

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Article

Ageing Gracefully

By Min Zan

PAGE 8-9

Schools implementing designated reading periods in school timetables



Students seen reading in a school library.

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Education, a designated reading period has been incorporated into the school timetables for this academic year and is currently being implemented.

The Union Minister for Education provided directives in a meeting held at the ministry in April and May, suggesting that starting from secondary schools, provisions should be made for establishing a school library, incorporating designated reading periods into the school's timetable, and implementing scheduled sports activities within it.

SEE PAGE 2



The Chairman Sayadaw of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, and Senior General Min Aung Hlaing sprinkle Paritta scented water on the vehicle during the ceremony to offer national-level regalia vehicle to member Sayadaws of SSMNC yesterday.

SSMNC member Sayadaws offered national-level regalia vehicles

The State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee is top among different Sangha organizations in serving the interests of Pariyatti, Patipatti and Pativeda measures of the Buddhism.

Salient points in the speech of the Senior General at offering national-level regalia vehicles to Sayadaws

1. State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee is top among different Sangha organizations in serving the interests of Pariyatti, Patipatti and Pativeda measures of the Buddhism.
2. All Gana Sangha Meeting held on 25 May 1980 successfully formed Sangha organizations at different levels with participation of nine Sangha Ganas with the aim of ensuring purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddhism.
3. Theravada Buddhism is flourishing in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar through collaborative efforts of members of the Sangha and nuns in two Dhura measures.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing supplicated the State Administration Council will offer national-level regalia vehicles to member Sayadaws of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee for conveniently serving interests of Buddhism.

A ceremony to offer national-level regalia vehicles to member Sayadaws of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee by the State Administration Council took

SEE PAGE 3



NATIONAL

PAGE 5

MR operates airbag express trains and express trains alternately on Yangon-Mawlamyine railway



NATIONAL

PAGE 7

CMP garment sector shows positive growth this year

NATIONAL

Schools implementing designated reading periods in school timetables

FROM PAGE 1

“This academic year’s schedule includes a designated reading period during the eight teaching sessions of the day, with each class scheduled to visit the library once a week to participate in one session of the reading period. We have placed fiction and non-fiction books suitable for students from elementary to high school levels in the library. In addition, we have added books that will assist with school lessons, biographies related to history, and books on geography. Furthermore, to encourage creativity, we’ve included science-related books and brain teasers such as mathematical puzzles aimed at improving math intelligence,” explained Daw Hla Hla Nwe, a senior assistant teacher in Kamayut Township, to GNLM.

At the meeting with university rectors, degree college principals, and regional and state education officials held on 23 April in Nay Pyi Taw, the Union Minister for Education provided an instruction on teaching students not only with regular subjects but also with the importance of politeness, good morals, adoring the nation, and the preservation of their culture.

“Library time was initially included in the school timetable but gradually phased out. Reintroducing library and sports time is expected to yield positive results for young people. Nowadays, many children are more interested in using their phones than reading, so reinstating these activities in schools aims to cultivate good reading and library habits,” U Tun Tun Soe, a parent of a middle school student from South Okkalapa township, told GNLM.

Out of the 330 townships in Myanmar, which include 471 towns and 3,485 wards, along with 63,210 villages in 23,910 village-tracts, the Department of Information and Public Relations under the Ministry of Information has established 410 public libraries at the district and township levels. Additionally, more than 3,500 libraries are operated by the Myanmar Libraries Foundation, regional organizations, individuals, and communities, as reported by the Ministry of Information. — TWA/TH

FATF recognizes Myanmar’s AML/CFL implementations and increases annual evaluation level

1. The Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) has announced on 22 October 2022 that Myanmar has been transferred from the country list with Jurisdictions Under Increased Monitoring to the country with High-Risk Jurisdictions Subject to A Call for Action by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). Now, there have been improvements due to the pragmatic collaboration of Myanmar.
2. Myanmar has been continuously formulating the processes for Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT), and Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in accordance with criteria and determinants of the FATF and the recommendations of the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering.
3. The CBM submits progressive reports on implementations of those processes to the Asia Pacific Joint Group-APJG four-monthly and Myanmar representatives attended the face-to-face meeting of the APJG and discussed with the APJG.
4. As the good outcomes, Myanmar has been promoted to largely compliant (LC) as attaining five immediate outcomes in total from 2021 to 2024 which are— two immediate outcomes in 2021 involving appointing enough authorities to monitor the non-financial businesses and vocational businesses and scrutinizing and inspecting the banks; one immediate outcome in 2022 which was offering training the supervisory authorities for proliferation financing through providing the financial support for WMDs (PFTFS); one immediate outcome in 2023 which was knowledge sharing and monitoring the reporting bodies for the PFTFS; and one outcome in 2024 which was gems, gold dealers and real property risk-based monitoring.
5. In addition, Myanmar has been promoted to the largely compliant (LC) the Mutual Evaluation Report by the APG on 25 recommendations in the Sustainable Development Report (2023) as the CBM submits the Sustainable Development Report to the APG annually. The CBM also is making steadfast effort to get level promoted in 2024 with regard to two recommendations.
6. Accordingly, the CBM is hereby announcing to the public that Myanmar’s implementations of AML/CFT have been increased level by the FATF and APG with Mutual Evaluation Level.

The Central Bank of Myanmar
9 June 2024



Mon State Chief Minister receives Indian Ambassador to Myanmar

MON State Chief Minister U Aung Kyi Thein received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur at the state government office yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed supply of agriculture water through solar system in Mon State, exporting more areca nuts to India, supply of water to water-scarce wards and villages, solar power supply in remote villages, and cooperation in technologies for the state’s

weaving industries.

They had a friendly and open exchange of views regarding the development activities that will be carried out with the help of India, including technology and assistance for industries in the state and more opportunities for the development of the salt industry and rubber industry in the state. — Thet Naing (Mawlamyine)/KZL

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise



NATIONAL

SSMNC member Sayadaws offered national-level regalia vehicles

FROM PAGE 1

place at Wizaya Mingala Dhamma Thabin Hall on Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon Region yesterday morning, attended by SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

On the occasion, the Senior General supplicated that under the leadership of the SSMNC, the Theravada Buddhism is flourishing in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar through collaborative efforts of members of the Sangha and nuns in two Dhura measures. Meanwhile, the government and well-wishers provide four prerequisites to members of the Sangha, he added.

The Senior General recounted that the All Gana Sangha Meeting held on 12th waxing of Nayon 1342 ME, 25 May 1980 successfully formed Sangha organizations at different levels with participation of nine Sangha Ganas with the aim of ensuring purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddhism.

He continued that SAC has built Maravijaya Buddha Image, with 18 feet in height of the throne and 63 feet in height of the statue, totalling 81 feet as the world tallest marble Buddha image in the Buddha Park in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory with the contributions of well-wisher people, aimed at showing flourishing and propagation of Theravada Buddhism in Myanmar to the world, setting a centre in Myanmar for Theravada Buddhism, ensuring prosperity of the State and forging peace across the world.

He noted that a total of 720 stone plaque chamber pagodas were built, north of the Buddha, and all chambers accom-



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects religious edifices on Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Hill and the halls for stay of State Ovadacariya Sayadaws yesterday.

modate 1,440 stone plaques bearing Tri Pitakat treatises in Myanmar and Romanized languages.

He disclosed that SAC donates Tri Pitakat treatises in Myanmar and Romanized languages to Buddhism universities and monasteries at home and abroad as part of contributing to flourishing of Buddhism in accord with the advice of SSMNC member Sayadaws.

SSMNC Chairman Aggamaha Pan-

dita Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Thanlyin Minkyaung Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Candimabhivamsa delivered an Ovada Katha.

