

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses the Green Development Forum of Shanghai Cooperation Organization Countries in Qingdao, China, yesterday.

Blue economy development boosts sustainable use of Myanmar's coastal resources

Myanmar is implementing the re-establishment of forests, habitats for biodiversity species at natural conservation areas, and reduction of carbon emissions to prevent deforestation and degradation of forests.

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win delivered an address at the Green Development Forum of Shanghai Cooperation Organization Countries at Qingdao International Conference Centre in Qingdao of Shandong Province of China

at 9:30 am Local Standard Time yesterday.

The Myanmar delegation led by Vice-Senior General visited the exhibition to mark the forum.

The Vice-Senior General and party attended the opening ceremony of the forum at Shanghe Hall of Qingdao

SEE PAGE 3

Salient points from the speech of the Vice-Senior General at SCO's Green Development Forum

1. Myanmar is implementing the re-establishment of forests, habitats for biodiversity species at natural conservation areas, and reduction of carbon emissions to prevent deforestation and degradation of forests.
2. Myanmar plans to emphasize the promotion of cooperation with regional countries to encourage green investments, effectively assess and monitor environmental impacts, and enhance investments with the least carbon emissions.
3. All SCO countries need to harmoniously join hands with each other for further improvement of natural environments and ecosystems as well as long-term socio-economic development.
4. SCO countries and dialogue partner countries need to reaffirm commitments to green development.

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DPM MoFA Union Minister receives UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator ai

BUSINESS PAGE 7



CBM partners with banks and forex companies to sell petty cash

NATIONAL PAGE 10



DMH issues flood warnings as river and creek levels surge

NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Statement

8 July 2024

ACCORDING to the review of the ministries concerned regarding the applications of the Kachin National Congress (KNC) and the Democracy and Human Rights Party for the right to continue as political parties and registration under Section 25 of the Political Parties Registration Law, the Union Election Commission found that the first party is contrary to the stipulations in Section 6 of the Political Parties Registration Law. The latter is contrary to the stipulations in Section 5. UEC cancelled the applications of the parties in accordance with the decision of the Union Election Commission Plenary Meeting 12/2024 under the Political Parties Registration Rules (g) on 8 July.

Union Election Commission

5 special civil appeal cases passed judgements; 5 cases heard

A special appeal tribunal consisting of Chief Justice of the Union U Thar Htay and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union U Tin Hone, U Thein Ko Ko, Daw Thin Thin Nwet and Daw Pyone Pyone Aye was convened Monday morning at the Supreme Court of the Union and passed judgements for five special civil appeal cases – Nos 53/2023 (Yangon), 21/2024 (Yangon), 26/2024 (Mandalay), 29/2024 (Mandalay) and 34/2024 (Mandalay).

In addition, a total of five special civil appeal cases – Nos 27/2024 (Yangon), 28/2024 (Shan), 32/2024 (Shan), 33/2024 (Shan) and 35/2024 (Yangon) were heard. — MNA

COVID-19 report, 8 JULY 2024

NEW TESTS

33,635

NEW CASES

45

CASUALTIES

NIL

Response to severe diarrhoea outbreak in Yangon Region

6 pm on 8 July 2024

AS some patients are receiving medical treatments at hospitals during the outbreak of diarrhoea in some townships of Yangon Region starting from 25 June, the field-study teams conduct preventive measures for Cholera at the schools, factories, industries, monasteries, nunneries, homes for the aged, centres of altruistic organizations, training schools and dormitories under the supervision of Ministry of Health and Yangon Region government.

In this regard, they conducted health awareness programmes, sharing

water purification tablets and chlorine pills. They were notified to be hygienic in cooking areas, to place water and soap in the handwashing areas, and to use fly-proof latrines by cooperating with the department concerned. Moreover, they also inspected the cleanliness of markets in Yangon Region using checklists to be able to provide the needed assistance.

The necessary treatments, medicines, and disease control activities are provided to patients suffering from diarrhoea at general hospitals.

A total of 60 new diarrhoea patients

are receiving medical treatments at hospitals in Yangon Region from 6 am to 6 pm on 8 July. Six of them are suffering from severe diarrhoea disease. Out of the townships with high diarrhoea diseases, Dawbon township is now under control, whereas Thakayta township sees declines in infection rate, and the health staff are leveraging up the control of disease in cooperation with the people to be able to control the disease in a short time.

Ministry of Health

Myanmar, Pakistan discuss enhancing bilateral ties, Buddhist pilgrimage promotion

MYANMAR and Pakistan recently engaged in discussions aimed at strengthening bilateral ties across various sectors and promoting pilgrimages to Pakistan's ancient Buddhist heritage sites, as reported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The talks were led by Myanmar Ambassador to Pakistan, U Wunna Han, and Pakistan's Joint Secretary Asia-Pacific Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Imran Ahmed Siddiqui, in Islamabad.

During the meeting, they focused on promoting pilgrim-

ages to Buddhist heritage sites such as Taxila, Gandhara and Bhamala, a UNESCO World Heritage site, which were part of King Ashoka's empire 2,300 years ago, where Buddhism thrived. These sites boast 1,700-year-old Buddha statues, stupas, and temples. — ASH/TMT

The Buddha statues and stone inscription located in a Buddha heritage site in Pakistan.



Blue economy development boosts sustainable use of Myanmar's coastal resources

FROM PAGE 1

International Conference Centre together with delegates, experts and officials from Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India, Pakistan and Iran, observers from Afghanistan, Belarus and Mongolia, dialogue partners from Sri Lanka, Türkiye, Cambodia, Azerbaijan, Nepal, Armenia, Egypt, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Maldives, the UAE and Bahrain.

At the opening ceremony, Mrs Shen Yueyue, Vice-Chairwoman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and President of Good-Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation Commission of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, State delegates from SCO member countries, observer countries and dialogue partner countries delivered speeches.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Senior General expressed his pride in accepting the congratulatory message sent by President of the People's Republic of China Mr Xi Jinping to the forum.

He continued that this forum title is very meaningful, calling for the need to live in harmony with nature. As the earth and humans formed with biospheres are interrelated, everybody needs to take care of protecting the loss and damage in the natural environment caused by humans. So, as representatives and experts from SCO countries will hold discussions on ecosystem changes and biodiversity protection, innovation for energy transformation, transformation of living systems, and anti-climate change at the forum, today's forum is a platform to enhance regional cooperation.

Greening development indexes are of great importance in encouraging sustainable development worldwide. The standards and norms of environmental management systems issued by the International Standard Authority are sound foundations for the establishment of effective green development for many countries.

Myanmar is prioritizing



SAC Vice-Chair Deputy PM Vice-Senior General Soe Win is seen during the observation tours in Qingdao, China, yesterday.

the promotion of investment in green development in order to improve the natural environment and ecosystem and ensure the long-term growth of the socioeconomy through nature-based ways.

As Green Economy and Green Growth Forums took place with the participation of stakeholders from ministries, organizations and various sectors and experts from ASEAN and the international community six times from 2011 with the aim of contributing to green economy development, outcomes from the forums contributed much to initiatives for the implementation of green economic policy.

The green economic policy framework has been drawn through collaborative efforts by representatives from relevant ministries, INGOs, and international experts. In this regard, the green economic policy framework was based on existing policies and strategies such as national environmental policy, Myanmar's climate change policy, strategy and primary action plan, Myanmar's national waste management strategy and primary action plan and Myanmar's sustainable development plans.

The framework aims to increase investments that are responsible for reducing carbon

emissions and green economic development to utilize natural resources efficiently. The framework comprises four green development principles and four objects to increase green economic investments in 11 prioritized sectors.

Myanmar has adopted the electric vehicle development policy for the development of EVs in the country in order to reduce the use of fossil fuel vehicles in the transport sector. At present, the Electric Vehicle Development Action Plan has been drawn in accordance with the mission and visions, procedures, and guidelines that have been adopted to implement the import and assembly of EVs systematically.

