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Elephant Camp at Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda opens for festival season

Operated by the Myanmar Timber Enterprise in Minbu under the Elephant Conservation-Based Tourism (ECBT) initiative, the camp also promotes eco-friendly economic practices.

The Shwesettaw Mann Creek Elephant Camp, located near the Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda in Minbu (Sagu) Township, Minbu District, Magway Region, will be open in conjunction with the Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda Festival, according to camp management.

Situated within the Padauk-Pyawbwe Forest Reserve near the pagoda, this camp aims to attract both local and international tourists, showcasing the natural beauty of forests, streams, and lush green scenery. Operated by

the Myanmar Timber Enterprise in Minbu under the Elephant Conservation-Based Tourism (ECBT) initiative, it also promotes eco-friendly economic practices.

This year, the Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda Festival will be held from 2 February to 17 April 2025, lasting 75 days (from the 5th waxing of Tabodwe to the 1st waxing of Myanmar New Year).

Camp management stated, "Currently, the camp is open continuously, providing all travel services for visitors. We are making arrangements

with temporary bridges, lodgings, and decorations to allow visitors to enjoy short elephant rides, admire the natural scenery, and relax by bathing with elephants in Mann Creek. As part of the camp's upgrade, we have constructed a new elephant show stage within Mann Creek this year. There will also be special entertainment events featuring gentle baby elephants. Two new VIP lodges have been built, and the access road to the camp has been upgraded to a 1,900-foot concrete road for smoother travel".

SEE PAGE 4

Photos capture the dynamic peace and enjoyment of visitors, showcasing the serene pagoda and joyful elephant rides.

NATIONAL PAGE 5



KSA offers fully-funded scholarships for international students

NATIONAL PAGE 6



10,000+ online businesses apply for registration; field inspections begin

BUSINESS PAGE 7



Myanmar exports 400,000MT of fisheries to global markets in Apr-Dec

NATIONAL

The Lifeline of Knowledge: The Essential Role of Literary Wisdom in Life

"A Myanmar proverb says one can survive seven days without food but not a single morning without water. Similarly, a lack of literary knowledge leads to a life of misery. Therefore, literary knowledge is essential for a fulfilling life."

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with senior officer instructors, senior officer lecturers, faculty members, officers and cadets from the Defence Services Technological Academy on 29 May 2024)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Animal Health and Livestock Development Amendment Law State Administration Council Law No 2/2025

2nd Waning of Pyatho 1386 ME
15 January 2025

THE State Administration Council has enacted this law under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

- This law shall be called the Animal Health and Livestock Development Amendment Law
- Subsections (b), (o) and (s) of Section 2 of the Animal Health and Livestock Development Law shall be substituted as follows: -
 - Livestock breeding refers to breeding animals, producing animal products, and producing animals or opening animal protection through any system except for operating fisheries and marine products. Such a word comprises a manageable and commercial livestock breeding business.
 - Slaughtering refers to killing animals for commercial production or storage of animal products from the slaughtering process.
 - Endorsement certificate refers to a certificate issued by the department after inspecting things whether animals, animal products, genetically developed bioproducts, feedstuffs, materials for animals or animal medicines to be exported or imported or domestically produced or processed are qualified or not, and whether these animals are healthy or free from infectious disease or not.
- The word mentioned in Subsection (t) of Section 2 "establishment of slaughterhouse or butchery" shall be cancelled.
- Subsection (e) of Section 9 of the law shall be substituted as follows: -
 - opening the inspection station and animal protection and monitoring camp in necessary areas, establishing disease zone and disease control zone and adopting the plans for biosecurity
- Subsection (i) of Section 10 shall be substituted as follows: -
 - issuing the licence for slaughterhouse or butchery, conducting renewal of the licence and supervising slaughterhouse or butchery

- At Section 11 of the law-
 - Subsection (q) shall be added behind Subsection (p) as follows: -
 - service, licence fee and other fees to issue endorsement certificate, permission certificate, licence certificate or renewal of licence shall be set with the agreement of the ministry.
 - Original Subsection (q) shall be renamed Subsection (r).
- Clause (1) of Subsection (a) of Section 13 of the law shall be substituted as follows: -
 - animal health, service, livestock, livestock farming, pedigree animal farming, incubating, industrial building and equipment
- The words "compensation for loss or damage, indemnity or to have aid" of Section 22 of the law shall be substituted with "insurance fee, compensation or to have aid".
- Chapter IX of the law shall be added to Chapter I-A.

Chapter 9 (A)

Business to gather or protect animals

- The person or organization wishing to operate animal gathering or protection camps shall apply for a permit to operate the businesses to the Head of the Township Department under the prescribed criteria.
- Concerning the application mentioned in Section 22-a, the Township Head of Department shall conduct the process under Subsection (a) of Section 17, the District Head of Department under Subsection (b) of Section 17, the Head of Region or State Department under Subsection (c) of Section 17 and the Director-General under Subsection (d) of Section 17.
- The person who obtains the permit certificate under Section 22-b -
 - shall follow the disciplines mentioned in the certificate.
 - shall accept inspection of the department.
 - shall follow this law and rules, orders, directives and procedures released under this law.
- The words "establishment of slaughterhouse or butchery business" mentioned in the Section 23 of this law shall be cancelled.
- Section 29 of the law shall be substituted as follows: -
 - The department shall open the inspection camps or animal protection and monitoring camps, examine and supervise private animal protection and monitoring camps with the agreements of the ministry to inspect the export or import of animals, animal products, genetically developed bioproducts, feedstuffs, materials for animals or animal medicines.
- Chapter XI of the law shall be added with Chapter 11-a as follows: -

TO BE CONTINUED

Hpa-an attractions see steady flow of visitors

ACCORDING to locals, there has been a steady flow of tourists to major attractions in Hpa-an this month.

Tourists' destinations include Kyaukkalat, Saddan Cave, Htuntpadaing, Kaukhameit Bridge, Naung Lone Valley, and Kaw Ka Thauung Cave, in addition to Mount Taung Wine.

"Besides Taung Wine, people visit Kyaukkalat, Sadan Cave, Htuntpadaing, Kaukhameit Bridge, Naung Lone Valley, and Kawkathaung Cave. In the west, they visit Zabar cave, Kawtgun cave, Rathepyan and natural water caves, after climbing Taung Wine. Tourist arrivals are constant,

but we cannot compare it to December," said Ko Myo, a local operator of the Hpa-an Oway Tuk-Tuk (three-wheeled vehicle) Service.

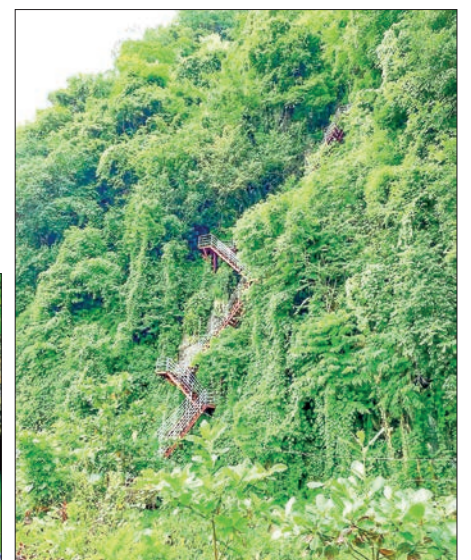
Most visitors to Hpa-an came from Yangon, and there were more people on weekends.

"There are many visitors every week. Many come from Yangon by express cars. Some people are from other places. The tourists are both young and old. This year, we saw monks too. They came in groups. It is not as many as in December, but there are tourists and we are busier on holidays," he said. The travel and guide communi-

ty reported that most of the travellers in December visited Taung Wine and other mountain destinations were Zwegabin and Kya In. — Thit Taw/ZN



Images showcase destinations being visited by tourists in Hpa-an. PHOTO: HPA-PA TRAVELLER



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)

73rd Anniversary of Kayah State Day marked in Loikaw

State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister at the Prime Minister Office Admiral Tin Aung San attended the 73rd Anniversary of Kayah State Day held at Loikaw State Hall yesterday.

After the ceremonial procedures, the Admiral read out the message sent by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudamma Min Aung Hlaing to the occasion.

The recipients of honorary certificates and titles marking the 73rd Kayah State Day and the winners of the Fifth National Sports Competitions and 25th Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts competition were also awarded at the event.

The Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung handed over 100 solar panels (50kW) and K15.1million worth of basic foodstuffs for the staff serving



The 73rd Anniversary of Kayah State Day celebration in progress yesterday in Loikaw, attended by SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister at the Prime Minister Office Admiral Tin Aung San.

duties in Kayah State and Union Minister U Nyan Tun gave 50 DTH satellite receivers and 100 Set Top Box donated by the Ministry of Information, to the relevant officials.