The Senior General donated national-level regalia vehicles and offertories to the Chairman and the Secretary Sayadaws.

The Joint Secretary, council members and union ministers also offered vehicles to member Sayadaws of SSMNC.

The Chairman Sayadaw and member Sayadaws, and the Senior General sprinkled Paritta scented water on the vehicles.

The Senior General also inspected religious edifices on Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Hill, the halls for stay of State Ovadacariya Sayadaws and members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha on Hanthathiri Hill, and improvement of roads and gave necessary guidance to officials. — MNA/TTA



Photo shows vehicles rolling on new Thanlyin Bridge 3 across Bago river on 8 June.

Toll collection for new Bago River Crossing Thanlyin Bridge 3 to begin on 15 June

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Construction, tolls for the newly-opened Thanlyin Bridge 3 across the Bago River will be collected from vehicles starting 15 June.

Tolls for the bridge were waived from 8 to 14 June. It has also been announced that the tolls will vary based on the types of vehicle.

In this regard, private cars weighing less than three tonnes will be charged K500, small passenger vehicle Hilux, light truck, Dyna and Canter, K1,000,

mini-bus, passenger vehicles Hino and Hyundai K2,000, 6- or 8-wheeled small trucks K4,000, overload fine K12,000, 10, 12- or 14-wheeled heavy truck and trailer K12,000 and overload fine K22,000, 18- or 22-wheeled trailer K22,000 and overload fine K66,000 and empty trailer K4,000.

A total of 12,988 vehicles in various types drove along the bridge on the opening day of the bridge. Yesterday, a total of 31,509 vehicles rolled on the bridge. — TWA/ TRKM

NATIONAL

Confiscation of illegal items: Timbers, foodstuffs, industrial materials and vehicles

ON 7 June, during the inspection by the Customs Department under the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, two types of goods (estimated value of K22,600,000), including 3,060 kilogrammes of Footwear Reclaimed industrial raw materials in a container, which is reported to have been abandoned by the owner at Asia World Port Terminal permanent container checkpoint, a Higer bus (worth K35,000,000) driving from Thamanya to Yangon at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint carrying 1,440 bottles of Maxx Value engine oil (estimated value of K10,200,000) were seized and action was taken in accordance with Customs procedures.

On the same day, the Sagaing Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force conducted inspections. At the combined checkpoint of the Yadanabon Bridge in Sagaing, they seized an unregistered Toyota Vanguard vehicle (estimated value of K8,000,000). In Parami Ward of Sagaing, they seized 2,159 tonnes of other illegal timbers (estimated value of K1,141,540). The action was taken under the Export and Import Law and the Forest Law.

On 7 June, the Mon State Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force conducted an inspection and found 1,050 kilogrammes of apples, 30 bags of 25 kilogrammes of Mingzhu wheat, and 1,000 gallons of liquid products



Confiscated sawn timbers in Sagaing Region.

believed to be pesticides in two vehicles without official documents. The seized items, valued at approximately K15,500,000, were carried by a Toyota Hilux and a Nissan Condor, estimated

at K75,000,000. Customs procedures are followed in response to the action.

Additionally, on 7 and 8 June, the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force

conducted inspections. They found one unregistered Toyota Alphard and one Toyota Voxy (estimated value of K27,000,000) in Nyaungchaydauk Village of Padaung Township, one unregistered Toyota Belta (estimated value of K9,000,000,000) in Toungoo Township, one unregistered Toyota Alphard (estimated value of K12,000,000) in Ushitpin Township, and two unregistered Honda Insight cars (estimated value of K10,000,000) in Nyaungkhashay. The action was taken under the Export-Import Law.

Therefore, on 7 and 8 June, 16 cases (estimated value of K225,441,540) were seized, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/TKO

MCDC initiates strand road beautification with persimmon trees

IT has been reported that 100 mature persimmon trees will replace some of the dead trees along the traffic islands of the Strand Road to enhance the cleanliness and beauty of Mandalay port.

The project is being overseen by a special unit of the Playgrounds, Parks and Gardens Department of the Mandalay City Development Committee (MCDC), according to an official from the department.

“We have already dug 50 pits for planting trees, as we aim to plant a total of 100 trees. Planting is expected to be completed within next three days. It is the department’s responsibility to green and beautify the Strand Road, so we are replacing dead plants with shade-pro-

viding trees,” said the official.

This beautification project for Mandalay’s Strand Road is being implemented across six zones. In Zone 2 (between 26th and 35th streets) and Zone 3 (between 35th and 41st streets), a total of 100 mature trees will be planted on the traffic islands. These 6-foot trees will offer shade, enhance the beauty, and contribute to the overall greenery of the traffic islands.

“Our staff members are as-

signed watering and maintaining the trees. We have compiled a list of dead shade plants and are replacing them with mature trees, ensuring they are planted during rainy season for optimal growth,” the official continued.

Relevant departments of the MCDC are actively maintaining the cleanliness and beauty of Mandalay port and the greenery along the Strand Road of the Ayeyawady River.

— Maung Aye Chan/ TRKM



Photo shows trees which are grown along traffic islands of the Strand Road in Mandalay.

Counter-argument to false information

Subversive misinformation accuses Tatmadaw of killing a civilian

THE subversive Khit Thit media’s misinformation accused that the Tatmadaw arrived at the circular road near Kanma village in Monywa of Sagaing Region and shot dead an innocent man on 7 June.

Upon contacting a local security officer in the relevant township to confirm the news, the officer approved that it was just a misinformation. Reportedly, the security forces did not conduct any illegal activities against the local people and they were following the existing laws issued for the peace and tranquility of the community.

Illegal subversive media are

circulating fake news accusing the security forces and misleading the public about the security measures in the area and committing public panic. — MNA/TKO



The screenshot validates false claims.



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NATIONAL

Over 5,000 foreigners visit Shwedagon Pagoda in May

ACCORDING to U Bo Thin, a member of the pagoda board of trustees, a total of 5,291 foreigners visited the Shwedagon Pagoda in May 2024.

Most of those foreign visitors were from China, Thailand, and Vietnam. Visitors from America, Europe, and Africa also toured the pagoda.

“On weekdays, around 20,000 pilgrims typically visit the pagoda, with numbers rising to between 40,000 and

50,000 on weekends. About 150 foreigners visit daily, most of them come from China, Thailand, and Vietnam,” stated U Bo Thin.

On 21 June, the ceremony of Maha Samaya Day will be marked at the Shwedagon Pagoda, coinciding with Nayon Full Moon Day.

Due to the increasing number of pilgrims, the pagoda is open from 5 am to 8 pm. — ASH/TRKM



Photo depicts flocks of foreigners visiting Shwedagon Pagoda.



An express train seen at Mawlamyine railway station.

MR operates airbag express trains and express trains alternately on Yangon-Mawlamyine railway

MYANMA Railways (MR) is running an airbag express train and an express train alternately every other day along Yangon-Mawlamyine railway, according to the chief superintendent of Mawlamyine station.

It is also reported that the airbag express train and regular express train are alternately operated along the route of 82-down train, which will depart from Mawlamyine for Yangon at 8:30

am. The ticket prices for 82-down train trip, the upper class ticket price at the airbag express train is set at K11,000 and K6,000 for ordinary class and K10,000 for the upper class, and K5,000 for the ordinary class at the express train.

Yangon-Mawlamyine train tickets must be purchased one day in advance. Express train tickets are sold from 7:00 am to 12:00



pm and from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. In addition, it is also reported that upper class tickets can be purchased three days in advance, and ordinary tickets one day in advance. — ASH/TKO

RTAD allows preliminary registrations issued for 7,692 vehicles in May

ACCORDING to the Road Transport Administration Department, preliminary registrations for a total of 7,692 vehicles were processed in May during the 2024-25 financial year.

