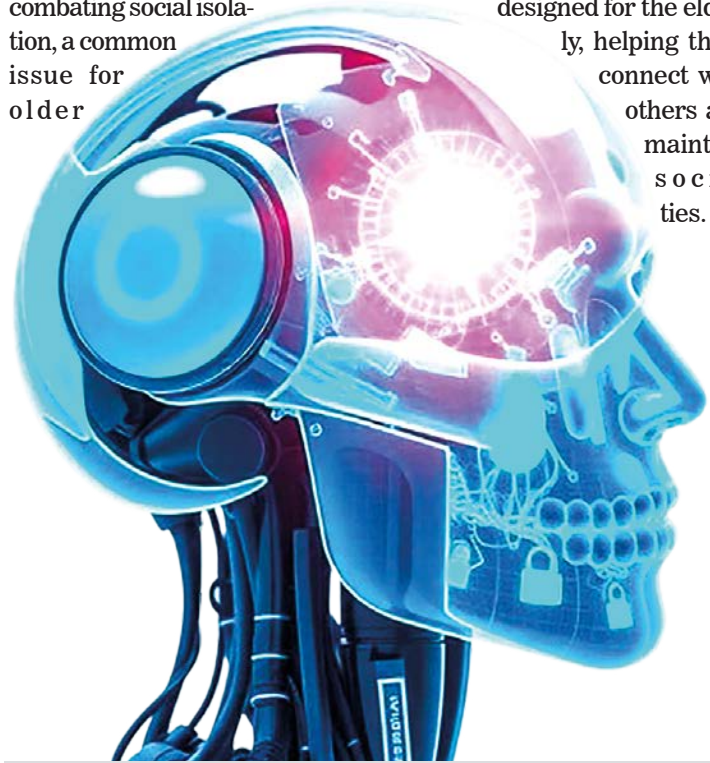
ARTICLE/NATIONAL

Ageing in the Era of Artificial Intelligence

From page 9 Social and Psychological Well-Being

Combating Isolation: AI technologies can play a role in combating social isolation, a common issue for older

adults. Virtual companions powered by AI can offer conversational interactions, providing emotional support. Additionally, AI can be used in social platforms designed for the elderly, helping them connect with others and maintain social ties.



AI is helping researchers study cellular ageing—the process by which cells lose their ability to divide and function normally as they age.

ILLUSTRATION: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ VISUAL ART

Cognitive Training and Mental Health: AI can also be used for cognitive exercises, offering personalized mental health programs or training to help delay cognitive decline. Games and activities powered by AI can be tailored to an individual's abilities, offering a stimulating environment that challenges the brain and helps keep it active.

Smart Environments

AI-Integrated Smart Homes: AI can make homes more adaptive to the needs of ageing individuals. Smart homes with AI systems can automatically adjust lighting, temperature, and appliances based on the person's habits. AI-powered systems can also detect unusual patterns of behaviour, which could signal a medical emergency or decline in physical or cognitive abilities.

Safety Monitoring: AI can be integrated into home safety systems, detecting falls, intrusions, or other hazards. Machine learning algorithms can improve

the precision of these systems over time, ensuring the safety of ageing individuals, particularly those living alone.

Ethical Considerations

Privacy and Data Security: As AI systems collect and analyze large amounts of personal health data, there are concerns about privacy and data security. Ensuring that older adults are fully informed about how their data is used is a major ethical challenge.

Bias in AI: AI systems are trained on data that may not always represent the diversity of ageing populations. This could lead to biased outcomes or misdiagnoses for certain demographic groups. Addressing bias in AI is crucial for fair healthcare and ageing solutions.

AI and Lifespan Extension

Life Extension Technologies: Some researchers and tech companies are exploring AI-driven interventions that

could potentially extend lifespan. By analyzing data from various sources, AI could help discover methods to slow down ageing processes at the cellular or genetic level, though these ideas are still largely in the realm of research.

AI-Driven Ageing and Health Predictions: AI algorithms are being used to predict the ageing process in individuals based on various factors like genetics, lifestyle, and environment. This could help in identifying optimal interventions to improve life expectancy or quality of life.