As Myanmar is blessed with good environmental resources such as extended coastal areas and vast waters, the blue economic sector development can contribute as a primary opportunity to achieving sustainable development for the long-term utilization of coast-based natural resources. Hence, the coastal resources multi-management plan has been adopted to implement relevant sectors. On the other hand, management has been made to extract natural resources in the long run. The valuable underground natural

environment is under conservation, and everybody can observe the conservation of underwater and above-water natural resources in the southern part of Myanmar's waters as part of implementing the green tourism development sector.

Moreover, forest and other land utilization sectors are essential in combatting climate change, conserving biodiversity, and ensuring the long-term stability of living styles and livelihoods. It is crucial to manage land utilization in a systematic way to initiate green development.

Efforts are being made to set 10 per cent of national lands as a natural conservation area and 30 per cent as forest reserve areas in order to contribute to the reduction of deforestation and combating climate change. At present, Myanmar has designated 59 natural conservation areas, including eight ASEAN heritage parks, seven Ramsar sites, two human and biospheres, eight East Asian-Australasian Flyways and 22 elephant protection-based tourism camps with enhancement of ecotourism services.

Aimed at raising understanding among the people on value of nature, Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary and Inlay Lake Wild-

life Sanctuary were designated as UNESCO-recognized human and biospheres in accord with the standards of UNESCO.

Moreover, Myanmar is implementing the re-establishment of forests, habitats for biodiversity species at natural conservation areas, and reduction of carbon emissions to prevent deforestation and degradation of forests.

Likewise, community-owned forests were established with public participation, and private-owned forest plantations were set up to enhance the private sector. This monsoon, a total of 22 million saplings are being planted with the participation of the people as part of green movements.

Myanmar cooperates with international and regional countries in initiating international agreements such as the Stockholm Declaration of 1972, the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the Environmental Conservation and Development Programme-21, the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 2015 Paris Agreement.

In order to achieve success in the implementation of the 2015 Paris Agreement, Myanmar is generating electricity from solar, wind and hydro renewable energy for the development of the energy sector in adopting the vision of reducing sector-wise carbon emissions in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

In this regard, Myanmar cooperates with international countries in implementing carbon reduction processes such as clean development, sustainable development, generation of electricity from waste in carbon credit cooperation, distribution of efficient stoves, and green development projects on the establishment and conservation of mangrove forests.

Myanmar plans to emphasize the promotion of cooperation with regional countries to encourage green investments,

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NATIONAL

SAC Vice-Chair Deputy PM Vice-Senior General Soe Win visits Qingdao in China

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, who is now in Qingdao of the People's Republic of China, visited the Pearl of SCO International Expo Centre and China Transfer (SCO) International Logistic Port Project site yesterday.

On arrival at the Pearl of SCO International Expo Centre, officials from the centre welcomed the Vice-Senior General and party. Then, they observed the centre and member of SCO Development Zone Chinese

Communist Party Work Committee Ms Fu Zhong Hua, and officials explained the data of the centre, investment under the market-oriented system and culture, business and trade exhibition sites of SCO member states.

The "SCO landmark", Pearl of SCO International Expo Centre, was launched on 30 September 2022, covering 168,800 square kilometres. It is market-oriented in its operation and extends business directions in exhibition, education, business, tourism, and culture.



Vice-Senior General Soe Win and forum delegates look into the China Transfer (SCO) International Logistic Port Project.

The Vice-Senior General then proceeded to the China Transfer (SCO) International Logistic Port Project, the symbol of SOC's victory. On arrival at the destination, the relevant official briefed them on the investment of the project, service-prioritized export/import processes, estab-

lishment of the comprehensive service centre to create online and offline service platforms and further work plans.

The China Transfer (SCO) International Logistic Port Project possesses a total investment of 10 billion yuan, and it covers 1,343 acres, and the building is

989,000 square metres. It serves seven logistics services: trade information centre, passenger and logistics centre, vehicle resource centre, warehouse and distribution centre, vehicle service centre, truck centre and business centre, among others. — MNA/KTZH



The Vice-Senior General and delegates view round the Pearl of SCO International Expo Centre yesterday.

Blue economy development boosts sustainable use ...

FROM PAGE 3

effectively assess and monitor environmental impacts, and enhance investments with the least emission of carbon to combat climate change through the promotion of government-private cooperation in order to contribute to a green economy for sustainable development of economic, social and environmental harmonization.

Today, humans are conserving natural beauties and ecosystems as well as destroying and utilizing these resources. Hence, all SCO countries and those from dialogue partner countries and observer countries need to harmoniously join hands with each other for further improvement of natural environments and ecosystems as well as long-term

socioeconomic development as a public campaign among global countries.

As such, member countries need to promote green development technologies, enhance capacity for human resource development, raise funds, and further regional cooperation in the education and research development sector.

SCO countries and dialogue partner countries need to reaffirm commitments to green development. Myanmar takes pride in its participation in the SCO dialogue partner country starting from 2023 and expects further strengthening of partner relations and cooperation of member countries. It is necessary to shape the green development and sustainable future

of new generations through the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders and experts with natural resources.

It is necessary to note that current endeavours can make decisions for the future of qualified new generations. Harmony between humans and nature is not an impossible opinion, and it is a requirement for strengthening human and their richness.

The forum issued the plan to initiate regional green development partnership relations and enhance sustainable development in the future.

Discussions on the endeavours of countries were held under relevant titles with the participation of delegates and experts from dialogue partner countries and observer coun-

tries.

These discussions were attended by Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Min Thu and Deputy Director-General Dr Hsan Oo of the Environmental Conservation Department, who accompanied the Vice-Senior General.

The SCO was formed with Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan in Shanghai, China on 15 June 2001. The Heads of State Meeting of SCO member countries was held in St Petersburg, Russia, in June 2002. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization Charter was signed, and it came into force on 19 September 2003.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization is exercising

its primary objectives to further cement mutual trust and neighbourliness among member countries, promote effective cooperation in political, trade, economic, research, technological and cultural sectors as well as education, energy, transport, tourism, environmental conservation and other sectors, develop sector-wise cooperation in the protection of regional security, stability and peace, and enhance fairly international political based on democratic system and economic landscape. The SCO follows the organizational policy based on disciplines such as placing emphasis on diverse cultures and mutual trust, mutual interest, equality, and bilateral coordination for common development. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Tax is key for a modern, developed nation, says DPM MoPF Union Minister

DEPUTY Prime Minister Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein presided over a coordination meeting on the implementation of work plans of the Union-Level Supporting Team for Tax Collection in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

First, the Union minister clarified the formation of the committee, Section 389 of the 2008 Constitution: "Every citizen has the duty to pay taxes to be levied according to the law, taxes collected by the ministries under table (1) and taxes collected by regions/states under table (5)".

He also highlighted the directives of the State Administra-



Deputy Prime Minister Union Planning & Finance Minister U Win Shein chairs the coordination meeting on the implementation of work plans of the Union-Level Supporting Team for Tax Collection yesterday.

tion Council Chairman Prime Minister to expand the tax space and not to increase the tax rate,

the duties of supporting teams for tax collection, key channels for the state budget, and strict

supervision of tax levies.

He then urged the attendees to supervise the taxation

departments to levy the tax in full as it is the main financial support for the emergence of a modern and developed country and also for the socioeconomic development that is essential for the entire people.

Then, Deputy Minister U Min Htut, Secretary of the Union-Level Supporting Team for Tax Collection, the Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, region and state chief ministers and Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Toe Yi and Deputy Minister U Min Min explained the work plans of the team, rice, cooking oil, fuel, exports, imports and effective measures to collect taxes in full.

— MNA/KTZH



The UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator ad interim calls on Deputy Prime Minister MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe yesterday.

DPM MoFA Union Minister receives UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator ai

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe received Mr Marcoluigi Corsi, United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator ai (UN RC/HC ai), along with Mr Sajjad Mohammad Sajid,

Head of Office of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) in Myanmar, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they

discussed matters on existing cooperation between the Government of Myanmar and the United Nations agencies.

Also present at the meeting were the senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

Government announces 2025 public holidays, including Chinese New Year

THE government of Myanmar typically announces essential religious and historical days, such as Myanmar New Year and Kayin New Year, as public holidays before the start of each calendar year.