The report indicates that these vehicles include import cars, semi-knocked-down (SKD) cars, and vehicles produced by the Ministry of Industry and industrial zones. Specifically, there were 2,892 imported, 4,799 SKDs, and one vehicle produced by the Ministry of Industry.

These registrations cover a range of vehicles, including passenger vehicles, light trucks, heavy trucks, two-wheeled and three-wheeled vehicles, transporters, machinery, and others. — ASH/TMT



Vehicle Inspection Section of the Road Transport Administration Department.

Flood Warning

Issued at 10:30 hrs MST on 9-4-2024

ACCORDING to the 09:30 hrs MST observation today, the water level of Thaungyin River at Myawady is observed as more than 2 feet below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 6 hours.

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas at Myawady Township, to take precaution measure.—DMH

NATIONAL



Rehearsal to rescue persons floating in the water. PHOTO: BO BO WIN

Mon State conducts storm, flood response drill, including water rescue operations

A search and rescue drill for natural disasters such as storms and floods was held in the Thanlwin River in Mawlamyine, Mon State, and this year's drill included a new plot of rescuing people in water, according to the Bo Bo Win Social Rescue Association.

The search and rescue rehearsal took place in Thanlwin River at the jetty west of the High Court in Mawlamyine on the morning of 6 June and was organized by the natural disaster management committee.

Participants in the rehearsal included firefighters, staff from the Mon State Nat-

ural Disaster Management Department and the General Administration Department, members of the Red Cross Society, six social rescue associations and local people from the wards, and Chief Minister U Aung Kyi Thein and officials attended the event.

"Rehearsals are held every year. This year, we have added a new feature: rescuing persons floating in water. Another point is that we focus on displaying the equipment of social associations, including vehicles and the workforce. In previous years, we cooperated with respective fire brigades,

but we didn't show their equipment. This year, we showed rescue vehicles and equipment. This is something special for this year. We were also able to present our requirements to the chief minister and ministers," he said.

This rehearsal aims at providing systematic, organized, coordinated and timely responses in search and rescue operations in case of natural disasters, and only if the rescue teams conduct such rehearsals every year will they be able to provide practical assistance to the victims of possible natural disasters, he added. — MT/ZN

Swine fever outbreak causes decline in pig farming this year

SWINE flu broke out in last year's dry season, which has resulted in the number of pig farmers lessening this year.

As a result of a decrease in the number of pig farmers, there have been fewer pigs, but pork consumption hasn't decreased.

"Last year's swine flu outbreak slightly impacted pig farming, so the price gets high now. In young pig farming, there are native pigs and CP pigs.

Now, pigs number fall because some farmers have stopped farming them. Al-

though some even stopped farming, they wanted to resume farming.

"We can say that pig farming has decreased. It has been more than a month since the price has risen," said Ko Win Ko Ko, who runs a pig farm in Yamethin Township.

Prices of live pigs were good between the end of February and first week of March.

"We want the pig farming industry to develop. Now, some people have started pig farming and want to resume their pig farming," said a pig farmer in Bago Region. — Thit Taw/ZS



Pigs seen at a farm.



The Eighth batch of Asahi Shinbun Scholarship winners from the MAJA Centre seen at the airport.

MAJA releases list for Japanese university entrance course

THE organizing committee for the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT), Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni, released the list of eligible candidates for the Japanese university entrance course.

MAJA Education Centre has also nominated winners of 100 per cent and 50 per cent scholarships for a year course (in-person class), based on its criteria- education level, need for financial support and enthusiasm.

The scholarship will be provided with sponsorship by Sumitomo Corporation Asia and Oceania, Tanaka Sakuji and MAJA.

One hundred per cent scholarship winners are Khaing Shwe Sin Win, David Van Bawi Ceu, Hein Htet Zaw, Htun Pa Pa Han, Hnin Nwe Aye, Aye Aye Sanny, Nyi Nyi Min Htet, Shune Lai Hanny and Thazin Thiri Myint.

Fifty per cent scholarship winners are Mya Hmu Khin, May Myat Noe Htun, Htoo Wai Yan Hlaing, Htet Wai Yan, Ei Thu Han, Nyi Zaw Naing and Htet Htet Win. Those who were not selected for the scholarship are allowed to attend the course with their own funding, it said.

Enrollment needs to be done by 14 June, it said. — MT/ZS

NATIONAL

Despite short supply, Pheegyan banana sales good this monsoon

THIS monsoon, pheegyan banana sales have been doing well despite its short supply.

The rainy season is banana plantation season, during this period, bananas get good prices and fully-grown fruits are produced.

“The trading has been fine. This is banana plantation season. In rainy season, we don’t need to irrigate and plants are healthier because the soil is

moist. Irrigation is required in summer and dry seasons, farmers don’t grow banana at that time. Growing banana this season can produce beautiful fruit,” said a banana farmer from Pyinmana Township.

He said banana has domestic consumption and distributed to cities around the country.

“Pheegyan is the most consumed. Rakhine banana is only used for offering to Nat (spirit)



A banana shop.

and ceremonies in the three-month rain retreat. Pheegyan is the best seller item and price is also good. Red banana is the

least consumed,” he said.

Depending on geographical location, banana farmers should grow about 3,000 plants in a plan-

tation because banana bunches can’t be beautiful and unable to fetch good price if plants are packed, he said. — Thit Taw/ZS

CMP garment sector shows positive growth this year



Female workers are seen running operations at a factory on a cutting, making, and packing basis.

MYANMAR garment manufacturers received growing foreign orders this year, a garment factory owner told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

The garment orders improved significantly this year. There is great potential in the garment sector this year, with client orders being placed until

the end of the year.

“There is a rise in purchase orders. The buyers who were supposed to go to Bangladesh turned to Myanmar after Bangladesh doubled labour wages. We see good prospects this year as some place orders for the whole year. As a result of this, it helps secure jobs for the workers,” he added.

The majority of the factory workers are from regions other than Yangon. The factories arrange dormitories near the industrial park to accommodate them.

“We maintain and respect a good relationship between employer and employees. They are diligently committed to the job, and they can earn as much as they make an effort. We also provide other contributions such as staple food (rice, edible oil, salt) and other expenses beyond salary,” he emphasized.

He added that we covered the travel cost to return to their hometowns during the last Thingyan holidays in mid-April.

Myanmar’s manufacturing sector is primarily concentrated in garment and textiles produced on a Cutting, Making, and Packing basis, and it contributes to the country’s GDP to a certain extent. — MT/EM



Some fans seen viewing paintings displayed in the exhibition with interest.

‘June Inspiration’ displays at the Artist Gallery Café

THE current group art exhibition, titled ‘June Inspiration’ and organized by Studio Paradise, is being held at the Artist Gallery Café from 6 to 9 June, offering art lovers the opportunity to enjoy music performances while viewing the paintings.

In this exhibition, visitors can expect to see creations in various mediums by 13 artists. We invite everyone to come to the exhibition and experience

it with positive emotions,” said an official from the Artist Gallery Café.

The Group Art Exhibition features paintings by artists such as Maung Win Hla, Mon Myint, Win Maung Shwe, Soe Naing Soe, Myat Kyaw Khaung, Tun Aung, Bo Thaik Oo, Zaw Win Tun, Moe Htet Aung, Hein Htet Aung, Ma Zaw, Theingi, and Thwe Thwe Win. — ASH/MKKS

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OPINION

Empower youth: Building skilled and resilient generations

YOUTH represent a vital resource for any nation, known for their willingness to explore and take risks. In today's world, it is essential for young people to possess not only knowledge and education but also problem-solving skills, social proficiency, effective communication, media literacy, and critical thinking abilities. These competencies are crucial for success in the 21st century.

