

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Myanmar welcomes almost 0.25 mln intl travellers during 11 months



Exploring the charm of Bagan, visitors enjoy a unique experience as they ride ox-carts, reminiscing about the past year's cultural journey. **PHOTO:XINHUA**

According to the Myanmar Tourism Federation (MTF), a total of 250,000 foreign visitors entered the country during the eleven months of this year. MTF stated that there were

245,000 foreign tourists from January to 22 November this year. As stated on the MTF lists, there were about 12,000 foreign visitors in 2021 and 87,000 in 2022. Among the foreign tourists arriving

in Myanmar, tourists from China and Thailand were the largest amounts, and the number of Thai visitors increased to over 40,000 this year. Guests from China, Thailand, Viet Nam, Cambodia

and other ASEAN countries are reportedly invited for the six-month tourist season starting from October 2023 to March 2024. — TWA/TRKM

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Entrance fee for tourists to increase at Botataung Pagoda

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Relocation of power lines, transformers along Yangon-Pyay Road extension

BUSINESS

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Myanmar's rice export volume drops by half this FY 2023-2024

Myanmar promotes culture, tourism at ASEAN Festival in KL

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar delegates have held an exhibition promoting culture and tourism at the ASEAN Festival 2023 by ASEAN state embassies in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Malaysia's Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture and GenYouth Sdn Bhd jointly organized the festival with four categories: culture, tourism, food and ASEAN Street (an exhibition). It is scheduled from 30 November to 3 December at the LaLaport Bukit Bintang City Centre. Deputy Secretary-General Mr Mohd Yusri bin Yusoff of the Malaysian Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture gave an opening speech at the festival. U Aung Soe Win, Myanmar's Ambassador to Malaysia, ASEAN ambassadors, diplomats and invitees attended the celebration. — ASH/NT

Myanmar showcases works of culture and tourism at the festival.



NATIONAL



Entrance fee for tourists to increase at Botataung Pagoda

THE Botataung Pagoda Board of Trustees has announced that the entrance fees for tourists will be increased starting 1 December.

Previously, the tourist's entrance fee was K10,000, but it will be increased to K15,000

for various situations.

About 100 tourists enter the Botataung Pagoda daily. According to the board of trustees, Vietnamese and Lao tourists are the most. — TWA/MKKS

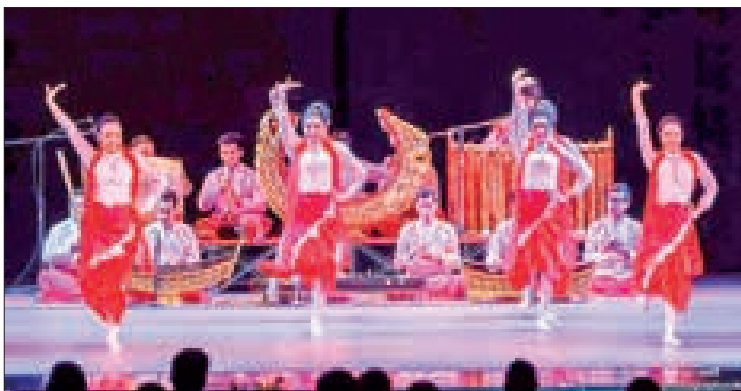
The image captures the elegant entrance sign of the Botataung Pagoda, inviting visitors to delve into the spiritual and historical richness it holds.

Mon State to showcase Mon traditional customs, cultural heritage

ACCORDING to the Mon State government, Mon's traditional customs and cultural heritage of Mon nationality will be displayed and exposed so as not to lose their traditions.

Mon State Chief Minister U Aung Kyi Thein said that the Mon nationality has their own cultures, traditions and traditional customs, and they want to make sure the youths heritage these traditions at the cultural preservation meeting and prevent the loss of the cultural heritage traditions and customs of Mon State. Moreover, he added that cooperation is needed be-

tween Mon ethnic literature and cultural troupes and the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs since all these Mon cultural customs and cultural heritage are a source of pride and treasure for Mon youths. There will reportedly be cooperation with the Mon State government, the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs, the National University of Arts and Culture, and the ethnic, literature and cultural troupes to improve the knowledge of the Mon youths and to be widely known of Mon traditional cultures, ancient traditions and beliefs among the citizens. — ASH/TRKM



A Mon cultural troupe is performing its traditional dance.

800,000+ domestic tourists enjoy Taunggyi Tazaungdine Festival 2023

U Htin Aung Naing, director of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism (Shan State), expressed that over 800,000 local visitors from all over the country enjoyed Taunggyi Tazaungdine Festival

among local and foreign visitors and is the most visited festival

the southern part of the Shan state, Taunggyi, Kalaw, Pintaya, and Inlay. Fifteen 25-foot-height hot-air balloons, 23 twenty-two-foot-height hot-air balloons and 25 eighteen-foot-height Seinnapan



One of the beautiful hot-air balloons at Taunggyi Tazaungdine Festival.

2023 in Shan State.

The traditional Taunggyi Tazaungdine Festival was scheduled from 21 November to 27 November, and the festival took place at Awayya hot-air balloon compound in Taunggyi. The Taunggyi Tazaungdine Festival is fa-

of the year.

There were over 800,000 local visitors from various regions of the country this year, and the hot-air balloon festival was more like an entertainment show than a competition. Shan State is the most visited place in Myanmar, especially from

hot-air balloons competed in the Taunggyi Tazaungdine hot-air balloons competition. There are over 400 hotels, motels, and guesthouses, and 337 are currently running. The southern part of the Shan State has visitors throughout the year. — ASH/TRKM

Daily newspapers available online

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NATIONAL

DPM MoD UM focuses on Bagan heritage renovation, effective cultural preservation

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San attended the seventh meeting of the Myanmar National Cultural Central Committee and the 2/2023 meeting of the Leading Committee on Renovation of Cultural Heritage in Bagan's World Heritage Site in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Admiral, in his capacity as Chairman of the Leading Committee, addressed the 2/2023 meeting, and the Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee, members of the committee, and relevant departmental officials discussed the renovation of cultural heritage sites in Bagan's World Heritage Site.

The first phase of renovating religious edifices, including 388 earthquake-hit stupas and

temples in Bagan, was completed, except for Thatbyinnyu Pagoda. In contrast, the first phase of the emergency renovation of Thatbyinnyu Pagoda was also completed with the help of China.

Moreover, the systematic renovation works were conducted on 229 stupas and temples that were hit by earthquakes in 2016, floods in 2021 and Mocha.

Similarly, surveys were also conducted on 15 ancient temples that were not flooded after Mocha, and plans are underway to install lightning conductors at eleven ancient buildings.

The government signed a MoU with China to renovate Thatbyinnyu Pagoda and another with SAI (Archaeological Survey of India) to renovate 92 ancient buildings under a 10-



The seventh meeting of the Myanmar National Cultural Central Committee and the 2/2023 meeting of the Leading Committee on Renovation of Cultural Heritage in Bagan's World Heritage Site in progress yesterday.

year plan from 2018-2028.

At the seventh meeting of the Myanmar National Cultural Central Committee, the Admi-

ral highlighted the conservation of 48 ancient heritage sites, the supervision of ancient places, buildings, and materials not

disappearing and the adequate protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritages. — ASH/KTZH

70-year-old man won K500 mln at 57th Aungbarlay Lottery



K500 million lottery winner U Win Aung with his jackpot lottery tickets.

A 70-year-old man named U Win Aung, who resides in Yangon, won K500 million at the

57th Aungbarlay Lottery with Gagyi-234598.

