Embrace the Future: Unfolding a New Chapter with a Fresh Vision

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presents foodstuffs to a people's militia leader on 10 September 2023.

Senior General commends heroic role of local people's militia in restoring regional peace and stability

Shan State (North) people's militia should call for EAO inclusivity in region-wise peace efforts and peace process

Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing expressed his recognition over local people's militia troops as forces serving duties for ensuring peace and stability of the region of their own accord.

The Senior General met people's militia troops from Shan State (North) at Shweli Yadana Hall of the North-East Command Headquarters yesterday morning.

He highlighted that those local people's militia troops are a force supporting the security measures taken for the State and they are serving duties conscientiously with patriotic spirit for ensuring peace and stability of the region. SEE PAGE-3



Naypyitaw State Academy to launch two-year basic medical programme

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NATIONAL

MoH medical team carries out treatments in Myeik



A child receives treatment by specialist medical team with echocardiography in Myeik, Taninthayi Region.

A medical team consisting of specialists from general hospitals in Yangon went to Myeik, Taninthayi Region on 9 and 10 September under the arrangements of the Ministry of Health and provided medical treatment to local residents together with specialists from Myeik General Hospital.

During the trip, a total of 1,213 local people were treated, and patients were examined with echocardiography, CT scanning, and other special medical tests.

The patients who received medical treatment included urban and rural residents from Myeik and Palaw, Taninthayi and Kyunku townships in Myeik District.

Two neurosurgery patients and six cardiac patients were transferred to Yangon General Hospital for further treatment.

Specialists in gastrointestinal medicine, neurology, and neurosurgery saw the relevant inpatients and discussed with local specialists about the treatment.

The Taninthayi Region Government comforted the patients and donated foodstuffs and purified drinking water.

The medical specialist teams have performed medical treatments in Sittway, Rakhine State three times in 2023. They have already visited Taunggyi, Magway, Pyay and Meiktila and provided medical treatment with more plans to do so in regions and states. — MNA/KZL

Premiere of 'Dice with Death' film captivates audiences

THE launching ceremony of the Myanmar film 'Dice with Death', which will be broadcast on APP SHOW mobile entertainment, was organized at Gamone Pwint (San Yeik Nyein) in Yangon on 8 September, according to the director of the film Htoo Nwe Eain.

The plot and script of the movie is created by Director Htoo Nwe Eain.

"I created the plot before the outbreak of COVID-19. I enjoy filming horror and thriller movies so I made it. I systematically made a cast for the characters. I mainly chose the talented trainees from 3H Art production. Everyone might be the ones that they really want to be in life. But they can be the ones that they don't want to be. There are good and bad things. Sometimes, it can happen that we do not expect. The health-related cases like unexpected cases happen suddenly from being healthy in the COVID-19 period … and are the examples," said Director Htoo Nwe Eain.

The APP SHOW entertainment mobile channel will broadcast Dice with Death movie that includes performers — Pyae Phyo San, Khant Htet Nyar, De Moe Satt, Lynn Htet, Snow Kyi Phyu, Mable and Yu Yu Zaw and so on. — ASH/KTZH



Actors of Dice with Death are seen at the premiere show.

Naypyitaw State Academy to launch two-year basic medical programme

FROM PAGE -1

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Health, the Naypyitaw Academy's Faculty of Medical Sciences will commence a two-year basic medical education course in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area starting coming November.

The Naypyitaw State Academy, located in Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, aims to produce highly-qualified human resources required for the country's development by offering graduate classes, including master's and doctoral courses.

The academy was founded with the purpose of achieving the same level of excellence as leading universities in the country, such as Yangon University and Mandalay University.

Students who have the opportunity to attend Naypyitaw State Academy should pay close attention to the qualification of their education. On 8 September, Union Minister for Health Professor Dr Thet Khaing Win emphasized the importance of appointing faculty members for undergraduate courses in the Faculty of Medical Sciences at Naypyitaw State Academy, addressing administrative measures and resources replenishment issues to ensure access to modern teaching materials. He stressed the need for coordination between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

The academy is set to launch the doctoral programme in six subjects. To facilitate this initiative and foster collaboration with Indian universities, Union Minister for Education Dr Nyunt Pe and Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Vinay Kumar held a meeting on 4 September.

During the meeting, they discussed the possibility of sending more scholars for programmes related to ICT, artificial intelligence, marine science, microbiology, English language, business management, vocational education, and teacher training. High-ranking officials from Indian education departments and directors-general from the Myanmar side engaged in a video conference to discuss the potential for offering Open University courses online and the recruitment of more scholars. — TWA/KZW

COVID-19 report, 10 September 2023

NEW TESTS	NEW CASES	CASUALTIES
4,310	4	0

NATIONAL

Senior General commends heroic role of local people's militia in restoring regional peace and stability

FROM PAGE-1

The Senior General noted that ethnic armed organizations demand ethnic affairs at the peace talks but regional affairs, adding that they should represent the region but a group of people.

The federalism can be categorized as ethnic-based federalism and region-based federalism. The majority of global countries are exercising the region-based federal system, and the region-based federal system is the most appropriate for Myanmar, he added.

The Senior General notified that Shan State (North) which is sharing border with neighbour China, managing the trade of export and import measures through land borders, is of great importance in political and economic affairs.



Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing observes functions of No 1 Highland Agriculture and Livestock Camp of North-East Command yesterday.

Salient points in speech of the Senior General in meeting with local people's militia in Shan State (North)

- Local people's militia troops as forces serve duties for ensuring peace and stability of the region of their own accord.
- The region-based federal system is the most appropriate for Myanmar.
- Local people's military troops in Shan State (North) must urge all EAOs to participate in the regionwise peace and stability and peace process.

Leaders of the local people's militia troops reported on evasion of some people from their natives due to destructive acts of ethnic armed organizations, needs of assistance from the government for establishment of factories in the region for economic development, aid for smooth process of exporting domestic products, cooperation between local people's militia troops and Tatmadaw for restoring peace and stability of relevant regions, and fulfilling requirements for Mone Wun Bamar ethnic region development. After hearing the reports, the Senior General attended to their needs.

The Senior General reiterated that the Tatmadaw will firmly stand on the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA in implementing the peace process.

The Senior General stressed that local people's military troops in Shan State (North) must urge all ethnic armed organizations to participate in the regionwise peace and stability and peace process.

As the Constitution (1947) and the Constitution (2008) have exactly stipulated the provisions on religious affairs, nobody should be diverse their perceptions on the religious ground, and they all have to join the democratic system and Hluttaw platform for demanding their desires and rights under the law.

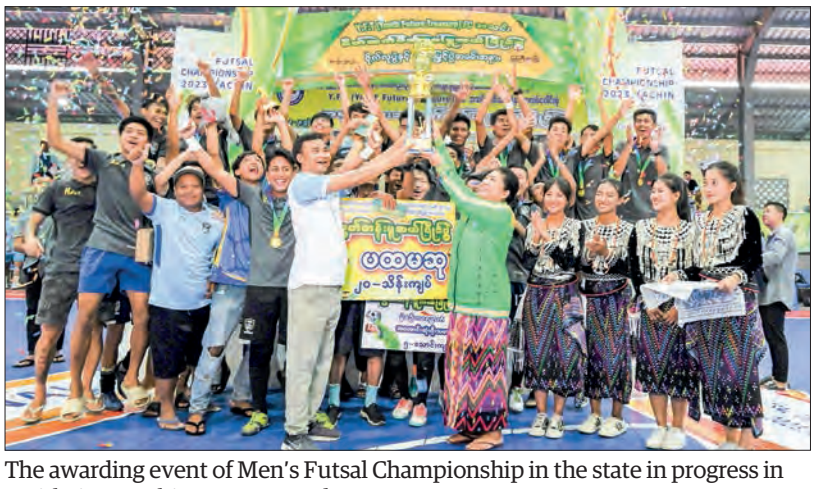
The Senior General noted that desires and demands for the regions and locals must be undertaken through democratic ways. Relevant regions face loss in destructive acts such as blowing up roads, bridges and buildings constructed by the government for regional development.