In addition, ageing in the era of AI is a complex and evolving phenomenon. AI offers solutions to age-related challenges, enhancing healthcare, improving quality of life, and enabling social participation. AI's potential to improve the ageing process is vast, from enhancing healthcare to providing emotional support and improving safety for the elderly.

Training courses to enhance capacity of Red Cross society branches



Officials from the Myanmar Red Cross Society (Mandalay Region) are presenting first aid kits to a Red Cross society branch.

THE Myanmar Red Cross Society (Mandalay Region) has announced plans to conduct training courses aimed at enhancing the capacity of Red Cross society branches at universities and colleges across the Mandalay Region.

Efforts are underway to open capacity enhancement training courses and establish offices for these branches at universities and colleges in the region. This initiative seeks to improve the performance and capabilities of these branches.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society (Man-

dalay Region) recently held discussions with youth Red Cross members from branches from Yadanabon University, Mandalay University, Mandalay Education Degree College, Cooperative College, Government Technological College and Kyaukse University on 8 January.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society (Mandalay Region) has provided the books about Red Cross, pamphlets, posters related to Red Cross activities, first aid kits and office supplies to Red Cross branches in these institutions.

— ASH/KZL

ME to launch 4 immigration services for Myanmar migrants, including children's CSCs

THE Myanmar Embassy to Thailand has announced that it will carry out four tasks including issuing citizenship scrutiny cards to family members of Myanmar workers aged 10 and 18 years old in Thailand.

Staff from the Ministry of Immigration and Population, Myanmar, working in collaboration with the embassy, will soon start providing four tasks.

These processes include task 1: adding children's names to the household list (Form-66/6) and citizen's records (Form-2); task 2: issuing national identity cards for those aged from 10 to 18 to family members of taxpayers under the law; task 3: changing 10-year-old cards to 18-year-old cards, and task 4: issuing ID copies using the e-ID sys-



This photo shows the Myanmar Embassy to Thailand.

tem to taxpayers and family members for lost or damaged or worn-out cards.

The information to be filled in for each type of document will be released soon. Immigration staff will be attached to the embassy for six months, so Myanmar parents are urged not to miss the opportunity to obtain a card for their children who are above the age of 10, it said. — MT/ZN

ECON: WORLD

Shanghai to hold major tourism expo amid inbound travel boom

Four major exhibitions will focus on 14 key industries such as tourism, hospitality, food, retail, and health.



Exhibitors from Germany, Italy, Spain, Japan, South Korea, and Vietnam have registered for the expo. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

TOURISM Plus Shanghai 2025, a comprehensive annual tourism expo, is scheduled to take place from 30 March to 3 April this year. It is expected to reach a record scale amid a growing China-travel wave.

Spanning three venues across the city, the event will have a total exhibition area of 700,000 square metres and over 6,000 exhibitors, and is expected to draw more than 450,000 visitors from over 140 countries and regions.

According to the organizers, the expo will feature four

major exhibitions covering 14 key industries, including tourism, hospitality, food and drink, retail, commercial real estate and health, across 48 niche sectors. Exhibitors from countries such as Germany, Italy, Spain, Slovenia, Japan, the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Vietnam have already registered for this year's event.

After China expanded its visa-free entry policy in November 2024, "China travel" went viral on global social media, particularly in nearby countries like Japan and the ROK.

With more flights and improved infrastructure and services, weekend tourism in the eastern metropolis of Shanghai is becoming a trend among travelers from the two countries.

From November to near the end of December last year, 363,000 tourists from the ROK and Japan arrived in or departed from two international airports in Shanghai, according to the Shanghai General Station of Immigration Inspection. The figure increased by more than 20 per cent from the total for September and October. — Xinhua

Latest US anti-Russian energy sanctions threaten to destabilize global markets

WASHINGTON'S latest sanctions on Russian energy companies "represent an attempt to cause at least some damage to the Russian economy, even at the risk of destabilizing world markets on the eve of the end of President Joe Biden's inglorious tenure in power," Russia's Foreign Ministry has announced. What are the move's risks? Sputnik explores.

Failing to secure a "strategic defeat of Moscow" or undermine the Russian economy, the US is ready to "sacrifice" the interests "of both the United States' European allies, forced to switch to more expensive and unsteady American supplies, and its own population," the Ministry said in a statement Saturday.

