

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Myanmar border trade with China crosses over US\$586M in Q1

The border trade value between Myanmar and China hit US\$586.387 million in the first quarter (April-June) of the current financial year 2024-2025 beginning 1 April, which dropped from \$964.84 million recorded in the corresponding period last year, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics showed.

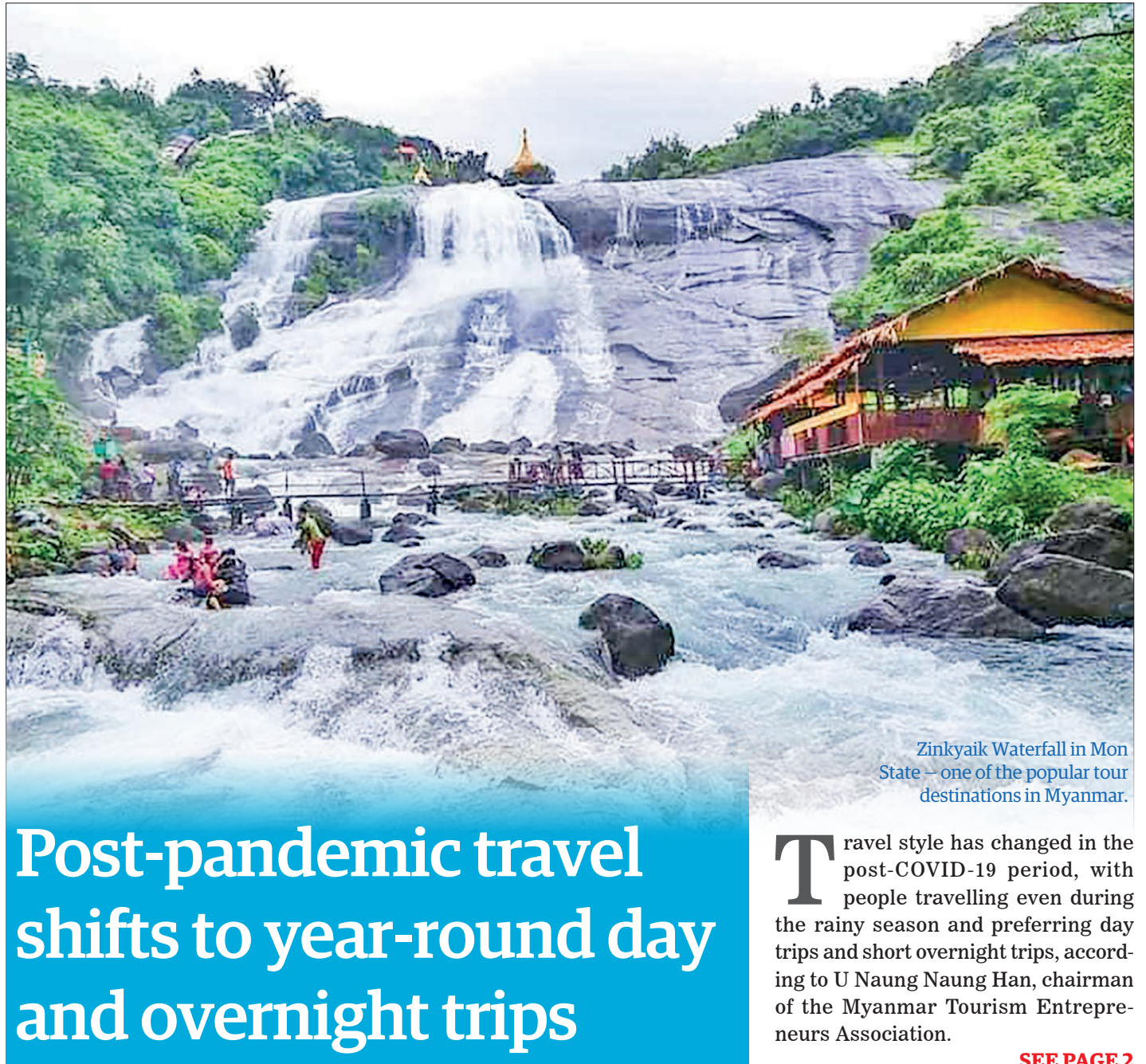
The figures reflected a significant decrease of \$378.453 million this FY compared to that of the year-ago period.

Myanmar conducts cross-border trade with the neighbouring country China via Muse, Lweje, Chinshwehaw, Kampaiti and Kengtung. The Muse border registered the highest trade figure of \$329.11 million.

The trade values stood at \$113.223 million via Kampaiti, \$1.214 million via Lweje and \$142.839 million via Kengtung respectively.

Myanmar has been carrying out border trade with the four neighbouring countries – China, Thailand, Bangladesh and India.

Export items are agricultural produce, livestock products, fisheries products, minerals, forest products, manufacturing goods and other goods, while capital goods, intermediate goods, manufacturing goods and raw materials by CMP enterprises are imported. — NN/KK



Zinkyaik Waterfall in Mon State – one of the popular tour destinations in Myanmar.

Post-pandemic travel shifts to year-round day and overnight trips

Travel style has changed in the post-COVID-19 period, with people travelling even during the rainy season and preferring day trips and short overnight trips, according to U Naung Naung Han, chairman of the Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Association.

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Rehabilitation gaining momentum in Loikaw of Kayah State

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MRF executives discuss boosting seller participation in affordable rice scheme

OPINION

Lessen contact with wild or pet animals

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PYIN OO LWIN
NAN MYAING

Sales Department- Ph-085 2021740, 09 30529111
 STARMART Nine Mile Showroom- (9)mile, Pyay Road, Yangon. Ph-09 30860180
 KHA YAE PIN MART - Mingalardone, Pyay Road, Yangon. Ph- 09 671443555
 STARMART MANDALAY Wholesale -Corner of 26th st and 66th st , Mandalay.Ph-09 661702244
 STARMART Nay Pyi Taw Yangon- Mandalay Highway Road, Ywar Gauk Ward, Pynmanar.Ph- 09 685119077

SAC Member inspects regional development activities in Maubin District

STATE Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung, accompanied by Minister for Ayeyawady Region Security and Border Affairs Colonel Moe Min Naing and Minister for Ayeyawady Region Ethnic Affairs U Saw Lin Khel, inspected the regional development activities in Maubin, Nyaungdon and Pantanaw townships yesterday morning.

The SAC member and officials first attended the ceremony embracing systematic practices to achieve monsoon target yields, held on the five-acre farm of farmer Daw Ni Ni Moe. They inspected the cattle breeding and dairy production operations at the 'Top Dairy Farm' in Kyontama village-tract.

The SAC member and officials also inspected the dams at the No 16 Water Sentry station

in Wartaw village-tract. They observed a training drill on flood response and search-and-rescue skills workshop.

Moreover, they observed paddy planting using a Drum Seeder on 16 acres of land owned by farmer U Hla Aung in Ngagyigayat village.

Additionally, they met farmers from Maubin district and government officials at the Toe Shwe Wah Hall in Maubin. They discussed challenges affecting monsoon paddy cultivation in the region and distributed seeds to farmers benefiting from the State Economic Promotion Fund.

The SAC member and officials also visited the Ashathar Fish Farm in the Thazinyaykyaw Group Association in Nyaungdon Township to observe the fish farming operations. During the



State Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung observes the display at a drill on flood rescue operation in Maubin District, Ayeyawady Region.

visit, the SAC member issued directives to address the identified needs.

Furthermore, the regional government donated books and provided cash assistance to the

'Pyinnya Yaung Chi' Library in Samalauk village. — MNA/TRKM

Union Industry Minister attends 14th Industrial Expo in Russia



Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than views the boost displayed at the 14th Industrial Expo in Yekaterinburg, Russia.

THE Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than arriving in Moscow, Russia, to attend the 14th Industrial Expo (Innoprom) in Yekaterinburg, met with the officials of the National University Of Science and Technology (MISiS) to discuss the handover of steel production technology on 7 July.

On 8 July, the Union minister and party attended the first day of Innoprom-2024 in Yekaterinburg and observed the displayed iron and steel exploration and production-related machinery, medicines and medical supplies of companies from the United Arab Emirates, etc.