The Senior General together with senior military officers held talks with Leader of Border Guard Force Supervisory Body Col Wai Hsan (Retd), Leader of Namkham Myoma People's Militia U Aik Sam, Leader of Pansay People's Militia U Kyaw Myint, Leader of Manpang People's Militia U Sai Mon, Leader of Hseng Keow People's Militia U Loi Moung, Leader of Monese People's Militia U Sai Mon and Leader of Htinpakeng People's Militia U Khin Maung Lwin.

In the morning, the Senior General together with his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla and party offered alms to to Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Agga Maha Kammathanacariya Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Dr Bhaddanta Puññananda.

Moreover, the Senior General inspected functions of No 1 Highland Agriculture and Livestock Camp of North-East Command. — MNA/TTA

Cooperation needed for economic development of country in addition to restoring stability, peace, and rule of law



The awarding event of Men's Futsal Championship in the state in progress in Myitkyina, Kachin State yesterday.

STATE Administration Council Member Daw Dwe Bu, on her inspection tour, said that it is necessary to work together for the development of the economic sector in addition to restoring the country's stability, peace, and rule of law, and that religious needs are being met as best as possible at the meeting with priests and teaching pastors from various Christian churches at the St Columban's Cathedral in Aungnan Ward, Myitkyina, on 10 September.

Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan and officials presented gifts and donations to the St Columban's Cathedral, Myanmar Council of Churches (MCC), and Christian churches. After that, they continued to offer donations — 27 rice bags and 10 edible oil jerry cans — to Buddhist monks from monasteries in Myitkyina at the Hilly Missionary Andawshin Monastery. They visited the Andawshin Charitable Centre recognized by the Department of Social Welfare, to provide K5.358 million for rice, daily allowance and salaries of the warden.

The SAC member watched the finals of the Men's Futsal Championship in the state, and the Kachin State Chief Minister and the SAC member awarded individual medals and cash award K1 million to the second-placed Naungya FC and individual medals, cash award K2 million, and the championship trophy to the champion YFT FC team, respectively. — MNA/CT

NATIONAL



State Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung meets local people, political parties and organizations at Aung San Hall, Hlaingbwe Township, Kayin State to explain the arrangements for free and fair multiparty general elections, aspirations for peace and changes in political landscape, on 10 September.

Arrangements for upcoming free and fair general elections explained

MAHN Nyein Maung, a State Administration Council Member, met local people, political parties and organizations at Aung San Hall, Hlaingbwe Township, Kayin State to explain the arrangements for free and fair multiparty general elections, aspirations for peace and changes in political landscape, on 10 September.

At the same time, SAC member Khun San Lwin also met Pa-O ethnic people at Ahara Thukha Dhammayon of West Hteelon monestry, Hteelon Village, Hlaingbwe Township.

He explained the government's performances for peace, economy, social, health and education. He also expressed his appreciations for the preservation of traditions by Pa-O ethnic and encouraged them to continue such efforts while contributing to their human resource for the benefit of their area and the nation. — MNA/TH

Artistes to participate in peace, stability and development of the State through power of art

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn met temporary executive members of the Myanmar Music Association (Central) at the Myanma Radio and Television on Pyay Road, Yangon, yesterday to discuss the development of the music industry.

In meeting with the officials of the State Orchestra, the Union Minister instructed them to perform rehearsals to present modern performances in collaboration with external artistes. He highlighted dressing and sewing new clothes properly, video clip production that complements the songs, in addition to enhancing sound and lighting effects. Furthermore, he discussed releasing information, documentation of recording activities in detail.

Following this, the Union Minister met temporary Executive Committee members of the music association and discussed the arrangements made by the temporary executive committee during the past two years and the upcoming plans. He emphasized the association's role for taking measures of State peace and stability and development through the power of art for the country and the people and negotiated to allow artistes to further develop their artistic performances with freedom and happiness. He discussed, in the coming period, they have to achieve more progress under the leadership of the Music Association (Central) and participation of young artistes in the association.

Temporary chairman U Lwin Myint and the attendees reported on preparations for forming the association with new generation artistes, raising the fund and property rights of artistes.



Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn meets officials of Myanmar Music Association (Central) at Myanma Radio and Television on Pyay Road, Yangon, yesterday.

Directors-General of MRTV and Information and Public Relation Department discussed collaboration for development of music industry and effective participate in copy rights in accordance with the existing law, and the Union minister fulfilled the needed.

The Union minister selected appropriate topics of "Baethu Hmanle Ahpyaingkye" (Who right match) programme and enjoyed the screening the talk show of young artistes. — MNA/KZL

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(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 454237515
ADVERTISING & MARKETING
(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

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NATIONAL

MoPF Union Minister instructs staff to meet tax targets in specific financial years

DEPUTY Prime Minister Union Planning and Finance Minister U Win Shein met employees of the Planning Department, Central Statistical Organization, Myanma Economic Bank, Myanmar Agriculture Development Bank, Myanmar Insurance, Internal Revenue Department, Customs Department, and Pension Department at the office of the Internal Revenue Department in Lashio, Shan State (North) on the afternoon of 9 September.

At the meeting, the Union Minister instructed the employees in Shan State (North) to implement annual projects to meet targets, ensure accuracy in statistical data collection, collect tax targets in relevant financial years, conduct educational activities to ensure that taxpayers understand levying taxes and willingly pay taxes, perform tasks in accordance with laws, rules, regulations, and procedures, pay attention to security issues, coordinate with other departments, carry out their duties in unity, and provide comprehensive support for the development of MSME enterprises.

Later, the Deputy Prime Minister coordinated the employees' submissions. — MNA/CT



Deputy Prime Minister Union Planning and Finance Minister U Win Shein hosts the meeting with employees of departments under the Ministry from Shan State (North) on 9 September.

Deputy T&C Minister joins 3rd Mekong-Lancang Water Resources Cooperation Forum in China

AT the official invitation of Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Aung Kyaw Tun attended the 3rd Mekong-Lancang Water Resources Cooperation Forum held on 10 September 2023 in Beijing, China.

The opening ceremony of the forum was attended by Vice Ministers and senior representatives of the People's Republic of China, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. The representatives from international and regional organizations including Mekong-Lancang Water Resources Cooperation Centre (MLC Water Centre) and Mekong River Commission also participated in the event.

The Deputy Minister delivered an address at the forum. The members of Myanmar delegation also participated in the discussions of the two Thematic Sessions. The Recommendations of the 3rd Mekong–Lancang Water Resources Cooperation Forum was adopted by consensus as an outcome document of the forum.



Deputy Minister U Aung Kyaw Tun meets Vice Minister of the Ministry of Water Resources of China Mr Tian Xuebin yesterday on the sidelines of the 3rd Mekong-Lancang Water Resources Cooperation Forum in Beijing, China.

The Deputy Minister met Mr Tian Xuebin, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Water Resources of China at 10:30 am local time on the sidelines of the 3rd Mekong-Lancang Water Resources Cooperation Forum held in Beijing, China.

At the meeting with Chinese Vice Minister, they exchanged views on exchange of high-level visits under water resources cooperation, ways and means to enhance Mekong-Lancang Water resources cooperation and on tackling of water-related challenges. Moreover, the two sides committed to work closely in the area of water resources cooperation.

