

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

MoE advances deep well drilling to boost oil production

THE Ministry of Energy has announced plans to acquire international technology and expertise to drill deep wells in old oil fields successfully.

Additionally, it has been confirmed that two new wells to be drilled in the 2024-2025 financial year will yield oil. Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise will oversee the drilling of these wells, with technological assistance and expertise of MPRL E&P Company.

These approved wells aim to reach target depths and establish new milestones in oil production history, as previ-

ous attempts have struggled to produce oil from promising hydrocarbon-bearing sands deep underground.

In addition to research efforts and technological advancements to enhance production in mature oil fields, officials are also focusing on coordination and knowledge-sharing.

The Ministry of Energy is taking measures for the country's energy security and drilling deep wells in old oil fields and producing oil and natural gas are integral components of its strategy.

— ASH/KZL



Officials inspect drilling of an oil well in an old oil field.

Bago region reports growth in investments, job opportunities



Factories and workshops of Bago industrial zone being operated with local and foreign investments in Bago Region.

ACCORDING to Secretary of the Bago Region Government U Aye Maung Kyi, the region approved a new foreign business investment of US\$1.1 million in May 2024 during the Bago Region Investment Committee meeting 3/2024, creating employment for a total of 893 individuals.

From February 2021 to May 2024, a total of 12,490 job opportunities were created in

Bago Region through Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) worth \$200.115 million and Myanmar citizens' investments amounting to K81,111.011 million.

U Aye Maung Kyi stated, "Both local and foreign investments are warmly welcomed in Bago Region, and relevant departments are providing necessary assistance for long-term investments. We invite la-

bour-intensive CMP businesses. Bago Region is committed to promoting environmentally friendly investments, creating job opportunities for locals, developing human resources, enhancing production, services, and trading based on agriculture and livestock, and raising local businesses to international standards."

The report indicates an in-

crease in both the amount of investment in existing businesses and new investment businesses, as well as an increase in the labour force during this period. The Bago Region Investment Committee approves new Myanmar and foreign investment businesses monthly in accordance with laws, rules, and regulations to create new job opportunities within the region. — ASH/ TMT

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By Linn Aung

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NATIONAL

Antique Nat statues need preservation

SECURITY should be provided for Nat (spirit) statues which are antiques and have been stolen recently, said archaeologist and writer Bo Shake (Yadanapura).

Recently, antique Nat statues have been lost and even Nat statues from other unknown Nat chambers (Nat Nan) have been stolen. In an attempt to prevent antique Nat statues from stealing, those who take charge of Nat chambers should focus on security, for example, they should pay attention to preservation in collaboration with the archaeological department as these statues are also ancient heritages, he said.

“More and more Nat statues have been found missing recently. Nat statues from Yadana Gu have also been lost. Yadana Gu existed since Nyaungyan Period so these Nat statues are also ancient heritages, Nat statue is also a tradition of Myanmar and it is a kind of ritual. It is not worshipping them as the same level as Buddha. People worship them as ritual. And they are ancient cultural assets. Most of Nat statues have been found stolen especially this month. So it is not safe just by locking them. That is why those who take charge of Nat chambers should focus on how they



Some Nat statues from Yadana Gu Nat chamber.

can make safe the Nat statues. Like Buddha images, they need to be protected by a guard or a trustee board, if not this problem will continue,” he said.

It is assumed there is an an-

tique smuggling market and the archaeological department and security teams need to deal with it effectively, he said. In order to protect antique Nat statues from stealing, education should

be given to villagers about the value of antiques, at the same time these antiques should be locked in secure places and protected by guards, he suggested. — MT/ZS

EV taxi captures passengers



New Day filling station located at the corner of Bargayar Road and Baho Road, where EV charging is provided.

PASSENGERS are keen to ride Electric Vehicle (EV) taxis and many drivers have also been looking for a way to drive an EV taxi.

“I drive both a petrol taxi and an EV taxi. Currently, EV taxi is in the spotlight. The majority of drivers are interested in it, as well as passengers. Because EVs are new cars, so passengers prefer to ride in. EV taxis are more safe and their equipment is better. And they are left-hand drive so it is convenient for passengers to get on and get off,” said Ko Aung Wai Lin

from Happy EV Taxi Family.

At present, EV taxis have gained attentions from passengers and even there are demands for EV taxi only, he said. Drivers have been looking for rental EV taxi but there are just a few companies, so far, he said.

“Petrol cars have to wait in queue at filling stations and CNG cars also have faced the problem of unavailability of gas. But EV cars don’t need to queue up at stations for now, so it is still fine. I drive EV car rented from a company so it is very fast for charging at four

stations in Thakin Mya Park, Yangon Airport, Dagon Aye-yar Highway Bus Terminal and Aung Mingalar Highway Bus Terminal. Charging lasts depending on type of car. It takes just about 40 minutes to charge my car. In my experience, it is safest if we don’t charge at home if possible, because even large charging cables at charging station become hot sometimes,” he said.

It is the best to charge EV cars at their charging stations rather than at home, he suggested. — MT/ZS



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 2 June 2024)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 3 June 2024: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Chin and Kayah states, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions and Kachin State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of regionally heavyfalls in Mandalay Region and isolated heavyfalls in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions and Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states. Degree of certainty is 100%.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The Cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Mon states.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and 6-8 feet in off and along Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuation of increase of rain in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 June 2024: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 June 2024: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 June 2024: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

NATIONAL

Plans underway to install pagoda digital directories at pagodas in Bago Region

PREPARATIONS for installation of a Pagoda Digital Directory at the pagodas of Bago Region were explained at the City Hall of Bago yesterday morning.

Firstly, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin clarified that officials are developing a digital directory of pagodas in Myanmar to enhance global awareness of the country's cultural heritage. The directory will include information on both famous and lesser-known pagodas from different regions and will be accessible via a website using modern technology. The Department of Archaeology and National Museum is collaborating with the Universities of Computer Studies in Pyay, Magway, Toungoo, and Thaton

to launch the Pagoda Digital Directory Web Portal as soon as possible. This project will be progressively implemented for all the famous pagodas nationwide.

Subsequently, relevant officials provided detailed explanations of the project's progress, and the Union Minister addressed additional requirements at the end of the briefing.

The briefing was also attended by Bago Region Chief Minister U Myo Swe Win, ministers of the Bago Region Government, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, the Director-General of the Religious Affairs Department, the Director-General of the Archaeology and National Museum Department, departmental heads,



Meeting on preparations for installation of a Pagoda Digital Directory at the pagodas of Bago Region in progress at the City Hall of Bago yesterday.

rectors and faculty members from the Universities of Computer Studies in Toungoo and Pyay, pagoda board trustees, and other responsible persons.

Later, the Union minister

donated K500,000 to the fund for overall renovation of the Shwemawdaw Pagoda. Additionally, it was reported that the Union minister inspected the maintenance of the Kalyani

ordination hall, maintenance of Leikpya Lake and Gaunghsay Mingala Lake dredged by King Dhammazedhi in 1475 AD and 1476 AD respectively. — MNA/TRKM

Over 6 mln students enrolled for 2024-2025 academic year as of 2 June

SINCE the school enrolment week for the 2024-2025 academic year began admitting student enrolment, a total of 6,394,528 students have enrolled as of 2 June, at basic

education schools, private schools, and monastic education schools across states and regions. More students are expected to enroll at their respective schools.



