

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Myanmar's pulses exports amounted to over \$1.47 billion from over 1.9 million tonnes in the previous FY 2022-2023. A worker organizing export pulse bags in the warehouse.

Myanmar earns US\$817 mln from 970,000+ tonnes of pulses exports as of 3 Nov

Myanmar exported more than 970,000 tonnes of pulses, with an estimated value of over US\$817 million, to foreign trade partners over the past seven months of the current 2023-2024 financial year beginning 1 April, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics indicated.

The value of pulses exports by sea-borne trade reached \$702.572 million (over 840,226 tonnes), whereas over 134,470 tonnes of pulses worth \$115.332 million were sent to the neighbouring countries through the border between 1 April and 3 November, totalling \$817.9 million from exports of over 974,696 tonnes.

Myanmar's pulses exports amounted

to over \$1.47 billion from over 1.9 million tonnes in the previous FY 2022-2023, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics indicated.

Myanmar mainly exports black grams, green grams and pigeon peas to foreign markets. Of them, black grams and pigeon peas are primarily shipped to India while green grams are exported to China and Europe.

India has growing demand and consumption requirements for black grams and pigeon peas. According to a Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and India signed on 18 June 2021, India will import 250,000 tonnes of black gram and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas (tur) from

Myanmar for five consecutive years from 2021-2022 financial year to 2025-2026 FY. This G-to-G pact will not affect the pulses' annual quota set by India. Myanmar's exporters are also entitled to deliver the pulses to India under that annual quota.

The prevailing market prices are K2.865 million per tonne of black gram (urad) and K3.9 million per tonne of pigeon pea (tur).

Black grams which India primarily purchases are commonly grown only in Myanmar, whereas pigeon peas, green grams and chickpeas are grown in African countries and Australia, Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association stated. — NN/EM

UMFCCI, Customs, Trade Dept discuss border-to-factory smooth flow of CMP raw materials

A team led by Daw Khine Khine Nwe, General Secretary of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association, accompanied by CMP employers, discussed matters regarding border-to-factory smooth flow of CMP raw materials, conditions of delayed goods at borders, transport processes, import licensing with the officials of the Customs Department and the Trade Department at the meeting hall of Department of Customs on 9 November.

Also, the joint secretary of the Central Committee on Ensuring Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods, UMFCCI president, general secretary and other officials concerned inspected Hlinethaya, Shwelinpan, Shwepyitha, Wahtaya, Thadukan and Mingaladon industrial zones on 8 November and met industrial zone management committee members and entrepreneurs engaged in businesses on Cutting-Making-Packaging basis.

During the meeting, Daw Khine Khine Nwe requested the Central Committee to assist in the smooth trade flow of imported CMP raw materials via borders to the factories and workshops, as per the UMFCCI.

The Trade Department gave the go-ahead to traders of licensed goods entitled to be brought in and out of the Muse and Chinshwehaw checkpoints allowed to be shifted to other Sino-Myanmar border posts and Myanmar-Thailand border crossings and to change the mode of transport to maritime routes so as not to cause trade delay in the wake of transport hurdles and security concerns at borders, according to its notification released by the Trade Department on 8 November. — NN/EM

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Plastic cleanup underway at Kyaukpyu Beach

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Myanmar's rubber, corn exports pocket US\$14+ mln in October

BUSINESS

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Myanmar-Bangladesh border trade nets US\$0.51 mln in Nov 1st week

NATIONAL

Announcement

(A) 1. The Central Bank of Myanmar has released Notification No 27/2022 that export earnings from the shipment of goods to Asian countries shall be deposited within 45 days, and export earnings from the shipment of goods to other countries except Asian countries shall be deposited within 90 days in foreign currency into the exporter's bank account in the country, and if they fail to do so, they will be taken action under Foreign Exchange Management Law.

2. The Department of Trade on 6 November 2023 released notification that the Central Bank of Myanmar will take action against the companies that fail to deposit export earnings, and if they do not follow the instructions by 17 November, they will be taken action under the existing law.

3. If exporters want to discuss the export earnings payments, they can contact the following phone numbers of Foreign Exchange Management Department and Department of Trade

(a) Foreign Exchange Management Department
067 3418754, 01 543511: extension No 461, 462

(b) Department of Trade
067 3408258, 067 3408281

(b) Exporters shall deposit their export earnings into their account during the fixed period without fail according to the Foreign Exchange Management Law.

Central Bank of Myanmar

COVID-19 report, 10 November 2023

NEW TESTS

3,015

NEW CASE

One

CASUALTIES

Nil

Buddha statue unearthed in Pinle (Mongmaw) Pyu ancient city research

ONE Buddha statue was found during excavation research of Pinle (Mongmaw) Pyu ancient city in Myittha, Mandalay Region, according to the Department of Archeology and National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw).

The Buddha statue, which has a height of 6.5 centimetres, is located outside of the old Pyu city in the Excavation Mound No 22 (a) in the southeast of the Kanswe village. It was excavated at a depth of 28 cm (11 inches) in the ground. The Department of Archeology and National Museum has excavated and researched the ancient city every excavation season since the 1978-1979 financial year, and has excavated and researched 23 excavation mounds until the 2022-2023 financial year.

In the 1981-1982 financial year, two silver Buddha statues were unearthed from Excavation Mound No 8, and in 2005, a local found eight gold statues, including eight gold statues, four gold and silver mixed statues,



The picture depicts an uncovered Buddha statue.

two silver pagodas, and one silver alloy statue at the southeast of Mongmaw village.

All these statues are not significantly different in height, but the hand positions (mudra postures) are slightly different.

The Buddhist architecture

and art history of Pinle (Mongmaw) Pyu ancient city has become more detailed, and the archaeological evidence is very important to make the descriptions of ancient history and chronicles more accurate.

— ASH/KZL



Locals and social volunteers take part in the plastic cleanup activity on Kyaukpyu Beach.

Plastic cleanup underway at Kyaukpyu Beach

CLEANUP of marine plastic is being planned according to the waste management plan at Kyaukpyu Beach, Kyaukpyu Township, Rakhine State, said Kyaukpyu District Environmental Conservation Department District Head U Hlwan Moe Htet.

According to the waste

management work plan of the Department of Environmental Conservation, cleaning operations are being carried out to remove plastic from the sea at three locations along the sea coast from near the entrance sign of Kyaukpyu to the district highways department chief's office.

A total of 170 members of social organizations and residents carried out cleaning operations.

Conducting educational lectures in schools and educational videos will be shown, according to the office of the District Environmental Conservation Department. — ASH/KZL

Technological, computer universities to admit enrolment on 16 Nov

THE Ministry of Science and Technology has announced that enrolment for both undergraduate and postgraduate courses at technological universities, computer studies universities and government technological colleges will commence on 16 November, and all classes are scheduled to begin on 23 November. — TWA/MKKS



University of Computer Studies (Yangon).

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NATIONAL

MoEP Union Minister receives Russian Ambassador

UNION Minister for Electric Power U Nyan Tun received Ambassador Mr Iskander Azizov of the Russian Federation to Myanmar yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

The MoEP Union minister and the Russian ambassador discussed successful implementation in all sectors between Myanmar and Russia, cooperation of Russian companies in wind power, solar energy and thermal energy projects to develop Myanmar's electricity sector and further cooperation. — MNA/MKKS



Russian Ambassador Mr Iskander Azizov calls on Union Minister U Nyan Tun yesterday.

MoHT UM explores tourism collaboration with Russian Ambassador, participates in Online ASEAN Tourism & Transport Interface Meeting



Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khine participates in the online Interface Meeting between ASEAN Tourism Ministers and ASEAN Transport Ministers hosted by Laos yesterday.

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Thet Thet Khine received Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Iskander Azizov to Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed the coming programmes after the Familiarization Trip-FAM Trip programme, the formation of working groups consisting of government-private officials to promote the tourism of two countries, tourist exchange programmes, holding of Virtual Tourism Forum with gov-

ernment-private stakeholders, operation of Myanmar-Russia direct flights to destination sites and cooperation to promote tourist destinations and develop tourism sectors of two countries.