The ceremony included traditional sports events and physical activities for kindergarten. The Admiral and party also awarded the winners of these events.

On 14 January, the Admiral and party attended the opening ceremony of the new tar road marking the 73rd Kayah State in Lawka Dhamma and Dawtama wards of Loikaw township.

After the ceremony, they observed the construction project of the New Thiri Mingalar market and ongoing construction plans and made the necessary instructions.

On arrival at Loikaw General Hospital (500-bed), the Admiral met with the health workers and presented K5.5 million for medical funds, K1 million and foodstuffs for staff members.

They then observed the different medical departments in the hospital compound.

At noon, they donated rice, cooking oil, beans and salt at Shwe Taung Pariyatti Monastery in Loikaw.

Afterwards, SAC Members Porel Aung Thein and U Shwe Kyein handed over K239.06 million donated by the Ministry of Border Affairs for seriously damaged religious buildings in terrorist attacks in Loikaw and K15 million for the monasteries in Loikaw to the relevant officials. — MNA/KTZH

MoD Union Minister inspects Lahe and Homalin stations

UNION Minister for Defence General Maung Maung Aye met officers, other ranks and families of the Homalin station in Homalin Township yesterday.

At the meeting, the Union minister stressed the point that all should always practise to develop their individual skills and skills of military units, and every unit and Tatmadaw member needs to understand the five basic re-

quirements.

He presented foodstuffs for Tatmadaw members and families through officials of the relevant station.

He also proceeded to the Tatmadaw Hospital and comforted the Tatmadaw members receiving medical treatment. He then provided foodstuffs to them.

The Union minister, accompanied by Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the office

of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), visited the Lahe station in the same evening to meet with officers, other ranks and families and presented foodstuffs to them. — MNA/KTZH

Union Defence Minister General Maung Maung Aye meets officers, other ranks and families from the Homalin station yesterday.



NATIONAL

Myanmar launches 4th DTH channel: Myansat

THE Ministry of Information announced the debut of its fourth new TV channel on the MRTV DTH Platform (Direct to Home), called Myansat, at MRTV in Tatkon, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

First, the animation video for the launching ceremony of the Myansat DTH channel was played at the Auditorium Hall.

In his opening speech, the Union minister said the launching of a new DTH TV channel that brings pleasant feelings and positive encouragement is a meaningful event. The ministry makes efforts to offer information, knowledge and entertainment programmes for the public with any possible means, and also for the development of the media sector including State-owned media and private media.

The MRTV DTH system was launched by the SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 15 February 2022 marking the 76th Anniversary of MRTV. And, the fourth DTH system of Myanmar, Myansat DTH, was established at the ceremony bringing opportunities for the public to enjoy quality channels.

He then appreciated the launching of the Myansat DTH channel as it offers a variety of information and knowledge, serving as a bridge between innovative international tech-



Union Information Minister U Maung Maung Ohn receives commemorative gifts from the Borderless Broadcast Co Ltd CEO.

nologies and the socioeconomic status of people.

Then, the CEO of Borderless Broadcast Co Ltd briefed the Myansat DTH Product and Myansat App, and the deputy CEO of Lao Asia Pacific Satellite Co Ltd made a congratulatory remark.

The Union minister, the Borderless Broadcast Co Ltd CEO and the Lao Asia Pacific Satellite Co Ltd deputy CEO inaugurated the Myansat DTH

channel.

The Borderless Broadcast Co Ltd CEO gave commemorative gifts for the Myansat DTH launching to the Union minister, and 3,000 MRTV DTH appliances to the MRTV director-general.

The CEO also transferred authorization letters to three sales representatives for the distribution of Myansat DTH devices and gifts to the attendees.

Borderless Broadcast Co Ltd signed with MRTV on 5 No-

vember 2023 for the DTH system, broadcast the trial with the name of the Myansat DTH system on 15 August 2024, and launched it officially yesterday.

The Myansat DTH cooperates with the entertainment media to broadcast Myanmar's cultural heritage, traditions and cultures, natural resources, local news and international entertainment programmes. It includes two packages – Myansat DTH Package 1 with 98 interna-

tional channels and Package 2 with 176 channels.

The people can enjoy eight channels: MRTV, MRTV HD, MRTV News, MRTV Parliament, MRTV NRC, MRTV Farmers', MRTV Sport, MITV and Education Channel in addition to Fortune, Channel-K, 5-plus, YTV, Mahar, Maha Esports. Moreover, plans are underway to add other private channels and private channels. Arrangements are also made to create a Myansat Application to enjoy the Myansat DTH programmes on mobile phones.

The BBTV company will provide 10,000 new devices to develop the MRTV DTH Free To Air within three years, and it presented 3,000 devices at the event.

The BBTV company works with China Rocket Company Limited and Laosat Company Limited for the Multi Village Plan and Sky Star Class Room Plan of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC) using Laosat 1 Satellite to raise knowledge of agriculture and livestock sector at border areas, develop the education for youths and reduce the poverty. It will donate Myansat DTH devices, TVs and solar batteries to a minimum of 42 villages and at to 100 villages within two years with the help of China AID. — MNA/KTZH



Visitors explore and purchase local products at festival stalls.

Elephant Camp at Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda opens for festival season

FROM PAGE 1

The elephant camp operates from 7 am to 6 pm daily. Visitors can stay overnight at the camp's lodging facilities, which house a total of 13 elephants, including five males and eight females.

Entrance fees are set at K1,000 for local visitors and K10,000 for foreign visitors. Short elephant rides cost K5,000 for locals and K10,000 for foreigners. Accommodation includes four VIP

lodges and 11 bungalows, with rental rates of K70,000 per night for VIP lodges and K40,000 per night for bungalows. Visitors can also purchase food to feed the elephants at the elephant buffet.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Myanmar Timber Enterprise, and Elephant Conservation-Based Tourism currently operate 22 elephant camps nationwide, including the Shwesettaw Mann Creek Elephant Camp. — Maung Maung (Minbu)/KZL

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NATIONAL

Myanmar Press Council and local media meet

THE Myanmar Press Council held talks with local print, broadcast, and online media yesterday morning at the ShweU Daung Hall of the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Botahtaung Township, Yangon.

At the meeting, Myanmar Press Council Chairman Dr Tin Tun Oo delivered a welcoming speech, while Vice-Chairman (1) U Khin Maung Zaw and Vice-Chairman (2) U Khin Maung Kyaw Din explained matters related to media development and international relations, as well as domestic media development.

Journalists from 41 media groups who attended the meeting then made suggestions for



The Myanmar Press Council meets local print, broadcast, and online media yesterday in Yangon.

developing the media sector, which were later explained and addressed by officials from the Myanmar Press Council.

Subsequently, the Nay Pyi

Taw Crime and News Online Agency donated K1 million to the council to support media development.

The Myanmar Press Coun-

cil has formed several committees, including the International Relations Committee, Legal Affairs Committee, Media Ethics and Journalist Protection

Committee, Audit Committee, Finance Committee, Dispute and Complaints Resolution Committee, Information Committee, Media Development Committee, and Administration Committee. The council is responsible for monitoring and improving the quality of the press, coordinating with relevant departments to facilitate the import of media equipment, organizing and holding press-related workshops and seminars, collaborating with press organizations to recognize outstanding individuals, and drawing and implementing plans to improve the development of the media industry. — MNA/TH

Japan to recruit over 940 Myanmar workers

UP to 300 Japanese companies would recruit up to 940 Myanmar workers, according to a statement by the Myanmar Embassy in Japan on 15 January.

The embassy has carried out timely verifications of demand letters received from the Ministry of Labour via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it said.

It verifies whether labour supervisory companies and

factories or companies which offered jobs in Japan are officially established or not, and re-submits its findings and remarks to the Ministry of Labour through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

It is about 304 demand letters that were submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after verification until 29 October 2024.

According to it, more than

200 Myanmar male workers and about 950 Myanmar female workers would be employed.

In a statement on 15 December, over 400 Japanese companies would recruit more than 1,100 Myanmar workers, and in a statement on 31 December, 450 Japanese companies would provide jobs for 1,600 Myanmar workers.