In the evening, the Deputy Minister attended a Welcome Banquet hosted by Mr Li Guoying, Minister for Water Resources of China in honour of the Heads of Delegation of the Mekong Countries. — MNA

U Tin Maung Swe concurrently accredited as Ambassador of Myanmar to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

THE Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Tin Maung Swe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the People's Republic of China, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. — MNA

Relief aid delivered to Rakhine State for rehabilitation

UNDER the instruction of the National Disaster Management Committee and the supervision of the Transport Committee, relief supplies were transported to Rakhine State yesterday.

MV Yadana Pandaung carrying 1,653.74 tonnes of teak timber, 294 concrete lamp-posts, six tonnes of medications, and animal breeding and treatment equipment totalling 1,839.43 tonnes provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Conservation and the Ministry of Electric Power left for Sittway from The Myanmar Terminal (TMT) jetty.

Meanwhile, vessel Sein Mintha carrying 20,054 sacks of rice weighing 1,002.66 tonnes provided by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) left for Sittway from the same jetty for the relief aids assistance. — MNA/KZL

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

Myanmar collaborates with Thai experts to reduce carbon emissions from agricultural farms

THE Agriculture Department stated that the department is cooperating with agricultural experts from Thailand in order to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from farmlands.

Departmental officials of Myanmar and Thai agriculturists are providing knowledge to farmers in villages in Bago Region (East) through the Zero-Burn Zero-Waste programme.

Farmers used to burn the residues in clearing the weeds and bushes in the agricultural farms.



The stubble left after harvesting summer paddy is seen burning in the fields.

As Myanmar relies on agricultural sector, it needs to educate the people not to burn the remaining plants and crops after harvesting, and to reuse what is left in the plantation.

"We are educating farmers in Myanmar, as an agricultural country, not to burn the remaining plants and crops after harvesting and to reuse what is left in the plantation. The educational activity will be conducted in 13 locations," an agricultural expert from Thailand, Mr Worasit Sittivchai, said.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation is arranging plans to fully control carbon dioxide emissions by 2030 in Myanmar.

The awareness activities of the Zero-Burn, Zero-Waste programme will help reduce carbon dioxide emissions and air pollution, increase crop yields, and create land for long-term cultivation. — TWA/CT



Mandalay Electricity Supply Corporation Office.

Electric meter boxes to be withdrawn in Mandalay for debts of bills from 10 September

THE Mandalay Electricity Supply Corporation recently announced that electric meter boxes will be taken off from the houses with debts of bills for more than four months in Mandalay city starting from 10 September.

The electric meter box will be disconnected from those who do not pay the electricity bill within three months, even if the electricity is in arrears. If the electricity user pays all electricity bills within one month, only when they have paid fines, the meter box will be reinstalled and electricity will be reconnected.

In addition, the electric meter boxes without consumption, the boxes with debts of bills for six successive months and meter boxes with four-month debts of bill will be removed starting from 10 September.

The reason for removing the meter boxes is to take action in accordance with the policies and directives of the Ministry of Electric Power and the electricity laws, considering that electricity users no longer want to use electricity, and so, power consumption will be terminated.

In addition, those who want to use electricity again will have to apply for a new electric meter, pay all debts of the bills. Three months later, the MESC will reinstall the electric meter boxes. — TWA/KZL

Three-year ban for overseas workers without official money transfer

WORKERS intending to work abroad will face a three-year ban on overseas employment if they fail to transfer 25 per cent of earnings to their families.

When negotiating with the agencies and entering into a new contract, workers must agree to transfer 25 per cent of their wages to their families through banks. It is required to make this transfer monthly or every three months.

They have to keep the remittance documents and can use them in investment or buying something for enjoying tax exemption. — TWA/KZW

106 vehicle accidents occurred on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway within eight months

ACCORDING to the Expressway Police Force Office, a total of 106 accidents occurred on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway within eight months. From January to August this year, there were 106 traffic accidents on the expressway, leaving 161 injured and 63 dead.

In January, eight people were killed and 13 wounded in 13 accidents, while 11 were killed and 15 injured in 12 accidents in February, 11 were killed and 15 injured in 15 accidents in March, 14 people were killed and 36 wounded in 20 accidents in April, six people died with 29 being injured in 16 accidents in May, three people were killed and eight were wounded in seven accidents in June, seven people were dead and 16 injured in 14 accidents in July, and three died with 29 being wounded in nine accidents in August, according to monthly traffic accident statistics of the Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Police. — TWA/CT



An accident occurred between 110/2 and 110/3 mileposts on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway on 9 September. **PHOTO: FSD**

LOCAL BUSINESS

Adulterated edible oil flooding market

AS the authorities warned the wholesalers and retailers not to increase the profit margin higher than the prescribed percentages, a high influx of adulterated edible oil into the market was witnessed.

It was hard to buy palm oil in the shops in August. However, the adulterated oil was sold at K8,000-9,000 per viss, Daw Yon Ngwe from Thingyangyun Township, told the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

The authorities warned the traders not to sell adulterated oil in the markets of Yangon and other regions in early September. This being so, they are nowhere to be found at Nyaungpinlay market in Lanmadaw Township this week.



Some adulterated oils that cannot be identified are found in the market.

The prices of edible oil stood at K4,500 per viss for palm oil and K16,000 per viss for peanut oil in the Yangon market.

Both consumers and sellers cannot detect the ingredients and proportions of the adulterated oil found in the market.

Starting in late 2000, cooking oil adulterated with palm oil and peanut flavour flowed into the market at a cheaper price than that of peanut oil. Yet, they were priced higher than the palm oil. It has been years that they are sold at the grocery stores and shops in Yangon and other areas, Daw Tin Ma Ma, a seller from the delta region told the GNLM.

There is transparency in the palm oil subsidy scheme that the consumers can get access to palm oil at a fairer price. However, some traders from regions outside Yangon sell them only when some commodities are added to the buying list, a buyer from a region outside Yangon said.

Some edible oil shops let an individual buy palm oil at a retail price of K4,400-K4,500 per viss this month. Consumers can complain about overcharging the palm oil. The consumers called for a surprise check for adulterated oil in the market as a consumer protection measure. — TWA/EM

DICA registers 750 companies for failure to file AR in August

A total of 750 companies failed to submit annual returns (AR) on the online registry system in August 2023, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The DICA has notified any registered company which fails to file its AR on MyCO is to be struck off the register from the date of the directive, under section 430 (F) of the Myanmar Companies Law, according to the DICA's notification.

Five hundred companies in January, 400 each in February and March, 200 in April, 550 in May, 750 in June and 600 in July did not file the AR on the MyCO. In the past eight months this year, 4,150 companies failed to file the AR.

Additionally, 5,000 companies failed to submit AR in 2022, the DICA stated.

The registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018 under the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

All registered companies need to submit AR on the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation, and at least once every year (not later than one month after the anniversary of the incorporation) under Section 97 of the law.

Under Section 266 (A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, public companies must submit annual returns and financial statements (G-5) simultaneously. All overseas corporations must submit ARs in the prescribed format on MyCO within 28 days of the financial year ending, as per Section 53 (A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

As per DICA's report, thousands of companies were suspended for failing to submit AR forms before the due date. Newly established companies are required to submit ARs within two months of incorporation or face a fine of K100,000 for filing late returns.

The DICA has notified that any company which fails to submit its AR within 13 months will be notified of its suspension (I-9A). If it fails to submit the AR within 28 days of receiving the notice, the system will show the company's status as suspended. Companies can restore their status only after shelling out a fine of K50,000 for the AR fee, K100,000 for restoration of the company on the register, and K100,000 for late filing of documents, totalling K250,000.

If a company fails to restore its status within six months of suspension, the registrar will strike its name off the register, according to the DICA notice. — NN/EM



The office of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration-DICA in Yangon.



Containers to be exported to foreign markets are seen at the Port.