Ordinary Americans' "views on rising fuel prices, which mattered before the November presidential election, when Russian oil products were purchased through intermediaries, can now be ignored," Moscow added.

How Can Biden's Moves Destabilize Markets?

Temporarily interrupting Russian oil supplies, and forcing Russia to find alternative routes, making deliveries more expensive. As veteran independent financial analyst Tom Luongo told Sputnik on Friday, Russia is simply too big to simply be priced out of the market, meaning any price adjustments will apply to the world market once Moscow adjusts to the new restrictions.

Russia accounts for some 11 per cent of global crude oil production (10.75 million barrels a day), consuming only 3.68 million bpd. The remainder is exported. Any price bumps caused by sanctions will apply to this 7 million bpd.

Oil prices are already up after the sanctions announcement, WTI by 3.58 per cent, Brent 3.69 per cent, and the OPEC basket 1.13 per cent, according to oil-price.com. — SPUTNIK



A view of a petrol station of the Russian oil producer Gazprom Neft and high-rise residential buildings under construction in Moscow on 12 January 2023. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Bitcoin may smash new record highs in anticipation of Trump's crypto-friendly policies

THE year 2024 became a real turning point for Bitcoin. Donald Trump's election victory and his promises to make the US the "crypto capital" of the world have sent Bitcoin soaring, with several other factors driving the bullish streak.

Bitcoin's price is primed for new record highs after topping \$107,780 in December. It is currently trading at approximately \$94,282.07, but under an optimistic scenario, Bitcoin could reach upwards of \$120,000 in Q1 2025, crypto



Total assets in Bitcoin exchange traded funds (ETFs) reached around \$113 billion in December. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

experts told Russian media.

Since crypto-friendly Donald Trump's US presidential election win on 5 November, there has been anticipation of a further favourable environment for Bitcoin.

Total assets in Bitcoin exchange traded funds (ETFs) reached around \$113 billion in December driven by post-election tailwinds, according to Bloomberg analysis.

The token went on a streak of highs on Trump's promise to set up a strategic US Bitcoin

reserve.

Trump's pick of digital-asset supporter Paul Atkins as his new Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) chair in early December lifted Bitcoin to \$100,000 for the first time.

The token trended higher for most of 2024 after the launch of several US spot Bitcoin ETFs in January. This allowed trading on traditional market exchanges rather than cryptocurrency exchanges. — SPUTNIK

South Australia bans junk food ads on public transport

The ban, effective 1 July 2025, prohibits ads for unhealthy products like chocolate, candy, ice cream, and soft drinks on buses, trains, and trams.

SOUTH Australia (SA) has become the first Australian state to ban junk food advertisement on public transport to tackle obesity and promote healthy diet.

The ban, to be effective on 1 July 2025, prohibits images of unhealthy products such as chocolate, lollies, confectionary, desserts, ice creams, soft drinks and chips from appearing on public buses, trains and trams.

Strong evidence has demonstrated that food

and drink marketing can affect a child's nutrition knowledge, food preferences and consumption patterns; obesity and type 2 diabetes have also been linked to the advertisement of unhealthy food and drinks, experts said on Saturday.

"Junk food marketing has a really powerful, persuasive influence on what our children eat," the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) quoted Jane Martin from the Food for Health Alliance

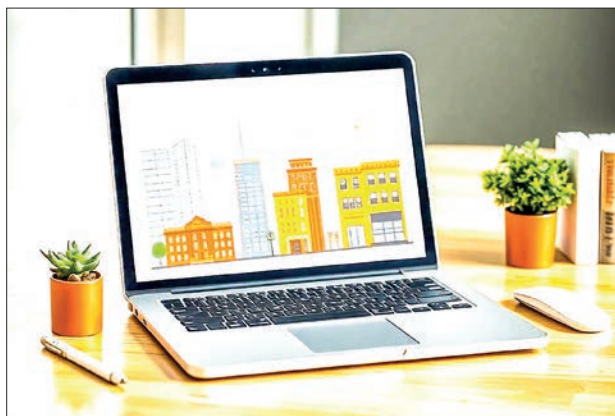


South Australia (SA) has become the first Australian state to ban junk food advertising on public transport to address obesity and encourage healthier eating habits. PHOTO: XINHUA

as saying.

