

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Bunches of oil palm fruits seen in lines to palm oil crude oil mill (above) and containers of cooking oil in production belt.

Taninthayi Region Govt to establish 20-tonne refined cooking oil mill

Myanmar imports some 800,000 tonnes of cooking oil abroad yearly to meet the local demand



Taninthayi Region Government is taking decisive steps to address the growing demand for cooking oil in Myanmar. In an effort to reduce the nation's heavy reliance on imports, plans are underway to establish a state-of-the-art 20-tonne refined cooking oil mill in the Taninthayi Region.

According to the Taninthayi Region Government office, the project will be a collaborative effort between the government and local businesspersons. Once operational, the mill will have the capacity to produce an impressive 20 tonnes of refined cooking oil per day. This initiative comes as the region is already home to over 400,000 acres of oil palm plantations, yielding substantial amounts of crude oil. However, without any refined oil mills in the area, the region's oil sufficiency remains at a mere 0.25 per cent.

SEE PAGE-3

Chinese embassy families, Myanmar athletes join friendship sports exchange

The Myanmar-China friendship sports exchange programme and donation ceremony to welcome the Hangzhou Asian Games was held yesterday at the Myanmar Rowing Federation in Yangon's Inya Lake.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Min Thein Zan said that Myanmar will participate in seven sport events, namely football, Wushu, rowing, Sepak Takraw, Taekwondo, archery and e-sport in the 19th Asian Games to be held in Hangzhou, China from 23 September to 8 October this year.

He thanked the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar for giving donations to the football, rowing and Wushu sports squads representing Myanmar and organizing a friendly sports exchange event.

He believed that China will provide necessary assistance including sending coaches to Myanmar to claim Myanmar's victories in the upcoming SEA Games in Thailand.

In his turn, the Chinese ambassador said that more than 19,000 athletes from various countries in Asia will join together to create the Asian sports theme of peace, friendship and progress in the 19th Asian Games.

He emphasized that China will help Myanmar's sports improve to a higher level by developing sports exchanges together.

SEE PAGE-3

NATIONAL

PAGE-4



2023 Rainy Market Fair final day packed with visitors

CURRENT AFFAIRS

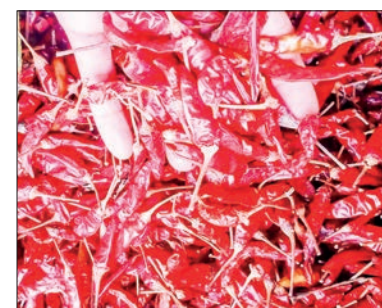
PAGE-6



Taungbyone Festival to take place in second week of August

LOCAL BUSINESS

PAGE-7



Chilli pepper price hits new record again at domestic market

NATIONAL

Stone plaque chamber pagodas systematically built in precinct of Maravijaya Buddha Image in engineering and architectural works for public observance



The photos show stone plaque chamber pagodas systematically built in precinct of Maravijaya Buddha Image in Nay Pyi Taw.

A press release was issued on Saturday that stone plaque chamber pagodas were systematically built through collaborative efforts of many experts.

According to the press release, as professionals from the Directorate of Military

Engineers under the Ministry of Defence, experts from the Myanmar Engineering Council and other civilian experts used various items of modern machinery in systematically building 720 stone plaque chamber pagodas, pilgrims and people can

view round these magnificent pagodas.

A total of 720 stone plaque chamber pagodas were systematically built in front of Maravijaya Buddha Image in the precinct of Maravijaya Buddha Park in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union

Territory. As such, pilgrims can read the stone inscriptions on Tri Pitakat treatises in the chambers and pay homage to these pagodas in various dimensions during their trip to the wonderful sitting marble Buddha image.

The press release mentioned that each chamber accommodates two stone plaques on which the Tri Pitakat treatises in addition to Athakatha and Tika treatises were carved in Pali and Ramanized languages with the use of modern machinery for public observation.

During their visits to Maravijaya Buddha Image free of charge from 8 to 16 August, the press release urged members of the Sangha and pilgrim people to observe architectural creations and engineering works in addition to the Tri Pitakat treatises in stone inscriptions in the stone plaque chambers after accepting necessary inspections under security measures. — MNA/TTA

Monastic hall resided by venerable Bhamo Sayadaw in Mandalay to be transformed into memorial museum

THE monastic hall where Bhamo Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa, peacefully lived until his passing away on 25 May, will be opened as a commemorative museum of Bhamo Sayadaw, according to the Bhamo Sayadaw's commemorative museum committee.

Yadanagara building and Weikzasarana building located in the precinct of Bhamo monastery in Mandalay Region resided by the Bhamo Sayadaw will be transformed into a museum.

Plans are underway to convert the monastic buildings where the Bhamo Sayadaw always resided into a memorial museum. And, the committee is also collecting the Sayadaw's replicas, utensils, treatises, titles acquired from local and international sources, documentary photos, the treatises written by the Sayadaw for public study.

The replica of Ananda Temple in Bhamo monastery is under construction to finish. Additionally, a memorial pagoda will also be built in his native village Nabe in Taungtha Township.



Silicon statue of Bhamo Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa is seen at the Bhamo monastery, Mandalay.

The Sayadaw' statue made by Myanmar silicon artist Saya U Aung Kyaw Tun is being kept at Bhamo monastery for public obeisance before displaying it at the museum. — ASH/KZL



Flood Bulletin

(ISSUED at 1 pm MST on 6-8-2023)

Flood Condition of Thanlwin River

ACCORDING to the 12:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an has exceeded by about 2.5 feet above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level during the next two days.

Flood Condition of Bilin River

ACCORDING to the 12:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of Bilin River at Bilin has exceeded by about one foot above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level during the next one day.

Advisory

IT is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas at Hpa-an Township, to take precaution measure.

Chinese embassy families, Myanmar athletes join friendship sports exchange

FROM PAGE-1

After that, the Chinese ambassador donated US\$ 2,805 each to the Myanmar Wushu Federation, the Myanmar Rowing Federation and the Myanmar Football Federation.

The embassy family members and selected Myanmar Wushu athletes who took a joint training in China demonstrated their skills.

Next, a friendship rowing competition was held with the

participation of embassy family members, guests and athletes, and the Yangon Regional Government Chief Minister awarded the first prize-winning team.

The Union Minister visited the Myanmar Yachting Federation and urged the federation officials to participate in the 33rd Southeast Asian Games to be hosted by Thailand in 2025 in all sports events specified by the organizing committee. — MNA/KZL



A friendship rowing competition is held with the participation of Chinese embassy family members, guests and athletes in Yangon's Inya Lake.



A specialist medical team pays treatment to a patient in Taunggyi.

MoH specialists conduct field treatments in Taunggyi

THE Ministry of Health is dispatching specialist medical teams from Yangon and Mandalay to regions and states to provide field treatment to patients who need super specialty.

A team consisting of specialists from North Okkalapa General Hospital and Thingangyun General Hospital visited Taunggyi under the arrangements of the Ministry of Health and provided medical treatment to the local residents together with specialists from Sao San Tun General Hospital and Women's and Children's Hospital (Taunggyi) on 5 and 6 August.

The public was informed through the hospitals and health centres of each township not only in Taunggyi but also from other townships in Shan State. Patients received a systematic health

examination in advance. A total of 549 patients were diagnosed and treated during their trip.

Dr Ko Ko, a professor of diabetes and hormone medicine, gave a lecture about diabetes to the visiting residents, doctors, and nurses.

In addition, arrangements were made for the transfer of one patient who needed neurology treatment to Yangon General Hospital's Neurology Department, one cardiac patient to North Okkalapa General Hospital and one more for cardiac surgery to Yangon General Hospital.