Myanmar's foreign trade soars past US$13 bln in last five months

MYANMAR'S external trade totalled over US$13 billion in the past five months (Apr-Aug) of the current Financial Year 2023-2024, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar's export was worth over $6.484 billion whereas the country's import was valued at $7.213 billion in the past five months.

Myanmar's seaborne trade value crossed over $9.587 billion this FY, while border trade was valued at $4.1 billion.

The trade figure in the past five months shrank from $14.388 billion recorded in the corresponding period last FY, indicating a sharp drop of over $690.175 million.

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

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

OPINION

Brighter future for residents in northern Shan State

Enhancing the flow of goods and services is pivotal for the socioeconomic growth of any region and its inhabitants. Achieving this goal necessitates the concerted efforts of authorities at various levels to develop the necessary infrastructure.

Currently, the government is dedicated to further improving the transportation sector in Shan State (North). As part of this initiative, the Lashio Airport runway is undergoing a significant upgrade to accommodate jet planes, ensuring smoother aviation transport. This upgrade is poised to reduce travel time for passengers, enabling them to complete their work more efficiently.

Furthermore, efforts are underway to revive train operations along the Lashio-Mandalay railway, benefiting the local population and neighbouring regions. Simultaneously, the government is overseeing the construction of the Lashio-Muse and Lashio-Chinshwehaw railway sections, expanding rail transport options in northern Shan State.

TThe government's unwavering commitment to upgrading transport facilities in Shan State (North) represents a critical step towards fostering economic growth and improving the quality of life for its residents. By investing in better infrastructure and connectivity, the region is poised to reap the rewards of socioeconomic development. This comprehensive approach to development not only benefits the local population but also contributes to the broader goal of nationwide progress.

Additionally, preparations are in progress to transform the existing motorway into a four-lane highway, serving as a vital artery for northern Shan State. Looking ahead, there are plans to further elevate this four-lane highway to a six-lane thoroughfare. These developments hold the promise of improved transportation networks that will greatly benefit Shan State (North) and its residents.

The improved transport infrastructure will undoubtedly yield positive socioeconomic outcomes for the region. These developments align with a broader strategy aimed at promoting regional and ultimately nationwide development.

The significance of enhancing road infrastructure cannot be overstated, as it directly and indirectly impacts all sectors of the economy. The interconnected nature of these sectors means that advancements in one sector can have a ripple effect, benefiting others and contributing to the overall achievement of all sectors.

The government's unwavering commitment to upgrading transport facilities in Shan State (North) represents a critical step towards fostering economic growth and improving the quality of life for its residents. By investing in better infrastructure and connectivity, the region is poised to reap the rewards of socioeconomic development. This comprehensive approach to development not only benefits the local population but also contributes to the broader goal of nationwide progress.

Now is the time for people residing in northern Shan State to grasp the chances for undertaking development tasks based on the improvement of infrastructures in order to address the socioeconomic challenges and invest their endeavours for new generations to enjoy improved living standards. As such, residents have to choose the best option to accomplish all development undertakings by joining hands with the local authorities.

ARTICLE

A Tale of Four Charges

By U AC



Trump can run for president even if he is convicted because the US Constitution imposes minimal eligibility requirements, and there are no limitations on candidacy based on character or criminal records for federal offices. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ AÏDA AMER/AXIOS ILLUSTRATION/MANDEL NGAN /AFP/PIXABAY**

As former President Donald Trump pushes forward with his 2024 campaign, incidents from before, during and after his term in office are now under intense legal scrutiny. According to US Law, a sitting president cannot be indicted, hence the timing is of now. As of the end of August 2023, Trump has been indicted in four separate criminal cases. Patently it is not difficult to fathom that Trump would portray these charges as election interference by Biden and his following of fascist, Marxist, and Communist democrats.

The following represent the summaries of the four current charges:

I. Manhattan "hush money" probe

A New York grand jury investigating the circumstances surrounding a "hush money" payment to adult film star Stormy Daniels aka Stephanie Clifford, in 2016 voted to indict Donald Trump on 30 March, making him the first former president in US history to face criminal charges. He was charged with 34 counts of falsifying business records in the first degree. Trump pleaded not guilty to all charges on 4 April.

Manhattan DA (District Attorney) Alvin Bragg told reporters that "Under New York state law, it is a felony to falsify business records with intent to defraud and intent to conceal another crime". "That is exactly what this case is about 34 false statements made to cover up other crimes."

The case stemmed from a payment made just days before Trump was elected president in 2016. His former attorney, Michael Cohen, arranged a wire transfer of $130,000 to Daniels in exchange for her silence about an alleged affair. Prosecutors were investigating potential falsification of business records related to reimbursements made to Cohen. Trump has denied having a sexual encounter with Daniels, and vehemently denied wrongdoing in this case.

His former fixer and lawyer Michael Cohen actually served time, for Trump, in 2018 for campaign finance violations, tax fraud and bank fraud. Cohen has been very active on the media front, admonishing Trump and forewarning others (lawyers) not to fall into the same trap as himself. His two books, Mea Culpa (My Fault) and Revenge, highlighted the details of his fall. He has met repeatedly with prosecutors this year and appeared before the grand jury twice.

Trump, as usual, has repeatedly denied allegations of wrongdoing, and lashed out at Bragg, a Democrat, calling the case a "political persecution".

District Judge Alvin Hellerstein faulted one argument made on Trump's behalf, that he is immune from prosecution because the payments were made while he was president. "Reimbursing Cohen for advancing hush money to Stephanie Clifford cannot be considered the performance of a constitutional duty". "Falsifying business records to hide such reimbursement, and to transform the reimbursement into a business expense for Trump and income to Cohen, likewise does not relate to a presidential duty."

The case is scheduled to go on trial on 25 March 2024.

II. Mar-a-Lago documents case

Trump became the first former president charged with federal crimes when he was indicted on 8 June on 37 felony counts related to alleged "wilful retention" of national security information after leaving the White House. He pleaded not guilty, shockingly! An aide to Trump, Waltine Nauta, was also charged in the case and he also entered a not guilty plea.

The case was brought by special counsel Jack Smith, who was appointed in November 2022 to oversee two Justice Department's criminal investigations into Trump.

The indictment accused Trump of storing boxes containing classified documents "in various locations at The Mar-a-Lago Club including in a ballroom, a bathroom and shower, an office space, his bedroom, and a storage room." Trump lives at Mar-a-Lago, a private Palm Beach, Florida, country club owned by his company.

The indictment also alleges conspiracy to obstruct justice, corruptly concealing a document or record, a "scheme to conceal", and making false statements and representations.

Judge Aileen Cannon, a Trump appointee, has scheduled the trial for May 2024, toward the end of the Republican presidential primary season.

III. Special counsel's 6 Jan investigation

Smith's office has also been investigating alleged efforts to interfere with the peaceful transfer of power after Trump lost the 2020 election to Joe Biden, including the attack on the Capitol on 6 January 2021. The grand jury hearing evidence in this case indicted Trump on 1 August.

Trump is facing four charges in this indictment: conspiracy to defraud the United States; conspiracy to obstruct an official proceeding; obstruction of and attempt to obstruct an official proceeding; and conspiracy against rights. The indictment listed six unnamed co-conspirators. Prosecutors alleged they were "enlisted" to assist Trump in "his criminal efforts to overturn" the election "and retain power".

"The attack on our nation's Capitol on 6 January 2021, was an unprecedented assault on the seat of American democracy," Smith said in a brief remark after the release of the 45-page indictment outlining the charges. "As described in the indictment, it was fuelled by lies. Lies by the defendant targeted at obstructing a bedrock function of the US government: the nation's process of collecting, counting and certifying the results of the presidential election."

Trump has vehemently denied allegations of wrongdoing related to his efforts to overturn the election results and accused the special counsel of political bias.