The public holidays for the year 2025 were reportedly confirmed. Myanmar, being part of the international community, observes 1 January, International New Year Day, as a public holiday, similar to other countries worldwide. Additionally, the Chinese New Year has been designated as a public holiday in Myanmar, following the practice in other ASEAN countries and globally. This measure aims to enhance the friendly "Pauk Phaw" relationship with China. — MNA/TRKM

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NATIONAL

MOI hosts 3rd annual tree-planting, 2,000 fingerlings releasing event at MRTV (Tatkon)

THE Ministry of Information's collective celebration of tree planting and adding fingerlings for 2024 was held yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) at Myanma Radio and Television.

Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn stated that this was the third monsoon tree-planting and fish larvae-adding event. He mentioned that Myanmar experienced extremely hot weather last summer due to El Niño, making towns in central Myanmar among the hottest in the world.

He also noted that Tatkon Township in Nay Pyi Taw is particularly dry and hot, which is why the MOI has been conducting these activities on the MRTV property for three consecutive years. According to U Maung Maung Ohn, weather conditions have returned to normal after the establishment of forest plantations. He emphasized that the

Head of State participates in these events annually to maintain a green environment and ecosystem. A total of 22 million plants

are projected to be grown during this rainy season, including State-owned forest plantations.

U Maung Maung Ohn

stressed the preservation of trees in line with the slogan "Solution to prevent global warming is forest management," acknowledging

the critical role of forests in mitigating weather extremes.

He then distributed seedlings and trees to officers, directors-general, and permanent secretaries of the departments and divisions of the MOI. Following this, U Maung Maung Ohn and his wife planted a Mahogany tree.

After the tree planting activity, the event continued with fish larvae being added to the pools on the MRTV property, with participation from the Union minister, his wife, senior officers, and staff of the departments and ministry.

The MOI planted a total of 1,600 trees in the first event, 1,400 trees, and 625 Seintalone mango trees, totalling 2,025 trees, and added 5,000 fish larvae in the second event; and 1,500 trees, 500 Seintalone mango trees, and 5,000 fish larvae in this third event. — MNA/TMT



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn and his wife seen adding fingerlings at yesterday's event in Nay Pyi Taw.

မိုးရာသီကာလတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားမှုများပြားနိုင်သည့် ငြင်းဆန်ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ရောဂါ

ငြင်းဆန်ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ ရောဂါသည် ဝမ်းရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားစေသောရောဂါမျိုးများပါရှိသည့် မသန့်ရှင်းသောစားစားများ၊ စားသောက်မိရာမှတစ်ဆင့် ကူးစက်ခြင်းပွားစေပါသည်။

ရာသီဥတုပြောင်းလဲမှုကြောင့် အထူးသဖြင့် မိုးဦးကာလနှင့် မိုးအတုန်ခေါင်းအတုန်တွင် အဖြစ်များပါသည်။

ရောဂါပိုးဝါးဝင်သည့် ဝမ်းအညစ်အကြေးများတွင်ရှိနေသော ရောဂါပိုးများသည် ယင်ကောင်မှတစ်ဆင့် လည်ကောင်၊ မသန့်ရှင်းသောလက် စသည်တို့မှ တစ်ဆင့် လည်ကောင်၊ အစားအစာ သောက်သုံးစေရ များအတွင်းသို့ရောက်ရှိခြင်း (ဥပမာ - မိလ္လာဂိုက်ဝေပိတ်ခြင်း၊ အညစ် အကြေး မြေညှစ်စားအသုံးပြုခြင်း) တို့မှ တစ်ဆင့် စားသောက်မိသူများအား ကူးစက်စေပြီး တစ်ဦးမှတစ်ဦးသို့ ရောဂါဆက်လက်ကူးစက်စေပါသည်။

ရောဂါလက္ခဏာများမှာ အရည်ဝမ်းများစွာသွားခြင်း၊ ငါးညှို့နံနံသော ဆန်ဆေးရည်ကဲ့သို့ ဝမ်းသွားခြင်း၊ အော့အန်ခြင်း၊ နှလုံးခုန်နှုန်းမြန်ခြင်း၊ အစေ့ပြားဖိတ်ကွဲစွာ ဖြစ်နိုင်သော၊ လျော့နည်းလာခြင်း၊ ဖျက်တွင်း၊ ဖျက်ဝင်ခြင်း၊ ခံတွင်း/လျှာနှင့် နှုတ်ဝမ်းများခြောက်စေခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်နိုင်သောနည်းလမ်းများမှာ-

- ▶ အစားအစာများကို အစားအစာမပြင်ဆင်မီအချိန် အညစ်အကြေးနှင့် အမှိုက်များ ကိုင်တွယ်ပြီးနောက် အိမ်သာမှဆင်းချိန်တွင် လက်ကိုဆေးခြင်းဖြင့် ဝမ်းရောဂါ ကူးစက်မှုကို ကာကွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။
- ▶ ယင်လှဲအိမ်သာ ရာနုနုပြည့်သုံးစွဲပါ။
- ▶ ခရုကို ဝါးချက်ချီသောက်သုံးပါ။
- ▶ အစားအစာများကို ကျက်အောင်ချက်ပြီးမှစားပါ။
- ▶ အစားအစာများကို ယင်မမှားအောင် လုံခြုံစွာ ဖုံးအုပ်ထားပါ။
- ▶ ငြင်း၊ ယင် တို့ မဝေပိတ်ပွားစေရန် ပတ်ဝန်းကျင် သန့်ရှင်းရေးကို အထူးဂရုပြုဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။

ငြင်းဆန်ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားသည့်အခါ ဝမ်းဆီးဝမ်းချောင်း နှစ်ရပ်ကို အထူးဂရုပြု ဆောင်ရွက်ရမည်။ ငြင်းဆန်ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှော့ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားသည့်အခါ ဝမ်းဆီးဝမ်းချောင်း နှစ်ရပ်ကို အထူးဂရုပြု ဆောင်ရွက်ရမည်။

၇-၇-၂၀၂၄

Myanmar-Thai haze pollution committee holds meeting



The coordination meeting of the Myanmar-Thai Transboundary Haze Pollution Prevention Committee in progress yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

THE coordination meeting of the Myanmar-Thai Transboundary Haze Pollution Prevention Committee was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Deputy Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Ko Lay, who is also Chairman of the committee, said the country signed the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) on 10 June 2002 and participated in the tripartite coordination meet-

ing on transboundary haze pollution between Myanmar, Thai and Laos on 7 April 2023.

He added that at that meeting, the State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister discussed the reduction of hill-side cultivation at the border of three countries, the implementation of highland farmlands and systematic disposal of waste through modern technology.

He then called for active

participation in implementing preventive measures against transboundary haze pollution. Committee Vice-Chairman Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Phyo Thant also discussed the challenges and ongoing measures against transboundary haze pollution.

Then, the attendees participated in the discussion regarding the effective measures to reduce fire hotspots and prevent haze pollution. — MNA/KTZH

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YGN palm oil rate set at K5,390 per viss for week ending 14 July

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market rose slightly to K5,390 per viss this week ending 14 July from K5,385 recorded last week ending 7 July, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs, and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil on a weekly basis.

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high.

To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed the consumers of lodging the complaints for overcharging through the call centre's hotline in late August. The department urged consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

Complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department or sent to the Facebook Page of the Department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/EM



Cooking oil seen being arranged for sale in the market.

CBM partners with banks and forex companies to sell petty cash



US dollar notes and Myanmar's kyats are seen at the foreign currency exchange counter.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 6 July that it has been selling foreign currencies for those going abroad as petty cash under a special programme in cooperation with authorized banks and money changers, according to its notification on 14 June.

With a view to facilitating the purchase of foreign currencies in addition to internationally accepted debit cards and credit cards and curbing foreign exchange market manipulation by illegal money changers, those studying abroad, working abroad and travelling abroad for medical treatment are entitled to buy foreign currencies that are

equivalent to US\$300-US\$500 per person at the authorized banks' foreign currency exchange counters and money changers at the Yangon International Airport starting from 31 May 2023, while those going on a pilgrimage and those leaving for the designated countries to attend the meeting as per the invitations of the foreign governments and institutions are allowed to buy the petty cash from 18 August 2023. Those authorized money changers sell a US dollar with K10 difference to the daily online trading rate of the CBM.