The Ministry of Health arranged similar programmes twice in Rakhine State and once in Ayeyawady Region in 2023, and will continue to do so in other regions and states as well. — MNA/KZL

Taninthayi Region Govt to establish 20-tonne refined cooking oil mill

FROM PAGE-1

Assistant Director U Ko Ko Soe of the region government office emphasized the significance of this project in the region's development. He stated that the establishment of a refined oil mill is essential for the region to utilize its vast oil resources effectively and bolster its economic growth.

To ensure the successful implementation of the project, officials from the region have meticulously observed the operations and production processes of a similar refined oil mill in China. This experience will undoubtedly prove invaluable in ensuring the mill's efficiency and productivity.

Initially, there was a plan to establish a 10-tonne refined cooking oil mill. However, due to a negligible difference in costs, the decision was made to double the capacity, resulting in the current plan for a 20-tonne refined cooking oil as a daily output.

The need for such a mill is underscored by Myanmar's reliance on cooking oil imports, which stand at a staggering 800,000 tonnes annually. This dependency on foreign sources is primarily attributed to the lack of sufficient edible oil production within the country.

It is estimated that Myanmar's total annual oil consumption, both for domestic use and industrial purposes, reaches 1.1 million tonnes. The imported cooking oil covers a substantial 60 per cent of this demand, highlighting the urgency and significance of the Taninthayi Region Government's endeavours.

It is estimated that Myanmar's total annual oil consumption, both for domestic use and industrial purposes, reaches 1.1 million tonnes.

By establishing a large-scale refined cooking oil mill in the region, the government aims to not only address the local demand but also significantly reduce the country's dependence on imports. This move will have positive implications for Myanmar's economy, creating employment opportunities, and strengthening the nation's self-sufficiency in essential commodities.

The Taninthayi Region Government's plan to establish a 20-tonne refined cooking oil mill is a promising step towards transforming the region's oil industry and catering to the country's cooking oil needs. With increased production capacity and a focus on self-sufficiency, Myanmar can reduce its dependence on imports and bolster its economic growth in the process. — ASH/TTA

NATIONAL

2023 Rainy Market Fair final day packed with visitors



Crowds are seen at the 2023 Monsoon Market Fair showcasing industrial products and electric vehicles (EVs) at People's Square in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LAT**

PEOPLE flocked to the last-day exhibition of 2023 Rainy Market Fair, Industrial Product Exhibition and Electric Vehicle (EV) Exhibition held in the People's Square in Yangon yesterday. E-Sport Game booths and Entertainment Zone and Water Fountain Garden were mostly packed with visitors while others went to EV booths. The visitors to the fair also bought industrial goods.

Over the course of three days, the Yangon Region government served 5,000 fruit-biryani packs to the guests, along

with beverages from the Pepsi Company. Many visitors to the fair were happy to enjoy rice and curries sold at a low price arranged by the Yangon Region government.

Here is the collection of the voices of the visitors to the 2023 Rainy Market Fair, Industrial Product Exhibition and Electric Vehicle (EV) Exhibition.

U Ye Maung (Chief Operation Officer-Asia Pacific Automaker Corp)

"We are giving a message on how we can supply EVs of higher

models in this fair. We will sell our EVs under safety measures. Some motorists want to replace their vehicles using CNG and gasoline with EVs.

"Consumers who were already aware of the advantages of EVs contacted us to ask when and where the EVs would be sold. We will sell EVs on a quota basis.

"We organized an EV show in Nay Pyi Taw where our potential customers gained knowledge of pros and cons of EVs. And that led them to send orders to us. Using EVs may contribute to our

country's environmental conservation efforts".

U Ye Phyo Naing (Deputy Staff Officer, Taikkyi Township General Administration Department)

"Under the supervision of the Yangon Region government, we are providing fruit-biryani to visitors of the fair for free. We stated donating 5,000 biryani packs a day from 4 August and today is the third day. We are happy to see the visitors enjoying our food among thriving visitors of the fair".

Maung Chit Win Aung (a university student)

"Today is a holiday and I come to visit the fair to check out the E-Sport Game, which my friends referred it to be very interesting. Gaming can make me concentrate on a particular thing without distraction and I use to play games in my spare times or when I feel fatigue. Younger generations can meet good opportunities if they can employ the technology properly and participate in international game competitions".

Ma Thin Thiri Khine (a student)

"I love music entertainment by singers and dancers more

than games in this fair. I enjoy foods here and also buy books and garments. I took a documentary photo with the models at EV showroom. The performances of famous singers at Entertainment Zone give me great joy. I extend my gratitude to the organizers of the show".

Daw Khin Yi (a 74-year-old visitor to the fair)

"I live in Dagon Township. Today is the third day I purchase edible oil. I am very grateful to the Yangon Region government and the Myanmar Edible Oil Traders and Edible Oil Manufacturers Association. The oil price here is much cheaper than any other places, and I am happy to buy it in a queue system".

Ma Moe Moe (a visitor to the fair)

I am happy to see donations of food in my visit here to purchase edible oil. I ate fruit-biryani with my friends. We also ate rice and curries sold by the Yangon Region government at an affordable price, and the price is equal to just a price of a salad. The curries are delicious and we ate our full. I hope all the visitors to the expo will be happy like me as the foods are available at a low price." — Nyein Thu (MNA)/TH

Myanmar, Italian archaeologists conduct research on water supply, drainage systems in Bagan

WATER supply and drainage facilities of Bagan era is being analyzed by archeologists from University of Marche, Italy in collaboration with their Myanmar counterparts from the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan branch) in Bagan ancient cultural zone, recognized as a World Heritage List by the UNESCO.

"In order to identify water supply networks and drainage

routes, Dr Massimo Sarti from the University of Marche and archeologists from Myanmar jointly conducted a field study in July.

"Additionally, we are maintaining the water supply and drainage networks that we discovered during our field research. The Department of Irrigation and Water Utilization Management, under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, is also



The team of Italy and Myanmar archeologists conduct research on water supply, drainage systems in Bagan.

participating in our efforts," said Dr Min Swe, the deputy

director from the Department of Archaeology and National

Museum (Bagan branch).

Dr Massimo Sarti also advised the measures in case of flood and steps to be taken in the future. The team of Italy and Myanmar archeologists is also visiting Wetgyiann creek, Alaekan, Alanbagan, the Viewing Mound near Culamani Temple and the Emerald Lake to set records on water supply and drainage systems while conducting research on these assets. — ASH/TH

Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

www.gnlm.com.mm



CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,

Hotline - 09 454237515

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,

Hotline - 09 251022355

marketing@gnlm.com.mm

subscription@gnlm.com.mm

Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

gnlmnews@gmail.com,

newsroom@gnlm.com.mm

www.gnlm.com.mm

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

ARTICLE

Weather report



By U Win Sein

Gurkha Soldiers

GURKHA Soldiers are recruited from Nepal. The British officer is recruited from the UK and the Commonwealth. All officers are expected to speak Nepali and will attend a language course in Nepal. The Royal Gurkha Rifles are part of the infantry. The Gurkha Units are composed of Nepalis and Nepali-speaking Indian people are recruited for the Nepali Army (96,000), Indian Army (42,000), British Army (4,100) and Gurkha contingent Singapore, Gurkha Reserve Unit Brunei. UN peacekeeping forces. The Gurkhas are Nepal soldiers recruited into the British Army and have been for the last 200 years. Gurkha are known to be fearless in combat as they are good nature in daily life. To this day, they remain famous for their royalty, professionalism and bravery.

The Royal Gurkha Rifles, part of the infantry, is at the core of the Army's Ground Close Combat capability. Trained to out-think, out-wit, out-fight, and out-last any adversary geographical environment difficulty alongside with the Allied Army. They first encountered the British in 1814, when the British East India Company fought against them during the Anglo-Nepali War. The British forces admired the Gurkhas' military ability and honourable tactics and first recruited Gurkha troops in 1815. It was the Peace Treaty that ended the war in 1816, enabled the British to recruit Nepalese Gurkhas officially, and so began the British's relationship with Nepal.