Countries must adopt and implement comprehensive youth policies to develop a qualified and capable youth population. These policies should aim to enhance the skills and capacities of young people, preparing them for professional success. Many nations and organizations are already taking steps to provide training that opens up employment opportunities and supports entrepreneurship. Despite these efforts, young people still face significant challenges, including economic, social, technological, and cultural disparities.

Global economic crises, instability, and conflicts in some regions also hinder youth development. To improve the situation, countries and organizations need to prioritize resolving conflicts and economic issues, creating a stable environment conducive to youth development. Enhancing the socioeconomic conditions of young people should be a primary focus.

The United Nations reports that there are 1.2 billion people aged 15 to 24, making up 16 per cent of the global population. Notably, 85 per cent of these youths live in developing countries. According to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, the youth population is projected to reach approximately 1.3 billion by 2030.

Youth are invaluable resources for their countries and are expected to assume leadership roles in the future. Their skills and capacities are crucial in shaping the world's evolution. Despite the challenges they face, it is essential to provide smart training systems that ensure youth receive high-quality education and knowledge.

Qualified young people must have access to opportunities that allow them to demonstrate their talents and capabilities. Without such opportunities, their potential may go untapped. Therefore, it is crucial to create pathways for youth in various sectors. Nations bear the responsibility of nurturing their young population to become highly qualified individuals. At the same time, it is necessary to nurture the youths so that they do not become opportunists.

Countries need to prioritize health, education, and employment opportunities for youth to prevent brain drain and promote national development. Relevant institutions must generate appropriate opportunities for young people from diverse backgrounds. Ensuring that all young people have the chance to develop their skills and capacities is essential for the long-term growth and prosperity of any nation.

I pressed a number and heard a voice on the other end say, "Hello". It was U Thant Htun's voice.

"U Thant Htun, it's me... Can you come at 3 pm? I'd like to get my hair cut," I said.

"Sure... I'll be there..." he replied.

His name is U Thant Htun, and his lifelong occupation has been cutting hair. Initially, he worked for many years at other people's salons. During that time, I didn't get my hair cut by him but by the owner of the salon where he worked. Later, U Thant Htun left the salon and intended to open his own, but he never did. Instead, I noticed him going around town cutting hair at people's homes. About fifteen years ago, my health declined, and I couldn't go to the barbershops anymore. Since then, I've had U Thant Htun come to my place for haircuts.

Reflecting on the years that have passed, the changes in our lives become evident. The passage of time and the law of nature dictate that as we age, our abilities and circumstances transform. This natural progression is unavoidable, a universal truth that everyone must face. The physical decline that comes with age often brings limitations that affect our daily lives, and U Thant Htun and I are no exceptions to this rule.

In the days before mobile phones, I couldn't call him. Lat-

er, when I started using a phone, I saved his number during one of his visits, and since then, I've been calling him to arrange my haircuts. Over the years, there were only one or two times when he cut my hair exactly how I wanted. But I kept having him cut my hair because I couldn't go out due to my health and also because I enjoyed hearing about the outside world from him. Our conversations during these visits became a cherished routine, offering a window into the bustling world outside my confined existence.

U Thant Htun isn't a politician and doesn't belong to any political party, but he is very interested in politics and keeps himself well-informed. He often shares what he knows with others. I'm just a listener, but it helps pass the time during the haircuts, and I get to learn something, too. Sometimes, he talks about his family, and again, I just listen. His insights, drawn from years of listening to the radio and observing the world around him, add a unique perspective to our discussions.

Now, I'm 70 years old, and he's 75. I don't go out much, and he has also slowed down significantly. He used to get around on a bicycle, but now his family doesn't allow him to ride it anymore. It's understandable; he's too old for it, and the city is full of motorcycles and bicycles, which makes it unsafe. The shift from being independent to relying on others

Ageing Gracefully

By Min Zan

marks a significant change in our lives, one that underscores the inevitability of ageing.

I get my hair cut once every two months, so I see U Thant Htun about six times a year. Because we're familiar with each other, he shares a lot, especially about politics. I don't understand much about politics and am afraid to discuss it, but he uses the radio a lot, so he shares news and his thoughts about it during his visits. His passion for staying informed and his willingness to share what he knows highlight the importance of remaining mentally active, even as physical abilities decline.

Given his age, it's no longer appropriate for him to go around cutting hair. Seeing him walking to his clients' houses, I've noticed that they often pay him more than his standard fee out of gratitude. When he used to cut my hair, I paid 500 kyats, which was very reasonable for a home service. Nowadays, I don't ask about his rates anymore; I just pay him 4,000 or 5,000 kyats per cut. He always wishes me health and happiness in return. This increase in payment is not just a recognition

of his service but also an acknowledgement of the challenges he faces as he continues to work despite his age.

Lately, I've noticed that U Thant Htun seems more worn out. I think his children can't support him much, which is why he's still cutting hair. I feel bad calling him, but there's no one else who provides this kind of home service. Last week, when he came, he didn't talk as much about politics as he usually does. Maybe it was the hot weather or his health — I'm not sure. This visible decline is a stark reminder of our mortality and the inevitable changes that come with ageing.

Both of us are getting older. One day, I'll call him, and there will be no answer, or he won't be able to come anymore. Something will change, inevitably. The nature of infirmity means that at some point, our roles might reverse, or our relationship might come to an end. This contemplation brings a mix of melancholy and acceptance, knowing that life's transient nature is something we all must come to terms with.

The process of ageing is a

complex interplay of physical, mental, and emotional changes. As we grow older, our bodies naturally lose strength and vitality. This decline can be gradual or sudden, but it is always a reminder of the impermanence of life. For U Thant Htun and me, this journey is marked by our shared experiences and the recognition of our limitations. The challenges we face are not just personal but universal, reflecting the broader human condition.

The law of nature dictates that all living beings must age and eventually pass away. This cycle of life and death is an inherent part of existence. While it brings challenges, it also offers opportunities for growth and reflection. For instance, the decline in physical abilities often leads to a deeper appreciation for the moments of connection and understanding we share with others. These interactions become more meaningful as we recognize the limited time we have.

In contemplating the nature of infirmity, we come to understand the resilience of the human spirit. Despite the physical limitations that ageing imposes,



The passage of time and the natural progression of aging are depicted as universal truths that everyone must confront.

there is a strength in adapting to new circumstances and finding joy in small, everyday moments.

U Thant Htun's dedication to his work, even at an advanced age, is a testament to this resilience. Despite the challenges he faces, his continued efforts to provide

a service highlight the determination and resourcefulness that define the human experience.

Moreover, the bond that forms between individuals like U Thant Htun and me is a reflection of the interdependence that becomes more pronounced with

age. As we grow older, we rely more on each other for support, companionship, and understanding. These relationships are a crucial aspect of coping with the changes that come with ageing. They provide a sense of continuity and connection, helping us navigate the uncertainties of life.

As I look back on the years of haircuts and conversations with U Thant Htun, I am reminded of the importance of cherishing these moments. Each visit is not just a routine but a significant part of our lives. The stories he shares, the knowledge he imparts, and the simple act of getting a haircut all contribute to a rich tapestry of experiences that define our existence. These interactions are a source of comfort and familiarity, grounding us in a world that is constantly changing.

In brief, the inevitability of ageing and the infirmities that accompany it are fundamental aspects of the human condition. They challenge us to adapt, to find new ways of living, and to appreciate the connections we have with others. For U Thant Htun and me, our shared journey through these years has been marked by mutual respect, understanding, and a recognition of the transient nature of life. As we continue to age, these moments of connection become even more valuable, reminding us of the resilience and beauty inherent in the human experience.

