

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

SUNDAY EDITION

OPINION

Harmoniously solve the prevention of recruitment of child soldiers

PAGE 8

NATIONAL

PAGE 5



Myanmar products showcased at 2024 Korea Import Fair in Seoul

NATIONAL

PAGE 6



Pyinmana Sangha Hospital provides free kidney dialysis to 37 patients in June



Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win is welcomed by Deputy General Secretary Ms Lin Bin of the Communist Party of China in Qingdao Municipal Region at Qingdao Airport yesterday.

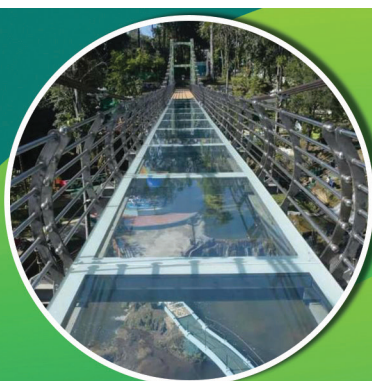
SAC Vice-Chair Deputy PM Vice-Senior General Soe Win leaves for China to attend SCO's Green Development Forum

Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win left Nay Pyi Taw by special flight for the People's Republic of China yesterday morning to attend the Green Development Forum of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) to be held in Qingdao, Shandong Province of the

People's Republic of China, on 8-9 July. The delegation led by the Vice-Senior General was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by SAC Secretary Lt-Gen Aung Lin Dwe, Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San, Council Member U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for the Ministry 1 at the Office of the SAC

Chairman Admiral Moe Aung, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Min Naung, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of the Nay Pyi Taw Command, deputy ministers and officials from the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar.

SEE PAGE 3



Pwe Gauk **(BE.FALLS)** **Waterfalls Resort**

Now, Sky Cable car has been just opened, you can see and enjoy the beauty of Pyin Oo Lwin(Flower City) while riding the Sky Cable car.

NATIONAL

SAC Vice-Chair Deputy PM Vice-Senior General Soe Win leaves for China to attend SCO's Green Development Forum

FROM PAGE 1

The Myanmar delegation led by the Vice-Senior General arrived at Kunming Airport at 11:15 am Local Standard Time. Director-General Mr Zhang Shijin of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Yunnan Provincial Government, Kunming Consul-General U Thwin Htet Lin and

officials welcomed them.

While in Kunming, the Myanmar delegation led by the Vice-Senior General was greeted by Deputy Governor Mr Wang Hao of Yunnan Province at the special lounge of the international airport.

The Vice-Senior General and party continued the flight trip and arrived in

Qingdao at 5:30 pm Local Standard Time. They were welcomed at Qingdao Airport by Myanmar Ambassador to China U Tin Maung Swe, Deputy General Secretary Ms Lin Bin of the Communist Party of China in Qingdao Municipal Region and officials.

The Vice-Senior General and party

proceeded to Qingdao Sea View Garden Hotel, where they will stay.

The Vice-Senior General was accompanied by Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Min Thu and senior officials from the Office of the SAC Vice-Chairman and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA/TTA

SAC member makes inspection tours in Myitkyina

STATE Administration Council Member Daw Dwe Bu, accompanied by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win, Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan and officials, inspected the warehouses of the Kachin State Natural Disaster Management Department to ensure the relief items for flood victims in Myitkyina.

Then, the SAC member

and officials headed to the rehabilitation centre for drug addicts established using the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Special Fund, temporary camps for flood victims at the monastery in Myaymyint ward, Sasana Yanthi monastery in Rampu ward, the Manaw field and Manaw House in Sitapu ward to inspect training courses and proper assistance, healthcare services for flood



State Administration Council Member Daw Dwe Bu encourages staff engaging in cleaning at Manaw Ground in Myitkyina yesterday.

victims, and cleaning activities.

They also visited Myitkyina University and inspected

the 100-acre Bala Min Htin model field. — MNA/KTZH

MNREC Union Minister arrives back after attending China Xizang Forum

THE Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Khin Maung Yi attended the fourth China Xizang Trans-Himalaya Forum for International Cooperation held in Nyingchi City, Xizang Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China. They returned to Yangon yesterday afternoon and were welcomed back by officials from the Chinese Embassy and the ministry.

The Union minister, along with the Myanmar delegation, arrived in Kunming on the evening of 5 July and was welcomed by Prof Dr Yang Yongping, Director-General of Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (XTBG), Prof Dr Yang Xuefei of Kunming Institute of Botany (KIB), and Myanmar students. They discussed matters related to biodiversity conservation, conducting further

research, and providing additional scholarships to enhance human resource development.

During the Union minister's visit to the Kunming Institute of Botany (KIB), Deputy Director-General Dr Wu Jianqiang and Prof Dr Yang Xuefei

discussed the conservation of plant biodiversity in the garden, research on and discovery of new plant species and explained methods for conserving plant species from various regions of the world outside their natural habitats. They also ad-

ressed research, education, human resource development, and public recreation.

Afterwards, the Union minister toured and observed various plant species cultivated and conserved in the botanical garden, as well as the exhibits

in the biodiversity conservation awareness gallery. Established in 1938, the botanical garden covers an area of over 44 hectares and houses more than 8,840 plant species. It attracts over 700,000 visitors annually.

The Department of Forest under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation and the research and development divisions of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), including the Kunming Botanical Garden (KIB), the Kunming Institute of Zoology, and the Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (XTBG), have been cooperating in biodiversity conservation, research, and human resource development since 2016. In April 2024, a five-year memorandum of understanding was signed again, reportedly accelerating their cooperation. — MNA/TKO



Union Minister U Khin Maung Yi and Myanmar delegates pose for the documentary photo during the fourth China Xizang Trans-Himalaya Forum for International Cooperation in Nyingchi City, Xizang Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China.

NATIONAL

Ceremony for 102nd Anniversary of International Cooperative Day Holds

THE 102nd anniversary of the International Cooperative Day ceremony was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Cooperatives and Rural Development U Hla Moe highlighted the history of the cooperative movement. The International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) was established in London, England, on 19 August 1895 and has been in existence for 129 years. International Cooperative Day celebrations have been held for 101 years, with 6 July marking the 102nd anniversary. Notably, the United Nations General Assembly designated the first Saturday of July each year as

International Cooperative Day in 1994.

Moreover, Myanmar has a rich history of cooperative activity, dating back to the enactment of the Cooperative Society Act in 1904. This legislation led to the establishment of the Sagaing District's Myinmu Credit Cooperative Society on 3 January 1905, marking the inception of the cooperative movement in the country. To ensure the continued growth and success of these cooperatives, a dedicated ministry was established to provide guidance and supervision for cooperatives of all sizes, resulting in 38,659 cooperatives in the country. This commitment to fostering a robust cooperative network culminated in the



The Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development holds the 102nd anniversary of the International Cooperative Day ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Central Cooperative Union's membership in the International Cooperative Federation on 7 September 1993.

In line with the 2024 International Cooperative Day theme, "Cooperatives Build a Better Future for All", international cooperatives have a crucial role to play. The Union Minister focused on achieving this goal by upholding the core principles grounded in shared values of ethics and dignity.

Then, the ceremony continued with a congratulatory

speech delivered by director U Tun Hlaing, representing the chairperson of the Central Cooperative Society Limited, for International Cooperative Day. Dr Toe Nanda Tin, another director, then read a message sent by the Federation of Cooperatives. To add a festive touch, the celebration featured a song dedicated to International Cooperative Day and a video showcasing various cooperative activities.

Finally, the Union minister and officials presented 27 awards recognizing outstand-

ing achievements in cooperative development activities.

Union Minister U Hla Moe, deputy ministers, permanent secretaries, directors-general, rectors from Universities of Cooperative and Management (Thanlyin and Sagaing), director members of the Central Cooperative Society Limited, principals from Cooperative Colleges (Mandalay and Phaunggyi), departmental directors, cooperative trainees, employees and other responsible people attended the ceremony. — MNA/ TRKM

MoI Union Minister leaves for Russian Federation to attend 14th Industrial Trade Expo

THE Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than left Yangon for the Russian Federation by air on 6 July to attend the 14th Industrial Trade Expo (INNOPROM) to be held in Yekaterinburg, Russia, from 8 to 10 July.

During the visit, the Union minister and party will meet the Russian minister for Industry and Trade, the Deputy Governor of Sverdlovsk Province, the Director General of Tyazhprom-export Co Ltd (TPE) separately to discuss matters pertaining to steel production, Myanmar's No

2 Steel Plant (Pangpet) project activities. They will also observe and study steel production and pharmaceutical production activities, attend the opening ceremony of the industrial trade fair, view and study the exhibits, and participate in discussions related to the industrial trade fair.

More than 600 companies, including the Russian Federation State-owned Corporation Rostec, KAMZ JSC, GAZ Group, AVTOVAZ JSC, Russian State-owned Corporation Roscosmos, Concern VKO Almaz-Antei JSC, Russian State-owned Corpora-

tion Rosatom, Transmashholding JSC, Kaspersky Laboratory JSC, Severstal PJSC, and Rosseti PJSC, will participate in the exhibition. Additionally, over 100 seminars will be held as part of the economic programme covering topics such as Digital Manufacturing, Industrial Innovations, Industrial Development, Metropolitan Technologies, Labour Efficiency, Financing of Manufacturing, New Mobility, Chemical Industry, ENG in Industry, Educational Solutions in Industry, and Food Tech/Agri Tech. — MNA/TKO



Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than (front) seen departing for the 14th Industrial Expo in the Russian Federation.

Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

www.gnlm.com.mm



CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

Write for us

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

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

NATIONAL

Myanmar Ambassador meets OPCW Deputy D-G in the Netherlands

MYANMAR'S Ambassador to Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and the EU and the Permanent Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) U Soe Lynn Han met Deputy Director-General of the OPCW Ms Odette Melono, at the organization's headquarters in The Hague, the Netherlands on 4 July.

During the meeting, the Ambassador elaborated on Myanmar's active participation in OPCW activities since ratifying the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in 2015, adhering to its regulations. In response, Deputy Director-General Ms Odette Melono acknowledged the OPCW Technical Secretariat's appreciation for Myanmar's proactive involvement. They also discussed other coordination matters. — ASH/KZL



Myanmar Ambassador U Soe Lynn Han and OPCW Deputy Director-General Ms Odette Melono seen holding talks at the OPCW's headquarters in The Hague, the Netherlands.

Myanmar products showcased at 2024 Korea Import Fair in Seoul

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), the 21st Korea Import Fair 2024 was held in Seoul, South Korea from 4 to 6 July.

The exhibition took place at the Convention & Exhibition Centre (COEX) in Seoul, South Korea. The Korea Import Fair is an annual event jointly organized by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of Korea and the Korea Importers Association (KOIMA).

The fair is projected to introduce domestic products and export products from foreign countries to Korean importers and member companies of the KOIMA. In the event, exporters and companies from abroad exhibit agricultural produce as well as Industry 4.0 technologies.

The Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Seoul showcased goods such as coffee, pulses, dried shrimp, honey, and Myanmar fine art products, among others, at the fair. Myanmar Ambassador U Thant Sin cut the ribbon to open the fair together with ambassadors from 47 foreign embassies based in Seoul. — ASH/TKO



Myanmar products including traditional handicrafts seen being displayed at the booth.

Myanmar Embassy hosts 'Understanding Myanmar' event in Tokyo



Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Soe Han delivering an opening remark at the event to feature an embassy talk on 'Understanding Myanmar'.

THE Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo and the NHK Cultural Promotion Centre collaborated to provide an embassy talk on 'Understanding Myanmar' in Tokyo on 5 July, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During the event, Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Soe Han delivered an opening remark, providing a brief background on Myanmar and Myanmar-Japan relations. The 'Friendly Myanmar' video created by the Ministry of Hotels

and Tourism was then presented. Additionally, officials discussed Myanmar's culture, economy, investment opportunities, and education system.

Myanmar's traditional foods, such as cuisines, tea-leaf salad, desserts, coffee, and tea produced in Myanmar, were served to guests. Traditional costumes, instruments, and handicrafts from Myanmar were also displayed at the event to promote a better understanding of Myanmar and its culture. — ASH/TMT

Assigned rice shops start door-to-door services on 10 July

MYANMAR Rice Federation, on 5 July, released Notification No 08/2024, saying rice shops are assigned duties to launch door-to-door services starting 10 July as an effective rice distribution system.

The statement said the Myanmar Rice Federation introduced door-to-door services for Shwebo Pawsan, Ayeyawady Pawsan starting 1 July, and it delivered rice bags to 391 houses in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay.

While offering delivery to home services online, the payment is made via KBZ Pay, AYA Pay and A+ Wallet. Some unscrupulous elements established a fake Facebook page for the Myanmar Rice Federation, changed phone numbers and committed six scams. They face action taken. Rice shops in respective townships are assigned duties to facilitate the delivery service. The delivery-to-home service to vicinity areas of these townships will start in Yangon on 10 July. The service will be a cash-on-delivery system based on unchanged prices. Services started in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Mawlamyine and Taunggyi, according to the Myanmar Rice Federation.

Those who want to participate in delivery-to-home service programmes of the Myanmar Rice Federation can contact the federation. Consumers can place phone calls at 09 400067240, 09 400067250, 09 400067260 and 01 218266-68 if they have difficulties or high prices when purchasing rice. — NN/KTZH

NATIONAL

ME Singapore announces 272 passport renewals on 8-12 July



The Myanmar Embassy to Singapore.

THE Myanmar Embassy to Singapore has announced the list of 272 people who have difficulty in obtaining an online appointment and have passports or stay permits with six months or less validity to renew their passports from 8 to 12 July 2024.

They are selected from those who have enlisted to the embassy's WhatsApp, and there will be 55 each on 8 and 9 July and 54 each on 10, 11

and 12 July.

Applicants are required to arrive at the embassy at 10 am, bringing with them originals and copies of their passport and CSC card, complete renewal forms, and one photo on the specified date. If they miss that date, they need to apply again.

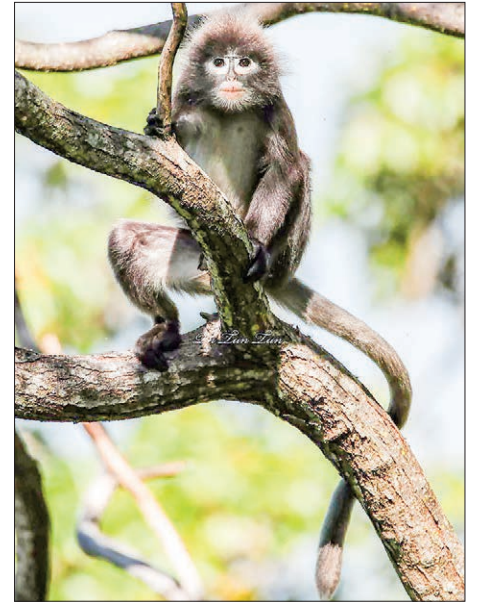
The embassy has appointed no person, company nor agent to provide services and dates, and applications

with fake documents or via brokers to the embassy's WhatsApp will not be accepted.

A person can submit the application two times a day, but if one continues submitting it in the following days, that applicant may be put at the back, so the embassy advised not to send it several times in the following days to avoid unnecessary delay. Applicants can be included in the list in about three weeks, it said.

If one who submitted for 23 June 2023 (special programme) is not included in the list, they need to check the list of 400 people with more than six months of passport validity described for a weekly business day programme in WhatsApp, it said.

As Myanmar nationals in Singapore who are older than 65 years are given priority for passport renewal, they are not required to make online appointments at the embassy's website and WhatsApp, and they can come to the embassy in person in the morning for renewal service, it said. — MT/ZN



This photo depicts a Popa langur – a rare monkey species.

Popa langur conservation campaign continues despite breeding offers

FOLLOWING reports of endangered Popa langurs being purchased for breeding purposes, Ko Tin Ko Min of Maha Giri Group, involved in tourism and environmental conservation, emphasizes the need to enhance conservation efforts for these monkey species.

Popa langur, a species of monkey found only in Myanmar, has a population of only about 300 in Mount Popa, Hpa-an, Bago Yoma, Panlaung and Ywangan.

"We heard that some people are buying monkeys in Popa garden. However, it is not confirmed, but it is a tip-off that there was an offer of K30,000-K40,000 for one monkey. So, we will encourage conservation and discourage breeding. If they want to buy to breed, they will only buy babies. To get a baby monkey, they will have to kill the mother monkey because she always carries the baby in her bosom. When she feeds, the male monkey or another female monkey takes care of it. We will conduct another campaign this month. We will bring two volunteers free of charge to observe these monkeys. They can come with us to the jungle, stay until night and return. They can observe how these monkeys live in their habitat," he said.

The group aims to spread the conservation awareness through these two volunteers.

After the world was told about Popa Langur in 2020, a study tour to promote conservation was done on 4 June last year for the first time, and it will be the second time this year while they are trying to mark 11 November as the Popa Langur Preservation Day, he explained.

Due to deforestation and farmland expansion, their habitat is shrinking, and they also face the danger of keeping them as pets and being killed. — MT/ZN

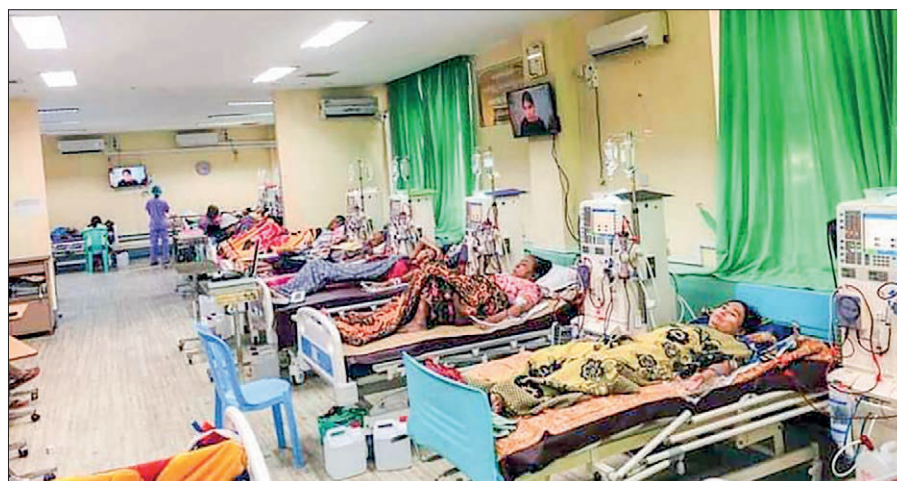
Pyinmana Sangha Hospital provides free kidney dialysis to 37 patients in June

PYINMANA Sangha Hospital could provide kidney dialysis to 90 patients more than 500 times in June. Of them, it tried to help 37 poor patients receive free treatment with the help of public contribution, said the hospital's medical superintendent Dr Than Min Htut.