Photos show students and parents are seen at enrolment process for the 2024-2025 Academic Year.



During the school enrolment week, headmasters, headmistresses, school administrators, and teachers provide friendly and warm services to parents, guardians, and students. The Ministry of Education offers textbooks, notebooks and stationeries free of charge to all students. Additionally, the ministry provides free school uniforms for primary students. Furthermore, students who are late in enrolling for various reasons are also being accepted for enrolment. — MNA/TMT

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NATIONAL

MoI UM attends coordination meeting on industrial development of Yangon region

A coordination meeting took place at the Yangon Region Government Office regarding the development of industry and industrial zones yesterday morning. The meeting was attended by the Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than and officials.

Firstly, the Union minister discussed the enactment of the Industrial Zone Law and Industrial Zone Rules, the objectives of the Industrial Zone Law, the establishment of the Central Committee for Development of Industry and Industrial Zone, establishment of new industrial zones, the status of existing industrial zones and management committees, as well as the industrial activities in established industrial zones and ongoing projects.

The Chief Minister of the Yangon Region Government U Soe Thein provided clarification on the status of industrial activities in the region, land use, and the development of industrial



A coordination meeting on development of industry and industrial zones in progress in Yangon yesterday.

zones.

Following this, regional government ministers explained the conditions for the development of industrial zones in accordance with the law.

Next, the Union minister visited the Yarn and Fabric Pro-

duction Technology Development Centre in Insein Township. He highlighted the state's encouragement and support for the development of cotton and cotton weaving activities to achieve complete self-sufficiency in the clothing sector. He emphasized the

need for further testing activities to enhance the quality of locally produced clothing. Additionally, he stressed the dissemination of cotton and fabric testing techniques and training, and inspected the ongoing testing activities.

In the afternoon, the Union

minister visited the Pharmaceutical Factory in Insein. In the meeting hall, the factory manager reported on the implementation of operations and plans for continuation. The Union minister instructed officials to collaborate with vocational schools, technological universities, and colleges to acquire the necessary human resources for the factory. He also gave instructions on the formulation of plans for equipment pre-inspection and maintenance, with strict adherence to implementation.

Furthermore, he highlighted the timely production of medicines ordered by the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Labour. He urged them to follow strict adherence to directives in the procurement of raw materials. Additionally, the Union minister stressed the need to maintain integrity in their duties and address employee submissions promptly. — MNA/KZL

Kachin state government inspects agricultural and manufacturing development initiatives

THE Kachin State Government conducted inspections on agricultural and MSME manufacturing activities in the state, funded by the State economic promotion fund.

On 2 June, Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan inspected the Jiangphaw weaving industry in Myitkyina Township and distribution of 150,000 school notebooks across the state.

During the inspection, the State Chief Minister, accompanied by Chief Justice U Tu Ja of State High Court, state government ministers, visited the Jiangphaw traditional clothing manufacturing and trading business in Rampu Ward 4, Myitkyina. They viewed the storage of raw textile and the weaving of traditional Kachin wares.

Following this, the chief minister emphasized the pop-

ularity and marketability of traditional Kachin clothing, expressing support for and promotion of weavers. They inquired about the procurement and collection of raw textile and the ability to export and sell them to the market.

Additionally, the state's chief minister and officials looked into the operation of the state government's paper mill and the distribution of note-



Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan inspects the workplace of Jiangphaw weaving industry in Myitkyina Township on 2 June 2024. PHOTO: KACHIN STATE IPRD

books, funded with K135 million for the first round of the State economic promotion fund

and K100 million for the second round. — Kachin State IPRD/TKO

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NATIONAL

Illegal trade task forces seize goods worth K294 million in nationwide crackdown

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, special task forces are combating illegal trade in accordance with the law.

On 30 May, combined teams managed by the Customs Department conducted inspections at the Myanmar Industrial Port. They found 19,790 kilogrammes of China-made GI Hollow Pipe (estimated value of K29.09 million) and 7,392 kilogrammes of Indonesia-made Natural Stone Tile (estimated value of K19.145 million) at the Asia World container inspection station. Action is being taken in accordance with customs procedures.

Additionally, on 31 May, a combined team managed by

the Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force conducted inspections at the Shwegyin checkpoint. They discovered 2,944 gallons of illegal diesel (estimated value of K32.855 million) and one Nissan diesel truck (estimated value of K40 million) carrying the fuel. Action is being taken in accordance with the Law on Petroleum and Petroleum Products.

On the same day, during inspections conducted by the

combined team under the management of the Customs Department, six types of goods (estimated value of K43.243 million), including 1,000 kilogrammes of China-made PVC water pipe not declared in the import declaration form, were seized from a container at the Myanmar Industrial Port. Action is being taken in accordance with customs procedures.

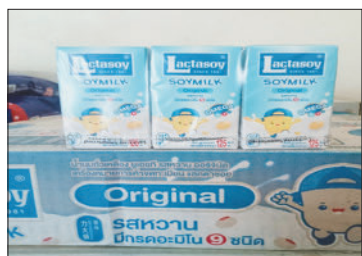
Furthermore, on 1 June, combined teams managed by the

Kayin State Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force confiscated 800 China-made Haichen lithium iron phosphate batteries (estimated value of K28 million) and two Toyota Hiace minibuses (estimated value of K60 million) carrying these items at the Thanlwin bridge (Hpa-an) checkpoint. Additionally, they seized 12,000 boxes of Lactasoy soy milk, 984 packets of 108 brand soap powder (estimated value of K6.64 million), and one Nidi truck (estimated value of K35 million) carrying these items near Eindu village on the Eindu-Hpa-an road. Action is being taken in accordance with

customs procedures.

On 1 June, a combined team managed by the Sagaing Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force conducted inspections and seized an unregistered New Anbo-125 motorcycle (estimated value of K300,000) in Kalay Township. Action is being taken in accordance with the Export Import Law.

Thus, on 30 and 31 May, and 1 June, a total of 13 arrests were made, and the value of confiscated goods amounted to K294.274 million, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/TKO



Illegal diesel barrels seized in Mandalay on 31 May.

GI Hollow pipes seized at Myanmar Industrial Port on 30 May.

A Toyota Hiace seized at Thanlwin Bridge (Hpa-an) combined checkpoint in Kayin State on 1 June.

Over 5.6M stimulant tablets seized in Loilem Township

OVER 5.6 million stimulant tablets worth K1.68 billion were confiscated in Loilem Township, Shan State (South).

Security forces searched a Ford Ranger driven by Kyaw Sein and Toyota Hilux Surf driven by Tun Myint, near the Pinohn Village, Mongpun, Loilem Township, Shan State (South) at 6 am on 31 May and seized 4.6 million stimulant pills.

Officials made further investigations and also arrested Win Shwe who involve to the drug trafficking along with VIGO vehicle at 6:30 am on the same day.

Then officials also confiscated one more million stim-

ulant tablets from Aik Loung from his house located in Letaw Ward, Nakhai Village, Mongpun at 7 am.