IV: Election interference case in Fulton County, Georgia

The Fulton County district attorney's investigation into Trump's conduct following the 2020 election began in February 2021 — spurred by an infamous recorded 2 January 2021, phone call to Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, in which Trump pressed him "to find 11,780 votes".

The probe grew in size and scope over the next two years, ultimately leading to the creation of a special purpose grand jury — tasked with investigating not only Trump but also alleged efforts of numerous allies to thwart the outcome of Georgia's election, which President Biden won. The special purpose grand jury had subpoena power, but could not issue indictments. The panel of 23 Georgians interviewed 75 witnesses in 2022 and completed a report in January, which was provided to Fulton County DA Fani Willis.

Among those interviewed by the special purpose grand jury were many Trump allies, including his former attorney, Rudy Giuliani; South Carolina Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham; and former White House chief of staff Mark Meadows. It also interviewed Georgia officials who are among Trump's political critics, such as Raffensperger and Georgia Gov Brian Kemp.

In February, a judge ordered a small portion of the report to be made public. The grand jurors wrote that they found "no widespread fraud took place in the Georgia 2020 presidential election," and that a ""majority of the Grand Jury believes that perjury may have been committed by one or more witnesses testifying before it."

A grand jury was empanelled over the summer, and on August 14, 2023, it returned an indictment against Trump and 18 allies on charges of election fraud, racketeering and other counts related to alleged efforts to overturn the 2020 election.

Those charged include Giuliani and Meadows as well as John Eastman, a conservative lawyer; Jeffrey Clark, a Trump Justice Department official; and Sidney Powell and Jenna Ellis, lawyers who pushed baseless claims of voter fraud.

Georgia's Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, better known as RICO, allows the group to be charged for criminal acts that are alleged to have taken place both in Georgia or outside the state in furtherance of the conspiracy to overturn the outcome of the presidential election in Georgia.

The 98-page indictment listed 41 total counts, including 13 against Trump, and notes there are 30 un-indicted co-conspirators. The indictment described several schemes allegedly used by Trump and his co-defendants to attempt to reverse his electoral loss, including making false statements to state legislatures and top state officials; creating fake Electoral College documents and recruiting supporters to cast false votes at the Georgia Capitol; harassing Fulton County election worker Ruby Freeman; and "corruptly" soliciting senior Justice Department officials and then-Vice President Mike Pence. It also accuses members of the "enterprise" of stealing data, including ballot images, voting equipment software and personal voter information, from Coffee County, Georgia, and making false statements to government investigators.

Trump has repeatedly denied wrongdoing. In a statement following the indictment, attorneys for Trump criticised the investigation, saying "This one-sided grand jury presentation relied on witnesses who harbour their own personal and political interests."

Can Trump run if he is convicted?

This is the simplest question of the bunch. The answer is yes.

The US Constitution sets very few eligibility requirements for potential presidents. They must be at least 35 years old, be "natural born" citizens and have lived in the United States for at least 14 years.

There are no limitations based on character or criminal records. While some states prohibit felons from running for state and local office, these laws do not apply to federal offices.

How about 14th Amendment Section 3?

The easiest disqualification argument boils down to Section 3 of the US Constitution's 14th Amendment, which says that a public official is not eligible to assume public office if they "engaged in insurrection or rebellion against" the United States, or had "given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof", unless they are granted amnesty by a two-thirds vote of Congress.

The process would be such that the blue states would refuse to put him on the ballot, stating the above section. That would instantly summon lawsuits by Republicans, for the first of its kind case to be brought to the Supreme Court. The red states' inclusion of Trump would also bring lawsuits by democrats, and they would also end up for a final decision by the Supreme Court.

Trump is pushing every single boundary into the uncharted territories and the world watches with bated breath, petrified of the return of Agent Orange.

■

NATIONAL

Delegation of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union attends International Conference in Astana, Kazakhstan



Participants including Constitutional Tribunal of the Union member U Kyaw San of Myanmar pose for documentary photo during the international conference in Astana, Kazakhstan.

AT the invitation of Ms Elvira Azimova, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Kazakhstan, a delegation led by U Kyaw San, a member of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, attended the international conference on "Constitutional Justice: Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All,' held in Astana, the Republic of Kazakhstan, on 7 and 8 September.

The conference was held in honour of the Constitution Day of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. During the discussion, participants focused on the role of constitutional regulation in promoting the protection of human rights and the effectiveness of constitutional control in taking measures of the rule of law.

Various topics were addressed, including issues related to justice and equal right for citizens.

Representatives from the Republic of Kazakhstan participated in the discussion, delegates from 19 countries, including court Presidents, Chief Justices, Judges, Commissioners from Human Rights Commissions, international organizations, local organizations, the Venice Commission, and international experts and jurists from other invited countries.

They convened to discuss constitutional perspectives on promoting the protection of human rights and exchanged views on their respective constitutional judicial experiences. — MNA/KZW

UEC member leaves for People's Republic of China

AT the invitation of the International Affairs Department of the Communist Party of China (Central Committee), a Myanmar delegation led by U Than Tun, a member of the Union Election Commission, left Yangon for the People's Republic of China at 4 pm yesterday.

They were seen off by officials from the Yangon Region Election Sub-commission at the Yangon International Airport.

The trip aimed to exchange views on reform and open door policy of China, the Belt and Road Project and establishment of Communist Party of China.

Moreover, both sides will have the chance to exchange views on development undertakings of CPC and ways of development process, and establishment of the party. The study tour will last from 10 to 16 September. — MNA/KZL



The delegation of Union Election Commission is seen at Yangon International Airport before departing Yangon for the People's Republic of China yesterday.

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.



International travellers seen at a counter of an airline at Yangon International Airport.

Overseas travellers required to buy health insurance policy

PEOPLE from overseas entering Myanmar are supposed to show a health insurance policy instead of Covid test result and vaccination certificate, according to the Department of Public Health, under the Ministry of Health.

The travellers have to submit evidence of having bought a health insurance from Myanmar Insurance or any other insurance companies abroad to the health officer at the check points, said an official from Central Epidemiology Unit of Department of Public Health.

"Travellers from abroad were required to submit evidence that they have vaccinated. If they couldn't do that, they were allowed to show the Covid test result issued within 48 hours. Now that procedures are no longer needed. Instead, they are only required to submit documents that justify having bought a health insurance policy from Myanmar Insurance or any other insurance companies abroad to ensured they receive treatments if they face Covid or other health conditions," Dr Nyan Win Myint, director from Central Epidemiology Unit of Department of Public Health.

As the infection of Covid-19 declines, the Ministry of Health is easing restrictions for travellers to be able to boost tourism again, according to the Ministry. — ASH/TH

LIFESTYLE: WORLD

Japan's Mount Fuji 'screaming' from too many tourists

WITH its millions of visitors every year and the buses, supply trucks, noodle shops and fridge magnets, Japan's Mount Fuji is no longer the peaceful pilgrimage site it once was.

Now authorities have had enough, saying the number of hikers trekking up the world-famous volcano — night and day — is dangerous and an ecological embarrassment.

"Mount Fuji is screaming," the governor of the local region said last week.

Hailing its religious importance and its inspiration to artists, in 2013 UNESCO added the "internationally recognized icon of Japan" to its World Heritage List.



In 2013 UNESCO added the "internationally recognized icon of Japan" to its World Heritage List. **PHOTO: AFP**

But as has happened in places such as Bruges in Belgium or Rio de Janeiro's Sugarloaf Mountain, the designation has been both a blessing and a curse.

Visitor numbers more than doubled between 2012 and 2019 to 5.1 million, and that's just for Yamanashi prefecture, the main starting point.

Day and night

It's not just during the day that a stream of people trudges through the black volcanic grit on their way up the 3,776-metre (12,388-foot) mountain.