"It is very important that advertisements are kept under state control because this advertising builds up, it's not just on TV and digital platforms, it is where children are as they commute to school," Martin said, adding that children are bombarded with this set of fast-food marketing everywhere they go, and it would be great if broccoli and carrots were promoted above fast-food deals. — Xinhua

Industry body CII seeks 10-point Ease of Doing Business reforms from Budget 2025



The industry body believes that this will streamline processes, improve transparency, and accelerate approvals, ultimately making it easier to conduct business in India. PHOTO: ANI

INDUSTRY body CII has put forward a 10-point specific suggestion before the central government ahead of Budget 2025, to increase Ease of Doing Business in India.

First, the industry body suggested that all regulatory approvals – central, state and local levels – must mandatorily be provided only through the National Single Window System (NSWS), which they believe will help bring about transparency and speed in the processes. In the first stage, CII suggested that it should be completed for

all central ministries within the next six months, followed by bringing on the platform, states, in a phased manner.

A dedicated central budget could be allocated for the purpose, especially from the point of view of incentivizing states to shift completely to the portal. In a continuously evolving competitive environment globally, coupled with rapidly changing geopolitical and economic conditions, sustained and speedy improvement in domestic business climate has assumed a high priority. — ANI

US investment giant eyes \$9.5 bln 7-Eleven stake

SHARES in 7-Eleven's parent rose more than seven per cent on Friday after a report that US investment firm Apollo is eyeing a US\$9.5 billion stake in the owner of the world's biggest convenience store chain.

Japan's Seven & i last year rejected a takeover offer worth nearly \$40 billion from Circle K parent Alimentation Couche-Tard, prompting the Canadian firm reportedly to sweeten its

bid by 20 per cent.

Seven & i then said in November that it was studying a counter-offer from the company's founding Ito family that reportedly was worth around eight trillion yen (\$50 billion).

Bloomberg News reported on Friday that Apollo Global Management was considering taking an equity stake in that bid worth as much as 1.5 trillion yen.

The Ito family is

weighing a commitment of around 500 billion yen and Itochu Corp, which owns the FamilyMart chain, more than one trillion yen, Bloomberg reported, quoting unnamed people familiar with the matter.

Other partners are still negotiating stakes as part of the plan, which is subject to change, and the rest of the financing would come from Japan's top banks, the report said.

It added that the total valuation buyout offer was originally planned to be nine trillion yen but that this may be lowered as Seven & i's market value — 6.3 trillion yen on Friday — was now considerably lower.

Seven & i's finance chief Yoshimichi Maruyama said on Thursday that the firm was still considering both the Couche-Tard offer and the family buyout proposal. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2416S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2416S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-1-2025 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (141N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (141N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-1-2025 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.

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Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD



A 108-foot long flower garland was placed at the statue of King Shah in front of the nation's administrative capital, Singha Durbar. **PHOTO: ANI**

Nepal drench in celebration of 303rd National Unification Day

King Prithvi Narayan Shah was the first King of unified Nepal, founding the Shah Dynasty in 1768 after successfully uniting the small kingdoms and states in the region.

NEPAL marked the 303rd birth anniversary of then King Prithvi Narayan Shah — the founding father of modern Nepal with fanfare and gaiety on Saturday. A 108-foot long flower garland, bouquets to the circumnating statue of King Shah that stands tall in front of the nation's administrative capital — the Singhadurbar was crowded throughout the day.

Amongst those who paid homage to the campaigner of national unification included Nepal President Ram Chandra Paudel, as well as Chief of Army Staff, Members of Parliament and commoners. "The unification day is a special occasion when the epitome of about 30 million Nepali citizens and Nepal's unification epitome

was born- high Highness Prithvi Narayan Shah.

Born some 300 years back, if he hadn't initiated the movement to unite all the factional states- we wouldn't have been Nepali nor Nepal would have existed, I would say. He is our Icon of national unity and strength," Bholu Adhikari, a resident of Kathmandu told ANI after paying homage to the founder of modern Nepal.