Therefore, in one day, 5.6 million stimulant pills at a total value of K1.68 billion were seized, and the Myanmar police Force has announced that legal action has been taken against them and that the perpetrators of chain crimes are being investigated and identified. — MNA/KZL

Offenders are seen along with seized stimulant tablets and vehicles.



NATIONAL

Myanmar Equestrian Federation holds workshop on Equine Colic

A workshop titled 'Prevention and Control of Heatstroke and Equine Colic' was held on 2 June at the Myanmar Equestrian Federation office in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, focusing on the prevention and control of horse heatstroke, urinary retention, constipation, and flatulence.

The workshop was attended by officials from the Myanmar Equestrian Federation, equestrians, equestrian athletes, those in livelihoods with horse care, horse owners, horse lovers, veterinary professionals, and other interested individuals.

The Myanmar Equestrian

Federation aims to develop equestrian sports by continuously holding competitions and conducting technical courses related to equestrian sports.

On 8 and 9 June, basic and advanced course 1/2024 in horse care will be offered to 20 participants. — TWA/TH



Horse rider seen in action at the competition organized by the Myanmar Equestrian Federation.

Department of Meteorology and Hydrology
Seismological Division
Nay Pyi Taw
Tel 067-3411269 Fax 067-3411253

Earthquake Information	
Date	02.06.2024
Time (MST)	15:14:58
Magnitude	5.4 (Moderate)
Latitude	23.04 N
Longitude	94.84 E
Depth	71 km
Region	About 25 miles NE of Mingin.

For More detail Information
<https://www.moezala.gov.mm/>

Earthquake News

(Issued at 15:30 hour MST)

A moderate earthquake of magnitude 5.4 Richter Scale with its epicentre inside Myanmar (about 25 miles northeast of Mingin), latitude 23.04 °N, longitude 94.84 °E, depth 71 kilometres, about 44 miles southwest of Kanbalu seismological observatory was recorded at 15 hr 14 min 58 sec MST on 2 June 2024.

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Counter-argument to false information

Fake news spreading about security forces claiming they burnt the villages in Sittway

IT is known that the subversive media outlets are spreading the untrue news claiming that the security forces burnt and destroyed the new and old villages of Kanpyin in Sittway Township on the evening of 1 June.

On 30 May, the security forces only took peace and security measures for the Byinephyu village and its surroundings in Sittway Township, but they did not take security measures in other villages according to a security official of the relevant place.

The truth is the malicious medias are hiding the terror actions of AA terrorists such as attacking towns and villages with heavy weapons, burning the villages of the citizens.



Screenshot on fake news of RFA Burmese.

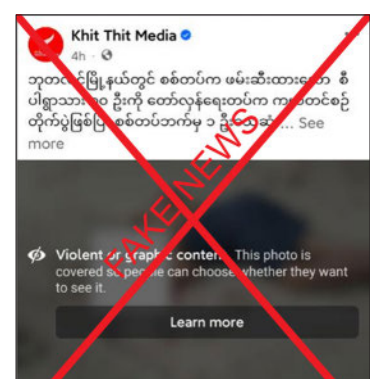
They also aim to make misunderstanding between the local people and the security forces with the fake news on the social media platforms. — MNA/ TRKM

Spreading false news: Security forces arrested 10 local people in Budalin Township

THE malicious media outlets are spreading the false news claiming that the security forces forcefully arrested 10 residents at the Sipar village of Budalin Township in Sagaing region on 31 May.

The real occurrence was the security forces were carried out for the security of the Sipar village and the surroundings on 31 May and found out that the terrorists were planting mines near the roads of the village. Therefore, there was an exchange of fire between the security forces and the terrorists, and the terrorists fled after shooting. Later, the security forces systematically removed the mines not to be harmful to the public.

The subversive media are intentionally spreading mis-



Screenshot misrepresents the true occurrence.

information to misrepresent the security forces and to cover up the terror acts of the terrorists. The security forces did not arrest any villagers and the news is just a fake one, according to the report of a security official of the place. — MNA/ TRKM

Cauliflowers from hilly regions and plains flood Mandalay market

CAULIFLOWERS from both hilly regions and plains are flooding the Thirimarlar vegetable market in Aungmyethazan District, Mandalay Region. These vegetables are being sold well in the Mandalay market, according to U Aung Moe Naing, the owner of Aung Broker House.

Currently, approximately four to five 6-wheel trucks carrying cauliflowers enter the market regularly. The current market price ranges from K1,500 to K1,700 per piece.

“Cauliflowers from the plains arrive at the market daily. Additionally, cauliflowers from the Aungban region are also arriving every day,” said U Aung Moe Naing. “Other crops such as tomatoes, cabbages, potatoes, Chinese cabbage, carrots, bitter gourds and onions are also being sold well,” he added.

Cauliflowers, mainly grown in Myanmar’s hilly regions and plains, are available all year round.

Currently, Thirimarlar green grocery market is open from 4 am to 8 pm. — Maung Aye Chan/KZL



Cauliflowers. PHOTO: MAUNG AYE CHAN



Containers are seen at a terminal of the port.

MoC to enforce penalties for premature arrival of imports without licences starting 1 July

THE Ministry of Commerce has notified that disciplinary action will commence on 1 July in accordance with the Export/Import Law if imported commodities arrive at airports and terminals before obtaining licences or permits.

Except for commodities permitted

for storage in customs warehouses, imported goods lacking permission are prohibited from arriving at ports and airports.

A directive issued on 8 July 2020 states that import companies will face penalties under the Export/Import Law

if such goods arrive without an import licence or permit. However, it is often found that import items arrive at the ports before the licence is issued.

The report also states that the Customs Department only allows essential goods for domestic manufacturing and health sectors to be stored in customs warehouses as per regulations.

Therefore, the ministry urges import companies to abide by the law and adhere to the rules and regulations. — TWA/TMT

ALL the fishing trawlers in Taninthayi Region suspended the fishing industry starting from 1 June.

Although all the fishing trawlers suspended operations starting on 1 June, and the large boats sought permission to conduct fishery business during the fish breeding season, the government did not grant permission.

The monsoon has entered the southern part of Myanmar, and all the fishing trawlers on the sea are suspended and returned to the shores.

“The squid fishing trawlers capture fish normally in open season. It is just over and mid-water level fishing technique. Normally, all are in operation from October to the end of May and are suspended in the rainy season.

The fish breeding season is in June, July, and August, so it should not capture fish at all. We stopped fishing before the end of May,” said a fisherman who operates a squid fishing boat.

In open season, the Wahtan (a type of trawler) squid fishing boats ended their fishing, and the Wahlatt boats (other type of trawler) were also prevented from fishing. The typical fishing season was recognized as June, July, and August previously, but it was changed to April, May, and June.

“In previous years, the Wahlatt vessels were allowed to be included in the percentage in the fish breeding

Fishing industry suspended in June in Taninthayi Region



Fishing trawlers are seen in Myeik, on the coast of Taninthayi. PHOTO: MYINT OO (MYEIK)

season.

“This year, we submitted to resume fishing in June after suspending in April and May.

“The government studied the fish resources in the sea and did not allow them. The Wahlatt boats capture fish in the sea the whole year round, which can cause marine resource extinction. It is now a serious case.