Similarly, the other grand prizes, the K200 million lottery, were won by Kha-464483 and the K100 million lottery by Hsa-356896, respectively, according to the Aungbarlay Lottery Department. The K500 million lottery winner, U Win Aung, bought the 10-ticket lottery pack from the Khaing Shwewah lottery outlet. On 30 November, the Internal Revenue Department of the Ministry of Planning and Finance stated that K5,680 million was obtained from sale of Aungbarlay lottery tickets, and the

sale proceeds of K3,900 billion were shared as prizes. The sale proceeds of Aungbarlay lottery tickets were K6,200 billion during October, and November ticket sales were K500 billion less than in October. The Internal Revenue Department also stated that they award one K500 million prize, one K200 million prize and one K100 million as the grand prizes of the lottery, and they will change the numbers of other prizes. Moreover, the Aungbarlay Online Lottery was reportedly opened on 1 December separately. — TWA/TRKM

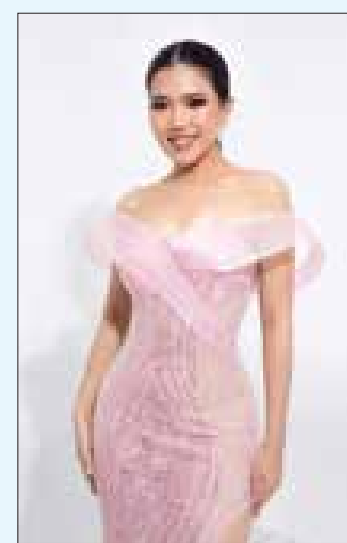
Kyi Phyu Khin wins Miss Popularity Award of Miss Cosmo World 2023

KYI Phyu Khin, who represented Myanmar, won the Miss Popularity Award of the Miss Cosmo World 2023 pageant held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 15 to 29 November.

A total of 30 International Misses joined the competition.

"I am proud to represent Myanmar for the first time in the seven-year Pageant Journey. Since the Top 5 Finalists from all countries were selected at once, I could not enter the Top 5 Finalists list, but I could win the Miss Popularity Award with the votes given by the fans in Myanmar. Thank you to everyone who voted. If there is another opportunity, I will try and compete again," said Miss Kyi Phyu Khin.

The USA won the Miss



Recipient of Miss Popularity Award.

Cosmo World 2023 Winner Award, the Philippines grabbed the 1st Runner-Up, and Ukraine secured the 2nd Runner-Up of the event.

The Myanmar Miss will return to Myanmar on 4 December. — ASH/KZL

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 increasing of death rate based on the disease.

NATIONAL

MIC greenlights three industrial, agri investments



Myanmar Investment Commission holds the meeting 5/2023 yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

MYANMAR Investment Commission approved three new investments in the industrial and agricultural sectors at the meeting 5/2023 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Their combined investment capital is US\$0.18 million and K313 billion, and they are expected to create 744 jobs. Agricultural businesses, a priority of the MIC, were also included at yesterday's meeting.

Among 52 regions and countries invested in Myanmar, Singapore, China, and Thailand are the most prominent investors as of October.

Energy dominates investment among 12 sectors, commanding 28.49 per cent of total investment capital, followed by oil and gas (24.44 per cent) and industry (14.39 per cent).

State Administration Council member Deputy Prime Minister MIC Chairman General Mya Tun Oo and commission members attended the meeting.

MIC is tasked with scrutinizing and permitting investment proposals and supporting existing investors in line with the Investment Law. — MNA/NT

Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) warships depart Myanmar

THE warships of the 44th PLA Navy Escort Task Group (ETG), which are on a goodwill visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, namely the destroyer Zi Bo, the frigate Jing Zhou and the replenishment warship Qian Dao Hu, left Yangon's Thilawa port yesterday afternoon, seen off by officials.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) military officers aboard these warships

visited the Tatmadaw vessel (Kyansitha) on 30 November.

When the Chinese military officers arrived in Myanmar, they visited the famous places in Yangon and competed in China-Myanmar friendly sports competitions.

They also donated stationery to a school in Thanlyin Township and conducted maritime security exercises with Tatmadaw. — MNA/KZL



Chinese PLA naval vessels leave Yangon's Thilawa Port yesterday.

Counter-argument to false information

Fake News Alert: 500 servicemen from Meiktila air base march to northern Shan State debunked



Screenshot validates misinformation.

FALSE news that 500 troops from Meiktila air base in Mandalay Region have planned to march to northern Shan State has been

spread on social media pages by Mekong Media, according to the State Administration Council's statement on 1 December.

The statement further said such false information intends to dishearten Tatmadaw members protecting the country and people's lives and property, disgrace Tatmadaw, and mislead the public.

Moreover, these malicious media outlets, which intend to disturb the country and incite terror acts, have also attempted to mislead civil service personnel who are carrying out the duties of the government and the people who want to live peacefully, affirmed the statement.—Thit Taw/ZS

Reports of landmines in North Okkalapa BEHS 3 confirmed as false information



Screenshot validates a fabricated story.

YANGON Khit Thit Media is spreading fake news on social networking sites, saying that security forces hiding in Basic Education High School No 3, North Okkalapa, were attacked with three landmines at 7 pm on 30 November.

Regarding the news, when officials contacted the administrative officials of the relevant township, they said that there was no mine explosion in the school, that the military had entered and that it was false information.

The media that support terrorism are only creating and distributing false news and misinformation to disrupt the peace and stability of the country. — MNA/KZL

NATIONAL

MIFER Union Minister receives President of Aquarius Company



The group documentary photo capturing the call yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw received the delegation led by Mr Vladimir Stepanov, President (head of the delegation) of Aquarius Company, yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw. Both sides discussed the opportunities for investment promotion and cooperation in digital transformation in Myanmar, the digital economy, and

the information technology sectors. The deputy minister and the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations senior officials also attended the meeting. — MNA

Depression News, No 2, 2023 1 December 2023 19:00 MST Today

Depression

According to the observations at (17:30) hrs MST today, the depression over Southeast Bay and adjoining Southwest Bay of Bengal moved West-Northwestwards. It is centred at about (760) Nautical miles West of Kawthaung, (525) Nautical miles West-Southwest of Coco Island (Myanmar), (375) Nautical miles East-Southeast of Puducherry, (380) Nautical miles East-Southeast of Chennai, (445) Nautical miles Southeast of Nellore and (480) Nautical miles South-Southeast of Machilipatnam (India). It is not moving towards Myanmar coasts, the present stage of the Depression is coded yellow stage.

Position of Depression, centre pressure and wind

The Depression is located at Latitude (9.6) degree North

and Longitude (85.7) degree East, centre pressure of Deep Depression is (1000)hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is (30) miles per hour at (17:30) hrs MST today.

During next (96) hrs forecast

The Depression is likely continue to move West-Northwestwards and may further intensify into a Deep Depression on (2.12.2023) and Cyclonic Storm over Southwest Bay of Bengal on (3.12.2023). Thereafter, it may move Northwestwards and reach near South Andhra Pradesh and adjoining North Tamil Nadu coasts, India on (4.12.2023). Thereafter, it may move nearly Northwards almost parallel to South Andhra Pradesh coast and cross Andhra Pradesh between Nellore and Machilipatnam, India on (5.12.2023). — DMH

ACC Chairman-led delegation attends 19th Principals Meeting of ASEAN Parties Against Corruption

MYANMAR delegation led by Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Sit Aye attended the first day of the 19th Principals Meeting of ASEAN Parties Against Corruption (ASEAN-PAC) held in Laos on 29 November.

At the meeting, Chairman of the Laos State Inspection Authority (SIA) Mr Khamphanh Phommathath, served as patron and approved the meeting minutes of the 18th ASEAN PAC meeting.

Then, the former chair country, Cambodia, discussed their one-year activity. Other member countries clarified the cooperation to implement the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and fight against corruption, and the UNODC regional representative coordinated the discussion.

The ACC Chairman talked



Chairman U Sit Aye of the Anti-Corruption Commission poses for the documentary group picture at the meeting held in Laos on 29 November.

about the public awareness campaigns on anti-corruption, measures to raise public participation, holding of workshops on integrity enhancement in government and private sectors, international cooperation, promotion of youth

participation in anti-corruption operations through the integrity talk shows and edutainment programmes, release of integrity and ethic reference journals, formation of Corruption Prevention Unit (CPU) with the cooperation

of region/state governments, Public Feedback Programme (PFP), investigation to receive back State budget, drafting of informant protection law and international cooperation works.

The ACC of Myanmar and

SIA of Laos signed an MoU on anti-corruption on the same morning. Similarly, the Chairman of ACC met Chairman of SIA Laos and Deputy Secretary-General Mr Prateep Juthasron of Thailand's National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC). Then, the Myanmar delegates attended the dinner hosted by the SIA Chairman of Laos.