At noon, the Union minister joined the Interface Meeting between ASEAN Tourism Ministers and ASEAN Transport Ministers, hosted by Laos, online.

At the meeting, the Union minister highlighted the need to designate the prioritized

tourist destinations, and entry and exit in ASEAN regions as per the strategies drafted for the development of tourism and transport sectors of ASEAN regions, promote cooperation in tourism and transport sectors to facilitate the travelling, saying Myanmar approves to establish a special task force between ASEAN Tourism Authority and ASEAN Senior Transport Officials and will keep working together closely for regional tourism development. — MNA/KTZH

Yangon witnesses surge in building permits with approval of 85 new projects in Nov 1st week

A total of 85 construction permits were issued within the boundaries of the Yangon City Development Committee in the first week of November.

For BCC applications, 85 construction permits were issued within one week. Additionally, 18 building construction completion certificates (BCC) were approved. The Yangon Electricity Power Corporation (YESC) has furnished a list of 34 buildings that have applied for construction permits ranging from four to 17 rooms. To facilitate the construction process, approvals were sought from relevant departments, including the Fire Services Department, the Department of Engineering (Water and

Sanitation) and the Department of Urban and Housing Development.

When construction permits are issued, it is essential to follow the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), which mandates communication between landowners and licensed contractors with the Electricity Supply Enterprise to facilitate the process of obtaining electricity.

The Yangon Supply Electricity Corporation will reportedly convene a meeting with licensed contractors this week to facilitate the acquisition of the Building Construction Completion (BCC) certificates and the installation of electricity meters in the buildings. — TWA/KZW



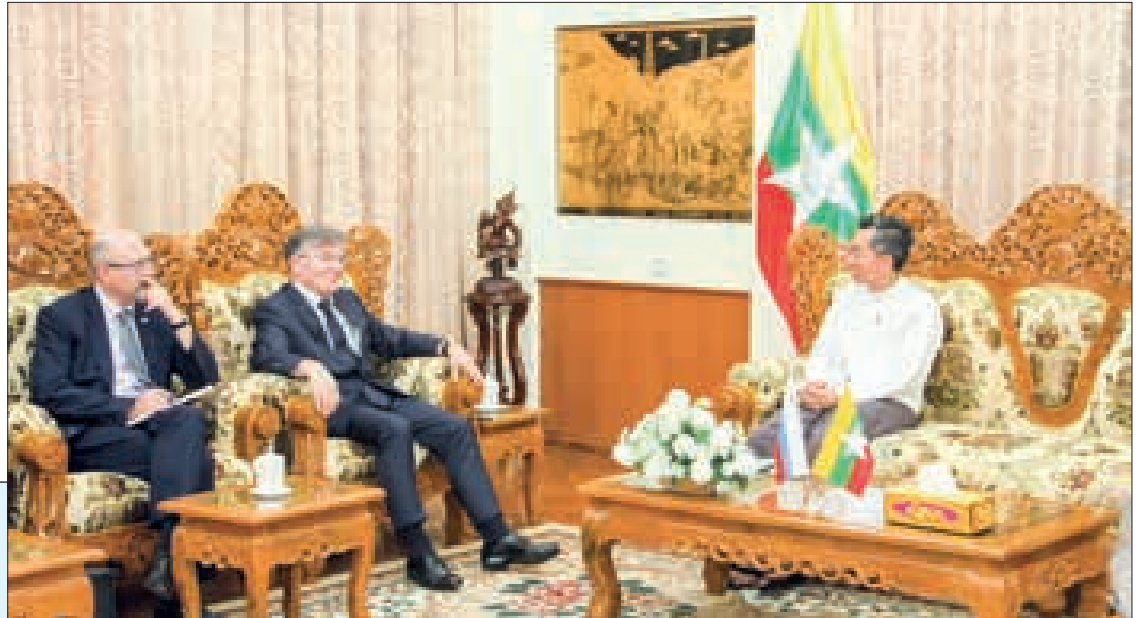
The office building of the Yangon City Development Committee.

NATIONAL

MoE UM receives Russian Ambassador

UNION Minister for Energy U Ko Ko Lwin received Ambassador Mr Iskander Azizov of the Russian Federation to Myanmar and a delegation in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Both sides frankly exchanged views on the processes to be carried out in the future for increasing the energy sector cooperation and investment between Myanmar and Russia, issues of technical assistance for increased production of oil and natural gas, and upgrading oil refineries and fertilizer plants. — MNA/TS



The Russian ambassador calls on Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.



Russian Ambassador Mr Iskander Azizov calls on Central Bank of Myanmar Governor Daw Than Than Swe yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

CBM Governor receives Russian Ambassador, Bangladeshi Ambassador

CENTRAL Bank of Myanmar Governor Daw Than Than Swe met Ambassador Mr Iskander Azizov of the Russian Federation and had a friendly and open discussion on the mutual use of payment card systems to facilitate the payment and tourism

sectors between Myanmar and Russia and support for the banking sector yesterday.

Similarly, the governor met Bangladeshi Ambassador Dr Md Monwar Hossain in Nay Pyi Taw and discussed matters related to the business conditions

between the banks of the two countries, including the possibility of direct payment in trade with Bangladesh Taka/Myanmar Kyat to develop the bilateral trade and the rice export from Myanmar to Bangladesh. — MNA/MKKS

21,697.78 tonnes of cargo and 900 gravel saddles exported from Mandalay Port last week

ACCORDING to the Mandalay Region Marine Administration Department, 23 cargo vessels were able to export 21,697.78 tonnes of cargo and 900 gravel pits from Mandalay Port to Yangon, Bhamo and other cities during the first week of November.

A total of 23 cargo vessels that exported goods such as millet, cement, coal, and gravel from Mandalay Port to Yangon, Bhamo and other cities were able to export 15,775.58 tonnes of cement, 3,700 tonnes of coal, 2,222.2 tonnes of corn, and 900 saddles of gravel from 1 to 8 November.

Due to the increase in the number of goods to be exported at Mandalay Port, the vessels should not load more than the

specified tonnage, and the vessels may be dangerous if they carry goods that are not proportionate to the size of the vessel and travel in the river.

Officials have informed that vessels coming from Mandalay Port must pay attention to the navigational signals that have been erected on the water and on the shore to ensure safe navigation. — TWA/KZL



Court Martial adjudicates and sentences Ex-Lt-Gen Soe Htut

EX-LT-GEN Soe Htut gave directives to subordinates to issue passports to companies for their requests to operate Myanmar passport services through the green channel system by inappropriately applying his rank and authority, took bribes and failed to super-

vised the undertakings not aligned with the financial rules and regulations for the staff welfare fund of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Hence, he was indicted under relevant sections of laws and the Court Martial adjudicated his cases

and sentenced him to five years imprisonment. And, those involved in the case are taken action by the civil court whereas officials from the Myanmar Police Force are taken action under the police discipline. — GNLM/TTA

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NATIONAL

MoC Union Minister receives Bangladeshi Ambassador, JMA Vice-Chairman



Vice-Chair Mr Watanabe Yusuke of the Japan-Myanmar Association calls on Union Minister U Tun Ohn yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

UNION Commerce Minister U Tun Ohn received a delegation led by Bangladeshi Ambassador Dr Md Monwar Hossain and a delegation led by Mr Watanabe Yusuke, Vice-Chairman of the Japan-Myanmar Association separately yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

The MoC Union minister and the Bangladeshi ambassador discussed issues of facilitating trade through the border and promoting the export of agricultural produce and other products from Myanmar.

The Union minister also

discussed with the delegation led by Japan-Myanmar Association Vice-Chairman Mr Watanabe Yusuke the development of Thilawa Special Economic Zone, and cooperation in the investment and trade between Myanmar and Japan. — MNA/MKKS

Officers assess effective utilization of milling business loans

ON-SITE inspection was carried out to check whether oil millers spend business loans effectively or not, according to a coordination meeting of the Loan Monitoring and Evaluation Team held on 9 November 2023.

At the meeting, the millers are found to comply with the rules so they are considered to be eligible for loan repayment plans, said Permanent Secretary U Khant Zaw, a team leader.

The team disbursed K1.773 billion in loans to 21 oil millers from seven regions and states including Nay Pyi Taw between

July and October 2023.