Prithvi Narayan Shah was born on 7 January 1723 as the first child of Nara Bhupal Shah and Kaushalyawati in the Gorkha Palace. He ascended to the throne of Gorkha Kingdom on 3 April, 1743, and started the unification of Nepal. He is also credited for moving the royal seat of power from Gorkha to Kathmandu. — ANI

BRIEF: WORLD

Intangible cultural heritage-themed train starts operation in Heilongjiang

ON train K7041 from Harbin to Mohe, five inheritors of intangible cultural heritages of the Oroqen ethnic group showcased various traditional crafts to passengers. This train marks the first of its kind operated by China Railway Harbin Group Co, Ltd.

As winter tourism in Heilongjiang continues to thrive, the train themed with local intangible cultural heritages started operation, inviting inheritors to demonstrate traditional ethnic skills on-site and promote ethnic culture. — Xinhua

France hands over second army base in Chad amid withdrawal

FRANCE on Saturday handed over its second army base in Chad as part of an agreement with the country's authorities to withdraw its military forces.

The central African country in late November abruptly ended military cooperation with its former colonial ruler, and French troops began leaving the country in late December.

"Today... marks the handover of the Abeche base," Defence Minister Issaka Malloua Djamouss said during an official ceremony.

He called it a key step "leading to the final and total withdrawal of this army in our country". — AFP

Gas station blast in central Yemen kills 10

AN explosion at a gas station in Yemen's central province of Al-Bayda on Saturday killed at least 10 people and left more than 65 others injured, a local government official told Xinhua.

The official said on condition of anonymity that "the blast occurred at a gas filling station in Zaher district, setting off a chain reaction that engulfed two adjacent gas stations and nearby commercial warehouses in flames." The station was busy with customers when the blast occurred, he said, adding that investigators have yet to determine its exact cause. — Xinhua

Netanyahu holds meeting on hostages, sends team to Doha for negotiations

PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu convened a high-level meeting on Saturday evening to discuss the issue of Israeli hostages and missing persons.

The meeting included Defence Minister Israel Katz, top security officials, and US negotiators from both the outgoing and incoming administrations.

Following the meeting, Netanyahu instructed Mossad Director David Barnea, Shin Bet Director Ronen Bar, and their team to travel to Doha. The delegation will work to advance negotiations for the release of Israeli hostages. —ANI

Alice Weidel, German far right's unlikely hope for chancellor

ALICE Weidel, the 45-year-old openly gay candidate for chancellor from the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD), is an unexpected choice for the party, given her background as a West German, her non-German partner, and her progressive personal identity.

Weidel, who draws inspiration from Margaret Thatcher, has propelled the AfD into the spotlight by aligning with its more radical positions and seeking support from influential figures like Elon Musk.

Despite living in Switzerland with her Sri Lankan partner and two children, Weidel has led the AfD to significant success, with recent polls showing the party at 22 per cent — its highest ever. Although Germany's political landscape has long been resistant to the far-right due to its Nazi history, Weidel has garnered attention by distancing herself from the party's controversial past while embracing its hardline views.

Known for her economic and pro-business stances, she has presented herself as more moderate, although recent

German far-right leader Alice Weidel lives in Switzerland with her female partner from Sri Lanka. **PHOTO: FP**



statements show her aligning with the party's more extreme policies, including calls for border closures and repatriations. — AFP

SPORTS

Shan maintain winning streak, Hanthawady second in MNL

DEFENDING champions Shan United maintained their winning streak, while Hanthawady United claimed second place in the Myanmar National League (MNL) 2024-2025 Fixture 15, which continued yesterday.

At Thuwunna Stadium, Hanthawady United defeated Yadanabon United 2-1. This victory allowed Hanthawady to claim second place after Yangon United's loss earlier. Hanthawady fought hard, needing three points to rise in the rankings. They were down 1-0 until the 70th minute but equalized and sealed the win in injury time with a goal in the 90th plus one minute.

Both teams played aggressively from the start, but Yadanabon broke the deadlock in the 59th minute with a goal by Pyi Moe.



Players of Hanthawady and Yadanabon FCs in action. **PHOTO: MNL**

Hanthawaddy responded with Aung Myat Thu's equalizer in the 77th minute before Win Moe Kyaw scored the winner in the 90th minute. Aung Myat Thu was named the best player of the match. After this win, Hanthawady United has accumulated 36 points from 15 matches, while Yadanabon FC has 19 points.