Depending on the levels of the disease, the time of kidney dialysis is different; some need eight times a month, and some need six times a month, he wrote on his Facebook page.

Each dialysis costs K55,000, so six times the cost of K330,000 and eight times the cost of K440,000.

"Pyinmana Sangha Hospital's renal department could provide kidney dialysis to 90 patients 535 times in June. Of 90 patients, we tried to give free dialysis to 37 who had financial difficulty with the help of public donations," he said.



This photo shows the Pyinmana Sangha Hospital and kidney patients.

The cost of each dialysis is K55,000, so long-term treatment makes all patients have financial difficulty.

"That's why I always tell donors to help kidney patients every time they

ask me what donation they should do. In May 2024, we could help 36 patients access free kidney dialysis with a public donation worth more than K14.3 million," he said. — MT/ZS

The people are urged to receive vaccination of Covid-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of Covid-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.

June rice exports exceed 155,300 tonnes, earning over US\$75M

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Commerce, over 155,300 tonnes of rice and broken rice were exported and earned over US\$75 million.

From 1 to 21 June, Myanmar's rice exports reached a combined total of 155,350 tonnes, generating over US\$75 million in revenue. This figure breaks down into 73,900 tonnes of rice (worth US\$41.82 million) shipped by sea, while the remaining 81,450 tonnes of broken rice (valued at US\$33.25 million) were exported through a combination of regular trade routes and the Myanmar-China

border trade.

Myanmar exports the most rice and broken rice to Asian countries, member countries of the EU, and Mozambique, an African nation.

In the financial year 2023-2024, rice exports reached a total of 146,094 tonnes, with 83,926 tonnes of rice and 62,168 tonnes of broken rice. This rice was shipped to 27 different countries worldwide. The majority, 125,374 tonnes, was exported by sea, while the remaining 20,720 tonnes were transported via border trade. — TWA/TRKM



The photo depicts rice bags being loaded onto a cargo ship for export.

Small-scale straw mushroom cultivation can be profitable



This image depicts straw mushrooms in the market.

ACCORDING to the information asked by the Global New Light of Myanmar, the straw mushroom is the best seller in the Yangon mushroom market, and growing these mushrooms on one's own capacity would be profitable and convenient.

Among the many types of mushrooms consumed in Myanmar, straw mushroom is the most consumed locally.

"The mushroom that is selling well now is the silver snow mushroom. The straw

mushroom grasps the largest market share.

"The consumption of the straw mushroom is much higher. The silver snow mushroom is less popular. The price is quite different. The price of the straw mushroom is better. The consumption is also different. Yangon has the largest domestic consumption market.

"Mandalay is the second largest. The Yangon mushroom market is better than the Mandalay mushroom

market. The price is different," said Ko Aung Win from Myananda Mushroom Cultivation in Taikkyi Township.

In addition, on a small or large scale, it can be cost-effective and convenient to grow the straw mushroom.

"Mushrooms make more than 50 per cent profit. Lately, however, there have been difficulties with labour. Without adding labour costs, its profit is more than half of the capital.

"Whether it's on a small scale or commercial scale, it's cost-effective because it's produced in a short time. If it's more than ten days, the straw mushroom can be collected and eaten," he explained.

Paddy farmers often grow mushrooms with the straw obtained from the monsoon rice harvest until water lifting time for summer paddy. The straw mushroom, one of Myanmar's favourite foods, is easy to grow and sells well in the market.

With emerging mushrooms cultivation, the production rate is high in the cold season and slightly lower in the summer and rainy seasons. — Thit Taw/ZN

Myanmar earns over US\$26M from rubber exports in June

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar fetched a total of \$26.269 million from exporting more than 18,430 tonnes of rubber in June.

A total of over 15,790 tonnes of rubber were shipped from 1 to 21 June, fetching \$22.433 million. Additionally, over 2,130 tonnes of rubber were exported via the Myanmar-Thai border and 507 tonnes via the Myanmar-China border trade routes, earning more than \$3.836 million. Furthermore, rubber is primarily exported to China, Malaysia, Vietnam, India, Indonesia, and Bangladesh via sea routes.

There is regular turnover in sales among wholesale purchasers in Mon State, where rubber is predominantly grown in Myanmar.

The Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association expects exports to reach around 300,000 tonnes of rubber in the 2024-25 financial year, compared to over 100,000 tonnes exported last year.

Rubber is grown in Mon State, Taninthayi Region, Kayah State, and other states and regions, with approximately 1,640,000 acres of rubber plantations. — TWA/TMT



A glimpse of the production unit of a rubber factory.

OPINION

Harmoniously solve the prevention of recruitment of child soldiers

TATMADAW, Myanmar's military, does not deploy child soldiers and returns underage recruits to their parents or guardians upon verification. To reinforce this stance, the Tatmadaw established the Committee on the Prevention of Recruitment of Child Soldiers on 5 January 2004.

On 27 June 2012, the government and the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) signed the Plan of Action on the Prevention of Recruitment of Child Soldiers to remove the Tatmadaw from the UN Secretary-General's report on child soldiers. Following this agreement, the Tatmadaw has released 1,057 child soldiers, handing them over to their parents in collaboration with UNCTFMR.

In fact, the United Nations need to release reports on any country righteously and objectively. The report on the prevention of recruitment of child soldiers should not be built on unapproved sources and facts obtained from anti-government groups, rootless accusations and uncorrected figures. As such, the UNSG report should not exaggerate the actions of Tatmadaw, and UN agencies need to join hands with Tatmadaw through a positive approach.

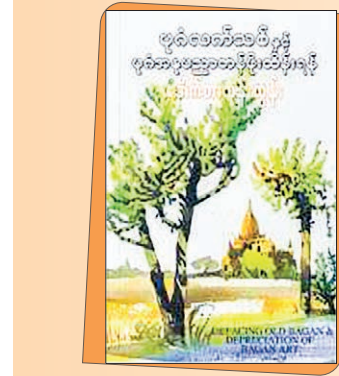
Additionally, 120 more child soldiers, including nine identified by CTFMR, will undergo verification for release. Currently, the Tatmadaw recruits new members according to laws and regulations approved by the Committee on the Prevention of Recruitment of Child Soldiers and CTFMR, with CTFMR regularly updated on progress.

A small team meeting between the Committee on the Prevention of Recruitment of Child Soldiers and CTFMR was held on 22 February 2024 to approve the list of recruits. Meanwhile, the government is implementing the People's Military Service Law, enacted in 2010. Since 10 February 2024, recruitment bodies have been systematically enlisting eligible citizens, ensuring no one under 18 is recruited.

The 2023 UN Secretary-General's report on children and armed conflict accused the Tatmadaw, affiliated organizations, and people's militia of recruiting 1,102 children and committing six serious violations. However, the CTFMR only reported the recruitment of nine underage soldiers in 2023. The Tatmadaw contested the UN report, asserting it exaggerated the numbers. The military has sent factual rebuttals to the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (UNSRSG), emphasizing the need for fairness in such high-level reports.

Myanmar has sincerely been joining hands with the UN agencies in the prevention of the recruitment of child soldiers for many years. Whenever authorities know what is wrongly recruiting child soldiers, they hand them over to parents and guardians without delay and release information about the progress of work in a transparent manner.

In fact, the United Nations need to release reports on any country righteously and objectively. The report on the prevention of recruitment of child soldiers should not be built on unapproved sources and facts obtained from anti-government groups, rootless accusations and uncorrected figures. As such, the UNSG report should not exaggerate the actions of Tatmadaw, and UN agencies need to join hands with Tatmadaw through a positive approach.



Book Title - Bagan Letthit Hnit Bagan Ahnupyinnya Tanbohteinyan
Writer - Dr Than Tun
Publishing House - Seikku Cho Cho
Publication Date - June 2024 (2nd Edition)
Price - K4,500

Bagan Letthit Hnit Bagan Ahnupyinnya Tanbohteinyan (Defacing Old Bagan & Depreciation of Bagan Art by Dr Than Tun)

THE number of pagodas in Bagan is called Hlewunyoethan Ta Nyan Nyan, which means 4,446. The archaeological treasures on the plain of Bagan have suffered many kinds of damage over the centuries, including being defaced by visitors behaving like vandals. The temples at Bagan have suffered various types of damage and destruction in the past 1,000 years, including an earthquake in 1975, and the renovation projects were criticized for not respecting the architectural integrity of the ancient sites. Disrespectful, unscrupulous, or ignorant visitors have also damaged temples, such as by stealing bricks, and the condition of the buildings has also

deteriorated over the centuries because of the harsh climate of the central dry zone.

Archaeologists from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture say Bagan has 3,122 temples and pagodas, of which about 400 have murals. The murals mainly depict scenes from the life of the Buddha or from the Jataka tales about his previous life. A German had looted beautiful murals from the Wetkyi-in Gubyaukgyi and Theinmazi temples in the 1890s, and they were later sold to the Museum of Ethnology in Hamburg. Another human threat to the temples and their art is graffiti. Visitors, many of them lovers, leave messages on temple walls.