Those millers who have taken out loans need to prepare for mid-term business reports and final reports.

Additionally, region and state groups are also urged to assist the businesspersons in realizing onsite manufacturing processes and business operation conditions in each region.

The team called for second loan proposals on 24 September and those businesspersons in compliance with loan rules and regulations will get financed. — TWA/KK



The photo shows a working site of the domestic oil mill.

CRIME NEWS

Confiscated illegal items; Timbers, consumer goods, foodstuffs, fuel oil, industrial materials and vehicles

THE combined on-duty teams under the supervision of the Kayin State Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force conducted inspections on 7 and 8 November and seized three vehicles with a trailer (approximately K150 million), headed to Yangon from Myawady, carrying six kinds of goods worth K66.65 million including 9,900 pairs of SOHOU men slipper and 14,400 bottles of Omega milk without official documents near Kamawkasin village in Hpa-an township. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 8 November, the on-duty teams under the management of the Customs Department made inspections and impounded 155

sets of Sunway Tech solar plates worth K32.55 million that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from a container at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint, a Chenglong tractor head with a trailer (estimated value of K45 million), travelling from Myawady to Yangon, carrying four kinds of goods worth K18.8 million including 26,400 bottles of Omega milk that were not declared in the ID at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint and five kinds of goods worth K8.225 million including 90 sets of Vico rice cooker without official documents from two vehicles headed to Yangon from Myawady at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe)

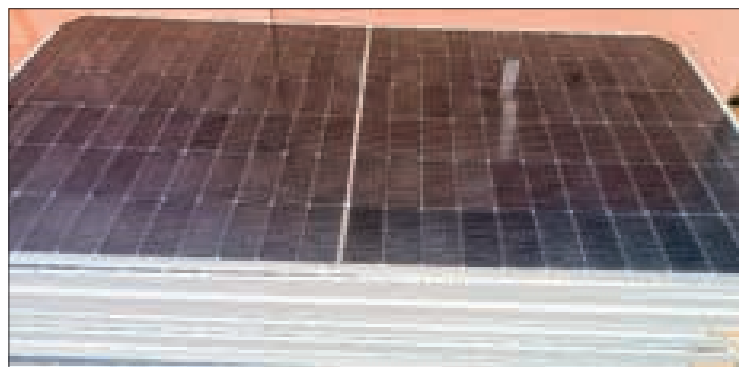
combined checkpoint. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

Additionally, the combined teams captured a Dongfeng truck (approximately K25 million), headed to 8th-mile village from Myitkyina township, carrying

720 gallons of illegal diesel worth K9.3 million in Namti township and 69.002 tonnes of illegal teak and various timbers worth K45,541,584 in Shwepyitha Ward of Bhamo on the same day. The action was taken under the Petroleum and Petroleum Prod-

ucts Law and the Forest Law.

On 9 November, the combined teams confiscated 3.058 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K214,102 at the No 1 and 2 South Dagon Industrial Zones in Dagon Myothit (South) township, 2.364 tonnes of illegal teak worth K780,120 in Toungoo district and an unregistered Super Custom vehicle (approximately K2 million) in Minhla township. The action was taken under the Forest Law and the Export and Import Law. A total of 17 arrests were made on three consecutive days from 7 to 9 November, with an estimated value of K404,060,806, as reported by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS



Confiscated illegally imported solar plates at Asia World Port Terminal (AWPT).

NATIONAL



Containers of palm oil imported from abroad.

Over 290,000 tonnes of palm oil imported from abroad within six months

A total of 294,457 tonnes of palm oil were imported from abroad, which is 65,000 tonnes more than the same period last year, as stated by the Ministry of Agricultural, Livestock and Irrigation.

The report said that 294,457 tonnes of palm oil were imported into the country in the first six months of this year, which is an increase of more than 65,000 tonnes compared to the same period of the last fiscal year, which is a 28 per cent increase.

According to the report, the use of foreign currency for the import of nearly 300,000 tonnes of palm oil was USD 294.58 million, which is more than USD 38 million less than last year. Domestic demand for palm oil is over K1 million per tonne per year, so it is mainly imported from Malaysia and Indonesia.

Currently, the palm oil import, storage and distribution supervisory committee monitors daily FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, which are the main producers and exporters of palm oil, and calculates transportation costs, bank charges, and taxes, and issues the basic wholesale reference price to be traded in the domestic market.

The reference price for the palm oil has been set as K4,570 from 31 October to 5 November, decreasing K155 compared to last week. — TWA/KZL

Myanmar's rubber, corn exports pocket US\$14+ mln in October

MYANMAR generated an earning of US\$14.403 million from rubber and corn exports in October, the statistics released by the Ministry of Commerce indicated.

Myanmar's seaborne trade saw over 5,300 tonnes of rubber exports worth \$6.781 million in October, comprising over 4,130 tonnes to China, over 700 to India, over 260 to Malaysia and over 200 to the Republic of Korea and Myanmar conveyed 2,978 tonnes of rubber worth \$3.655 million to China via the border, totalling 8,278 tonnes worth \$10.436 million. The export volume of rubber was up by over 900 tonnes in October compared to that of September.

Additionally, Myanmar shipped over 8,900 tonnes of corn to the



The picture shows piles of corn bags to be exported to foreign markets.

Philippines in October, with an estimated value of \$2.348 million. Myanmar sent 5,920 tonnes to China and 96 tonnes to Thailand via the border points in October, reaching over 6,010 tonnes worth \$1.619 million.

The corn exports amounted to \$3.967 million from 14,910 tonnes in October, which is a decrease of over 4,000 tonnes compared to that of September. — TWA/KK

Juntion Square to host Myanmar Furniture Exhibition for five days



THE Myanmar Furniture Exhibition will be held at Junction Square for five days from 8 to 12 November from 9 am to 5 pm with 16 booths from 11 entrepreneurs.

The Exhibition is organized by the Myanmar Forest Products and Timber Merchants Association and will display wedding accommodations for the Thadingyut Festival, innovative wood-based furniture products and low-cost teak substitute furniture products. — TWA/MKKS

The Junction Square.

Over 85,500 tonnes of green grams, black grams, pigeon peas worth US\$79+ mln exported

OVER 85,500 tonnes of green grams, black grams, and pigeon peas valued at US\$79.255 million were exported in October, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Over 67,980 tonnes of black grams were exported by sea, with the largest quantity (about 59,000 tonnes) sent to India. Additionally, approximately 2,150 tonnes were shipped to Pakistan, nearly 1,200 tonnes

to Singapore, and around 1,100 tonnes to Malaysia. Another 875 tonnes were exported to Thailand. Moreover, black gram was also shipped to various countries including the UAE, EU countries, Japan, the Philippines, Viet Nam, and Indonesia.

A total of 34 tonnes of black grams were exported via the Myanmar-China border. Another 224 tonnes of black gram were exported through the My-

anmar-Thailand border, with a total value of \$0.286 million. Furthermore, a maximum of 7,550 tonnes of green gram were shipped to Viet Nam via sea trade. This included more than 2,400 tonnes to China, about 1,200 tonnes to the Philippines, nearly 800 tonnes to Malaysia, around 750 tonnes to Singapore, and 450 tonnes to Thailand. Additionally, 444 tonnes of green gram were



Workers sorting pulses and putting them in the bags.

shipped through the Myanmar-China border, valued at \$0.319 million.

India received the highest

pea imports with over 3,320 tonnes, while Singapore imported more than 100 tonnes.

— TWA/KZW

Black gram price declines amid bustling trade in Yangon market

BLACK gram and pigeon pea prices dipped in the second week of November; however, the prices stayed on the high side. Traders of black gram traders are doing a roaring trade in Yangon's market.

Although the price of black gram (FAQ) fell below K2.9 million per tonne in Yangon's market, 35 containers (840 tonnes) of black gram were transacted on 9 November.

The price hit a high of K2.937 million per tonne on 31 October and then dropped to below K2.9

million per tonne between 6 and 9 November.

The price plunged to K2.86 million per tonne on 9 November despite bustling trade activities.

A total of 85 containers of black gram were traded as of 9 November and trading volume during 16 days of market opening in October was 280 containers (6,720 tonnes).