Since then, the Gurkhas have served with distinction throughout the world, earning incredible 13 Victoria Crosses for acts of extreme valour and countless other medals.

The top 9- credits confer on the Gurkhas are as follows: -

- 1, The Gurkhas have served with royalty and distinction for over 200 years.
- 2, British officials in the 19th century declared the Gurkhas a martial Race, a term describing people thought to be "naturally warlike and aggressive in battle"
- 3, Gurkhas are famous for carrying a -kukri -the national weapon of Nepal also used as a work tool. The legend goes that whenever a Gurkha draws his kukri in anger, he must also draw blood.
- 4, The Gurkha selection process has been described is one of the toughest in the world; it culminates in the doko race, which involves carrying 25 kg of sand while running up a steep 4.2 km course.
- 5, Measuring less than 5-foot, hero Gurkha Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung VC would fail today's Army selection criteria.
- 6, Soldier in today's brigade of Gurkhas each donate one day's pay every year, in part to support their forebears, the oldest veteran in Nepal.
- 7, During the Second World War, steadily Gurkha soldiers would sneak up on dugouts in the dead of the night and feel unsuspecting in inhabitants' boots to find

out if they were friend or foe- Axis or Allies had different ways of tying their laces. 8, in 1915, devastating earthquakes struck Nepal, destroying the homes of many ex-Gurkhas. The Queen's Engineers were deployed to help with rebuilding efforts as an exercise known as OP MAR MAT (rebuild in Nepal).

The Gurkha soldiers of Burma had contributed much effort in service as competent soldiers in respect of combat manoeuvring and bravery. In the events of campaign for recapturing of Burma from the retreating Japanese, the Gurkha soldiers have shown their expertise in the battle fields alongside with the Americans, Chinese and English soldiers on recapturing of Burma.

- 9, Captain Ramhadur Limbu VC in the last serving Gurkha VC holder having earned his medals in Borneo in 1965. His citation claimed that his actions that day "Reached zenith of determined premeditated valour which must count most notable among record".

The Burmese campaign was a series of battles fought in the British colony of Burma, meanwhile, 23 battalions of Gurkha soldiers (as well as garrison training and parachute unit.) fought in Malaya and Burma. Remaining steadfast during early losses against the advancing Japanese

assaults and proving instrumentally in the fightback in Burma after halting the Japanese advance toward India.

The Burmese Gurkhas are a group of Nepalese language speaking of Gurkha ethnic group living in Burma; the Chindits were British Empire troops who carried out guerrilla-style operations in Burma during Second World War. The Burmese campaign in the South-East Asia Theatre of World War II was fought primarily by British Commonwealth, Chinese, and United States forces against the forces of Imperial Japan, who were assisted by the Indian National Army and, to some degree, by Thailand. The British Commonwealth land forces were drawn primarily from United Kingdom, British India and Africa.

On 1st May, a Gurkha parachute battalion was dropped on Elephant Point and cleared the Japanese coastal defence battalion at the mouth of the Rangoon River. The 26th Indian Division started to land the next day, as the Monsoon began and took over Rangoon, what had soon, an orgy of looting and lawlessness took place since the Japanese had left.

The Gurkha soldiers of Burma had contributed much effort in service as competent soldiers in respect of combat manoeuvring and bravery. In the events

of campaign for recapturing of Burma from the retreating Japanese, the Gurkha soldiers have shown their expertise in the battle fields alongside with the Americans, Chinese and English soldiers on recapturing of Burma. This was the traditional behaviours of the Gurkha people showing their competence on whatever tasks entrusted on them. This behaviour traits may come from the British officers on training period to get them familiar to observe and follow the straight discipline handed down from their British Officers.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 6 August 2023)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. **FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 7 August 2023:** Rain or thunder-showers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing and Magway regions and Kayah State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Mandalay regions and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of regionally heavyfalls in Nay Pyi Taw, Chin and Rakhine states and isolated heavyfalls in Kachin, Kayin and Mon states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at time off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Wave height

will be about (8-12) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuations of strong monsoon. **FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 August 2023:** Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 August 2023: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 August 2023: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Local MSMEs invited to participate in ASEAN Online Sale Day

LOCAL E-Commerce businesses and SMEs or MSMEs operating online are invited to participate in the ASEAN Online Sale Day-AOSD 2023 to further promote the development of e-Commerce amidst ASEAN countries.

AOSD started in 2020 and will now be held as the fourth anniversary from 8 to 22 August 2023. Therefore, online sales operators from Myanmar are invited to participate. URL operators will be able to participate in learning the event through URL - <http://onlineasean.com>.

The main purpose of AOSD is to promote cross-border e-Commerce in the region, increase consumer trust in e-Commerce, and reinforce the role of e-Commerce as one of the main drivers of regional economic development. The event is benefiting the e-Commerce businesses of ASEAN countries, SMEs or



An advertisement is seen featuring the ASEAN Online Sale Day-AOSD 2023.

MSMEs and consumers.

Interested person can dial 067-408670 and 067-408485 for detailed information about AOSD 2023 for SME/MSMEs engaging in e-commerce and online service to participate in

the legal commodities and services through e-commerce and online services similar to ASEAN countries by filling out the attached form and send it to dotictapp@gmail.com to participate in AOSD 2023. — TWA/KZL

Taungbyone Festival to take place in second week of August



ACCORDING to the Taungbyone Village's Festival Organizing Committee, the Taungbyone Festival will begin in the second week of August.

The festival organizing committee has informed that the festival will be held from 8th to 15th Waxing of Wagaung (from 24 to 31 August) as usual, and this is the time when traditional worshippers are preparing to visit.

The festival attracts visitors from all corners of Myanmar and hundreds of thousands of visitors thronged to the festival every year.

It is also a festival in which worshippers from all over Myanmar gather together to offer various programmes to the gods. — TWA/KZL



A traditional ritual is seen holding at the Taungbyone Festival. **PHOTO: MOHT**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Myanmar's shrimp exports decreased by more than 30%

DURING the four months from April to the end of July of this financial year, Myanmar's shrimp exports dropped by more than 30 per cent compared to the same period of the previous financial year, according to the Department of Fisheries.

More than 3,212 tonnes of shrimp have been exported in the first four months of this financial year, earning more than US\$12 million. In the same period of the previous financial year, over \$18 million was pocketed from the export of over 4,886 tonnes of shrimp.

Temporary registration certificates issued for MSME entrepreneurs

THE Ministry of Industry issued temporary registration certificates on 5 August to 22 entrepreneurs of micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises in Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, and Magway regions, in addition to Nay Pyi Taw.

The Union Minister said that they are working to operate the online registration and e-Payment system through the MSME Web portal for the application of business certificates and will distribute information about the application date to entrepreneurs.

CBM to take action against foreign currency transactions outside online trading

THE Central Bank of Myanmar has warned entrepreneurs and banks to perform transactions through an online trading programme in the foreign currency market and carry out customer-to-customer or customer-to-bank sales only at online prices. Action will be taken against both the concerned bank and the entrepreneur if the price is negotiated and sold outside of online trading.

Banks that do not comply will be fined, and the licence will be revoked. In the case of import or export traders, the export or import license will be terminated.

25 relief camps opened in Bilin

THE Department of Information and Public Relations in Bilin Township, Mon State, stated that 25 relief camps were established for more than 6,000 flood victims resulting from heavy rains and flooding in the township.

According to the observations on 6 August, the water level of the Bilin River was 1,022 centimetres, and water has entered some urban wards and villages, and some houses have been submerged.

Sales in real estate market dull

THE Chairman of Myanmar Real Estate Services Association (MRESA) claimed that transactions in the real estate market are stagnant, and that prices went up too much due to the impact of the new currency notes.

The chairman continued that it is necessary to beware of the wrong purchase and check whether the prices, ownership, and documents are official or not in the meantime.

