## Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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MOEAF warns of scams involving seasonal workers heading to S Korea



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views round looms at the Leader of Textile Public Co Ltd, established with weaving businesspersons from Wundwin, Thazi, Meiktila, Shwedaung, and Amarapura townships, in Wundwin Township yesterday during his inspection tours in Mandalay Region.

## Meat production should focus on frozen and dried products

As many chains of production between breeders and consumers raise the prices of meat and fish in the market, it is necessary to implement a breeder/producer-consumer system.

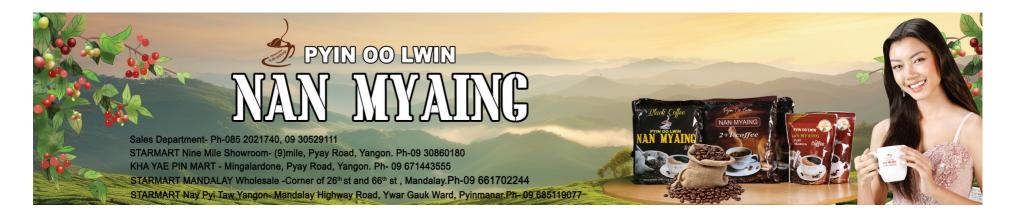
Salient points from the guidance provided by the Senior General on his tour of Meiktila and Wundwin townships

- 1. A systematic livestock breeding system must be upgraded rather than a conventional system.
- 2. Local authorities need to set deserved prices for meat for consumers and profits for local farmers
- 3. Local farmers must constantly study livestock breeding systems and feeding processes abroad.
- 4. Research should be conducted on textile production with the use of domestic threads.

enior General Min Aung Hlaing stressed the need to upgrade a systematic livestock breeding system rather than a conventional system.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visited private livestock breeding farms and domestic production industries in Meiktila and Wundwin townships of Mandalay Region yesterday.

SEE PAGE 2



## Meat production should focus on frozen ...

#### **FROM PAGE 1**

On arrival at the goat and sheep farm of U Mya Han on Meiktila-Thazi Road, farm owner U Mya Han reported goat and sheep farming, production of animal feeds, distribution of feedstuffs to the market and operation of production.

In his guidance, the Senior General urged local authorities to set deserved prices for meat for consumers and profits for local farmers.

At the Garden Family goat farm in Hsuphyukhet Village, the Senior General listened to clarifications on the breeding of goats, feedstuff system and growing of Napier grass by farm owner U Maung Myint.

The Senior General remarked that it is necessary to conduct research on strains of goats, meat norms and feeding systems, urging local farmers to study livestock breeding system and feeding processes abroad constantly.

In Tawma Village, where the Kaung Htet San dairy cow farm is located, owner U Khin Maung Win reported to the Senior General on the breeding of dairy cows, milk production and manufacturing of milk and dairy



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits the goat and sheep farm of U Mya Han on Meiktila-Thazi Road yesterday.

products from the Win Win 'Ta Ma' milk plant.

In inspecting the farm, the Senior General gave guidance on producing import-substitute milk and dairy products. At the Leader of Textile Public Co Ltd established with weaving businesspersons from Wundwin, Thazi, Meiktila, Shwedaung, and Amarapura townships in Wundwin Township, the Senior General heard reports on the operation of looms by officials and attended to the needs.

On arrival at the Keinnayi textile industry in Wundwin

Township, the Senior General viewed male sarongs and stressed the need to conduct research on textile production with the use of domestic threads. — MNA/TTA







## New Thanlyin Bridge boosts property transactions, expected to improve in dry season

THANLYIN Township's real estate transactions increased after the new Thanlyin Bridge 3 has been opened, and it is anticipated that the market will be better in the dry season, according to Thanlyin-based real estate service agencies.

The new Thanlyin Bridge 3, which connects Yangon Region's Thakayta Township with Thanlyin Township, crossing the Bago River, was opened to the public on 8 June.

"Transactions are happening after the bridge has been opened. Prices have slightly changed, meaning they have become better than the previous price.

"At present, many transactions are seen in Aungchantha Ward. Transport has also improved completely compared to the past. In past, there was traffic congestion starting from around 7:00 am to about 9- 10:00 am.

"Now this problem has gone. We can travel with ease even in the early morning," said Ko Sai Lin, an estate agent from Thanlyin.

Even though this is monsoon season, the township's property market has improved, and property purchases have increased, with a positive outlook that the whole market will be better in the dry season.

"The market is expected to be better in the dry season. There are more and more people who no longer want to live in Yangon's apartments and move to Thanlyin and live on their own land," said Ko Sai Lin.

The Bago River Crossing Thanlyin Bridge 3 construction project was jointly implemented by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Myanmar's the Ministry of Planning and Finance, the Ministry of Construction and respective ministries in phases from 2013. — Thit Taw/ZS

Efforts are being made to enumerate the population and household census in October as part of preparations for holding a free and fair multiparty democratic general election in the coming year.

enior General Min Aung

Hlaing highlighted that although the govern-

ment will fulfil the needs of local farmers as much as possible, those farmers should choose quality cotton strains

Chairman of the State Ad-

ministration Council Prime

Minister Senior General Min

Aung Hlaing met departmental

personnel and town elders at

Kandaw Mingala Hall in Meik-

from locals, the Senior Gen-

eral underscored that road

users need to follow traffic

rules strictly, whereas officials

enforce traffic rules to reduce

He pledged to scrutinize

traffic accidents.

With regard to reports

tila yesterday morning.

for cultivation.



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing warmly greets departmental personnel and town elders at yesterday meeting in Meiktila.

## Meiktila possesses chances to export surplus products to domestic and foreign markets

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the meeting with departmental personnel and town elders in Meiktila

1. Although the government will fulfil the needs of local farmers as much as possible, those farmers

- should choose quality cotton strains for cultivation. 2. A decline in paddy per-acre yield amounted to 3,626,892 baskets in 123,542 acres in Meiktila District,
- losing K79.791 billion. 3. More than a K46 billion loss in 52,684 acres of groundnut plantation and a K568 billion loss in 333,659 acres of sesame due to declining per-acre yield against the target production.
- 4. Local farmers should strive to export surplus frozen meat and fish as well as dairy products to foreign markets.
- 5. Officials need to seek the best ways to supply water from natural water, rainwater, underground water, and creek water suitable for the Meiktila region.

the construction of a hall where the school family day ceremony Likewise, the Senior Genwill be held in Meiktila. He instructed local authorities to consider necessary statistics for efficiently utilizing sound foundations to develop

the region. The Senior General noted that the production of crops that cannot meet the target production can hinder the incomes of Meiktila District.

Based on paddy production, the Senior General explained that the decline of paddy per-acre yield amounted to 3,626,892 baskets in 123,542 acres in Meiktila District, losing K79.791 billion.

eral calculated more than a K46 billion loss in 52,684 acres of groundnut plantation and a K568 billion loss in 333,659 acres of sesame due to declining per-acre yield against the target production.

He stressed that the cultivation of soya beans and sunflowers can help increase oil crop production at home.

If Meiktila District produces quality textile and fabric products with the use of cotton wool, an import volume of textiles can be made to improve the socioeconomic life of the region.

The Senior General urged local authorities to strive to ensure rice sufficiency in Meiktila District without buying rice from other regions.

The Senior General noted that as Myanmar has opportunities to export surplus products abroad, local farmers should strive to export surplus frozen meat and fish as well as dairy products to foreign markets.

He underlined that encouraging the education sector can help turn out necessary human resources for the agriculture and livestock sector to develop the socioeconomic development of the region.