Meanwhile, the pigeon pea price remained unchanged at K4.075 million per tonne between 29 September and 3 November. Then, the price slid to K3.9 mil-

lion per tonne between 4 and 9 November. The market barely saw price fluctuations of pigeon peas.

India, the main buyer of Myanmar's black gram (urad) and pigeon pea (tur), has a low pulse yield in the monsoon season.

To prevent a price hike and meet local demand, India extended stock holding limits for pulses to 200 tonnes until 31 December.

After the monsoon rice season, growers started to grow black gram during the intercrop-



The photo shows a dozen of various pulses sold in the market

ping season in lower Myanmar regions. Pigeon peas are soon to flow into the market. Myanmar growers are expected to receive a handsome profit in the upcoming pulse season. — TWA/KK

Edible oil price stability task force advocates 2% net profit, expenses for sellers

THE task force for edible oil price stability made further notification on 8 November 2023 for the sales price of edible oil with two per cent net profit plus general expenses if the sellers buy and distribute them from authorized oil importing companies.

The task force warned unscrupulous businesspersons to avoid intentional palm oil storage, distribution and sales at exorbitantly high prices despite the purchase of oil at reference price and oil adulteration with mixed oil adding flavour.

Myanmar Edible Oil Traders' Association is making a concerted effort with all the stakeholders concerned to stabilize the price. Last 28 August, the association was reformed with 29 members and oil importing companies are arranging to sell the oil.

The task force is aimed at distributing palm oil effectively,

selling directly to the consumers, preventing market manipulation, offering fairer prices to the consumers, providing reference price access to the big retailers and having market transparency.

The task force notified traders to sell the palm oil at a wholesale price not higher than two per cent of net profit plus general expenses and retail price not higher than a 10 per-cent margin.

The Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution under the Ministry of Commerce set Yangon Region's wholesale reference price at K4,560 per viss for a week from 6 to 12 November.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at 1 million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is about 400,000 tonnes. To meet the domestic demands, about 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia. — NN/EM



Edible oils are seen in the market.

Shwebo Pawsan rice secures trademark logo for counterfeit protection

THE Shwebo Pawsan rice logo has been trademarked at the Intellectual Property Department to protect its mark from replication and ensure rice quality from possible rice adulteration. Therefore, other institutions or any individual cannot reproduce and perform the trademark, Shwebo Pawsan Paddy Producers and Exporters Association highlighted.

"Producers and exporters of high-grade Shwebo Pawsan

rice are making efforts to receive a Geographical Indication (GI) designation. To protect Shwebo Pawsan from rice adulteration and counterfeited goods, printing the trademark logo on rice sacks will commence in November," said an official of the association.

Those Shwebo Pawsan rice-bearing logos are produced from seven GI-designated townships. The association has also checked the quality with inspec-

tor teams. This being so, it can ensure the quality of the product to 100 per cent. Additionally, product traceability is available.

Shwebo Pawsan rice fetches the highest price in the domestic market. It is the most popular type of rice in Myanmar. Shwebo Pawsan is priced at K120,000-125,000 per sack in Yangon's wholesale market at present, according to the Myanmar Rice Traders Association (Wahdan). — NN/EM

Myanmar-Bangladesh border trade nets US\$0.51 mln in Nov 1st week

SITTAWAY and Maungtau trade camps earned US\$ 0.5108 million from exports to Bangladesh in the first week of November, according to the resources.

According to the data of the Customs Department, the Sittway trade camp made \$0.3608 million worth of trade while export volume was \$0.3458 million and import volume was valued at \$0.015 million between 1 and 7 November.

Similarly, the Maungtau trade camp made \$0.0150 million worth of exports between 1 and 7 November. The estimated trade of the Maungtau trade camp in November was



The photo shows Rohu to be exported to Bangladesh via the Maungtau border.

\$1.53 million and it carried out 9.80 per cent of its estimation.

The two border trade camps mainly export agricultural products, marine products and finished industrial goods to Bangladesh.

To promote bilateral trade between the two countries, Sittway and Maungtau trade camps are established on the Myanmar and Bangladesh border to operate border trading processes. — TWA/KTZH

OPINION

Clean environment: Waste reduction, Reuse, and Recycling

EFFORTS to reduce waste, promote reuse, and encourage recycling in society play a pivotal role in conserving the natural environment and curbing pollution. The utilization of waste not only minimizes the demand for new raw materials but also conserves energy, money, and precious natural resources.

A significant portion of the energy and resources are derived from fossil fuels like coal, oil, and natural gas, which, when used, release harmful emissions into the atmosphere, leading to air pollution. In response to this environmental challenge, countries worldwide are striving to diminish their reliance on fossil fuels.

Currently, the mantra of “reduce, reuse, and recycle” stands as a cornerstone for the well-being of our planet, enhancing environmental stewardship. Every year, millions of tons of waste are generated globally, with a staggering 33 per cent of it being disposed

improperly. This inadequate waste management results in soil contamination and air pollution due to the incineration of waste. While population growth does contribute to this issue, it is also exacerbated by mismanagement by certain governments, inviting environmental problems.

Data from surveys reveals that the global community generates a staggering 2.12 billion tonnes of waste annually, with approximately 2.5 million tonnes of plastic waste ending up in our oceans. The practice of reusing materials remains underutilized, even though it offers a sustainable solution.

For instance, glassware, a durable alternative to disposable plastic, can serve long-term purposes while maintaining its quality. Reusing a glass bottle can conserve energy equivalent to powering a 100-watt bulb for four hours, operating a computer for 30 minutes, or watching a TV for 20 minutes. Furthermore, recycling just one ton

of newspaper can save 17 trees from being felled, making old newspapers and magazines ideal for reuse in our society.

Among the nations that champion effective waste management, Germany leads the way. Since 2016, Germany has consistently ranked as the world’s top country in waste reuse, with a remarkable 56.10 per cent of waste being recycled in 2020. Germany’s commitment to waste reduction has lightened the global burden of waste disposal. Austria follows closely behind, reusing 53.80 per cent of its waste, with South Korea not far behind at 53.70 per cent.

On the other hand, reports indicate that Türkiye and Chile recycle a mere one per cent of their waste. Therefore, it is crucial for the people of Myanmar to prioritize the principles of reducing, reusing, and recycling waste within their households to contribute to the creation of a clean environment.

THE idea that a warming planet threatens stability around the globe is not new. The US Naval War College began studying the topic as early as the late 1980s and over the past three decades. A steady stream of analyses from the US Defence Department, private think tanks, and other organizations have pointed to the threats that climate change poses to peace, stability and conflict, but experts generally regard it as a “Threat Multiplier”, a phenomenon that can worsen or exacerbate over stability and conflict.

The consequence of climate change includes among others, intense drought, water scarcity, severe fires, rising sea levels, flooding, melting polar ice, catastrophic storms and declining biodiversity. (2011-2020) was the warmest year on record, and each of the last has been warmer than any previous since 1850. Many people think climate change mainly means warmer temperatures rise is only the beginning of the story. Because the Earth has a system, where everything is connected, changes in one area can influence changes in all others.

Climate change can affect our health, ability to grow food, housing safety and work. Some of us are more vulnerable to climate impacts, such as people living in small island nations and other developing countries. Con-

Everybody should know about Climate Change

ditions like sea-level rise, and intrusion of such disasters have advanced to the point where whole communities have to relocate, and protracted droughts are putting people at risk of famine in the future. The number of people displaced by weather and related events is expected to rise.

In a series of UN reports, thousands of scientists and government reviewers agreed that a limited global temperature rise to no more than 1.5 °C would help us avoid the worst climate impacts and maintain a livable climate. Yet policies currently in place pointed to a 2.8°C temperature rise by the century.

As they are the source of the most past and current greenhouse gas emissions, industrialized countries are expected to do the most to cut emissions on home grounds. They are called



Robust ecosystems serve as our most powerful asset in the battle against escalating emissions and severe weather, while the relationship between climate change and biodiversity gains traction in international negotiations. **ILLUSTRATION: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ UNEP**

Annex I countries and belong to the Organization for Economic Corporations and Development (OECD). They include two countries with economies in transition “from Central and Eastern Europe. Annex I countries were expected by the year 2,000 to reduce emissions to the 1990 level.