LOCAL BUSINESS

Onion price rises to K2,400 per viss in Yangon market

ONION price reached above K2,400 per viss on 5 August for the first time this year in Yangon market, Ko Swe who buys commodities at Bayintnaung market for resale in Nyaungpinlay market, told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

With an influx of 90,000 visses of onions that day, the prices moved in the range between K1,800 and K2,400 per viss.

Last week, the prices hit K2,200-2,350 per viss in the Yangon market.

The prevailing price of K2,400 is the highest after a price drop in the past three months.

Myanmar aims to achieve onion export of 100,000 tonnes in the 2023-2024 financial year, according to official data.

The country plans to export 30,000 tonnes of onions in Q1, 15,000 in Q2, 20,000 in Q3 and 35,000 in Q4 respectively.

The demand is usually high in Q1. The buyers tend to observe the market in Q2 and Q3. With the supply of monsoon onion, there's a large stockpile in Q4.

Myanmar has a competitive market for garlic and potato as they're imported.

Similarly, when the onion price moves up in the domestic market, the foreign traders dump the onions at lower prices, Ko Aye Win shared his opinion.

A robust foreign demand drove the onion prices to K3,700 per viss in 2015 and 2019 and K4,900-5,100 in early December 2022. — TWA/EM



The photo shows Pakokku's onion market on 5 August.

Chilli pepper price hits new record again at domestic market

A chilli pepper brokerage house owner from the Bayintnaung Market told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM) that the prices of chilli peppers peaked again in the Yangon market in early August 2023.

New Thedaw Moehtaung chilli peppers arrived at the Yangon market with a price of K14,000 per viss, although new Kyaukse Moehtaung chilli peppers entered the market less due to the low price.

Prices of Moehtaung chilli peppers from Thedaw and Kyaukse reached up to K15,000 and K16,000 per viss, respectively, on 1 August 2022, according to the old price lists.

On 5 August of this year, a variety of chilli peppers that are processed in cold storage were priced at K16,000 per viss for Panye long chilli peppers, K15,000 per viss for Hmyarni long peppers, K16,000 per viss for Moehtaung chilli peppers from Hinthada and Pyawbwe, K18,500-K19,000 per viss for Sinbyukyun bell peppers, and K18,000-K19,500 per viss for various sizes of special Myitwa bell peppers.

Daw Mi Lay, a buyer, told the GNLM that the long peppers from delta regions that are processed in cold storage have



Arriving of Dried Moehtaung chilli peppers at a brokerage house in the last week of July.



Bags of chilli stockpiled.

not yet been sold in the market.

The price of cold-processed Moehtaung chilli peppers has gone up from K14,000 per viss before. However, depots only published the prices of long chilli peppers and bell peppers on the daily price list and did not mention the price of Moehtaung chilli peppers from the second

week of July to 5 August 2023.

Despite the spread of speculation about the rise of chilli pepper prices this year, the sales of chilli peppers in the market are quiet. In 2022, the price of chilli peppers rose to the highest price in the market among kitchen crops. Although the price of chilli pepper has risen, consumers can use less, so the price of pepper is less of a concern for consumers.

Nevertheless, chilli pepper hoarders, especially those who have stored it in warehouses, are monitoring the market to see whether or not the price of chilli pepper can return to the status of the previous year. — TWA/CT

Cotton growers anticipate fetching handsome prices this year

COTTON growers stated that they are expecting to obtain a good price from this year's cotton production.

The market price of cotton is K3,500 per viss in the domestic markets, and some wholesale buyers offered to buy late monsoon cotton at a price of over K4,000 and around K4,000 for monsoon cotton.

As for domestic cotton cultivation, the main product is a long-staple cotton, which is mostly grown in Sagaing and Mandalay regions during the rainy season from May to July and harvested from September to December.

In addition to cotton cultivation, there are cotton ginning mills and mills that produce cotton seed oil in Meiktila District of Mandalay Region. Out

of seven cotton ginning mill owners, six are working on the production of cotton seed oil. As for the cotton industry, ginning three visses of undressed cotton produces about one viss of cotton wool and two-thirds of cottonseed, and for cottonseed oil production, 10-12 visses of cottonseed oil are produced in milling 100 visses of cottonseed.

The prices are K3,600-K3,800 per viss for undressed cotton, K8,500 per viss for cotton wool, K1,500-K1,600 per viss for cottonseed and cottonseed paste, and K7,300 per viss for cottonseed oil. The cotton crop is being exported to Mandalay Region and the state-owned textile factories, so it is said that cotton crop should be grown more because they are very profitable. — TWA/CT



A plot of cotton plantation in ChaungU, Sagaing Region.

OPINION

Serve duties and obligations for a harmonious society

In any society, individuals are bound by an inherent duty and a historical responsibility. Throughout their lives, people encounter diverse situations and eras, compelling them to serve various duties and obligations, ranging from familial and organizational responsibilities to social, religious, political, and national duties.

From a young age, they are taught to devotedly serve the duties assigned by their seniors or organizations, viewing it as a practice for shouldering more substantial responsibilities within society. Understanding that duties are obligatory and obligations are to be fulfilled becomes paramount for every individual.

To effectively accomplish their duties and obligations, individuals must take care to demonstrate accountability and responsibility for their actions. By acting rationally and responsibly, they can successfully navigate the challenges that come their way. Conversely, neglecting these virtues can lead to an inability to fulfil their duties and reluctance to exert strenuous efforts, resulting in a downward spiral, hindering their personal growth.

Regrettably, some individuals may become complacent, merely completing tasks for the sake of completion, lacking the ambition to strive for success and prosperity. Such a mindset diminishes their chances of securing opportunities and gaining knowledge to advance in life, ultimately plunging them into a dim future. Conversely, those who embrace the concept of putting in the utmost effort to accomplish their assignments are likely to enjoy a brighter future.

In Myanmar, those who uphold the teachings of Lord Buddha are expected to fulfil obligations towards their parents, offspring, teachers, pupils, spouses, friends, monks, disciples, and society's leaders. The fulfilment of these obligations must be done with utmost conscientiousness and without external pressure.

Moreover, everybody must internalize the notion that their actions should not harm others, and they should avoid any intentions of encroachment on others including friends or opponents. Even when performing duties and obligations correctly, actions that harm others can deem them as societal destroyers. Therefore, it is crucial for everyone to refrain from improper behaviours while fulfilling their duties and obligations. Only by adhering to these basic factors can they be recognized as truly humane individuals.

Hence, serving duties and obligations is an essential aspect of fostering a cohesive society. Every individual should embrace their responsibilities with determination, rationality, and accountability. By doing so, only when they contribute a great deal towards their personal growth and the progress of their relevant societies will a brighter and harmonious future emerge for all.

World university presidents discuss opportunities, challenges in education digitalization

The new generation of information technology, represented by artificial intelligence (AI), big data, and cloud computing, has brought new opportunities and challenges for the future development of higher education, said Gong Qihuang, president of Peking University, at the World University Presidents Forum held recently in Beijing.

More than 500 participants from 36 countries and regions attended the forum, and 65 presidents from high-level universities delivered speeches on topics such as the digitalization of education, future required competence for talents, challenges and innovation of sustainable development of universities, and university co-operation and exchanges.

Gong said digital transformation has brought new vitality to university innovation and development, triggering a reshaping of higher education. He said new technologies diversify teaching, and the traditional knowledge transfer mode — centered on teachers, textbooks, and classrooms — has been transformed



This photo taken on 30 July 2023 shows the opening ceremony of the World University Presidents Forum in Beijing, capital of China. PHOTO: CHINA ASSOCIATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA

into an ability-cultivation mode centered on students' activities based on many different learning resources.

Transformative Impact of Digitalization

Digitalization will bring unlimited potential and new vision

to higher education, which will change the organizational structure, factor relations, functional

Efficient and Reliable Digital Education Platform

China will comprehensively implement the national strategy for education digitization and provide society with an efficient, safe, and reliable digital education platform

Global Digital Governance

Universities have the responsibility to actively participate in global digital governance to solve the problems of privacy protection, ethics, and fairness brought about

by the digitalization of education, said Zhang Pingwen, president of Wuhan University, at the forum.