He instructed officials to implement the projects for solar power pumping stations to irrigate croplands and livestock farms fully, adding they need to seek the best ways to supply water from natural water, rainwater, underground water and creek water suitable for the Meiktila region.

The Senior General pointed out that if all work processes are not implemented for political reasons, the country will face lesser development. Hence, he continued that efforts are being made to enumerate the population and household census in October as part of preparations for holding a free and fair multiparty democratic general election in the coming year.

At the ceremony, local authorities and town elders reported on the upgrading of local roads to ease traffic congestion, the construction of a detour of Meiktila-Kyaukpadaung road, the supply of quality strains of cotton for boosting production, the needs of quality strains of paddy and regional development.

Union ministers discussed conducting cotton research, supplying quality paddy strains, setting prices of commodities, supplying agricultural water, distribution of inputs, machinery and production techniques, and raw materials for operating textile factories at full capacity.

Also present at the meeting were Joint Secretary Lt-Gen Ye Win Oo, council member Lt-Gen Nyo Saw, Union ministers, chief ministers of Magway and Sagaing regions and officials.

The Senior General and party viewed round Meiktila University and Meiktila University of Economics by car. - MNA/TTA

## Weekly Roundup

#### 9 June

#### Thanlyin Bridge 3 inaugurated

New Bago River Crossing Thanlyin Bridge 3 was commissioned into service with the aim of easing traffic congestion on Thanlyin Bridge 1.

#### **Comedy awards**

The Comedians' Association coordinated the presenting of awards to winners for their excellent perfor-



#### 10 June

#### Vehicles offered to venerable Sayadaws

The State Administration Council offered vehicles as national-level regalia to venerable Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee for conveniently serving Buddhism.

#### **CBM** statement

The Central Bank of Myanmar has announced that FATF recognizes Myanmar's AML/CFL implementations and increases annual evaluation levels.

#### Yangon to wipe off terrorists

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing stressed the need to wipe off terrorists in the Yangon Region at the meeting on peace, stability and development of Yangon Region.

#### **Terrorists arrested**

The terrorists who were involved in plotting attacks on Thanlyin Bridge 3 were arrested together with 107mm

#### 13 June

#### **Myanmar Education Conference meeting**

Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win addressed the meeting of the leading committee for organizing the Myanmar Education Conference 2024, which will be held on 25-27 June.

#### **Myanmar CDC and Training Centre**

The Myanmar National Centre for Disease Control and Medical Training Centre was inaugurated in Nay Pyi Taw.



16 JUNE 2024

#### 15 June

#### MLC fund transfer agreement signed

Myanmar and China signed an agreement on the transfer of funds for Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Special Fund (2024) Projects in Nay Pyi Taw in commemoration of the 74th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between both countries.



## Illegal goods seized in various states/regions

SUPERVISED by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, action is being taken under the law against illicit trading across the nation.

The Customs on-duty teams impounded 108,315 kilogrammes of construction materials and 4,752 Castrol engine oil worth K220,660,419 that exceeded the Import Declaration (ID) from two containers at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint on 12 June. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 13 June, the combined teams supervised by the Yangon Region Illegal Trade Erad-



Confiscated illegal engine oil at the Asia World Port Terminal container

tured three kinds of goods worth K12,509,810, including 90 cartons of foodstuffs (raw materials) that were submitted to be abandoned

ication Special Task Force cap- by the owner from the Bonded warehouse at the Ywathagyi Dry Port, and an Isuzu Giga truck (approximately K45 million), leading to Yangon from Mong-

la, carrying five kinds of goods worth K25,023,150 including 30 sets of speed reducer gearbox that were not declared in the ID. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

During inspections on 13 and 14 June, combined teams impounded various items at different checkpoints: at the Yadanabon Bridge combined checkpoint in Sagaing Township, they seized 7,056 gallons of smuggled premium diesel valued at K158.026 million; at the Kantalu combined checkpoint, 350 gallons of premium diesel worth K3.85 million were confiscated; in Lashio Township, 11 vehicles

with 11 trailers (estimated value of K1,145 million) were found carrying 97,000 kilogrammes of parts of a bridge crane from China, without official documents; at the Sinphyu checkpoint in Muse Township, three types of goods worth K15.4 million were discovered, including 50 sets of WiFi routers piled up by the roadside. The action was taken under Customs procedures and the Petroleum and Petroleum Product Law.

Therefore, 24 arrests (estimated value of K1,931 million) were made on 12, 13 and 14 June, according to the committee. -

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## **NATIONAL**

## Tatmadaw regains control of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, Kayah State after raid by PNLO, PDF terrorist groups

26 January, a massive number of PNLO allied with PDF terrorists raided the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, Shan State (South), including security posts in Moebye, Pekhon, Loikaw, and Demawhso of Kayah State, disrupting the state's peace and stability. Additionally, they conducted extrajudicial killings of innocent residents, arson attacks on residential houses and government infrastructure, and planted mines as acts of terror. Furthermore, the combined terrorist groups of PNLO and PDF conducted destructive actions, continuously blocking the route from Hopong-Banyin-Hsihseng-

Therefore, the Tatmadaw launched a 'Counter-Terrorism Operation' starting from 29 May to regain control over the Hsihseng-Loikaw route (42 miles) after engaging in clashes with allied terrorist groups of PNLO and PDF 87 times. Additionally, these terrorist groups significantly disrupted the security and operations of the Loikaw airport,



Kayah State Chief Minister U Zaw Myo Tin and Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt encourage locals who took part in cleaning work at Thirimingala (Taunggwe) Pagoda.



Kayah State Chief Minister U Zaw Myo Tin and Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt stroll along the Biluchaung Bridge (Shanpaing).

prompting the security forces to counter their actions on 14 June.

The chief minister of the Kayah State government and the Eastern Command commander are overseeing the restoration of towns and villages that were destroyed by terrorists, as well as conducting mine clearing operations to ensure the safety of the local people.

At present, Loikaw has returned to normal, and people are starting to live peacefully. Security forces, police, fire brigades, departmental staff,

and residents cleaned up the debris damaged by the fire at the Thirimingala (central) market, which was destroyed by terrorists in Loikaw. In addition, restoration work is being carried out, including cleaning at pagodas, bridges, and roads such as Thirimingala Pagoda and Myonam Pagoda. Families, employees, security forces, and residents are participating in these efforts. Volunteers have also donated food and drinking water to the volunteer groups.

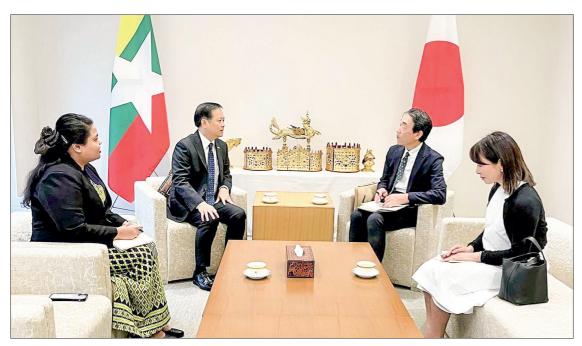




Kayah State Chief Minister U Zaw Myo Tin and Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt inspect clearing debris at the Thirimingala Market and the cleaning work in Loikaw.

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## **NATIONAL**



Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Soe Han meets Secretary-General Dr Kunihiko Hirabayashi of the ASEAN-Japan Centre at the Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo.

# Myanmar, ASEAN Japan Centre envisage collaboration in 2024 projects

MYANMAR'S Ambassador to Japan U Soe Han met Secretary-General Dr Kunihiko Hirabayashi of the ASEAN-Japan Centre at the Embassy of Myanmar in Tokyo on 14 June to discuss matters relating to cooperation between both sides, according to the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs.