(Based on True Story)



Fish farming near islands can be integrated with other aquaculture practices, such as seaweed farming or shellfish cultivation. This allows for the efficient use of resources and creates synergies between different components of the marine ecosystem. PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Aquaculture overtakes wild fisheries for first time: UN report

With global demand for aquatic foods rising, sustainable production is crucial for ensuring healthy diets.

AQUACULTURE is playing an increasingly important role in meeting the world's food needs, surpassing wild fisheries in aquatic animal production for the first time, according to a report published Friday.

With global demand for aquatic foods expected to keep growing, an increase in sustainable production is vital to ensure healthy diets, the United Nations's Food and Agriculture Organization said.

In 2022, aquaculture yielded

94.4 million tonnes of aquatic animal production — 51 per cent of the total, and 57 per cent of the production destined for human consumption, it said.

"Aquatic systems are increasingly recognized as vital for food and nutrition security," according to the report, released as experts gathered in Costa Rica for talks on ocean conservation.

"Because of their great diversity and capacity to supply ecosystem services and sustain healthy

diets, aquatic food systems represent a viable and effective solution that offers greater opportunities to improve global food security and nutrition," it added.

While wild fisheries production has stayed largely unchanged for decades, aquaculture has increased by 6.6 per cent since 2020, the report noted.

The sustainability of wild fishery resources remained a cause for concern, it added.

The proportion of marine

stocks fished within biologically sustainable levels decreased to 62.3 per cent in 2021, 2.3 per cent lower than in 2019, the report said.

"Urgent action is needed to accelerate fishery stock conservation and rebuilding."

Call for investment

With the world's population projected to reach 8.5 billion by 2030, "providing sufficient food, nutrition and livelihoods for this growing population demands significant investments," it added.

"Aquaculture has a major role to play, particularly in Africa where its great potential is not yet realized," the report said, noting that more than 40 per cent of the world's population cannot afford a healthy diet.

Aquatic products remain one of the most traded food commodities, generating a record \$195 billion in 2022 — a 19 per cent increase from pre-pandemic levels, it said.

"Despite these significant

achievements, the sector still faces major challenges from climate change and disasters, water scarcity, pollution, biodiversity loss" and other man-made impacts, it added.

The report was released to coincide with a meeting in San Jose of country representatives, scientists and international experts to prepare for the third UN Ocean Conference, to be held in France in 2025.

SOURCE: AFP

NATIONAL

Tourism sector still operates in June

TOURISM sector typically declined after Thingyan in previous years, however it has still operated moderately until June this year, said Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Association chairman U Naung Naung Han.

Tourist arrivals at Ngwehsaung and Chaungtha beaches mounted in March and April and hotel room prices rocketed in dry season, because of it, some visitors avoided travelling during that period but they have started travelling this season, he said. He added that some people go on vacation now as their job needs to stop in the rainy season.

“In past, visitor arrivals at beaches usually declined after Thingyan period. But this year is

different. Because beaches are always crowded in March and April and room prices are expensive so some people avoided travelling during that period. But they go trips in May or June. And some businesses are busy in dry season but they need to break in the rainy season, so people from related-businesses go on vacations in the rainy season. For example, farmers are busy in the rainy season but rice and beans traders are free so they go on vacation,” said U Naung Naung Han.

There are still visitors in post-Thingyan period this year so hotels have still operated and some hotels have given discount, he said.



Local and foreign tourists are visiting Bagan.

“But I think some hotels will stop temporarily in June or July and resume in August or September when tourist arrivals

are likely to increase again,” he added.

In Bagan, rain level is low, that is why there are still

tourists. At present, there are day-trippers in Yangon and nearby tourist destinations and waterfalls. — MT/ZS

Research increases for boosting marine industry of Taninthayi Region

COORDINATING meeting on the progress of research works that are carried out in accordance with the Fishery Research Fund Accord between the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and the aquatic business entrepreneurs in Taninthayi Region took place in Myeik Township on 7 June.

Deputy Minister Dr Aung Gyi, Taninthayi Region Economic Affairs Minister U Maung Gyi, deputy directors-general, members of the supervisory committee on research work, the professor of Marine Science Department at Myeik University, and personnel from Taninthayi Region Fisheries Federation attended the meeting.

The deputy minister mentioned that Myanmar ranks third globally in terms of mangrove coverage among 123 countries. Myeik District alone boasts over 300,000 acres of mangroves, making it the area with the highest mangrove concentration in Myanmar. Furthermore, the Taninthayi Region contributes 30 per cent



Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Gyi emphasizes research process to boost marine industry on 7 June.

of Myanmar’s aquatic product exports. He emphasized that increased research efforts are necessary to further enhance, expand, and sustain the development of the aquaculture industry.

The deputy minister clari-

fied the success of the saltwater prawn farming business. Additionally, clam farming has shown improvement, with 5,000 acres dedicated to clam farming in the past two years. Therefore, it is essential to effectively conduct research for

the farming of clams, oysters, rockfish, and lates calcarifer. Furthermore, he urged all stakeholders to collaborate for the development of the fishery industry, both in small-scale and commercial farming of clams, oysters, rockfish, and

lates Calcarifer, as well as for the Development of human resources within the industry.

Taninthayi Region Economic Affairs Minister U Maung Gyi also emphasized the need to regulate commercial fishing and promote fish farming to prevent the long-term depletion of fish resources. Additionally, he stressed the importance of conducting research to achieve positive outcomes for the development of the marine industry.

The remaining attendees discussed the following topics: upgrading Kalwin camp, conducting research on preserving the genetics of marine life and natural resources in the farming research camp (Kyunsu), livestock and farming, research on preserving and producing high-quality species, incubating, producing, and farming snail/oyster species, preserving regionally sacred fish species, promoting the quality of aquatic products to meet high demand in the market, and expanding market research. — MNA/TMT

NATIONAL



The Uppatasanti Pagoda.

Plan underway to gild first circular decorative relief band at Uppatasanti Pagoda

ACCORDING to the Pagoda Board of Trustees, the 3,485 square feet first circular decorative band of the Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw will be gilded with pure gold plates.

The cost of one square foot gold plate is set at K2.5 million but its actual cost including handicraft works is K3.134 million per plate. Donations have been received for gilding 2,318

square feet of the area for the third gilding, and those who wish to donate for the remaining area of 1,167 square feet can contact the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The Uppatasanti Pagoda is located on the ridge, two miles and four furlongs northwest of Pyinmana. The pagoda stands at a height of 325 feet from the platform to the umbrella. — TWA/TKO

ECD reports acceptable air quality levels across country

THE Environmental Conservation Department has announced that the Air Quality Index (AQI) in various townships across the country remains within acceptable levels.

The AQI was measured by the Environmental Conservation Department at specified sampling points in different states and regions, including the Union Territory. Parameters tested included Environmental Perimeter Air Station (EPAS)-Haz-Scanner Air Quality Monitoring Station (AQM-65), Scenitroid (SL-50 Scential) Aeroqual (Series 500 Portable Air Quality Monitor) AQMesh (Dust Analyzer - 1941150) (Gas Analyzer-1940150), Portable Beta Attenuation Mass Monitor (BAM 1022) Air Quality Monitoring Station (AQMS), and Continuous Particulate Monitor (PM 2.5) Particulate Matter (PM 10) Sulphur Dioxide (SO2) Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) Ozone (O3) Carbon Monoxide (CO).

The AQI for Thanlyin Township in Yangon and Kengtung in Shan State was rated at the orange level for vulnerable individuals due to high levels of Particulate Monitor PM 2.5, while the index for other states and regions was observed at yellow and green levels.