The second-day meeting continued on 30 November, and the event discussed the ASEAN-PAC E-Booklet and proposed title for the 2024 ASEAN-PAC workshop.

Then, the KPK of Indonesia that received the 2024 Chairmanship discussed the successful holding of the meeting and approved the lists of officials to ASEAN-PAC. — MNA/KTZH

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NATIONAL



Capturing the moment: Documentary group photo of the workshop held on 30 November 2023.

Indo Agri-Food & Feed exhibition to take place in India

THE workshop for organizing the Indo Agri-Food & Feed, which will be set from 8 to 10 January 2024 in Chennai, India, was held at Chatrium Hotel in Yangon on 30 November.

The meeting was attended by Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Shri Vinay Kumar Ji, joint general secretaries of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry

(UMFCCI), and respective officials and guests.

The workshop focused on the production and productivity of mung beans to be expanded in Myanmar when India is buying a large number of mung beans, rice and agricultural produce, increase in purchasing of agricultural produce from Myanmar.

By attending the Mega Agri-Food Trade Show, which

will be held in Chennai, the chambers from Myanmar will get good contacts with buyers in India and will be able to export more. As there is already a direct flight to Chennai two times a week, the cost will be lower because there is no need to go through another city, and Kyat-Rupee payments will reportedly be convenient in tradings. — MNA/MKKS

Relocation of power lines, transformers along Yangon-Pyay Road extension

YANGON Electricity Supply Corporation is reportedly relocating power lines and transformers that are not free from the Yangon-Pyay Road extension.

As part of the Yangon-Pyay Road extension project, the Insein Township 33 kV power line, ten miles-YCDC 12 miles power line, 6.6 kV highway reserved power line, and 315 kVA transformer that distributes power to Nathagon Ward are undergoing relocation by the township electrical engineer and staff, under the supervision of the Yangon City Development Committee

and Northern District Yangon Electricity Corporation.

Additionally, it is essential to ensure the robustness of transformers for a continuous power supply. Regular cleaning and maintenance contribute to preventing malfunctions and ensuring the cleanliness and beauty of the surroundings. This approach helps decrease power loss, enhance safety by addressing electrical hazards, improve power distribution, and allow efficient inspection and repair of transformers during scheduled group turn-off times. — TWA/KZW



The photo shows the Yangon-Pyay Road extension during relocation and construction of power lines and transformers that are not free from the road.

Japanese firms to recruit over 800 Myanmar workers

THE Myanmar Embassy to Japan announced on 30 November that over 800 Myanmar workers will be recruited.

The embassy verified 288 demand letters from 16 to 30 November. The Myanmar Embassy is also verifying with a labour company whether the companies and factories recruiting Myanmar workers are legally established in Japan.

The remarks and findings on those verifications will be returned to the Ministry of Labour via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Japanese companies sent 313 job offers in early November to recruit 360 men and 460 women. — TWA/TRKM

Newly harvested pigeon peas fetch K90,000 per basket in Magway



THE freshly harvested pigeon pea is offered at K90,000 per basket in the Magway Region with an advance purchase deal.

The pigeon pea was cultivated in mid-2023 and is expected to enter the market in December. The markets of regions outside Yangon see advanced purchase offers these days.

The Yangon market experienced a sudden price drop to K3.1 million per tonne on 1 December from K3.25 million per tonne on 29 November.

Pigeon pea price hit a record high of K4.15 million per tonne on 8 September. Nearly three months later, the price is down by K1.05 million per tonne. Similarly, the FOB prices dipped to US\$1,150-1,170 per tonne in

December up from \$1,350-1,370 on 4 November. Pigeon pea is a weather-resilient crop compared to black gram. It is a lucrative crop with a high yield. It is harvested after seven to eight months of cultivation. It is commonly grown in the tropical area.

New pigeon peas from the Kyaukpadaung area will soon flood the Mandalay market, U Ye Moe, a commodity depot owner from Mandalay, told the GNLN. Old pigeon pea is barely traded in the Mandalay market at present. The local consumption of pigeon peas is meagre and designated for export markets, primarily India.

India imports pigeon peas (tur) from African countries and Myanmar. — TWA/KK

Pigeon peas seen being organized for sale in the market.

Myanmar braces for fuel price jump on 1 December

THE fuel price spikes occurred on 1 December 2023, indicating a sharp rise of K340 per litre for Octane 92 and 95 within one day.

Fuel prices were K2,170 per litre of Octane 92 and K2,300 for Octane 95 on 30 November. Then, the prices rebounded slightly to K2,510 per litre of Octane 92 and K2,640 Octane 95 on 1 December.

Despite the rapid upside moves of Octane, diesel prices showed only a tiny increase to K2,210 per litre of diesel and K2,305 per litre of premium diesel on 1 December from K2,200 for diesel and K2,290 for premium diesel registered on 30 November.

The price index set by Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS), the pricing basis for many refined products in southeast Asia, is



A petrol station staff seen refuelling a car in Yangon.

closely tied to the domestic fuel prices, according to the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

Last August 2022, the oil prices hit the highest of K2,605 per litre for Octane 92, K2,670 for Octane 95, K3,330 for premium diesel and K3,245 for diesel.

The committee has been, therefore, steering the fuel oil storage and distribution sector effectively so as not to have a shortage of oil in the domestic market. It has been issuing daily reference prices to ensure price stability for energy consumers.

The committee is inspecting the fuel stations to see whether they are overcharging. The authorities are taking action against those retailers of fuel stations under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law 2017 if they are found soaking rather than the set reference rate.

As per the statement, 90 per cent of fuel oil in Myanmar is imported, while the remaining 10 per cent is produced locally. The domestic fuel price is highly cor-

related with international prices. The State is steering the market to mitigate the loss between the importers, sellers and energy consumers. Consequently, the government is trying to distribute the oil at a reasonable price compared to those of regional countries.

Some countries levied higher tax rates and hiked oil prices than Myanmar's. However, Malaysia's oil sector receives government subsidies, and the prices are about 60 per cent cheaper than those of Myanmar. Every country lays down different patterns of policy to fix the oil prices. Myanmar also levies only a lower tax rate on fuel oil and strives for energy consumers to buy the oil at a cheaper rate. — NN/EM

UMFCCI, Yunnan delegates discuss to bolster bilateral trade, investment

PRESIDENT U Aye Win of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and officials concerned met the delegation led by Mr Fan Tao, Deputy Director-General of the Yunnan Provincial Investment Promotion Bureau, regarding investment and trade promotion between Myanmar and China on 29 November at the UMFCCI headquarter. The UMFCCI has been inviting foreign investors to accelerate the private sector's economic growth and contribute to the State's economic development.

In addition to cross-border trade, collaborations to boost bilateral investments, smooth transactions through Yuan-Kyat direct payment in trading, direct access of trucks at borders to facilitate freight forwarding, smooth export of agricultural produce to China and finding out ways to ensure an uninterrupted flow of production and trade to maintain machines and equipment were highlighted during the meeting.

Furthermore, Yunnan delegates also addressed their willingness to invest in the borders of Myanmar, Laos, and Viet Nam and to bolster bilateral investment through collaborative works in construction, garments, and commerce. — NN/EM

Myanmar's rice export volume drops by half this FY 2023-2024

DROP in Myanmar's rice export as of 13 October in the current financial year 2023-2024 beginning 1 April closed to half of the volume recorded in the corresponding period last FY 2022-2023, as per the Ministry of Commerce.

The value of Myanmar's rice and broken rice exports totalled US\$246.114 million from over 535,508 tonnes over the past seven months this FY, comprising 270,226 tonnes of rice worth \$138.247 million and 265,281 tonnes of broken rice worth \$107.867 million, as per Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

Myanmar exported over 973,336 tonnes of rice and broken rice worth \$343.216 million during the year-ago period, including 570,583 tonnes of rice worth \$211.411 million and 402,753 tonnes of broken rice worth \$131.805 million.

Over the past seven months, the rice export figures showed a significant drop of over 300,356 tonnes of rice (\$73.164 million) and 137,471 tonnes of broken rice (\$23.938 million) compared to last FY.