In addition to implementation efforts in collaboration between the embassy and the ASEAN-Japan Centre, both sides exchanged views on projects slated to be undertaken in the 2024 financial year. — ASH/TMT

### Five new basic education, industrial, agri and livestock High Schools open in Mandalay

IN the 2024-2025 academic year, five more high schools in Mandalay Region will offer courses in industrial, agricultural, and livestock breeding, according to the Project Supervision and Assessment Department of the Mandalay Region Education Office.

In the 2025-2024 academic year, the courses are offered

basic education plus industrial, agricultural, and livestock breeding, including five schools in the Mandalay Region.

These schools are opened to offer opportunities for students to continue their education after passing Grade 9 and completing secondary education. According to the schools, they have accepted 90 students



A glimpse of the No 27 Basic Education High School for industrial, agricultural, and livestock breeding in Pyigyidagun Township, Mandalay Region.

at No 27 Basic Education High School Pyigyidagun Township, Basic Education High School of No 2 EME workshop in Amarapura Township, No 1 Basic Education High School (Branch), PyinOoLwin Township, TadaU BEHS, and No 3 Basic Education High School in Myingyan Township.

In the academic year 2023-2024, a total of 51 schools across the country were opened for for industrial studies, 30 another students for agriculture studies, and 30 another students for livestock studies.

In addition, the number of students attending basic education and industrial, agricultural, and livestock breeding high schools is increasing year by year, and schools that have not reached the specified number of students will admit enrollment until 24 June 2024. — TWA/TKO

## MMPO to present cash assistance to offspring for 2024-2025AY

ACCORDING to U Aye Kyu Lay, Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO), a ceremony to provide cash assistance, school uniforms, and stationery for the children of organization members for the 2024-2025 academic year will be held on 22 June.

U Aye Kyu Lay said, "This ceremony is a tradition of our

organization. We will provide support such as school uniforms, books, pencils, pens, lunch boxes, umbrellas, and other items for the school-age children of our members, with the help of donors."

MMPO will support all school-age children from various layers of the organization.

The organization made the 12<sup>th</sup> donation of rice, oil and



The photo shows actor Ko Bin and actress Hnaing Shin Myint Moh's family donating K1 mln for offspring of MMPO members.

other foods for the film industry members last April. — ASH/ TRKM

### MAI plans Yangon-Vientiane flights on 25 June



 $The \ Yangon-Vientiane \ flight \ advertisement.$ 

MYANMAR Airways International (MAI) announced that Yangon to Vientiane flights will be operated twice a week as a new route

starting from 25 June.

The flight will depart Yangon at 5 pm local time and arrive in Vientiane at 8 pm. It will then depart Vientiane at 8 pm local time and land in Yangon at 9 pm.

Tickets are priced at US\$159 and include onboard catering, with a baggage allowance of 40 kilogrammes for business class and 30 kilogrammes for economy class.

The airline will also operate Yangon-Dubai flights four times a week, with the cheapest flight ticket priced at US\$339.

Passengers will also be entitled to an additional five kilogrammes of free baggage allowance.

The MAI also flies the Yangon-Singapore route twice daily and the Yangon-Seoul route four times a week. Additionally, the Yangon-Delhi route is run three times a week, the Yangon-Chennai route every Saturday and the Yangon-Kolkata route every Thursday and Sunday. — TWA/KZL

## NATIONAL BUSINESS

Kampaiti border set to hit US\$5M trade target in June

THE trade value at the Kampaiti border post between Myanmar and China is expected to meet a target of US\$5 million in June in the 2024-2025 financial year, including exports worth \$4 million and imports worth \$1 million, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The actual trade value as of 10 June was \$11.856 million, comprising exports worth \$7.255 million and imports worth \$4.6 million, performing over 237 per cent of the trade target.

The main export items at the Kampaiti border were tissue-culture banana, dried chilli, onion,

dried mango slice, fresh areca nut, black cardamom, various pulses, tamarind with seeds and aluminium scrap. Meanwhile, Myanmar imports capital goods, intermediate goods, construction materials, consumer goods, fruits and fuel oil.

The export volumes on 9-10 June 2024 were 325 tonnes of tissue culture banana worth \$0.113 million, 534.7 tonnes of onion worth \$0.212 million, 90.3 tonnes of black cardamom worth \$0.18 million, 24.2 tonnes of dried chilli pepper worth \$0.036 million, five tonnes of fresh areca nut worth \$0.008 million and 1,088 tonnes of



The photo shows some trucks passing the Kampaiti border checkpoint.

pulses worth \$0.842 million.

The main import items are hollow pipe, iron pipe, ceramic tiles, tyres, tangerine, apples, pears, clothing and fuel oil. The import volumes stood at 68.8 tonnes of capital goods worth \$0.168 million, 240 tonnes of intermediate goods worth \$0.8 million and 216.4 tonnes of consumer goods worth \$0.183 million.

— NN/KK

## CBM authorizes two more forex companies for petty cash purchases

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced two more authorized forex companies (Eastern Lad Co Ltd and Golden Money Services Co Ltd) for those going abroad to buy foreign currencies as petty cash, according to its notification on 14 June.

With a view to facilitating the purchase of foreign currencies in addition to internationally accepted debit cards and credit cards and curbing forex market manipulation by illegal money changers, those studying abroad, working abroad and travelling abroad for medical treatment are entitled to buy foreign currencies that are equivalent to US\$300-500 per person at the authorized banks' exchange counters and money changers at the Yangon International Airport starting from 31 May 2023, while those going on a pilgrimage and those leaving for the designated countries to attend the meeting as per the invitations of the foreign governments and institutions are allowed to buy the petty cash from 18 August 2023. Those authorized money changers sell a US dollar by adding K10 to the daily online trading rate of the CBM.

The money changers of Eastern Lad Co Ltd are located at No 156, ground floor on Yangon-Insein Road in Ward 2 in Kamayut Township, at No 215, Room 1, Anawrahta Road, Pabedan Township and No 926, Thudamma Street in North Okkalapa Township. The Golden Money Services Co Ltd is located at YIA in



The office building of the Central Bank of Myanmar in Yangon.

Mingaladon Township, Yangon.

Authorized dealers (private banks) announced that their branches are available to sell foreign currencies as petty cash on their websites and Facebook pages, and authorized foreign exchange companies also revealed details on their respective pages.

On 4 March, CBM joined hands with three domestic banks (KBZ, AYA Bank PCL, UAB) for those going abroad to buy foreign currencies in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Taunggyi cities as the special scheme.

Additionally, the foreign currencies as petty cash can be purchased at

the respective bank counters of the CB Bank PCL, Myanmar Oriental Bank, KBZ Bank, Innwa Bank, AGD Bank, AYA Bank PCL, UAB Bank, Myanmar Apex Bank, Myanmar Citizens Bank, Global Treasure Bank, Yoma Bank and Ayeyawady Farmers Development Bank, according to notifications of those banks on their official websites and Facebook Pages.

The money changers of the authorized dealers (private banks) are entitled to transact the foreign currencies denoted in US dollar, euro, Singapore dollar, Thai baht, Malaysia ringgit, Chinese yuan and Japanese yen. — NN/EM

## Myanmar foreign trade hits US\$4.5B in April-May

THE value of Myanmar's foreign trade totalled over US\$4.55 billion in the past two months (April-May) of the current financial year 2024-2025, comprising exports worth \$2.307 billion and imports valued at \$2.243 billion, the Ministry of Commerce's data showed.