— MT/ZS

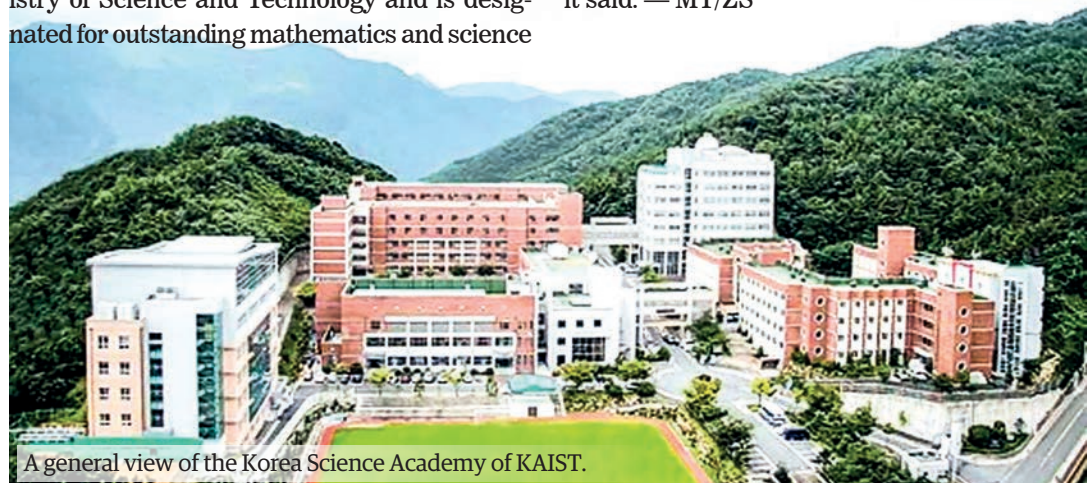
KSA offers fully-funded scholarships for international students

QUALIFIED international students are eligible to apply for a fully-funded scholarship including school fees provided by the Korea Science Academy of KAIST (KSA), announced by the Myanmar Embassy in the Republic of South Korea on 14 January.

KSA is a special institution under the Ministry of Science and Technology and is designated for outstanding mathematics and science

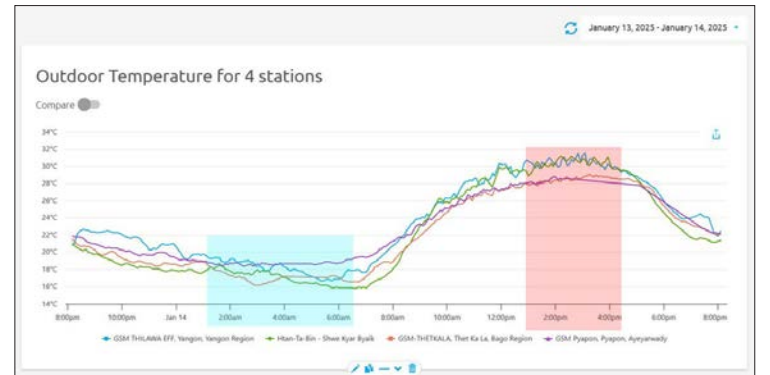
students.

The scholarship will give special opportunities for outstanding students who meet KSA's requirements and the application will be closed on 3 February 2025. Interested Myanmar students can contact +82 51 606 Ex 2273 and 2182 or admission@ksa.kaist.ac.kr for more information, it said. — MT/ZS



A general view of the Korea Science Academy of KAIST.

Meteorologists predict extended cold periods for Myanmar



The hottest and coldest temperatures from four weather stations for 14 January.

METEOROLOGIST U Win Nang said on 15 January that the coldness may last longer than in previous years, and it is expected to be colder in the coming days.

His forecast includes a cool and dry cold season, with temperatures dropping in January and thick fogs starting in the second or third week of February until March.

“It could get colder in the coming days. Yangon used to be hot again after 2-3 cold days or a cold week. The coldness in the 2025 season may last longer. It may be around 20 degrees C in Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady regions, and Mon, Kayin states and Taninthayi Region until the end of January. The daytime temperature will gradually rise again, but the nights will continue to be cold, so there may be a

period of thick fogs in February and March,” he said.

“We should be aware of the coldest and hottest times. The coldest is from 2 to 7 am, and the hottest is from 1 to 4 pm. If one sleeps without warm clothes before it gets cold in the evening, he/she might not wake up when it gets colder, and they may suffer from a stroke. In hot weather, staying in the shade and not sweating excessively can help prevent heatstroke. There is no need to worry now because the temperature is not too high,” he added.

Myanmar's weather conditions are likely to remain normal, with longer cold days until March and daytime temperatures may not be as hot as the summer of 2024, which was an El Niño, he forecast. — MT/ZN

NATIONAL

10,000+ online businesses apply for registration; field inspections begin



This photo reveals the online sales and services.

ACCORDING to the Department of Consumer Affairs, over 10,000 businesses selling goods and services online have applied for online business registration. It has been reported that nearly 1,300 companies and over 9,000 individual business owners have applied for registration during the period from 2 October 2023, when the registration process for such businesses began, to

2 January 2025. “A legitimate registration of online businesses will enhance accountability and responsibility for both consumers and business owners. Starting from 1 January this year, we have been conducting field inspections to verify the information provided by the applicants. Only businesses that meet the requirements will be issued registration certifi-

icates,” an official from the Department of Consumer Affairs stated. Online businesses were officially designated as essential services on 21 July 2023, through a notification. It has also been emphasized that businesses operating online without a registration certificate will face action under Section 5 of the Essential Goods and Services Law. — ASH/MKKS

Myanmar Microfinance: 174 companies serving 3.2M+ members



This photo reveals a microfinance business.

THE Ministry of Planning and Finance reports that 174 companies, comprising domestic, foreign, and joint ventures, are actively operating in Myanmar’s microfinance sector. This includes 53 foreign companies, 112 domestic com-

panies, and nine joint ventures. Together, these companies operate across all 15 regions and states of Myanmar, providing services to approximately 3.22 million members and disbursing loans amounting to about K2 billion. Digital financial services are the primary tools used by these companies for loan disbursement and repayment collection, in coordination with the Central Bank of Myanmar. Moreover, the Central Bank and microfinance companies are collaborating to revise the maximum lending and savings limits to reflect current socioeconomic conditions. In addition to banks, microfinance companies play a vital role in offering loans to support the development of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). In January, the Ministry of Planning and Finance approved operational licences for three domestic companies, authorized capital increases for four companies issued corporate life insurance agent licences to three companies, and sanctioned territory expansions for three companies within the microfinance sector. — ASH/MKKS

Solar water pumps and market support for growers in Shan State (South)

SOLAR-POWERED water pumps will be available for seasonal lease, with an option for instalment purchases, to vegetable and flower farmers in Kalaw and Aungban townships of Southern Shan State, according to the Farmers’ Market Group, which is organizing the Shan Region Chilli Commodity Fair. “We aim to provide solar water pumps to farmers to eliminate fuel costs and boost their income. This initiative targets farmers in villages across Kalaw and Aungban townships. For vegetable and flower growers, including those cultivating onions, chillies, garlic, and other crops, we will supply complete sets of solar pumps with a three-inch outlet. These pumps will be available for lease for at least one farming season (four months),” said an official from the Farmers’ Market Group.

Farmers who are members of organizations, such as the Farmers’ Market and Farmers’ Bridge groups, or who work as contract farmers, can purchase the pumps on an instalment plan without the need for a guarantor. The programme also includes free field inspections and installation services, the official added.

The Farmers’ Market Group is organizing monthly commodity fairs to encourage collective trading among vegetable growers in Kalaw, Aungban, and Pindaya regions. These fairs aim to provide farmers with better market opportunities.

Additionally, the group supports farmers by offering agricultural training, high-quality seeds, solar water pumps, fertilizers, and advance financing for cultivation, all in one location. They are also working to build connections with both domestic and international markets to promote the sale of the farmers’ produce. — ASH/MKKS



This image showcases a solar water pump poster for growers.

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.

CBM targets informal currency exchange on social media

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) has been cracking down on those involved in illegal currency exchange through Facebook groups and pages in line with existing regulations.

The statement revealed that CBM is selling petty cash at the daily market online trading rate for those studying abroad, working abroad, travelling abroad for medical treatment and attending official meetings at Yangon International Airport or money changers of authorized banks to stabilize foreign exchange rates.

CBM has been monitoring money changers to ensure they stick to the directives stipulated under the Foreign Exchange Management Law. It has also been taking action against those involved in illegal digital currency conversion and operating hundi businesses (illegal cash

transfer) without holding a valid licence.

CBM has been working together with law enforcement agencies under the Ministry of Home Affairs to interrogate and prosecute Hundi business operators by checking their banking history.

Myanmar Police Force has been taking actions against nine individuals out of 26 people with suspicious activities and six of them have been taken to courts in the respective townships, CBM's statement mentioned.

CBM found illegal money transfer activities on Facebook platform through some groups, pages and ten Facebook accounts. CBM has been accelerating efforts to conduct legal action against those involved in illegal Hundi businesses without holding a valid licence, CBM notified. — NN/KK



Greenbacks spotted at the foreign currency exchange counter. PHOTO: XINHUA

Squid fisheries boom, boosting foreign revenue



Fishery workers diligently sort squids for export processing.