The Environmental Conservation Department noted that test results were influenced by factors such as air temperature, wind speed, wind direction, humidity, rainfall, vehicle emissions, and industrial pollution, and therefore, air quality levels may fluctuate. — TWA/TMT



A staff check the air quality measurement machine and index.

Matriculation exam results 2024 to come out on 11 June

THE results of the 2024 matriculation exam will be announced at 6 am on 11 June, according to the Department of Myanmar Examinations.

The results will be posted simultaneously at examination centres in their respective townships. Additionally, the results will be available on the Department of Myanmar Examinations' website at www.myanmarexam.org.

For examination centres in remote areas or those with

poor internet connectivity, the results will also be announced on Radio Myanmar on the day of the release.

This year, 146,523 candidates registered for the matriculation exam, but only 128,801 students actually took the exam nationwide. — TWA/KZL

Students are seen sitting for the previous 2024 matriculation exam in Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region.



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ECONOMY WORLD

China's policy package to aid long-term growth of property sector

A combination of tailored policies targeting home transactions and home inventory destocking was announced by Chinese authorities in mid-May, and it has led to a resurgence in sales and growing recognition of the sector's transition to a new development model.

Over more than a decade, city-specific measures were implemented in China to place strict rules on home transactions to curb rapidly rising home prices. A major pillar of the Chinese economy, the sector is gearing up for readjustment amid a market cooldown and industry policy change.

China on 17 May announced new policies to prop up the property market, including policies to cut minimum downpayment ratios, abolish the commercial mortgage rate floors for first and second homes, and establish a re-lending facility that supports local state-owned enterprises to use those funds



An aerial drone photo taken on 16 January 2024 shows people waiting to receive the keys to their new homes at a relocation residential complex in Shijiazhuang, north China's Hebei Province. **PHOTO: YANG SHIYAO/XINHUA**

to buy commercial homes for affordable housing.

A white list mechanism also seeks to help cash-strapped developers access credit, complete housing projects, and ensure

homes are delivered to buyers. **SALES UPTICK**

The market has responded quickly to the new policies aimed at boosting home sales. In big cities in east China's

Jiangsu Province, popular housing projects have seen numbers of potential home buyers return.

In Jiangsu's Changzhou city, a local kindergarten caretaker who provided his surname

as Si just bought his first home in the city's Zhonglou District. Si acquired a 30-year loan of 840,000 yuan (about US\$ 118,133) to buy the home, which cost a total of 1.33 million yuan. Thanks to lowered mortgage rates, he said he would save more than 40,000 yuan on loan interest.

"Now that I've bought the apartment, my next plan is to register my hukou (permanent household residency registration) in Changzhou, and then my child can enroll at a school here and stay with me," he said.

In Shanghai's Jiading District, property sales director Xiao Xianxing told Xinhua that his company's new property project saw its client numbers return on 28 May the day Shanghai implemented revised measures aimed at propping up the property market. And on the day the project opened its sales, 85 per cent of homes were sold. — Xinhua

Fuel shortage in Japan hinders flight increases amid tourism surge



File photo taken in May 2024 shows New Chitose Airport in Hokkaido, northern Japan. **PHOTO: KYODO**

CRITICAL fuel shortages for commercial flights at airports across Japan have led to difficulties in increasing the number of international flights and adding new routes, industry and government sources said Saturday.

A surge in demand for flights due to increasing inbound tourism has outpaced the supply capacity of petroleum refiners, with the issue

further compounded by labor shortages in the distribution phase.

With the problem threatening to dampen efforts to revitalize regional economies through international tourism ahead of the peak summer holiday season, relevant government ministries are assessing the situation to consider countermeasures.

According to the Hiroshi-

ma prefectural government in western Japan, a foreign airline had to revise plans to increase Asia flights to and from Hiroshima airport due to insufficient fuel supply. Another airline is also encountering challenges securing fuel for summer and beyond, it said.

New Chitose, Asahikawa, and Obihiro airports in Hokkaido have been similarly affected by fuel shortages as they planned to increase flights.

Meanwhile, the operator of Sendai airport in northeastern Japan said it has not been affected, but airlines have expressed concerns about fuel shortages.

The National Governors' Association is considering requesting the central government take action as airports in parts of the Kansai, Shikoku, and Kyushu regions also face difficulties in increasing the number of flights, according to local government sources familiar with the matter. — Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

Preliminary work on BRICS common currency ongoing

THE work on establishing a currency for use within BRICS is ongoing, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Pankin told Sputnik on Friday, adding that the mindset is also to increase the use of national currencies in settlements within the block.

"The work on moving towards a currency which Russia and BRICS could use for settlements or as a reference currency is ongoing. However, the matter of when this common currency will be developed is complicated as every single national legislation has its own specifics," Pankin told Sputnik on the sidelines of the St Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF). — SPUTNIK

Canada's unemployment rate ticks up to 6.2% in May

CANADA'S unemployment rate increased 0.1 percentage points to 6.2 per cent in May, Statistics Canada said Friday.

The unemployment rate has trended up since April 2023, rising 1.1 percentage points over the period, the national statistical agency said.

According to the agency, people are facing greater difficulties finding work in the current labour market. There were 1.4 million unemployed people in May, an increase of 28,000, or 2.1 per cent, from the previous month. Of those who were unemployed in April, just under one-quarter had transitioned to employment in May which was lower than the pre-pandemic average for the same months in 2017, 2018 and 2019. — Xinhua

China's foreign goods trade picks up steam in first 5 months

In May alone, foreign trade in goods expanded by 8.6%, totalling 3.71 trillion yuan, marking a 0.6 percentage point increase compared to April's growth rate.

CHINA'S total goods imports and exports expanded by 6.3 per cent year on year in yuan terms in the first five months of 2024, official data showed Friday.

The country's goods exports rose by 6.1 per cent year on year in the January-May period, while goods imports climbed by 6.4 per cent, according to the General Administration of Customs (GAC).

From January to May, the country's foreign trade in goods stood at 17.5 trillion yuan (about US\$2.46 trillion). Exports reached



File photo shows the automated terminal handling equipment at a 50,000-tonne specialized wharf of Qinzhou Port in Qinzhou, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

9.95 trillion yuan, while imports hit 7.55 trillion yuan.

"China's economy has been continuously improving since the beginning of the year, with a sustained recovery and positive momentum in foreign trade," said Lyu Daliang, director of the GAC's Department of Statistics and Analysis.

In May alone, foreign trade in goods grew by 8.6 per cent to 3.71 trillion yuan. The growth rate in May was 0.6 percentage points higher than that recorded in April.

"Boosted by exports

of high-end, intelligent, and environmentally friendly products, as well as the steady expansion of imports, the monthly foreign trade growth rate has further accelerated,"

Lyu said. In the first five months, China's goods trade with emerging markets continued to improve. ASEAN remained China's largest trading partner, with bilateral trade value reaching 2.77 trillion yuan, accounting for 15.8 per cent of China's total foreign trade value. —

Xinhua

Japan automaker Daihatsu reports 1st loss in 31 years amid certification scandal

Production resumed only in early May. This disruption significantly impacted Daihatsu's sales revenue, which plummeted by 20.9 per cent year on year to 1.181 trillion yen for the fiscal year.

JAPANESE automaker Daihatsu Motor Co. has reported its first red ink in 31 years, amid a downturn due to a series of certification violations and subsequent production halt.

For the fiscal year 2023 which concluded in March 2024, the compa-

ny posted an operating loss of 5 billion yen (about US\$ 32 million), its first operating loss since fiscal 1992.