The seaborne trade exceeded \$3.6 billion, whereas border trade value hit \$911.9 million. The total trade balance was valued at \$5.3 billion in the year-ago period. Therefore, the figures indicated a significant drop of \$771.97 million over the past month compared with that of last FY.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, animal products, minerals, forest products, and finished industrial goods, while it imports capital goods, intermediate goods, raw materials imported by the CMP enterprises and consumer goods.

Myanmar has been implementing the National Export Strategy (NES) 2020-2025 in order to bolster exports. The priority sectors of the NES comprise agricultural production, garment and apparel, industrial and electronic device, fishery business, forest product, digital manufacturing and service, logistic service, quality management, trade information service, innovation and entrepreneurship sectors. — NN/KK

## **OPINION**

## POEM/ BOOKRACK/WEATHER REPORT

## Follow non-fishery season rules for sustainable fish resources

'YANMAR has designated the non-fishery season from April to June to protect fish populations offshore and along the coasts of Myanmar. However, some regional authorities have relaxed these restrictions for fishing businesses that are facing operational difficulties based on their equipment.

The primary goal of establishing a non-fishery season is to acknowledge the crucial role of ocean ecosystems in ensuring human food security. This regulation encourages fishery entrepreneurs to act responsibly. Neighbouring countries also implement similar non-fishery periods during peak regeneration times for fish species designated as fish resource conservation areas. This practice helps boost fish populations, benefitting long-term fishing operations.

Sustaining fish resources is vital for food security and the socioeconomic development of the population. Although natural disasters affecting fish populations are beyond control, the non-fishery season can help protect fish stocks in Myanmar's territorial waters. Conservation of the natural environment is essential to ensure

food security and

population.

maintain balanced fish

resources to meet the

demands of a growing

Fish is a vital source of protein and vitamin D, essential for human nutrition and health. It is particularly beneficial for children and the elderly, contributing significantly to physical growth. Fish accounts for 17 per cent of animal protein and 7 per cent of human protein consumption. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, global fish consumption reached 171 million tonnes in

The fishery sector is crucial for Myanmar's food security and economic development. It supports local production, consumption, and exports to foreign markets. Myanmar, which is rich in freshwater and marine resources, takes the 14th position globally in terms of water resources. The country boasts numerous rivers, creeks, and lakes abundant in

However, fish resources in Myanmar's seas, rivers, and creeks have been declining gradually due to overfishing.

Factors contributing to this decline include extreme fishing methods, the use of batteries to catch fish through short circuits, mine blasts in catching fish, degradation of coral reefs, natural fish deaths, water pollution from improper waste disposal, and climate change.

Sustaining fish resources is vital for food security and the socioeconomic development of the population. Although natural disasters affecting fish populations are beyond control, the non-fishery season can help protect fish stocks in Myanmar's territorial waters. Conservation of the natural environment is essential to ensure food security and maintain balanced fish resources to meet the demands of a growing population.

In conclusion, adhering to the non-fishery season is crucial for the sustainability of fish resources. It helps protect the ocean ecosystem, ensuring long-term benefits for both the environment and the fishing industry. By following these regulations, Myanmar can secure its fish populations, support food security, and promote economic development, balancing the needs of the environment and society.



**Book Title** 

 Leinmar Yaygyar Ponpyinmyar II

Writer Reverend Nyaninda **Publishing House Kyel Gabar** 

**Publication Date** June 2024

(1st Edition)

- K1,300 Price

#### Leinmar Yaygyar Ponpyinmyar II

REVEREND Shwe Oo Hmin is a senior monk who is famous across the nation. Among his words of advice, one concerning children is for people not to think lowly of them. He said, "Don't underestimate the children. They will become adults one day, and so only when the children of today behave well will they grow up as mature, polite and wise adults. Obviously, only when adults are nice, good-natured, and intelligent will the nation prosper."

The writer said that he agreed with Rev Shwe Oo Hmin, that he was also of the opinion that only when the children of today are good-natured and well-behaved will the nation flourish and prosper and that it was, therefore,

necessary for all to take care of and nurture the children in order that they would become clever, polite and intelligent adults. In fostering and bringing up the children, the tales, be they folk tales or fairy tales, play a determining role in widening their scope of knowledge. Telling stories or making children read them can contribute dramatically to their intellectual development as well as to developing kind-hearted-

The book under review is written by Reverend Nyaninda, who has been producing the tales for the children for decades. In June of this year, we are witnessing a collection of stories published under the title "Leinmar Yaygyar Ponpyinmyar II". The book includes 14 tales: Nyi Nyut Chin Ei Ya Latt; In Ahh Hu Thi; Htin Ta Lone; Pyinnyashi Ahmatkyi Ei Lu Kai Khat Pyinnya; Pyinnyashi Ahmatkyi Hnit Tha Myat Thone Gu Pyatthana; Anudaw Hma Lugyaw Bayin; Bayint Ahmyet Pyi Pyet; Kawlika Hnint Kan Ta Ya; Thinnya Hnint Pyinnya; Meinma Hnit Oo Yin; Nat Myet Si Hnint Thar Thaw Aggaba Bayin; Biyabala Ahmatkyi Hnint Meikta Thama Ponna; Pyinnyashi Ahmatkyi Ei Namuna Miphaya and Pyinnyashi Ahmatkyi Hnint Thanwara Mintha.

The tale titled "In Ahh Hu Thi", which can be roughly translated into English as "What Strength Means", is about a story

of the father and his three sons The father was a potter from a small village, and his wife died an untimely death, leaving behind the children in the hands of her husband. As they had no mother, the potter pampered his children, not bringing them up properly, and the result was that they became spoilt children, behaving foolishly. One day, they asked for an inheritance from their father. The potter dismantled the bullock cart into three parts and gave them one part each as their inheritance. Then, he asked the eldest son to take three large earthenware glazed pots to send them to another villager. As he could not do it. the father asked another son to do the same. And as the second could not send the pots to another village, he asked the youngest son to send the pots to another village. They all gave up, admitting that they could not do the task they were assigned. Only when they assembled the three divided parts to make the bullock cart could they send the pots using the bullock carts they jointly owned. Then, the father told his sons the value of unity. Since then, his sons have become good guys who live unitedly.



**Book Title** 

- Leinmar Yimon Htoo Chun **Htetmyet** Tai Thargaung Thamee Mon Phyit Lar Zay Phoh Phatsaya Sar

Writer - Kyaw Yin Myint Publishing House -Linn Lun Khin

**Publication** Date May 2024 (1st Edition)

- K4,500 Price

### Leinmar Yimon Htoo Chun Htetmyet Tai Thargaung Thamee Mon Phyit Lar Zay Phoh Phatsaya Sar

THE blurb of the book says, "The bibliophile kids learn lessons from the books as the books provide the dos and the don'ts. The reading habit will develop the intelligence of the readers, particularly the young ones. They are also inspired and motivated by the books they read. That's why those kids who read are cleverer and more intelligent than those children who do not read."

The book under review was written by a writer from Mandalay known as Kyaw Yin Myint. This book is a collection of inspirational and motivational tales and stories. What makes this book different from other tales and stories is the style of by ourselves. We have learnt lespresentation. Usually, most of the tales are narrated by the storytellers. However, Saya Kyaw Yin Mvint has created the characters, and the storyline is presented through interaction between the characters. This style is more interesting than the style of nar-

The writer said concerning his book, "When we were young, our parents and grandparents told us the tales. They read the stories, particularly at bedtime. They stopped reading or telling the tales until we fell asleep. When we reached school-going age, they bought us books to read sons from the books. And so, I want the children of these days to read the tales, stories and books as we did in our youth. Their reading habit will make them mature, well-informed, clever and intelligent. In addition to encouraging the children to read, the parents are also needed to spend time with their children, providing words of advice as well as words of admonition. They ought

to make their offspring able to

differentiate between truth and

untruth, the good and the evil

and the cause and the effect. Last

but not least, they have to instil in

them the esprit de corps so that

they can work in a team."