At the Taunggyi Stadium, Shan United defeated Thitsar Arman 3-1. Shan remains at the top of the table with 43 points from 15 matches. The team made several changes ahead of their upcoming ASEAN club competition. Shan United's goals came from Kyaw Ko Ko in the 45 plus 2 minutes, Bakayoko in the 52 minute, and Rintaro in the 70 minute. Thitsar Arman's goal was scored by Pyae Sone Aung in the 85 minute. Shan United's defender Thet Hein Soe was named the best player of the match.

In the final match of Fixture 15, Ayeyawady United will face ISPE FC today at Thuwunna Stadium. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

MIU remains unbeaten with 5 consecutive wins

MIU FC continued its dominant form by securing its fifth consecutive victory, maintaining its lead in the standings after the Fixture 5 of the Myanmar Futsal League I which was held yesterday at the MFF Futsal Indoor Stadium, Thuwunna Football Ground in Yangon.

In this fixture, MIU FC narrowly defeated Generations FC 1-0. M2K FC outplayed defending champions VUC FC with a 3-1 win, while MH Dream Team triumphed over YCDC Marga FC 5-2. YRG FC crushed Futsal Lovers FC 6-2 and Winner Soccer FC overcame SGF FC 4-2.

MIU FC remains unbeaten this season, firmly holding the top spot with a perfect 15 points. MH Dream Team follows closely with 11 points, while Generations FC and M2K FC



MIU FC and Generations FC in action during their match. **PHOTO:**

are tied with eight points each. YRG FC sits at six points, Winner Soccer FC has five points and VUC FC, Futsal Lovers FC and YCDC Marga FC all stand at four points. SGF FC trails behind with three points. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Rabiot helps Marseille keep pressure on PSG



Adrien Rabiot scored his third goal for Marseille since signing on a free from Juventus in September. **PHOTO: AFP**

ADRIEN Rabiot scored a second-half winner as Marseille beat Rennes 2-1 in Brittany on Saturday to move within four points of Ligue 1 pace-setters Paris Saint-Germain.

Marseille, bidding for a 10th French title but first since 2010, closed the gap on reigning champions PSG ahead of the leaders' match against Saint-Etienne on Sunday.

Roberto De Zerbi's men have dropped just two points in their last six league games.

Rennes wasted a golden chance to take the lead just after the half-hour mark when Arnaud Kalimuendo's penalty was diverted onto the woodwork by Marseille goalkeeper Geronimo Rulli.

But Kalimuendo made no mistake 11 minutes later, collecting the ball and firing into the corner to put the hosts ahead. — AFP

Mar Rein, Arthawady garner wins in MFF U-15 Youth League

THE fixture II of the 2024-2025 MFF U-15 Youth League (Yangon Zone) continued yesterday afternoon at the Thuwunna Training Ground, where Mar Rein FC and Arthawady FC both claimed victories.

Mar Rein FC dominated Yangon Focus FC with a 5-1 win, while Arthawady FC secured a 3-1 victory over

Shwepyitha United FC. After fixture II, only Mar Rein FC and Royal Yangon FC have maintained a perfect record with back-to-back wins, each holding six points.

Burmese Youth FC sits with four points, while Golden Light United FC, Shwepyitha United FC, Yangon Focus FC, Southern Yangon Star FC, The

Honour FC, and Arthawady FC all have three points each. Mingaladon City FC has earned one point, whereas Yangon Taungzalat FC and Myathida FC remain winless without any points.

The fixture III is scheduled to continue on 25 and 26 January. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



Mar Rein FC and Yangon Focus FC in action during their match. **PHOTO: MFF**



World's first 300 MW compressed air energy storage facility commences operation

THE world's first 300-megawatt compressed air energy storage demonstration project has achieved full capacity grid connection and begun generating power on Thursday in Yingcheng, Hubei province, a milestone for China's energy storage technologies.

The project, "Nengchu-1", has set three world records in terms of single-unit power, energy storage scale and energy conversion efficiency, with total technological self-reliance for key core equipment, said its operator China Energy Engineering Corp (CEEC).