On 9 July, the Union minister attended the conference named main pillar of the global economy, the Shanghai Cooper-

ation Organization Conference, at the 14th Industrial Expo, and discussed cooperation in the economy and preparations of Myanmar for those who make investments and businesses people together with Deputy Secretary-General of Shanghai Cooperation Organization, ministers from Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Belarus.

At noon, the Union minister and party attended the opening ceremony of Innoprom-2024. They then met with Mr Anton Alikhanov, Russian Minister for Industry and Trade in the same evening and discussed bilateral cooperation in industrial sectors, medicines and medical supplies production and finalizing No 2 Steel Mill (Pangpet).

Moreover, the Union minister expressed willingness to

import raw materials for medical production from Russia and cooperation in cooking oil, garment, textile and cement production industries.

On 10 July, the Union minister met with the deputy provincial Governor of Savelyov State to discuss the high education sector, medicine production, capacity-building training and other bilateral ties in various sectors.

On 11 July, the Union minister and party left Yekaterinburg for Moscow and met officials of Russian Industry and Trade and JSC "VO Tyazhprom-export" (TPE) and discussed the successful finalizing of No 2 Steel Mill (Pangpet).

The Myanmar delegation led by the Union minister arrived back in Yangon on 12 July evening. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

DPM MoFA Union Minister pays joint courtesy call on Indian Prime Minister and holds separate talks with Thai, Indian and Bangladeshi Foreign Ministers on sidelines of 2nd BIMSTEC FM Retreat in New Delhi

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe, who is now in New Delhi to attend the 2nd BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Retreat which was held on 11-12 July 2024, paid a joint courtesy call on Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India together with other BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers at 10:45 am Indian Standard Time on 12 July 2024 at the official residence of the Prime Minister in New Delhi.

Likewise, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe separately met Mr Maris Sangiamongsa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand at noon, Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs of India at 6:15 pm and Dr Mohammad Hasan Mahmud, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh at 6:30 pm Indian Standard Time on 11 July 2024 at Taj Palace Hotel in New Delhi.

At the meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, both sides cordially exchanged views on further strengthening the existing friendly relations between Myanmar and Thailand, promoting mutually beneficial cooperation

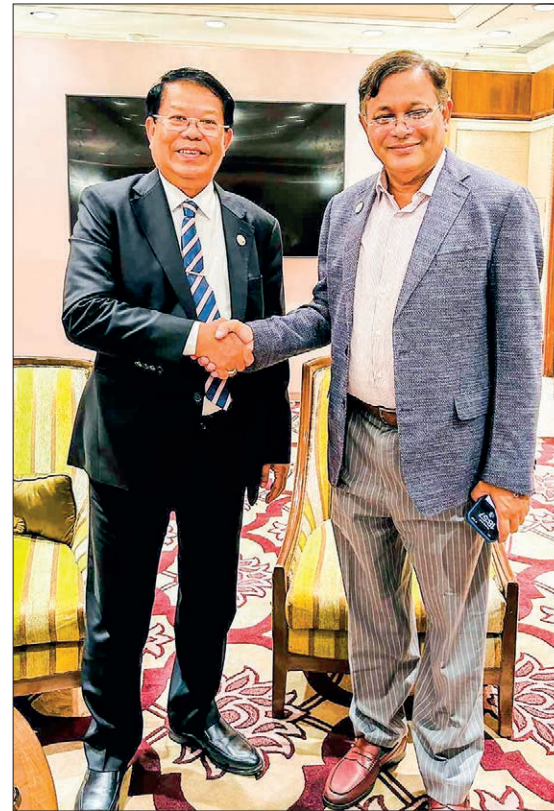


Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe shakes hands with Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the official residence of the Prime Minister in New Delhi.

and collaborating more closely under the frameworks of BIMSTEC and Mekong-Lancang Cooperation (MLC).

In addition, Deputy Prime

Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe appreciated Thailand's cooperation in combatting illegal drug trafficking and arms trade,



Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe shakes hands with Bangladeshi Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Mohammad Hasan Mahmud during the bilateral meeting in New Delhi.

human trafficking and online scamming.

During the meeting with the Minister of External Affairs of India, the Deputy Prime Minis-

ter and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs apprised him of the Myanmar Government's efforts to ensure peace, development and democracy in the country and the latest developments of Myanmar. Likewise, their discussions focused on connectivity projects and further enhancing cooperation between Myanmar and India for stability along the border areas.

At the meeting with the Bangladeshi counterpart, their discussions focused on strengthening bilateral relations between Myanmar and Bangladesh, promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in the areas of trade and people-to-people contacts. Furthermore, they exchanged views on ways and means to collaborate between the Chambers of Commerce of Myanmar and Bangladesh. The two Ministers also discussed cooperating more closely in BIMSTEC.

Myanmar Ambassador to India U Moe Kyaw Aung, Director-General U Kyaw Nyun Oo of the International Organizations and Economic Department and senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were also present at the Meetings. — MNA

ME warns of severe penalties for carrying prohibited foods to Japan

THOSE who stealthily bring prohibited food products to Japan will face severe penalties (a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment or three million Japanese yen fine or 50 million fine if it is a business), the Myanmar Embassy to

Japan warned.

Meat products, fruits and vegetables are strictly prohibited from carrying into Japan from foreign countries under the law.

A Myanmar man was recently arrest-

ed for breaching this restriction many times, it said. It is also not allowed to deliver these restricted items to Japan by international express services, it added.

The embassy urged Myanmar nationals who would come to Japan to be well aware of this rule and advised them to see the internet websites of Animal Quarantine Service and Plant Protection Station under the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan, concerning the carrying of the prohibited goods. — MT/ZS

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NATIONAL

Myanmar Embassy in Beijing offers alms to monks visiting China

MYANMAR'S Ambassador to the People's Republic of China U Tin Maung Swe and his wife, Brig-Gen Zaw Zaw Naing, Military Attaché and his wife, staff, and family members of the Myanmar Embassy, along with the Military Attaché Office, offered lunch to 11 monks, led by the Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Venerable Bhaddanta Vasettha Bhivamsa during their visit to China, at 11:00 am on 11 July 2024 at the Myanmar Embassy.

After lunch, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vasettha Bhivamsa taught Buddha's teachings and recited the Metta Sutta. Following that, the Ambassador, his wife, staff, and family members from the Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché Office offered alms. — ASH/TH



Ambassador U Tin Maung Swe and his wife, staff, and family members from the Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché Office are offering alms to Sayadaws, led by Secretary Venerable Bhaddanta Vasettha Bhivamsa of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee.

MMPO to donate foodstuffs to members for 15th time

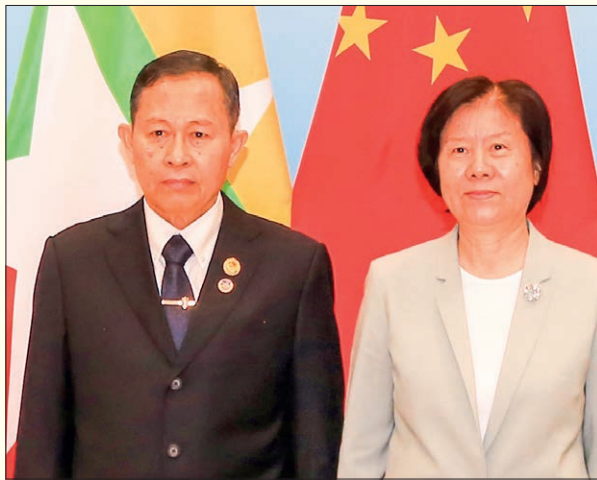
THE Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization will donate food items, including rice, cooking oil, and gram, to artistes in the film industry during July as its 15th Thingyan donation, according to Vice-Chair U Aye Kyu Lay of the organization.

"Each person will receive a five-pyi bag of rice, a viss of cooking oil, half a viss of lentils, two tins of canned fish, and other foodstuffs," said U Aye Kyu Lay.

For the 14th time, the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization donated foodstuffs to various strata of the organization between 3 and 6 April this year. — ASH/MKKS

Weekly Roundup

8 July Myanmar-China bilateral meeting



Myanmar and China will promote cooperation in partnership relations and multi-strategic cooperation between the two countries, discussed at the Myanmar-China bilateral meeting at Anren Hall of Qingdao International Conference Centre of China.