The writer went on to say that the parents are also required to instil in their children the spirit of 'never surrender' in order that the children would not give up in the face of enormous challenges and hardships and to bring up their children in a proper way. To be able to do so, they also need to be well acquainted with parenting techniques.

It is worth mentioning that the presentation of this book is unique. At the end of each story, there is an end note, which is the summary of the story. The writer also encourages the parents to take a different approach to the tales and the stories and to have a different outlook in addition to drawing lessons from the stories they read out to their children. He also asks the parents to teach their children critical thinking so that their children can develop good reading skills.

The book includes sixty tales and stories, which are all interesting and knowledge-giving. The book is strongly recommended to both the parents, teachers and the young

(Issued at 7:00 pm Saturday 15 June, 2024)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is moderate

over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF

THE 16 June 2024: Rain or thundershowers

will be scattered in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay

Magway and Taninthayi regions and Chin

and Kayah states, fairly widespread in Nay

Pyi Taw and Eastern Shan State and wide-

spread in the remaining regions and states

with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Upper

Sagaing and Magway regions and Kachin and

Rakhine states. Degree of certainty is 100%.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS



❖ When their own flesh and blood is

Inconsolably, they are hurt and sad. Flocking around and cawing,

- Give sharp pecks on the enemies The nature of crows is revealed.
- ❖ Never think of intrusion On their own race and religion By those who offend in action.
- ❖ With the undaunting spirit of crows, Give violent pecks on them more.

### စိတ်ဓာတ်

- အမျိုးထိတော့ မချိအောင် သူတို့နာ။
- ဝိုင်းအုံကာ အော်မြည်လို့ ညီညီညာ ထိုးဆိတ်ကြမ်း ကျီးကန်းဓမ္မတာ။
- ကျူးကျော်ကာ အရိပ်မထိုးနဲ့ တို့လူမျိုး တို့ဘာသာ ထိလာသူ မှန်သမျှ။ ကျီးကန်းလို စိတ်ဓာတ်မျိုးနဲ့
- ထိုးဆိတ်ပါကြ။ ။ 'ကဗျာစိန်ပွင့်' စာအုပ်မှ

Disappear with the Rain Mya Thae (Research) Rain was falling heavily, four siblings were crying heartily. May May (mother) was lying peace and smile, but her mind was disappearing with rain and cloudy sky. Twenty first June nineteen ninety-six. We ever long and miss. Ref: Mya Thae's idea. Based on true event.





**CLOUD:** The Cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady regions and Kachin and Chin states.

> STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar Waters. Wave height will be about 6-8 feet in off and along Myanmar

### NATIONAL Entertainment



The photo shows the shooting of the movie 'Cling'.

## New movie ready to screen

ACCORDING to director Arkar Soe Oo, the filming of the Myanmar movie 'Cling' was completed, and arrangements are underway to screen at cinemas.

The script of the movie was written by Arkar Soe, Zeyatu, and Henry Saw Tun, and director Arker Soe Oo made it for Mee Mee Mway Film production.

"This is my very first movie, and I mainly focused on the script. As for a young director, the plot and script are created systematically, and I want to show them off to my fans. They might feel scared, excited, and sorrowful. Some moody people might cry," said the director.

The cast includes Hlwan Paing, Min Bhone Myat, Academy May Myint Mo, Hmue Hteik Htar, Paing Soe Thu, Nay Shine, Di Moe Set, Soe Moe Kyi, Moh Kham, Khin San Win, Cho Madi Thwin, Gyi Gyi, Academy Khin Zar Chi Kyaw, Di

La Yaung and Yoon Mie Mie Zaw. The



#### **U Ngwe Gaing** (Artist U Ngwe Gaing)

THE painting called The Light Festival (22.5 inches by 27 inches) of Myanmar's great artist U Ngwe Gaing was sold out at K250 million at the Hong Kong-based Christie's 20<sup>th</sup> Century Day Sales on 29 May. Similarly, the Kan Taw Min Garden by





artist U San Win, A Forest by U Hla Shein and the Working Elephant by U Ba Yin Gyi were also sold at the event.

#### **Maung Sein Win (Padeegon)**

FAMOUS writer Maung Sein Win (Padeegon) organized signing ceremony for his two new novels' Aywat Chway Nway Tae Lar Apu Thit Achit Tae Lar' and 'Shweli Kan Ka Lwan Yeik La' at the Safari Book Store (Market Place by City Mart 6.5 Branch) from 1 pm to 3 pm on 16 June. The writer also invited his fans to the signing ceremony.

#### Female author Swe Swe Aung

ONCE-POPULAR author Swe Swe Aung died of liver cancer on 6 June. She mostly wrote romances for youths such as Maung Eain Thu, Tan Ta Chin, Tamoe Auk Hmar, and Thamudaya, among others. The author died at 73.



#### **Nay Htoo Naing**

ACTOR NAY HTOO NAING planted Mimusops elengi, cobras saffron and garden croton beside the road on Chintaungma Hill in Chauk Township, marking his birthday on 12 June. The actor keeps planting the trees despite criticisms from others. He is also filming a documentary to educate people about why trees should be planted.



#### May Mi Ko Ko

THIEVES broke into actress May Mi Ko Ko's Ko Ko Nail & Beauty Bar a few days ago. The actress asked for help to inform her that if someone saw the suspects shown on the CCTV footage on her Facebook page. She acts as the 'Aye Kyi Ma' character in the movie 'Hla Taw Thar Kwa Phya Thwa Mel'.



#### **Cherry Thin**

THE 'Bamar Ma Lay Par Shint' song by singer Cherry Thin became popular once again on TikTok, and even people from abroad played with the song. The singer thanked beauty model Mee Mee for her TikTok video made with that song and offered the model to make a music video with her. The song was composed by Htet Hlan Hmu. Cherry Thin informed her fans that she will release a new song, 'Because of You, Maung'. — Htun Htun/KTZH

## Agri Dept targets over 1.1M acres of monsoon paddy in Yangon Region

THE Yangon Region Agriculture Department is estimated to plant 1,148,222 acres of monsoon paddy in Yangon Region while cultivating 153,667 acres in Thongwa Township, according to the department.

In 2023-2024, a total of 1,148,222 acres of monsoon paddy were planted in 18 townships of nine districts, with an estimation of 1,145,000 acres. And, in 2024-2025, it is estimated to grow 1,148,222 acres while there are 36,709 acres until 31 May. Taikkyi township ranks second with 127,893 acres of monsoon paddy, and Kayan township is in third place with 110,693 acres.

The government makes efforts to promote the agriculture and livestock breeding sectors in addition to the industrial sector in Yangon, a commercial city in Myanmar. Meanwhile, the paddy cultivation rate increases year by year, and there is adequate paddy for local consumption. The farmers also expand

their cultivation. Various types of paddies include Pawsan, Ngasein, Ngakywe, Shwewah Tun, Sin Thukha, 90-day, Yakyaw, Hmawby 3, Hmawby 2 and

The second crops, black gram, mung bean, peanut, sesame, and sunflower, are planted in double cropping. In monsoon paddy season, 30 companies, seven cooperatives and one rice mill tabled a motion to plant 91,056 acres in 12 townships in five districts using the State Economic Promotion Fund, and the region agriculture department will purchase 2,500 drum seeders from the Agricultural **Mechanization Department** spending region budget in the 2024-2025 financial year.