There are six scary facts about climate changes looming around weather events, they are: —

- 1 Climate change could be reversible by 2023
- 2 Greenhouse gas levels are at an all-time high
- 3 More than one million species face extinction
- 4 Climate change is creating a refugee crisis
- 5 Our oceans are dying
- 6 We use more of the Earth’s resources than it can renew

The several biggest emit-

ters of carbon dioxide gas alone (China, the United States of America, India, the European Union, Indonesia, the Russian Federation and Brazil) accounted for about half of all global greenhouse gas emissions in 2020. Everyone must take climate action, but people and countries creating more of the problem have a greater responsibility to act first.

Many climate change solutions can deliver economic benefits while improving our lives and protecting environmental stability.

Industrialized countries (Annex I) have to report regularly on their climate change policies and measures, including issues governed by the Kyoto Protocol (for countries which have to submit).

They must also submit an annual inventory of their greenhouse gas emission including data for the base year (1990) and all the years since.

Developing countries (Non-Annex I. Parties) report in more general terms on their actions both to address climate change and to attempt to its impacts but less regularly than Annex parties do. and their reporting on its contingent issue on getting funds for the preparation of the report particularly in the case of the Least Developed Countries.

Cow’s milk antibodies are connected to increased risk of cardiovascular mortality: Study

New research suggests that being sensitive to common food allergens, such as cow’s milk and peanuts, might be a previously unnoticed cause of heart disease, putting individuals at a higher risk of cardiovascular death, even if they don’t show obvious food allergies.

SENSITIVITY to common food allergens like cow’s milk and peanuts may be an important and previously overlooked cause of heart disease, according to new research – and the elevated risk of cardiovascular death includes people who do not have evident food allergies.

In a paper published in The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology that describes analyses led by Corinne Keet, MD, PhD,

pediatric allergy and immunology professor in the UNC Department of Pediatrics of two longitudinal studies, the authors show that the people who produced IgE antibodies to cow’s milk and other foods were at significantly increased risk of cardiovascular mortality.

This was true even when traditional risk factors for heart disease, such as smoking, high blood pressure, and diabetes were accounted for. The strongest link

was for cow’s milk, but IgE to other allergens such as peanuts and shrimp were also significant among those who eat the foods.

Increased risk of cardiovascular mortality

This troubling finding represents the first time that IgE antibodies to common foods have been linked to increased risk of cardiovascular mortality, the researchers report. The findings

do not conclusively prove that food antibodies are causing the increased risk, but the work builds on previous studies connecting allergic inflammation and heart disease.

“People who had an antibody called IgE to foods that they regularly eat seemed to be at increased risk for dying from heart disease,” said Keet, who is the corresponding author of the paper. “We were surprised

by these findings because it is very common to have IgE in foods (about 15 per cent of American adults have IgE to common food allergens), and most people don’t have any symptoms when they eat the food. As allergists, our thinking has been that it is not important if people have IgE to foods, as long as they don’t have symptoms when they eat the food,” she said.

SOURCE: ANI

ARTICLE

Weather report

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 10 November 2023)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is generally fair over the North Bay, a few cloud over the central Bay of Bengal and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 11 November 2023: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Mon State and isolated in Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions and Kayin State. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be generally fair in Lower Sagaing Region and Rakhine State and partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The Cumulonimbus clouds are starting over the Taninthayi Region. The area along the Cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as thunder, lightning, hail and isolated rain may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3-6) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 November 2023: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 November 2023: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 November 2023: Generally fair weather.

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Isolated rain or thundershowers in Yangon Region. Weather will be partly cloudy in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region.



Being sensitive to everyday food allergens like cow’s milk and peanuts could be a significant and previously unnoticed reason for heart disease. **ILLUSTRATION: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/PIXABAY**

SCI/ENVIRON WORLD

El Nino set to last at least til April: UN

THE El Nino weather phenomenon, which triggers higher global temperatures, is expected to last until at least April 2024, the United Nations said on Wednesday.

El Nino is a naturally occurring climate pattern typically associated with increased heat worldwide, as well as drought in some parts of the world and heavy rains elsewhere.

The UN's World Meteorological Organization said the current El Nino, which developed rapidly during July-August this year, was likely to peak between now and January.

"There is a 90-per-cent likelihood it will persist throughout the upcoming northern hemisphere winter/southern hemisphere summer," it said in its latest update, adding that it was expected to last until at least April.

El Nino, a weather phenomenon that occurs every two to seven years, typically leads to an increase in global temperatures in the following year.



Heavy rains and floods have hit Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Brazil in what climate experts attribute to the El Nino phenomenon. **PHOTO: NORBERTO DUARTE/AFP**

The weather phenomenon typically occurs every two to seven years, and it usually increases global temperatures in the year after it develops.

But, while most of the El Nino impact is not expected to be felt until 2024, WMO highlighted that the phenomenon was occurring in the context of rapid climate change.

Currently the hottest year ever recorded was 2016 -- the year after an exceptionally strong El Nino developed -- but the world is already on track to beat that record.

"As a result of record high land and sea-surface temperatures since June, the year 2023 is now on track to be the warmest year on record," WMO chief Peter Taalas said in the statement, warning that "next year may be even warmer". — AFP

Endangered Galapagos tortoises suffer from human waste: study



Endangered giant Galapagos tortoises continue to swallow plastic and other human waste despite a ban on disposable plastic items in the Ecuadoran archipelago. **PHOTO: ERNESTO BENAVIDES**

ENDANGERED giant Galapagos tortoises continue to swallow plastic and other human waste despite a ban on disposable plastic items in the Ecuadoran archipelago, ac-

Researchers analyzed 5,500 fecal samples from tortoises in human-contact areas and discovered 597 human-related debris, including plastic, glass, metal, paper, cardboard, and fabric.

cording to a study published Wednesday.

Turtles of the species *Chelonoidis porteri* ingest plastic in and around urban centres on the island of Santa Cruz, according to the study by the Charles Darwin Foundation, which is dedicated to conservation efforts in the Galapagos.

Researchers analyzed 5,500 samples of fecal matter

in areas where tortoises come into contact with human activity, and found 597 pieces of debris of human origin -- mostly plastic, but also glass, metal, paper, cardboard and fabric.

By comparison, of the 1,000 samples collected from protected areas in the Galapagos National Park, scientists discovered only two pieces of human debris. — AFP

Scientists blame climate change for 'extreme drought' in Iraq, Iran and Syria

THE "extreme" drought gripping Iraq, Syria and Iran would not have occurred without climate change caused primarily by burning fossil fuels, scientists said Wednesday, warning that punishing dry spells will become more intense as the world warms.

High temperatures due to human-caused climate change made the drought "much more likely to happen" -- about 25 times more likely in Syria and Iraq and 16 times more likely

in Iran, according to the World Weather Attribution (WWA) group.

"Human-induced climate change has increased the intensity of such a drought such that it would not have been classified as a drought in a 1.2C cooler world," said the scientists.

It found that existing vulnerability from "years of conflict and political instability" also reduced people's ability to respond to the drought, sparking a "humanitarian disaster". — AFP



The scientists warned that 'long-lasting severe droughts like these are no longer rare events'. **PHOTO: ASAAD NIAZI/AFP**

Indonesia inaugurates Southeast Asia's largest floating solar farm

INDONESIA inaugurated a \$100 million floating solar farm on Thursday, the largest in Southeast Asia, as it seeks more opportunities to transi-

tion to green, renewable energy.

The Cirata floating solar farm, which is expected to generate enough electricity to pow-

er 50,000 households, is built on a 200-hectare (500-acre) reservoir in West Java, about 130 kilometres (80 miles) from the capital, Jakarta. — AFP

Disney+ adds subscribers amid cost-cutting campaign

Disney Plus clients increased from 105.7 million at the end of June to 112.6 million at the end of September.

DISNEY'S streaming service has attracted nearly seven million new subscribers, the company said Wednesday, reversing a period of decline that had raised doubts about its rivalry with industry leader Netflix.