Additionally, CBM also sells foreign currencies under a special programme for those

going abroad for other purposes to stabilize the forex market.

CBM joined hands with three domestic banks (KBZ, AYA Bank PCL and UAB) and registered money changers (Eastern Lad Co Ltd and Golden Money Services Co Ltd) for those going abroad to buy foreign currencies in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Taunggyi as the special scheme.

The authorized dealers (private banks) announced their branches available to buy foreign currencies as petty cash on their websites and Facebook pages, and authorized forex companies also revealed the details on their respective pages. — NN/KK

Myanmar's fishery exports exceed US\$143M in Q1 2024-2025FY

MYANMAR has conveyed fisheries worth US\$143.244 million to foreign trade partners as of 28 June in the current financial year 2024-2025 beginning 1 April, surging from \$111.984 million registered in the FY 2023-2024, the statistics released by the Ministry of Commerce showed.

The figures showed an increase of \$31.26 million compared with that recorded in the corresponding period last FY 2023-2024.

Myanmar sends fisheries products to international markets via maritime trade and border trade channels.

Myanmar exports fishery products to Japan, European countries, China and Thailand through maritime trade channels and also delivers fish, shrimp, prawn and other seafood to neighbouring countries at border posts (Muse, Myawady, Kawthoung, Sittway, Myeik and Maungtaw).

More than 20 fish species,



including hilsa, rohu, catfish, and seabass, are exported to foreign markets, according to the Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

Myanmar ships fishery products to over 40 countries, mainly to Thailand and China. — NN/KK

Workers are processing fishery products for exports.

OPINION

Follow important guidelines of disaster management bodies

MYANMAR frequently experiences severe flooding in July and August due to heavy rains, river overflows, and landslides. Given this, residents must stay informed about climatic conditions and adhere to preventive measures as directed by local authorities.

In the 2023-24 financial year, Myanmar experienced 144 flood incidents, leading to the destruction of 279 houses and resulting in casualties among humans and animals. This underscores the country's vulnerability to natural disasters. To mitigate loss and damage, it is crucial for residents to follow the guidelines set by relevant disaster management committees.

Residents should ensure their homes are structurally resilient against natural disasters. It is advisable to designate a meeting point for family members in case of evacuation. Monitoring water levels in the surrounding environment is essential. Collecting and storing clean drinking water, emergency utensils, and safety equipment in advance is equally important. Both government and private media outlets provide timely information on natural disasters. Hence, residents should regularly listen to weather forecasts and heed official advice. It is vital to keep essential equipment, food supplies, and important documents accessible. Additionally, family members should note the telephone numbers and addresses of contacts in villages and towns in case of evacuation. Flood victims should seek shelter as arranged by authorities. If separated from family members, they should inform the authorities. Using wet electronic equipment is dangerous and should be avoided. Post-disaster, it is essential to bury dead animals and clear debris to prevent health hazards. Furthermore, there is a risk of subsequent diseases after a flood, so everyone must take necessary precautions. Drinking boiled water is crucial during such times to avoid waterborne diseases.

Post-disaster, it is essential to bury dead animals and clear debris to prevent health hazards. Furthermore, there is a risk of subsequent diseases after a flood, so everyone must take necessary precautions. Drinking boiled water is crucial during such times to avoid waterborne diseases.

By adhering to these guidelines and maintaining a proactive approach, residents can significantly reduce the impact of natural disasters. Disaster preventive measures cannot be done alone. So, everybody needs to participate in preventive measures against disasters under the leadership of local authorities. Volunteers and those from search and rescue teams should follow the information that has not been officially released.

They all have to join search and rescue measures in the prevention of waterborne infectious diseases and emergency relief measures. If so, they will easily overcome the challenges of disasters as well as flooding in a short time. As the government is taking a leading role in the prevention of natural disasters, people can seek aid from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement round the clock.

Little Habits for Good

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

IN this world, very little things often turn out to be great ones. Such things also include our usual habits. The article will describe some little habits for our own good.

Rise with the sun: We should get up as soon as the sun rises and shines in the east sky. Many Myanmar people like to wake up too early, even before the sun comes out at all. I find it nothing but industrious. Even though we get up too early in the morning, we had better rise with the sun at the very least.

At first, we almost always tend to enjoy the black and white colour, namely silvery, of the early morning sky with peace and quiet. We can get our intrapersonal serenity with the natural environment from this scenery. And getting up with the sun makes us feel a little dizzy, which could be a never-too-late habit.

Have cold water after washing and brushing: No sooner have we gotten up early than we have to drink cold water, at least one glass. According to my information, drinking water shortly after wake-up activates our internal organs, particularly the stomach, to function well

throughout the day, beginning with good digestion. Of course, we will be starving in the morning after we have slept a whole night.

Hence, having water before breakfast may keep us less hungry in the morning. We should have drunk cold water if we wish before we wash our faces and brush our teeth.

Just drink water when hungry: It is best if we drink water only while we are hungry. As we all know, water is naturally cold, colourless, and tasteless. So, pure water will lessen our thirst for certain.

However, most people are given the choice of hot or cold drinks such as coffee, Coca-Cola, and other beverages rather than drinking water.

In fact, non-water drinks will never make us reduce our starvation to the full. Try to think. But be honest. What is more, some people like to have very hot drinks such as tea too much whenever they are thirsty. Actually, 'extreme food', i.e., too hot or too cold food, is not good



Just drink water when hungry: It is best if we drink water only while we are hungry. PHOTO: ILLUSTRATION: FREEPIK

for our health. Thus, water, also a universal solvent, is the best drink for those who are suffering from dehydration.

Enjoy a nice breakfast: Breakfast is the most important

meal of the day. As mentioned above, we usually have breakfast after washing, brushing and

drinking. It has been suggested that breakfast should be eaten as a beggar, at worst, till a full stomach. I have heard it said that some like eating breakfast as much as they wish. None-

theless, others have a mere breakfast, viz. coffee and cake, milk and half-boiled egg, tea and fried bread-egg, seeing that they eat enough lunch simply in the afternoon. Really, our breakfast should be 'Mohinga', fried rice, rice and steamed peas, or even leftovers in Chinese culture. I am prepared to accept that breakfast may be different from region to region all around the globe, but more importantly, this meal must make our stomach feel full whatever kind of food we have for breakfast.

Take a break between any work: Never ever hurry up whatever we do. As we are all aware, life is absolutely full of suffering. And life is a struggle, as the saying goes. Accordingly, whether our lives are easy or difficult, they are going on as long as we stay alive.

In truth, taking a break between things to do is not a waste of time, chickening out, or stopping at all; it provides the next step towards one work after another, gathering more momentum than average. Simply and clearly, we must die just in a while, even if we are fit as a fiddle.

What is this life if we have no time to wait till a beautiful girl's mouth can enrich the smile her eyes began, as W H Davies wrote? What a poor life!

Share time in likes: Life is supposed to be short or temporary, like a ripple. To my way of thinking, this is barely time perception. Then again, what if there were no afterlife? If so, we will have a lot to think about from different points of view. In reality, our lives will not be worth getting full of worries or carrying out our dislikes only.

Therefore, we should take up our likes whenever possible. Some would love reading, writing, singing, having a long chat, painting, gardening, travelling, collecting stamps or coins, and looking after pets as their most common likes. In a matter of life, there must be happy times, whether more or less. If not, it will never be worth it to live our lives in any way or another.

Keep our temper as much as possible: Of several negative emotions, temper is the worst one, and it is uncontrollable easily, although it arises conditionally, as always. When we lose our temper with anything or anyone, it is only we who have a fiery feeling first of all, not others.