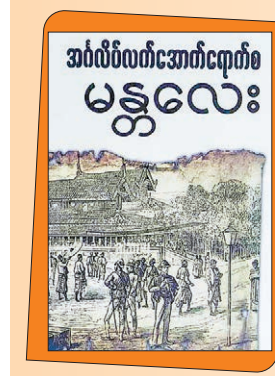
Grffiti mars the appearance of dozens of temples. In Myanmar, there is also graffiti in Thai, Japanese, Chinese, and English. Staff from the Department of Archaeology and Museum under the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture said they often receive rude responses when they catch people writing graffiti. Under the Law on the Preservation and Protection of Ancient Buildings, enacted in 2015, it is an offence to damage archaeological structures or materials. The maximum penalty is seven years imprisonment and a fine of K5 million.

The temple-studded plain at Bagan covers about 40 square kilometres, making it impossi-

ble to monitor all of its archaeological sites closely. Educating people about the benefits of preserving their cultural heritage is the only sustainable approach to protecting the site's treasures.

Grffiti has been defacing temples and pagodas at Bagan for generations. Visits to Bagan will reveal hundreds of examples of graffiti, including at some of the best-known temples. Most graffiti records the visitor's name or their feelings about love, together with the date.

The book under review is a bilingual publication. This is the second edition, and the Publishing House is Seikku Cho Cho. One important point Dr Than Tun has made is the ignorance of the members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees, who lack knowledge as to how the ancient things should be repaired in such a way that the historical, cultural, and archaeological values are not adversely affected. They are not aware of the architectural value of the ancient pagodas either. Sayagyi mentions three words — conservation, preservation and restoration, which are essential to both the authorities concerned as well as the visitors and tourists plus the local people.



Book Title - Engaleik Let- auk Yauksa Mandalay
Translator - Dr Than Tun
Publishing House - Toe Hlyan
Publication Date - June 2024 (1st Edition)
Price - K9,000

Engaleik Let- auk Yauksa Mandalay

(Written by Ivan Pavlovich Minayee, holder of the doctorate in Pali Literature and translated by Dr Than Tun)

MANDALAY is a tetronymous town with three other names: Aung Kyaw Chan Aye, Oakkyit Kyaw Aye, and Inngyinn Kyar Ohn. In fact, the three different names of Mandalay represent the year of establishment of the Royal City. Mandalay is usually depicted with the connotation of patriotism. Until today, the people of Mandalay are highly proud of their native town. Matter-of-factly, the City of Mandalay is called the Golden City. If the people of Mandalay talk about the grandeur and splendour of their native city, people might think that they are boasting of their own city. But if the people from another place speak well of the City of Mandalay,

the people may well accept their comments. This book is written by a Russian who holds a doctorate in Pali Literature. He writes about Mandalay under the domination of the British colonialists. As an alien writes this book, the readers can have a stronger belief in the glory of the Royal City of Mandalay.

When Mandalay fell under the rule of the British, Doctor Ivan Pavlovich was stationed in Mandalay. He has written his own experiences in his diary. This book is, in fact, a translation of his diary by Dr Than Tun. (Sayagyi's manuscript is also printed in this book.) He is used to saying that people should not

write without new facts included. In the foreword by the publisher, it is noted that Sayagyi Dr Than Tun is a scholar-cum-research fellow in the field of history, that he adds new information which other historians are missing and that as the book of the Russian includes new information which his contemporary historians are missing, Sayagyi must have decided to translate this book into Myanmar. The publisher believes that looking at Mandalay from the perspective of a foreigner will be different from that of Myanmar historians and that a foreigner's view will be of some value for the readers to be better aware of the situations of Mandalay under the rule of the British colonialists as well as to be able to learn lessons from the past events.

The Russian writer arrived at Yangon just after King Thibaw

was dethroned and taken away to India. Out of curiosity, he has raised the following questions which Myanmar academicians would not have asked:

- 1 Was King Thibaw a despot?
- 2 Did Queen Su Phaya Latt intervene in the affairs of the state despite her ignorance of state affairs?
- 3 Is it true that the Minister of Taing Tar had bred the dacoits?
- 4 Is it true that the British had behaved like a saviour under pretence?
- 5 Didn't the British soldiers misbehave at all?
- 6 Did all Bamars agree to the regime change?
- 7 Did all the British people agree to the colonization of the Burmese Kingdom?
- 8 Were they all dacoits who the British slaughtered?
- 9 Couldn't the alleged dacoits be the Patriots?
- 10 Isn't it possible that the British had found fault intentionally to be able to topple the king?
- 11 Why didn't the Buddhist monks resist the British, who dethroned their king and contributed to the promotion of the Buddhist religion, among others?

'Water-seller' as 'perennial drama' and Einstein's age when he proposed special relativity theory

By Myint Zan

THANK you for publishing my article on two Myanmar sar Matric texts (GNLM, 14 June 2024). The first text was used between 1968-69 and 1985-86 high school academic years for Matric students. I juxtaposed that text with the current Grade XII Myanmar sar text used since the 2023-24 academic year. I briefly mentioned one of the texts that Matric students had to study in the pre-1968 high school academic year: နှစ်ခုပညာ ဝတ္ထုလေးပုဒ် ('Four short stories of U Ponnya'). In my article, I incorrectly inferred that U Ponnya's ရေသင်္ကြံပြတော် 'The Water-seller' play was taught in the high school academic years from about 1963-64 to 1967-68.

I checked with a person who passed the Matriculation exam in 1965-66. He stated that the four

short stories by U Ponnya that they had to study did not include ရေသင်္ကြံ ပြတော် and I stand corrected. I have verified with another person who passed the Matric exam in 1988, and she stated that U Ponnya's 'Water-seller' drama was taught to her batch. The then new system and new texts for Burmese (as well as other subjects) started in the 1986-87 academic year, so U Ponnya's drama must have been taught since 1986-87. 'The Water-seller' drama is (after checking the texts and querying those who passed Matric exams in the various decades since then) continuously taught for 37 years! It is the only play that is included in the current Grade XII Myanmar sar text.

The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain(s)' is a phrase and part



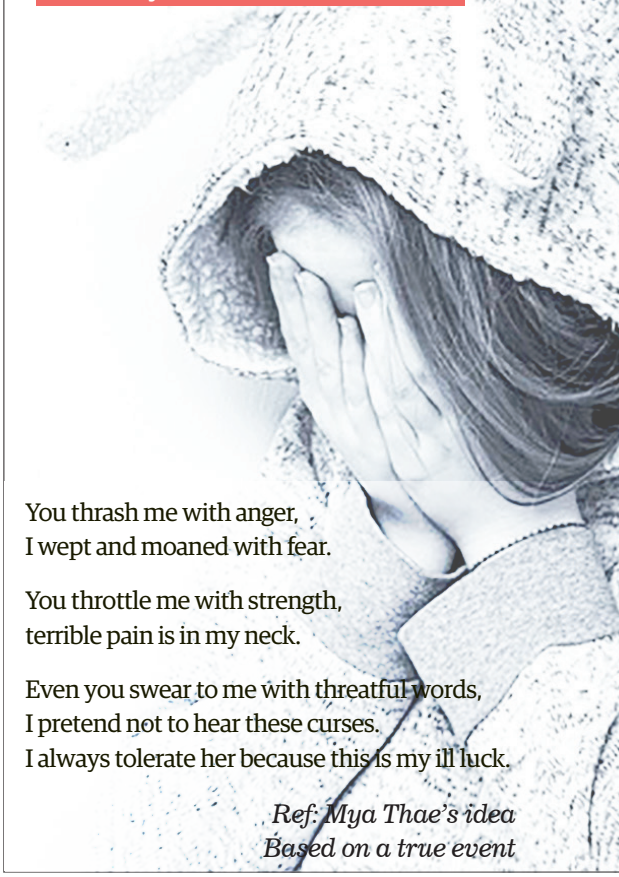
of the song in the musical *My Fair Lady*. To paraphrase it: 'Rain or shine, all Matriculation students for over three decades had to go through the "Water-seller" drama'. I also briefly mentioned the article နှိုင်းစတိုင်း၏တရား ('Einstein's theory') an article by Deedok U Ba Cho first published probably in the 1930s and reproduced in ဝင်ရင်း စကားပြောလက်ရွေးစင် (the old Myanmar Sar Text). On page 53 of the text, it was stated that 'Einstein is of Jewish descent (ရေဝင်္ဂလူမျိုး) and he 'distributed his (Special) Relatively theory to the world' (ကမ္ဘာသို့ဖြန့်ချိ) at the age of eighteen.

After about ninety years, I

would like to point out Sayagyi Deedok U Ba Cho's error. Einstein (14 March 1879-18 April 1955) published his *Special Theory of Relativity* at the age of 26, not '18'. Einstein sent his paper titled 'On the Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies', written in German, to the journal *Annalen der Physik*. The journal received the article on 30 June 1905 (Source, Walter Isaacson, *Einstein His Life and Universe*, 2007, Simon & Schuster, page 127). Einstein presented his *Theory of Special Relativity* and other scientific articles in his 'miraculous year' of 1905 when he was 26 years old, not 'eighteen', as stated by Deedok U Ba Cho.

Tolerate

Mya Thae (Research)



You thrash me with anger, I wept and moaned with fear.

You throttle me with strength, terrible pain is in my neck.

Even you swear to me with threatful words, I pretend not to hear these curses. I always tolerate her because this is my ill' luck.