Disney has been under significant pressure ever since CEO Bob Iger left the company only to be brought out of semi-retirement a year ago after his replacement

no longer had the confidence of executives and the company board.

Upon his return, Iger embarked on a cost-cutting campaign that saw major cuts to the lavish spending to get Disney+ off the ground.

Those efforts saw Disney's streaming losses contract to \$387 million in the most recent quarter, down from \$1.47 billion a year

earlier: Disney Plus clients rose to 112.6 million at the end of September from 105.7 million at the end of June.

If subscriptions to a Hotstar Disney+ bundle offered in India and elsewhere are added, the overall number of subscribers tallies 150.2 million.

"Our results this quarter reflect the significant progress we've made over the past year,"



Fans are reflected in Disney+ logo during the Walt Disney D23 Expo in Anaheim, California in September 2022. PHOTO: PATRICK T. FALLON/AFP

Iger said, pointing to the success of Disney+'s recently added ad-supported tier. "While we still have work to do, these efforts

have allowed us to move beyond this period of fixing and begin building our businesses again," Iger said. — AFP

'Like a video game': Japan's gangs hire online

RISA Yamada grew up fatherless and struggled to find consistent work until she stumbled on an intriguing job listing: one of a growing number of advertisements posted on social media by Japanese criminal gangs. Hired to impersonate a police officer, she thrived, wheedling hundreds of thousands of dollars out of Japan's many lonely, wealthy and naive elderly people on the phone. "I didn't think I could ever work a normal job," the 27-year-old told a Tokyo court in July before being sentenced to three years in jail. "For the first time in my life, I was told I was good at something... the job made me feel I was needed," she said. — AFP

French star Isabelle Adjani on battling shyness for new pop album



Adjani says she was too 'intimidated' to record in the same room with her celebrity collaborators. PHOTO: FRANCOIS GUILLOT/AFP

SHE may be one of France's biggest film stars, but Isabelle Adjani admits she was too shy to record in the same room as celebrity collaborators like Seal and Simon Le Bon as she re-

turned to music with her first album in 40 years.

The Oscar-nominated star of "Possession" and "Queen Margot" has won many awards for her film roles.

But she is also remembered fondly for her collaboration with late troubadour Serge Gainsbourg on the 1983 album "Pull Marine", which spawned a strange and unsettling hit single of the same name.

Her new album "Bande Originale", which is out Friday, has been in the works for no less than 17 years, and features a packed line-up of big name guests, including international stars like Seal, Le Bon (of Duran Duran) and Senegalese legend Youssou N'Dour. — AFP

'Call of Duty', the stalwart video game veteran, turns 20

James Spratt fondly recalls rushing home from school as a teen to play "Call of Duty" online with friends—an enduring video game by Activision Blizzard that, launched two decades ago, shaped the military shooter genre and generated over \$30 billion.



The 'Call of Duty' video game franchise has brought in more than \$30 billion since it was launched 20 years ago, becoming synonymous with the military shooter genre. PHOTO: PHOTO: BERTRAND GUAY/AFP

JAMES Spratt recalls dashing home from school as a teenager to band together online with friends to do battle in "Call of Duty", the global video game juggernaut that never gets old.

The franchise deployed by Activision Blizzard 20 years ago helped define the military

shooter game genre, winning millions of fans and raking more than \$30 billion.

And Spratt, to the amazement of his dad, now makes a living sharing his "CoD" sniper skills on his YouTube channel from his home in Britain. "At school, we were racing home

basically to get a squad of six together because if you missed out on being with your friends, you were playing by yourself," said Spratt, who recently turned 30 years old. "There was something about that game that just kept me coming back every year; I was hooked." — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Germany unveils huge electricity price relief for industry



The cooling tower of the Isar nuclear power plant in Essenbach, near Landshut, southern Germany. **PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA/FILE**

Germany has announced a \$12.8 billion relief package, including tax cuts on electricity for the manufacturing sector, to stabilize the economy amid fears of recession.

GERMANY announced on Thursday a huge relief package including tax cuts on electricity for the manufacturing sector, in a bid to shore up an economy that many fear could end the year in recession.

“Alone in the coming year, the relief will reach up to 12 billion euros (\$12.8 billion),” said Chancellor Olaf Scholz in a statement.

In 2024 and 2025, electricity tax will be slashed from the current 1.537 cents per kilowatt to the European Union minimum of 0.05 cents per kilowatt for the manufacturing sector.

The lowered tax could be extended for a further three years,

said the government in a statement.

The most energy-intensive companies most vulnerable to international competition will also have costs related to their emissions trading reimbursed under the package. The agreement on the help package for manufacturers came after weeks of hefty discussions between the industry and the German government.

German companies, especially in sectors such as chemical and metal manufacturing, have struggled with a surge in power prices triggered by Russian energy supply cuts in the wake of Moscow’s war in Ukraine. — AFP

South Africa deploys military to tackle illegal mining

SOUTH Africa is to deploy 3,300 military personnel to tackle illegal mining, President Cyril Ramaphosa’s office said on Thursday. The mineral-rich country counts thousands of illegal miners, whose activities frustrate mining companies and are seen as a source of criminality by local residents. Ramaphosa has “authorized the employment of 3,300 members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF)” to “conduct an intensified anti-criminality operation against illegal mining across

all provinces,” the president’s spokesman Vincent Magwenya said, adding that they would work alongside the police force.

The operation will run until April next year, costing state coffers almost 500 million rand (\$27 million), he added.

Commonly known as “zama zamas” (“those who try” in the Zulu language), informal miners are mainly foreigners who come to South Africa to try to earn money from clandestine pits, living and working in arduous conditions. — AFP



The Johannesburg region is dotted with slag heaps, shafts and deep trenches left by generations of miners, whose arrival in a gold rush in the 1880s led to the birth of the city. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/CITYOFJOBURGZA/TWITTER**

Oil slumps below \$80 as stocks wobble

BRENT crude fell below \$80 per barrel for the first time since July on Wednesday, while stocks struggled, as concerns about the economic outlook weighed on investors.

Brent crude, the main international contract, dropped more than two per cent to hit \$79.54, amid fears about global demand. Meanwhile the main US contract, WTI, slumped as far as \$75.33 per barrel, also hitting its lowest level since July.

The slide comes as weaker economic expectations continue to weigh on the outlook, said market analyst Craig Erlam at OANDA. Crude had already plunged about four per cent the previous day on news that China’s exports fell at a faster



Demand worries are weighing on oil prices. **PHOTO: FREDERIC J. BROWN/AFP**

pace than predicted in October. That stoked fresh concern over its appetite for energy.

“The focus is clearly shifting from undersupply to weak demand and central banks in-

sisting that rates must remain high could further exacerbate that,” Erlam added.

The drop in oil prices provided some support to stocks, but they still struggled. — AFP

Ukrainian maritime exports continue despite missile strike

VESSELS were continuing to call at Ukraine’s southern Black Sea ports on Thursday, a day after Kyiv said a Russian missile killed one person when it struck a civilian ship.

The United Nations’ hu-

manitarian envoy in Ukraine condemned the attack on Thursday, which hit a Liberian-flagged vessel as it was entering the Ukrainian port of Pivdennyi in the Odesa region.

Six ships loaded with

231,000 tonnes of agricultural products left three ports in the Odesa region on Thursday, Deputy Prime Minister Oleksandr Kubrakov said in a post on social media. — AFP

World Bank offers prop for Sri Lanka's stressed banks

The money will go towards a deposit insurance scheme to protect small savers with less than 1.1 million rupees (\$3,400), who account for 90 per cent of deposits.



The World Bank has provided Sri Lanka with US\$150 million to underwrite savings of millions of depositors in a move that highlights the bankrupt country's financial fragility. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE World Bank on Friday provided Sri Lanka \$150 million to underwrite savings of millions of depositors in a move that highlights the bankrupt country's financial fragility as it recovers from a crisis last year.