The carmaker was forced to halt the shipment of all models in production after a third-party committee discovered 174 instances of regulatory

non-compliance last December. This led to a temporary shutdown of all four of its domestic plants, with production only resuming in early May.

The financial repercussions were significant. Daihatsu's sales revenue for the fiscal year dropped

to 1.181 trillion yen, marking a decline of 20.9 per cent year on year, Jiji Press reported, citing the government's official gazette published on Thursday. It booked a special loss of 70 billion yen to compensate affected parts manufacturers, according to Jiji. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (227N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (227N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-6-2024** 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
Myanmar Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC NAGOYA VOY.NO. (2426S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC NAGOYA VOY.NO. (2426S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-6-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR SOLO VOY.NO. (1039E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR SOLO VOY.NO. (1039E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-6-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

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Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (907N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-6-2024** 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
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Agent For:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

ROLLING UPDATES: WORLD

As Israel's defence forces rescue four hostages, President Herzog receives news with tears in eyes



An image depicting Noa Argamani, one of the four Israeli hostages rescued, is held up as Israeli activists rally during a demonstration calling for the return of hostages held in the Gaza Strip. **PHOTO: AFP**

AFTER Israeli defence forces successfully rescued four hostages from Hamas captivity on

Saturday morning, Israel's President Isaac Herzog expressed gratitude and said they were

emotional on hearing that the rescued hostages were reunited with families.

Israeli forces underwent weeks of preparation for the rescue mission, undergoing intensive training. Despite the risks involved, they successfully executed the operation to save the hostages.

Israel's President said, "We received with tears in our eyes the very moving news about the rescue from the captivity of Noa Argamani, Almog Meir, Andrey Kozlov and Shlomi Ziv, who were kidnapped on 7 October from the party in Ra'i and who were finally reunited with their loved ones."

Further, he also thanked the forces for their impressive rescue operation and also expresses hope for the quick return of all abducted individuals to their families, ending with the phrase "Israel Lives!"

"Israeli forces have been preparing for this rescue mission for weeks. They are under intensive training. They risked their lives to save the lives of our hostages. This is what we do in Israel. We risk our lives to save the lives of our hostages," he added.

This morning at 11 am Israeli Special Forces conducted a complex hostage rescue mission and successfully rescued four of our hostages from Hamas captivity in Gaza.

They were rescued after 246 days in Hamas captivity. — ANI

SUMMARIES : WORLD

Seoul to resume loudspeaker propaganda against North

SOUTH Korea announced Sunday that it would resume loudspeaker propaganda campaigns against the North after Pyongyang sent a fresh barrage of trash-filled balloons across the border.

Relations between the two Koreas are at one of their lowest points in years and in recent weeks the two have engaged in a tit-for-tat campaign of balloon launches, with analysts warning the escalatory cycle could end in actual military skirmishes.

Seoul this month suspended a 2018 military deal aimed at reducing tensions on the peninsula after Pyongyang sent hundreds of balloons carrying bags of garbage, including cigarette butts and plastic waste, paving the way for the resumption of the loudspeaker campaigns. — AFP

Oil tanker explodes in Karachi

A man was killed, and five others were injured after an oil tanker explosion in Pakistan's Karachi on Saturday, reported Dawn citing police and rescue officials. The explosion occurred in Karachi's Shireen Jinnah Colony near the terminals of the 20-bus route.

Boat Basin Station House Officer (SHO) Naseer Tanoli said that some workers were welding under an oil tanker, adding that it was an empty oil tanker but some gases had accumulated in it, as reported by Dawn.

Meanwhile, Rescue 1122 official Hassaan Khan said that some sparks flew during the welding work and caused the explosion. The rescue official added that one welding worker identified as Zulfiqar Mohammed was killed, adding that five other people, including a passerby woman, were injured. — ANI

Pakistan commits to global efforts for preservation, sustainable use of oceans

This message was conveyed on the occasion of World Oceans Day, observed on Saturday.

PAKISTAN is committed to the global efforts for preservation and sustainable use of oceans as well as protecting marine ecosystems in the South Asian country and beyond, said Romina Khurshid Alam, coordinator to the Pakistani prime minister on climate change and environmental coordination.

"Oceans globally are facing grave challenges, including pollution, overfishing, habitat destruction and the impacts of climate change. Besides, growing amounts of plastic being dumped in oceans is a major environmental threat to oceans' sustainability," the official said in a message on the occasion of

World Oceans Day, being observed on Saturday.

Alam urged countries to strengthen cooperation, implement effective policies, and adopt sustainable practices to ensure the health and resilience of marine ecosystems for present and future generations.

As a coastal nation, she said Pakistan is committed to playing its part in advancing marine conservation efforts, adding that as a country with a rich maritime heritage, Pakistan recognizes the vital role that oceans play in supporting life on Earth, regulating climate, and providing resources that sustain livelihoods. — Xinhua



Karachi Beach is a popular tourist destination located in Karachi, Pakistan. It's renowned for its scenic beauty, sandy shores, and vibrant atmosphere. Tourists and visitors flock to Karachi Beach to enjoy a variety of activities and experiences. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ ISTOCK**

SPORTS



The Japanese team which has already advanced to the third round World Cup 2026 Qualifiers. PHOTO: THAW GYI

ONLY five teams are left to qualify for the next round of the 2026 World Cup Asian zone qualifiers.

The final matches of the second qualifying group will continue on 11 June, and only a few teams will have to play the decisive matches to advance to the next round.

According to the format of the second qualifying round, the top two teams with the most points from each of the nine groups will qualify for the 2027 Asian Cup qualifiers and continue on to the third qualifying round of the 2026 World Cup Asian Zone. The two teams with

5 teams left for 2026 world cup qualification in Asian Zone

the lowest points will no longer be allowed to play in the World Cup qualifiers and will have to play in the third round of the 2027 Asian Cup qualifiers.

Qatar from Group A, Japan from Group B, South Korea from Group C, Oman from Group D, Iran and Uzbekistan from Group E, Iraq from Group F, Saudi Arabia and Jordan from Group G,

UAE and Bahrain from Group J and Australia and Palestine from Group I have already advanced to the third round qualifiers.

India and Afghanistan from Group A, Syria and North Korea from Group B, China and Thailand from Group C, Kyrgyzstan and Malaysia from Group D, Indonesia and Vietnam from

Group F are still having chances as five remaining teams to go to the next stage.

Team Myanmar, which is in Group (B), has no chance to advance to the next round, but the North Korean team, which will play the last match, has a chance to advance to the next round if it beats the Myanmar team. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Pedri brace helps Spain thrash Northern Ireland before Euros

Despite Northern Ireland briefly leading with a Dan Ballard goal, Spain dominated the match. They previously beat Andorra 5-0 in another friendly.

PEDRI Gonzalez struck twice for Spain as they thumped Northern Ireland 5-1 in their final friendly ahead of Euro 2024 on Saturday.

Alvaro Morata, Fabian Ruiz and Mikel Oyarzabal also netted for Luis de la Fuente's side in Mallorca, with wingers Nico Williams and Lamine Yamal oozing menace on the flanks.

Spain, in a Euros 'group of death' with Italy, Croatia and Albania, are aiming to win the competition for the fourth time.

"I've worked hard to be in good shape at the end of the season," Pedri told Radio Marca. The playmaker was out injured for a large part of the season but has hit top form in the final weeks of the campaign.

"Injuries are the worst thing about football, now I am doing a lot better," continued Pedri.

"We'll go for (the Euros), with the idea of winning."

Spain thrashed Andorra 5-0 in a friendly earlier in the week before dismantling Northern Ireland. The visitors surprised Spain by taking the lead through Dan Ballard, who headed home a Caolan Boyd-Munce free-kick after just two minutes.