SQUID fisheries in the Myanmar Sea are thriving, ensuring domestic consumption and foreign exports, according to a fisheries product businessperson from Shwe Padauk Fish Market.

"Squid catch volume significantly increased. Squids larger than three inches are designated for the hotel industry and foreign markets. Those smaller than two inches are supplied to the domestic market. Grew in squid catch volume facilitated domestic and foreign supplies. As squid fish-

ing is flourishing in winter, the market is likely to see a higher number of squid inflows," he said.

Squids are mostly caught in January and February. Those squids sized smaller than three inches are domestically sold while larger squids are exported.

Squids caught by Salon People from the Myeik Archipelago are sent to Yangon City and shipped to foreign trade partners with container vessels. Thus, Myanmar's squid fisheries have been prospering. — KK

Thaifex-Anuga Asia 2025 invites Myanmar businesspeople

MYANMAR Trade Promotion Organization announced that ThaiFEX-Anuga Asia 2025 organized by Thailand's Department of International Trade Promotion (DITP) and scheduled to take place on 27-31 May 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand, welcomes Myanmar businesspeople engaged in the food and

beverage industry.

Myanmar businesspeople will be provided with a 2.5-metre by 2.5-metre booth for free. They can introduce Myanmar products to international buyers and explore business opportunities.

Business people can register through <https://mitc.myantrade.gov.mm> starting from 15 January 2025. Those companies will be selected to exhibit their products per the registration list. Individuals can enquire about details through the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 408622 and email event.td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

myantrade.gov.mm starting from 15 January 2025. Those companies will be selected to exhibit their products per the registration list. Individuals can enquire about details through the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 408622 and email event.td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

Myanmar exports 400,000MT of fisheries to global markets in Apr-Dec



Female workers operate on the fishery processing line at the cold storage facility.

ACCORDING to the Fisheries Department, Myanmar bagged US\$521 million from over 402,300 metric tonnes of fishery exports in the past nine months of the current financial year 2024-2025, beginning 1 April.

The export volume indicated a significant increase of over 56,800 tonnes worth three million dollars compared with that of the corresponding period last year.

Myanmar exported 192,000 tonnes of fisheries worth \$312

million to external markets via maritime and air trade. The remaining was sent to neighbouring countries through Myawady, Kawthoung, Kengtung, Myeik and Mawtaung border crossings.

Myanmar steadily exports seafood to 40 countries, including China, Thailand, Bangladesh, and Japan, through maritime and border trade channels. The Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Fisheries Department joined hands to bolster fisheries exports.

More than 20 fish species including hilsa, rohu, catfish, and seabass are conveyed to foreign markets, according to the Myanmar Fisheries Federation. — NN/KK

Gold Market Rate as of 15 January 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,380,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

OPINION

Be proactively prepared for pandemic outbreaks

PANDEMICS that broke out worldwide caused severe impacts on humans and significantly harmed social and economic development. However, some countries failed to learn lessons from outbreaks of communicable diseases such as SARS, avian influenza, Zika, Ebola, and others, which hindered their ability to manage more infectious viruses.

“The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of disease prevention, research, and prompt response systems for infectious diseases. These pandemics have claimed millions of lives worldwide. However, humanity has worked to overcome these challenges by controlling virus infections. Since pandemics can emerge anywhere, international cooperation is essential for effective responses.”

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need for greater global efforts in preventive measures and response programs to address potential viral outbreaks. It is essential to learn from past events and prepare effectively for future pandemics. UN member states are committed to ensuring inclusive, equal, and non-discriminatory participation, with particular attention to vulnerable groups who are at higher risk of infection. As new pandemics continue to emerge worldwide, global unity is crucial in responding to and controlling these viruses to reduce infections and save lives.

Health officials must disseminate timely information about infectious viruses to the public. Efforts should focus on preventive measures to avoid outbreaks that could escalate into pandemics. Public participation is essential in controlling infectious diseases, making it crucial for authorities to raise awareness promptly. On the other hand, health organizations need to release guidelines for the people to lessen the impacts of pandemics and save the lives of the people.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need for greater global efforts in preventive measures and response programs to address potential viral outbreaks. It is essential to learn from past events and prepare effectively for future pandemics. UN member states are committed to ensuring inclusive, equal, and non-discriminatory participation, with particular attention to vulnerable groups who are at higher risk of infection. As new pandemics continue to emerge worldwide, global unity is crucial in responding to and controlling these viruses to reduce infections and save lives.

In human history, COVID-19 was one of the most infectious and fastest-spreading diseases. Variants of the virus contributed to a rise in the fatality rate. According to a report by the World Health Organization, a total of 777 million people worldwide had been infected by the pandemic as of early December 2024, resulting in more than seven million deaths. Additionally, over 115,000 healthcare workers lost their lives while caring for patients during the first 18 months of the outbreak.

Currently, some Southeast Asian countries are facing outbreaks of infectious viruses, namely norovirus and human metapneumovirus. These viruses can cause symptoms such as gastroenteritis, non-bloody diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain, and cold-like respiratory issues. Therefore, people should prepare to respond to these viruses by wearing masks when going outside and washing their hands with soap before in at

least 20 seconds and after coming into contact with any substances.

The astonished cave dwellings

BY MYA THAE (RESEARCH)

MILLIONS of people from the world including the Chinese dwell in the caves. They lived in the caves for several reasons. No need to pay taxes for the poor people, so they live in the caves. Others dwell on fashion. Over 5,000 years ago in China, Chinese culture started to develop. They dug the sand and created caves in the Yellow River region and lived. Nowadays the people from that region are living in the caves for the cost of cheap. Besides the weather is warm in the winter and cold in the summer.

Millions of people from the provinces of Shaanxi and Shanxi lived in caves. As the Chinese become rich, they plan to live comfortably in the caves. They decorated the caves with modern precious things. They curved the caves where they lived and sculpted the Buddha stupas in the caves. The amazing sculptures are in Dunhuang, situated in Gansu province. The trains which carried camels, rested in Dunhuang before they went to the Taklamakan Desert. To pay homage that carved the walls of caves, the merchants must pay tax. Colourful wood carvings are beautified in the walls of the cave. At that time the experts' sculptures and the art of wood carving had appeared. Plenty of years ago wood carvings were in the caves and the entrances of caves are covered with sand. In 1920, Aurel Stein from Britain dug this sand. He kept Buddha images and Bibles from the deserts. The visitors from abroad arrived and watched the colourful paintings and wood carvings and bought. So, they acquired a lot of money. The ancient cave is located in Jiaohu, east of China. That cave is near Turpan and it was dug from earth. It has temples, government offices and a jail. Jail is not damaged till nowadays. At this moment the people who live in the caves of China repair the caves to be beautiful and modernized.

The new buildings that are located in the Granada region are worth nearly 100,000 American



Akauk Taung is a prominent pilgrimage site, attracting both local and foreign tourists. The Buddha images carved into the wall are visible from the Ayeyawady River. PHOTO: GNLM/FILE

dollars. On the Sierra Nevada hills that are situated in Guadix, people made caves and about 5,000 people live in these caves. People constructed houses, stores, and hotels in the caves that are located in the North of Spain.

Lately, in the 21st century, more people lived in caves. To prevent heat, people lived in caves at Coober Pedy in Australia. Agates are found in Coober Pedy. People lived in the caves and searched agates. They found agates, so they made a bathroom, and sofa in the living room. About 3000 people lived in Coober Pedy. Tourists visited Coober Pedy and excused under Coober Pedy. They bought agate rings and lockets. The merchants of that city became rich by selling agates. Chinese merchants from Hong Kong made agate rings and lockets and sold them to jewel shops.

There are many famous caves in Myanmar. The most famous cave is the Kaba Aye Cave in Yangon. It is a Sasanika building. The monks teach Bibles to young monks, nuns and people. It is a place of performing good merit. Many donations had done in that cave. In the compound of the cave, there are many buildings of monks to teach the bible. I and my brother also learned Abhidhamma and other Buddhist

languages from Sayadaws.