Cross-border trade with China is suspended for now under the inevitable circumstances. Subsequently, rice exports at the border drastically dropped. At present, rice export is reliant only on seaborne trade, rice traders emphasized.



Export rice sacks being loaded onto the vessel at Yangon Port.

Starting 1 March 2023, 65 per cent of income from rice exports through the border has to be exchanged at the reference rate (K2,100) set by the Central Bank of Myanmar.

Earlier, exporters were allowed to use the whole export income (foreign currency) and did not need to convert them into Kyat at the CBM's reference rate.

This action came into force for all rice and rice products exports starting from 1 March 2023 to influence the

policy on export items equally, which is the same policy for seaborne trade, the Trade Department notified.

Following this directive, cross-border rice exports plunged.

Nonetheless, the CBM eased the foreign currency rules to 50 per cent for exporters on 13 July 2023. The exporters stressed that it still hurt them.

Myanmar aims to achieve 2.5 million tonnes of rice export in the current FY, bagging \$1 billion. — NN/EM

OPINION

Create chances for patients with HIV/AIDS to pass lifespans happily

CREATING opportunities for individuals living with HIV/AIDS to lead fulfilling lives is a shared responsibility that demands both compassion and understanding. When encountering someone affected by AIDS, the question arises: will one respond with loving-kindness or ignorance? Regardless of the approach, these expressions reveal the depths of our hearts and souls, shaping the reflection of our relations.

Individuals with HIV or AIDS are not fundamentally different from others in society. While their struggle with HIV/AIDS is evident, it is crucial to recognize that people of all ages unavoidably contend with one or more diseases throughout their lifespans. Understanding that every human is a victim of diseases is essential,

fostering a perspective that transcends discrimination based on health conditions.

Discrimination should have no place in human interactions, and individuals should communicate with each other without bias, irrespective of the specific disease, whether it be HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB, diabetes, or hypertension. Beyond the challenges of illness, fostering amicable associations grounded in patience and tolerance is key to building a harmonious society.

Annually, on 1 December, the global community observes World AIDS Day, a day of unity to express support for those living with and affected by HIV. It also serves as a time to remember those who lost their lives to AIDS. The belief is that the world can conquer AIDS, with communities at the forefront of progress. Organizations representing communities living

with, at risk of, or affected by HIV play a vital role in connecting individuals with person-centred public health services, building trust, innovating, monitoring policy implementation, and holding providers accountable.

The theme for World AIDS Day 2023 is "Let communities lead." UNAIDS data on the global HIV response highlights a concerning slowdown in progress during the last two years due to the impact of COVID-19 and other global crises. Resources have diminished, putting millions of lives at risk. Practical action is necessary, with a collective effort required to defy HIV/AIDS and combat it with potent drugs, thereby saving lives and extending lifespans.

This collective endeavour will contribute to a society that is not only pleasant but filled with hope and expectation. Every individual must extend a helping hand to those with HIV/AIDS, guided by compassion, empathy, and sympathy. Creating opportunities for these individuals to pass their remaining lifespans happily requires encouragement and contributions from the entire community.

THE earliest recorded evidence of cancer in human history was found in ancient Egypt. The Edwin Smith Papyrus, dated around 1600 BCE, describes cases of tumours and provides rudimentary explanations for their information and potential treatments. It wasn't until the 19th century that significant advancements in cancer detection and effective treatments were not made.

In the 21st century, advancements in medical technology and research have led to earlier detection and more effective treatment options; however, cancer is still a major threat.

Many scientists say that we are winning the war against cancer. It is partially true because cancer treatments are better, and five-year survival rate is higher. An exception is that the truth is for the early stages of cancer. In late stage cancer patients, the mortality rate is still higher when using the most effective treatments. At present, new treatment modalities, including precision medicine, gene therapy and immunotherapies, hold promise for improved outcomes and quality of life for patients, but most treatments are expensive and not affordable at the grassroots level.

The incidence of cancer is a significant global health concern. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there were approximately 19.3 million new cases worldwide in 2020. The number is predicted to rise to nearly 29.5 million new cases by 2040. Whatever the latest treatment options emerge, getting a long-term high survival rate might be a challenge because cancer cells are changed from our own body cells, and the root cause of change is challenging to find. There are many factors that affect the change of normal cells into cancer cells. We can't entirely prevent cancer, but we can manage to lessen the effects of those factors by doing anti-cancer action plans. In this way, the cancer morbidity rate may be reduced. Reducing morbidity is a better approach.

How? Factor: obesity

Worldwide, obesity rates have nearly trebled since 1975, particularly in developed countries. But the rate is also increasing in developing countries which are getting better economies and adopting western style diets. World Health Organization said in its 2016 statistics that 1.9 billion adults were overweight with a body mass index (BMI) of 25 or more, and 650 million of those individuals were considered obese with a BMI of 30 or greater.

When a sedentary lifestyle coupled with a Westernized diet rich in sugars, carbohydrates and processed foods, waistlines are wreaking havoc, and overall health is weaker. Being overweight or obese significantly increases the risk of heart disease, stroke, diabetes, osteoarthritis and certain cancers, including breast, colon, kidney, endometrial, ovarian, gall bladder, prostate and liver cancers.



A healthy eating style includes consuming vegetables, particularly leafy greens, to boost gut bacteria, while avoiding sugar and processed foods, and opting for dark chocolate or low-glycemic fruits. **ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY**

Let's do an anti-cancer action plan

By Saya Norm

New treatment modalities like precision medicine, gene therapy, and immunotherapies promise improved patient outcomes and quality of life, but are often expensive and not accessible at the grassroots level.

Solution: modified ketogenic diet

Following a modified ketogenic diet similar to what our ancestors ate is the answer. A low-carb, moderate protein, higher-in-fat (Ketogenic diet) can help fight cancer and various other chronic diseases. This dietary approach works because it cuts off glucose, which cancer cells require to survive. This is an integral part of the battle.

First, we must eliminate or severely restrict sugar, added sugar and processed foods from our diet. Focus instead on lean (if possible) non-GMO and organic protein sources such as fish and chicken with plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables and healthy fats (e.g. nuts, seeds).

If the patient has difficulty in swallowing and digestion, all the ingredients should be crushed in a blender before taking.

Rainbow foods, which mean different-coloured foods, are better options to get as many nutrients and phytonutrients for natural cancer prevention and treatment. Fresh, natu-

ral and unprocessed foods are healthy choices.

Factor: sedentary lifestyle

One of the culprits of cancer is long time sitting. In other words, a sedentary lifestyle. It has become an alarming trend in cancer aetiology.

In a recent study, researchers conducted treadmill stress testing on over 100,000 people between 1991 and 2014. One of the researchers in this study concluded, "Being unfit on a treadmill or in an exercise stress test has a worse prognosis, as far as death, than being hypertensive, being diabetic, or being a current smoker".

In short, sitting for prolonged periods and being inactive may be more likely to kill us than smoking. And the more in shape we are, the better. Lack of physical activity also contributes to worldwide obesity and cancer risk. Being too sedentary, which includes watching TV, using the internet on a phone or computer, and sitting for hours at home or work increases the risk

of endometrial, colon and lung cancer.

Solution: more movement

It seems easy, but a person who is used to a long time of inactivity may encounter difficulties in getting more exercise. That is why slow incorporation of movement into day-to-day activities is more suitable for such a person. You don't have to worry about that. There are some options.

- you can get up and walk around or march in place during commercials while watching TV.
- you can do heel-raising exercises while brushing your teeth.
- you can walk around while on the phone instead of sitting.
- you can use your body weight to do standing push-ups leaning against the bathroom or kitchen counter.

Factor: A disrupted microbiome

Imbalances in the body's microbiome are

linked to health concerns, from obvious ones such as gastrointestinal issues to lesser known ones like allergies, diabetes, autoimmune diseases, weight gain, cognitive disorders and depressed immune system. Less active and disordered immune system may cause frequent infections and even cancer.