Outbreak of severe diarrhoea



The Ministry of Health issued a press release on its response to an outbreak of severe diarrhoea disease in some townships of the Yangon Region, showing statistics on 44 patients on 7 July.

9 July

Green Development Forum

SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win disclosed blue economy development boosts sustainable use of Myanmar's coastal resources at the Green Development Forum of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Countries.

Registration of two parties cancelled

The Union Election Commission issued a statement on the cancellation of applications of the Kachin National Congress (KNC) and the Democracy and Human Rights Party.

11 July CBM's clarification

Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar Dr Lin Aung unveiled the news on rumours spreading on social media as the cash withdrawal at private banks, and a limit has been imposed on cash withdrawals from the banks.



12 July Myanmar, Ethiopia in bilateral ties

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Ambassador-designate of Ethiopia to Myanmar Mr Daba Debele Hunde discussed the enhancement of bilateral ties and cooperation between Myanmar and Ethiopia.

World Population Day marked

Vice-Senior General Soe Win remarked that population data would contribute to ensuring correct voter lists, not losing opportunities for all eligible voters and successfully holding a free and fair general election, at the ceremony to mark the World Population Day in Nay Pyi Taw.

23 political parties issue joint statement

23 political parties issued a joint statement, opposing and condemning MNDA/TNLA/AA and their subordinates and related organizations for their terrorist attacks called the second phase of Operation 1027, starting in June 2024, taking advantage of a ceasefire.

13 July Employees on blacklist eased

The government has decided to remove employees from the blacklist based on their reasons for absence from workplaces and will help them reintegrate within the boundaries of the law. Employees are urged to report to their respective departments starting 15 July 2024.

BIMSTEC FM Retreat

Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe attended the 2nd BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Retreat in India and participated in the Myanmar-India-Thailand Trilateral Meeting in India. — GNLM/TTA

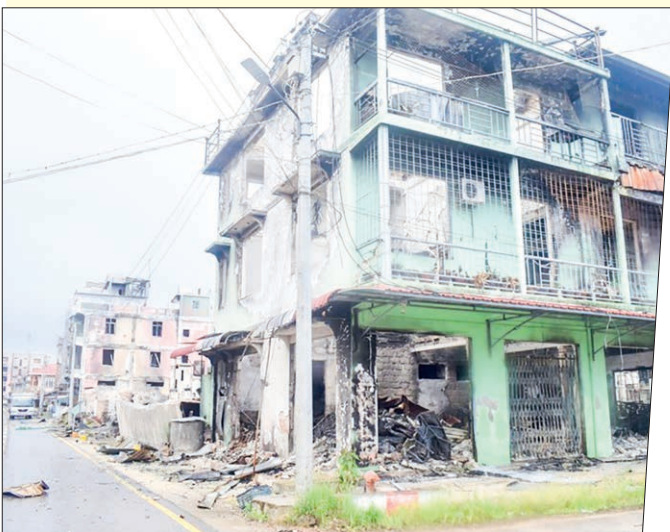
NATIONAL



Loikaw Airport being cleaned by departmental staff.



This photo shows volunteers clean the state guesthouse.



This photo shows local houses and buildings destroyed by KNPP/KNDF/PDF terrorists in Loikaw.



The Kayah State Guesthouse destroyed by KNPP/KNDF/PDF terrorists in Loikaw.



The site where KNPP/KNDF/PDF terrorists taking cover from Loikaw University opened fire on the security forces.

Rehabilitation gaining momentum in **Loikaw** of Kayah State

KNPP, KNDF and PDF terrorists committed various destructive acts in Loikaw and nearby areas in order to undermine the administrative mechanism of the Kayah State government, taking cover of residential buildings and religious, health and education edifices starting from December 2021. They fired at ethnic people attending the opening ceremony of the archway to mark the 71st Kayah State Day on 15 January 2023, leaving some residents dead and injured.

On 13 November 2023, those terrorists intentionally attacked Loikaw University with small arms and heavy weapons and abducted some educational employees and students. Likewise, they deployed superior strengths in attacking units of security forces in Moebye, Pekhon, Loikaw and Demawhso townships on 26 January. They also abducted and killed residents, set fire to residential houses, and markets and blew up the government offices.

Starting from 29 January, the security forces launched the counter-terrorism operation. They re-controlled the 42-mile Hsihseng-Loikaw route on 29 May and engaged with terrorists 87 times. On 14 June, security forces carried out security measures in the industrial zone area and Narnattaw ward where terrorists disturbed the security of Loikaw and the airport. Afterwards, the security forces performed rehabilitation tasks of towns and villages destroyed by terrorists and cleared up landmines, according to the information released on 15 June.

Starting from 16 June, the Tatmadaw columns took security measures in remaining areas such as Narnattaw, Naungya and Tayhgnalya wards, Taunggwe Pagoda,

St Martin Church, cultural museum, GTI, government avenue, state ministries and important buildings, and Loikaw Airport. On 11 July, the whole campus of Loikaw University was combed, and some schools were reopened in Loikaw. Now, efforts are being made to reopen universities and schools.

On 4 July, terrorists opened fire on Loikaw with the use of heavy weapons and shells exploded in Lawdhamma, Nambawwam, Ywadanshay and Kyauktaung wards, leaving one civilian dead and 11 residents including four children injured. The injured were sent to the local Tatmadaw hospital to receive medical treatment.

Yesterday morning, Kayah State Chief Minister U Zaw Myo Tin and Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt inspected rehabilitation tasks and collective sanitation in Loikaw and vicinities with the participation of residents, Tatmadaw members, MPF members and departmental staff.

At present, ethnic people have resettled in the Loikaw region as the region is peaceful and stable as the normal situation. Officials manage necessary rehabilitation for residents. — MNA/TTA

YUDE to open post-graduate diploma in business course

YANGON University of Distance Education will conduct a Post Graduate Diploma in Business (PGDB) online course.

Those from remote places can join this online course through online registration. Individuals (civil servants, NGO staff and private employees) who have a bachelor's degree can join this postgraduate diploma course.

This ten-month PGDB course will begin on 1 September 2024. Online registration can be made through <https://eco.hrd.yude.edu.mm> starting from 9 am on 15 July, uploading a passport photo, citizenship scrutiny card, matriculation certificate and bachelor certificate.

Registration will be closed to a limited number of trainees. Those who pass online registration will receive a reply. Individuals can enquire about the course via contact numbers (01 7525824, 09 250152501) during office hours and address YUDE, Yangon University. — NN/KK

Kayin State to extend revenue spaces



The coordination meeting of Kayin State tax collection task force is in progress on 11 June 2024.

REVENUE spaces will be expanded rather than an increase in the tax rate, Kayin State Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo said on 11 July.

Tax collected in Kayin State contributed to social development. Revenue space will be extended at the work coordination meeting of the Kayin State Tax Collection Task Force.

Taxes levied in the country are to raise revenue for government expenditure and public services. Inspection for tax evaders is underway. In addition to broadening revenue districts, there is a need to entice taxpayers to improve tax collections, he continued.

The Kayin State government will join hands with government institu-

tions in each sector regarding the 2024-2025 financial year collection of all kinds of taxes, action taken against failure to have tax stamps affixed on receipt, taxation awards, dividends from tax revenues to the Kayin State government and tax awareness. — TWA/KK

MRF executives discuss boosting seller participation in affordable rice scheme



MYANMAR Rice Federation (MRF) held a work coordination meeting at Mingala Hall of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) to encourage sellers to participate in an affordable price scheme selling rice at reference price on 12 July.

The meeting highlighted the coordination of rice millers, traders and executives of the MRF to sell rice at reference prices in the wholesale market and ongoing discussions to sell

rice at reference prices in the retail market.

Additionally, adequate supply of Ayeyawady Pawsan and Shwebo Pawsan to Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay markets, having the right measurement and quality, purchasing paddy at floor prices in line with rice prices, holding coordination meetings to set reference prices every month in the third week and registration of warehouse on MyRO were also addressed. — NN/KK

Export rice bags are being stacked up at the warehouse.

OPINION

BOOKRACK POEM

Lessen contact with wild or pet animals

THE transmission of diseases between humans and animals poses significant threats to daily life, as infections are becoming increasingly common. Over the past two decades, humanity has faced outbreaks of SARS, MERS, Ebola, avian influenza, swine flu, and the COVID-19 pandemic. These diseases, particularly avian influenza, Ebola, and other zoonotic diseases, have resulted in substantial casualties. COVID-19 alone has claimed over seven million lives, and its complete control remains elusive as WHO recently mentioned that it is still killing around 1,700 people a week around the world.