A person in a bad mood will most likely go wrong, for instance, till he or she commits murder, as a matter of fact. It is

certain that man will not abstain from anger. In spite of this, most people, especially women, are afraid of those who see red very quickly. Virtually, that case will lead to a separated or divorced marriage. By the time people are angry, they indulge in this sense quite unconsciously. Consequently, a thing called temper can be controlled by ourselves.

Hold a few daily routines: As a Myanmar proverb says, there is a lot to do in the human world. Some things are a must to perform, whereas some are not essential to human basic needs.

Food, clothing, and shelter play absolute musts in our daily lives. Despite this, some food does not need to be cooked and eaten; it can be eaten raw. In this way, we can save time by not cooking. It is okay to change clothes at least twice or at most three times a day unless there is any physical or psychological wrong in the body.

As regards shelter, we humans, highly intelligent animals, must be able to manage current difficulties as and when necessary. We should not spend too much time overcoming these difficulties. Fewer daily routines are responsible for less difficulty, of course. Let's hold a few everyday routines, if possible, then.

China spearheads collaborative, inclusive agenda for global AI governance

China underscores the imperative of safe, reliable, and controllable AI development amid global scrutiny, advocating ethical principles and international collaboration to address emerging challenges.

AS global scrutiny on the governance of artificial intelligence (AI) intensifies, China has emphasized the critical need to develop this transformative technology in a way that is safe, reliable, inherently controllable and equitable.

In a declaration unveiled at the ongoing World Artificial Intelligence Conference (WAIC), China underscored the importance of ethical and responsible AI development while advocating

for the use of AI to bolster the capabilities of developing nations.

The development of AI technologies faces a series of new challenges in areas such as law, security, employment and moral ethics, said Chinese Premier Li Qiang while addressing the opening ceremony of the WAIC.

"The risks associated with AI range from data leaks, privacy and copyright infringements to disinformation and ethical

issues like bias and discrimination," said Zhou Bowen, director of Shanghai Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, in a keynote speech at the WAIC. "There is also growing concern about its potential disruption to employment," Zhou added.

"While perspectives on AI may vary, one consensus is clear: we must ensure that AI is always subject to human oversight to achieve safe and constructive

outcomes, and achieving this goal demands a collaborative approach from nations worldwide," said Yin Hejun, Chinese minister of science and technology.

China's proposal for global AI governance has been widely endorsed by WAIC attendees from across the world. They agreed on the pressing need to bolster international collaboration to effectively mitigate the potential risks posed by this groundbreaking technological progress.

The best approach to strike a balance between the pace of AI innovation and the need for

responsible development is to "work together globally", ensuring that these remarkable new capabilities are deployed responsibly, noted Sassine Ghazi, president and CEO of Synopsys.

Addressing the main forum on AI governance at the WAIC, Chinese vice foreign minister Ma Zhaoxu voiced strong opposition to attempts to monopolize AI resources, unilaterally dictate the formulation of rules, or create exclusionary alliances. He also denounced any malicious interference in the initiatives of other countries.

Source: Xinhua



This photo shows an installation at the 2024 World AI Conference in Shanghai, east China, 6 July 2024. AI-powered products and applications have captivated lots of visitors during the 2024 World AI Conference. PHOTO: FANG ZHE/XINHUA

NATIONAL

Recruitment agency urged to send workers' inward remittances



Union Minister for Labour U Myint Naung seen meeting the MOEAA chair, members, and leaders of sub-group for each country at Melia Hotel on 6 July 2024.

THE Ministry of Labour has supervised recruitment agencies to ensure inward remittances of foreign salary in addition to sending labourers, said U Myint Naung, Union Minister for Labour.

The Union minister remarked at a meeting held at Melia Hotel in Bahan Township, where the chair of the Myanmar Overseas Employment Agencies Association (MOEAA), officials concerned, and representatives of the working committee for each country were present.

Twenty-five per cent of the salary should be legally sent back to families through the government route. Workers must pay two per cent of the tax. Agencies should make sure workers repatriate for-

ign earnings on employment. The ministry is checking if workers send money to families or not, the Union minister elaborated.

MOEAA has formed association branches for Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Japan, South Korea and other countries.

There are over 500 recruitment agencies under the MOEAA, and representative sub-groups for each country are formed. They are monitoring sending workers abroad. With the cohesion of representative sub-groups, service charges for worker employment should be lower. The Union Minister encouraged associations to coordinate matters to ensure workers seeking abroad are not deceived. — TWA/EM

DMH issues flood warnings as river and creek levels surge

ACCORDING to the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH), the water levels in the Ayeyawady, Dokhtawady, and Chindwin rivers, as well as the Nanyin and Nankaung creeks, have been surging. In nearly 20 townships, the water level is at or above the flood stage.

DMH announced that the water level of the Ayeyawady River is higher than the critical point in Bhamo, Shwegu, Katha, Thabeikkyin, Mandalay, Sagaing, Myinmu, Pakokku, and NyaungU.

The Dokhtawady River is expected to reach the critical water level in Myitnge within the next 36 hours. The Chindwin River's water

level may remain above the critical level in Khamti, Homalin, Phaungpyin, Mawlaik, Kalewa, Minkin, Kani, and Monywa. Therefore, DMH has warned residents in low-lying areas and near riverbanks in these 20 townships to be on alert.

"I would like to say that those planning to return to the villages around Homalin Township and those coming for work should not come. Due to the flood, communication is available only in Homalin and nearby areas. The entire township of Homalin is flooded, and the guesthouses are already full. The water is still rising," said a Homalin resident. — TWA/TKO



The flood in Homalin on 7 July 2024.

Tug vessel rescues fishermen after boat capsizes near Maday Island

A tug vessel operated by the China-Myanmar Oil & Gas Company rescued four fishermen after their local fishing boat capsized near Maday Island off Kyaukpyu in Rakhine State around 9 am on 29 June 2024, due to strong winds and

heavy swell.

The tug quickly reached the fishermen, deploying life rings for their rescue. All four men were safely retrieved within 15 minutes. Additionally, the tug towed the fishing boat back to shore. — GNLM



Four fishermen are seen arriving back to shore. SOURCE: CHINESE EMBASSY

Yangon Region cultivates 10M+ fish larvae to boost local fisheries

ACCORDING to the Yangon Region Government, a total of 10.36 million fish larvae will be cultivated this financial year.

On 5 July, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, regional cabinet members, and officials from the Fisheries Department added 150,000 Rohu and 150,000 Barbus larvae to Ngamoeyeik Creek in Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon Region. This year, a further

800,000 fish larvae have been added, including 300,000 golden sturgeon larvae, 300,000 large Barbus larvae, and 200,000 Rohu larvae, to the Hlawga fish hatchery and Laydauntkan hatchery in Dagon Myothit (East) Township.

The Regional Fisheries Department is supplying these fish species to conserve fish resources, create job opportunities for locals, and increase income. — TWA/TMT

NATIONAL

KNPP/KNDF and PDF terrorist attack in Loikaw leaves one dead, 10 injured



ON 4 July, KNPP/KNDF and PDF terrorists attacked Loikaw in Kayah State with heavy weapons.

In the evening, the KNPP/KNDF group and PDF terrorists targeted the University of Technology, Myakaluk Hill, and Thiridaw Junction in Loikaw, resulting in the death of one local and injuring 10 others, including four children.

The injured were trans-

ported to the local Tatmadaw hospital for medical treatment. Reports indicate that KNPP/KNDF and PDF terrorists are attacking peaceful wards and villages, intentionally disrupting the government's administrative mechanisms. Consequently, security forces will conduct counter-terrorism operations in cooperation with residents to ensure regional stability and uphold the rule of law. — MNA/TKO



Casualties are seen in the aftermath of the attack in Loikaw on 4 July 2024.



Flood Warning

(Issued at 13:30 hrs MST on 8-7-2024)

ACCORDING to the (12:30)hrs MST observation today, the water Level of Ayeyawady River at Mandalay is observed as about one foot (30 centimetres) below its danger Level. It may reach its danger Level during the next 12 hours.

According to the (12:30)hrs MST observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Sagaing is observed as about one foot (28 cm) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 12 hours.

According to the (12:30)hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Myinmu is observed as about 1.5 feet (48 cm) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 1 day.