Imbalances, including those in the gut, disrupt hormones or balance in the body, leading to inflammation and free-radical damage to cells. The cell damage affects both the DNA inside the cells and the RNA, a type of molecule that the body uses to make proteins.

And also it reduces the efficiency of the cell's energy factories, the mitochondria.

When the mitochondria are damaged and are no longer functioning properly, cells in the body require an alternative form of "fuel", sugar. This cycle of burning sugar for energy may damage all the body's systems. It harms healthy cells and feeds malignant cells.

Solution: Keep a healthy eating style

A healthy eating style means keeping ways to bolster good gut bacteria and starve bad ones. Eating plenty of vegetables, particularly fibre-rich leafy greens may enhance good bacteria population in the gut. At the same time, you must cut out sugar and processed foods. Instead, you can choose dark chocolate or low-glycemic fruits for some nature-made sweetness.

If those attempts are not sufficient, you have to think about taking a high-quality probiotic supplement. These supplements are afraid of antibiotics. So, use antibiotics when it is necessary by doctor's order. During your antibiotic course, you should balance it by taking a probiotic at a different time of day to help the gut flora that antibiotics kill. You should also incorporate prebiotic foods in your diet, such as onion, garlic, nuts and seeds, which are nutrients for different kinds of probiotics. And you should consider fermented foods that feed good gut bacteria.

Factor: Stress

Stress does not directly cause cancer. However, when we experience stress, our body releases stress hormones such as cortisol and adrenaline, which can have a significant impact on our immune system and inflammatory response. Chronic inflammation and a weakened immune system may be less effective in fighting off cancer cells or other harmful substances. Additionally, stress may offset the functionality of certain cells and DNA repair processes, potentially contributing to the development or progression of cancer.

Solution: self-care

We can reduce stress and anxiety through meditation, massage, diet and supplements. Self-care, calmness-promoting activities and treatments may be our arsenal to reduce stress in our lives.

Factor: environmental pollutants

Pollutants are substances or agents

present in the environment that have harmful or damaging effects on living organisms, ecosystems, or the overall environment. These substances can be introduced into the air, water, or soil through human activities or natural processes.

Pollutants can take various forms, including gases, particles, liquids, or solids, and they can originate from industrial processes, transport, agriculture, waste disposal, and other sources. The relationship between pollutants and cancer is a recognized concern. Exposure to certain pollutants has been linked to an increased risk of developing cancer.

Various pollutants can have different mechanisms of action and may affect different parts of the body.

“Imbalances in the body's microbiome are linked to health concerns, from obvious ones such as gastrointestinal issues to lesser known ones like allergies, diabetes, autoimmune diseases, weight gain, cognitive disorders and depressed immune system. Less active and disordered immune system may cause frequent infections and even cancer.

Solution: reduce exposure and detox

It is important to note that the risk of developing cancer due to pollutant exposure depends on various factors, including the duration and intensity of exposure, individual susceptibility, and the presence of other risk factors (e.g., smoking, genetic predisposition). We can't totally avoid the pollutants in our environment. The best way to reduce the danger of environmental pollutants is to minimize the exposure. We can choose organic or less pesticide-contaminated vegetables. We can use natural products other than insect-killing chemicals to repel mosquitoes. We can clean bathroom floors and ceramic tiles with natural materials. We can use fewer plastic containers to store our food. And also we must make rules and regulations to reduce pollution of public concerns and follow them.

For toxic substances which may enter our bodies, exceeding preventive measures is to detox. There are herbs, vegetables, fruits and supplements to support detoxification. In some cases, we can take chelation therapies under the guidance of relative professionals.

By practising lifestyle medicine, it is sure to minimize cancer risk.

SCI/ENVIRON WORLD

Climate and Gaza crises share spotlight as world leaders attend COP28

WORLD leaders take centre stage at UN climate talks in Dubai on Friday, under pressure to step up efforts to limit global warming as the Israel-Hamas conflict casts a shadow over the summit.

The COP28 conference kicked off on Thursday with an early victory as nations agreed to launch a “loss and damage” fund for vulnerable countries devastated by natural disasters.

But delegates face two weeks of tough negotiations on an array of issues that have long bedevilled climate talks, starting with the future of fossil fuels.

The sense of urgency was heightened by a UN warning that 2023 is on track to become the hottest year on record, raising fears the world will not meet the goal of limiting warming to

COP28 conference begins with nations agreeing to launch a “loss and damage” fund for natural disaster-damaged countries, but faces tough negotiations on climate issues, including fossil fuel future.



More than 140 kings, presidents and prime ministers will address the COP28 climate talks. **PHOTO: AFP**

1.5 degrees Celsius.

“Now the real work only begins,” the oil-rich UAE’s COP28 president Sultan Al Jaber said on Thursday.

“I will be rolling up my sleeves myself, engaging and helping address this challenge and delivering real, actionable results,” Jaber said, though he claimed there was “positivity” and an “optimistic” vibe following the loss and damage announcement.

Jaber, who heads the UAE’s national oil firm ADNOC, said the “role of fossil fuels” must be included at the UN’s climate talks.

Activists, countries hardest hit by climate impacts and UN chief Antonio Guterres have called for a phase out of fossil fuels, which are responsible for three quarters of greenhouse gas emissions. — AFP

Canadian mining firm seeks to suspend 7,000 workers in Panama

CANADIAN firm First Quantum Minerals on Thursday asked Panama’s government to suspend the contracts of some 7,000 workers at Central America’s biggest copper mine, due to be closed under a court ruling.

The company said it had been forced to halt production after road blockades which cut off essential supplies and “has also affected our ability to maintain work activities on site”.

It has therefore asked the ministry of labor to suspend the contracts of some 7,000 employees, First Quantum said in a statement. This would allow it to stop paying wages.

The mine workers’ union asked the ministry to reject the company’s request.

On Tuesday, Panama’s Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional a contract awarded to First Quantum. — AFP



First Quantum Minerals says it is suspending operations of its Core Panama mine, 120 kilometres west of Panama City, because it was being blocked from exporting copper abroad. **PHOTO: LUIS ACOSTA/AFP**

Penguins snatch 11 hours of sleep through seconds-long micronaps

The authors of a Science paper suggest that flightless birds may have developed this trait due to their constant need for vigilance.

IN humans, nodding off for a few seconds is a clear sign of insufficient sleep — and can be dangerous in some situations, such as when driving a car.

But a new study published on Thursday finds chinstrap penguins snooze thousands of times per day, accumulating their daily sleep requirement of more than 11 hours in short bursts averaging just four seconds.

The flightless birds might have evolved this trait because of their need to remain constantly vigilant, according to the authors of the paper in *Science*.

The researchers argued that the findings show, contrary to prior assumptions, the benefits of sleep can accrue incrementally, at least in some species.



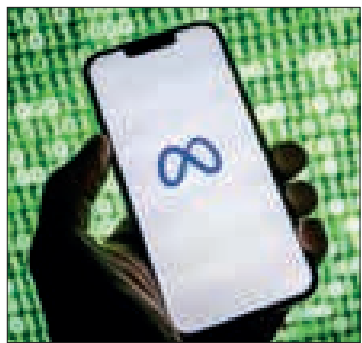
Chinstrap penguins (*Pygoscelis antarcticus*), named for the thin black band of plumage that extends from ear to ear, may be the most abundant species of penguin. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Chinstrap penguins (*Pygoscelis antarcticus*), named for the thin black band of plumage that extends from ear to ear, may be the most abundant species of penguin. Their cur-

rent population is estimated at nearly eight million breeding pairs that are found mainly on the Antarctic Peninsula and South Atlantic Ocean islands. — AFP

Meta sues US regulator to stop privacy settlement change

Facebook, a Silicon Valley tech giant, argued that the Federal Trade Commission's structure violated the US Constitution, making its proceeding against Meta unlawful.



The 2020 privacy order required Facebook to pay a \$5 billion civil penalty, expand children's privacy protections and have an independent third party assess the effectiveness of its efforts. **PHOTO: AFP**

META filed a lawsuit late Wednesday arguing that US regulators planning to change the terms of a 2020 privacy settlement are overstepping their authority and should be stopped.