“They usually come onshore, and the onshore fishing boats face difficulties. They will catch in July and August after June. But, it is during the fish breeding period,” said a marine worker.

Although the Yangon and Taninthayi regions-based entrepreneurs submitted a proposal to the officials to allow fishing in June, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation did not allow it.

The ministry replied that they do not allow fishing in June on 27 May 2024, and so the fishing is banned in June. Although the non-fishing season was set for three months – April, May, and June — at the stakeholders meeting on 11 November 2023, permission is not currently granted. — Myint Oo (Myeik)/KTZH

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OPINION

ARTICLE

Decorate the learning society with white and green

JUNE in Myanmar coincides with the early monsoon, transforming the environment into a lush, verdant landscape. This natural greening brings a sense of peace and tranquillity to all. Alongside this environmental renewal, Myanmar's society also sees rejuvenation through educational activities as schools and universities reopen for the new academic year. Students and teachers don white and green uniforms, symbolizing a fresh start and influencing society with their vibrant presence.

The sight of students and teachers in their white and green uniforms injects a sense of happiness and optimism into the community. These colours, emblematic of the education sector, symbolize a promising future for the youth. The environments of basic education schools are thus decorated with smiles and enthusiasm, reflecting a collective hope for peace and prosperity. The white and green uniforms represent more than just school attire; they signify the nurturing of future citizens who will contribute significantly to the nation's progress.

As the new academic year unfolds, the white and green school uniforms not only decorate the learning environment but also symbolize the potential within each student. This year's educational activities are poised to bring out the best in Myanmar's youth, paving the way for a prosperous and educated society.

Their hard work is a testament to their gratitude towards parents, teachers, and the state, as well as a step towards personal and national betterment.

Investing in education is the best strategy for long-term societal improvement. By focusing on education, a nation can transform its socioeconomic landscape, developing a well-versed workforce capable of driving progress. Currently, many high schools in Myanmar are enhancing their curricula with industrial, agricultural, and livestock farming techniques. These practical subjects provide students with valuable skills, offering them new paths to success and ensuring a brighter future.

As the new academic year unfolds, the white and green school uniforms not only decorate the learning environment but also symbolize the potential within each student. This year's educational activities are poised to bring out the best in Myanmar's youth, paving the way for a prosperous and educated society.

Celebrating a Century of Economics and Business Education in Myanmar: A Legacy of Excellence

By Linn Aung

(Former Student of the Institute of Economics – 1982-1986 Batch MPA, EMPA 18th Batch of Yangon University of Economics)

THIS year marks a significant milestone in Myanmar's academic history, the 100th anniversary of economics and business education. The journey began in 1924 when the Faculty of Economics was established at Yangon University, marking the start of structured economic education in the country.

The Beginning of Economic and Business Education in Myanmar

The inception of formal economic education in Myanmar traces its roots to 1924 when the Section of Economics (then the Faculty of Economics) was established at Rangoon University (now Yangon University). This marked the initiation of a structured academic pursuit aimed at comprehending economic principles, deciphering market dynamics, and fostering contributions to the nation's economic advancement. Notably, in 1924, Professor Lionel Charles Robbins Jevons (L C R Jevons) played a pivotal role in establishing the Faculty of Economics. His contributions to developing the curriculum and setting up the necessary administrative and academic structures laid the groundwork for future generations of economists in Myanmar.

Post-World War II Era and the Emergence of Eminent Economists

The aftermath of World War II heralded a transformative phase in Myanmar's economic education landscape. Dr Hla Myint, a prominent figure from Yangon University and a professor at the London School of Economics, gained international acclaim for his seminal contributions to development economics, particularly his groundbreaking "vent-for-surplus" theory. Alongside lumi-



Yangon University of Economics (Source: <https://yueco.edu.mm/>)

naries such as Ronald Findlay, Dr Khin Maung Kyi, Dr Maung Shein, Dr U Myint, and Dr Tin Maung Maung Than, among others. Myanmar saw the rise of distinguished economists whose scholarly work significantly influenced global economic discourse across various domains, ranging from international trade to economic reforms and governance.

Extension and Organizational Development

The Yangon University of Economics began as a Section of Economics under the Rangoon University (thereby Yangon University). The Section of Economics began offering commerce as a special subject in 1940 and courses in statis-

tics in 1953. In 1955, a separate Commerce Department was established, and in 1956, a separate Statistics Department was established. In 1964, the institute became an independent tertiary institute with three academic departments and one separate research department. In 1987, the Research Department was transformed into the Department of Management Studies and another academic department, the Department of Applied Economics and Department of Applied Statistics, were created. The institute now has five major academic departments and four supporting academic departments: Burmese, English, mathematics and geography. It added not only a full-time MPA (2000), an executive

MPA (2002), and MDevS (2004) but also a full-time MBA programme in 1995, an executive MBA (EMBA) programme in 2002, and an online MBA programme in 2007.

In 1964, a seminal development occurred with the establishment of the Institute of Economics, marking a significant milestone in Myanmar's educational landscape. Initially supported by the Department of Economics at Yangon University, this institution evolved into the Yangon University of Economics, greatly expanding the scope of business studies in Myanmar. The university now boasts a modern and dynamic curriculum that includes a wide range of business courses, reflecting the evolving nature

of the global economy and the multidisciplinary skills required by contemporary graduates.

To further enhance access to higher education in economics, Monywa University of Economics was established in 1993, followed by Meiktila University of Economics in 2001, serving the Central and Upper Regions of Myanmar. Additionally, the expansion of business-related education across the country has been bolstered by the establishment of two cooperative and management universities (Thanlyin and Sagaing), two cooperative colleges (Phaunggyi and Mandalay), and five cooperative accounting vocational schools (Magway, Mandalay, Taunggyi, Mawlamyine, and Patheingyi).

SAC Initiatives to Boost the Economy

The State Administration Council is actively promoting the nation's economy by encouraging the growth of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). This initiative aims to foster entrepreneurship, create jobs, and stimulate economic development. By supporting MSMEs, the government hopes to build a more resilient and diversified economy better able to withstand global economic fluctuations.

Looking Ahead: Envisioning the Future of Economic Education

As we commemorate a century of economic and related

business education, it becomes imperative to gaze into the future. The swift metamorphosis of the global economy, propelled by technological innovations and globalization, necessitates a perpetual evolution of educational paradigms and pedagogical methodologies. Economics and Business Education graduates equipped with essential skills in management, business operations, marketing, banking, finance, insurance, and more are imperative to meet the forthcoming challenges.

Myanmar's universities must adeptly navigate these transformations to equip students with the acumen and skills requisite for the challenges of the future economy. Moreover, to ensure long-term success and high-quality economic education, it is essential to cultivate skilled resource personnel. Investing in the development of faculty members and researchers is crucial for maintaining the academic standards of economic universities. This will help these institutions stay at the forefront of economic research and education, equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary for the future.

Conclusion

The 100-year journey of economics and business education in Myanmar is a testament to the nation's commitment to academic excellence. From its beginnings at Yangon University to the establishment of specialized economics universities, the journey has been marked by significant achievements and contributions. As we honour this legacy, we look forward to a future where economic education continues to thrive, driving Myanmar towards greater prosperity. The ongoing government support for MSMEs and the emphasis on cultivat-

ing skilled personnel and investing in the development of human capital will be pivotal in this journey, ensuring that Myanmar's economic education system remains robust and forward-looking.