The department also conducted discussions, talk shows. training, and demonstrations to promote the estimation rate and production rate per acre by adopting the GAP system.— Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH





The distribution of coffee saplings and planting of coffee trees in progress in Byaingtaung Village of Hpaan Township, Kayin State on 15 June. **PHOTO: SAW MYO MIN THEIN (IPRD)** 

## Kayin State expands coffee production by 1,000 acres to meet market demand

KAYIN State Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo urged the widespread cultivation of coffee, emphasizing its potential to generate foreign income and highlighted the importance of collaboration for further developing the state's coffee industry during the distribution of coffee seedlings and planting of coffee trees in Byaingtaung village of Hpa-an township on 15 June.

The state authorities are planning to expand coffee cultivation by 1,000 acres due to strong market demand, as coffee is a valuable crop and is among the most traded commodities globally by volume.

Kayin State produces a significant amount

of coffee beans, with 2,122.96 tonnes coming from 10,029 acres of plantations.

Notably, Thandaunggyi township is known for cultivating a large portion of coffee, primarily the Robusta variety.

The chief minister and other government officials planted a total of 1,522 coffee plants on 3.5 acres and distributed 43,500 coffee plants to coffee farmers for 100 acres.

Furthermore, the chief minister and the team inspected the coffee plantations and offered gifts to the cultural troupes who were also present at the ceremony. — Saw Myo Min Thein (IPRD)/TRKM

## MOEAF warns of scams involving seasonal workers heading to S Korea

ers to the Republic of Korea, an official from Myanmar Overseas **Employment Agencies Federation** 

It is still trying to send seasonal workers to the Republic of Korea. However, in reality, there are many cases in which brokers have asked for money, saying they would send, he said.

"The sending of seasonal workers doesn't launch yet. We have still tried to help our local agencies to send workers officially. However, there are many cases in which bro-

YOUNG people need to be aware of kers have cheated young peopleoscams for sending seasonal work- kers. So our young people have to be aware of it," he said.

> Brokers have deceived many young people, and some even pay them by lending money.

> Currently, there are more than 560 authorized overseas employment agencies, and he advised those who plan to go abroad to do thorough research and directly connect with authorized agencies.

> Myanmar workers are being sent to the Republic of Korea under the EPS system only through the Public Overseas Employment Agency (POEA). — MT/ZS



152 new EPS Myanmar manufacturing workers arrive at Incheon Airport of South Korea from Yangon through the Public Overseas Employment Agency (POEA) on 21 May.

## **ECONOMY**

## Must work as partners to tackle migration crisis, says **European Commission President**

PRESIDENT of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen while welcoming that the pressing issue of migration is being addressed by the Group of Seven (G7), stressed the need for partnership and urged fellow leaders to confront the root causes of migration, combat human trafficking, and establish legal pathways for migrants.

 $\hbox{``Welcome that G7 addresses'}\\$ the key topic of migration. We must work as partners to address root causes, fight smugglers, human traffickers and work on legal pathways. The EU Pact on Migration & Asylum is a major step forward, complemented by strong partnerships with third countries," said von der Leyen in a post on X.

During the second day of the three-day G7 Summit in the southern Italian region of Apulia, the G7 leading industrialised naMigration has become a contentious issue contributing to the rise of populism and far-right movements in Europe and the United States.



During the second day of the G7 Summit in Apulia, discussions revolved around migration, the Indo-Pacific region, and economic security. PHOTO: ANI

tions engaged in discussions on migration, followed by the Indo-Pacific and economic security. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is slated to address an Outreach session on Artificial Intelligence, Energy, Africa, and the Mediterranean. "We will be discussing the importance of our increased focus on the Indo-Pacific," said Italy PM Giorgia Meloni.

"Another key issue the Italian Presidency has prioritized is also linked to Africa, and not only to Africa, and that is the matter of migration and the increasingly concerning role of human trafficking organizations that are exploiting desperate human beings," she said.

Migration is among the challenging topics on the agenda of G7, which has contributed to the resurgence of populism and farright movements in Europe and the United States. - ANI

## Door now open to India's "extended neighbours" Central Asia

Facilitated by Indian Ports Global Ltd and Iran's Port and Maritime Organization, this pact extends beyond mere trade enhancement, serving as a gateway for India to deepen its presence in Central Asia.

In a landmark move to bolster its strategic and economic foothold in Central Asia, India has signed a 10-year agreement with Iran for the operation of the Chabahar Port. This longterm deal, signed between Indian Ports Global Ltd (IPGL) than just a bilateral trade en-

and Iran's Port and Maritime Organization (PMO), grants India operational control over the Shahid Beheshti terminal, a key component of Chabahar's port infrastructure.

This agreement is more



hancement; it is a gateway for India into the heart of Central Asia, redefining trade dynamics and geopolitical relations in the region. In India's ancient trade relations with Europe, as the oldest scripture of the world, the Rigveda mentions trade routes and interactions with regions west of the Indian subcontinent, which would include parts of ancient Persia. The Arthashastra, an ancient Indian treatise on statecraft and economics by Chanakya, mentions trade with western lands, which implicitly includes the region of Chabahar, known as Tis. Chabahar Port boasts two main terminals, Shahid Kalantari and Shahid Beheshti, with ample cargo handling capabilities. — ANI

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### UAE invited to join Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture as observer country

THE Minister of Climate Change and Environment Amna bint Abdullah Al Dahak has visited the headquarters of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in Costa Rica and met with Director-General Manuel Otero, who invited the UAE to join the organization as an observer country.

Otero also reaffirmed his support for the creation of the so-called multinational Technical Group to advance the transformation of food systems, promoted by the UAE.

The Group's mission is to analyze how best to tackle the transformation of agriculture and agrifood systems in order to address the challenges posed by climate change and achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. – ANI

#### Zambia tourism body seeks stronger cooperation with China

OFFICIALS at the Tourism Council of Zambia have said the council wants to see increased cooperation with China. "It is a market that we are paying much attention to and respect."

Officials at the Tourism Council of Zambia (TCZ) have said the council wants to see increased cooperation with China.

The TCZ is keen to tap into the huge Chinese market to boost Zambia's tourism, said Tecla Zondiwe-Ngwenya, the TCZ treasurer.

"It is a market that we are paying much attention to and respect," she said in an interview Wednesday. – Xinhua

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## China urges Türkiye to revoke additional tariffs imposed on Chinese vehicles

Türkiye announced on 8 June that it would impose an additional 40 per cent tariff on imported fuel, hybrid, and electric passenger vehicles from China, effective 30 days after the announcement.

CHINA urges Türkiye to immediately revoke the discriminatory tariffs imposed on Chinese-made passenger vehicles, the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) said on Friday.

On 8 June, Türkiye announced the imposition of a 40 per cent additional tariff on imported fuel and hybrid passenger vehicles from China, to start 30 days later. The country had previously imposed a 40 per cent additional tariff on Chinese electric vehicles.

China is strongly dissatisfied with and firmly opposes Türkiye's imposition of additional tariffs on imports of Chinese passenger vehicles, an MOC spokesperson said. Türkiye only imposes additional tariffs on passenger vehicles from China, resulting in discriminatory treatment of Chinese products, and the action violates the principles of the most-favoured-nation treatment, said the spokesperson, adding that it is also a violation of the rules set by the World Trade Organization. — Xinhua



China is urging Türkiye to immediately rescind new tariffs imposed on Chinese-made passenger vehicles, according to a statement from the Ministry of Commerce (MOC). **PHOTO: GLOBAL TIMES** 

### Karnataka govt hikes petrol, diesel prices in state by Rs3 per litre



The price has increased because the state government has revised the sales tax in the state. **PHOTO: ANI** 

THE Karnataka government has announced an increase in the prices of petrol and diesel, effective immediately from Saturday.