Du Yubo, president of the China Association of Higher Education, called on world universities to help improve the standard and regulatory system and development promotion mechanisms for the digitization of global higher education.

Participants also called on universities globally to strengthen cooperation and exchanges to tackle challenges facing the world.

Stefania Giannini, assistant director-general for education at UNESCO, regarded the collaboration across disciplines and between academic institutions as the core of higher education reform in her video speech at the forum.

Fostering Global Citizens and Innovation

Cooperation and exchanges among universities promote cross-cultural understanding, knowledge sharing, and the nurturing of global citizens. Partnerships between universities provide opportunities for collaborative research, student exchanges, and the sharing of educational resources. These initiatives contribute to advances and innovation in science and technology, and foster a deep appreciation for diverse perspectives and cultures, said Shi Yigong, president of Westlake University.

SOURCE: Xinhua

Use plain English (2)

By U Khin Maung (A retired diplomat)



If you use the same words too much, your writing might sound fancy, bossy, and too long. It's not that you can never use those words, but using different words can make your writing shorter, simpler, and more like a conversation. ILLUSTRATION FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/FREEPIK

Introduction

1. Time and tide wait for no man. Knowledge is power. Democracy is defined as the government of the people, by the people, for the people. Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, writing an exact man. Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well. Necessity is the mother of invention. Fame but a hollow echo.

2. I think, in this article, the introduction is sufficiently mentioned enough. Therefore, may I quote some writings from "a book of Plain English Guide" as follows: -

If you overuse the words in the left-hand column of the table, your writing could be perceived as pompous, officious, and long-winded. Not that anyone should forbid you from ever using them, but judicious use of the alternatives will be the alternatives will help you to be shorter, simpler and more conversational. The alternatives are not always synonyms, so use them with proper care for meaning and for the job they have to do in the sentence.

Officer terms
accede

Plainer alternatives
agree, grant, allow

accordingly
accustomed to
acquaint
yourself
additional
address (sense, consider)
advice
advise (sense, inform)
afore-mentioned, aforesaid
aggregate (noun)
alleviate
apprise
as a consequence of
ascertaining
assist, assistance
attain
attribute (verb)
calculate
category
cease
cognizant of
commence
component

so
used to

find out, read
more, extra
tackle, deal with, consider
information, instructions
inform, tell
omit, or be specified
total
ease, reduce, lessen
inform, tell
because finding out

help
reach
earmark
work out, decide.
group
stop, end
aware of; know about.
start, begin
part

concept
concerning
consequently
constitute
construe
corroboration
deduct
deem
defer
despatch

idea
about
so
make up, form
interpret
evidence, proof, support
take away, take off, subtract
treat as consider
put off, postpone
send

Conclusion

3. May I now conclude my article with the following essential quotations?

- One may err in many ways, but be right in only one: which is why it is easy to fail, but difficult to succeed.
- With malice toward none; with charity for all. With firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right.
- The passionate love of Right, the burning hate of Wrong.
- He that is not with me is against me.

Reference: (1) Plain English guide by Martin Cutts
(2) A book of essential quotations. Edited as by Eric Partridge.

SCI/TECH WORLD

Indian lunar landing mission enters Moon's orbit



India's space programme has grown considerably in size and momentum since it first sent a probe to orbit the Moon in 2008. **PHOTO: ISRO/AFP**

LATEST space mission entered the Moon's orbit on Saturday ahead of the country's second attempted lunar landing, as its cut-price space programme seeks to reach new heights.

The world's most populous nation has a comparatively low-budget aerospace programme that is rapidly closing in on the milestones set by global space powers.

Only Russia, the United States and China have previously achieved a controlled landing on the lunar surface.

The Indian Space Re-

search Organisation (ISRO) confirmed that Chandrayaan-3, which means "Mooncraft" in Sanskrit, had been "successfully inserted into the lunar orbit", more than three weeks after its launch.

If the rest of the current mission goes to plan, the mission will safely touch down near the Moon's little-explored south pole between 23 and 24 August.

India's last attempt to do so ended in failure four years ago, when ground control lost contact moments before landing.

Developed by ISRO, Chan-

drayaan-3 includes a lander module named Vikram, which means "valour" in Sanskrit, and a rover named Pragyan, the Sanskrit word for wisdom.

The mission comes with a price tag of \$74.6 million — far smaller than those of other countries, and a testament to India's frugal space engineering.

Experts say India can keep costs low by copying and adapting existing space technology, and thanks to an abundance of highly skilled engineers who earn a fraction of their foreign counterparts' wages. — AFP

Chinese scientists develop highly-flexible ferroelectric material for smart wearables

CHINESE scientists have developed a highly-flexible and electrically-stable material that may effectively improve the performance stability of smart wearables.

According to a study published Friday in the journal Science, the ferroelectric material not only retains its functions when stretched two-fold but also returns to its original shape once the stress is relieved.

Ferroelectricity is a characteristic of certain insulating materials that have a spontaneous electric polarization that can be reversed by the applica-



This photo taken on 28 February 2023 shows a product from Lenovo at the 2023 Mobile World Congress (MWC) in Barcelona, Spain. **PHOTO: MENG DINGBO/XINHUA**

tion of an external electric field, information storage in various electronic devices. — Xinhua

Heaviest animal ever? Scientists discover massive ancient whale

LOOK out, blue whale — there's a new contender for your heavyweight title.

A newly discovered whale that lived nearly 40 million years ago could be the heaviest animal to have ever lived, based on a partial skeleton on Wednesday.

The modern blue whale has long been considered the largest and heaviest animal ever, beating out all the giant dinosaurs of the distant past.

But *Perucetus colossus* — the colossal whale from Peru — may have been even heavier, according to a study published in the journal Nature.

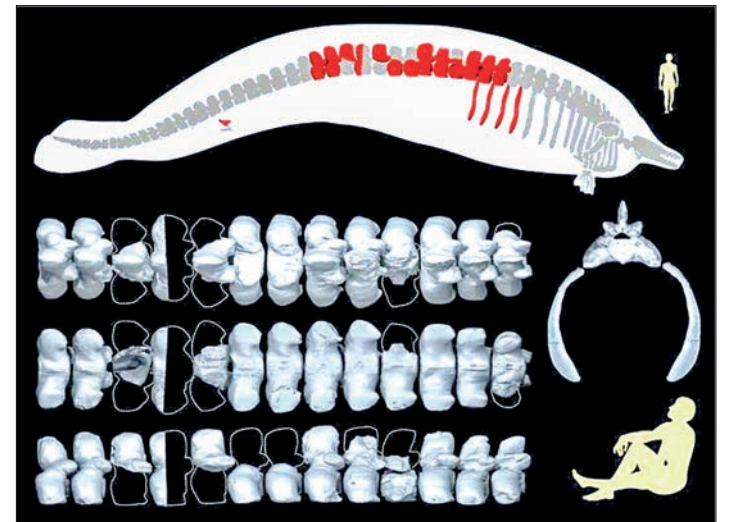
Extrapolating from some

massive bones found in the Peruvian desert, an international team of researchers estimated that the animal had an average body mass of 180 tonnes.

That would not take the heavyweight title by itself. The biggest blue whale ever recorded weighed 190 tonnes, according to Guinness World Records.

But the researchers estimated the ancient whale's weight range was between 85 and 340 tonnes, meaning it could have been significantly larger.

The researchers were careful not to declare the ancient whale had broken the record. — AFP



Preserved bones of the new species, *Perucetus colossus*. **PHOTO: GIOVANNI BIANUCCI**

Physical activity fosters learning and wellbeing at secondary school: Study

TEENAGERS who engage in physical activity during their free time and while travelling to and from school perform better academically than their inactive peers in secondary school, finds a study.