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NATIONAL

Manipulators in domestic gold market arrested

Currently, the government emphasizes forging peace and stability and rule of law throughout the nation. Acting on tip-off, relevant security forces exposed and arrested unscrupulous persons who manipulated gold prices which were not actually used in the domestic gold market dispersed through social media networks with attempts to undermine economic development of the State and destabilize the State economy.

In this regard, a total of 21 suspects including brokers engaging in illegal gold trading to destabilize the gold prices were arrested and they are under investigation.

According to their confessions, as security forces prepare to conduct further investigate ten more suspects who committed instability of prices in the domestic gold market, they evade from arrests of law enforcement bodies.

Severe level action will be taken against those 21 arrestees including illegal gold brokers committing instability of gold prices in domestic market and efforts are being made to take action against 10 evaded suspects under the law. People are urged to secretly inform relevant security forces about those evaded suspects.

— MNA/TTA

NO	NAME	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS	REMARKS
1.	U Kyaw Nyein 	Sein Kyaw Moe Gold Shop	No 109, ground floor, Shwebontha Street, Pabedan Township, Yangon Region	
2.	U Myo Thu Win 	Academy Gold Refinery	No D/18, U Wisara Road, Extended Ward 34, Industrial Zone, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region	
3.	U Thet Naung Win 	Kayan Thongwa Gold Shop	No 119, Second Floor, 29 th Street, Ward 7, Pabedan Township, Yangon Region	
4.	U Hsan Win 	Zwe Htet Gold Shop	No 65, 22 nd Street, corner of Maha Bandoola Street, Latha Township, Yangon Region	
5.	U Aung San Win 	Aung Thamadi Gold Shop	No 112, 89 th street, between 21 st and 22 nd streets, Minte Ekin Ward, Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay Region	
6.	U Aung Kaung Myat 	Weint Sein Gold Shop	No 457, Maha Bandoola Street, Lanmadaw Township, Yangon Region	
7.	U Aye Kyu 	Shwe Zin Win Gold Refinery	29 th Street, Lower Block, Pabedan Township, Yangon Region	
8.	U Kyaw Win (aka) Pan Thee 	Broker	No 28, Shortcut to Theinbyu Market, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region	
9.	U Nyi Nyi Oo (aka) Chet Kyee 	Broker	No 2, Mingala Yeiktha, Zawana Ward, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region	
10.	Daw Tin Tin Khine (aka) Sanda Tin 	Broker	No 95, Phoneygi Street, Lanmadaw Township, Yangon Region	

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanmar Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mal, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.

News and Periodicals Enterprise

World's 1st "edible robot" offers researchers feast of insights

Nakata aims to offer edible robots as a new culinary experience, believing that changing people's perceptions through food can have psychological and cognitive effects.

A cloudy yellow rectangular figure about seven centimeters long wobbles from side to side, waving its gelatinous arms as it makes a friendly greeting, its body resting inside a mug.

"Hello. I was looking forward to speaking with you today," says the figure, which was successfully developed by Yoshihiro Nakata, an associate professor of robotics at the University of Electro-Communications and his team of researchers.

The wobbly character is not just an apple-flavoured gummy candy but also the world's first "edible robot". While the edible part of the robot consists only of a gelatin-based chewable sweet, it is powered by robotics from its

base to give it its lifelike quality.

With tiny black dots for eyes, the robot's edible body is attached to a stainless-steel metal bolt placed inside a 3D-printed mug. Chambers inside the gummy fill with air and connect to a pneumatic tube at the base of the apparatus to set the creature in motion, while the audio comes from a speaker connected to the device.

But what on earth, you may be wondering, is this for? The goal, says Nakata, is to offer up edible robots as a "new culinary experience."

Nakata was partly inspired by Anpanman, a well-known Japanese children's superhero comic book and anime character who

takes the form of an anthropomorphized red bean paste-filled pastry. Throughout the series, Anpanman often sacrifices himself for his hungry pals by ripping off parts of his face to feed them. For Nakata, this captures the idea of changing people's perceptions through food, the driving concept behind his project.

"When Anpanman tears off his face and gives it to someone, it is depicted as tasting even better than usual, and giving people energy," he said, emphasizing that he believes the way people interact with food may cause changes in their sense of taste and texture and produce different psychological and cognitive effects. — Kyodo



Photo taken on 28 February 2024, in Chofu, western Tokyo, shows the world's first edible robot. **PHOTO: KYODO**



Aerial view of Copacabana beach at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Bid to 'privatize' Brazil beaches sparks outcry

Brazil boasts one of the world's longest coastlines, stretching approximately 7,500 kilometres (4,600 miles). By law, beaches are considered public assets and are under government ownership, contributing to their largely pristine state.

A proposed constitutional amendment that could see Brazil's famed beaches fall into private hands has outraged environmentalists and citizens in a country that prides itself on open access to its vast shores.

Brazil has one of the world's longest coastlines, at around 7,500 kilometres (4,600 miles) and by law beaches are public assets

and thus government property. They are largely pristine, without the eyesore high-rise condos and hotels common at seaside resorts in other countries.

However, a proposal to change the government ownership rule has been making its way through Congress, promoted by senator Flavio Bolsonaro, son of ex-president Jair Bolsonaro who

often said while in office that he dreamed of creating the "Brazilian Cancun" — a nod to Mexico's hub of mega resorts.

The idea is to transfer ownership of coastal land to states, municipalities and private occupants, which critics say could damage environmental protection efforts and block beach access. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

New Doraemon movie stays atop China's box office chart

JAPANESE animation "Doraemon the Movie: Nobita's Earth Symphony," the 43rd film in the 2D animated "Doraemon" series, continued to top the box office chart on the Chinese mainland on Saturday, official data showed.

The film revolves around the story of Doraemon and Nobita's new adventure with friends to bring music back to people after its disappearance from the world. It pocketed 58.42 million yuan (about US\$ 8.22 million) on that day, according to data from the China Movie Data Information Network.

It was followed by Sony Pictures' animated comedy film "The Garfield Movie," which garnered box office sales of 42.01 million yuan on its premiere on Saturday. — Xinhua

Everest records tumble as season ends with eight dead

MOUNTAINEERS on Everest left the world's highest peak on Wednesday, ending a climbing season that broke multiple records but left eight people dead, tourism officials and expedition organisers said.

More than 600 climbers and guides reached the 8,849-metre (29,032-foot) high Himalayan summit, Rakesh Gurung of the tourism department said, with the exact total yet to be verified.

"Teams have packed up and the route will be closed now," Gurung told AFP. "The season has ended." — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Industry experts urge cooperation toward a greener future

German Finance Minister Christian Lindner emphasized the importance of EU nations upholding principles of free and fair international trade, warning against actions that could exacerbate trade wars, which he stated result in losses for all parties involved.

WASHINGTON'S latest protectionist move on Chinese clean energy products has raised concerns about the ongoing trade tensions between China and the United States, experts have said.