According to the (12:30)hrs MST observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Pakokku is observed as about 2 feet (61 cm) below its danger level. It may reach its danger Level during the next 2 days.

According to the (12:30)hrs MST observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at NyaungU is observed as about more than 1½ feet (52 cm) below its danger Level. It may reach its danger level during the next 2 days.

According to the (12:30)hrs MST observation today, the water level of Dokhtawady River at Myitnge is observed as about more than one foot (34 cm) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 18 hours.

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas at Sagaing, Myinmu, Pakokku, NaungU Townships and, Mandalay and Myitnge, to take precaution measure. — DMH

Crackdown on illicit trading leads to significant seizures in early July

SUPERVISED by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, action is being taken nationwide against illicit trading.

On 4 July, a team under the management of the Taninthayi Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force conducted inspections and seized 7,500 packs of Thai-made Royal D hydration powder and other smuggled goods, valued at approximately K48.42 million. A Mitsubishi Fuso tractor head

and a trailer (estimated value of K55 million) carrying the illegal goods were also confiscated, and the action was taken in accordance with Customs procedures.

On 7 July, a team under the management of the Kachin State Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force seized an unregistered Honda Fit, valued at approximately K13 million, on the Mogoung-Myitkyina Union Highway. The action was taken under the

Import-Export Law.

On 8 July, a team under the management of the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force seized 7.161 tonnes of illegal timber, valued at K5,462,285, in Bago District. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported four arrests on 4, 7, and 8 July, with an estimated total value of K121.88 million. — MNA/TMT



Photos depict confiscated illegal goods in different states and regions.

ECONOMY WORLD

Lebanon's industrial exports double in 5 years: minister

LEBANON'S industrial exports doubled to US\$4 billion over the past five years, Industry Minister George Bouchikian announced on Monday, highlighting a significant expansion in the domestic manufacturing sector.

"The industry sector has become a major contributor to the Lebanese economy," Bouchikian said, according to the National News Agency. "Lebanese products now hold a 67 per cent share of the local market, compared to just 17 per cent in 2019," the minister added.

Bouchikian attributed the growth to a surge in new factories, with the ministry granting licenses to roughly 1,300 in the past three years. "These new investments are crucial for boosting our exports," Bouchikian remarked, noting that the industrial sector now contributes from 37 to 41 per cent of Lebanon's gross domestic product. — Xinhua

China beefs up computing power as new economic catalyst

AMID the global race to build artificial general intelligence, the development of stronger computing power has become a major focal point of China's strategic initiatives, driven by the needs of a booming digital economy and innovations in large language models.

Data revealed at the Global Digital Economy Conference 2024, which closed on Friday in Beijing, showed that by the end of last year, the total number of standard racks in use at data centres nationwide had exceeded 8.1 million in China, with a total computing power of 230 EFLOPS. EFLOPS is a measurement unit used to determine a computer's speed. A 1 EFLOPS computing system can complete 1 quintillion floating-point operations per second.

In the era of interconnected devices and data surges, computing power, as the "new energy" of the digital economy, is reshaping global economic landscapes at an unprecedented pace, said Wang Xiaoli, who is with the China Academy of Information and Communications

Technology, at the conference.

Looking ahead, China aims to boost the country's aggregate computing power by more than 30 per cent by 2025, according to a plan released by six government departments in October 2023. The plan also sets a target for China's total computing power to reach 300 EFLOPS by 2025.

During this process, computing systems and data centres require substantial electricity to operate and cool hardware, making energy efficiency a critical consideration in the development of computing power.

In order to meet increasing energy demands, China's related sectors have undertaken extensive efforts to integrate the development of green energy with computing power. At the just-concluded conference, Yan Gang, technical director of Yovole Network, a Shanghai-based cloud computing data centre service provider, outlined their strategy for efficient energy storage using advanced energy management technologies.



A staff member checks equipment at a data centre of China Mobile in Horinger, Hohhot City, north China's Inner Mongolia, 28 November 2023. PHOTO: XINHUA

"Our intelligent computing centre employs combined cooling, heating, and power systems using hydrogen energy, photovoltaic storage, indirect evaporative cooling and liquid cooling technologies. In April, we also partnered with Tesla to apply their Megapack energy storage technology at our intelligent computing centre," Yan said.

Meanwhile, due to the strong demand for computing power, eastern regions of China have shared development

opportunities in the digital era with the rest of the country.

Expansive and resource-rich western provincial-level regions in China leverage significant advantages in terms of green energy and favourable geographical conditions. These factors enable them to provide high-quality computing resources and have led them to seize the opportunity to establish massive data centres that support the country's intelligent industries. — Xinhua

European stocks firm, euro down after French election



A voter casts ballot at a polling station in Paris, France, 7 July 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

EUROPE'S main equity markets rebounded from initial losses but the euro fell as investors digested snap French elections in which a hung parliament appeared the likeliest outcome.

In France, the left was set to emerge as the biggest group in a new parliament, beating out a resurgent far-right in a vote called by President Emmanuel Macron three years ahead of

schedule.

Macron's centrist alliance will have fewer seats in parliament, but held up better than expected.

The outcome, in which no bloc is expected to have an outright majority, has left the country in a "thick fog" of uncertainty, according to one pollster, with the euro dropping slightly.

European equities swiftly turned positive on investor relief that Marine Le Pen far-right National Rally (RN) had suffered a stinging defeat.

"European stocks have recovered from earlier losses as investors recover from the shock of the French election result," City Index analyst Fiona Cincotta told AFP. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Airbus delivers 700th China-assembled A320 family aircraft

EUROPEAN aircraft manufacturer Airbus on Monday delivered its 700th A320 family aircraft assembled at its A320 Family Final Assembly Line Asia (FALA) in north China's Tianjin Municipality.

"This figure highlights the long-standing and in-depth cooperation between Airbus and the Chinese aviation industry," said George Xu, Airbus executive vice president and Airbus China CEO.

"Airbus remains dedicated to strengthening strategic collaboration with China and fulfilling our long-term commitment to this thriving market," Xu added. — Xinhua

Vietnamese rice price increases in foreign markets in H1

THE prices of Vietnamese rice increased strongly in many foreign markets in the first half of this year, Vietnam News Agency cited statistics from the General Department of Vietnam Customs on Monday.

The country's average rice export price went up by over 18 per cent over the same period last year. The grain was sold at \$959 per tonne in Brunei, \$868 in the United States, \$857 in the Netherlands, \$847 in Ukraine, \$836 in Iraq, and \$831 in Türkiye, said the report. — Xinhua

Indonesia gears up for family offices



A general view shows the business district during the evening rush hour in Jakarta on 5 June 2024. PHOTO: AFP

THE Indonesian government is implementing strategic initiatives to establish family offices, private entities aimed at

managing the business affairs of affluent families. This move will enable ultra-high-net-worth individuals from various

countries to make investments without incurring tax liabilities. Indonesian President Joko Widodo has directed the forma-

tion of a special team under the leadership of Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs and Investment, Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan, involving some ministries and the World Bank, to assess the family office investment scheme and prepare the necessary regulations and infrastructure.

“Some foreign investors have already shown initial interest as the first registrants. We will provide more detailed information in the next two or three weeks,” Luhut said on Friday. The family office is set to be located in Bali, an island resort that draws tourists from around the world, as well as in Nusantara, the country’s new capital. — Xinhua

10 Japan, US firms join forces to develop chip tech for AI

LEADING Japanese chip material maker Resonac Holdings Corp said Monday it will form a consortium with nine other Japanese and US firms to collaborate over the development of technologies deemed key in manufacturing state-of-the-art semiconductors used for generative artificial intelligence.

The consortium, called US-JOINT, will be based in Silicon Valley, setting its main focus on developing so-called

back-end technologies of packaging semiconductors. Its facility is expected to become fully operational next year.

“Today’s rapidly expanding next-generation semiconductors for generative AI and autonomous driving require new approaches to advanced packaging technologies,” Resonac, which holds the world’s top share in semiconductor back-end process materials, said in a press release. — Kyodo

Boeing to plead guilty to avoid criminal trial over 737 Max crashes

BOEING will plead guilty to a criminal fraud charge related to the two crashes of its 737 Max jetliners, the US Department of Justice (DOJ) said on Sunday.