A lower risk of school burnout was also associated with regular leisure-time physical activity, even in small amounts.

The results of the study were released in the European Journal of Public Health.

Academic success and physical activity have a com-

plicated relationship. Prior research has discovered that, however, particularly school-based physical activity, such as physical education, can enhance academic performance, especially in mathematics.

Despite this, only a small number of studies have looked at the connection between active school transport and academic results. The majority of the prior research on physical activity and academic well-being has been conducted with university-level students. — ANI

Pope's vigil in Portugal draws 1.5 million pilgrims

Religious beliefs and teachings can influence how individuals perceive the world, their purpose in life, and their values.

A sea of 1.5 million pilgrims packed a riverside park near Lisbon on Saturday for a vigil held by Pope Francis as part of a global Catholic youth festival.

Worshippers cheered as the 86-year-old pontiff slowly drove by on his "popemobile" to the stage at the Parque Tejo on the outskirts of the Portuguese capital.

"We are the pope's youths!" they chanted as national flags fluttered in the crowd estimated at around 1.5 million people according to the Vatican, citing local officials.

The Argentine pope urged the crowd to "pick themselves up" whenever they suffer a setback in life.

"Those who remain on the ground have retired from life, have lost their hopes and dreams," he added.

Drones formed the words "rise up" and "follow me" in the sky above the stage as the



Pope Francis waves from the popemobile prior to presiding over the Holy Rosary prayer with sick young people at the Chapel of Apparitions in the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fatima, in Fatima, on 5 August 2023. PHOTO: AFP

pope spoke.

Many waited for hours under a blazing sun for the start of

the vigil, singing, dancing and playing cards to pass the time at the park, which was built

for the occasion on a former landfill site.

There was little shade,

and worshippers protected themselves from the sun with umbrellas or makeshift tents made from sheets, or tried to cool off by pouring water over their heads.

Powerful moments

Portugal's state weather office has put Lisbon on alert for scorching temperatures that reached nearly 36 degrees Celsius (97 Fahrenheit) on Saturday.

Charlotte Bordas, a 26-year-old who came from Mont-de-Marsan in southwestern France, said she was moved to see people from around the world at the event.

"We hear all languages spoken and we see the same joy on people's faces," she told AFP.

"Gathering around the pope and praying together are very powerful moments that give hope and strengthen our personal faith." — AFP

China's village basketball league a slam dunk

THOUSANDS of raucous Chinese basketball fans pack tightly into a floodlit stadium filled with swirling fog, eager to spur on the teams battling in the tournament final.

It's almost midnight in Taipan — a remote village in southwest Guizhou province — but the championship game is only just getting under way after a weekend of action.

Clanging pots and pans punctuate the hum of the crowd in the steep main stands, while millions of online viewers and social media users hold their breath as the jump ball is tossed.

This is China's village basketball, a grassroots phenomenon that has spiralled in recent years from a humble local tradition into a viral hit and staple of Beijing's propaganda machine.

Basketball is hugely popular in the country, but wide-



This photo taken on 30 July 2023 shows a general view of spectators watching a game of the grassroots basketball competition CunBA in Taipan village, Taijiang county, in southwestern China's Guizhou province. PHOTO: AFP

spread corruption and recent investigations into match-fixing within the CBA, China's top domestic league, have discouraged many fans and diverted their attention elsewhere.

Athletes in the "CunBA" — with "cun" meaning village in Chinese — are all amateurs, and

the prizes are simple platters of roast meat. But it's the pure electricity of the games that keeps fans and players hooked.

"As soon as I arrived in Taipan village, the first thing I sensed was a feeling of enthusiasm and excitement," Xia Wenxian told AFP. — AFP

Research reveals effective use of social media for new product promotion

WHEN companies launch new items, social media is an important marketing tool for raising awareness. The platforms can assist in informing consumers about the product's features and benefits in comparison to competitors' offerings.

New research from the University of Notre Dame analyzes data from the motion picture industry, which often relies on social media promotion, in an effort to understand how marketers could better promote other new products. — ANI



The traditional belief that social media directly influences purchasing behavior is questioned by the research, which suggests that the real influence comes from the spread of content by followers and user-generated word of mouth. PHOTO: ANI

ECONOMY WORLD

China rolls out measures to boost economic recovery, confidence

DESPITE challenges at home and abroad, China's economic recovery continues apace, and the country is extending support measures to boost confidence, ensure sustained recovery and promote high-quality development.

A slew of policy pledges, targeting specific sectors ranging from consumption, private economy, and property market, to capital market and forex market, have been made public after a key meeting of the top leadership vowed to strengthen counter-cyclical regulation and make more policy options available.

At a press conference Friday, National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) official Yuan Da said the country would mull a raft of policy options that are stronger and



Tourists visit the Youzhou ancient town in Youyang Tujia and Miao Autonomous County, southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, 1 May 2023. PHOTO: CHEN BISHENG/XINHUA

more targeted, and take action in response to changes in situations.

To encourage consumption, which the government said plays

a fundamental role in driving economic growth, the NDRC released a 20-point plan this week to spur consumer spending on a

wide range of goods and services, including new energy vehicles, home appliances, electronics, catering, and tourism.

The top economic planner urged local authorities to ban new restrictive measures on auto purchasing while improving those that have already been in place.

NDRC also unveiled 28 policy measures to support the private economy, including encouraging private investment in major national projects and enhancing financial support to the sector that contributes to a majority of the country's urban jobs.

For the property sector, a pillar of the country's economy, the authorities demanded timely adjustment and improvement of policies in the sector in response to the new situation, stating that "major changes have taken place in the relationship between supply and demand in China's real estate market." — Xinhua

Japan manufacturers' profits up 23% in April-June as carmakers grow



Workers manufacture air purifiers at a Daikin Industries factory in Kusatsu, Shiga Prefecture, in July 2021. PHOTO: KYODO

LISTED Japanese manufacturers logged a 23.1 per cent jump in their combined net profit for

the first fiscal quarter that ended June, with carmakers leading the brisk results due to recov-

ering from a chip shortage, a tally by a securities firm showed Friday.

Companies passing on rising global food and energy costs through price hikes and the sharp fall of the yen, which increases overseas profits when repatriated, also helped boost their standing, SMBC Nikko Securities Inc. said.

Including nonmanufacturers, overall net profit rose 17.2 per cent in April-June from a year earlier. Due to growing number of companies upgrading their full-year forecasts, total combined profit is expected to hit a record for fiscal 2023 ending March. — Kyodo

Philippine inflation rate eases to 4.7% in July

YEAR-ON-YEAR inflation in the Philippines slowed for the sixth consecutive month to 4.7 per cent in July, the lowest rate since March 2022, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) said on Friday.

PSA head Dennis Mapa said the main drivers that pulled down the July inflation were housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels at 4.5 per cent from 5.6 per cent in June; the food and non-alcoholic beverages at 6.3 per cent

from 6.7 per cent; and transport, which decelerated to -4.7 per cent from -3.1 per cent in the previous month.

The July inflation brings the average inflation rate in the first seven months at 6.8 per cent, higher than the 5 to 6 per cent average inflation targets for 2023.

The core inflation, excluding selected food and energy items in the headline inflation, slowed to 6.7 per cent in July, added Mapa. — AFP



A woman wearing a face mask is seen inside her fruit stall at a market in Manila, the Philippines on 26 March 2021. PHOTO: ROUELLE UMALI/XINHUA

Saudi extends 1 mln bpd oil output cut: energy ministry

SAUDI Arabia announced Thursday it is extending a voluntary oil production cut of one million barrels per day for another month,

keeping up its campaign to prop up prices.

"Saudi Arabia will extend the voluntary cut of one million

barrels per day... for another month to include the month of September," the energy ministry said in a statement. — AFP

Pakistan's economic woes leave textile industry in tatters



The textile and clothing sector employs around 40 per cent of the country's 20 million-strong industrial workforce. **PHOTO: AFP**

FACTORY worker Lubna Babar was made redundant at the beginning of the year, a victim of a crisis in the Pakistan textile industry that has seen it lose ground to more nimble Asian competitors.