At night, long lines of people — on their way up to see the sun rise in the morning — trek upwards with torches on their heads. The main starting-off point is a car park that can only be reached by taxi or buses that take a couple of hours from Tokyo, around 100 kilometres (60 miles) away.

Greeting visitors is a complex of restaurants and shops selling souvenirs as well as snacks and drinks for walkers before they set off.

They are powered by diesel generators and the thousands of litres of water they use has to be brought up in lorries. Trucks also take all the rubbish down.

"I saw a lot of food waste and empty bottles of drinks lying around the hand-washing area of the toilet," complained Japanese hiker Yuzuki Uemura, 28.

Dangers

High numbers of climbers have raised accident risks on the mountain, with instances of hypothermia reported among those who climb at night, and at least one fatality this season, as some visitors may underestimate the challenging ascent and the harsh conditions at the summit, despite receiving guidance for a fee. — AFP

'Monkey' ID photo exposes loophole in Philippine SIM card law

PHILIPPINE lawmakers have been left red-faced after an ID card bearing a photo of a "monkey" was used to breach new SIM card registration rules aimed at combatting rampant text messaging scams.

Under the law signed by President Ferdinand Marcos in October 2022, mobile phone users are required to provide a photo and other personal details when buying a new SIM card.

The rules also applied to tens of millions of existing users, who risked being disconnected if they did not register by the 25 July deadline.

But, rather than stop spam and scam text messages, the telecom regulator told a Senate hearing this week that there had been a "sharp increase".

To demonstrate how easy it was to get past telecom providers' automated vetting systems, a video showing a police officer using an ID card with a picture of a grinning "monkey" to successfully activate various SIM cards was played to exasperated senators.

"You have a terrible system if you can see a monkey and yet you approve" the application, Senator Joel Villanueva told the hearing on Tuesday.

Senator Grace Poe, one of the SIM card law's principal authors, lamented how text scams continued to defraud unsuspecting mobile phone users by offering fake jobs, lottery winnings, loans and "even fake love at times".

National Telecommunications Commission chief Ella Lopez said there were more than 118 million registered postpaid and pre-paid SIM cards in the Philippines. — AFP

Portuguese fight to preserve bullfighting exception

APPLAUSE rains down as the bloodied bull collapses dying at the matador's feet. It's a highly rare scene in Portuguese bullfighting which usually forbids a fatal outcome for the beast in the ring.

But it's allowed in Barrancos, a village close to Spain which enjoys a special exception in the name of local tradition.

"There are those who are fans — and those who aren't.

"You have to respect traditions and culture… It's important that goes on being so," reasons 18-year-old student Leonor Burgos as she watches the spectacle on the church square, converted into a bullring for the southeastern village's annual festival.


The practice of putting bulls to death had been banned in Portugal since the late 19th Century, with a law from 1928 enforcing the ban. **PHOTO: AFP**

Putting the bull to death had not been practised in Portugal since the late nineteenth Century, when a law dating from 1928 banned it outright. But Barrancos always defied the law and kept local custom alive.

In 2002, out of respect for long-established traditions, parliament finally granted an exceptional regime to Barrancos and to Monsaraz, another municipality in the Alentejo region, which is a bastion of Portuguese bullfigh ting. — AFP

Sylvester Stallone pretends to box with Pope at Vatican

AMERICAN actor Sylvester Stallone travelled to the Vatican on Friday for a brief private audience with Pope Francis.

When told by the pope's interpreter "we grew up watching your films", the Rambo and Rocky star raised his fists and asked the pontiff "are you ready to box?"

In return, Francis also raised a fist with a smile.

Some of Stallone's best-known work includes his title role in the critically-acclaimed Rocky film series, where he starred as underdog boxer Rocky Balboa.

He also portrayed traumatised soldier John Rambo in the action franchise Rambo, which spanned four decades.

Stallone was accompanied on the Vatican visit by his wife, daughters and brother.

The Oscar nominee has Italian roots, with a Sicilian father who emigrated to the United States, where Stallone was born. — AFP

ECONOMY
WORLD

China, EU agree to work toward bilateral summit later this year

Premier Li emphasized to European Council President Michel that there is no geopolitical conflict between China and Europe, highlighting that the development of the Asian economy is an opportunity, not a risk, for Europe.



This photo taken on 27 April 2023 shows an automatic production line at a factory of Zhejiang Aishida Co., Ltd. in Wenling, east China's Zhejiang Province. **PHOTO: XU WEIJIE/XINHUA**

CHINESE Premier Li Qiang and European Council President Charles Michel agreed Sunday to work toward a successful bilateral summit later this year as they met on the sidelines of the Group of 20 summit in New Delhi, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said.

Li told Michel there is no geopolitical conflict between China and the region, let alone a fundamental conflict of interests, and the development of the Asian economy is "an opportunity, not a risk" for Europe, the ministry said.

A prosperous China should benefit the EU and the whole world, and Brussels has no intention of containing China's development, Michel was quoted as saying

Amid an intensifying rivalry between China and the United States, Beijing has been eager to strengthen ties with the European Union.

Li, who attended the G-20 summit in place of President Xi Jinping, also held talks Saturday with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in the Indian capital, according to the ministry. — Kyodo

'Lot of hard work' before UK-India trade deal: Sunak



Infosys is an Indian multinational information technology and consulting company, often referred to as an "IT giant". **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/AFP**

"THERE is a lot of hard work" to do before the UK strikes a trade deal with India, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said Saturday at the G20 leaders' summit in New Delhi.

"There is a desire on both of our parts to see a successful trade deal concluded," Sunak told UK media at the event.

"The opportunities are there for both countries, but there is a lot of hard work that is still to go," he added.

The two countries have been negotiating a post-Brexit trade pact for more than two years, but missed previously hoped-for deadlines to conclude it.

The agreement is important for Britain as it seeks alternative markets after leaving the European Union in 2020. However, talks have reportedly previously snagged over fears among the ruling Conservatives that it would lead to an increase in immigration. — AFP

US, India agree to resolve last outstanding WTO dispute

THE United States said Friday it has agreed with India to resolve their last outstanding dispute at the World Trade Organization, as leaders of both countries met for the G20 summit.

The deal came as Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted US President Joe Biden on Friday, with the White House later praising both nations' "close and enduring partnership."

"Today's agreement resolves the remaining long-standing dispute and opens a new chapter of bilateral cooperation that will deepen the trade relationship between the United States and India," said the US Trade Representative's (USTR) office. — AFP

Game makers seek unions as digital entertainment booms

UNSUNG workers who make movie superheroes fly and lightsabers crackle are turning to labor unions as relentless demand for content turns dream jobs into grueling routines.

A union trend that started at an independent game studio last year is gaining momentum as video streaming services vie for subscribers and video game makers push to keep players engaged. The latest moves come from visual effects (VFX) crews at Marvel Studios and Walt Disney Pictures, according to labor organizers who represent behind-the-scenes workers in entertainment.

The rash of organizing comes as Hollywood is in the throes of shutdown brought on by unionized writers and actors over pay and concerns about the use of artificial intelligence (AI).

Mail-in ballots will be tallied Tuesday by the National Labor Relations Board to determine whether VFX workers at Marvel will be certified as the first union of its kind at a major studio. — AFP



An ongoing strike by actors and writers gripping Hollywood is being credited with increased interest in unionizing by behind-the-scenes workers at film and video game studios. **PHOTO: AFP**

North America's largest clean energy show to convene in Las Vegas

NORTH America's leading clean energy show will convene in Las Vegas in the US state of Nevada next week, showing the latest development in clean energy solutions.

The event, named "RE+ 2023", will bring together clean energy industry experts, leaders and professionals across the United States and overseas to share the best practices and expand business prospects.

The show draws over 30,000 attendees and 1,300 exhibitors around the globe, the organizer told Xinhua.