The completion of this project indicates that China's compressed air energy storage technology has entered a new era of commercial operation, leading the world in the sector and offering solutions to address the intermittency and volatility issues associated with clean energy generation, it said.

With an annual capacity to generate 500 million kilowatt-hours of electricity, the project will save more than 150,000 metric tons of standard coal each year, serving as a key pillar for building a new power system.

Compressed air energy storage is an emerging technology that is gaining traction due to its advantages, including short construction periods, high power output, long duration, safety and longevity. — Xinhua

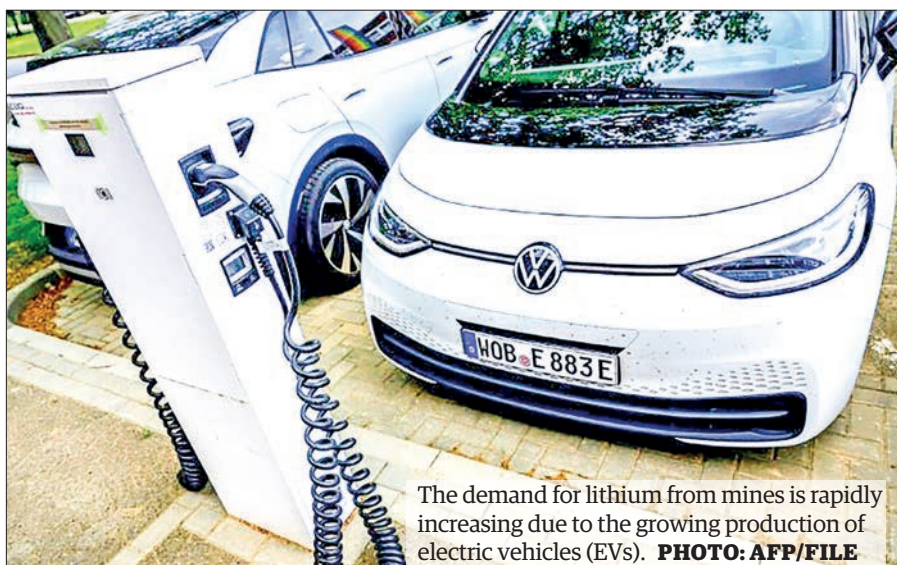
This milestone indicates that China's compressed air energy storage technology has entered a new era of commercial operation.



This photo shows a corner of the 300 MW compressed air energy storage station in Yingcheng City, central China's Hubei Province, 24 December 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

EU has just lost Donbass lithium mine meant to power bloc's 'green' ambitions

Shevchenko is home to the Shevchenko Lithium Ore Field, containing an estimated 13.8 million tonnes of lithium ores.



The demand for lithium from mines is rapidly increasing due to the growing production of electric vehicles (EVs). **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

THE Russian MoD released footage Saturday showing Russian troops raising the flag over the DPR town of Shevchenko after a series of hard-fought battles.

The strategic town's liberation is devastating news for European industrialists looking for an easy euro in post-2014 coup Ukraine. Here's why. The Shevchenko Lithium Ore Field is laden with an estimated 13.8 million tonnes of lithium ores with a pure lithium oxide content of up to 207,000 tonnes, according to a 2018 Ukrainian State Geology and Subsoil Service study. The deposit is the largest not only in Ukraine, but all of Europe. Besides lithium, the field also contains tantalum, niobium and beryl. — SPUTNIK

The demand of dog owners

JR Central to test pet-friendly shinkansen car

CENTRAL Japan Railway Co. plans to test a pet-friendly car on the Tokaido Shinkansen, Japan's busiest bullet train line linking Tokyo and Osaka, allowing passengers to travel without putting their dogs into carriers.

"We want to respond to the demand from people who wish to enjoy traveling with their beloved dogs," said JR Central President Shunsuke Niwa, 59, in a recent interview with media organizations.

It will be the second such trial for shinkansen services after one by East Japan Railway Co.

The pet-friendly cars will be equipped with air purifiers and have pet toilet sheets ready to maintain onboard hygiene. The company also plans to ensure the cars are not used for general passenger services after the trial, Niwa added. — Kyodo