Ref: Mya Thae's idea Based on a true event

Grit

By Chit Ko Pe

The night is pretty dark.
The stormy rain is wayward.
The tides flow against and up.
The waves mount and surge.
Those make the voyage so rough!
Sailing across the river
the sampan is paddled faster
by a strong-willed rower
through gritted teeth, firmer
to reach the shore harbour
under the dawn's glimmer.

ညဉ့်နက်မှောင်မည်း
မိုးသည်းလေထန်
ရေဆန်လှိုင်းကြီး
ခရီးကြမ်းငြား
မာန်အားမပျက်
ခွဲသက်မလျှော့
သော့သော့သွက်သွက်
လှေတက်နံ့ခပ်
ကမ်းကပ်ပန်းဝင်
ရှေ့တွင်အလင်း အရက်ခင်းနှင့် ။

ချစ်ကိုပေ



NATIONAL Entertainment



Thitsani

FAMOUS poet, writer and artist Thitsani underwent a throat operation at Pinlon Hospital on 3 July. Specialist Dr Aung Htet Tun (son of poet Dr Oak Soe) successfully conducted that operation. The poet was discharged on 5 July and is now at home in good health. Saya Thitsani released his new novel 'Dollaba Kan Chay (Myikamatta)' in May.

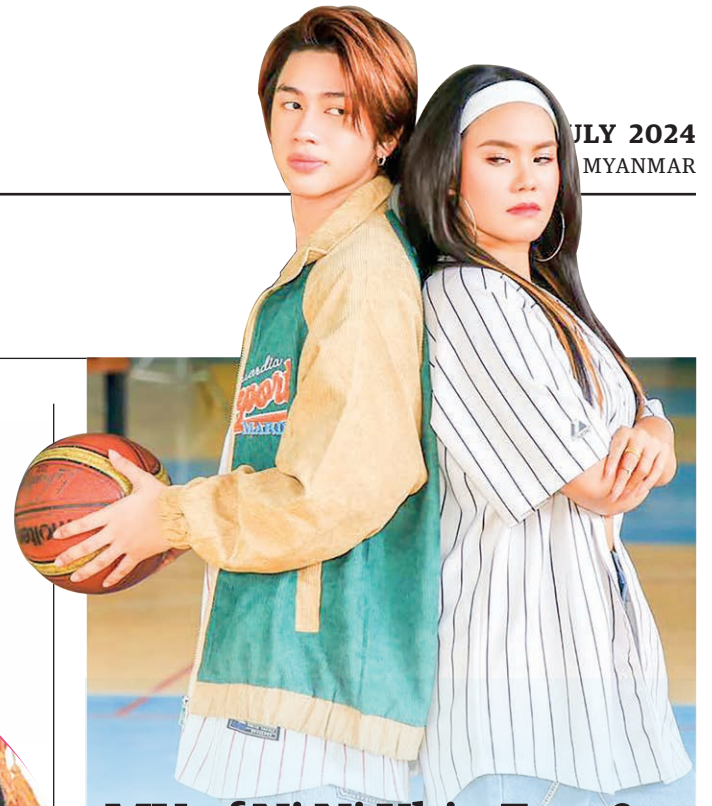
Yadana Bo

MYANMAR Motion Pictures Organization arranges to support flood victims in Myitkyina and other regions. Actress Yadana Bo donated K100,000. The actress takes the 'Phoo Ngon' character in the 'Yin Phwint Pya Chin Thi' movie that will be streamed on Mahar Application soon.



Thar Nyi

THE press show of 'Tay Tasay' (Ghost Music) movie made by director Thar Nyi was held at Inya Ballroom on 4 July. The HEY Play produced it. Nyo Min Lwin created the story, and Win Myint Oo and Suu Khet Min wrote the plot. The casts are Htet Yan, Oak Soe Khant, Nay Htut, Jason Ace, Aladin, Aye Mya Phyu, May La Than Zin and others. Channel 7 will broadcast at 7 pm every weekend starting 9 July. "It is about musical drama and also horror, and fans will have to listen to many songs," said director Thar Nyi.



MV of Ni Ni Khin Zaw & Oak Soe Khant released

AN MV of a duet song by singers Ni Ni Khin Zaw and Oak Soe Khant was released on 3 July, according to Ni Ni Khin Zaw.

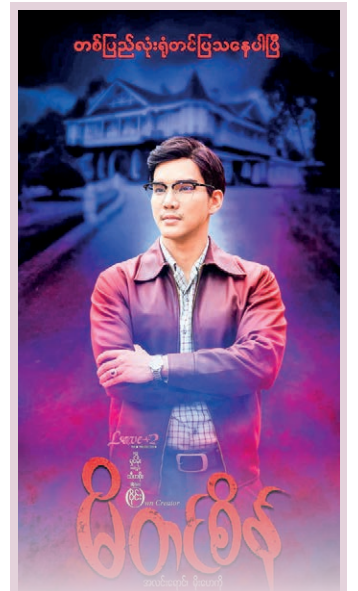
The song 'Asin Mapyay Tae Khana' was composed by Shine, and the MV was directed by director HSH. Reddy Entertainment produced it.

Singer Ni Ni Khin Zaw talked about her song and performance in the MV and thanked her fans for their support.

The 'Secret Pieces' dance troupe also participated in the MV. — ASH/KTZH

Ma Htet (Pop Soul)

FAMOUS Ma Htet (Pop Soul) participated in the Infinity & Beyond Love Wedding Fair 2024 together with other famous MCs, celebrities, singers and fashion designers in Mandalay on 29 and 30 June. Ma Htet also gave a birthday wish to actor Aung Ye Lin on 19 June. — Htun Htun/KTZH



A Linn Yang

ACTRESS Moe Hay Ko, actress Khine Hnin Wai and actor A Linn Yang ranked first to win Academy awards for their excellent performances in the 'Mi Tin Sein' movie. Actress Nan Su Yati Soe also made a positive comment regarding A Linn Yang's outstanding skills.

May Myint Mo

ACADEMY May Myint Mo posted about her visit to Singapore on her Facebook page. She starred in the 'Ego Cliff' movie made by director Hein Soe. Other stars are Shin Mway La, Wai Lar Yi and Khine Hnin Wai.

Celebrity Brief



MYANMAR Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Saturday 6 July 2024)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 7 JULY 2024: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay Region and Kayah State, fairly widespread in Kayin State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is 100%.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The Cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Taninthayi and Bago Regions and Shan State.

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

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuations of increase of rain in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7 JULY 2024: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

Flood Warning

(Issued at 13:30 hours MST on 6-7-2024)

ACCORDING to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Ayeyawady River at Mandalay is observed as about six feet (184 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger Level during the next three days.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Sagaing is observed as about more than 5.5 feet (171 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next three days.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Ayeyawady River at Myinmu is observed as about 5.5 feet (169 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next three days.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Ayeyawady River at Pakokku is observed as about more than 4.5 feet (143 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next three days.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Ayeyawady River at NyaungU is observed as about 4.5 feet (139 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger Level during the next three days.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Chindwin River at Kalewa is observed as about more than 1.5 feet (49 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 12 hours.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Chindwin River at Minkin is observed as about 1.5 feet (40 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 12 hours.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Chindwin River at Monywa is observed as about more than 1.5 feet (53 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next one day.

According to the 12:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of the Dokhtawady River at Myitnge is observed as about more than 5.5 feet (174 centimetres) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next three days.

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas at Sagaing, Myinmu, Pakokku, NyaungU, Kalewa, Minkin, Monywa townships and Mandalay and Myitnge, to take precaution measure.



Officials from CAG Engineering Co Ltd from Myanmar and PEA Encom Co Ltd, I Power Co Ltd, R & J Co Ltd, Mega Prime Group and Z Carbon sign an MoU at Inya Lake Hotel, Yangon, yesterday.

Myanmar, Thailand ink MoU for joint power projects

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing ceremony took place in Yangon's Inya Lake Hotel at 4 pm yesterday. This signifies a collaboration between Myanmar and Thailand's energy engineering sector companies.

It was signed between CAG Engineering Co Ltd., one of the CAG Group of Companies, which is the Individual Power Producer of Myanmar and technical expert companies from Thailand's power industry: PEA Encom Co Ltd, I Power Co Ltd, R & J Co Ltd, Mega Prime Group and Z Carbon.

An agreement was signed with Thailand to pursue a range of renewable and traditional power sources. This includes exploring solar, wind, hydro, and natural gas power generation projects. Additionally, an initial memorandum of understanding was established to collaborate

on geothermal power generation in the future potentially. This comprehensive agreement signifies a significant step forward in ensuring a more secure and diverse energy future for both countries.

CAG Engineering Co Ltd is an independent power producer (IPP) company that is in charge of Myanmar's solar energy development. They are the primary force behind five solar power generation projects with a combined installed capacity of 210 megawatts. The first of these projects, boasting an impressive 90 MW capacity, has already been successfully implemented in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, and the projects are slated for implementation across various states and regions in the country, including Ayeyawady, Mandalay and Magway Regions, and southern Shan State. — Arkar Linn/TRKM

Rising fraud as more seafarers pay brokers for jobs

SINCE more seafarers are finding jobs by paying illegal brokerage fees, there have been more scam cases in the industry, Captain Soe Min Aung, president of the Myanmar Seafarers Federation (MSF), told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

"The number of seafarers who went abroad by giving brokerage to the brokers like overseas workers has increased a lot. When there are 100 applicants for only ten vacancies, they assume that they might need to pay for jobs. There have been many transactions. And the number of scammers has also increased. The victims are not in one or two digits, but in hundreds," he said.