There are many astonished caves in Taunggyi. When I was young, I went with my elder sister and other relatives to Taunggyi. We visited one of the astonished and fearful caves. Its name is Kyat Cave. It is a big and long cave. Villagers took firesticks and went into the cave. They said that anyone could not go to the end of the cave. The person who tried to go to the end of the cave is not alive. They also told me the exit of the cave was in another country. My elder sister shouted and told me not to see the walls of the cave. But I looked at the walls of the cave. Oh! How horrible things are curved in the walls of the caves. There are many skulls, witches and devils carved into the walls of the cave. Besides there are many coffins in the cave. Coffins are six feet long. There are many tales about the cave. Aliba ba and 500 thieves. The princess and the harpist loving tale. When the king knew his daughter was loved by a harpist and lived in the cave, the angry king closed the entrance of the cave with a rock. The cave had an existing. They gave their lives for their love. The famous singer Daw Tin Tin Mya sang about that. The title of this song is “Tawagu”. The song is very popular nowadays. Long ago

there was a famous cave where 500 bats lived in this cave. When they heard Buddha's sermons and after they died, they reached the deva. So, we should listen to the sermon.

Another famous is Akauk Taung. Akauk Taung is a mountain extending from Pyay District to Hinthada District, renowned for its numerous ancient Buddha images carved into the rock wall along the Ayeyawady River bank. Historically, the mountain served as a tollgate for passing boats and ships. Artisans carved the mountain walls, resulting in 370 Buddha images depicted in various positions standing, sitting and lying. Most of these Buddha images date back to the Konbaung era, with some originating from the Inwa era.

Therefore astonishing, beautiful and fearful caves are around the world. Good people live in the caves to do good things. They pay good benefits for the people and creatures, but bad and wicked people live in the caves to do evil things. They stay in the caves and hide money, and jewels when they get from theft. I pay homage to the Buddha to disappear the worst people from the world, so the people can live safely and peacefully.

Reference: *Gimme Shelter*, HPH World, 21 June 2007.

IMAGINE a classroom where students are not just memorizing facts but actively building their own games, designing apps, or solving real-world problems with a click of the keyboard. This is not a scene from a futuristic movie – it is the exciting reality that coding education promises to bring to classrooms across Myanmar.

In a world driven by technology, coding has emerged as the language of the future. It powers the apps we use, the systems that run businesses, and the technologies that make life more convenient. But coding isn't just about writing lines of commands – it's a way of thinking, a tool for creativity, and a bridge to innovation. For Myanmar, a country stepping into the digital era, coding has the potential to revolutionize education and open up a world of possibilities for its youth.

The Secret Ingredient in Modern Education

BY LAURA HTET (UDE)

Myanmar's traditional education system has long been built around rote learning and standardized exams, focusing on theoretical knowledge rather than practical skills. While this method served past generations, it does little to prepare students for the dynamic demands of the modern workforce. Enter coding – a skill that transforms students from passive learners into active creators. It encourages curiosity, sparks innovation, and equips students with the tools to solve complex problems.

One of the most fascinating aspects of coding is how it nurtures essential 21st-century skills. Learning to code is like solving a puzzle; it requires critical thinking, creativity, and persistence. For example, when students work on a coding project, they must break down problems into smaller parts, analyze solutions, and debug errors. These problem-solving skills extend far beyond technology, preparing students for success in any field they choose.

Interestingly, coding also

challenges stereotypes about who can excel in technology. Around the world, coding has inspired young girls and under-represented groups to break barriers and redefine possibilities. In Myanmar, where gender roles often limit opportunities for women, coding could be the key to empowering girls and building a more inclusive tech industry. By introducing coding to schools at an early stage, we can inspire a new generation of trailblazers ready to shape the future.

Yet, teaching coding in Myanmar's schools is not without its challenges. Many schools, particularly in rural areas, lack access to computers, internet connections, or even electricity. How can students learn to code without the basic tools of technology? This digital divide is one of the biggest hurdles facing Myanmar today. The good news

Teachers, therefore, play a critical role in helping students develop this mindset. However, many educators in Myanmar have little to no training in coding themselves. To address this, organizations and startups are stepping in, offering training programs and resources to help teachers become confident coding mentors.

What makes coding truly fascinating is its potential to transform not just individuals but entire communities. Imagine a small village in Myanmar where students learn to code and build an app that solves a local problem – perhaps a platform for farmers to share weather updates or a tool for tracking medical supplies. This isn't a far-fetched dream; it's a glimpse of what coding education can achieve. By empowering students to create solutions for their own communities, coding turns education into a force for

showcasing the incredible potential of Myanmar's youth. The government, too, is beginning to see the value of coding in education. While progress has been slow, pilot programs are being introduced in selected schools, and partnerships with international organizations are helping to bring coding into classrooms. However, for coding to truly take root in Myanmar's education system, it needs to be seen as more than just a technical skill. It should be integrated into subjects like math, science, and even art, showing students how coding can be used to enhance creativity and innovation in every field.

Perhaps the most astonishing aspect of coding is how it empowers students to imagine and build the future. In a rapidly changing world, many of the jobs that today's students will hold do not yet exist. Coding prepares them for this uncertainty, giving them the tools to adapt, learn, and create. For Myanmar, where unemployment remains a pressing issue, coding education could unlock countless opportunities in fields like software development, data analysis, and artificial intelligence.

Even beyond career prospects, coding offers something equally valuable: the ability to dream big. For a young girl in Yangon who codes her first website or a boy in a rural village who builds a game for his friends, coding is not just a skill – it's a gateway to confidence, creativity, and self-expression. These small steps can lead to giant leaps, shaping a generation of problem-solvers and innovators who can tackle the challenges of tomorrow.

In conclusion, coding is more than just a subject; it's a superpower that can transform education in Myanmar. By equipping students with the tools to think critically, create solutions, and embrace innovation, coding lays the foundation for a brighter, more connected future. While challenges remain, the enthusiasm and determination of Myanmar's students, teachers, and communities are paving the way for a new era of learning. As we look ahead, one thing is clear: the role of coding in modern education is not just about preparing students for the future – it's about empowering them to build it.



Coding education in Myanmar promises to transform classrooms by turning students into active creators who build games, design apps, and solve real-world problems. PHOTO: CONCEPT ART

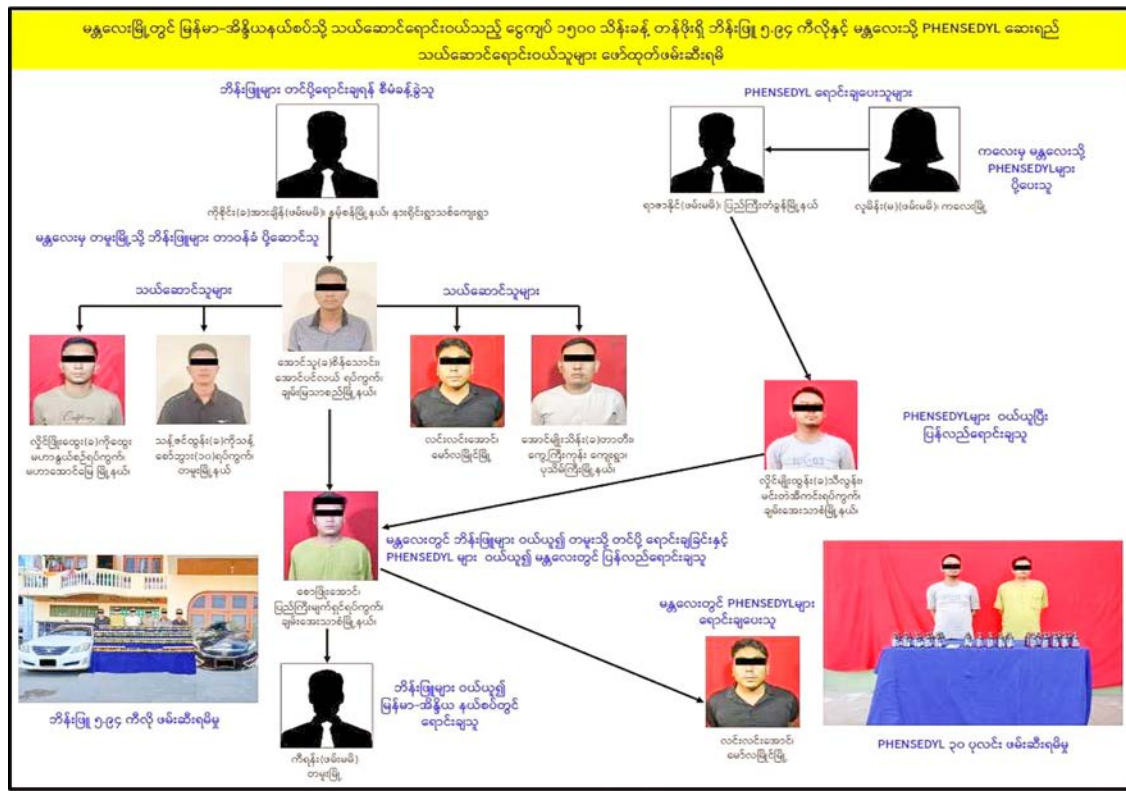
NATIONAL

Drug-trafficking group arrested in Mandalay with heroin, Phensedyl

THE Myanmar Police Force announced the arrest of a drug-trafficking group in Mandalay, which was involved in transporting drugs, including 5.94 kilogrammes of heroin and

Tartee at 4 pm on 7 January in Mahaangmyay Township. They were found with a Toyota Crown and 660 soap dishes containing 5.94 kilogrammes of heroin. Following some interroga-

in Namsam and had arranged the drug transport from Mandalay to Tamu Township on the Myanmar-India border. Furthermore, Aung Thu (aka) Sein Thuang was arrest-



Photos capture offenders with seized drugs, vehicles, related items, and their gang network.