Historically, many global pandemics and epidemics have been animal-based. Currently, infectious diseases continue to threaten the interactions between humans and animals. These diseases endanger not only human health but also animal health and livelihoods. Livestock productivity, crucial for meat, milk, and egg production, suffers, adversely affecting the livelihoods of livestock breeders, crop farmers, and the state economy.

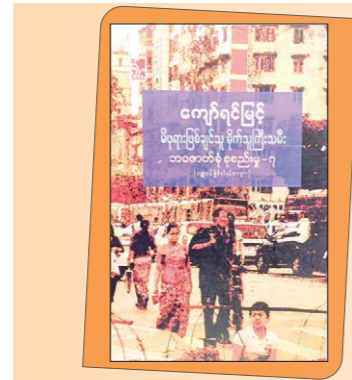
It is necessary to set some discipline between pet lovers and pet animals in society. If so, anybody will be free from unacceptable diseases, and strange viruses from diseases will not come out. Only when an unwritten rule is adopted between human society and animals will they avoid the impacts of animal-borne diseases on humans as well as human-borne diseases on animals. If so, human society's close contact with animals in different animal species will be safe and sound for daily life.

Zoonotic viruses can infect humans through contact with pets, livestock, and wild life. Markets selling meat and products from wild animals are hotspots for undocumented viruses that pose risks to humans. Additionally, urban residents living near forests or mountains may be susceptible to animal-borne diseases.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified vulnerable groups most at risk of animal-borne infections. These include shepherds, infants, young children, senior citizens, the elderly with ailments, agricultural and food production workers, immunocompromised patients, individuals undergoing medical treatments, and pregnant women. These groups should take extra precautions to avoid such infections.

Whenever the world experiences losses in the bio-ecological system, the contacts between humans and animals increase. It creates more possibilities for spreading viruses, bacteria and parasites from animals to humans. Hence, people need to take care of contact with animals. They have to exercise systematic hand-washing before and after contact with animals as well as before and after feeding them. People need to avoid being very close to animals and pets. If so, humans can escape from infection of diseases from animals.

It is necessary to set some discipline between pet lovers and pet animals in society. If so, anybody will be free from unacceptable diseases, and strange viruses from diseases to be difficultly cured will not come out. Only when an unwritten rule is adopted between human society and animals will they avoid the impacts of animal-borne diseases on humans as well as human-borne diseases on animals. If so, human society's close contact with animals in different animal species will be safe and sound for daily life.



Book Title - Miphaya Phyt Chin Thu Maikthagyi Thamee
 Writer - Kyaw Yin Myint
 Publishing House - Linn Lun Khin
 Publication Date - February 2015 (1st Edition)
 Price - K12,000

Miphaya Phyt Chin Thu Maikthagyi Thamee

(A Collection of Success Stories) VII

THIS book under review is a collection of success stories or biographies of 42 great people. The objective of the writer is for the readers particularly the youth to emulate and imitate the lives of the great people. Despite being a book of biography, the presentation by the writer is quite entertaining and thus, this book is really worth reading.

Naturally, people are leading different lives. Some people live their life in the right way whereas others live on cheating and exploiting other people. Saya Kyaw Yin Myint has interviewed 42 people who have become prosperous through the exertion of correct effort. Despite their humble beginning or their being handicapped, the people in this

book have trodden on the correct path and exerted their utmost effort with undaunted spirit. They are all strongly determined and thus have never been wavering, merely moving forward slowly and steadily until they reach their destination. Among the 42 great people, the book review writer has chosen the following great people: Reverend Uttamasara from PhaungdawU Monastery; Iron Man Ko Myint Aung from Mandalay; U Tun Tun, the proprietor of GC; Vocalist Moon Aung; Ko Zaw Zaw from Bo Photo Studio; U Khin Maung Lay, the National Selected Soccer Player; U Tun, a handicapped with the left leg amputated; Ko Sun Win from Mobile Like and Daw Soe White, the empress. As the 42 characters have

come from different backgrounds, the readers will be able to enjoy different tastes. Although this is a collection of biography articles based on personal interviews, this book is certain to entertain the readers thanks to the excellent writing skills of Saya Kyaw Yin Myint.

On the first page of every article, there is a brief biography of the character with a photograph. Although the articles are said to be the biographies of great people, their whole lives are not written in great detail. Matter-of-factly, they are only the highlights of their lives. The book opens with the story of Ko Myint Aung, the Iron Man from Mandalay. Ko Myint Aung was born to poor parents living in the squatter huts inhab-

ited by the old bottle collectors. Mother is a hawk while father is a peddler, roaming about the town to collect the old bottles and sell them. He also collects the ragged bags. Upon completion of Standard Four, Ko Myint Aung is forced to leave school as his parents cannot afford to send him to school any longer. He has to pick up a hammer to forge the iron. However, he could have saved the money enough to send his children abroad. His son has attained an architect degree from Australia while his daughter has a bachelor's degree, majoring in business management. Ko Myint Aung and his wife have completed only primary education partly because of poverty and partly because of the non-existence of a secondary school in their place. This is the reason why they donate a building in the hope that the government will upgrade their school if there are enough school buildings.

The title of the book "Miphaya Phyt Chin Thu Maikthagyi Thamee" has two parts - Miphaya Phyt Chin Thu and Maikthagyi Thamee. The former is about the wife who supports her husband from behind whereas the latter is about the daughter of U Maung Gyi who cleans up the gold waste.



Book Title - Khit Pyaing Yoke Pon Hlwar Myar
 Translator - Mya Than Tint
 Publishing House - La Yeik Mon
 Publication Date - November 2019 (3rd Edition)
 Price - K5,000

Khit Pyaing Yoke Pon Hlwar Myar

THIS is a collection of articles written by Saya Mya Than Tint. Between 1987 and 1991, Saya Mya Than Tint contributed articles to Kahlyar Magazine under the title, "Ahnyattara Yoke Pon Hlwar Myar." These articles deal with the life of the people of a lower stratum or the life of ordinary people earning a lower income. He contributed these articles to the same magazine in a series. The readers liked them, but they encouraged him to write to people from all walks of life. This being so, after 1991, he wrote articles on the people from all strata in addition to the stories of the proletarians. Therefore, he changed the title of the series to "Khit Pyaing Yoke Pon Hlwar Myar." This title

means the contemporary images of the lives of the people. This book under review is a collection of the articles written in this new series. The readers are guaranteed that they will have a good chance to know the daily lives of people from all walks of life in a period.

The articles in this book are: Gaungkhar Pya Laik Pyi; International Phoe Htoo Hnint Interview Loke Chin; Chit Taw Chit Lae Seik Seik Nay Paw; Side Car Thamar Datthana Saya; Tayawbha; Chitthu; Si Ta Let; Ahmay Lo Thamee; Pann Moke; Hsoe; Ah Pyaw Ye Gyin Hnint Ah Nay Ye Gyin; Laphetyay Hsaing Htaing Thu Tayauk; Ko Ngwe Kyi Shwe Pyi Thar Hmar Zabon Hnyat Thi; Monitor Hte Ga

Kya Naw Bawa; Pan Htoo Ya Dar Let Nar Dai; Kaing Khoke Tai Phoe Toke; Away Pyay Car Bawga Achit Hnint Thu Ei Ko Ko; Malwan Bai Thu Shi Laint Myi; Hnit Choke Let Kyan Shin Dan; Thamokdaya See Pyi Thu Yeezar Shi Yar; Minn Thamee Yoke Hnint Bilu Gaung; Set Thamar Ya Tet Pwar; Signboard Yay Thamar Myar Ei Waidanar; Leiwin Go Ahyu Khet Tai; Sayama Hnint Thu Ei Dapyi Myar; Pan Pan Dai Pa-yan Saya; Sharbondawthit; Thadinzar Hman Hman Ma Yauk Ka Tai Kyar Bar; Aung Wutthu Da Boke; Nyi Ahma Hna Yauk; Myay Nu Kyun Achit Zat lan Da Boke; Kyaylet Phayar Bwe; Lugyan Minthar; Lann Myar Hint Lu Myar Mezar Yoe Hmar; Nang Mon; Meinma Pi Tha Thaw Meinma; and Lay Lwint Hngat Nai.