Brokerage fees range from US\$2,000 to US\$4,000 for new sailors, and those who have

paid will have to wait for employment.

"The slang word for payment of brokerage by seafarers is 'Yikekyay' (upfront money) in Myanmar. They ask for \$2,000, \$2,500 or \$4,000 from a new seafarer. Another point is that some sailors often run away at the port in the destination country, so they are afraid to hire new sailors.

Such cases of desertion at the port have a negative impact on all the other seafarers. They no longer believe in new sailors. So, they are reluctant to employ new sailors," he said.

Therefore, the recruitment of new sailors has decreased, and there have been losses due to scams. MSF offers advice and support to those who report scams. — MT/ZN

ECONOMY WORLD

Chinese carmaker calls on European Commission to hold hearing on EV tariff measures

The Commission stated that final decisions on definitive duties will be made within four months through a vote by EU member states.

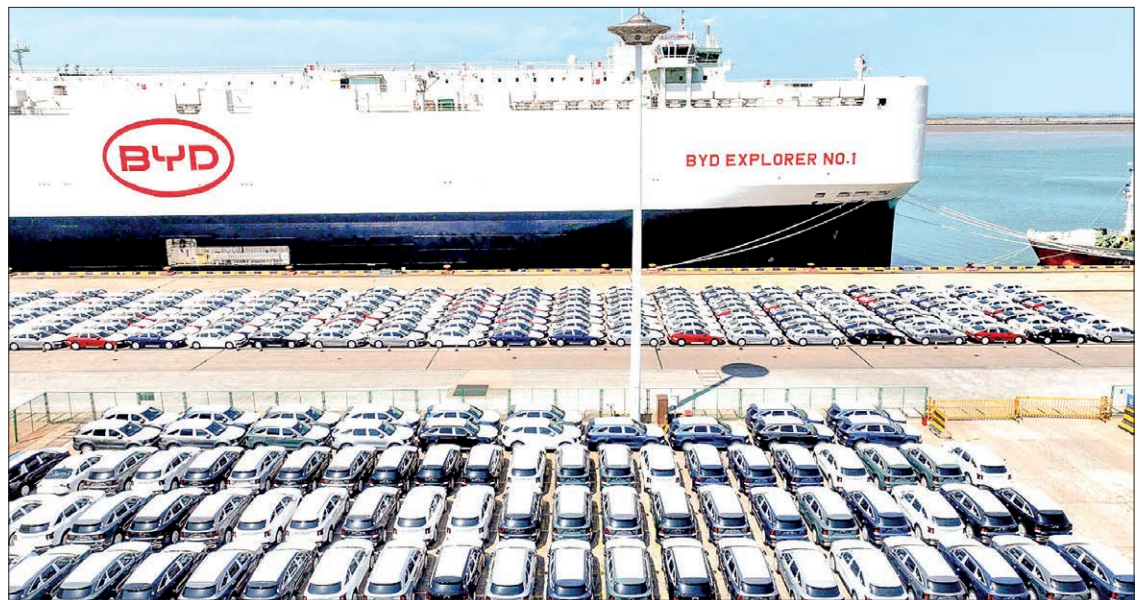
CHINESE carmaker SAIC Motor said Friday it will defend its rights in accordance with the law and formally call on the European Commission to hold a hearing on interim anti-subsidy tariff measures against Chinese electric vehicle (EV) makers.

The announcement came after the European Commission imposed additional tariffs of up to 37.6 per cent on Chinese EV makers on Thursday. Compared to the rates pre-disclosed on 12 June, several individual duties have been modified slightly

lower based on comments submitted by interested parties on the accuracy of the calculations, according to a statement from the commission. It said that a final decision must be taken on definitive duties within four months through a vote by EU member states.

SAIC Motor responded by stating that it will effectively safeguard its "own legitimate rights and interests as well as the interests of its global customers".

It noted that, the European



A drone view shows BYD electric vehicles (EV) before being loaded onto the "BYD Explorer No 1" for export, at the port of Lianyungang in Jiangsu province, China, 25 April 2024. **PHOTO: CHINA DAILY**

Commission had intruded upon commercially sensitive information during its anti-subsidy

investigations, such as obliging the company to provide battery-related chemical for-

mulations, which are beyond the scope of regular investigations. — Xinhua

Cambodia approves investment projects worth US\$3.25 bln in H1

CAMBODIA attracted fixed-asset investment of US\$3.25 billion in the first half (H1) of 2024, surging 195 per cent from \$1.1 billion in the same period last year, said a Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC)'s report released on Friday.

The Southeast Asian nation approved 190 investment projects during the January-June period this year, up from 113 projects in the same period last year, generating approximately 168,572 jobs, the CDC said.

Those new investment projects were mainly focused on garment, travel goods, and foot-



Aerial photo taken on 2 December 2020 shows an asphalt mixing station at the construction site of the first expressway in Cambodia in Koh Kong Province, Cambodia. **PHOTO: LI ZHEN/XINHUA**

wear sectors, hotel development, hydroelectric power, freshwater port, solar power plant, lighting and accessory factory, agricul-

ture, amusement park, car tire plant, and special economic zone establishment, among others. — Xinhua

New UK government faces tough economic challenge

BRITAIN'S new Labour government has pledged immediate action to grow the economy after clinching a landslide election victory to oust the Conservatives, but its task could be hampered by strained state finances

following huge Covid expenditures.

The centre-left Labour administration led by Prime Minister Keir Starmer has promised investment in key areas such as health and education but also

stresses the need to balance the books.

This after government coffers were further hit by subsidies for energy bills after Russia's invasion of Ukraine sent oil and gas prices rocketing. — AFP

BRIEF STORIES: ECON

10th World Green Economy Summit to be held in October

SAEED Mohammed Al Tayer, Vice-Chairman of the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy, MD and CEO of Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA), and Chairman of the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO), has announced that the 10th World Green Economy Summit (WGES) will be held on 2-3 October 2024 at the Dubai World Trade Centre.

Held under the theme 'Empowering Global Action: Unlocking Opportunities and Advancing Progress,' WGES, which is organized by the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy, DEWA, and WGEO, will build on the outcomes of the previous editions by enhancing collaboration among all stakeholders. — AFP

European standard on imports to now apply automatically in Israel

ISRAEL'S Ministerial Committee to Combat the Cost of Living unanimously approved that the European standard for importation of goods will apply automatically and will override any Israeli current Israeli rules.

The move is being made to bring down the cost of numerous consumer goods such as electronic appliances. There will be discounts on dozens of consumer products such as diapers, washing powders, dishwashing liquid, computers, mobile phones and other everyday consumer products.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu: "The government is uniting to cut the bureaucracy that costs the citizen money and burdens the pockets of the citizens of Israel." — ANI

Direct passenger flight connects China's Chongqing with Jakarta

A new direct passenger flight route between Chongqing, China, and Jakarta, Indonesia, was inaugurated early Saturday morning.



Flights are scheduled for Wednesdays and Saturdays departing from Chongqing Jiangbei International Airport at 3:30 am local time. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE/ARKADIUSZ WARGULA/ ISTOCK**

A flight departed early Saturday morning from southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, heading to Jakarta, capital of Indonesia, with 174 passengers on board, marking the launch of a direct passenger route between the two cities.

Operated by Citilink Indonesia with Airbus A320 aircraft,

the new service offers two regular round trips per week, scheduled for Wednesdays and Saturdays from Chongqing Jiangbei International Airport.

The flight departs from Chongqing at 3:30 am local time and arrives at Soekarno-Hatta International Airport in Jakarta at 8:55 am local time, with a

flight duration of approximately six hours.

According to He Lu, who is in charge of international air routes at Chongqing Jiangbei International Airport, the direct passenger service can save over three hours for passengers who previously had to transfer. — Xinhua

Deadline nears for Boeing decision on proposed MAX agreement

BOEING faces renewed legal turmoil as the DOJ pushes for a guilty plea and substantial fines in the MAX crash fraud case, deepening scrutiny over the aviation giant's compliance.

More than five years after two fatal 737 MAX crashes, Boeing faces a fresh legal reckoning now that prosecutors have concluded the company flouted an earlier settlement addressing the disasters.

The aviation giant had been on a Friday night deadline to accept or reject a Department of Justice proposal that would require it to plead guilty to fraud during the certification of MAX airplanes, sources told AFP.

There had been no public

comment either way by the evening, and a lawyer for the families of the 737 crash victims, Robert Clifford, told AFP that

he believed the deadline would be extended over the weekend if Boeing asked for more time. — AFP



Family members of those who died aboard Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 arrive with pictures of their loved ones during a US Senate Commerce Committee hearing. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Pound climbs after Labour's UK election win

THE pound advanced Friday after Britain's centre-left Labour Party clinched an expected landslide election victory to end 14 years of right-wing Conservative rule.

London's benchmark FTSE 100 index gave up early gains made following news that Keir Starmer would become Britain's new prime minister after Labour trounced Rishi Sunak's Conservatives as Wall Street opened.

Labour's widely forecast triumph has sparked investor hope of economic stability amid easing inflation, although Starmer faces tough challenges in the form of strained public finances, a stretched state health service and flagging economic growth.

"The main beneficiaries of the UK election result were

UK housebuilders which gained around three per cent on the day while banks and energy companies slid," said Axel Rudolph, senior market analyst at online trading platform IG.