Acute shortages of food, fuel and medicines led to months of violent protests that forced then-president Gotabaya Rajapaksa to step down and flee the country. "Sri Lanka's economic crisis highlights the need for

strong safety nets to support the financial sector," the World Bank's country director Faris Hadad-Zervos said. The money will go towards a deposit insurance scheme to protect small savers with less than 1.1 million rupees (\$3,400), who account for 90 per cent of deposits. The economy is expected to contract in 2023 but it has stabilized since the crisis, with inflation falling below two per cent after peaking at nearly 70 per cent more than a year ago. — AFP

Guinness-maker Diageo shares tank on weak outlook

SHARES in UK drinks giant Diageo plunged Friday after the maker of Guinness stout and Captain Morgan rum warned of a weak sales outlook, citing slowdowns in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The multinational's share price slumped more than 14 per cent to £27.82 in late morning trading on London's top-tier FTSE 100 index, which was down 1.3 per cent overall.

The company forecast total sales growth in the six months to the end



Diageo added that it has experienced "lower consumption" in the area owing to regional "macroeconomic pressures".

PHOTO: AFP

of December to be slower than the previous six months as Diageo prod-

ucts lose out to cheaper brands amid high inflation.

"This is due to a materially weaker performance outlook in Latin America and Caribbean," Diageo said in the statement.

In that key region alone, net sales are expected to tumble more than 20 per cent in its first half, compared with the same period a year earlier.

Diageo added that it has experienced "lower consumption" in the area owing to regional "macroeconomic pressures". — AFP

Shell sues Greenpeace for \$2.1 mln over North Sea protest

BRITISH oil giant Shell said Thursday that it has hit Greenpeace with a \$2.1-million lawsuit to recover costs after campaigners from the environmental group occupied a vessel earlier this year. Greenpeace protesters boarded the White Marlin vessel for several days at the start of 2023, demanding the fossil-fuel giant stop drilling and pay for its climate impact.

The vessel was first boarded just north of the Canary Islands in the Atlantic Ocean as it carried

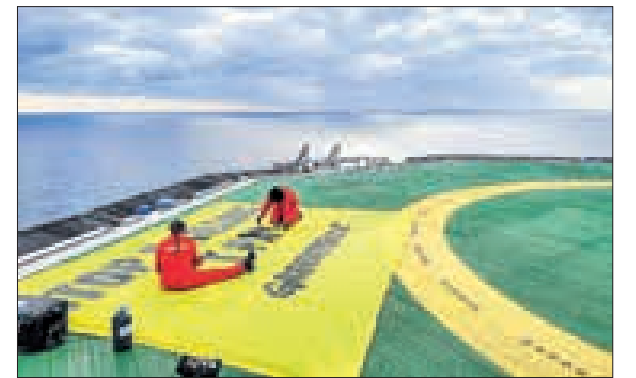
an oil and gas platform to the Penguins field, situated close to the Scottish Shetland Islands in the North Sea.

Shell said in a statement Thursday that it was suing Greenpeace to claw back its "significant" expenditure on legal, safety and security costs which it argued sought to protect staff and demonstrators alike.

According to documents obtained by AFP, Shell is seeking \$2.1 million in damages, mainly linked to costs incurred

by subcontractor Fluor,

building and transporting the platform. — AFP



British oil giant Shell said Thursday that it has hit Greenpeace with a \$2.1-million lawsuit to recover costs after campaigners from the environmental group occupied a vessel earlier this year.

PHOTO: GREENPEACE/AFP

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V METHI BHUM VOY.NO. (407N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V METHI BHUM VOY.NO. (407N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-11-2023** 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
No.(2) Mining Enterprise
Invitation for Open Tender

1. No. (2) Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation invites for tenders to sale for the following materials-

Sr.	Lot No.	Materials Classifies	Weight (M/T)	Ex Work	Tender Closing Date/Time
1	Lot-1	Tin Concentrate	31.6640	Myeik	22-11-2023 (12:00)pm
2	Lot-2	Wolfram Concentrate	5.6970	Dawei	
3	Lot-3	Tin, Wolfram mixed	29.5330		
4	Lot-4	Tin, Wolfram mixed	24.1990		
5	Lot-5	Tin, Wolfram mixed	31.2967		

2. No.(2) Mining Enterprise could provide necessary documents to interest companies and contact to No.(2) Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Office Building No.(19),Nay Pyi Taw, Ph: +95-(0)67-3409391, E-mail; metwo@e-monrec.gov.mm, within office hours.

Tender Committee
No.(2) Mining Enterprise

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

US surgeons perform world's first whole eye transplant

A groundbreaking surgery removed part of a donor's face and the entire left eye, grafting them onto a 46-year-old line worker who survived a 7,200-volt electric shock in June 2021.

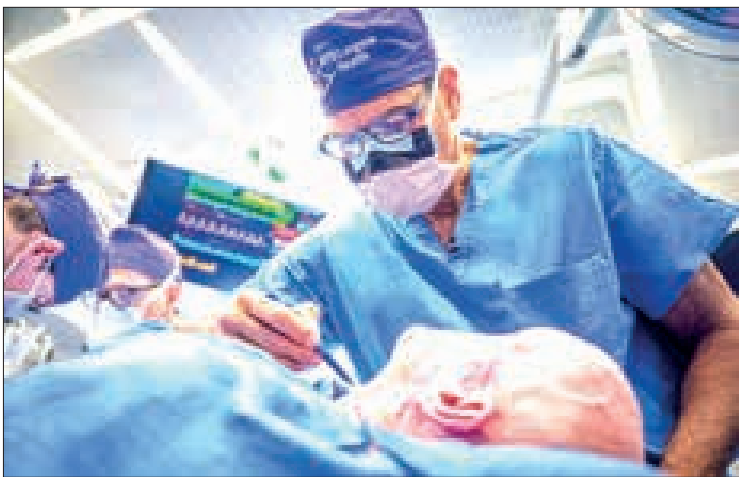
A team of surgeons in New York said Thursday they had performed the world's first transplant of an entire eye in a procedure described as a medical breakthrough, although it isn't yet known whether the patient will actually regain his sight.

The groundbreaking surgery involved removing part of the face and the whole left eye of a donor and grafting them onto the recipient: a 46-year-old line worker who survived a 7,200-volt

electric shock in June 2021 when his face touched a live wire.

Aaron James, 46, suffered extensive injuries including the loss of his left eye, his dominant left arm above the elbow, his entire nose and lips, front teeth, left cheek area and chin down to the bone.

He was referred to NYU Langone Health, a leading medical center for facial reconstruction, which carried out the procedure on 27 May. — AFP



Dr Eduardo Rodriguez operates on Aaron James in the first whole-eye and partial face transplant, at NYU Langone Health in New York. **PHOTO: JOE CARROTTA / NYU / LANGONE HEALTH/AFP**



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan tightened his grip on power after a 2016 coup bid. **PHOTO: HANDOUT / PRESS OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY OF TURKEY/AFP**

Erdogan blasts Türkiye's top court, backs probe into judges

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan criticized the country's highest court, accusing it of repeated mistakes, while defending an unprecedented criminal investigation against its judges.

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Friday accused the country's highest court of making repeated mistakes and defended an unprecedented criminal investigation against its judges.

Türkiye has been teetering on the edge of a judicial crisis due to a bitter clash between the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court of Appeals.

The dispute revolves around jailed lawyer Can Ata-

lay -- one of seven defendants sentenced last year to 18 years in prison as part of a highly controversial trial that also saw the award-winning philanthropist Osman Kavala jailed for life.

The 47-year-old Atalay was allowed to run from jail in May's general election and was elected to parliament as a member of the leftist Workers' Party of Türkiye (TIP).

The Constitutional Court ruled last month that Atalay

enjoyed immunity from prosecution granted to elected lawmakers and ordered the Supreme Court to reverse its earlier decision to keep the lawyer in jail. The Supreme Court this week refused to comply and filed a criminal complaint against Constitutional Court judges who sided with Atalay.

Erdogan broke a two-day silence on the legal standoff by siding firmly with the Supreme Court. — AFP

Israel agrees pauses in fighting but rules out ceasefire



Palestinian families fleeing Gaza City and other parts of northern Gaza walk along a highway. **PHOTO: MAHMUD HAMS/AFP**

Netanyahu said Israeli troops were performing "exceptionally well" in the offensive launched after Hamas fighters poured across the border on 7 October.