The Silicon Valley tech giant, known as Facebook when the \$5 billion settlement was made, said that aspects of the Federal

Trade Commission's very structure violate the US Constitution, making its proceeding against Meta unlawful.

Meta contended in a filing to a federal court in the US capital that the situation amounted to it being "subjected to an illegitimate proceeding led by an illegitimate decision maker".

The FTC in-house actions make it both prosecutor and judge, denying Meta due process under the law and usurping the power of the courts, the company argued in its filing.

In May the agency proposed changes to its 2020 privacy order with Facebook, accusing the company of failing to live up to the terms.

"Facebook has repeatedly violated its privacy promises," FTC's bureau of consumer protection director Samuel Levine said in a release at the time.

"Facebook needs to answer for its failures." — AFP

Amsterdam ramps up campaign to turn away rowdy tourists

Amsterdam plans to increase its campaign to discourage hard partying tourists, introducing cultural activities and new perspectives on the city next year, following limited success with its first attempt.



The new online campaign aims to show a different side of Amsterdam. **PHOTO: AFP**

AMSTERDAM has announced plans to ramp up its campaign to shoo away hard partying tourists, with a first effort launched earlier this year meeting with limited success.

The Dutch capital said it will launch a new campaign next year, asking annual visitors to look at the city with "new eyes" and introducing other cultural activities, rather than the usual boozy pub crawls and

visits to cannabis cafes.

"In recent years, Amsterdam has acquired the image of a city where 'anything goes' for many people at home and abroad," the city said in a statement.

Many bawdy visitors sought only "sensation and vulgar entertainment" and felt they could behave in a way that broke the rules, the city said on Tuesday.

"They do not pay attention to the beauty and conviviality, the art and culture on offer, the special shops, exciting events and the many nice neighbourhoods.

The new online campaign aims to show a different side of the city, Amsterdam's municipal council said. Called "Renew your view", it will tell stories of "real Amsterdammers" and will run until the end of 2025. — AFP

Japan baseball champion Tigers' slogan tops Japan 2023 buzzword list

THIS year's slogan of the Japan Series baseball champion Hanshin Tigers, "Are (A. R. E.)," was selected as Japan's top buzzword for 2023, the award's organizer said Friday.

The phrase, an acronym for Aim, Respect and Empower, came as Hanshin Tigers manager Akinobu Okada referred to the league championship as "are," which means "that" in English, so as not to add pressure to the team by saying the full phrase out loud. — Kyodo



Team manager Akinobu Okada is seen in Tokyo on 1 December 2023, pointing at a banner with this year's slogan of the Japan Series baseball champion Hanshin Tigers, "Are (A. R. E.)," written on it. (Photo use by broadcast media and on online media permitted only until 11:59 pm, 8 December 2023, at the request of the buzzword award's organizer. **PHOTO: KYODO**)

Shane MacGowan, folk-punk Pogues frontman, dies aged 65

SHANE MacGowan, songwriter and lead singer of Celtic folk-punk band The Pogues, died early on Thursday at the age of 65 after a long illness, his widow announced, prompting a flood of tributes. "Shane who will always be the light that I hold before me... has gone to be with Jesus and Mary and his beautiful mother Therese," wrote MacGowan's widow Victoria Mary Clarke in an Instagram post.

Later, the band said on its official website that "Shane died peacefully at 3.30 am (30 November 2023) with his wife and sister by his side." MacGowan, who

had been in and out of hospital in Dublin since July, is most famous for penning the Christmas classic "Fairytale of New York", a duet sung with Kirsty MacColl in 1987.

Co-formed by MacGowan, The Pogues fused punk and Irish folk music. He was born in England but spent much of his childhood in Ireland with his mother's family. The band became an international symbol of Irishness, both at home and for the sprawling diaspora, with MacGowan's contribution recognized in a slew of tributes from political leaders. — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

2025 Expo ticket sales begin with 500 days to go amid cost concerns



Photo taken at Nakamozu Station in Sakai, Osaka Prefecture, on 30 November 2023, shows Osaka Metro's trains with liveries for the 2025 World Exposition in Osaka. Osaka Metro started running the trains the same day marking 500 days to go to the opening of the event. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Mexico and Estonia have decided to withdraw from the expo, scheduled to take place on Yumeshima, a man-made island in Osaka Bay. The primary reason for their withdrawal is attributed to the escalating construction costs associated with pavilions for the event.

ADVANCE sales of admission tickets for the 2025 World Exposition in Osaka began Thursday, 500 days before the global event in western Japan opens, amid lingering concern over ballooning costs.

The Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition aims to cover most of the operational costs through admission fees, setting a sales target of 23 million tickets for the event running from

13 April through 13 October.

The organizer hopes that 14 million tickets, or about 60 per cent of the sales target, will be sold in advance.

Facing headwinds such as slower-than-expected progress in the building of pavilions by overseas participants due to high material and labour costs, the association is aiming to build momentum through pre-opening events.

The cost shouldered by the central and local governments and the business community to build venue facilities has swelled to up to 235 billion yen (\$1.6 billion), nearly double the previous estimate. About 30 countries have selected builders for their pavilions at the expo, but construction had not started as of Wednesday, according to a senior official of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. — Kyodo

Intense talks as OPEC+ meets to decide over output amid tumbling prices

UNCERTAINTY hovered over what major oil-producing nations — collectively known as OPEC+ — will decide on output policy as they headed into virtual meetings Thursday in a bid to halt a continuous slump in prices. Amid stuttering global economic growth, analysts expect OPEC+ — the 13 OPEC members headed by Saudi Arabia and 10 partners led by Russia — to extend or deepen production cuts into next year to prop up prices. The OPEC states began today's first meeting via videoconference at 1000 GMT.

Their 10 partners are due to

join at around 1400 GMT to decide on next year's OPEC+ policy, according to a source close to the organization. But heading into the meeting, disagreement over output quotas persisted among the OPEC+ group, which was forced to delay its key meeting by four days.

It remained unclear whether Saudi Arabia would succeed in convincing African producers to accept lower output targets to further buttress prices, as some members were pushing for higher production instead, sources told AFP. — AFP



Amid stuttering global economic growth OPEC+ members face a difficult choice on whether to continue or even deepen oil production cuts to halt falling prices. **PHOTO: AFP**

Eurozone inflation falls to more than two-year low



Consumer price increases in the 20-nation single currency bloc reached 2.4 per cent in November. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

INFLATION in the eurozone fell to its lowest level in more than two years in November, official data showed Thursday, raising hopes the European Central Bank could soon cut interest rates.

Consumer prices in the 20-nation single currency bloc rose a lower-than-expected 2.4 per cent in November from a year earlier, the EU's official statistics agency said, the smallest annual gain since

July 2021.

The consensus of analysts compiled by financial data firm FactSet had predicted inflation would slow to 2.7 per cent in November, from 2.9 per cent in October.

The data will provide comfort to the European Central Bank (ECB), which has paused its unprecedented streak of interest rate hikes, although it has remained cautious about declaring victory over once red-

hot inflation.

The painful hiking campaign has seen borrowing costs rise faster and further than ever before.

"The larger-than-expected fall in inflation in November means it is becoming increasingly untenable for policymakers to claim that they are not even thinking about rate cuts," said Andrew Kenningham, chief Europe economist at Capital Economics. — AFP

2,000 freight trains launched from east China's Jiangsu to Europe, Asia

A freight train loaded with 100 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) of cargo departed from Xuzhou City, east China's Jiangsu Province, on Wednesday, marking that the province had seen 2,000 freight trains launched this year.

The train will leave

China via Horgos Port in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, heading for Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

As of Wednesday, the number of freight trains operating from Jiangsu to Europe and Asia increased by 11.1 per cent year on year.

This year, the province has opened three new freight routes to the Republic of Belarus, Laos, and Russia.

Currently, Jiangsu has stably operated 24 freight train routes, covering 26 countries in Europe and Asia. — Xinhua



A worker in Lianyungang in China's Jiangsu Province climbs out of a freight train bound for Kazakhstan as a container is loaded onto the vehicle. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

AS the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the **7th December 2023 (National Day)** and **25th December 2023 (Christmas Day)**, Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0309-758N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0309-758N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **2-12-2023** 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 EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD.