Paris stocks finished lower ahead of France's crucial legislative vote this weekend despite tactical voting efforts appearing to have reduced the chances of the far right from taking over the government.

Analysts remain wary that the second-biggest economy in the European Union could be headed for a period of political deadlock if there is no overall winner on Sunday.

"After some of the left and centrist candidates pulled out from the elections, the most likely scenario is a hung parliament," noted research consultancy Oxford Economics.— AFP



Italian electric two-wheeler brand VLF. **PHOTO: ANI**

Italian electric two-wheeler brand VLF makes entry into Indian market

ITALIAN electric two-wheeler brand VLF, founded by renowned designer Alessandro Tartarini in 1993, announces its entry into the dynamic Indian electric two-wheeler market.

Known for its unique Italian heritage and design, VLF is teaming up with KAW Veloce Motors Pvt Ltd to handle manufacturing and distribution, promising an exhilarating journey for Indian riders.

VLF's products, known for their strong personality and

unique design, aim to stand out in the burgeoning electric mobility market.

Alessandro Tartarini, the visionary behind VLF, states, "In a market that is extremely competitive and constantly evolving, we need to create products that are stylish and have a strong personality." This ethos drives VLF's mission to offer electric scooter that break away from traditional gasoline-powered designs, providing affordable and stylish alternatives. — ANI

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST

End of an era for Conservative rule



The Palace of Westminster is the meeting place of the Parliament of the United Kingdom. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

6 JULY

NEWLY elected Labour prime minister Keir Starmer will kickstart his plan to “re-build Britain” on his first full day in charge Saturday, after his party’s landslide election win ended 14 years of Conservative rule.

Newly elected UK prime minister Keir Starmer on Saturday began his first full day in charge with a meeting of his cabinet after his Labour party’s landslide election win ended 14 years of Conservative rule.

Keir Starmer convened his top team, including Rachel Reeves as Britain’s first woman finance minister and David Lammy as foreign minister, emphasizing their significant tasks following Labour’s substantial parliamentary victory. — AFP

5 JULY

Democrats assess Harris

DEMOCRATS are facing a critical juncture following President Joe Biden’s scrutinized debate performance, with growing speculation about Vice-President Kamala Harris potentially leading the party in the next election.

According to CNN, discussions among top Democrats suggest doubts about Biden’s ability to effectively lead a re-election campaign, prompting consideration of Harris as an alternative.

Despite Biden urging assessment relative to the alternative rather than perfection, a faction

within the party is increasingly viewing Harris as a viable option.

Harris and her team have publicly supported Biden while privately navigating speculation about her future role, evidenced by recent shifts in her schedule and increasing attention from political opponents.

These developments underscore a significant shift in Democratic dynamics towards Harris amid ongoing uncertainties about Biden’s political future. — ANI

4 JULY

Xi urges SCO security unity

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Thursday called on the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) to ensure security in the face of real threats from the Cold War mentality, and safeguard the right to development in the face of real risks from the “small yard, high fences” mind-set, while commending the solid foundation of the SCO amid growing membership. Xi made the remarks when addressing the 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO held in Astana, Kazakhstan. Among the highlights of the meeting, Belarus officially became a member of the association.

Xi urged at SCO+ meeting to create a unified home fostering solidarity, peace, prosperity, friendship, fairness, and justice. — Xinhua

3 JULY

Combat far-right influence

FRANCE’S prime minister on Wednesday urged voters to form a united front to block the far right in legislative elections, warning that the anti-immigration party of Marine Le Pen was within reach of winning an absolute majority.

With four days until France’s second round vote, uncertainty looms over the country’s political direction as the far-right National Rally (RN) eyes its first shot at government. Led by Marine Le Pen, RN topped the initial voting round, positioning Jordan Bardella, 28, as a potential premier in a challenging coalition with centrist President Emmanuel Macron.

Over 200 left and centrist candidates strategically withdrew from three-way races, forming a

“Republican Front” to block RN’s gains.

The effectiveness of this alliance remains pivotal, as it aims to sway voters against the far-right agenda. Notably, in some constituencies, leftists like the hard-left candidate withdrew to consolidate support against RN, creating direct contests with prominent figures such as Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin.

Former Prime Minister Edouard Philippe, a Macron ally, publicly endorsed a Communist candidate to counter RN in his district, highlighting the diverse tactics employed to stave off the far-right surge. As the election approaches, France faces a critical decision that could redefine its political landscape. — AFP

2 JULY

Turbulence-hit plane

SIX passengers among dozens injured in severe turbulence on a flight from Madrid remain hospitalized in Brazil, where their plane had to make an emergency landing, Air Europa said Tuesday.

An Air Europa Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner, carrying 325 passengers bound for Uruguay, encountered severe turbulence prompting an emergency landing in Natal, Brazil. Forty passengers were treated for minor injuries in Natal, with six remaining hospitalized. The airline arranged for 303 passengers to reach Montevideo via Recife, deploying a replacement plane from Madrid. Air Europa expressed regret over the incident and wished the injured a speedy recovery, emphasizing customer inconvenience.

Brazilian authorities have said that nationals of Spain, Argentina, Uruguay, Israel, Bolivia and Germany were among the injured. — AFP

1 JULY

Keiko Fujimori trial begins

THREE-time Peruvian presidential candidate Keiko Fujimori was in the dock Monday for the start of her trial on graft charges that could land her 30 years in prison.

The 49-year-old daughter of ex-president Alberto Fujimori stands accused of taking money from scandal-tainted Brazilian construction giant Odebrecht to fund failed presidential bids in 2011 and 2016. She is on trial on charges of money laundering, organized crime, obstruction

of justice and making false declarations, and had already spent 16 months in pre-trial detention before being freed ahead of 2021 presidential elections, which she lost.

Victory would have temporarily shielded Fujimori from prosecution on charges that she received \$1.2 million from Odebrecht as part of a bribery scheme the company had allegedly mounted around Latin America in exchange for contracts. — AFP

30 JUNE

Hostage survivors sue UK

PASSENGERS and crew of a British Airways flight who were taken hostage in Kuwait in 1990 have launched legal action against the UK government and the airline, a law firm said Sunday.

In 1990, passengers of British Airways Flight 149 were detained in Kuwait after Saddam Hussein’s invasion of the country. Many endured over four months as human shields. 94 survivors filed a lawsuit in London, alleging the UK government and BA endangered them knowingly. They claim the flight was used for covert operations despite knowing the invasion had begun, aiming to restore trust in justice. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar National League 2024-2025 season begins

THE 2024-2025 season of the Myanmar National League started on 6 July, with victories of Yangon United and Dagon Star United.

Yangon United played against Rakhine United at Yangon United Sports Complex and secured 2-0 win over the opponent.

The two teams had changed head coaches just a few days before the start of the league meet. Yangon United won total points in the opening match. U Kyaw Dun, who had the chance to handle the Yangon team once again, was able to get total points in the opening game.

Team Yangon, which parted with all foreign players before the tournament, came out with local players, while Rakhine United only included one foreign player in the starting lineup.

Yangon launched an open

attack from the start, and captain David Htan produced an opening goal for team Yangon in 34 minutes. In the second half, both teams tried harder, but the opportunity was on Yangon's side. Yangon saw the second goal at 82 minutes as midfielder Zaw Win Thein touched the ball into the net. Yangon midfielder Zaw Win Thein won the best player award for this match.

Likewise, Dagon Star United FC edged Thitsar Arman 3-1 in the other match played at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon.

Thitsar Arman, which came up from another league, took the lead with a score of Saw Myo Zaw at 37 minutes, but they conceded goals in the second half and lost.

Aung Thiha scored the winning goal for Dagon Star at 61 minutes, Aung Kyaw Naing at 71 minutes, and Zin Min Tun at

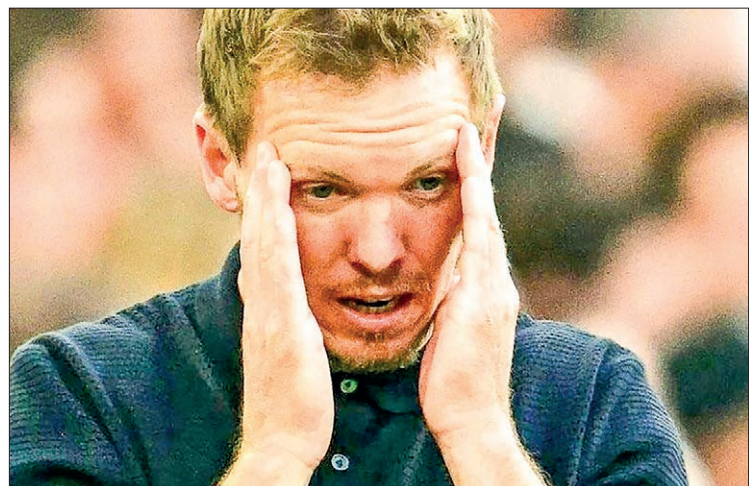


Players from Yangon United vie for the ball with Rakhine United players.

83 minutes. Dagon Star striker Aung Kyaw Naing grabbed the best player award for the match. Shan United will face

Myawady at Taunggyi Stadium, Ayeyawady United will take on Yadanabon FC at Patheingyi Stadium, and Hanthawady United

will play against Dagon Port at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre today as second-day matches. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Germany's head coach Julian Nagelsmann extended his contract to 2026 before the Euros. PHOTO: AFP

Germany back in football's elite despite Euro 2024 disappointment

GERMANY head coach Julian Nagelsmann turned the hour of disappointment into a new starting point and spoke about the intention to win the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

Euro 2024 might have ended in tears for Germany, and many of the players lost the fight against their emotions, including the coach, but the tournament on home soil stands for a successful restart after years of drought.