Under the deal, the US planemaker has agreed to pay a fine of 243.6 million US dollars to resolve the DOJ’s investigation into two 737 MAX fatal crash-

es that killed 346 people. The decision follows the government’s determination that Boeing violated an agreement shielding it from prosecution for over three years.

Prosecutors accused the planemaker of deceiving regulators who approved the airplane and its pilot-training require-



(FILES) Boeing 737 MAX aircraft are assembled at the Boeing Renton Factory in Renton, Washington, on 25 June 2024. PHOTO BY JENNIFER BUCHANAN / POOL / AFP

ments. Last week, they gave Boeing the choice of either entering a guilty plea and paying a fine as part

of its sentence or facing a trial on the felony charge of conspiracy to defraud the United States. — Xinhua

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

AS the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 19 JULY 2024 (Martyrs’ Day) and 20 JULY 2024 (Full Moon Day of Waso), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

MYANMA Port Authority “NOTICE of High Tide”

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 20.01 feet to 20.96 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of 22 to 27 July 2024. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3415S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3415S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-7-2024** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (123N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (123N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-7-2024** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V JANKI VOY.NO. (07/2024)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V JANKI VOY. NO. (07/2024)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-7-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT-2** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S WILHELSEN PORT SERVICE(S) PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATE: WORLD

Monsoon storms batter India with floods and lightning strikes

INTENSE monsoon storms battered India on Monday, flooding parts of the financial capital Mumbai, while lightning in the eastern state of Bihar killed at least 10 people, government officials said.

Mumbai's city council ordered schools and colleges shut Monday as a precautionary measure, reporting that the India Meteorological Department (IMD) had warned of "heavy to very heavy rainfall".

Many streets were under water in the coastal city after hours of heavy rain, with several bus and train services suspended.

In Bihar, 10 people were killed in separate lightning strikes on Sunday, state Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said in a statement, asking people to "stay indoors



Vehicles drive through a flooded street after rain showers in Mumbai on 8 July 2024. PHOTO: AFP

during bad weather".

Monsoon rains across South Asia from June to September offer respite from the summer heat and are crucial to replenishing water supplies, but also bring widespread death and destruction.

The number of fatal floods and landslides has increased in recent years, however, and experts say climate change is exacerbating the problem.

Floods have also swamped the northeastern state of Assam, with eight people killed in the last 24 hours, Assam's Disaster Management Authority said Sunday.

That takes the death toll from the downpours since mid-May to 66. In the northern state of Uttarakhand, authorities issued warnings of heavy rain. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

46 missing following landslides, flash floods in Indonesia's Gorontalo province

A senior rescuer said on Monday that 46 people went missing following landslides and flash floods at a gold mine in Indonesia's Gorontalo province.

Heriyanto, head of the provincial search and rescue office, reported an increase in the number of residents declaring their family members missing following the natural disaster in Bone Bolango regency.

"Residents continue to report their missing family members. So far, 46 people have been declared missing," Heriyanto told Xinhua.

He explained that the victims included miners and villagers who provided supplies to the miners, all of whom resided in camps within the mining zones. — Xinhua

Iran's president-elect to be inaugurated in early August: lawmaker

IRAN'S President-elect Masoud Pezeshkian is set to be inaugurated in early August, according to a senior Iranian lawmaker cited by the official news agency IRNA on Sunday.

Mojtaba Yousefi, a member of the Iranian parliament's presiding board, outlined the legislative body schedule for confirming Pezeshkian's proposed cabinet members in an interview with IRNA.

He indicated that the inauguration ceremony is planned for 4 or 5 August, after which Pezeshkian will have 15 days to submit his list of proposed ministers for parliamentary approval.

Yousefi noted that parliamentary sessions for the vote of confidence would commence later in August. He emphasized that on 21 July, parliament would openly deliberate and vote on Pezeshkian's resignation from his current position as a lawmaker in Tehran. — Xinhua

Report uncovers real intention behind US "Volt Typhoon" misinformation campaign

THE so-called "Volt Typhoon" cyber threat narrative is a US campaign of misinformation and public opinion manipulation, according to the latest findings of a Chinese investigation.

US intelligence agencies have fabricated and hyped up "cyber threat from China" with the intention to push for the authorization of Section 702 of the US Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. According to the findings, this law allows warrantless surveillance and touts more budgets from the US Congress.

In May 2023, the United States and its "Five Eyes" allies released an advisory, claiming that a hacker they labelled "Volt Typhoon" had launched espionage activities targeting US critical infrastructures and the organization was endorsed by the Chinese government.

In response, China's National Computer Virus Emergency Response Centre and other technical teams launched a traceability analysis and issued an investigation report in April.

A new report by the team revealed that "Volt Typhoon" is a typical misinformation manoeuvre by US intelligence agencies and jointly participated in by an-

ti-China US politicians and cybersecurity authorities of the "Five Eyes" countries.

The plan was initiated at the beginning of 2023 or even earlier, with the aim to further consolidate and strengthen the network penetration capabilities of US intelligence agencies, particularly by enhancing their ability to attack external targets and deter rivals, as well as their ability to monitor and control the domestic population, according to the report.

The plan consisted of three phases with clear objectives to push for the reauthorization of Section 702.

On 19 April, the US Senate approved the reauthorization with a vote of 60-34. This reauthorization extends the surveillance authority for two more years, allowing the US government to continue collecting communications of non-Americans located outside the country without a warrant.

Data revealed that from May 2023 to January 2024, US government-backed hacking organizations waged over 45 million cyber attacks – all authorized by Section 702 – against Chinese government entities, academies, scientific research institutes, enterprises and

critical infrastructures.

Calling the US government agencies the mastermind behind the "Volt Typhoon", the report described such a move as the inevitable product of the international hegemonism that the United States strives to maintain.

The report said plans similar to those for the "Volt Typhoon" will continue to be devised and implemented by the following US government agencies. Under the control of US intelligence agencies, American cybersecurity companies will fabricate more false narratives of "foreign government-sponsored cyberattacks", continually deceiving Congress into approving more budgets and increasing the debt burden on American taxpayers.

The report said Section 702 poses serious threats not only to Americans but also to countries around the globe in terms of state sovereignty and individual privacy.

It called on governments and people around the world to firmly oppose and resist the US act of making use of its advantage in cyber-technology to compromise other countries' sovereignty and the legitimate rights and interests of different peoples. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Myanmar vs India first friendly to play today

NATIONAL women's teams of Myanmar and India will play two FIFA-recognized friendly matches on 9 and 12 July at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon. Myanmar National women's team will play against the Indian women's team at 4 pm on 9 July (today) as the first friendly match.

At the pre-match press conference, Indian head coach Langam Chaoba Devi said that her team faced the Myanmar team in the second round of the 2019 Olympic qualifiers and drew three goals each. Her team played two friendly matches with Uzbekistan before coming to Myanmar. This year, they have played seven warm-up matches. She added that her team is comprised of a mix of senior and junior players. She stated that every coach wants to win the match they play. Myanmar is a solid and skilful team. Although they respect their rival team, they will do their best to achieve winning results.

Myanmar women's team head coach Tetsuro Uki said that the Myanmar team gathered and practised once in March. The team got about three weeks of preparedness for these friendly matches against India. He stated that it is an excellent opportunity for Myanmar, which played a few international matches this year, to play these matches against a strong team like India. The team is preparing diligently for this opportunity. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Australia finalizes largest-ever athletics team for overseas Olympics

THE Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) announced on Monday the addition of 55 track and field athletes to represent Australia in Paris 2024, bringing the total athletics squad to 75 members.

According to the AOC, this full squad is Australia's second-largest ever athletics team, only behind the one that competed in Sydney 2000, and it is the largest team sent to an overseas Games.