ISRAEL has agreed pauses in its offensive in northern Gaza that will allow some civilians to flee heavy fighting, but Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ruled out any broader ceasefire as a "surrender" to Hamas.

US President Joe Biden welcomed the pauses, which formalize an arrangement that has already seen tens of thousands of Palestinians flee devastation in northern Gaza, but also said there was "no possibility" of a

ceasefire.

Netanyahu said Israeli troops were performing "exceptionally well" in the offensive launched after Hamas fighters poured across the border on 7 October, killing 1,400 people, mostly civilians, and taking around 240 hostage.

Vowing to destroy Hamas, Israel retaliated with an aerial bombing and ground offensive that the health ministry in the Hamas-run Gaza Strip says has

killed more than 10,800 people, mostly civilians and many of them children. Netanyahu said Israel does not "seek to govern Gaza".

"We don't seek to occupy it, but we seek to give it and us a better future," he told Fox News.

Tens of thousands of civilians have streamed out of devastated northern Gaza in recent days, with men, women and children clutching meagre possessions as they emerge from the devastated warzone. — AFP

SPORTS

Sri Lanka's parliament asks 'corrupt' cricket board to resign

SRI Lanka's parliament unanimously asked the country's cricket board to resign on Thursday after accusing it of unprecedented corruption involving millions of dollars.

It was the latest development in a crisis involving the cricket board — the richest sporting organization in the bankrupt island country — that came to a head after Sri Lanka's humiliating World Cup defeat by India last week.

The move is not binding but adds to pressure on the board, which the sports minister sacked on Monday only for the Court of Appeal to restore it the following day.

Opposition leader Sajith Premadasa moved a resolution asking Sri Lanka Cricket to step down immediately and the

government agreed in a rare show of unity in the fractured legislature.

"This is a historic resolution that sends a message to the world that Sri Lankan legislators have united to defend cricket and restore the integrity of the game," Premadasa told the cricket-mad country's parliament. "We want the corrupt board to go".

A board source said they would seek legal opinion before reacting to the resolution.

Sports minister Roshan Ranasinghe has accused the board of widespread corruption. He sacked the elected members on Monday and replaced them with an interim committee headed by former skipper Arjuna Ranatunga. — AFP



Sri Lanka's players gather during a practice session on the eve of their Cricket World Cup match against New Zealand at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. **PHOTO: AFP**

Myanmar wins one gold, one silver at 14th World Bodybuilding Championship



MYANMAR grabbed one gold medal and one silver at the 14th World Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championship 2023 which is being held from 6 to 12 November in Seoul, South Korea.

Myanmar's Nyein Chan secured the gold medal by passing the silver medalist from South Korea and the Bronze medalist from India at

the Men's Sports Physique (up to 175 centimetres) Contest. Myanmar's Ye Tun Naung garnered one silver as Viet Nam won one gold and India picked one bronze medal at the 70-kilogramme men's event. About 290 bodybuilders from 48 countries participated in the competition. — Bala Soe/KZL

the Men's Sports Physique (up to 175 centimetres) Contest.

Meanwhile, Myanmar's Ye Tun Naung garnered one silver as Viet Nam won one gold and India picked one bronze medal at the 70-kilogramme men's event. About 290 bodybuilders from 48 countries participated in the competition. — Bala Soe/KZL

Unbeaten Bayern and Leverkusen leave rivals behind early in title race

BAYERN Munich face Heidenheim on Saturday as the promoted side have the unenviable task of trying to stop the momentum of the side already vying with Bayer Leverkusen for this season's Bundesliga title.

Bayern and a skilful Bayer Leverkusen side coached by former Real Madrid and Liverpool midfielder Xabi Alonso head into the weekend as the only remaining unbeaten teams in the league.

Leverkusen, who host struggling Union Berlin on Sunday, head the table with 28 of a possible 30 points, two clear of Bayern in second, with third-placed Stuttgart already five points further back. — AFP

Sleepy Cameron Smith right in the mix at Hong Kong Open

CAMERON Smith said he was "still a bit asleep" after an early start to his second round but roused himself for a share of second place at the Hong Kong Open on Friday.

The 2022 British Open champion, the joint overnight leader in the \$2 million Asian Tour International Series event, carded six birdies against two bogeys for four-under-par 66.

The Australian was alongside South Korea's Bae Sang-moon on 11-under overall at the halfway stage at a sweltering Fanling, a shot behind leader Phachara Khongwatmai of Thailand.

The 30-year-old Smith, one of the biggest names to make the jump to the lucrative Saudi-backed LIV Golf tour, was out for his second round starting at

6:45 am.

"The 3:30 alarm this morning was a little bit much," said Smith, who is chasing victory at Asia's oldest professional golf tournament for the first time.

"The body wasn't quite there this morning, it was probably still a little bit asleep.

"But I managed to do what I really needed to do and go into the weekend with a shot." — AFP



The 30-year-old Smith, one of the biggest names to make the jump to the lucrative Saudi-backed LIV Golf tour, was out for his second round starting at 6:45 am. **PHOTO: AFP**



China's economy ushers in digital transformation

China aims to step up research, development and application of new technologies to make AI more widely utilized in major fields such as agriculture, industry, finance, education and medical services, while also diversifying application scenarios.



People watch robots dancing at the World Internet Science and Technology Museum in Wuzhen, east China's Zhejiang Province, 7 November 2023. **PHOTO: HUANG ZONGZHI/XINHUA**

ONE can get information about physical conditions, advice on diet, and even prescriptions by putting a hand into a small AI-powered instrument for two minutes.

This is not a science fiction scenario, but a real practice demonstrated at the ongoing expo of the 2023 World Internet Conference (WIC) Wuzhen Summit held in east China's Zhejiang Province.

It comes amid the immense progress China has made in digitalization over the past decade. In 2022, China's digital economy had reached 50.2 trillion yuan (about 6.99 trillion US dollars), up from 11 trillion yuan in 2012, said Xia Xueping, head of the Chinese Academy of Cyberspace Studies,

at a press conference during the summit.

By June 2023, China had about 1.08 billion internet users, nearly double the number recorded at the end of 2012. Meanwhile, internet penetration increased to 76.4 per cent from 42.1 per cent during this period.

On the basis of this huge digital com-

munity, internet enterprises thrived in China over the past decade. The number of Chinese internet enterprises listed on the stock market had increased from just over 50 in December 2012 to nearly 160 in June 2023, including internet giants like ByteDance and Pinduoduo, while the scale of leading internet enterprises also

continued to grow.

AI technologies, especially AI foundation models, are developing at a rapid pace and profoundly reshaping both the digital and real worlds. AI is boosting productivity and generating new momentum for the development of various industries in China. — Xinhua

Australia offers Tuvalu citizens climate refuge

Tuvalu faces the threat of two of its coral islands having largely disappeared, with climate scientists expressing concerns that the entire archipelago could become uninhabitable within the next 80 years.



The coastline of Funafuti Atoll, Tuvalu, as seen in February 2004. **PHOTO: EXPEDITION CYCLOPS/HANDOUT/AFP**

CITIZENS of climate-threatened Tuvalu will have the right to live in Australia under a landmark pact unveiled Friday — an offer of refuge as their Pacific homeland is lost beneath the seas.

Prime ministers Kausea Natano and Anthony Albanese inked a treaty to help Tuvalu's 11,000 residents tackle climate change, and to take up sanctuary should the worst fears materialise.

Tuvalu is among the world's most vulnerable nations due to rising sea levels.

Two of Tuvalu's nine coral islands have already largely disappeared under the waves, and climate scientists fear the entire archipelago will be uninhabitable within the next 80 years. — AFP

Samsung to add real-time translation to smartphone model

SAMSUNG Electronics will roll out a real-time call translation service using AI technology next year, the firm told AFP Friday, claiming it would make conversing across languages as easy as "turning on closed captions".

Samsung is among a host of tech companies spending billions in a global artificial intelligence gold rush, which has so far seen chatbots that mimic human speech and software that can generate lifelike images and videos.

The firm, the world's largest smartphone maker, says the new real-time translation feature will be incorporated into its new Galaxy flagship model, which will launch early next year. — AFP