The increase in price comes following an official notification from the Government of Karnataka, which indicates a revision in the sales tax levied on petroleum products.

The price of petrol has surged by Rs3, bringing the cost per litre in Bengaluru to Rs102.84, up from the previous rate of Rs99.84. Similarly, the price of diesel has increased by Rs3.02, raising the cost per litre from Rs 85.93 to Rs88.95.

According to the Petroleum Dealers Association, the price has increased because the state government has revised the sales tax in the state, which is levied on petroleum products in the state. — ANI

### German arms maker to hire workers from ailing auto firm

GERMAN weapons manufacturer Rheinmetall, whose business has boomed amid the Ukraine war, is set to hire workers from Continental as the auto supplier cuts thousands of jobs, the companies said on Friday.

The defence group has seen demand soar as countries rush to rearm following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. It is setting up new factories and said in March it was targeting a record 10 billion euros (\$10.7 billion) in sales this year. In contrast Continental, which makes tyres and supplies car components, is in the process of cutting over 7,000 jobs worldwide as it faces intense competition and the tricky switch to electric vehicles. — AFP

## 88 Vietnamese hired by Japan confectionery were left idle without pay

MORE THAN 80 Vietnamese who signed contracts to work for Japanese confectionery maker Chateraise Co were left on standby without pay for about two-and-a-half months, the company said Saturday.

The company plans to offer compensation for loss of earnings from around early July to the 88 Vietnamese workers, many of whom hold a "Specified Skilled Worker" visa, a status of residence established in 2019 to attract more foreign workers to Japan amid an acute labour shortage.

According to the company based in Kofu, Yamanashi Prefecture, the Vietnamese were scheduled to work at a factory in the prefecture from late February. However, delays in the full operation of new factories in other locations have forced them to remain on standby. – Kyodo

### **CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2413S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2413S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-6-2024 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 Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BLPL SIPPING LINE

#### **CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

M.V SEOUL GLOW VOY.NO. (421W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SEOUL GLOW VOY.NO. (421W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-6-2024 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT/MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185** 

Shipping Agency Department Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD.

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## **WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST**



## Petrodollar agreement lapse

#### 15 JUNE

THE recent lapse of the US-Saudi petrodollar agreement signals the United States' international role in trade is declining but no major shift is expected in the global power dynamic any time soon, Hossein Askari, former IMF Executive Board member and special adviser to the Saudi Arabian finance minister, told

Sputnik.

"No, not for now unless it leads to a big shift in the currency denomination of international trade," Askari said when asked if the lapse will lead to a shift in global power dynamics. "It is more a messaging that America's international role in trade is beginning to decline." — SPUTNIK

#### 14 JUNE

#### Abortion excluded

THERE is no mention of abortion in a G7 summit statement in Italy, a draft showed Friday — an issue that caused a rift between host Giorgia Meloni and her allies. Leaders of the Group of Seven rich democracies last year committed to addressing "access to safe and legal abortion", in a statement after a summit in Hiroshima in Japan.

But that reference did not appear in

the draft of a statement from this year's summit in Italy, seen by AFP on Friday — with diplomats blaming Prime Minister Meloni. The draft said: "We reiterate our commitments in the Hiroshima leaders' communique to universal access to adequate, affordable, and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all." — AFP

#### 13 JUNE

#### Airport vigil

**GRIEVING** families waited to keep a solemn vigil in the terminal of an Indian airport as the bodies of dozens of migrant workers killed in a Kuwait building fire returned home.

Wednesday's dawn blaze quickly engulfed a housing block home to some of the many foreign labourers servicing the oil-rich gulf state's economy.

Fifty people died in the resulting

inferno, 45 of them Indians, with dozens more hospitalized and anguished relatives back home frantically chasing news of whether their loved ones had perished.

"We held on to hope till the last minute that maybe he got out, maybe he's in the hospital," Anu Aby, the neighbour of 31-year-old victim Cibin Abraham, told AFP. – AFP

#### 12 JUNE

#### EV duties

THE European Commission on Wednesday revealed a list of protectionist duties it would levy on imports of battery electric vehicles (EVs) from China, sparking opposition and concerns from governments and businesses across Europe.

The provisional duties envisaged by the Commission on the imports of EVs from China would range from 17.4 per cent to 38.1 per cent.

Hungarian Minister for National Economy Marton Nagy condemned the move as overly protectionist. He said in a statement that "protectionism is not the solution", and the Commission's decision would unfairly discriminate against Chinese manufacturers and disrupt market competition. Nagy pointed out the focus of the EU should be on enhancing the global competitiveness of the European EV industry, instead of imposing punitive tariffs, since such a move would stifle competition and hinder the growth of the EU market. Volker Wissing, Germany's federal minister for Digital and Transport, said tariffs would affect German companies and their exports. "Vehicles must become cheaper through more competition, open markets and significantly better location conditions in the EU, not through trade wars and market isolation," he said on the social media platform X. — Xinhua

#### 11 JUNE

#### End of share sale

OIL giant Saudi Aramco on Tuesday announced the close of its secondary share sale that fetched \$11.2 billion and attracted new foreign investors.

The offering was the largest in the Middle East since Aramco's initial public offering (IPO) in 2019, the firm said in a statement, providing a boost to Saudi Arabia's finances amid an expensive economic reform drive. "This landmark

transaction achieves the goals of diversifying and broadening Aramco's shareholder base with strong participation from new international and local investors, further supporting the liquidity of our shares," Aramco chief executive Amin Nasser said.

Aramco announced on 30 May that it would sell 1.545 billion shares, or about 0.64 per cent of its issued shares, on the Saudi stock exchange. – AFP

#### 10 JUNE

#### Colour-coded migrants

At a detention center in Texas, men await their fate within metal-fenced confines topped with barbed wire, engaging in sports like volleyball and basketball to pass time. Located in Los Fresnos, near the Mexican border, this former naval base houses over 1,000 men who crossed into the US illegally. Each week, tens of thousands arrive seeking asylum from Latin America, Africa, and Asia, most surrender-

ing themselves at informal border points.

While families are typically released pending immigration hearings, single adults are detained in facilities such as this. Miguel Vergara, overseeing operations, detailed how the Port Isabel Detention Centre segregates inmates based on security risks: blue for newcomers, orange for those with records, and red for high-risk individuals. — AFP

#### 9 JUNE

#### K-pop: Goodwill ambassadors

**K-pop** group Seventeen will be appointed UNESCO goodwill ambassadors starting 26 June as announced by the UN body.

UNESCO's director-general Audrey Azoulay highlighted their shared dedication to empowering youth and addressing global challenges.

Formed in 2015, Seventeen ranks highly in global music revenue,

trailing only Taylor Swift in 2023, per IFPI. Their album "FML" topped charts and garnered billions of streams.

They will promote youth initiatives globally under UNESCO's banner, with an official ceremony scheduled at UNESCO's Paris headquarters. – AFP

## **SPORTS**

## Myanmar claims gold at Malaysia Open Athletics Championships



Gold medallist Zin May Htet is seen together with coach U Tun Tin.  $\,$  **PHOTO:** KO TUN

THE Malaysia Open Athletics Championships were held in Sarawak, Malaysia, on 15 June, and the Myanmar athletics team won one gold medal.

Team Myanmar competed in the championship with two athletes, and Zin May Htet won the gold medal in the 20,000-metre women's walking race. The

host Malaysian athletics team is competing with a large number of players, including elite athletes who are representing cities in Malaysia.