The 75 selected athletes include veterans Genevieve Gregson and Kathryn Mitchell, who will be competing in their fourth Games, 13 athletes in their third, 26 returning for a second Olympics, and 34 athletes poised for their Olympic debut. — Xinhua

Martinez beats Ioka to unify WBA, IBF super fly belts

JAPAN'S Kazuto Ioka lost to Argentina's Fernando Martinez by unanimous decision in their world super flyweight unification bout on Sunday.

In the second defence of his WBA title, the 35-year-old Ioka was second-best for much of the encounter against the aggressive IBF champion at Tokyo's Ryogoku Kokugikan. Ioka and Naoya Inoue are the only Japanese boxers to claim world titles in four weight divisions. The pair shares the record for the most world title



Argentina's IBF champion Fernando Martinez (L) lands a punch on Japan's WBA champion Kazuto Ioka during a world super flyweight title unification bout at Tokyo's Ryogoku Kokugikan on 7 July 2024. **PHOTO: KYODO**

bout wins by a Japanese boxer with 22.

Ioka's loss was the third of his professional career, in which he has won 31, 16 by knockout, and one draw. The 32-year-old Martinez extended his perfect record to 17-0 with nine KOs.

"Ioka is a living champion who has won four categories. I gave everything I had in the ring and managed to fight the way I hoped," said Martinez, who landed punches from the early rounds while keeping Ioka at bay. — Kyodo

Canada not afraid of Argentina in Copa America, says coach

CANADA head coach Jesse Marsch said on Sunday that his players have self belief in their ability to beat world champions Argentina in their Copa America semifinal.

Canada ranks the 48th and Argentina first in FIFA's current world rankings, but that means little as they prepare for Tuesday's match in New Jersey.

"We know how good

Argentina is because we played against them," Marsch said of his team's 2-0 loss to the Albiceleste in the group stage.

"But we also had success in certain moments.

I said after the match that we probably had to play a perfect game and even then it might not have been enough. But we're certainly not afraid," Marsch said. — Xinhua

Defending champion Alcaraz reaches Wimbledon quarters

DEFENDING champion Carlos Alcaraz held off a late challenge from Frenchman Ugo Humbert to reach the men's singles quarterfinals at the Wimbledon

Championships here on Sunday.

Alcaraz, 21, took the opening two sets 6-3, 6-4 in style, but struggled in the third set as he was broken three



Carlos Alcaraz hits a return during the men's singles 4th round match between Ugo Humbert of France and Carlos Alcaraz of Spain at Wimbledon tennis Championship in London, Britain, on 7 July 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

times by a fighting opponent, losing 6-1.

In the fourth set, both Alcaraz and the 26-year-old Humbert had their ups and downs, but the three-time Grand Slam champion from Spain played better on a few key points to come through 7-5.

"I felt like he was reading my serve and my shots very well in every point that we were playing. It was difficult for me to find the solutions in that moment," Alcaraz explained his struggle in the third set. "But tennis is like this. In the fourth set, there are a few serves that I did pretty well, and I saved that game. It was kind of I raised the level of my tennis, increased my intensity, and got the win in the end," he added.

World No 1 Jannik Sinner dominated his match against American Ben Shelton, as the Italian pushed himself forward with a 6-2, 6-4, 7-6 (9) victory in two hours and nine minutes.

Russia's fifth seed Daniil Medvedev won the fourth round as Bulgarian veteran Grigor Dimitrov retired while trailing 5-3 in the first set.

Women's singles 12th seed Madison Keys also retired midway due to injury in her match against Jasmine Paolini of Italy.

The Italian seventh seed will fight for a semifinal berth against American 19th seed Emma Navarro, who saw off compatriot and US Open champion Coco Gauff 6-4, 6-3. — Xinhua

Monsoon storms batter India with floods and lightning strikes

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WORLD

CHINESE President Xi Jinping met Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban in Beijing on Monday, and the two sides exchanged in-depth views on the Ukraine crisis.

Orban briefed Xi on his recent visits to Ukraine and Russia. Xi expressed appreciation for Orban's efforts in promoting the political settlement of the Ukraine crisis and elaborated on China's relevant views and propositions.

Xi stressed that an early ceasefire and a political settlement are in the interests of all sides, adding that the priority is to cool down the situation by observing the three principles of no expansion of the battlefield, no escalation of fighting, and no fanning by any party over the flames.

Xi called on the international community to create conditions and provide support for the resumption of direct dialogue and negotiation between the two sides, saying that only if all major countries inject positive rather than negative energy, can a ceasefire in this conflict emerge as soon as possible.

"China has been actively promoting peace talks in its own way

Xi meets Hungarian prime minister, exchanging views on ties, Ukraine crisis



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing, capital of China, 8 July 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

and encouraging and supporting all efforts conducive to a peaceful settlement of the crisis," he said, adding that the basic propositions of China and Hungary and the direction of their efforts are the

same and that China is willing to stay in communication with Hungary and all relevant parties.

Xi noted that during his successful state visit to Hungary two months ago, the bilat-

eral relations were elevated to an all-weather comprehensive strategic partnership for a new era, which gave new historical significance to the 75th anniversary of the establishment of dip-

lomatic ties this year and injected strong impetus into the high-level development of China-Hungary relations.

Noting that the third plenary session of the 20th Communist Party of China Central Committee will be held next week, Xi said China will further deepen overall reform and promote high-quality development and high-level opening up, which will provide new opportunities and create new momentum for China-Hungary cooperation. Xi said that the two countries should maintain high-level exchanges, deepen political mutual trust, strengthen strategic communication and coordination, continue to firmly support each other, strengthen practical cooperation in various fields, advance high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and continue to enrich the bilateral all-weather comprehensive strategic partnership for a new era to better benefit the people.

He congratulated Hungary on assuming the rotating presidency of the European Union (EU) and said there is no geopolitical contradiction or fundamental conflict of interests between China and the EU. — Xinhua

Gaza battles rage as mediators push for truce deal



Protesters hold the Israeli flag and a banner that reads, 'For the Hostages no big Freedom' as they march to call for the release of Israelis held hostage by Palestinian militants in Gaza since the October attacks, in Jerusalem on 7 July 2024, amid the ongoing conflict in the Gaza Strip between Israel and the Palestinian militant Hamas group. PHOTO: AFP

HEAVY battles raged in Gaza City on Monday as Hamas and Israel staked their claims ahead of truce talks, with Israeli protesters rallying for a hostage release deal.

Mediators Egypt and Qatar were due to host new talks this week, according to officials, as the bloodiest ever Gaza war raged on into its 10th month.

Israeli troops and tanks

were engaged in heavy clashes with Palestinian militants in Gaza City as fighter jets and drones crossed the skies over the besieged territory.

Thousands of civilians were on the move again in northern Gaza, while clashes rocked the southern cities of Khan Yunis and Rafah in the conflict sparked by Hamas's 7 October attack.

Cairo and Doha have resumed diplomatic efforts to halt the fighting, aiming for an initial six-week ceasefire that would see some hostages in Gaza freed in exchange for Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails as talks would continue for a comprehensive deal to end the war.

Hamas has signalled it would drop its insistence on a "complete" ceasefire, a demand Israel has repeatedly rejected. — AFP

Global temperature surpasses 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial level for 12 months: Copernicus

JUNE 2024 marks the 12th consecutive month of global temperatures reaching 1.5 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial (1850-1900) level, according to the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service on Monday.

The global average temperature for the past 12 months (July 2023-June 2024) is the highest on record, at 0.76 degrees Celsius above the 1991-2020 average and 1.64 degrees Celsius above the 1850-1900 pre-industrial average, said a report released by Copernicus.

The report also said that June 2024 was warmer globally than any previous June in the data record, with an average surface air temperature of

16.66 degrees Celsius.

This marks the 13th month in a row as the warmest in the data record for the respective month of the year, the report said.

"This is more than a statistical oddity, and it highlights a large and continuing shift in our climate," said Carlo Buontempo, director of the Copernicus Climate Change Service.

"Even if this specific streak of extremes ends at some point, we are bound to see new records being broken as the climate continues to warm," Buontempo said. "Unless we stop adding greenhouse gas into the atmosphere and the oceans." — Xinhua