CHANGING THE NAME OF INSECTICIDE TRADING

The foreign manufacture **Makro Chemical** will import and distribute the following insecticides registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board changing trading name –

No	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	ABS	Shwe Mwar	Abamectin 3% + Spirodiclofen 21% SC	Provisional	P 2020 – 3073
2	SE	Shwe Mono	Emamectin Benzoate 4% + Spinosad 16% SC	Provisional	P 2023 – 5617
3	Fancy Nil	Shwe Cymox Plus	Cymoxanil 30% + Famoxadone 22.5% WDG	Provisional	P 2020 – 3527

It is therefore announced to come and reject within two weeks to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of insecticide.

Address: **Golden Key Co., Ltd.** No. 258/262, STRAND ROAD, 11th FLOOR, CLASSIC STRAND CONDO, PABEDAN TOWNSHIP, YANGON, MYANMAR. PH: 01371629

CHANGING THE NAME OF INSECTICIDE TRADING

The foreign manufacture **MAC Chem (Asia) Co., Ltd.** will import and distribute the following insecticides registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board changing trading name –

No	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Mega Better	Shwe Paung Kyo Shin	Butachlor 60% EC	Full	F 2022 - 3822

It is therefore announced to come and reject within two weeks to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of insecticide.

Address: **Mega Grow International Co., Ltd.** No. 216/222, 9th FLOOR, B8-C8, Bo Myat Tun Housing, Mahabadoola Rosd, Pazudaung Township, Yangon Region. PH: 01-292772

Advertise
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09251022355, 09255597511

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MAERSK VALENCIA VOY.NO. (345W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MAERSK VALENCIA VOY.NO. (345W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **2-12-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V LONG TAN 88 VOY.NO. (11-2023)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V LONG TAN 88 VOY.NO. (11-2023)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **2-12-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **YIGTL** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S WILHELMSSEN PORT SERVICE(S) PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CHANG YANG JIN HUA VOY.NO. (2310)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CHANG YANG JIN HUA VOY.NO. (2310)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-12-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-5** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S GLOBAL MARS SHIPPING PRIVATE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Climate change could upturn world malaria fight: WHO

The UN health agency states that temperature, humidity, and rainfall changes significantly impact the behaviour and survival of mosquitoes carrying the disease, with extreme weather events increasing cases.



A heat advisory sign is shown along Highway 190 during a heat wave in Death Valley National Park in Death Valley, California. **PHOTO: RONDA CHURCHILL/AFP**

CLIMATE change is making the fight against malaria even harder, with the campaign already struggling to make up ground lost during the Covid-19

pandemic, the World Health Organization warned Thursday. "The changing climate poses a substantial risk to progress against malaria, particularly in

vulnerable regions," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said as the WHO published its World Malaria Report.

Changes in temperature, humidity and rainfall influence the behaviour and survival of mosquitos that carry the disease, with extreme weather events such as heatwaves and flooding also driving up cases, the UN health agency said.

There were 249 million recorded malaria cases and 608,000 deaths in 2022, both up from before Covid.

"Sustainable and resilient malaria responses are needed now more than ever, coupled with urgent actions to slow the pace of global warming and reduce its effects," Ghebreyesus said. — AFP

Somali President says floods claim over a hundred lives, displace million people

THE floods in Somalia killed 101 people, displaced another million, and destroyed 140,000 homes, killed 4,000 livestock, and destroyed vital infrastructure, Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud told state media.

The government has set up a special committee to coordinate relief efforts, and it is working hard to reach the victims who need shelter, food and medicine, the leader added.

Urging the public to mo-

bilize and join the rescue operations, he said that the Somali people "are resilient and can overcome this challenge". The call for assistance has also reached national and international organizations. — SPUTNIK



This aerial view shows a general view of a flooded area in Dolow, Somalia following devastating floods on 25 November, 2023. **PHOTO: HASSAN ALI ELMI/AFP**



This photo taken on 1 October 2018 shows students sorting out salvaged plastic water bottles in front of a Cambodian flag made from recycled plastic materials at the Coconut School at Kirirom national park in Kampong Speu province. **PHOTO: TANG CHHIN SOTHY/AFP/FILE**

Nearly 3.3 mln people take part in Cambodia's plastic-free campaign in 3 months

NEARLY 3.3 million people in Cambodia had participated in the kingdom's plastic-free campaign within three months, the Ministry of Environment said in a news release on Friday.

From its launch on 1 September to 30 November, the campaign under the slogan "Today, I Don't Use Plastics" had reached 7,129 schools, 173 factories, 69 communities and 28 pagodas, involving 3,294,459 individuals, the news release said, adding that the campaign is still going on.

Environment Minister Eang Sophalleth said the campaign aimed to combat the use of plastic bags, encouraging people to refuse to use plastic bags.

"The campaign will contribute to international endeavours to address the root cause of plastic pollution," he told Xinhua.

The Southeast Asian country produces around 56 million plastic bags per day, which equals 279 tonnes of plastic waste, according to the Ministry of Environment. — Xinhua

Gazans flee homes, dig through rubble as Israeli strikes resume

IN the rubble of a house destroyed by bombs in the southern Gazan city of Rafah, a man screamed: "Where are my children?"

Similar scenes played out across the devastated Gaza Strip on Friday, as residents fled their homes and rushed their dead and wounded to hospitals after hostilities resumed following the expiry of a week-long truce.

An extension to the pause in fighting — under which aid flows into Gaza had increased and scores of Israeli hostages were exchanged for hundreds of jailed Palestinian prisoners — could not be reached before the 7:00 am (0500 GMT) deadline.

As Israeli air strikes landed, Gazans poured out of their homes to head for safer areas, packing the streets with cars, pick-up trucks, tractors, mule carts, bicycles and, most of all, people on foot.

In Khan Yunis, where smoke billowed across the sky, a group of men shouted "God is greatest" as they rushed through the streets carrying a body wrapped in a white shroud.

"There's bombing everywhere. We have no food, no water, no clothes. The stores are closed, it's cold, and the border checkpoint is closed," said Marwa Saleh, 47, who had sought refuge in Khan Yunis after being displaced from Gaza City in the north. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar wins two gold medals in 7th World Vovinam Championships

MYANMAR won two gold medals, three silvers, and nine bronzes at the 7th World Vovinam Championships held in Viet Nam from 25 to 30 November.

Hnin Thet Wai won one gold medal in the 49-51 kilogrammes Women's Individual Attacking event. At the same time, a pair of Aung Khaing Lin and Hein Htet Aung secured another gold medal in the Men's Pair Machete Form event and Tin Htoo Zaw garnered the Men's Long Stick Individual event. Similarly, Myanmar won one silver in the Women's Individual Performance event, another silver at the Women's Group of Six event, one bronze in the Men's Group of Four Perfor-

mance event, another bronze in the Men's Double Performance event, one more bronze in the Women's Individual Performance event, further bronze in Women's Triple event, one more bronze at men's Group of Four Sword Performance event, and one bronze medal each in Men's Individual Sword Performance event, men's 51-54 kg Attacking event, Men's Double Sword Performance event and Mixed Performance event.

A total of 35 countries, including ASEAN countries, competed in the tournament. Team Myanmar is returning to Yangon on 2 December with a sweet victory. — Bala Soe/KZL



Aung Khaing Lin and Hein Htet Aung seen with gold medals during the awarding ceremony of the men's pair machete form event.

Germany hosts Euro 2024 draw as contenders to learn fate

The Euro 2024 draw will take place in Hamburg on Saturday, where France, England, and other top contenders will determine their path to continental glory.



Euro 2024 takes place in Germany from 14 June to 14 July. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

THE draw for Euro 2024 takes place in the port city of Hamburg on Saturday when France, England and the other leading contenders will learn the path to potential continental glory that awaits them next summer.

The Elbe Philharmonic Hall, overlooking the river which runs through Germany's second-largest city, will be the venue for the draw, just over six months before the start of the tournament which runs from 14 June to 14 July.

Not everyone's minds will be on next year's finals just yet as the draw takes place in a city plunged into sub-zero winter temperatures and with top-flight club football the centre of attention across the continent.