Millions of supporters from overseas peacefully celebrated

a football party. Euro 2024 might not fully have met the effects of Germany's so-called 2006 summer fairytale, when the country hosted the World Cup, but it came near it.

From a sporting point of view, Germany is back in the circle of the world's best, and no less importantly, the team has regained the fans' trust and confidence, despite having lost 2-1 in the quarterfinals to a resilient Spain, whose winning goal came in injury time. — Xinhua

Portugal veterans Ronaldo, Pepe deliver tears, records

VETERAN Pepe weeping inconsolably in the arms of Cristiano Ronaldo after Portugal's Euro 2024 quarterfinal defeat to France might tell the story of two icons reaching the final stages of their national team career.

While 39-year-old Ronaldo a few days ago announced that this would be his last European Championships after 30 games and a record 14 goals, Pepe broke age-related records.

Forty-one years and 130 days old at the tournament start, he is the oldest player ever to compete at the continental major.

The Porto defender's club future might be as uncertain as his national team career. While his contract with Porto has expired, he announced some time ago to end his Portugal career when "Cristiano does".

Superlatives seem to run out when it comes to the achievements of both.



Portugal striker Cristiano Ronaldo and coach Roberto Martinez were ousted by France in the Euro 2024 quarterfinals on Friday. PHOTO: AFP

Ronaldo stands for a flood of trophies and titles such as five Champions Leagues, and several domestic titles in England, Spain and Italy, as well as Euro 2016 and the 2019 Nations League.

Defender Pepe, to some extent, has entered the exclusive circle of superstars, but far from the glittering limelight Ronaldo enjoyed, despite three Champions League wins

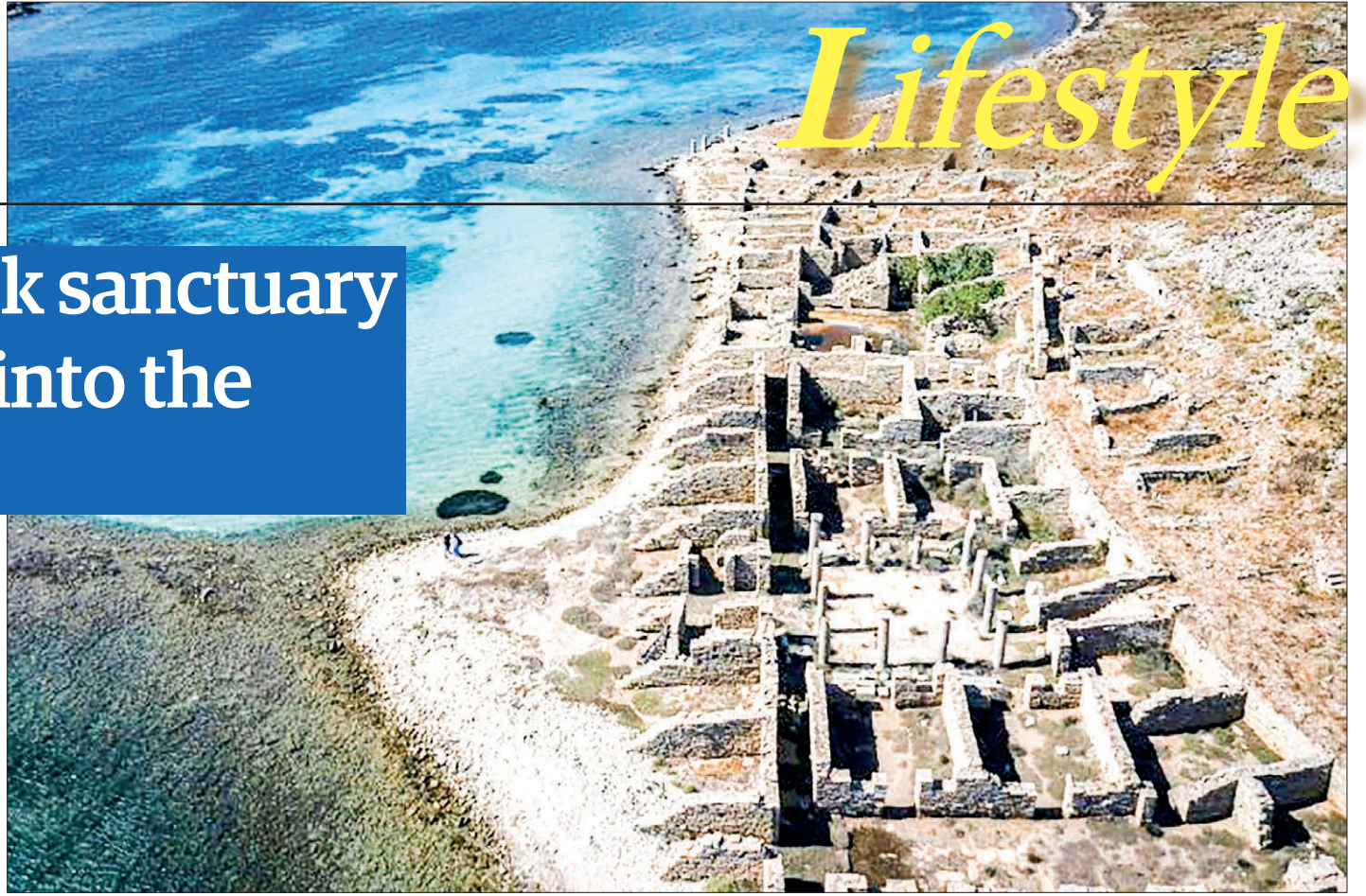
coming along with the Euro 2016 title.

The Athletic called the veteran "Portugal's ageless wonder" as he is said to dedicate every second of every day to his job as a professional footballer.

German outlet FAZ called Pepe a tamed monster, due to his tireless determination in his country's defence. — Xinhua

Ancient Greek sanctuary slowly sinks into the Aegean Sea

Delos boasts 2,000-year-old buildings that provide insights into daily life during the Hellenistic and Roman periods.



Delos's 2,000-year-old buildings offer insight into the Hellenistic and Roman period. **PHOTO: AFP**

A brief boat ride from the thrumming nightclubs of Mykonos lies the UNESCO heritage site of Delos, one of the most important sanctuaries of the ancient Greek and Roman world. Surrounded by piercing azure waters, Delos' 2,000-year-old buildings offer a microcosm of information on daily life during the Hellenistic and Roman periods.

But within decades, because of rising sea levels brought about by climate change, the site known for its temples guarded by stone lions could be gone forever, scientists warn.

"Delos is condemned to disappear in around 50 years," said Veronique Chankowski, head of the French archaeological school of Athens (EFA), which has been excavating the site for

the past 150 years under licence from the Greek state.

The tiny Aegean Sea island's silent drama could not be more at odds with the bustle of neighbouring Mykonos, which attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors annually. The worst structural damage is visible in an area that once housed trade and storage buildings in the first and second centuries BCE and

is not accessible to visitors.

Seawater eroding walls

"Water enters the stores in winter. It eats away at the base of the walls," noted Jean-Charles Moretti, the French mission's director on Delos and a researcher at the French state institute for the research of ancient architecture (IRAA). — AFP



New cybercrime crime gangs are looking to extort money from companies and individuals. **PHOTO: AFP**

Cybercrime groups restructuring after major takedowns: experts

Cybercrime gangs, including prominent ones like LockBit, have been significantly disrupted by global police operations earlier this year.

CYBERCRIME gangs are looking to rebuild with new tactics after global police operations this year made a huge dent in their activities, experts have told AFP. The gangs have had a bad year so far, with law enforcement operations taking out some of prominent groups including LockBit, a loose network of largely Russian-speaking cyber criminals. LockBit, a prominent ransomware developer, creates malicious software used by criminals to lock networks, steal data, and demand ransom. Attacks cause widespread disruption to governments, businesses, and hospitals, resulting in millions paid in untraceable cryptocurrencies. Despite efforts to curb such activities, new groups continue to emerge, some resorting to physical threats. — AFP

EU to enforce fixed plastic bottle tops

The EU's move underscores its proactive stance in addressing plastic pollution by mandating sustainable design practices for beverage container caps and lids.

PLASTIC bottle-tops on drinks sold in the European Union from next Wednesday will have to be attached to their container under new rules aiming to stem harmful pollution. A range of products from bottles of water and fizzy drinks to cartons of milk and juice must have a cap that stays attached to the vessel once part of a 2019 EU directive comes into force on 3 July. Bottle caps and lids are "among the single-use plastic products that are found the most on beaches" in Europe, the directive said. Now, disposable plastic products can only be sold "if they fulfil specific product design requirements that significantly reduce the dispersal into the environment of beverage container caps and lids made of plastic".

The rule is part of a broader effort to curb production of single-use plastics, and has been transcribed into law in EU member states. It also applies to tops on "composite packaging" such as milk or juice cartons that contain cardboard, plastic or aluminium. The regulation excludes tops on glass and metal containers, as well as containers used for "medical purposes". — AFP

Under the new rules, only those disposable plastic products that meet specific design criteria can be sold. **PHOTO: PEXELS**