As there are many articles,

I can discuss only one article titled, "Gaungkhar Pya Laik Pyi." This story is based on a narration provided by an acquaintance of the writer when they met unexpectedly on a train to Mandalay (not to Busan). The story is about the life of a medical doctor in the name of May Linn. The writer first met her when she was a medical student. With a brilliant academic career in both primary and second levels, her parents have expected her to become a doctor. She has been clever enough to fulfil her parents' dream. She is noted for her excellence in academic ability. She is always on the top of the list of exam results. Nevertheless, she elopes with a medical student who is one-year junior to her when she is in Final Part II. Despite early marriage, they have both become doctors. Although they are believed to be the world's most romantic couple, they have been divorced. May Linn has told the writer all that has happened to her. The writer has been an ardent listener only, and the story is retold by the writer for the readers to be aware of the twists and turns of the life of the people and learn lessons.

မလေးလူမျိုး

THE MALAYS

By Kinwun Mingyi, Translated by Myint Zan

ကျယ်လွန်း
 တောင်စွန်းပင်လယ်စွယ်။
 မလာကကျွန်း နေကို
 ပြောင်းရွှေ့ မှန်ပုံဝင်လှိုင်
 လမ်းဆွဲခတ်တယ်။

နွယ်မလေး
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 ခြယ်လှယ်တုံတော်စား။

သွင်တရုတ်နယ်သို့
 ဦးထုပ် ပုံ စွလတီနှင့်
 ဘောင်းဘီကို လုံချည်ထပ်ပြန် တော့
 နှောစပ်ချက်များ။ ။

looking through the golden (plated)
 movable small telescope
 (one can see)
 The not-too-wide
 angular shaped peninsular
 and wonders (about)
 the inhabitants of
 Malacca island (town)

the Malay stock
 with cultured and faceted
 dress looks somewhat like the Chinese
 with caps
 and over the trousers longyi is wrapped
 ah, the mixture, variety of dresses

Translator's note: This poem or doggerel was composed by Kinwun Mingyi U Kaung (3 February 1822-30 June 1908) when he and his entourage went by ship for a trip to Europe through Rangoon Seaport in March 1871. Perhaps one of the first stops on the way to Europe was the town of Malacca, now in Malaysia. Kinwun Mingyi apparently watched the town through a telescope before landing. Although the title of the short doggerel is "The Malays" Kinwun Mingyi could also have been describing the dresses of the Baba Nyonya an ethnic group of Chinese and Malay mixed heritage rather than (or in addition to) the 'pukka' Malays so to speak. The Baba Nyonya has settled and still mainly live in Malacca where there is a Baba Nyonya Museum. A photo of the Baba Nyonya dress is attached.



ဥယျာဉ်သာမှာ

In the pleasant garden

❖ ပွင့်အဖူးတွေက
 လွင့်မြူးပါ နေခြည်မှာ။

❖ အဖူးမှာ အင်ဆင်ကာပ
 အပွင့်မှာ အဝါခြယ်လှိုင်
 မာလာနွယ် မရန်းဖက်တံပြင်
 လျှမ်းလက်ကာ မြူဖွေးလှိုင်
 မူအသွေးမှာ နီတျာတျာနဲ့
 ကြည်ပြာရယ် ပွင့်ခိုင်ပန်းတွေက
 လျှမ်းပ စုံစွာ။

❖ ဥယျာဉ်တွင်းမှာဖြင့်
 ထိုသင်းကာ ခိုင်ပန်းတွေက
 ကြိုင်လျှမ်းဖြာ ရနံ့ထံတော့
 ပန်းဝတ်မှန် ဆောင်ယူသုံးလေတု
 ပိတုန်းနဲ့ ရွှေလိပ်ပြာ
 ပျံသန်းကာ ဟိုသည့်မြူး။

❖ ပန်းခေတာ
 နွမ်းမှာသာ သဘာဝပဋိ
 ကြေကျကာ ပွင့်လှပျက်သော်လည်း
 မျိုးဆက်ကာ မြယ်မှာတော့
 ရင်သန်ကာ ဝင်အညှောက်တွေက
 ကြီးမြောက်လေဦး။ ။

❖ Buds and Flowers...
 Are in full bloom in the sun.

❖ Buds are stacked with petals
 Flowers are decorated with yellow
 Added by Marian's colour
 Are seen as brightly white
 And appearance reveals red
 Bunches of flowers in sky-blue
 Are blossoming in abundance of hues!

❖ Inside the garden...
 Fragrant bunches of flowers
 The scent of them is wafted.
 Eating the pollens of flowers,
 Bumblebees and butterflies
 Are happily flying here and there.

❖ The nature of flowers...
 will wilt by nature
 Though they drop down to the ground
 And petals are spoiled down,
 Living sprouts will reproduce again
 And grow the same!

သူရစေတီ

Translated by Maung Swe Ngae

သစ်တစ်ပင်နှင့် မြက်ခင်းပြင်

A Tree and A Meadow

By Chit Ko Pe

ချစ်ကိုပေ
 တောအုပ်မှာ ထီးထီးမားနဲ့
 ကြီးထွား သစ်တစ်ပင်
 ဦးမော့ ဂုဏ်ကြီးရှင်။
 အောက်မှာ မြက်ခင်းပြင်
 မြေတွင်ဝပ် ခလ။

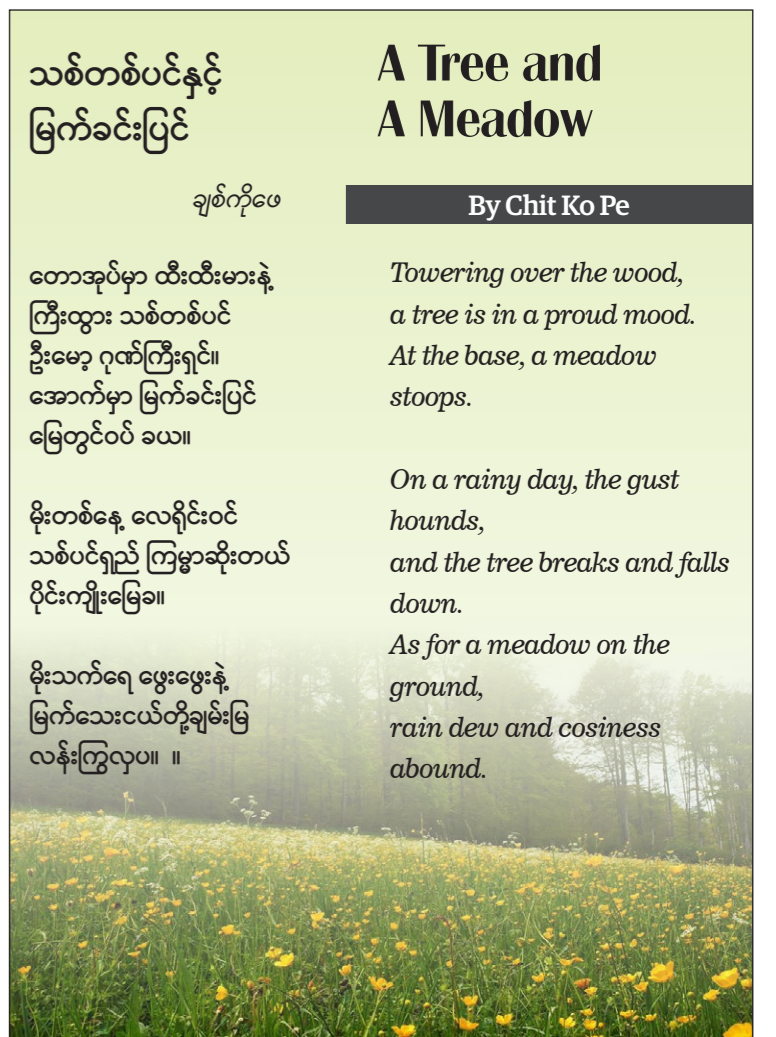
မိုးတစ်နေ့ လေရှိုင်းဝင်
 သစ်ပင်ရှည် ကြမ္မာဆိုးတယ်
 ပိုင်းကျိုးမြေခါ။

မိုးသက်ရေ ဖွေးဖွေးနဲ့
 မြက်ခင်းပယ်တို့ချမ်းမြ
 လန်းကြလှပ။ ။

Towering over the wood,
 a tree is in a proud mood.
 At the base, a meadow
 stoops.