German Finance Minister Christian Lindner said that EU nations should avoid undermining free and fair international trade, as trade wars ultimately result in no winners, only losers.

As global society strives for a greener future, boosting open trade and international cooperation is more important than ever, industry experts said, adding that more Chinese companies are building factories overseas, which will bring more opportunities for the local economy and the global clean energy agenda.

"We want fair trade and fair trade means the best product should win with the best price



People visit the booth of BYD at the 91st Geneva International Motor Show in Geneva, Switzerland, 28 February 2024. **PHOTO: MENG DINGBO/XINHUA**

and having at the end the target for the wealth of the people," said Jorg Mosolf, chairman of the Board & CEO, Mosolf Group, one of the leading system service providers for the automobile industry in Europe.

Mosolf, who has been in the industry for over 30 years, told Xinhua during a recent visit to Shanghai that Chinese electric vehicles are very popular in Europe.

"I don't think that is the question of overcapacity," said Mosolf, adding that demands for electric vehicles are high in Europe and Chinese-made cars prevail because of their good design and performance. He emphasized that the EV industry is crucial to the EU's clear goal of ultimately achieving zero carbon emissions, adding that "the best technology should win." — Xinhua

Egypt's largest container terminal to operate by 2025: senior executive

AN Egyptian executive has announced that a new large container terminal at Ain Sokhna port on the Red Sea, developed by an international consortium led by China's Hutchison Ports, will start operations by 2025.

Mohamed Khalil, manager of the port development project, told Xinhua on Thursday that the terminal, spanning 2,600 metres and covering a total area of 1.6 million square metres, will be Egypt's largest upon completion. It will have the capacity to accommodate ships of up to 400 metres in length.

"The terminal was handed over to the international consortium in January after the completion of the infrastructure work carried out by Egyptian companies," Khalil said.

The consortium, consisting of China's Hutchison Ports, Chinese state-owned COSCO Shipping, and the French shipping company CMA CGM, is under-

taking extensive works at Ain Sokhna port, including the installation of large cranes and the construction of administrative buildings, according to Khalil. He mentioned that the first ship is anticipated to be received in 2025.

"It is important that we establish partnerships with international companies such as Hutchison and COSCO," the Egyptian executive said. "The strategic location of Egypt serves the interests of these major companies. We also benefit from their expertise."

According to Egypt's Ministry of Transportation, Egypt and the consortium signed two agreements in March 2023 to develop and operate the container terminals at Ain Sokhna port and Dekheila port in northern Alexandria Province. The ministry estimates direct revenues from these projects to reach about 5 billion US dollars over the 30-year contract period. — Xinhua

Canada's GDP unchanged in March

The oil and gas extraction subsector, along with support activities for mining and oil and gas, played a role in mitigating the overall decline in the sector during the month, according to the report.

CANADA'S real gross domestic product (GDP) was essentially unchanged in March, following a 0.2 per cent increase in February, Statistics Canada said Friday.

Mining and quarrying, except oil and gas, contracted 3.9 per cent in March, recording its largest decline since January 2022 as all industry groups within the subsector were down, the national statistical agency said.

Gold and silver ore mining contributed the most to the decline as a gold mine temporarily shut down production in March due to unfavourable weather conditions, the agency said.

A 2.4 per cent increase in oil sands extraction, led by higher crude bitumen extraction and synthetic oil production, more than offset the lower extractions of crude oil and natural gas. The oil and gas extraction subsector, as well as the support activities



Mineral samples are displayed at a trade show of the Association for Mineral Exploration's Roundup 2024 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on 22 January 2024. **PHOTO: LIANG SEN/XINHUA**

for mining and oil and gas subsector, tempered the decline in the overall sector in the month.

Advance information indicated that real GDP rose 0.3 per cent in April. Increases in manufacturing, mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction and

wholesale trade were partially offset by decreases in utilities, the agency said. The country's real GDP by industry rose 0.6 per cent in the first quarter, after edging up 0.1 per cent in the previous quarter, said Statistics Canada. — Xinhua

Trump Media shares experience volatility following former US President's conviction

Following the guilty verdict, shares experienced dramatic swings, initially dropping by as much as 15 per cent on Thursday before rebounding slightly on Friday.

THE historic conviction of former President Donald Trump is causing significant volatility for Truth Social owner Trump Media & Technology Group, with shares fluctuating dramatically since the Manhattan jury's guilty verdict on Thursday, CNN reported.

Trump Media, known for its volatile nature since its debut in late March, witnessed steep losses and sharp gains following the conviction. Initially plunging as much as 15 per cent on Thursday evening in response to the conviction, the stock rebounded slightly on Friday, opening 4 per cent higher before surrendering those gains.

In recent trading, Trump Media has seen a decline of about 5 per cent, according to CNN.

Matthew Kennedy, senior IPO market strategist at Renaissance Capital, explained the heightened volatility, stating, "Trump is the key figure here, so it's no surprise that a conviction results in extra volatility as traders reassess what that means for the company." — ANI



As chairman of Trump Media and the leading figure on Truth Social, Trump wields significant influence over the company's success. **PHOTO: PIXABAY**

China approves market entry of 21 medicines for children

CHINA'S National Medical Products Administration on Saturday announced that it has approved the market entry of 21 medicines for children this year, with about a third being prioritized for accelerated entry.

In recent years, the administration has stepped up its policy support for the research and development (R&D), approval and production of medicines for children, resulting in market entry approvals for an increasing number of drugs.

Statistics show that since 2019, the administration has approved 271 medicines for children.

It has pledged to implement greater preferential policies to facilitate the review and approval of medicines for children, and to intensify the protection of related intellectual property rights. — Xinhua



The organizer of the 2025 World Expo in Osaka, Japan, is mobilizing young people to generate public support for the event, which has faced criticism over its high infrastructure costs. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Osaka Expo seeks to tap into youth power to drum up support for event

The Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition is engaging universities, primary, and secondary schools to participate in the expo and is utilizing social media to promote it.

THE organizer of the 2025 World Expo in Osaka, western Japan, is tapping into the power of young people to drum up public support and enthusiasm for the global event, which has been mired in controversy over its hefty infrastructure costs.

The Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition is rallying universities and teach-

ers at primary and secondary schools to participate in the expo, which begins in April next year, and is making use of social media to get its message out.

Osaka's local governments also plan to conduct tours from June to October this year on the site's grand roof named the Ring, a gigantic wooden structure where visitors can

overlook the expo site from the rooftop, for junior high and high school students who are residents of or are enrolled at schools in the prefecture aged between 12 and 17.

"Seeing is believing. I want leaders of our future society to experience the overwhelming presence of the Ring," Osaka Gov. Hirofumi Yoshimura told report-

ers.

The Osaka prefectural government is also planning to invite some 1 million children residing in the prefecture — elementary, junior high and high school students as well as 4- and 5-year-olds — to the expo free of charge.

So far, about 75 per cent of schools that responded to a survey by the prefecture's board of education said they intend to accept the invitation, according to an interim report of the survey.

The survey targeted some 1,900 schools in the prefecture and received responses from 1,280 as of 24 May.

The expo will be held in Yumeshima, a man-made island in Osaka Bay, from 13 April through 13 October 2025. — Kyodo

Gasoline price to drop in Israel in June

AS of Sunday, 2nd June the price of gasoline in Israel will be reduced.