Isaac Price came close to a second before Spain recovered their poise and took complete control. — AFP

Endrick grabs winner as Brazil sink Mexico 3-2

TEENAGE striker Endrick headed home an injury-time winner as Brazil defeated Mexico 3-2 in a warm-up friendly ahead of this month's Copa America on Saturday.

The Brazilians looked to be cruising to victory after goals from Fulham's Andreas Pereira and Arsenal's Gabriel Martinelli fired the South American giants into a 2-0 lead at Kyle Field in College Station, Texas.

But Mexico staged an unlikely late fightback after Julian Quinones pulled a goal back in the 73rd minute.

Guillermo Martinez looked to have secured a draw for Mexico in the third minute of time added on, lashing in a rebound from his own header after a corner to make it 2-2. — AFP

Swiatek claims 3rd consecutive French Open title

The Polish world No 1 showcased her dominance on clay courts, winning in just 68 minutes.

TOP-SEEDED Iga Swiatek clinched her third consecutive French Open title, her fifth Grand Slam victory overall, with a dominant straight-set win over Jasmine Paolini on Saturday. The Polish world No 1 took just 68 minutes to defeat Italy's 12th seed 6-2, 6-1, showcasing her unrivaled prowess on clay courts.

"I wanted to thank my family, my team. Honestly, so many difficulties in so many weeks," Swiatek said tearfully. Swiatek also recalled her second-round match against former world No.1 Naomi Osaka, where she saved a match point to over-



Iga Swiatek celebrates during the awarding ceremony after the women's singles final match between Iga Swiatek of Poland and Jasmine Paolini of Italy at the French Open tennis tournament at Roland Garros, Paris, France, 8 June 2024. PHOTO: MENG DINGBO/XINHUA

come the four-time major winner in a nearly three-hour battle. Following that challenge, Swiatek did not drop a single set on her way to the title.

Having celebrated her 23rd birthday last week, Swiatek became the third female player in the Open era to win three

consecutive French Open titles, joining Monica Seles (1990-1992) and Justine Henin (2005-2007). This victory extended her Roland-Garros win streak to 21 matches.

Her last defeat in Paris was in the 2021 quarter-finals against Maria Sakkari. — Xinhua

ROLLING UPDATES WORLD

As Israel's defence forces rescue four hostages, President Herzog receives news with tears in eyes

PAGE-14



WORLD

Modi breaks tradition: Set to take oath as Prime Minister for third consecutive term

Narendra Modi is all set to become the first person after former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to be elected as PM for the third consecutive term.

PRESIDENT Draupadi Murmu will administer the oath of office and secrecy to the Prime Minister and other members of the Union Council of Ministers at 7:15 p.m.

Due to the large number of dignitaries, security has been increased around Rashtrapati Bhawan and in the national capital.

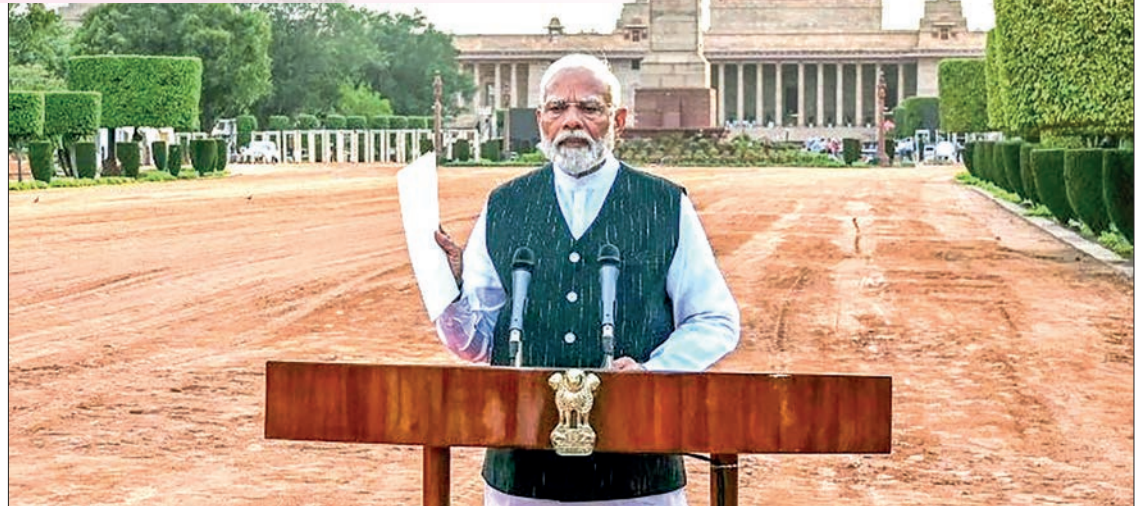
Narendra Modi is all set to become the first person after former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to be elected as PM for the third consecutive term.

PM Modi oath security arrangements

Security arrangements have been increased across the city with heavy deployment of traffic, police, and Army personnel.

Council of Ministers

Alongside PM-designate Narendra Modi, the council of ministers will also take oath on Sunday. According to media reports, the entire council will not be sworn in, and only thirty ministers will take oath. The council of ministers is ex-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi takes his oath Sunday for a third term but with his BJP reliant on support from an assortment of minor parties after it fell short of a majority. **PHOTO: AFP**

pected to have 78 to 81 leaders.

As the Bharatiya Janata Party is falling short of a majority of its own this time, there are chances more number of leaders from allies (including

Chandrababu Naidu's Telugu Desam Party and Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal United, etc) to be seen in the council, compared to previous term.

Modi's Bharatiya Janata

Party (BJP) won 240 seats in this year's poll, 32 short of a majority in the 543-member lower house — its worst showing in a decade. — ANI

Tourism buoys southern Europe's 'Club Med' nations

During the European debt crisis, Spain, Greece, and Portugal were disparaged as "Club Med" nations, but now their economies are thriving, outperforming their northern counterparts due to a tourism resurgence.

DERIDED as "Club Med" nations during the European debt crisis 15 years ago, the economies of Spain, Greece and Portugal are now outperforming their northern peers thanks to a rebound in tourism.



The Cuatro Torres Business Area (CTBA) is a prominent business district located in Madrid, Spain. It is characterized by four iconic skyscrapers, hence the name "Cuatro Torres," which translates to "Four Towers" in English. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

The three nations had to endure harsh austerity measures in the early 2010s imposed by their European Union partners, who were quick to blame their fiscal laxity and lack of competitiveness for their economic woes. But "the situation has changed" since the Covid-19 pandemic ended, said Zsolt Darvas, an economist at Bruegel, a Brussels-based think tank.

"Today, those countries are growing faster than the European Union average, they are no longer seen as black sheep." — AFP

CONFLICT ESCALATION IMMINENT

Austria's Defence Minister: Western permission to strike targets in Russia crosses red line

AUSTRIAN Defense Minister Klaudia Tanner said that allowing Ukraine to strike targets in Russia using Western-donated weapons crossed a red line.

"The red line was crossed. That is why I am very happy about the clarification from NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg that NATO will not send troops to Ukraine," Tanner said on Saturday in an interview with Austrian newspaper Die Presse. The comment came after recent decisions by the US and some of its allies to allow Ukraine to use US- or Europe-supplied weapons to strike targets across the internationally recognized borders of Russia for counter-fire purposes.

Western countries have also been discussing sending troops or military instructors to Ukraine. Western countries have been providing massive military and financial aid to Kyiv since the start of Russia's military operation in Ukraine in February 2022. The Kremlin has consistently warned against continued arms deliveries to Kyiv, saying it will lead to an escalation of the conflict. — SPUTNIK