On a rainy day, the gust
 hounds,
 and the tree breaks and falls
 down.

As for a meadow on the
 ground,
 rain dew and cosiness
 abound.



NATIONAL Entertainment

Myint Oo Oo Myint

POET, editor and scriptwriter academy Myint Oo Oo Myint died last year, and 12 August marks his first anniversary. His last work, the 'Noh Htamin' movie, will be screened in July. It was produced by Khatiya Production, and directed by director Win Tun Tun. The script was made by Ingyin Han, DOP academy Win Lwin Htet, and stars include academy Myint Myat, Phyo Ngwe Soe, Phyo Lay, academy Soe Myat Thuzar, academy Khin Wint Wah and Wai Lar Yi, among others. Saya Myint Oo Oo Myint died at 67.



Nay Myo

THE solo exhibition 'Buffalo' by poet, author and artist Nay Myo was organized at Mandalay Taung Gallery in Aungmyayathazan Township of Mandalay from 12 to 14 July. It is the 10th exhibition of Saya Nay Myo and the event features 77 new paintings. The prices range from K75,000 to K1,000,000 per painting.



Wint Yamone Naing

MRTV-4 actress Wint Yamone Naing takes a leading role in the 'Amon Myit' movie. The movie was made by FG Series Production and HEY Play. The story and script were created by HEY Play's script team. It was made by director Thein Han (Phoenix), and the stars are Charlie, Thein Lin Soe, Nay Thit Aye Aung, Min Khant Ko, academy Myat Kaythi Aung, Su Htet Hlaing and other famous artistes.



HEY Play Application, Forever Group initiates new TV series

THE HEY Play Application and Forever Group jointly started filming a new series, according to director Pyae Phyo Naing (PPN).

The original story of the new series 'Kyin Phaw' (partner) is authored by writer Loon Htar Htar (Say Tekkatho), and the script was by Aeternum Creative.

"The series 'Kyin Phaw' is such a kind of great TV series. It carries messages such as women choosing their life partner, and they meet unexpected persons despite their standards. It is about marriage," said director Pyae Phyo Naing (PPN).

The series features 30 episodes and will be broadcast on HEY Play Application, HEY Play YouTube Channel and Channel 7. The stars are Academy Soe Pyae Thazin, Naw Phaw El Htar, Wai Lar Yi, May Pan Chi and other famous artistes. — ASH/KTZH

Celebrity Brief

Phoo Sone

ACTRESS Phoo Sone received applause from her fans for her acting skills for Daw Baby in the 'The Offspring' movie. She also regarded Daw Baby's character as her milestone. She also sang the 'Ko Taing Yay Yazaw-in' song and her fans were gratified and proud of her. She also posted a religious line such as 'Pasansa Ninda' (praise and blame) aiming to overcome eight conditions (Lokadhamma) serenely and without fear.



Model-Wint Yamone Naing
Designer-Tint Soe Lwin
HMU-Amara Maung
Floral-Naung Naung Diki
Photographer-Tin Ko Tun



Daw Mee Mee

11 July marked the fourth anniversary for the demise of great actor U Kyaw Hein (aka) U Kittisara. Daw Mee Mee, wife of late U Kyaw Hein donated meal boxes and purified water bottles for 2,700 people at Yangon General Hospital.

Ko Bo San

PRODUCER of Bo Bo Film Production Ko Bo San and other artistes donated for 100 patients with kidney diseases at 500-bed Yangon General Hospital on 11 July. Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization and other organizations made donations with the attendance of Nay Win, Tay Za Lin Yaung, May Myint Mo and other artistes. — Htun Htun/KTZH



NATIONAL

Suspects arrested with arms/ammunition in Namsang

ACCORDING to the report made by the locals that the illegal arms and ammunition are transported to Kayah and Kayin states from Namsang Township of Shan State (South), the security forces scrutinized 2K-7178 Vigo black vehicle, heading from Matkyan village, at Naryine village junction of Matkyan village in Namsang on 12 July. During the inspection, RCSS/SSA platoon leader Sai Non Main, privates Sai Su (aka) Su Zeya, Sai Kaung, Bo Bo Han and Sai Non Hlaing were arrested

together with KIA-made five KAs, five 40MM revolvers, five 40 MM (shotgun), 43,765 7.62 bullets, 450 40MM grenades, 15 KA magazines and 15 strings.

A total of five male suspects were arrested with 15 arms, 43,765 bullets, 450 grenades, 15 magazines and 15 strings.

According to their confession, they accepted these arms and ammunition from PNLA member Tha Hto at Naryine village road on 12 July, and they were arrested on the way to transport these arms and am-

munition to KNPP and KNDF in Kayah state and KNLA in the intersection area of Kayah and Kayin states.

These arms and ammunition were produced by KIA armed organization, and the KIA provided weapons to PDF



Sai Kaung



terrorists, and other armed groups and also sold them. The terrorist groups and armed insurgents murdered innocent people including government employees and exploded public roads, bridges and buildings to affect the governance mechanisms of the government.

Action will be taken against those involved in the cases, and the people are urged to report to the officials regarding these terrorist groups. — MNA/KTZH

Photos show confiscated arms and munitions carrying from Namsang to Kayah and Kayin States near Matkyan Village, Namsang Township on 12 July.



Sai Non Main,



Sai Su (aka) Su Zeya,



Bo Bo Han



Sai Non Hlaing



ECONOMY WORLD

Global Aerospace Summit set to fast-track greater investments for aviation

REPRESENTING the aerospace, aviation, space, and defence sectors, the premier thought leadership forum in the UAE will aim to accelerate investments to drive greater sustainability, youth engagement and innovation for the industry.

The Summit is a CEO-led, critical meeting of the world's aerospace supply chain that brings together sector and government leaders at the highest level for strategy development and partnerships.

The two-day event will take place on 25-26 September at the St Regis, Saadiyat Island Resort in the UAE capital – Abu Dhabi.

Since its first edition in 2012, the Global Aerospace Summit has solidified the UAE's position as a leading hub for aerospace, with the aviation industry be-

Since its inception in 2012, the Summit has cemented the UAE's stature as a premier aerospace hub, pivotal to global economic growth.



This year's edition aims to propel the industry forward by enhancing technological and strategic capabilities, attracting investments, empowering local SMEs within the aerospace supply chain, and prioritizing environmental stewardship. **PHOTO: ANI**

coming a major driver for economic growth.

The 2024 edition will centre on several objectives designed to drive the industry forward and address global aerospace concerns, exploring new ways to enhance technological and strategic capabilities, attract investment, strengthen domestic SMEs in the aerospace supply chain and emphasise environmental responsibility.

Panel sessions will focus on developing the country's defence industry system, investing in the region's thriving aviation sector, embracing environmental responsibility for a greener future and optimising airport infrastructure for future growth.

High-level speakers include Dr Mohamed Al Kuwaiti, Head of Cyber Security at the

UAE Government, Mohammed Al-Qahtani, Chief Information Security Officer of Riyadh Airports, and Laila Odina, CEO of Riga International Airport.

With Abu Dhabi a hub for economic development, the summit will explore ways to build aerospace clusters and ecosystems, foster international partnerships, and invest in research and development to drive innovation and value across the UAE.

Other key themes include global business aviation trends, such as supersonic travel and sustainability initiatives, as well as critical issues in liquidity, mergers and acquisitions (M&A), and supply chain resilience for original equipment manufacturers (OEMs). — ANI

Global agency urges caution around Somali waters amid rise in sea piracy

PIRACY remains a significant concern off the coast of Somalia, with a recent report from the International Maritime Bureau highlighting eight incidents in the first half of 2024. Piracy attacks off the coast of Somalia still pose a threat, with eight incidents reported in the first six months of 2024, including three hijackings, a global anti-piracy body said in a new report released Thursday.