"RE+ 2023", running from 11 to 14 September, will show breakthroughs in the smart energy industry, ranging from solar, energy storage, hydrogen, to electric vehicle infrastructure, microgrids, wind and more.

Hundreds of Chinese companies are expected to join the show floor at The Venetian Convention & Expo Center in Las Vegas. — AFP



This photo is exhibited on the official website of RE+ 2023 to illustrate the theme and scope of the leading clean energy show in North America. **PHOTO: RE+ 2023/ XINHUA**

Swiss plane arrives in Spain, without a single suitcase onboard

A plane flying from Zurich to Spain this weekend arrived without a single piece of luggage onboard, unbeknownst to the passengers, media reported Sunday, as the airline blamed ground staff shortages.

Passengers on the Swiss airlines flight to the northern Spanish city of Bilbao Saturday evening waited by the conveyor belt for their luggage to appear for over two hours, in vain, the Blick daily reported.

Swiss airlines spokesman Kavin Ampalam confirmed that the plane, which Swiss had operated on behalf of Edelweiss airlines, had taken off with 111 passengers but no baggage onboard.

"There was a shortage of ground staff," he told AFP, adding that the crew had waited for the situation to be rectified.

But after "one hour and 16 minutes, the situation was still unchanged, and for operational reasons we decided to fly to Bilbao without the baggage". — AFP

EU-Mid East-India to launch 'historic' trade plan



Etihad Rail trains chug across the United Arab Emirates. **ILLUSTRATIVE: ETIHAD RAIL/ ABU DHABI MEDIA OFFICE**

EUROPE, the Middle East and India will on Saturday unveil plans to create a modern-day Spice Route, boosting trade ties with potentially wide-ranging geopolitical implications.

The United States, Saudi Arabia, the European Union, the United Arab Emirates and others will launch plans to link data, railway, ports, electricity networks and hydrogen pipelines across the three regions when they meet on the sidelines of the Group of 20 summit in New Delhi.

Although heavily trade-focused, the plan could spur major political changes.

Signatories hope it can help integrate India's vast market of 1.4 billion people with countries to the west, offer a counterbalance to lavish Chinese infrastructure spending, boost Middle Eastern economies and help normalise relations between Israel and Arab Gulf states.

The India–Middle East–Europe economic corridor is "nothing less than historic", EU leaders are expected to say when the details of the plans are announced.

One proposed project would link railway and port facilities across the Middle East — including the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Israel — potentially speeding trade between India and Europe by up to 40 per cent. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V LUDWIG SCHULTE VOY.NO. (333W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V LUDWIG SCHULTE VOY.NO. (333W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-9-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V CONCERTO VOY.NO. (060N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CONCERTO VOY.NO. (060N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-9-2023** 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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

Notice for Change of Distributor

We, **Anhui Zhongshan Chemical Industry Co.,Ltd.** would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from **Zhongshan Myanmar Co.,Ltd.** to **Seinn Lae Thwin Co.,Ltd.,** If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from here to next (2) weeks.

Sr.	The Old Distributor	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration No.	The New Distributor
1	Zhongshan Myanmar Co.,Ltd.	Gengwei 550 SC	Atrazine 50%+ Mesotrione 5% SC	Provisional	P2022-4685	Seinn Lae Thwin Co.,Ltd.

Address: **SEINN LAE THWIN CO.,LTD**. No.(525), First Floor, Corner of Merchant Street & 38th Street, Ward No.(6), Kyauktada Township, Yangon. Tel 09-455188188

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Maldives president seeks allies in runoff election



Maldives President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih (second from left) casts his ballot at a school during his country's presidential election in the capital Malé on Saturday, 9 September 2023. **PHOTO:AFP**

MALDIVES President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih said he was seeking allies Sunday in his bid for re-election in a runoff vote, a day after finishing second in initial polls.

Solih's attempt for a second term has been turned into a referendum on his pursuit of renewed ties with India, the archipelago nation's traditional benefactor.

Final official results showed Solih took 39.05 per cent of the vote, behind his key rival, the capital's mayor Mohamed Muizzu, on 46.06 per cent.

"We have to ally with others," 61-year-old Solih told reporters Sunday, blaming his poor showing on "unforeseen factors" but without giving details. The independent Elections Commission said the runoff election will be on 30 September.

Muizzu got 101,635 votes while Solih managed 86,161, with the other candidates in the race now standing down.

Third-placed Ilyas Labeeb, a breakaway candidate from Solih's Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) who got 15,839 or 7.18 per cent, has not indicated which of the top two candidates he will now support.

Muizzu, 45, is a proxy of former president Abdulla Yameen, who is both pro-China and a campaigner for drastically reducing economic and military ties with India.

Yameen is serving an 11-year sentence following his corruption conviction in December and was barred from contesting Saturday's vote. He borrowed heavily from China for construction projects during his autocratic five-year tenure, making the Maldives — better known for its luxury tourism — a hotbed of geopolitical rivalry. — AFP

Panama to step up expulsions of US-bound undocumented

PANAMA said Friday it would step up expulsions of US-bound migrants who enter its territory illegally through the perilous Darien jungle on the border with Colombia.

The country's national director for migration Samira Gozaine told reporters steps would be taken to "progressively" increase the number of migrants deported or expelled, while boosting security measures in border towns.



In 2023, over 348,000 migrants, primarily Venezuelans, have crossed the perilous Darien jungle, surpassing the total recorded for the entire year of 2022, which was 248,000. **PHOTO: AFP**

Since the beginning of 2023, more than 348,000 migrants, mainly Venezuelans, have undertaken the dangerous crossing through the Darien jungle — far more than the record of 248,000 registered for the whole of 2022.

Last month, between 2,500 and 3,000 migrants per day entered Panama from Colombia on average, compelling the authorities to set up reception centers with the aid of international agencies.

Since April, the Panamanian authorities have expelled nearly 500 people, said Gozaine, adding the government intends to make use of chartered flights to increase that number.

"Obviously we have limited resources. If 3,000 people enter, we would like to expel 3,000 but it's impossible," the official added.

Thousands of migrants arriving via Colombia risk their lives every year beating a path through the thick, swampy Darien, a roadless jungle area replete with wild animals, dangerous rivers and criminal gangs. Last year, at least 52 people died in the jungle, according to authorities. — AFP

World sites vie for UNESCO spot in Riyadh as Venice risks downgrade

MORE than 50 world sites hope for inclusion on the UN's coveted heritage list at a meeting opening in Riyadh Sunday, while some incumbents, including Venice and Kyiv, face the risk of a downgrade.

UNESCO, the United Nation's educational, scientific and cultural organisation, keeps the world heritage list, which it says is a reflection of the planet's cultural and natural diversity.

The agency meets once a year to update the list, the inclusion on which is seen by many countries as crucial for tourism and the ability to source funding for the preservation of sites. — AFP

WORLD: TOP HEADLINES

US and Viet Nam set to expand ties

US President Joe Biden arrives in Viet Nam on Sunday set to deepen cooperation between the two nations.

Biden — who is flying from the G20 summit in New Delhi — will meet the leader of Viet Nam's ruling Communist Party, Nguyen Phu Trong, on Sunday, and is expected to sign off on a "comprehensive strategic partnership", Hanoi's highest level of diplomatic ties.

For Viet Nam, the upgrading of diplomatic ties is significant. It only has top-level ties with Russia, India, South Korea and China.

In Hanoi on Sunday, there will be a welcome ceremony, speeches by the two leaders and a press conference by the US president — who on Tuesday awarded the top US military honour to a helicopter pilot who rescued four soldiers during the Viet Nam War. — AFP

Air China plane makes emergency landing in Singapore, all safe

AN Air China flight from Chengdu made an emergency landing in Singapore on Sunday after its left engine caught fire, but all the people on board are safe, authorities said.