The maximum price per litre of unleaded 95 octane gasoline for a consumer at a self-service station (including VAT) will not exceed 7.52 Shekels (US\$2.03) per

litre, a decrease of 0.38 Shekels (US\$ 0.10) per litre from the previous update.

The supplement for full service will be 0.22 Shekels per litre (including VAT), unchanged from the previous update. — ANI

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Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V T12 APPLE VOY.NO. (2419E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-6-2024** 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.

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ROLLING UPDATES: WORLD

Formal announcement of the election results is scheduled for Tuesday.

INDIA'S Prime Minister Narendra Modi looked set to win a third straight landslide election victory on Saturday at the close of a six-week general election bedevilled by searing heatwaves.

Results will be formally announced on Tuesday.

Exit polls showed he was well on track to triumph and Modi himself was certain he had prevailed, saying he was confident that "the people of India have voted in record numbers" to re-elect his government.

"They have seen our track record and the manner in which our work has brought about a qualitative change in the lives of the poor, marginalised and down-trodden," he said on social media platform X.

An exit poll from broadcaster CNN-News18 forecast Modi's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party

India PM Modi appears set to triumph as voting ends in marathon election



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his recent visit to Varanasi. PHOTO: ANI/FILE

(BJP) and its coalition allies to win 355 seats, well above the 272 needed for a majority in the lower house. Many in Modi's constituency of Varanasi who cast their votes on Saturday were nonetheless excited at the

prospect of his return to power.

"I voted for growth and development of my country," Varanasi resident Brijesh Taksali told AFP outside a polling station where he cast his ballot to re-elect the 73-year-old pre-

mier.

Varanasi is the spiritual capital of the Hindu faith, where devotees from around India come to cremate deceased loved ones by the Ganges river. — AFP

South Africa's ANC loses majority, needs allies

SOUTH Africa's ruling ANC faced a search for allies to form a new government Saturday after losing its three-decade-old absolute majority in a watershed election, as some rivals questioned the results.

With 99.85 per cent of the votes from Wednesday's election counted, President Cyril Ramaphosa's African National Congress had only 40 per cent, a catastrophic slump from the 57.5 it won in 2019.

This marks a historic turning point for South Africa as the party has enjoyed an absolute majority since 1994, when liberation hero Nelson Mandela led the nation out of white-minority rule and into democracy.

The ANC must now negotiate a coalition government or at least persuade other parties to back Ramaphosa's re-election in parliament to allow him to form a minority administration reliant on other groups for support to pass budgets and legislation. — AFP

SUMMARIES : GLOBAL

Israel opposition leader vows to support PM on hostage release deal

ISRAELI opposition leader Yair Lapid vowed Saturday to support Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu if he goes ahead with a truce and hostage release deal that his far-right coalition partners have previously opposed. US President Joe Biden said on Friday that Israel had offered a new roadmap towards a full ceasefire including the release of hostages held by Hamas militants in the Gaza Strip.

Netanyahu's far-right coalition partners, including National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir and Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, have previously threatened to bring down his government if the war ends without the destruction of Hamas. Lapid said in a post on social media platform X: "I remind Netanyahu that he has our safety net for a hostage deal if Ben Gvir and Smotrich leave the government". — AFP

600 evacuated amid catastrophic flooding in Germany

HEAVY rains have caused catastrophic flooding in southern Germany, prompting the evacuation of over 600 people from their homes, local media reported.

Continuous rainfall over several days has caused water levels to rise in several rivers in Germany, including the Donau, Neckar, and Guenz, leading to widespread flooding in coastal cities and towns. Water levels in many areas have reached their highest levels in a century. — Xinhua

Japan, S Korea agree on preventive measures for radar lock-ons

Defence exchanges between the two countries had been largely suspended due to a dispute over Tokyo's accusation that a South Korean destroyer locked its fire-control radar on a Japanese patrol plane in Japan's exclusive economic zone in December 2018.



Japanese Defence Minister Minoru Kihara (L) and his South Korean counterpart Shin Won Sik (2nd from R) hold talks on the sidelines of the three-day Asia Security Summit in Singapore on 1 June 2024. PHOTO: KYODO

JAPANESE and South Korean defence ministers agreed Saturday to implement measures to prevent radar lock-on incidents with bilateral relations recently improving,

although the two sides remain at odds over an occurrence Tokyo alleges happened in 2018 but Seoul denies.

A joint statement issued after their meeting in Singapore also showed the two defense ministers affirmed that the Japan Self-Defence Forces and the South Korean military will resume full-fledged high-level exchanges.

Their defence exchanges have been nearly suspended amid a lingering row over Tokyo's allegation that a South Korean destroyer locked its fire-control radar on an SDF patrol plane in Japan's exclusive economic zone in December 2018. — Kyodo

SPORTS

Lot-drawing event for 2025 AFC U-17 and U-20 Qualifiers to be held on 13 June

A lot-drawing ceremony for 2025 AFC U-17 and U-20 Qualifiers in which Myanmar teams participate will be held on 13 June, as stated by the Myanmar Football Federation.

More than 40 teams will participate in the AFC U-17 Qualifiers 2025 and will be divided into ten groups.

Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Thailand and Vietnam are selected as hosts for the AFC

U-17 Qualifiers 2025.

The top ten teams from the ten qualifying groups and the five best second-placed teams from each group will qualify for the next stage. The AFC U-17 Qualifiers 2025 will begin in October 2024.

Meanwhile, over 40 teams will participate in the AFC U-20 Qualifiers 2025, which is divided into ten groups. Cambodia, China, Chinese Taipei, Laos, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand and Vi-

etnam are selected as host countries for the AFC U-20 Qualifiers 2025.

The top ten teams from the ten qualifying groups and the five best second-placed teams will qualify for the next stage of the AFC U-20 Qualifiers.

The Myanmar U-16 team and U-19 team are taking training for the Asian Cup Qualifiers to be competed in this year, as well as the ASEAN tournament. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Myanmar face Vietnam in AFF U-19 Championship opener

AS the AFF U-19 Championship group matches have come out, the Myanmar U-19 football team will play the opening match against team Vietnam.

The AFF U-19 Championship will be hosted by Indonesia on 18 and 29 July, and will be divided into three groups of four teams.

According to the fixtures, Group A sees Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Cambodia, and the Philippines and Group B consists of Laos, Vietnam, Myanmar and Australia. Meanwhile, Thailand will play against Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei in the Group C. Team Myanmar will take on

Vietnam on 18 July, Laos on 21 July and Australia on 24 July.

Since the Myanmar team is in the tough group, it is likely that they will have to play hard to qualify for the next round. U Aung Naing as the head coach is handling the Myanmar U-19 team.