The latest report by the International Chamber of Commerce's International Maritime Bureau (IMB) called on shipping

vessels to be vigilant when transiting the Somali coastline and the Gulf of Aden, as piracy remains a threat despite a decrease in attacks since 2017. "From 1 January to 30 June, three vessels were hijacked, two vessels each boarded and fired upon and one reported an attempted approach in the waters off Somalia/Gulf of Aden," the IMB said in the report. It said recent incidents demonstrate the continued capability and capacity of the Somali pirates to target vessels up to 1,000 nautical miles off the Somali coast. — Xinhua



Despite a decline in attacks since 2017, the report emphasizes the ongoing threat in the Somali waters and the Gulf of Aden. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ ISS**



Photo taken on 26 November 2021 shows a footbridge in Colombo's Port City, Sri Lanka.

PHOTO: TANG LU/XINHUA/FILE

Sri Lanka reaches annual investment goals in 6 months in 2024

THE Sri Lankan government has signed 35 investment agreements so far in 2024 and the Ministry of Investment Promotion has already met the annual investment target set by the Ministry of Finance, State Minister of Investment Promotion Dilum Amunugama

said on Friday.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony of the second and third phases of the Export Processing Zone in Bingiriya, he said they are planning new investment zones in Iranavila, Mankulam, and Kankasanthuari areas in northern

and eastern Sri Lanka. In a press release, the President's Media Division said that upon completion of the Bingiriya Investment Zone, it is estimated that an annual export income of US\$2.6 billion will be generated, and 75,000 job opportunities will be created. — Xinhua

Vietnam's pepper exports up 30% in H1

The Pepper Association has projected a 10 per cent decrease in Vietnam's pepper production volume for 2024, estimating it to be around 170,000 tonnes. If realized, this would mark the lowest production level in five years

VIETNAM has shipped abroad 142,586 tonnes of pepper worth US\$634.2 million in the first six months of 2024, down 6.8 per cent in volume but up 30.5 per cent in value over the same period last year, Vietnam News Agency cited the Vietnam

Pepper and Spice Association as saying on Friday. The total export turnover of black pepper reached \$539.9 mil-

lion while that of white pepper hit \$94.3 million. The United States was the largest importer of the Vietnamese spice in the period with 37,435 tons, accounting for 26.3 per cent of the total and up 44.6 per cent year on year.

The average export price of Vietnamese pepper increased by 1,000 dollars per tonne compared to the same period last year.

The association predicted that Vietnam's pepper volume in 2024 will decline by 10 per cent to about 170,000 tonnes, the lowest level in five years. — Xinhua



A pepper farm in Vietnam. PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Chinese automaker Chery emerges as top-selling brand in Türkiye: report

CHINA'S automaker Chery emerged as the best-selling brand in the Turkish market during the first half of 2024, having sold 34,501 cars during the period, a report by the Automotive

Distributors and Mobility Association has shown. Following closely behind, Germany's Volkswagen claimed the second spot with 30,680 units sold. June alone saw Chery

achieve a sales figure of 7,511 vehicles, out of a total of 61,972 imported cars, highlighting its strong market presence.

Semih Eryükseldi, an industry veteran with

nearly 15 years of experience in the automobile sector in Istanbul, highlighted to Xinhua on Friday the growing appeal of Chery's cars among Turkish customers. — Xinhua

Pak government reverses flour export policy amid protests



Raja Flour Mill in Ghotki, Pakistan. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

PAKISTAN'S government, led by Shehbaz Sharif, revoked its March order on Friday, banning the export of flour made from imported wheat amid a nationwide strike by millers, Pakistan-based daily, Dawn reported.

The ban came after the farmers protested against wheat imports despite the high crop produce in the country, Dawn reported.

The Pakistan Ministry of Commerce issued two notifications that withdrew the 29 March order that allowed millers to export flour made from imported wheat. However, no data on the export of such flour was available on the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) website. Export of wheat and its byproducts from

locally produced wheat is already banned, Dawn reported. The local wheat price saw a dramatic decline during the caretaker government's tenure, primarily due to imports by the private sector, including wheat flour millers.

Out of 65 total wheat importers, 17 were flour mills that also imported wheat. The government had previously formed a committee to investigate the issue, but it took two months to impose a ban on wheat imports, which was officially notified on Friday.

On Thursday, the All-Pakistan Flour Mills Association (PFMA) went on strike as a mark of protest on Thursday against the new withholding tax. — ANI

Italy seizes nearly US\$1 mln in fake olive oil in Southern raids

ITALIAN authorities have dismantled an alleged operation involved in the sale of counterfeit olive oil, seizing 42 tonnes of purported extra virgin olive oil valued at nearly US\$1 million in southern Italy, CNN reported.

According to a statement from the Carabinieri, seven individuals are facing charges including

criminal conspiracy, adulteration of food intended for sale, fraud in public military supplies, and tampering with food for export.

The crackdown, conducted overnight in the Puglia region, targeted 18 garages and warehouses where some of the oil had already been packaged for distribution. — ANI

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BEYPORE SULTAN VOY.NO. (24002)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BEYPORE SULTAN VOY.NO. (24002)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-7-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S CONNEXT SHIPPING PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V METHI BHUM VOY.NO. (429N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V METHI BHUM VOY.NO. (429N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-7-2024** 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



Ab aur base in Albania.

NATO declaration sparks global war concerns

13 JULY

THE NATO declaration following the summit in Washington is nothing more than a document of “covetous and contemptuous global war” that Russia and China should pay close attention to, veteran Defence Department analyst and retired US Air Force Lt-Col Karen Kwiatkowski told Sputnik.

“They (Russia and China) should read it carefully, and expose some of its hypocrisy. It is fundamentally a document of covetous and contemptuous global war, made by a shallow alliance that hasn’t won any war it has engaged in, and several of which it directly started, since its inception,” Kwiatkowski said in an interview. – SPUTNIK

12 JULY

SCO enhances defence cooperation

SIGNIFICANT progress has been made on defence and security cooperation under the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), a Chinese military spokesperson said on Friday.

Zhang Xiaogang, a spokesperson for the Ministry of National Defence, made the remarks when asked about China’s cooperation on defence and security with other SCO members.

Noting that institutional meetings under the SCO framework have facilitated exchanges

among member countries, Zhang said China has actively participated in SCO meetings, including those among international military cooperation departments of SCO member states, reaching a series of cooperation intentions on international and regional security issues.

The defence departments and militaries of SCO countries have engaged in extensive exchanges in fields such as medicine, transport, and humanitarian rescue, he said. – Xinhua

11 JULY

Border control vital to halt arms flow

AMID ongoing conflict and delicate negotiations, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu asserted Thursday that Israel’s control over strategic Gaza border areas with Egypt is crucial to halt arms flow to Hamas, setting a firm precondition for any ceasefire agreement. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu demanded Thursday that Israel retain control of key Gaza territory along the border with Egypt as part of any accord to suspend the war with Hamas. The condition conflicts with Hamas’s position that Israel must withdraw from all Gaza territory after a ceasefire. Speaking after the return of Israeli negotiators from talks with mediators in Qatar, Netanyahu said Israel needed control to stop weapons reaching Hamas from Egypt – one of four conditions for a deal with the Palestinian militants. – AFP

10 JULY

The closest of friends and allies

NEW PRIME Minister Keir Starmer met President Joe Biden at the White House for the first time Wednesday with the US leader hailing Britain as a key ally on global issues including the war in Ukraine.

“We’re the best of allies in the whole world,” the 81-year-old Biden said as he shook hands with his fellow centre-left leader in the Oval Office.

Biden added that he saw Britain as the “knot tying the transatlantic alliance together.”

Starmer, 61, also making his debut at a NATO summit in Washington less than a week after winning elections, said that “this special relationship is

so important” and that it’s “stronger than ever now.”

The two men also joked about the English football team’s semifinal win in the Euro 2024 championships, saying their victory over the Netherlands was “all because of the prime minister.”

Neither man however addressed the elephant in the room, with Biden’s reelection chances mired in crisis since a disastrous debate performance against Donald Trump. The growing questions over Biden’s health have also raised fears among allies about a second term for Trump, who has openly questioned NATO’s usefulness and mused about cutting a quick deal with Russia on Ukraine. – AFP

9 JULY

Modi urges Putin for Ukraine peace

IN a renewed call for peace, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged Russian President Vladimir Putin to resolve the conflict with Ukraine through talks, asserting that waging war is not the solution to long-standing issues, sources told ANI on Tuesday.