Flight CA403 "encountered smoke in the forward cargo hold and lavatory" while on its way to the city-state, Changi Airport said in a statement on Facebook.

The plane landed at around 4:15 pm (0815 GMT) and "all passengers and crew have evacuated safely", according to the statement, which did not say how many people were on board.

"The fire in the left engine has been put out."

A video clip posted on X, formerly Twitter, purportedly of the stricken aircraft on the tarmac showed passengers exiting on an emergency slide.

Air China and airport operator Changi Airport Group were providing assistance to the passengers and crew, Changi Airport said.

The runway will be temporarily closed and flight operations could be affected, the airport operator added. Air China did not immediately respond to an AFP query. — AFP

SPORTS

Japan 'need to improve' despite big win over Germany



Japan players celebrate scoring in their victory against Germany. **PHOTO: AFP**

JAPAN coach Hajime Moriyasu watched his side achieve a stunning 4-1 win over Germany on Saturday and then said they "still need to improve" before the Asian Cup next year.

Japan scored two goals in each half to thump their struggling hosts, pushing Germany manager Hansi Flick closer to a possible exit just months before his nation hosts Euro 2024.

It echoed Japan's 2-1 win against the Germans in last year's World Cup in Qatar, which helped dump Flick's team out of the tournament at the group stage.

Moriyasu told reporters "we need to not only congratulate ourselves, but we need to continue our development."

"There are more teams, more challenges, so in this sense, we have many more tasks."

The coach said his side "put a good deal of pressure on Germany" but "we need to improve."

"We need to be more compact, everyone must defend, everyone needs to attack, we need to react dynamically."

The four-time Asian Cup winners have now won three games in a row ahead of the tournament, which kicks off in January in Qatar. Moriyasu said his opponents were "still among the top teams in the world" despite the loss, and credited Germany and the Bundesliga for improving Japanese football in recent years. —AFP



Semifinals held for Aunglan New Generation Lethwei Championship

Arkar Phyo (blue) lands the powerful punches on Mike Mike during the men's 67-71 kg event for the semifinals of Aunglan New Generation Lethwei Championship in Yangon on 10 September. **PHOTO:BALA SOE**

UNDER the supervision of Myanmar Lethwei Federation, semifinals of Aunglan New Generation Lethwei Championship featuring six bouts were held at Theinbyu Gymnasium in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

In the men's 54-57 kg event, Aung Ye Naing (Power Punch) beat Gya La (Python), and Saw Kedo (Holy Power) defeated Htoo Say Wah (Shwe Phoo) by unanimous decisions.

In the men's 60-63.5 kg event, Law Kwa Doo (Tawwun Yoyar) snatched Win Bo (Razaderiz) in the second stanza while Gaw Do Htoo (Yoya Kyar) won over Gae Do (STL) in unanimous decision.

In the men's 67-71 kg event, Arkar Phyo (Tiger Gym) celebrated victory over Mike Mike (Shwe Maubin) in unanimous decision. In the same category, Zaw Thet Naung (Knight) struck Myat Thu in the second round.

All the winners have already advanced to the final bout which will be held on 8 October.—Bala Soe/KZL

Team Myanmar to take training in Thailand for Asian Games

THE Myanmar women's national football team will take training in Thailand to compete in the XIX Asian Games this year.

The Myanmar team will take training in Thailand from 10 to 18 September, as stated by the Myanmar Football Federation.

Team Myanmar will take on two friendly matches during their training tour.

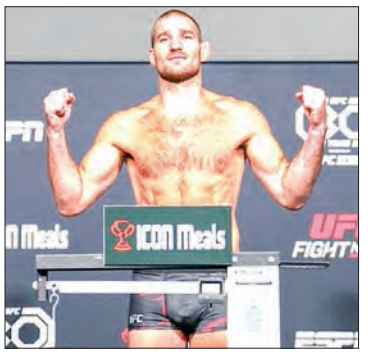
Myanmar will play against Vishuthiwara Ram U-15 FC on 13 September and Thailand women's national team on 15 September.

The Myanmar national women's team started training with 30 preliminary players, and some of the core players, including captain Khin Malar Tun, were left behind due to injury.

Yuki, head coach of the Myanmar women's national team, will take 25 players on a friendly trip to Thailand, and will travel directly from Thailand to China, where the Asian Games will be held.—Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Myanmar women player (red) vies for the ball against men player during a previous domestic friendly match. **HOTO:MFF**



American Sean Strickland agreed to fight in Sydney on late notice. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Strickland stuns champion Adesanya to win UFC middleweight title

POLARISING Sean Strickland unleashed a flurry of powerful punches to defeat champion Israel Adesanya and claim the UFC middleweight title after a gruelling fight in Sydney on Sunday.

In the main event of UFC 293, American Strickland stunned hot favourite Adesanya to win the 185-pound belt with an unanimous decision (49-46, 49-46, 49-46) to prevail in a five-round slugfest.—AFP

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Chinese premier calls on G20 members to play exemplary role

During the G20 annual summit, leaders reconfirmed their dedication to international economic cooperation and committed to taking tangible actions, including partnerships, to promote robust, sustainable, balanced, and inclusive global growth.



Chinese Premier Li Qiang addresses the third session of the 18th G20 Summit in New Delhi, India, 10 September 2023. **PHOTO: YUE YUEWEI/XINHUA**

CHINESE Premier Li Qiang on Sunday called on the Group of 20 (G20) members to play an exemplary role.

Li made the remarks while addressing the third session of the 18th G20 Summit.

"Only by doing a good job in the present can we have a good future," Li said.

Noting the most urgent issue at present is development, Li pointed out that the G20 members should place the issue of development at the center of macro-policy coordination.

Reaffirm Commitment

Leaders of the Group of 20 (G20) here on Saturday reaffirmed their commitment to international economic cooperation and pledged to take concrete steps to foster global growth.

In a declaration announced on the opening day of a two-day annual summit, the G20 leaders said they would act in concrete ways through partnerships to accelerate strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

"Cascading crises have posed challenges to long-term growth," the group warned, stressing that G20 cooperation is essential in determining the course the world takes.

The 2030 Agenda

The group said they would speed up the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and scale up financing from all sources for accelerating progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). — Xinhua

West fails to make Ukraine key topic at G20 Summit – Lavrov

THE G20 Summit is taking place in New Delhi on September 9-10 in a face-to-face format. Russia is represented by Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said that Western countries failed to "Ukrainianize" the agenda of the G20 summit.

"Largely due to such a consolidated position of the global South in defense of its legitimate interests, it was possible to prevent the success of the West's attempt to Ukrainianize the entire agenda again to the detriment of the discussion of urgent tasks of developing countries," the minister said after the G20 summit in New Delhi.

The G20 leaders' summit in New Delhi has become a success, while the Group is undergoing an internal reform, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said on Sunday.



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said that Western countries failed to "Ukrainianize" the agenda of the G20 summit. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

"The G20 is undergoing an internal reform. This was reflected in the significant activation of G20 members representing the Global South," Lavrov said during the press conference. — SPUTNIK

Net zero threatened

WITH the provision of a swathe of new oil and gas exploration licences and a crisis in offshore wind energy, clouds are gathering over the UK's net zero promises.

The Conservative government of Rishi Sunak in July promised "hundreds" of new licences for oil and gas exploration and production in the North Sea, arousing the anger of environmentalists.

The NGO Greenpeace later covered the prime minister's private residence with a huge "oil black" tarpaulin to denounce the "drilling frenzy".

"Any government support for continuation of fossil fuels has a negative impact on the transition because it drives investors away", Erik Dalhuijsen, co-founder of Aberdeen Climate Action, told AFP on the sidelines of the Offshore Europe conference in Aberdeen, Scotland, this week. — AFP