30 bottles of Phensedyl, to the Myanmar-India border. Acting on a tip-off, a combined team from the Anti-narcotics Police Force apprehended Saw Phy Aung, Lin Lin Aung, Hlaing Phyto Htwe (aka) Ko Htwe, and Aung Myo Thein (aka)

tion, the police proceeded to Saw Phy Aung's residence in Chanayethazan Township at 4:30 pm the same day, where they seized 30 bottles of Phensedyl, each containing 100 millilitres. The police also arrested Ko Sai (aka) Ah Chein, who resides

ed for instructing Hlaing Phyto Htwe, Thant Zin Htun, Lin Lin Aung, and Zaw Myo Thein to carry the drugs. Saw Phy Aung, from Chanayethazan Township, had purchased the drugs, while Kiyan, who lives near the Myanmar-India border, resold them.

Phensedyl was bought in Kalay and resold in Mandalay. Aung Thu and Thant Zin Htwe, who were involved in selling heroin, were arrested near Leinli village in Pinlong Township along with a Suzuki Ciaz. Additionally, Hlaing Myo

Tun (aka) Thilon, who was involved in selling Phensedyl, was also arrested in Chanayethazan Township. Action was taken against all of them and further investigation is underway. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

Security forces accused of torching village in Chauk

MALICIOUS media outlets intentionally spread fake news, claiming that security forces torched the homes in Sekan Village, Chauk Township, Magway Region. Regarding the misinformation, an official serving duty in that area said security forces did not set fire to the houses. Terrorists threatened the people and burned the villages. Malicious media are spreading misinformation using floating photos to make the public misunderstand the security forces doing security duties in order that local people can live in peace. — MNA/KTZH

Inmate death attributed to false claims of insufficient medical care

REPORTS claiming that inmate Myo Min Oo died from inadequate medical care while imprisoned at DaikU Central Prison are false, according to verified information. Khit Thit Media's Facebook page falsely reported that his death resulted from lacking basic healthcare. In reality, Myo Min Oo was under close medical supervision by prison doctors and health officials. Upon being diagnosed with chronic kidney disease and anaemia on 23 September 2024, he received continuous medical care at the prison hospital. To ensure better treatment, he was transferred to Bago District General Hospital on 26 December 2024, where he was treated by medical professionals. Despite receiving proper care, he passed away at 12:35 pm on 10 January 2025, 16 days after hospitalization. Prison authorities consistently provide timely medical care to inmates feeling unwell, including administering necessary medications and accepting prescribed medicines from family members after proper verification. Inmates requiring specialized treatment are promptly transferred to public hospitals. Therefore, Khit Thit Media's report was intentionally misleading, aiming to distort public perception. — MNA/KZL

Mystery balls close nine Sydney beaches

The local government was alerted to the debris by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and is assisting with collecting samples for testing.



People visit Coogee Beach after authorities closed it down to the public in Sydney on 16 October 2024. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

AUSTRALIAN authorities closed nine Sydney beaches on Tuesday after mysterious white and grey balls washed up along the coast.

Beaches closed until further notice included tourist hotspots Manly and Dee Why,

the city's Northern Beaches Council said in a statement.

"So far, most samples identified are marble-sized with a few larger in size," it said.

The local government said it was alerted to the debris by

the Environment Protection Authority, and was helping the state agency to collect samples for testing.

"The council is organizing the safe removal of the matter and is inspecting other beaches," it said. — AFP

Grammys still set for 2 Feb, will support LA fire relief

THE Grammys, slated for 2 February, will "proceed as planned" despite the devastating fires scorching Los Angeles, the Recording Academy said Monday.

In a letter to Academy members obtained by AFP, organizers said the 67th annual music awards gala would take place at the Crypto.com Arena in downtown LA "in close coordination with local authorities to ensure public safety and responsible use of area resources".

"This year's show, however, will carry a renewed sense of purpose: raising additional funds to support wildfire relief efforts and honouring the bravery and dedication of first responders who risk their lives



The Grammys, which honour the best in music, will be handed out on 2 February 2025. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

to protect ours," Academy head Harvey Mason Jr said in the letter, which was co-signed by Board of Trustees chair Tammy Hurt. "The Grammys will not only honour the artistry

and achievements of our music community but also serve as a platform to amplify the spirit of resilience that defines this great city of Los Angeles," Mason and Hurt said. — AFP

11 people die from consuming counterfeit alcohol in Istanbul

ELEVEN people have died in hospitals in Istanbul, Türkiye's largest city, in the past 24 hours after consuming counterfeit alcohol, and two suspects have been detained, local media reported on Tuesday.

According to the state-run Anadolu news agency, 38 individuals, including 26 foreign nationals, sought medical treatment at various hospitals across the city due to health issues related to counterfeit alcohol consumption. The agency reported that 11 of them have died.

The NTV broadcaster reported that authorities discovered two individuals of Turkmen nationality allegedly involved in selling counterfeit alcohol at

their workplace in the Basaksehir district. Both individuals were arrested and taken into custody.

During the raid, authorities seized approximately 50 litres of counterfeit alcohol, 36 drug pills, five pieces of narcotic substances, a precision scale, opium resin, counterfeit migrant identity cards, and a large quantity of medical drugs. The suspects are being investigated on charges of "causing death by negligence", "drug trafficking", "producing and selling counterfeit alcohol", possessing "unidentified medical drugs", "human trafficking", and "forgery of official documents", according to the report. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bull kills tamer at sporting event in south India

A bull-tamer was killed and nearly ten spectators were injured when the horned animals ran amok during the annual sporting event Jallikattu in India's southern state of Tamil Nadu on Tuesday.

The incident occurred at the Avaniyapuram area of the state's Madurai district, when thousands of people congregated to watch the bull-tamers' bravado activities.

The popular bull-taming sport is held every year on the day of harvest festival celebrated across Tamil Nadu. Jallikattu is a traditional bull-taming sport in which participants try to tame a bull by grabbing its hump. On several occasions, many people had been injured in the sport, watched by thousands of local people. — Xinhua

Over 1 mln internally displaced in Haiti: IOM

OVER 1.041 million people in Haiti have been internally displaced as of December 2024, accounting for approximately 9 per cent of the country's total population, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

According to an IOM report released on Tuesday, this represents a threefold surge in displacement over the past year, climbing from 315,000 in December 2023 to more than a million.

The report highlighted that relentless gang violence, the collapse of essential services -- particularly healthcare -- and worsening food insecurity were the main drivers behind the surge in displaced populations. The report also pointed out that in the capital, Port-au-Prince, the number of internally displaced people nearly doubled, rising by 87 per cent. Children are among the most severely affected, making up over half of the displaced population. Essential needs such as food, healthcare, shelter, and clean drinking water remain critical for those impacted. — Xinhua

ECONOMY

WORLD/AD

Foreign visitors to Japan, their spending, hit record high in 2024

A record 36.87 million foreign tourists visited Japan in 2024, driven by peak travel periods and 20 markets.



Tourists pose for photographs in front of the Senso-ji temple's Kaminari-mon gate in Tokyo's Asakusa area on 15 January 2025. PHOTO: KYODO

THE number of foreign visitors to Japan topped 36 million in 2024 in a new all-time high, boosted by a weak yen and the resumption of flight routes to Japan following the COVID-19 pandemic, while their spending surpassed 8 trillion yen (\$50.8 billion) for the first time on record, government data showed Wednesday.

Foreign tourists spent

a total of 8.14 trillion yen on accommodation, shopping and other expenses in 2024, surpassing the previous record of 5.31 trillion yen set in 2023, preliminary figures from the Japan Tourism Agency showed.

A record 36.87 million foreign tourists visited Japan in 2024 as peak travel periods, including the seasons for cherry blossoms

and autumn foliage, contributed to annual visitor numbers from 20 markets setting new record highs, according to the Japan National Tourism Organization. Cumulative figures from January to November last year had already surpassed the previous full-year high of 31.88 million set in 2019, before the pandemic. — Kyodo

Global inflation expected to remain high through 2028: survey

GLOBAL inflation is expected to remain above central bank targets over the next four years, according to the Economic Experts Survey released Tuesday by Germany's Ifo Institute for Economic Research and the Swiss Economic Policy Institute.