“There is no solution on the battlefield. Dialogue and diplomacy is the way forward,” the Prime Minister conveyed to Putin, according to sources, who added that India maintains its stance on respecting the UN Charter, including territorial integrity and sovereignty.

PM Modi’s appeal to Putin comes less than a month after his meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on the sidelines of the G7 summit. Incidentally, PM Modi’s visit to Russia is his first since the conflict between Moscow and Kyiv began in 2022. – ANI

8 JULY

Franch PM’s resignation amid election setback

EMMANUEL Macron refused his prime minister’s resignation on Monday, as the president scrambled to maintain France’s credibility after his snap election gamble failed to break political deadlock.

The left-wing New Popular Front (NFP) won most seats in Sunday’s second-round parliamentary vote, defying polls to beat both Macron’s centrists and Marine Le Pen’s far-right National Rally (RN).

But no group wields an outright majority

and no obvious candidate for prime minister has emerged.

Many in France were relieved by the outcome, with cheering crowds gathering in Paris to celebrate.

But potentially divisive talks on forming a new government were just beginning, three weeks before Paris hosts the Olympics. Prime Minister Gabriel Attal offered his resignation to Macron but was requested to continue in an interim role until the Games concluded. – AFP

7 JULY

Taliban rejects Afghan female Olympians

AFGHANISTAN’S Taliban government refuses to recognize the three female athletes set to represent the country at the Paris Olympics, as the IOC supports their participation through Afghanistan’s exiled national Olympic committee.

Afghanistan’s Taliban government does not recognize the three female athletes who will represent the country at the Paris Olympic Games this month, a spokesman for their sports department said.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has invited a squad of six Afghan athletes – three women and three men – in consultation with Afghanistan’s largely exiled national Olympic committee. – AFP

SPORTS

Lot-drawing result out for Paris Olympic Badminton Championship

THE lot-drawing event was successfully held for the Paris Olympic Badminton Championship in which Myanmar's Badminton star Thet Htar Thuzar competed.

The Badminton Championship of the Olympics will feature men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed events. Thet Htar Thuzar will only compete in the women's single contest. Thet Htar is placed in Group C with World Class Five Japanese player Yamaguchi and World Class 32 Canadian player Michelle Li.

The group matches will run from 27 to 31 July. One of the best players from each of the 13 groups will advance to the next stage. Thet Htar Thuzar has qualified for the Paris Olympic Badminton Championship after competing in the 23 games of the Badminton World Federation from 1 May 2023 to 28 April 2024.

The Myanmar Badminton star has also successfully competed in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and is now eligible to compete in the Olympics twice in a row. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



Myanmar's Badminton icon Thet Htar Thuzar. PHOTO: BWF



A Yangon United player (blue) fights for the ball with Myawady FC player (white) during the Myanmar National League match in Yangon on 13 July 2024. PHOTO: MNL

Myanmar National League: Yangon trounce Myawady 5-0

YANGON United edged Myawady FC 5-0 in the Day 3 match of the Myanmar National League 2024-2025 season at Yangon United Sports Complex yesterday.

Yangon United played an open attack from the start and scored two goals in the 16 minutes of the game. Winning goals for team Yangon were scored by La Min Htwe at 12 and 45+2 minutes, Yan Naing Oo at 16 minutes, Hlaing Bo Bo at 52 minutes and Okka Naing at 84 minutes.

The best player award goes to Yangon's Okka Naing after the match. With the win, Yangon bagged a full six points from two games while Myawady collected no points.

Meanwhile, ISPE FC defeated Rakhine

United 5-1 in the other MNL match played at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre. The winning goals for ISPE were scored by Naing Naing Kyaw at 12 and 29 minutes and Thein Zaw Thiha at 30, 48 and 62 minutes.

The lone equalizer for Rakhine was scored by Joseph at 76 minutes. The hat-trick maker Thein Zaw Thiha from ISPE FC secured the best player award for this match. With the victory, ISPE garnered three points from two games and Rakhine United has no point.

Hanthawady United will take on Thitsar Arman FC at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon and Ayeyawady United will face Dagon Port FC at Patheingyi Stadium today. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

NEWCASTLE confirmed the departures of minority shareholders Amanda Staveley and Mehrdad Ghodoussi on Friday.

Staveley was instrumental in brokering the deal that allowed Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund (PIF) to buy 80 per cent of Newcastle in October 2021.

Along with her husband Ghodoussi, Staveley initially held a 10 per cent stake in Newcastle.

Both Staveley and Ghodoussi were heavily involved in running Newcastle after the Saudi-backed takeover and oversaw the appointment of Eddie Howe as manager in November 2021.

Newcastle finished fourth in the Premier League in 2022-23 to qualify for the Champions League and also reached the League Cup final.

They fared less well last sea-

Newcastle confirm exits of minority shareholders Staveley and Ghodoussi



Newcastle's minority owner Amanda Staveley (L) with her husband Mehrdad Ghodoussi (R). PHOTO: AFP

son, crashing out of the Champions League in the group stage and finishing a disappointing seventh in the Premier League.

Staveley and Ghodoussi's shareholding was diluted to six percent due to recent equity raisings which the pair have not participated in.

"PIF and RB Sports and Media will increase their shareholdings in Newcastle United, as part of the long-term plan to develop the club and make it a consistently credible competitor in domestic and European competitions," a Newcastle statement said.

"As part of this structural change, PIF and RB Sports and Media will together acquire PCP Capital Partners' shareholding in the club and Amanda Staveley will step down from all her positions with Newcastle United". — AFP

Booming Thai market for faith-based goods surges since pandemic

Popular items include bracelets adorned with deity charms, gemstone necklaces believed to possess spiritual powers, and mobile phone wallpapers featuring religious figures.

THAILAND has been witnessing a booming market for goods related to religious beliefs and superstitions since the COVID-19 pandemic with social media platforms prominent in marketing them.

Auramon Supthaweethum, director of the Thai Business Development Department, reported that 12 companies specializing in faith-based products

registered between January and March of this year, compared with 33 registrations for the whole of last year and 24 in 2022.

The companies operate both physical stores and online shops, offering a variety of belief-themed goods. Popular items include bracelets with god charms, gemstone necklaces believed to have spiritual powers, and mobile phone screen wallpapers featuring deities. — Kyodo



Photo shows a statue of the Hindu goddess Lakshmi, worshipped for her association with wealth by Thais, standing at a corner in downtown Bangkok. **PHOTO: KYODO**



Billionaire tycoon and Chairman of Reliance Industries Mukesh Ambani (C) with his wife Nita Ambani (3R), daughter Isha Ambani (2R), sons Akash Ambani (L) and Anant Ambani (C, left), daughter-in-law Shloka Mehta (2L), and son-in-law Anand Piramal pose for photos as they arrive to attend the wedding ceremony of Anant and Radhika Merchant in Mumbai on 12 July 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

Wedding party resumes for son of Asia's richest man

LAVISH wedding celebrations for the son of Asia's richest man resumed Saturday with a star-studded guest list including Hollywood celebrities, global business leaders and two former British prime ministers.

Billionaire tycoon Mukesh

Ambani's youngest son Anant and fiancée Radhika Merchant, both 29, are tying the knot over the weekend in the financial capital Mumbai following months of pre-marriage parties that have set a new benchmark in matrimonial extravagance.

Saturday's itinerary includes a blessing ceremony during which the world's rich and famous will greet and pay their respects to the couple at the wedding venue, a 16,000-capacity convention centre owned by the Ambani family's conglomerate. — AFP

Global scientists urge African-led human evolution research

Scientists stresses the significance of understanding how societies evolved from ancient times.

INTERNATIONAL scientists on Friday called for home-grown research in Africa aimed at understanding genetic composition of early humans and their gradual revolution, describing the continent as the cradle of humanity.

The consortium of scientists in a paper published by the American Journal of Human Genetics observed that collaborative research in Africa's immense human genetic diversity is key to shedding light on how societies emerged from pre-historic age.

A team of 36 scientists from Africa, North America, Asia, Europe, and Australia co-authored the paper that was launched in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, calling for enhancing the capacity of African countries to conduct genomics research. — Xinhua



A visitor is seen at the Maropeng exhibition centre, located in the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site, in Gauteng Province, South Africa, on 7 June 2024. **PHOTO: ZHANG YUDONG/XINHUA**