Yet Saturday's event marks the start of the real countdown to the European Championship for the 20 nations who have so far qualified alongside hosts Germany. — AFP

Messi's Miami to face El Salvador national team

LIONEL Messi's Inter Miami will face the El Salvador national team in a friendly match on 19 January, the Major League Soccer club said on Thursday.

The match will be the opening pre-season game for Miami ahead of the 2024 season and will be played at the 45,000 capacity Estadio Cuscatlan in San Salvador.

"We're excited to start announcing our pre-season plans and preparations ahead of a thrilling 2024 campaign. We look forward to facing the El Salvador national team in what will be a good first test for our squad against the best players from the country," said Miami's Sporting Director Chris Henderson.

The game will give Inter

some experience of Central American conditions ahead of their debut in the CONCACAF Champions Cup next season.

Miami qualified for the regional tournament thanks to their triumph in the Leagues Cup — their first trophy won thanks to the impact of Messi and his former Barcelona teammates Sergio Busquets and Jordi Alba. — AFP

Min Woo Lee grabs Australian Open lead as Cameron Smith makes cut

MIN Woo Lee sunk an eagle at the 18th to surge into the sole lead at the Australian Open on Friday as he targets back-to-back DP World Tour titles, while major winner Shin Jiyai took charge of the women's event.

Australia's hottest new golf star recovered from a bogey at the first to make six birdies before finishing with a bang on his way to a seven-under-par 64 to be 12-under at the halfway stage in Sydney.

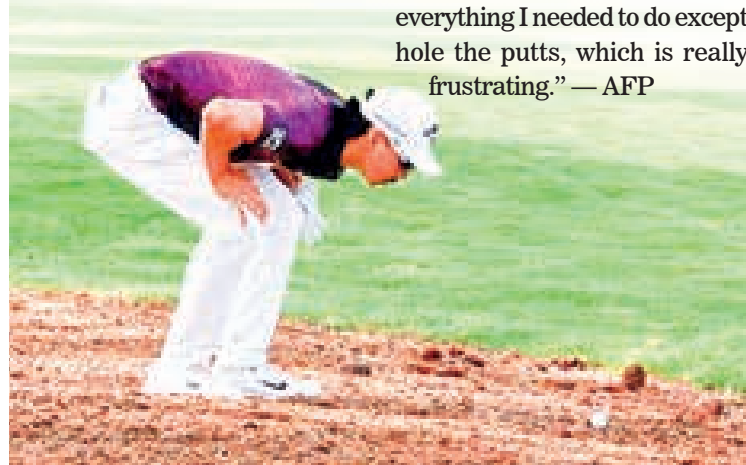
"It's always nice to make an eagle, but on the last hole, it's even nicer," said Lee, who convincingly won the Australian PGA Championship last week,

following victory at the Macau Open on the Asian Tour.

"Sometimes you play good and sometimes you play bad, and right now I'm playing good and I'm having fun." Fellow Australian Cameron Smith was also celebrating after finding his touch again with a 68 to make the cut by two shots, having missed it by nine last weekend in Brisbane, after which he was close to tears.

But the 2022 British Open champion has a mountain to climb to reel in the red-hot Lee.

"It was a lot better today and could have been way less," said Smith after partnering Lee in front of big crowds. "I did everything I needed to do except hole the putts, which is really frustrating." — AFP



Australia's Min Woo Lee surged to the top of the leaderboard at the Australian Open. PHOTO: AFP

Nearly 3.3 mln people take part in Cambodia's plastic-free campaign in 3 months

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ISRAEL'S top diplomat said Thursday he was recalling the country's envoy to Madrid over "outrageous remarks" by Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez questioning the legality of Israel's military campaign in Gaza.

"Because of the outrageous remarks by the Spanish prime minister, who again repeated baseless claims, I have decided to summon the Israeli ambassador in Spain for consultations in Jerusalem," Foreign Minister Eli Cohen wrote on X, formerly Twitter.

The move came after an interview in which Sanchez said he had "serious doubts" over the legality of Israel's actions in the war-torn Gaza Strip, an Israeli official told AFP on condition of anonymity, saying it was "not the first time" the Spanish leader had expressed such views.

Diplomatic tensions between Israel and Spain have soared following repeated remarks by Sanchez criticizing Israel's military campaign in Gaza that came in response to Hamas's 7 October attack.

In an interview on Thursday with Spanish public television, Sanchez said the world had to tell Israel "it needs to base its actions on international humanitarian law, and with the images we are seeing and the growing number of people dying, especially boys and girls, I have serious doubts".

Israel has also recalled its ambassadors from Türkiye and South Africa following remarks by those countries' leaders over the war in Gaza. — AFP

Israel says recalls Madrid envoy over Spain PM remarks on Gaza

The Foreign Minister, Eli Cohen, expressed displeasure with the Spanish prime minister's repeated baseless claims and announced the summoning of the Israeli ambassador in Spain for consultations in Jerusalem.



Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit meets with Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez. **PHOTO: AFP**

Japanese experimental nuclear fusion reactor inaugurated

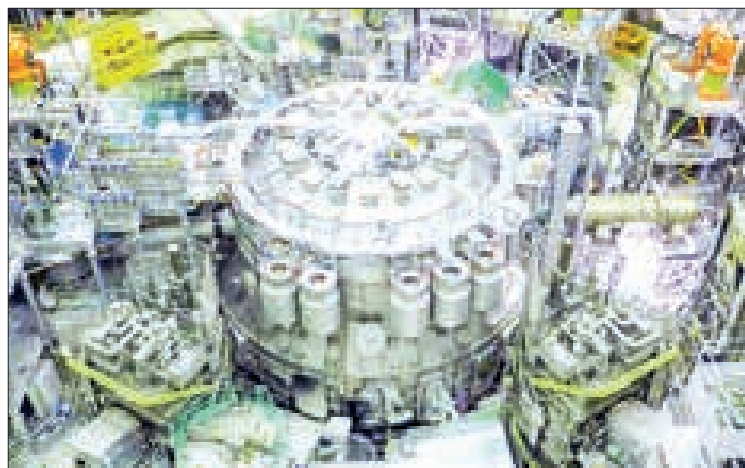
THE world's biggest experimental nuclear fusion reactor in operation was inaugurated in Japan on Friday, a technology in

its infancy but billed by some as the answer to humanity's future energy needs.

Fusion differs from fission,

the technique currently used in nuclear power plants, by fusing two atomic nuclei instead of splitting one. The goal of the JT-60SA reactor is to investigate the feasibility of fusion as a safe, large-scale and carbon-free source of net energy — with more energy generated than is put into producing it. The six-storey-high machine, in a hangar in Naka north of Tokyo, comprises a donut-shaped "tokamak" vessel set to contain swirling plasma heated up 200 million degrees Celsius (360 million degrees Fahrenheit).

It is a joint project between the European Union and Japan, and is the forerunner for its big brother in France, the under-construction International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER). — AFP



The world's biggest experimental nuclear fusion reactor in operation was inaugurated in Japan on Friday, a technology in its infancy but billed by some as the answer to humanity's future energy needs. **PHOTO: NATIONAL INSTITUTES FOR QUANTUM SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (QST)/AFP**

ADVOCATING FOR EFFECTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

New Zealand to ban cellphones in schools

CELLPHONES will be banned in schools across New Zealand, conservative Prime Minister Christopher Luxon said Friday, as his fledgling government looks to turn around the country's plummeting literacy rates.

New Zealand's schools once boasted some of the world's best literacy scores, but levels of reading and writing have declined to the point that some researchers fear there is a classroom "crisis".

Luxon declared he would ban phones at schools within his first 100 days in office, adopting a policy trialled with mixed results in the United States, United Kingdom and

France.

The move would stop disruptive behaviour and help students focus, Luxon said.

"We are going to ban phones across New Zealand in schools. We want our kids to learn and we want our teachers to teach," he said.

Researchers from New Zealand charity Education Hub warned of a "literacy crisis" in 2022, finding more than one-third of 15-year-olds could barely read or write.

"That something must be done to address the distressingly low literacy rates in Aotearoa New Zealand is clear," they wrote. — AFP