Economists forecast a global average inflation rate of 3.9 per cent in 2025, decreasing slightly to 3.5 per cent by 2027. "Inflation expectations remain



A banner reads "Make Inflation Small Again" next to the European Central Bank building in Frankfurt. PHOTO: AFP

above central banks' targets, making significant interest rate cuts unlike-

ly", said Niklas Potrafke, a researcher at Ifo Institute. — Xinhua

Myanma Port Authority Open Tender Invitation

For Long-term Operation and Management of
Thilawa Multipurpose International Terminal (TMIT)

- The Myanma Port Authority, in order to achieve its financial and port-service objectives, invites qualified local and international port operators/companies with comprehensive experience and technical expertise in port terminal operation and management to participate in an open tender for the long-term Operation and Management of Thilawa Multipurpose International Terminal (TMIT), located at Plot No. (25) and (26) of the Thilawa Port Area. The tender evaluation and selection process will be conducted transparently in accordance with government tender procedures. The most qualified company will be awarded to operate and manage TMIT under a concession agreement.
- The port operator companies interested therefore are invited to submit the tender. The tender applications and forms can be purchased and submitted in accordance with the following date, time and place:
 - Tender Forms Selling Dates - 20-1-2025 to 18-2-2025
(During Office Hours: 09:30 to 16:30)
 - Selling Address - International Relations and Human Resource Development Department, Myanma Port Authority (Head Office), First Floor, No. 10 Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon.
 - Pre-Bid Presentation, Date Time, and Place - 13-2-2025, 13:00, Training Room, Myanma Port Authority (Head Office), First Floor, No. 10 Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon.
 - Submission Date and Time - 20-2-2025, by 13:00
 - Submission Address - Training Room, Myanma Port Authority (Head Office), First Floor, No. 10 Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon.
- It is notified that any late tender application submitted after the due submission date and time shall not be considered.
- For detailed information, please contact the following phone numbers and e-mail addresses:
 - Phone - 01-8391272, 01-8391273, +959 5146637
 - E-mail: tmit.tender@gmail.com, dgmirhr@mpa.gov.mm

Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee
Myanma Port Authority

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of Shandong Binnong Technology Co.,Ltd have registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "Myanmar Kete Co.,Ltd", to new distributor name "Aventine Co.,Ltd". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Aventine Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	BNS Golden Rice	Bentazone 16.7% + Metamifop 3.3% ME	P2024-5962

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of Shaanxi Sunger Road Bio-Science Co.,Ltd have registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "Myanmar Sunger Road Bio-Science Co.,Ltd", to new distributor name "Aventine Co.,Ltd". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Aventine Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Rustop	Pyraclostrobin 10% + Tebuconazole 20% SC	E2023-6077

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of Shaanxi Sunger Road Bio-Science Co.,Ltd have registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "Myanmar Sunger Road Bio-Science Co.,Ltd", to new distributor name "New Maykha Agrochemical Co.,Ltd". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. New Maykha Agrochemical Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Sunger Baton	Cyhalofop-butyl 20% OD	P2023-6038

Vietnam's fruit, vegetable exports eye US\$8 bln in 2025

VIETNAM targets US\$8 billion in fruit and vegetable export revenue in 2025, given the strong foundation of the \$ 7.1 billion achievement in 2024, local me-

dia cited the Vietnam Fruits and Vegetables Association as saying on Tuesday.

Nguyen Thanh Binh, the association's chairman, said al-

though trade tensions and geopolitical conflicts would be the major challenges to agricultural export in 2025, the \$8 export target is feasible, hinging on busi-

nesses' expansion of their share in key markets and investment in modern post-harvest technology. Enterprises should pay due attention to improving product quality

and enhancing competitive edge, while maintaining strict compliance with bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements, he said. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 4 VOY.NO. (12N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 4 VOY. NO. (12N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-1-2025** 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 BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2501S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2501S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-1-2025** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HONG JIA 11 VOY.NO. (2502)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HONG JIA 11 VOY.NO. (2502)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-1-2025** 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 OCEAN SALUTE SHIPPING PTE LTD

TENDER INVITATION

Bid Invitation No : Construction for Myanmar Football Federation Futsal Training Pitch
Date : 16th January 2025

1. Tendering

Myanmar Football Federation (hereinafter referred to as "Employer") which is responsible for the construction of MFF Futsal Training Pitch Project in Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, Yangon, hereby invites tenders for the supplying of material, fabrication and construction.

2. Project Overview

Myanmar Football Federation is endeavoring to improve the skills and technology in the implementing this MFF Futsal Training Pitch Project in Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, Yangon.

3. Project Scope of Work

Construction of Steel Structure Building (3,631 Sqm)

No	Description	Qty	Unit
1	Civil Work (1) Preliminary Work, (2)Sub Structure, (3)Super Structure, (3)Roofing and (4)Walling	1	Lot
2	Finishing Work (1)Floor Finishing, (2)Wall Finishing, (3)Stair Handrail, (4)Ceiling, (5)Door & Window, (6)Scupper Drain with Drain Cover, and (7)Internal & External Decoration	1	Lot
3	Sports Floor	1	Lot
4	VIP Seats and Auditorium Seats	1	Lot
5	MEP Work	1	Lot

Please send Expression of Interest (EOI) Letter to sithuwin@mff-ma.com on (16th January 2025) if you are interested.

EOI submitted company may obtain Tender Documents at Myanmar Football Federation, Administration Office during office hours (from 16th January 2025 to 17th January 2025).

Tender inquiry

: Si Thu Win, Deputy General Secretary, Myanmar Football Federation.
Ph: 09-785787878

Tender Closing Date and Time : 24th January 2025 (13:00 hrs)

Contact Address

: Myanmar Football Federation, National Football Training Center, Waizayantar Road, Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, Yangon.

Myanmar Football Federation

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (926N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (926N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-1-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V VIMC DIAMOND VOY.NO. (0UVBIS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V VIMC DIAMOND VOY.NO. (0UVBIS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-1-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Majority of Britons see PM Starmer as underperforming: Poll

A separate poll from 11-13 January showed 62 per cent of Britons disapproved of the government's record, with only 17 per cent in support.

SIXTY-FOUR per cent of UK citizens six months after the general election believe that Prime Minister Keir Starmer is doing a poor job, a YouGov poll showed.

At the same time, 24 per cent of respondents supported Starmer, while another 12 per cent could not make an assessment, the report said on Tuesday. The poll was conducted on 13 January and surveyed 1,698 people.

In a separate poll conducted from 11-13 January, 62 per cent of Britons said they disapproved of the government's record to date, with only 17 per cent claiming the opposite.

The Labour Party won 412 seats in the 4 July election,



New UK PM Keir Starmer and his wife Victoria received cheers and applause as they arrived in Downing Street on 5 July 2024.

PHOTO: AFP/FILE

securing an absolute majority in parliament and ousting the Conservative government. The next day, Starmer was officially appointed as the UK's 58th prime minister. — SPUTNIK

South Korean President Yoon arrested over failed martial law bid

IMPEACHED South Korean leader Yoon Suk Yeol was arrested on Wednesday over his failed martial law bid, ending a weeks-long standoff with authorities and becoming the first sitting president to be detained in the nation's history.

Yoon, who faces charges of insurrection over his short-lived effort to impose martial law last month, said he would comply with investigators to avoid "bloodshed".

A former prosecutor who led the conservative People Power Party (PPP) to election victory in 2022, Yoon could face the death penalty or life in jail if found guilty of insurrection.

He had sought to evade arrest for weeks by remaining in his residential compound, protected by members of the Presidential Security Service (PSS) who had remained loyal to him.

His guards had installed barbed wire and barricades at the residence, turning it into what the opposition called a "fortress".

Yoon, who had vowed to "fight to the end", managed to thwart a first arrest attempt on 3 January following a tense hours-long impasse between the guards and anti-graft investigators working with police. — AFP



South Korean policemen are seen on guard near the presidential residence in Seoul, South Korea, 15 January 2025. **PHOTO: YAO QILIN/XINHUA**

BRIEF: WORLD

Iranian President addresses Trump assassination claims and nuclear stance

IRAN has never tried to assassinate US President-elect Donald Trump, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Wednesday.

"This is another one of those schemes that Israel and other countries are designing to promote Iranophobia. ... Iran has never attempted to nor does it plan to assassinate anyone. At least as far as I know," Pezeshkian told the NBC news broadcaster.

Iran has never plotted to assassinate Trump and has no plans to do so in the future, the president added.