The Myanmar squad has been training since the beginning of this year. In preparation for the AFF U-19 Championship, team Myanmar played tune-up matches in China from 26 May to 1 June while faced two losses: 0-2 in the first match and 1-3 in the second friendly match. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Pachuca's Venezuelan forward Salomon Rondon celebrates after scoring one of his two goals in a CONCACAF Champions Cup final victory over Columbus Crew. **PHOTO: AFP**

Pachuca sink Columbus to win CONCACAF Champions Cup

MEXICAN side Pachuca won the CONCACAF Champions Cup for a sixth time on Saturday after outclassing Major League Soccer's Columbus Crew 3-0. Veteran striker Salomon Rondon scored twice either side of a Miguel Rodriguez effort to seal a deserved victory at Pachuca's 30,000-capacity Estadio Hidalgo. Columbus entered the final in a confident mood after a superb campaign, which saw them eliminate Mexican sides UANL Tigres and Monterrey en route to Saturday's showpiece. But the MLS champions were overwhelmed by a blistering start from Pachuca, who took the lead after just 12 minutes when Venezuelan international Rondon burst clear of the Co-

lumbus defence and chipped a deft finish over advancing goalkeeper Patrick Schulte.

Pachuca thought they had made it 2-0 moments later when Oussama Idrissi finished off another well-worked move that split the Columbus defence. But the goal was overturned by referee Ivan Barton after an intervention from the VAR, which had spotted a foul in the build-up.

The reprieve was only fleeting for Columbus, however, with the MLS team struggling to cope with Pachuca's superior movement off the ball. Just after the half-hour mark, Rodriguez made it 2-0 to the home side, sweeping home an emphatic finish after Erick Sanchez's cross. — AFP

Pass master Kroos bows out in style as Champions League record holder

Toni Kroos concluded his illustrious club career in style by winning his sixth Champions League title on Saturday.



Toni Kroos (centre) won a record-equalling sixth Champions League as a player in the final game of his club career. **PHOTO:**

TONI Kroos brought down the curtain on a glorious club career in fitting style as he entered the history books by winning his sixth Champions League on Saturday.

Kroos played a key role as Real Madrid beat Borussia Dortmund 2-0 at Wembley.

The German, along with teammates Dani Carvajal, Nacho and Luka Modric joined Madrid legend Paco Gento as the most decorated players in European Cup history.

Real boss Carlo Ancelotti

said his door remains open should the 34-year-old have a change of heart after announcing the shock decision last month that he will retire after representing his country on home soil at Euro 2024.

The normally unflappable Kroos had a rare emotive outburst as he punched the air and pointed to the Madrid club crest when he was replaced by his long-time comrade Modric with just a few minutes remaining at Wembley. "He's finished at the top. It is

not possible to go out better," said Ancelotti.

"He is a legend of this club and obviously we all thank him for what he has done.

"Not just in his play but his attitude, his professionalism. He never missed a day in these 10 years. We hope he changes his mind, we are here if he does." Kroos' Champions League haul ended where it began, by beating Dortmund at Wembley.

He was a Bayern Munich player when they won the competition at the home of English football in 2013, although injury prevented him from featuring in the final.

'I'll miss this'

Fresh from helping Germany to win the World Cup in Brazil, Kroos then joined Madrid in 2014 and has become part of a generation that has marked a second era of European domination for the Spanish giants.

Gento was part of the Madrid side that won the first five European Cups from 1955 to 1960. — AFP

India PM Modi appears set to triumph as voting ends in marathon election

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China's Chang'e-6 lands on moon's far side to collect samples

The lander-ascender combination of the Chang'e-6 probe landed in the South Pole-Aitken (SPA) Basin, a designated landing area.

CHINA'S Chang'e-6 touched down on the far side of the moon on Sunday morning, and will collect samples from this rarely explored terrain for the first time in human history, the China National Space Administration (CNSA) announced.

Supported by the Queqiao-2 relay satellite, the lander-ascender combination of the Chang'e-6 probe successfully landed at the designated landing area in the South Pole-Aitken (SPA) Basin.

Chang'e-6 consists of an or-

biter, a returner, a lander and an ascender. Since its launch on 3 May this year, it has gone through various stages such as Earth-moon transfer, near-moon braking, lunar orbiting and landing descent. The lander-ascender combination separated from the orbiter-returner combination on 30 May said the CNSA.

The landing site is at an impact crater known as the Apollo Basin, located within the SPA Basin. The choice was made for the Apollo Basin's potential value

of scientific exploration, as well as the conditions of the landing area, including communication and telemetry conditions and the flatness of the terrain, said Huang Hao, a space expert from the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC).

Huang added that the terrain on the far side of the moon is more rugged than the near side, with fewer continuous flat areas. However, the Apollo Basin is relatively flatter than other areas on the far side, which is conducive



This image taken from video animation at Beijing Aerospace Control Center (BACC) on 2 June 2024 shows the lander-ascender combination of Chang'e-6 probe landing on the far side of the moon. **PHOTO: JIN LIWANG/XINHUA**

to landing.

After the landing, the probe is scheduled to complete sampling within two days. It has adopted two methods of moon

sampling, which include using a drill to collect subsurface samples and grabbing samples on the surface with a robotic arm. — Xinhua

G7 leaders to vow to promote responsible use of AI in military field

The planned statement aims to "promote safe, secure, and trustworthy AI" while pursuing "an inclusive, human-centered, digital transformation," recognizing AI's role in societal development.



Lawson, a Japanese convenience store chain, has developed a cooking robot to provide convenient meal preparation for busy individuals or those with limited cooking skills. These AI-powered robots can adjust cooking parameters like temperature and ingredient proportions based on real-time feedback, offering quick and easy meal solutions. **PHOTO: IMAGE USED FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSE/KYODO/FILE**

THE Group of Seven industrialized nations will pledge to promote the responsible development and use of artificial intelligence in the military field in a joint statement at their upcoming summit, a diplomatic source said Sunday.

The source cited a draft communique expected to be issued at the G7 leaders' gathering slated for three days from 13 June in Fasano, southern Italy. The draft calls for the wider use of AI but also underscores the need to address disinforma-

tion and other risks.

Recognizing AI's role in development in societies, the G7 leaders would vow in the planned statement to "promote safe, secure, and trustworthy AI," while pursuing "an inclusive, human-centered, digital

transformation," according to the source.

The move comes as the world grapples with the rapid development of generative AI tools, including the forerunner model ChatGPT, amid fears that the spread of disinformation through the misuse of AI could threaten democracy and political stability.

In May, the European Union enacted the world's first comprehensive legal framework on AI, prohibiting "social scoring" systems that rank citizens based on a combination of personal data such as online and offline behaviors, among others.

The G7 members will likely announce the creation of an action plan on the use of AI in the workplace for enhanced productivity and improved quality of conditions, while also demanding compliance with international law when AI is used for military purposes, the source said, citing the draft. — Kyodo

The US aircraft carrier Dwight Eisenhower

Houthi attack US aircraft carrier, destroyer in Red Sea: Military spokesman

YEMEN'S Ansar Allah movement, also known as Houthi, attacked a US aircraft carrier, destroyer and a number of ships in the Red Sea, Houthi military spokesman Yahya Saree said.

The Houthi navy, missile units and drones have conducted six operations, the spokesman said.

"The US aircraft carrier Dwight Eisenhower was attacked in the northern Red Sea with several missiles and drones," Saree said, adding that a US destroyer was also attacked in the Red Sea.

The movement's forces struck ships in the Red Sea, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean that "belong to companies that violated the decision to ban passage to [Israeli] ports," the spokesman added. — SPUTNIK