"When you lose your job, your life comes to a close," the 43-year-old from Lahore told AFP.

"We've been working in factories for years... the day you get sacked, the story ends there."

Pakistan's industrial manufacturing sector — like elsewhere in the world — has suffered from the

slowdown in global consumption and the rise in energy costs following the outbreak of war in Ukraine.

But the difficulties of the textile sector, which accounts for 60 per cent of Pakistan's exports, are compounded by the critical state of the economy and months of political chaos.

In Pakistan, the industry was buoyed at the tail end of the coronavirus pandemic, when it was freed of restrictions earlier than regional rivals India and Bangla-

desh and benefited from government financial aid, including slashed energy rates.

In 2022-2023, however, textile exports fell by 15 per cent to \$16.5 billion.

"Two years ago, we were on a very high growth trajectory... we were confident that our exports this year would go to \$25 billion," said Hamid Zaman, managing director of Sarena Textile Industries.

"Unfortunately, when you have political instability and things are not clear, and the policies of the gov-

ernment are reversed, this whole thing has gone into a tailspin," he told AFP.

In April last year, Imran Khan was removed from his position as prime minister through a vote of no-confidence. He tried to use his popularity to push for an early election, but this led to his arrest in May and resulted in violence.

The situation was resolved through a strong crackdown on his party and its supporters. On Saturday, he was found guilty of corruption and sentenced to three years in prison.

Factories shutting down

The textile and clothing sector employs around 40 per cent of the country's 20 million-strong industrial workforce.

The main export markets are the US, EU, the UK, Türkiye, and the UAE, supplying cotton fabrics, knitwear, bed linen, towels, and ready-made garments to global brands such as Zara, H&M, Adidas, John Lewis, Target and Macy's. But many factories have closed in recent months — at least temporarily — or are no longer running at full capacity. — AFP

'Gold Plating' of airports by private operators be avoided, recommends Parliamentary committee

THE concept of 'gold plating' of airports by the private operators should be avoided, said a Parliamentary committee report on the modernisation of airports on Sunday.

The Parliamentary Panel led by Rajya Sabha member Sujeet Kumar in their report recommended that whilst the airport terminals need to be comfortable and facilitate a smoother and hassle-free journey, they need not be overly opulent and the concept of gold plating of airports by private operators should be avoided.

"The most important stakeholder in the sector is the common passenger whose aspiration and need to undertake air travel will deepen with the passage of time and growth of the economy.

The Committee, therefore, recommends to the Government to develop world-class standards but at the same time ensure that they are cost-effective and user charges remain affordable and competitive as compared to other airports in the Asia Pacific region," reads the report. — ANI



India is a developing country and passengers are price-conscious. In our national civil aviation policy, affordability and sustainability have been emphasized by the government. **PHOTO: ANI**

Maruti 3.0: Automaker aims to double production capacity in 9 yrs

MARUTI Suzuki India plans to double its production capacity to four million (40 lakhs) units in nine years from now, said Chairman RC Bhargava, hinting at what could be said to be the start of 'Maruti 3.0'.

Addressing shareholders in the company's annual report for 2022-23, Bhargava said the company will, as soon as possible, announce what it is proposing for its next stage of growth.

"Your company now

has to add the next 2 million in a period of 9 years. The task of managing all the issues relating to the production of 4 million units a year requires considerable thought and possible reorganisation of the structure of the company keeping in view the best interests of all shareholders as well as other stakeholders of the company. We will, as soon as possible, announce what we are proposing," he told shareholders in his written message. — ANI

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MSC DHANTIA VOY.NO. (SB330A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC DHANTIA VOY.NO. (SB330A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-8-2023** 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 MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY.NO. (1117E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY.NO. (1117E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-8-2023** 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Cambodia's ruling party dominates lower house with 120 seats



The ruling party's landslide victory means it has become certain that a new Cabinet, led by Hun Sen's eldest son Hun Manet as the new prime minister, will be launched. **PHOTO: KYODO**

THE ruling Cambodian People's Party of Prime Minister Hun Sen won 120 out of the 125-seat lower house in the country's parliament, according to official results of last month's general election released Saturday by Cambodia's National Election Committee.

The ruling party's landslide victory means it has become certain that a new Cabinet, led by Hun Sen's eldest son Hun Manet

as the new prime minister, will be launched.

The July 23 election was held in the absence of viable challengers after the Candlelight Party, the main opposition party, was barred from taking part in the National Assembly election.

The remaining five seats went to the royalist FUNCINPEC party. According to the results, of over 8.2 million votes, the ruling CPP won over 6.3 million, while

FUNCINPEC won 716,490 votes.

Hun Sen, 71, who has ruled the country for 38 years, said his son will replace him on 22 August, while he will hold three key positions by sitting as president of the ruling party, of the Supreme Council of the King and of the Senate. The 2023 election was criticized by the opposition and Western countries as undemocratic. Cambodia holds a general election every five years. — Kyodo

Some 21,000 migrants slipped into UK undetected in 2022 - Reports

THE UK government estimates that around 21,000 illegal migrants entered the country undetected last year, British press reported Saturday, citing a Home Office source.

The figures provided by the unnamed official show that some 30,000 asylum seekers entered the country by means other than small boats that illegally ferry migrants across the English Channel.

Almost 9,000 others were stopped by the Border Force at airports, seaports and other ports of entry. That leaves about 21,000 illegal immigrants who

slipped into the country undetected, the daily estimated.

On top of that, 54,563 migrants who arrived in the United Kingdom last year by boat, on the back of trucks and ferries and were caught by authorities up to 72 hours after their arrival.

The source told The Times these figures called into question the government's policy of reducing illegal immigration, which Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has identified as one of his five priorities for restoring the country to prosperity in 2023. — SPUTNIK



Migrants are escorted ashore from the UK Border Force vessel 'BF Ranger' in Dover, southeast England, on 6 March 2023, after having been picked up at sea while attempting to cross the English Channel. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

NEWS IN BRIEF

French billionaire Drahi to face investors as graft claims swirl

FRENCH-ISRAELI billionaire Patrick Drahi is set to make a rare appearance in front of investors this week with his multinational business empire Altice in the grip of a corruption scandal.

Swiss-based Drahi, whose empire spans telecoms and media in Europe, Israel and North America, is expected to try to ease investor concerns weeks after one of his top lieutenants was detained in Portugal. The authorities there have accused Portuguese billionaire Armando Pereira of 11 offences of corruption and money laundering, with a central allegation that he set up a network of bogus suppliers to embezzle money through Altice's procurement system.

Pereira denies the claims but the scandal has spread from Portugal to other parts of Drahi's empire, with executives in the United States and France being dismissed, suspended or stepping back.

Drahi, who generally keeps a low profile, has amassed a fortune estimated at more than \$10 billion, making him France's 13th richest man, according to French magazine Challenge.

He pieced together a network of companies through leveraged acquisitions and is now a major player in telecoms in France, Israel, Belgium, Luxembourg, Portugal and Switzerland. — AFP

15 killed, over 40 injured after train derails in Pakistan



A train derailed in southern Pakistan, resulting in a tragic incident. **PHOTO: AFP**

AT least 15 people were killed when a train derailed in southern Pakistan on Sunday, according to local media.

The Hazara Express was traveling from Karachi to Abbottabad, eight coaches have

derailed," Mohsin Syal, a railway official said, NDTV reported.

At least 15 people were killed and more than 40 injured, Pakistan's state television channel reported, quoting railway officials. The derailment happened

near Sahara railway station in the city of Nawabshah in the southern Sindh province.

Ijaz Shah, a provincial railway official, told AFP that several passengers were killed and several others injured in the accident and that a relief train has been dispatched to the site.