Trump earlier accused Iran of what he called specific steps against him, adding that "the entire US military is watching and waiting."

In September, the Trump campaign said in a press release that Trump had been briefed by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence concerning possible assassination attempts by Iran on his life, adding that Iran is "terrified" of Trump's strength and resolve and wants then-Democratic presidential nominee Kamala Harris to win the election because of her "weakness". — SPUTNIK

Japan, US, S Korea hold joint drills after N Korean missile tests

Japan, the United States and South Korea held joint air drills with a US B-1B strategic bomber on Wednesday, the South Korean defence ministry said, following North Korea's recent firings of missiles including what Pyongyang has said was a hypersonic missile.

Japanese and South Korean fighter jets joined the trilateral exercise which took place over the high seas near the Korean Peninsula, according to the ministry.

The ministry said it will "contain the threat posed by North Korea through expanding drills by the three nations".

North Korea launched a ballistic missile towards the sea on 6 January, with its official Korean Central News Agency saying the following day that a new type of intermediate-range hypersonic missile had been fired and successfully flew 1,500 kilometres to a simulated target at sea. — Kyodo

Israeli lawmakers split on ceasefire deal, hostage release terms

KNESSET members were divided over an emerging ceasefire and hostage agreement with Hamas on Tuesday. Supporters insisted it was necessary to bring the captives home as soon as possible while critics said the deal threatened Israeli security.

Talks in Qatar aimed at reaching a ceasefire and hostage release agreement between Israel and Hamas are progressing with an Arab source telling The Press Service of Israel on Tuesday there is a "high likelihood of success".

According to the source,

discussions focus on the release of Palestinian prisoners, with Israel seeking to have those serving life sentences deported to countries such as Türkiye, Qatar, and Egypt.

Under the terms of the emerging ceasefire, it is expected that the first 33 hostages to be released will be humanitarian cases — women, children, elderly and sick. Palestinians from northern Gaza who fled to southern areas of the Strip will be allowed to return to their homes. Israeli forces will not withdraw from the Strip until all the hostages are freed. — ANI

SPORTS



Gabriel Jesus celebrated his hat-trick on 18 December 2024, during Arsenal's Carabao Cup quarter-final match against Crystal Palace. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Arsenal set to make new signing after Gabriel Jesus knee injury confirmed

ARSENAL striker Gabriel Jesus won't play again this season and will miss the start of the 2025-26 campaign after the club confirmed he suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament injury during Sunday's FA Cup defeat against Manchester United.

Coach Mikel Arteta explained in a press conference on Tuesday that he was "worried" about losing the Brazilian and his worst fears have now been

confirmed.

"Gabriel Jesus has received extensive assessments, scans and specialist reviews which have confirmed an injury to the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee," said Arsenal in a communicate, that added: "Gabriel will undergo surgery in the coming days and will soon begin his recovery and rehabilitation programme."

The injury comes with Ga-

riel Jesus in his best form of the campaign after scoring six goals in his last seven appearances and it sees him join a long injury list that includes Bukayo Saka, Ben White, Takehiro Tomiyasu, Ethan Nwaneri and Riccardo Calafiori.

Arteta confirmed on Tuesday that the club was "actively looking" to make a signing in January, given that England winger Saka, won't return until March.

— Xinhua

Osaka makes 1st Grand Slam 3rd since return in Melbourne

JAPAN'S Naomi Osaka reached the third round of a Grand Slam for the first time since giving birth in July 2023 as the former world No 1 came from behind to defeat the Czech Republic's Karolina Muchova 1-6, 6-1, 6-3 Wednesday at the Australian Open.

A four-time Grand Slam winner with two of those titles coming here, the 51st-ranked Osaka was overpowered by her 20th-ranked opponent in the first set at Melbourne Park, where she dropped the opening five games.

"Honestly it took everything, I felt like I left everything I had on the court," Osaka, who made her

Grand Slam return here last year, said after the 1-hour, 57-minute battle.

"Last year was really tough for me, I felt like I could have done better but just to be back on these courts and these arenas playing in front of you guys, it really makes my whole year."

While Muchova hit 11 winners in the first set to Osaka's four, Osaka had a 13-6 edge in the second set, turning around her service game. She won the last five games to take the match to the decisive third set, where Osaka amassed 16 more winners.

— Kyodo



Japan's Naomi Osaka celebrates after winning her women's singles second-round match against the Czech Republic's Karolina Muchova at the Australian Open in Melbourne on 15 January 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Benn and Eubank Jr boxing bout set to finally take place in London in April



Conor Benn (left) tested positive for a banned substance ahead of his scheduled fight against Chris Eubank Jr in London. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

THE long-awaited grudge match between Conor Benn and Chris Eubank Jr is set to finally take place in London in April after a delay of several years, it was announced Wednesday.

What should have been an initial bout between the two British boxers in October 2022 was called off when Benn failed a voluntary drug test in fight week. Benn's two-year battle to clear his name saw his suspension lifted in November.

The 28-year-old took to Instagram on Wednesday to share photos of himself signing a contract with promoter Eddie Hearn and Saudi official Turki Alalshikh, along with the words: "Your Fate has been sealed! @chriseubankjr".

Eubank Jr, 35, responded by posting the picture on his Instagram feed, with the message: "@conorbennofficial just signed his own death sentence."

Benn will reportedly have

to move up from welterweight to fight Eubank Jr, who has a professional record of 34 wins and three defeats, in what was previously billed as a "catchweight" fight.

Alalshikh, chairman of Saudi Arabia's general entertainment authority, posted on X: "Eubank Jr versus Benn done in April, London, by the name of (Fatal Fury City of the Wolves). Soon I will announce the day and the location." — AFP



“Today India increasing its capabilities in both space and deep sea”: PM Modi

PM Modi highlights India's growing capabilities in space, deep sea, and maritime power, dedicates naval combatants.

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said that today India is increasing its capabilities in both space and deep sea as both sectors carry important significance in the future.

He dedicated three “Made in India” frontline naval combatants INS Surat, INS Nilgiri and INS Vaghsheer to the nation.

Addressing the event, PM Modi emphasized the government’s focus on developing faraway islands and enhancing maritime power.

“We have also focused on our faraway islands. Regular monitoring of those islands where no one lives is also being done. Not only this, a new identity of the islands is also being created. They are being given new names... We all know how important both the infinite space and the deep sea are in the future. Therefore, today India is increasing its capabilities



The launch of two warships, like the INS Surat shown here, and a submarine was key to India’s ‘quest towards self-reliance’, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said. **PHOTO: AFP**

in both space and deep sea,” he said.

Speaking about the Samudrayaan project, he noted that it will take scien-

tists to a depth of 6,000 metres in the sea, a feat achieved by only a few countries.

“Our Samudrayaan project is going

to take scientists to a depth of 6000 metres in the sea where only a few countries have been able to reach. — ANI

Vietnam, Russia sign MoU on nuclear energy cooperation

RUSSIAN Prime Minister Mikhail Vladimirovich Mishustin and his Vietnamese counterpart Pham Minh Chinh witnessed the signing of a mem-



State Atomic Energy Corporation Rosatom (ROSATOM) is the Russian Federation national nuclear technology company.

PHOTO: ILLUSTRATIVE PHOTO/SPUTNIK

orandum of understanding (MoU) on nuclear energy cooperation between enterprises of the two countries on Tuesday, according to Vietnam News Agency.

The MoU was signed by the Russian State Atomic Energy Corporation (Rosatom) and the Vietnam Electricity. Receiving Rosatom director-general Alexey Likhachev in capital Hanoi on Monday, Pham Minh Chinh said his country plans to restart its nuclear power project, which has been delayed for many years, to meet the growing demand for electricity and provide strong support for the booming industry, the agency reported.

As part of this vision, Vietnam plans to restart its nuclear power project to ensure energy security, support national development, and fulfil its commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, Pham Minh Chinh said. — Xinhua

COMPLETING PIVOTAL AGREEMENTS

Cambodian, Iranian diplomats welcome petroleum MoU progress

CAMBODIAN and Iranian diplomats on Tuesday welcomed the progress on finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on petroleum cooperation between the two countries, said a Cambodian foreign ministry’s press release. The welcome was made between Cambodia’s Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Prak Sokhonn and Ali Akbar Nazari, Iranian ambassador to Cambodia, during their meeting in Phnom Penh. “They discussed efforts to enhance economic ties through cooperation in areas such

as trade, investment, health and energy,” the press release said.

They “welcomed the progress on finalizing key agreements including the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments, the establishment of a Joint Economic Commission, and the MoU on Petroleum Cooperation”, it added. Both sides also touched on regional and international cooperation, including under the framework of the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)-Economic Cooperation Organization, it added. — Xinhua