In the 20,000-metre women's walking race, Myanmar's Zin May Htet earned the gold medal by 1 hour 55 minutes and 05.13 seconds while Husen, representing Wil Persekutuan of Malaysia, garnered the silver medal by 2 hours 1 minute and 46.77 seconds while Liberyin representing Malaysia also secured the bronze medal by 2 hours six minutes and 52.91 seconds.

A total of 19 players competed in the 20,000-metre women's walking race, and Myanmar's national team walker, Zin May Htet, deservedly won the gold medal. The Malaysian athlete who garnered the silver medal in this championship was the one who won the silver medal in the previous SEA Games. The Myanmar Athletic team includes coach U Tun Tin (former SEA Games walking gold medalist) and two players: Pyae Phyo Tun and Zin May Htet.

The men's 20,000-metre walking race will continue today, and Myanmar athlete Pyae Phyo Tun will compete. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



The Myawady FC players celebrating as they crowned the 2023 Myanmar Women's League title. **PHOTO: MWL** 

## Myawady FC to compete in AFC Women's Club Championship

MYAWADY FC will have the right to represent Myanmar in the 2024-2025 AFC Women's Club Championship, which the Asian Football Confederation will hold for the first time.

Myawady FC won the 2023 Myanmar Women's League Championship, so they have the opportunity to compete in this tourney. According to the format of the competition, the final stage will be held with a total of 12 teams. Eight teams will have the opportunity to play directly, and winners of the qualifiers will seize the remaining four spots of the tourney. A total of 14 teams will compete in the qualifiers, and four teams will qualify for the final stage.

Clubs of Myanmar, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Iran, India, Jordan, Hong Kong, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, the UAE, Singapore, Bhutan and Saudi Arabia will start from the qualifying stage, while Japan, North Korea, Australia, China, South Korea, Vietnam, the Philippines and Chinese Taipei will directly play for the final stage.

The qualifiers will be divided into two groups of four teams as well as two groups of three teams and will be held from 25 to 31 August. A total of four teams from each of the top places will qualify for the final round. The lot-drawing event for the AFC Women's Club Championship will be launched on 18 July. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

## IOC board proposes e-sports Olympics

THE International Olympic Committee plans to launch an "e-sport Olympic Games", separate from the traditional Olympic Games, IOC president Thomas Bach announced on Friday.

The Olympic body's executive board, on the third and final day of its meeting in Lausanne, proposed the new competition to be voted on at a general assembly in Paris on the eve of the summer Olympics.

"The IOC is already in ad-

vanced discussions with a potential host and an announcement can be expected very soon," said an IOC press release, without specifying how often such an event would take place or what sports would be included.

The IOC, in its perpetual quest to reconcile Olympic tradition with attempts to attract a younger audience, held an initial "Olympic e-sport week" in Singapore in June 2023, consisting of "ten mixed-gender category

events." Last October, the IOC set up an "e-sport commission" chaired by Frenchman David Lappartient, the president of the international cycling union (UCI), to consider a dedicated competition.

"With the creation of Olympic Esports Games, the IOC is taking a major step forward and is keeping up with the pace of the digital revolution," said Bach in a statement posted on social media. — AFP



### Amateur Mahreen best among Indians at rain-hit Singapore Ladies Masters

INDIA'S 16-year-old amateur Mahreen Bhatia got off to a good start on a weather-interrupted day at the event Singapore Ladies Masters. Mahreen, a medallist at the US Kids European and World Championships, was 1-under through nine holes. She was tied tenth in the event sanctioned by the China Ladies Professional Golf Association (CLPGA),

The other two Indians in the field, Seher Atwal and Hitaashee Bakshi had a tougher day. Seher was one-over through six holes and Hitaashee was two-over through eight. China's Cai Danlin was off to a flyer with a five-under 67 and took the clubhouse lead. Amateur Ruolin Song of China was second at four-under for the round. Thailand's Kan Bunnabodee is a further shot back after signing for a 69 at the challenging Laguna Golf Resort. — ANI



Aerial photo taken on 12 June 2022 shows people enjoying crayfish dishes during an international crayfish festival in Xuyi County of Huai'an, east China's Jiangsu Province. PHOTO: JI CHUNPENG/XINHUA

## Crayfish festival ignites summer gourmet feast in east China

The festival, running until midto-late August, features various events aimed at celebrating and promoting crayfish consumption.

hinese food enthusiasts are all set for a seasonal culinary delight, as Xuyi, a county in east China's Jiangsu Province known as the "crayfish capital of China", inaugurates its annual crayfish festival on Wednesday.

The festival, which will run until mid-to-late August, features a variety of events aimed

at promoting culinary consumption. "Crayfish is a must-have food every summer, and I came here specifically to enjoy the most authentic taste," said Huang Feng, a tourist visiting

Xuyi is a well-known crayfish production hub in China. Over 200,000 people are involved in the crayfish industry. Every summer, a single event during the festival serves several dozen tonnes of crayfish to over 10,000

According to a research report on the development of Xuyi's crayfish industry, the county's annual crayfish processing capacity exceeds 40,000 tonnes. In 2023, the total output value of Xuyi's crayfish reached 30.6 billion yuan (about US\$4.2 billion).

As one of the top sought-after local delicacies, an increasing number of food and travel bloggers pay special visits to Xuyi in summer to sample the famous dish after reading reviews online. — Xinhua

## Lifestyle

## 'Flying taxis' to be tested during Paris Olympics: minister

During the Paris Olympics, France's transport minister Patrice Vergriete announced that experimental flights of 'flying taxis' would be permitted, marking a global first.

DURING the Paris Olympics, experimental flights of 'flying taxis' will be authorized, though not for general public use, as announced by France's transport minister, Patrice Vergriete.

France's transport minister said Wednesday that so-called "flying taxis" — large futuristic drones capable of transporting several people — would be authorized for use on an experimental basis during the Paris Olympics. "We are going to experiment with this world-first during the Olympic Games. It's a technological advance that could be of use," Patrice Vergriete told Le Parisien newspaper. But he also dashed hopes of sports fans hoping to buzz over the City of Light to reach their destinations in July and August, saying that the terms of the authorization would be limited and not include use by the general public. — AFP



The VoloCity air taxi will be authorized for test flights during the Olympics. PHOTO: AFP

### 'Magical sight': Mass insect migration in European mountain pass

SCIENTIST Will Hawkes said the first sign he was about to witness one of nature's great migrations was being enveloped by a "blizzard of butterflies, cabbage whites and clouded yellows, like a storm of petals".

Then, standing on a mountain pass on the border of France and Spain during a hot day in September, he heard a "purposeful hum".

When he looked down, there were so many insects moving around his feet that it looked "like a living carpet", Hawkes

More than 17 million insects migrate through the 30-metre (100-foot) Pass of Bujaruelo in the Pyrenees mountain range every year, according to a study led by Hawkes published on Wednesday.

The migration was first recorded more than 70 years ago, but the new re-



The insect trap in the mountain pass in the Pyrenees mountain range on the border of France and Spain. PHOTO: UNIVERSITY OF EXETER/AFP

search is the first to estimate the number and types of insects buzzing through the

At its peak, there were more than 3,000 insects per metre every minute, according to the study in the journal Proceedings of the Royal Society B.

"It was the most wonderful thing I've ever seen," said Hawkes, an insect migration researcher at the UK's University of Exeter.

The British team of researchers was inspired by ornithologists Elizabeth and David Lack, who first recorded the phenomenon in 1950, and described the insects as "the most remarkable migrants

The team has visited the mountain pass every autumn since 2018, setting up a video camera and traps to count and identify the insects. - AFP