Images posted to local media show dozens of people at the site, with some smashing windows to help passengers clamber out of the twisted carriages and at least one coach overturned. Accidents and derailments occur frequently on Pakistan's antiquated railway system.

In June 2021 two trains collided near Daharki in Sindh killing at least 65 people and injuring about 150 others. — AFP

SPORTS

Sweden dump defending champions USA out of World Cup on penalties

SWEDEN stunned the United States 5-4 in a sudden-death penalty shootout Sunday to surge into a Women's World Cup quarter-final against Japan and consign the defending champions to their earliest-ever exit.

The title-holders dominated the opening 90 minutes but a breakthrough proved elusive with Swedish goalkeeper Zecira Musovic making some startling saves to keep her side alive.

With the deadlock remaining

after extra-time it went to penalties in Melbourne — and the tension went up another notch.

Sweden's Nathalie Bjorn was the first to miss, skying high, only for Megan Rapinoe to do the same.

Rebecka Blomqvist's effort was saved, again putting the USA in the driving seat, only for Sophia Smith to blast wide.

When Kelley O'Hara hit the post, it was all down to Sweden's Lina Hurtig, who made sure —

but only after VAR ruled her kick had crossed the line.

The dramatic conclusion leaves the tournament without the two top-ranked sides after Germany's group-stage departure, with the Swedes now considered among the chief front-runners as the world number three. Peter Gerhardsson's side, who are striving to better their third-place finish in 2019, next face the 2011 champions Japan.

— AFP



The USA's Women's World Cup round of 16 match against Sweden went into extra time. PHOTO: AFP



Myanmar futsal team head coach Bunlert Charoenwong is seen during the pre-tournament press conference of the Continental Futsal Championship 2023. PHOTO:MFF

Continental Futsal Championship 2023: Good test for team Myanmar

Myanmar futsal team head coach Bunlert Charoenwong expressed that Continental Futsal Championship 2023 to be held in Thailand is a good test for team Myanmar to grab victories in the Asian Qualifiers.

He highlighted that during the pre-tournament press conference of the Continental Futsal Championship 2023 was held at AL Meroz Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand on the evening of 6 August.

"This tournament is a good test for team Myanmar and is beneficial for the Asian qualifiers. I will test all the players in this tourney. We don't need to worry about the results of the championship. I will find mistakes from this tournament and prepare for the Asian qualifiers. I believe that my players will be able to follow the techniques I trained," said the Myanmar futsal team head coach. — KZL

Tsitsipas defeats de Minaur to capture ATP Los Cabos title

GREEK top seed Stefanos Tsitsipas defeated Australian fifth seed Alex de Minaur 6-3, 6-4 on Saturday to capture the ATP Mexico Open for his first title in 14 months. Tsitsipas, this year's Australian Open runner-up, claimed his first ATP outdoor hardcourt crown in his third final of the year, having fallen to Novak Djokovic at Melbourne and top-ranked Carlos Alcaraz at Barcelona in April.

The 24-year-old Greek star captured his 10th career title and first since June of last year at Mallorca to snap a five-final win drought. World number five Tsitsipas improved to 10-0 all-time against 19th-ranked de Minaur, who was hoping for a Mexico double after winning the title at Acapulco in February.

"It was a great match," Tsitsipas said. "I'm really happy we were able to deliver a great quality in the final match." The 24-year-old from Sydney was denied an eighth career ATP crown in his third final of the year. He also lost to Alcaraz in June's trophy match at Queen's. — AFP

Walsh in line to return for Nigeria clash in England World Cup boost

KEIRA Walsh will be available for England in their last-16 Women's World Cup clash against Nigeria on Monday as long as she shows

no adverse reaction to returning to training. England's key midfielder was stretchered off in agony in a 1-0 group-stage win over Denmark with

what was feared to have been a serious knee injury.

But scans found the Barcelona star had not been badly hurt and just over a week on she resumed training on Sunday, in a huge boost to England's World Cup hopes. Coach Sarina Wiegman declined Sunday to disclose the exact nature of the knee injury but said: "She's doing well. She started to rehab straight after we knew what was going on. She was on the pitch and training today".

"Now we'll wait to see how she recovers from that training session and if she does well then she's available for tomorrow." Wiegman switched England's usual 4-3-3 formation to 3-5-2 against China because of Walsh's absence and it paid off with a handsome 6-1 win. — AFP



England midfielder Keira Walsh was stretchered off against Denmark. PHOTO: AFP



WORLD



The Peace Statue in Nagasaki Peace Memorial Park gets cleaned on 10 July 2018 in preparation for the annual ceremony held to mark the US atomic bombing of the city on 9 August. **PHOTO: KYODO/FILE**

Hiroshima mayor calls nuke deterrence a "folly" at 78th A-bomb anniv.

THE mayor of Hiroshima on Sunday called on world leaders to accept that rising international instability has proven nuclear deterrence to be a "folly" as it marked the 78th anniversary of its atomic bombing by the United States.

Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui's message at a ceremony came as the western Japan city reflects on hosting the Group of Seven major economies' summit in May, during which the leaders, including some from nuclear-armed countries, visited the peace park and

its museum on the bombing's effects before releasing a statement backing deterrence principles.

But while he welcomed their engagement with the city in this year's Peace Declaration, Matsui said, "Leaders around the world must confront the reality that nuclear threats now being voiced by certain policymakers reveal the folly of the theory of nuclear deterrence."

"They must immediately take concrete steps to lead us from the danger-

ous present toward our ideal world," he added. He also urged Japan to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and participate at least as an observer at the second meeting of the parties to the treaty, set for November.

In another development, the city of Nagasaki said Sunday it will change the venue for its ceremony to mark the 78th anniversary of the city's atomic bombing due to approaching Typhoon Khanun and hold it indoors for the first time since 1963. — Kyodo

At least 30 migrants missing in shipwrecks off Italy

AT least 30 migrants are missing following two shipwrecks off the Italian island of Lampedusa, according to survivor testimony, the UN's migration agency said Sunday.

Around 28 people were reported lost at sea by survivors on one boat, while three were reported missing from the second, after both went down in stormy weather on Saturday, said the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Both were rickety iron boats believed to have set off from Sfax in Tunisia on Thursday.

Cultural mediators with the IOM believed there were "at least 30 people missing" after speaking to the survivors, press officer Flavio Di Giacomo told AFP.

An investigation into the shipwrecks has been opened in Agrigento, on the nearby Italian island of Sicily.

Agrigento's chief of police Emanuele Ricifari said the traffickers would have known rough seas were forecast.

"Whoever allowed them, or forced them, to leave with this sea is an unscrupulous criminal lunatic," he told Italian media. "Rough seas are forecast for the next few days. Let's hope they stop. It's sending them to slaughter with this sea," he said. — AFP



A general view shows speed boats of Italian law enforcement agency Guardia di Finanza (GdF) and of the Italian Coast Guards on 7 June 2023 in the harbour of Lampedusa. **PHOTO: VINCENZO PINTO / AFP**

21 injured in 5.5-magnitude earthquake in east China's Shandong

AS of 7 am Sunday, a total of 21 people have been injured in the 5.5-magnitude earthquake that struck the county of Pingyuan, in Dezhou City of east China's Shandong Province at 2:33 am Sunday.



People gather on a street in Liaocheng, China's eastern Shandong province, early on 6 August 2023, following a 5.4-magnitude earthquake that shook eastern China. **PHOTO: AFP**

A total of 126 buildings in the earthquake zone collapsed, while the transportation, communication and power supply there were normal, and no leak was discovered at oil and gas pipelines, according to local authorities.

More than 20 trains to depart from Beijing, Tianjin, and Cangzhou were halted and some 30 trains by way of Shijiazhuang-Jinan High-speed Railway were halted as well, according to China Railway Beijing Group Co, Ltd.

Local authorities have launched an emergency response to organize rescue and assess possible risks. — AFP